



# The ENCOURAGER

"...encourage one another and build each other up, just as in fact you are doing." 1 Thessalonians 5:11

Vol. 16, No. 2

Pottawatomie-Lincoln Baptist Association, Shawnee, OK ♦ Dr. Russell R. Cook, Director of Missions

February, 2012

## EXECUTIVE BOARD

Next meeting is

February 13,  
2012  
10:30 a.m.

Lunch following

Spouses Invited  
Please RSVP  
273-4558

Support Services  
9:00 a.m.

Fellowship Time  
10:00 a.m.

**Mission Partnerships**  
*meeting*

*Monday,*  
*February 13,*  
*1:00 p.m.*  
*Assn. Office*

Association  
Office

CLOSED



*Monday,*  
*February 20*  
*For Presidents'*  
*Day*

**Don't Forget:**  
State Evangelism  
Conference  
Jan. 30 & 31 at  
Southern Hills,  
OKC

WEEK OF PRAYER FOR

**North American Missions**

March 4 - 11, 2012

Whatever It Takes

Mark 2:1 - 5

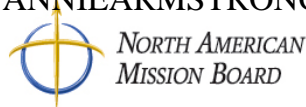


FOR NORTH AMERICAN MISSIONS

NATIONAL GOAL: \$70 MILLION

STATE GOAL: \$2 MILLION

WWW.ANNIEARMSTRONG.COM



March 3, 2012

9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

\$10 in advance, \$15 at the door

Registration is open at:

[www.bgco.org/missionignition](http://www.bgco.org/missionignition)

Launch Pads:

\*First Baptist, Elk City \*First Baptist, McAlester  
\*Portland Avenue, OKC \*First Baptist, Tulsa

# Church News

Please let us know of any upcoming events or news from your church!

FIRST, SHAWNEE Congratulations to Ray & Sarah Miller on the birth of their daughter Abigail Hope, born on January 16, 8 lbs. 6 oz. 21 3/4" long. (Ray Miller, Pastor)

UNIVERSITY has called Steve Dominy as Pastor.

## Staff Needed

*Incorrect information... please call the Associa-*

DALE is seeking **part-time pianist**, blended worship service. Contact Douglas Parker Jr., Search Committee, 405.401.9010. (Doug Parker, Pastor)

FIRST, MAUD receiving resumes for **part-time Music Minister**. Please send resume to PO Box 86, Maud, OK 74854 or call 405.630.8348. (Bobby Shatto, Pastor)

FIRST, MEEKER is seeking a **bi-vocational Music Minister** for a blended service. Contact Music Search Committee in care of FBC, Meeker. Call 405-919-5582. (Joe Jones, Pastor)

FIRST, ST. LOUIS is seeking a **part-time Youth Director**. Call Pastor Glenn C. Peck, 405.273.4596 or 405.830.8359 for duties and compensation. Background check will be performed. (Glenn Peck, Pastor)

HAZEL DELL is seeking a **bi-vocational Music Minister**. For more information contact Pastor Lee Witt at 405.964.2042.

MORNING STAR is receiving resumes for a **Senior Pastor**. Resumes can be sent to lgray091@students.sbls.edu.

Mt. PLEASANT is seeking a **bi-vocational Music Minister**. Please send resumes to 7101 Kings Rd, Shawnee 74804. For more information call Larry Cargill 405.273.0375, 405.664.0939 or Josh Norton 580.668.0214.

## ROSE DAY

Oklahoma State Capitol

Wednesday, February 8 ~ 9:30 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

### OBMEA Spring Workshop

(Oklahoma Baptist Ministers of Education Association)

February 9, 2012, 10:00 a.m. - 2:30 p.m.

Resource Fair - Spring Workshop is set for Thursday, February 9, 2012. Resource Fair will be from 10:00 - 11:00. We will have several organizations present that feature resources for Ministers of Education; from curriculum, architecture, and security; to discipleship, missions and evangelism.

Then join us for **Less Clutter, Less Noise!** Kern Meyer, Director of Communication at Granger Community Church, will share how to involve others in developing a vision that is consistently practiced. Learn how to communicate more than just events - communicate your church's mission!

