

At the Bookstore

FIREPROOF

"The Love Dare" Book- Sale \$10.00
 "Fireproof" Novel Eric Wilson
 "Fireproof Your Marriage" Study Guide \$7.60
 Leader and Couple's Kits available

Bibles 10% off Oct 1-15
 All Books 10% off Oct. 16-31

DVD's

"I Flunked Sunday School"
 "Pilgrim's Progress"
 "Big River Rescue" Veggie Tales

CD's

16 Great Bible Songs
 Praise Him- Saxophone
 16 Great Songs of the Church



October

2 Ann Schreffler
 4 Denny Chesnut
 22 Steve Dennis
 30 Steve & Peggy Dennis

North Grand River Baptist Association

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 DOM's Office- 660.359.3365
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**Revivals
 Tenth Street**

October 1-4
 Evangelist- William Blackburn

Union

October 5-8
 Evangelist- William Blackburn

Alpha

November 2-5
 Evangelist- Dr. Spencer Ray
 Worship Leaders- Veatch Family

Princeton First Baptist

November 12-16
 Evangelist- Phil Gleason (from Tennessee)
 Children's Revival at same time

NGR Brotherhood & WMU
 Invite you to the annual

FISH FRY

Saturday, October 4, 2008
 Princeton First Baptist
 6:00 pm

Bring baked beans,
 Salad, cole slaw or dessert.
 Fish and potatoes provided

North Grand River Baptist Association

The Encourager

2 Thessalonians 2:16-17

Volume 33, Number 10
 October, 2008

**"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
- Milan Hispanic
- Modena
- Princeton
- Ravanna
- Rural Dale
- Salem
- Shelburne
- Spickard
- Tenth Street
- Trenton First
- Union

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**North Grand River Association
 Expresses great appreciation to all of our pastors.**

Alpha- Jim Whitley
 Edinburg- Stan Rushton
 Gallatin- Spencer Ray
 Galt- Gene Schreffler
 Jameson- Interim Andy Lynn



**Pastor
 Appreciation
 Month**

Laredo- Deryl Niffen
 Jamesport- Jesse Cass
 Medicine Valley- Lewis Rogers
 Lineville- Interim Aaron Stark
 Milan Hispanic- Carlos Luzano
 Mercer- Ron Helton
 Princeton- Guy Thomas
 Modena- Don Boone
 Ravanna- Earl Nance
 Rural Dale- Jeremy Skinner
 Salem- Steve Dennis
 Shelburne- Brad Walker
 Spickard- Jacob Name
 Tenth Street- Ron Ratliff
 Trenton First- Denny Chesnut
 Union- Ron Ward
 DIRECTOR OF MISSIONS- E.J. BARNES

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

“And He Himself gave some to be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, and some pastors and teachers, for the equipping of the saints for the work of ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ.” Ephesians 4:11-12 (NKJ)

This is Pastor Appreciation Month, which presents a great opportunity to express your love to your Pastor and family in a special way.

I believe we have some of the best Pastors anywhere. I have been moved by their proclamations of the Word with power and passion. I have also been impressed with their love and commitment to their respective congregations. We are truly fortunate to have such men.

Please prayerfully consider blessing your Pastor and family with a significant gift. The church budget or individual donations can cover the cost. Cash. Gift certificate at our NGRBA Book Store. A new suit. New set of tires for the car. An all-expense-paid trip with the family to a resort. A family portrait sitting. Or whatever our Lord leads. You might also want to have a testimony time during the service to express how God has used him to bless you.

On October 14th at 7:00 pm at Jamesport there will be a Disaster Relief Organizational Meeting. Everyone who has Disaster Relief Training, and those who are interested in getting training are urged to come. The need is great. What a meaningful way to witness and express God's love to those in crisis.

Please remember the Missouri Baptist Convention in prayer as we meet this month in St. Louis (October 26-29).

It's a joy to serve you. Thanks again for your prayers.

For His Glory,
E.J. Barnes

The Revival Fires Rally will be October 5th at Rural Dale Church beginning at 2:30. The pastor speaking will be Earl Nance.

Note— The Debt free conference scheduled for October 21st at Princeton has been cancelled.

| August Reports | Monthly Inc. | BSU Inc. | SS | MW | EW | DT | WMU | Bapt. Men | Youth Kids Ministry | Bapt. | Ltr/Other |
|----------------|-------------------|------------------|------------|-------------|------------|------------|-----------|--|---------------------|---------------------|-----------|
| Alpha | \$ 192.96 | | 16 | 5 | | | | | | | |
| Edinburg | \$ 542.37 | \$ 31.90 | 50 | 78 | 61 | | 9 | 13 | 22 | | |
| Gallatin | \$ 617.51 | \$ 50.00 | 94 | 134 | 48 | | | 10 | | | |
| Galt | \$ 122.00 | \$ 25.00 | | | | | | | | | |
| Jameson | \$ 381.00 | | 8 | 10 | | | | | | | |
| Jamesport | \$ 50.00 | | 30 | 48 | 21 | | | | | | |
| Laredo | \$ 348.31 | | 35 | 52 | 15 | | 4 | 8 | 2 | | |
| Lineville | \$ 250.41 | \$ 50.08 | 22 | 28 | 17 | | | | | | |
| M. Valley | \$ 47.11 | \$ 25.00 | | | | | | | | | |
| Mercer | \$ 279.00 | \$ 25.00 | 40 | 70 | 25 | | 11 | 7 | 5 | | |
| Modena | \$ 160.90 | | 9 | 13 | 13 | | | | | | |
| Princeton | \$ 934.02 | \$ 50.00 | 126 | 190 | 69 | 30 | 31 | 44 | | | |
| Providence | \$ 48.60 | \$ 50.00 | 5 | 10 | | | | | | | |
| Ravanna | \$ 202.15 | | 11 | 10 | 9 | | | | | | |
| Rural Dale | \$ 683.61 | \$ 50.00 | 71 | | | | 8 | | | | |
| Salem | \$ 81.15 | | 26 | 29 | 10 | | | | | | |
| Shelburne | \$ 315.34 | \$ 50.00 | 30 | 46 | 34 | 30 | 9 | | | | 2 |
| Spickard | | | 10 | 22 | | | | | | 2 | |
| Tenth St. | \$1,064.63 | \$ 177.44 | | | | | | | | | |
| Trenton FB | \$1,214.36 | \$ 202.39 | 114 | 149 | 38 | | | | | 2 | |
| Union | \$ 271.21 | \$ 100.00 | 61 | 107 | 49 | 41 | | | | 2 | |
| Total | \$7,806.64 | \$ 886.81 | 758 | 1001 | 409 | 101 | 72 | 82 | 29 | 6 | 2 |
| Chilli, FBC | | \$ 40.00 | | | | | | | | | |
| MBC | | \$ 400.00 | | | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | | Beginning Balance | | \$19,726.58 | |
| | | | | | | | | Income | | \$12,020.70 | |
| | | | | | | | | Total | | \$31,747.28 | |
| | | | | | | | | Expenses | | \$10,663.98 | |
| | | | | | | | | Ending Balance | | \$21,083.30 | |
| | | | | | | | | Line Items in General Checking | | | |
| | | | | | | | | Beginning Balance | | \$21,083.30 | |
| | | | | | | | | BSU Account | | \$2,970.39 | |
| | | | | | | | | Designated | | \$4,686.06 | |
| | | | | | | | | General Fund | | \$15,464.82 | |
| | | | | | | | | NGR— October to August— Income to Expense | | | |
| | | | | | | | | Income | | \$166,526.59 | |
| | | | | | | | | Expenses | | <u>\$152,965.83</u> | |
| | | | | | | | | Difference | | \$13,560.76 | |

| | |
|--|-------------------|
| Seminary Checking | \$743.19 |
| Seminary Savings | \$2,022.03 |
| Benevolent Savings | \$1,125.37 |
| BSU— August— Income to Expenses | |
| Income | \$1,441.81 |
| Expenses | <u>\$1,079.60</u> |
| Difference | \$362.21 |
| Belarus Donations | \$4,012.06 |



Alpha— We will be having a hayride and bonfire on Saturday, November 1st. Our Revival will begin on Sunday November 2-5. Dr. Spencer Ray will be the evangelist and the Veatch Family will be the worship leaders.