### Expository Preaching Workshop

March 5-6, 2012

Speakers include Bryan Chapel, Jerry Vines, David Allen, Paige Patterson. You can deliver a clear, effective expository sermon without putting people to sleep. This workshop will aid you in clearly communicating the Message of Scripture to your people.

The cost is \$100, which includes 1 night lodging, 3 meals and conference fee. Deadline to sign-up is February 12th. Contact Lane Buckley, 615-8600 or the PLBA office, 273-4558.

## A Word of Encouragement

I want to take this space to express my deep and sincere appreciation to our associational staff and officers for providing great leadership during my sabbatical leave. These last three months have given me and Marsha much time to reflect and rejoice over the wonderful work of God in our lives.

We have had some lessons to learn about GRIEF. Even though we have walked with numerous others through their grief, it is quite different to walk through your own. The words of the Apostle Paul to the Thessalonian church have a new and fresh meaning to us, "you will not grieve as do the rest who have no hope" (1 Thess. 4:13). Though we grieve over joys departed, we can tell it to Jesus. He is a friend that's well known. There's no other such a friend or brother or Savior.

Likewise, we have learned some lessons about GRACE. We have known since our conversions and rebirths that we are saved by grace. Never have we ever really questioned or doubted that. But, in a fresh way, we have re-discovered God's marvelous, matchless, miraculous grace by which we are sustained. We have been reminded that we are both saved and sustained by His grace. We have too quickly read over John 1:16, "For of His fullness we have all received, and grace upon grace." (Grace piled upon grace in the experiences of the Christian life.)

Another lesson learned (or re-learned) during my leave is a lesson in GRATITUDE. Over many years in ministry it becomes easy to take people, circumstances, resources and even the privilege of prayer for granted. I am so very thankful for a gracious and merciful and patient God. I'm grateful for a precious and loving family. And I am thankful for dear and generous friends and ministry partners. My heart resonates with King David when he said, "The lines have fallen to me in pleasant places; indeed, my heritage is beautiful to me" (Psalm 16:6).

Altogether, I have experienced further spiritual GROWTH in my life. I feel like I have grown closer to God, to my wife, to my family—even extended family. I feel like I've grown in my understanding—and certainly in my appreciation—for God's Word, His ways and His will for my life. My prayer is that God will use me up for His glory and that I will walk in unison with Him for all the rest of my life.

— Encouragingly Yours, Russell R. Cook

## It Might Preach!

"God at Work for Your Good"

Romans 8:28-30

INTRODUCTION. Romans 8:28 is one of the most comforting texts in all the epistles. It is especially so when we are going through grief, sorrow or disappointment. It is an oft-claimed promise of God for those who love Him and are obedient to His calling. From this text it is clear, God has everything under control. He is constantly at work for our good and His glory. As to the specifics of God's work notice:

- I. There is a **CERTAINTY** to His work (v. 28a "And we know.")
  - \* literally "we have come to a clear and settled knowledge."
  - \* the word means "experiential rather than merely intuitive."
    - A. I Corinthians 15:10
    - B. Philippians 2:13
    - C. Hebrews 13:21
- II. There is a **CAUSE** to His work (v. 28b "God causes")
  - A. God has a sovereign plan for every man (Jeremiah 29:11)
  - B. God takes the initiative in our salvation and in our calling (1 Peter 1:3)
- III. There is a **COMPLETENESS** to His work (v. 28c "all things")
  - \* the word means His work is "unrestricted and all encompassing"
  - \* the context suggest "things" related to "the sufferings of this present time" (v. 18)
    - A. Philippians 1:6
    - B. I Thessalonians 2:13
    - C. Job 42:2
- IV. There is a **COOPERATION** to His work (v. 28d "work together")
  - \* "God" rather than "all things" is at work. (i.e. God causes)
  - \* the word clearly means "to cooperate, work together or with another"
    - A. I Corinthians 3:9
    - B. Ephesians 3:20
- V. There is a **CONSIDERATION** to His work (v. 28d "for good")
  - \* the idea is "eventual, ultimate, good" not necessarily immediate pleasure or gratification
  - \* God works for the ultimate good of every genuine believer
    - A. Psalm 34:106
    - B. Psalm 84:11
    - C. Jeremiah 29:11
    - D. James 1:17
- VI. There is a **CONDITION** to His work (v. 28e "to those who love God, to those who are called according to His purpose")
  - \* "to those" indicates a specific people (not all people)
  - \* the twofold condition is clearly stated:
    - A. God's work is conditioned upon our **CALLING** (v. 28g)
    - B. God's work is conditioned upon our **COMPLIANCE** (v. 28f)

CONCLUSION. God is at work all around us ("all things"). God is at work in us ("working together"). God is at work through us ("according to His purpose"). — rrc

# WM&M NEWS

## PLBA Women's Missions & Ministries

**MAKE YOUR PLANS NOW...** Ladies' Retreat at Falls Creek on April 15-16. "SCOUTING THE DIVINE: Ancient Truths for Modern Life" Details at <http://www.bgco.org/ladiesretreat/>.

**Blanket the State Report:** Reports of 169 new blankets! 75 for children of moms in a recovery program at City Rescue Mission by Sunnyside Baptist, Del City; 81 to two nursing homes by Scott Baptist, Caddo Association; 13 to a women's shelter in Lawton and various individuals by Caddo Baptist Association! Shawnee Rescue Mission is in constant need of blankets. Call me at 275-2088 if you can help!

### BOOK NOOK...

Books and kits available for checkout from the PLBA Resource Center...

**GET OUT OF THAT PIT** Straight Talk About God's Deliverance [From a Former Pit-Dweller], Beth Moore...A candid accounting by one of the most beloved Bible teachers of what God has done in freeing her from her own heart-rending past. Beth offers encouragement to others who find themselves in the pit(s) of Life to not stay there but to instead experience the complete and glorious freedom of being delivered by God! With her familiar humor and simplicity she allows a look into her own personal walk.

**GRACE FOR THE WIDOW** [A Journey Through the Fog of Loss], Joyce Rogers...The widow of Dr. Adrian Rogers, well-known Pastor of Bellevue Baptist in Memphis, shares from her heart the walk of dealing with profound loss of a loved one. She shares personal lessons learned so far in her life about how to lean on the promises and power of our loving God and how to walk through the practical aspects of finding oneself in such a new position in life's journey, which can be clouded by a fog of tears, disappointment, loneliness and confusion.

### A Nugget From My Spiritual Journey...

At the end of the Sabbatical leave Russell and I have been enjoying together, we have been reflecting upon what God allowed in our lives during that time...

Rest, relaxation and retreat...travel to new places...catching up on visiting family and friends...doing "fun" things together...working together on the completion stages of getting a book for Deacons published which Russell has been working on a very long time...talking to God and to each other without many distractions...celebrating my birthday, our 40th anniversaries of marriage and ministry (the last 15 at PLBA), Thanksgiving, Christmas, and New Year's...playing with grandchildren...sharing our home during OBU's J-Term with an MK friend who needed a place to stay after his parents returned to Africa...AND, most surprising of all (even to us), leading us to purchase a different home in Shawnee!!! [New address: 1313 Castle Creek, Shawnee, 74804, corner of Crown Point & Castle Creek in Northridge VII]

Yes, we have had the surprising privilege of watching God quickly and smoothly open one door after another to lead us to purchase and arrange to have totally renovated/updated a home on a corner lot in a quiet and established neighborhood. We are in the process of sorting out and streamlining our lives (i.e., "stuff" accumulated through our marriage and those of our parents) and preparing our home of nine years for sale! We anticipate being more "organized" than we have been in years and enjoying a "fresh start" in life! We anticipate watching how God will lead us to have new ministry opportunities through our new home, even by moving only about a mile away! We anticipate meeting new friends!

*Thank You, Lord, for continuing to bless, use, guide us and keep fresh new opportunities for us as we continue to stay open to You! Thank You for opening one amazing door after another so that we could see Your hand at work! Thank You for showing us again You are never through opening new ways to serve! Thank You for caring about our smallest needs, as well as the bigger ones! Thank You for letting us meet many wonderful people along the way and to have some chances to be a witness to people we would have never met otherwise! Thank You, Lord, for just being YOU!*

Marsha Cook

# Budget Receipts

Churches listed in red are Pastorless.