Edinburg— On Sunday, August 24th, Children's Church hosted a "Old Time Children's Church Revival" at our regular Sunday evening services. The children read Bible verses and many of the "Old Hymns" were revived. Several of the children had solo parts. There were approximately 80 in attendance. Watermelon, Kool-aid and tea were served following the services.

Edinburg Baptist conducted the worship service at Eastview Nursing Home at 1:30 pm on August 24.

On Sunday, August 31, for our 5th Sunday evening services we were blessed with a concert by "Fresh Anointing". Fellowship and a meal followed in the fellowship hall. There were 96 in attendance. We had 4 from Edinburg Baptist participate in the Roadside Ministry over the Labor Day weekend.

Our Children's Church is preparing to enter a float in the Fall Festival parade on October 18th. We also have our church wide skating party scheduled for October 27th.

Lineville— What an exciting month September has started out as! We started our after school program on September 3rd with 8 children present. Four of these children are unchurched. God has answered our prayers abundantly by allowing us access to the children through the school. The second week gained three more children— another 2 families reached in our community. Please pray with us in this endeavor that we continue to grow and that the children coming would carryover and their families would become involved in church.

Gallatin- September has been an exciting month in Gallatin! So far we have had eight baptisms this month. We started another year of Awana. In August the Student Ministry started use of an exciting new product from LifeWay called "Known." It is a new line of Sunday School material for teens, and it features materials for a mid-week follow-up program that re-enforces the Sunday lesson. So far, our midweek teen meeting is up in attendance by 30% from the start. We had the pleasure of a one-day revival with Bud and Barbara Lee on September 21st. Bud preached in the morning, both sang in the morning, and they gave a concert in the evening. The church had a church-wide dinner following the morning service, and Barbara delivered a Bible-based nutrition seminar in the afternoon. God's grace to you!
Spencer Ray

Medicine Valley- We feel much was accomplished this summer through the extensive visitation and outreach throughout much of our target area, the summer sports program with over 35 children and youth involved in basketball and Bible studies, and culminating in an area wide Evangelist Crusade at the Community Center in Humphreys.

Allen Reger, our summer missionary was on staff for three months, assisting with outreach, directing the sports program and then serving as evangelist in the three day crusade. Worship was led by EJ and Diann, pre-service music was provided by the Laredo Baptist Choir on Friday night, the Milan First Baptist Choir on Saturday night, and the Zion Baptist Church of Cainsville, "Lifeline Band" on Sunday night.

Excellent services and well attended with strong support of area churches co-sponsoring churches; Milan, Laredo, Rural Dale, Providence, Galt and Medicine Valley. Other churches in the association were also represented. We appreciate both the attendance and prayer support of each of these.

Continued next column

October 12th- World Hunger Day

- One hundred percent (100%) of each dollar given is used in a ministry.
- Every project is designed to not only meet physical needs, but also to accelerate, enhance and support evangelistic and church-planting field strategies.
- Each project is designed, coordinated, supervised and annually evaluated by IMB field personnel.
- 800 million people— about one-sixth of the population of the world's developing nations— are malnourished; 200 million are children.
- 2.6 billion people lack access to basic sanitation.
- Each and every day, 24,000 people die as a consequence of chronic, persistent hunger.

Hunger Funds are used only for meeting food-related needs—that is, assisting people with the issues of having food, buying food, growing food and/or using food properly.



Southern Baptists are a fellowship of over 16.3 million members in approximately 44,223 churches in all 50 states and Canada. These churches work together through approximately 1,182 associations, 41 state conventions, 1 fellowship and the Southern Baptist Convention to accomplish through voluntary cooperation far more than they could ever do alone.

Since its inception in 1845, the SBC has always had one mission— the Great Commission (Matt.28:19-20). The Cooperative Program helps to support over 5,100 IMB missionaries who are engaging in 1,170 different people groups around the world. New churches number over 1,458 planted through the efforts of 5,153 North American Missionaries.



Organizational Meeting

If you have received Disaster Relief Training or are interested in being trained— please come and attend this meeting. Finger foods and dessert will be provided.

Jamesport Baptist Church
7:00 pm



Operation Christmas Child

Time to start thinking about Packing a shoebox for a child. The Mission Center has a few supplies available. You can also check out details and order resources at

www.samaritanspurse.org

Show-Me Sunday High Attendance Day Sunday, October 26, 2008 State-Wide Sunday School High Attendance Day

Your emphasis can be a one day event on Show-Me Sunday or it could include other events such as:

- Emphasizing a special age group each week;
- Setting a weekly Sunday School attendance goal
- Setting an enrollment goal for new SS members;
- Planning prospect discovery events;
- Conducting weekly Show-Me visitation nights;
- Conducting a Who-Me high attendance/ evangelism day to conclude the emphasis.

"My Father is glorified by this: that you produce much fruit and prove to be My disciples."

John 15:8

Invite your friends, relatives, associates and neighbors to join you in Sunday School

Medicine Valley Continued

Attendance the three nights was 69, 64 and 75. On Sunday night several people indicated by the uplifted hand their desire to know Jesus as Savior. We trust area pastors will follow up on these.

In response to our summers endeavors one adult at Newtown came to the Lord and was baptized into the memberships of Providence Baptist Church. Two teenage boys have, thru the sports program, been reached for the Lord, one of whom will likely join the Christian church at Newtown; the other may possibly become a member of Medicine Valley. We have baptized one adult from Humphreys and following the Crusade have had one adult profession of faith in the home, followed by a request for baptism and church membership and one rededication, also an adult.

Two Home Bible Study Groups have been started. One, in the Newtown area, is being taught by Allen Reger. The other, in the Humphreys area is being led by the pastor. Pray with us these will succeed in bringing newcomers into leadership positions in our ministries.

Our financial needs continue to grow more demanding and God continues to meet our needs, often in unexpected ways that are beyond our control. We are aware that for the Humphreys area to be properly developed there will continue to be need for additional outside assistance. We trust that God in his own time and wisdom will meet every need in the continued development of these mission causes and their various ministries.

Our thanks again to the support we receive from churches and leadership of North Grand River Association. Please continue to pray for these mission opportunities in your own backyard. May God bless in your ministries as well.

Princeton— We have been very busy in September starting with Awana's on the 3rd. We are averaging 110 children, 52 workers, and 42 youth. The Associational Men's Breakfast met in August with 44 in attendance. We are sponsoring the Calamity Jane Trail Ride and will have a float in the parade. The youth are sponsoring 5th quarter after football games.

Some of our coming events are the Associational Fish Fry on October 4th, Men's Breakfast on October 11th, The Missouri Baptist Pastor's Conference is on October 27 in St. Louis. Brother Guy Thomas was elected President this year.

Salem— On August 31st we held an ice cream social. On September 14th we had to cancel our Sunday morning services, because of flooding over Rt. A and many of our rural roads. September 21st Brother Richard Singleton will be filling the pulpit as Brother Steve and Peggy are on vacation. We are planning a hayride, and wiener roast on October 5th and inviting our neighbor church Hatton Chapel, and others in our community. On October 19th we will hold services at Sunnyview Nursing Home.

Trenton First— The Sunday School "Fall Round Up" will be on September 28. There will be a Whole Hog Roast with the "Old Time Hymners" The Senior Adult's will be taking a trip to Steamboat Arabia on September 26th. The Awanas have started up on Wednesday Night with a meal preceding for them. The Awanas now have a class for the 7th, 8th & 9th graders We had a Special Recognition for Lavina Kelsey and Rosa Lee Allnutt after evening Worship Service on Sunday, September 21st. Lavina and Rosa Lee have served many years as Sunday School teachers. The Coffee House started on September 13 in the activity center at 5:00 p.m. Also October 11, November 8, and December 13 the youth meet Sunday night at 6:30 p.m. in the activity center for Bible Study, fun and games. FBC Youth will participate with See you at the pole on September 24.



October 2008



| Sun | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat |
|--|---------------------------------|--|--|--|------------------------|---|
| Pastor Appreciation Month | | | <i>1</i> BSU Luncheon 11-12:30 | <i>2</i> Seminary Extension* 7:00 pm | <i>3</i> | <i>4</i> Brotherhood/ WMU Fish Fry Princeton 6:00 pm |
| Cooperative Program Month | | | | | | |
| <i>5</i> Revival Fires Rally Rural Dale 2:30 pm | <i>6</i> | <i>7</i> Disaster Relief Organization Jamesport 7:00 pm | <i>8</i> BSU Luncheon 11-12:30 | <i>9</i> Seminary Extension* 7:00 pm | <i>10</i> | <i>11</i> Men's Prayer Breakfast 10th Street 8:00 am |
| | | DOM Conference | | | | |
| <i>12</i> World Hunger Day | <i>13</i> | <i>14</i> | <i>15</i> BSU Luncheon 11-12:30 Mercer | <i>16</i> Seminary Extension* 7:00 pm | <i>17</i> | <i>18</i> |
| | | | | | Missouri Days Festival | |
| <i>19</i> | <i>20</i> | <i>21</i> Ladies Celebration Luncheon 10th St. 10:30 am | <i>22</i> BSU Luncheon 11-12:30 Rural Dale | <i>23</i> Seminary Extension* 7:00 pm | <i>24</i> | <i>25</i> |
| <i>26</i> Show-Me Sunday | <i>27</i> | <i>28</i> | <i>29</i> BSU Luncheon 11-12:30 Tenth Street | <i>30</i> Seminary Extension* 7:00 pm | <i>31</i> | * Meet At Mission Center |
| | MBC Annual Meeting at St. Louis | | | | | |



Missions Opportunities: Missouri Days Festival and Operation Christmas Child

Even though few in number we were “mighty” in resolve as we filled cups at the September Prayer Luncheon. Following this mission project and a wonderful luncheon, Juanita Fox led a devotional before the time of prayer for our missionaries with birthdays and special requests.

Saturday, October 4th is the Brotherhood fish fry at Princeton at 6:00 pm. Ladies, please bring baked beans, salad, coleslaw, or dessert.

This month we will be preparing our shoeboxes, either individually or as church groups, for Operation Christmas Child. If you need additional brochure or information, you may call me, Belinda Hogan, or the Mission Center.

Ladies, we will be needing homemade cookies for the Missouri Days Parade Ministry in partnership with the Brotherhood’s hot chocolate ministry at the Mission Center prior and during the parade on Saturday, October 18th. Please have your cookies at the Mission Center by Friday, October 17th. If you would like to help pass out cookies and gospel tracts on Saturday, please call me at 359-4479 or call Debbie to let us know when you would like to help. There will be someone setting up by 8-8:30 am.

The October Fall Celebration and Luncheon on October 21st will be hosted by Tenth Street WOM. Rev. Ron and Iva Gail Ratliff will share with us about the Celebrate Recovery Program. We will also discuss plans, programs, and goals for the coming year. After the 10:30 am program, a covered dish luncheon will follow. Bring a friend and come join us!

First Baptist Church Trenton WOM will host the World Day of Prayer Program on November 18th at 10:30 am with a covered dish luncheon to follow.

There are so many missions opportunities! Let’s be in prayer about our involvement, and for our continued seeking God’s choice of the next WMU Director for our association.

I’m excited about our WOM groups and age-level groups and all that they are doing! Keep up the good work!

Bev Martin

**Missouri Acteens Retreat
SOAR**

November 14-16, 2008
Pulaski Baptist Association Camp
Waynesville, Missouri

All girls and leaders 7th-12th grades
Cost \$45 plus \$12 a day

Contact Mission Center for more information.

BSU/Collegiate Student Ministry “Know Him, Make Him Known—JESUS”

The BSU ministries have really started with a bang this year. We made 148 “Welcome” bags for the dorm students and then learned that the college moved in 152 students, stuffing students in other rooms other than the dorms. Thank you churches for donating cookies and finances to help us with this ministry. We had about 100 students drop by the welcome booth that day to sign up for the gift certificate drawing. Different family members shared with me later how they appreciated the gift bag their student received from us.

The 1st Wednesday lunch hosted by Coon Creek served 40 students, Shelburn hosted the 2nd luncheon serving 60, the 3rd lunch hosted by 1st Trenton served 84 lunches, and Gallatin serving their famous crock pot pizza hosted 53 students. I not only want to thank these churches for getting this ministry started and sharing a devotional with our students, but also would like to thank all you churches who have stepped forward and scheduled a Wednesday to help continue this ministry. We had 2 students in the second week indicate that they prayed to receive Jesus as their personal Savior. Praise Jesus! This is the reason you continue to support this ministry and why I continue to call on you for help. If you haven’t already scheduled your week of ministry please call soon, as we have some open dates that are coming up quickly. The following are open dates: Oct. 8, Nov. 5, Nov. 12, Nov. 26 (estimate maybe 15 or 20), Dec. 3, and Dec. 10 (estimate 20 students as this is finals week). These are the only dates that remain open for an opportunity to reach out and minister to campus students and share Jesus with them. I also want to thank the pastors who have made time out of their busy schedules to share with the students. Your sharing really blessed our ministry. Thank you.

Both Sunday Night Alive nights have kept Gene, Ann and me hoping. Just when I thought I had cooked enough for 10 hay crews, we ran out of food, making Gene and then Ann run to Hy-Vee to buy more, cook more and minister to more hungry students. We had 33 students the first time and 47 the second week. The first Sunday night I showed the DVD “Stop and Think” which is an evangelist video of a wave-surfing pastor sharing the gospel story. The second week God led me to show “How Great is our God”. It nearly blew me away to see 47 students stop eating and become mesmerized as Louis Giglio shared Psalms 93, and Col. 1:17 how everything is held together in Christ Jesus, and has been scientifically proven through a molecular biologist from Texas when he discovered “Laminin”. Have you heard about “Laminin”? Check it out on www.youtube.com. You will be blown away too!!! I want to publicly thank Maggie Bush for the huge bottle of picante sauce, #10 can of cheese sauce and #10 can of pinto beans. What a practical way to minister to the students. Thanks Maggie. Others of you have shared how you plan to also bless the students with practical food gifts. Thank you in advance for making this ministry work. God is changing lives 1 student at a time.

Sept. 24, Wed. is “See You At The Pole”. The BSU will be serving breakfast at 7am and praying around the Geyer Hall flagpoles at 7:30am, led by Cody McHargue.

We have 16 registered to take to the state-wide BSU GetAway Retreat, Sept. 26-28. The main focus for this weekend is challenging students to seriously consider making a covenant with God to serve Him with their lives during the summer of 2009. God has used this weekend to call out many numbers of college student missionaries. Please pray as students state-wide come to GetAway, where God will have the opportunity to call out His chosen.

Henry Blackaby has been noted to say, “If you want to serve God, find out where He is working and then get on board.” I invite you to get on board with the BSU this year for the ride of your life! KNOW HIM-MAKE HIM KNOWN-JESUS. Colossians 1:17.