PASTORS	CHURCH	Dec. '11	YTD
Roger Shaw	Agra FBC	622.54	6,875.40
Dwayne Johnson	Asher FBC	168.94	2,245.13
Chris Carter	Blackburn Chapel	376.70	2,793.76
Mark Davis	Carney FBC	647.57	1,019.63
Rick Blackwell	Chandler, FBC	342.62	4,643.35
Keith Henley	Chandler Southern	120.50	1,615.18
Doug Parker	Dale	24.53	324.88
Mike Mitchell	Davenport FBC	557.95	4,061.68
Mike Haines	Deer Creek	173.48	2,110.29
Mark Streetman	Earlsboro FBC	.00	300.00
Ellis Rolette	Earlsboro Indian Mission	.00	75.00
Wayne Knight	Fairview	113.58	1,602.44
Dan Campbell	Faith	248.74	3,454.49
Jeff Bruton	Forest	.00	139.90
Lee Witt	Hazel Dell	414.29	5,365.63
Tuney Ropp	Hillside	1,030.03	11,260.68
Gary Nickerson	Hilltop	445.87	4,478.78
Bryan Cook	Hopewell	58.28	845.94
Don Acker	Macomb	.00	1,613.44
Mike Hazelwood	Mammoth	231.00	3,274.00
Bobby Shatto	Maud FBC	38.91	294.52
Rusty McMullen	Maud Trinity	198.53	2,360.76
James Bond	McLoud Emmanuel	652.01	7,671.03
Jerry Gray	McLoud Emmaus	76.53	1,096.42
John Burns, Int.	McLoud FBC	419.61	5,668.09
Ed Moore	McLoud Pecan Valley	.00	.00
Ron Cherry	McLoud Son Rise	265.16	1,811.63
Joe Jones	Meeker FBC	316.13	4,703.87
	Morning Star	742.86	3,947.07
John Hancock	Mt. Pleasant	121.54	1,336.26
Mark Patterson	Newalla-New Life	601.95	7,187.15
Mike Collyer	Pink	259.07	2,673.94
Jim Morningstar	Pioneer	129.57	458.27
Nathan Howard	Pleasant Home	67.84	1,619.26
Tim Emmons	Prague FBC	538.14	5,239.31
Richard Zimmer	Rock Creek	1,013.63	10,193.71
Gaspar Reyes	Rock Creek Spanish	24.90	278.96
Tony Black	Romulus	208.30	2,410.54
Paul Gore	Sh-Aydelotte	286.60	3,732.82
David Henry	Sh-Calvary	.00	590.57
Ray Miller	Sh-First	305.32	3,645.20
Spencer Davis, Int.	Sh-First Indian	.00	1,118.11
Anthony Rhone	Sh-Galilee	.00	.00
Larry Guest/Bob Dawson	Sh-Good Shepherd Chapel	.00	578.92
Jay Sampson	Sh-Heritage	1,884.78	5,057.12
Todd Fisher	Sh-Immanuel	1,553.15	20,959.32
Tom Hall	Sh-New Life	.00	200.00
John York	Sh-Oakland Chapel	.00	230.00
Ben Little	Sh-Sallateeska	.00	.00
Mike Craig	Sh-Temple	811.89	11,215.84
Larry Norris	Sh-Trinity	308.00	2,337.00
Steve Dominy	Sh-University	275.67	4,305.07
Butch Bradley	Sh-Wallace Ave.	150.66	1,742.59
Charles Wigington	Sparks FBC	104.98	967.47
Glenn Peck	St. Louis FBC	455.57	3,324.09
Burl Mackey	Stroud FBC	447.46	6,032.32
Tony Peak	Tecumseh FBC	838.69	10,725.51
Will Wilson	Tecumseh New Hope	50.00	450.00
Bill Haas	Tecumseh Riverside	.00	.00
Clint Dawkins	Tecumseh Sharon	562.73	8,288.53
Bob Fowler	Tryon FBC	137.85	2,027.96
Britt Lesley	Wanette FBC	158.08	1,867.11
Bill Howse	Wanette, Victory Pointe	.00	20.00
Russ Houser	Wellston Cornerstone	.00	708.00
Darrell Sullivan	Wellston FBC	386.15	4,535.36
Lane Buckley	Wellston Trinity	110.00	1,210.00
	Donation	228.00	428.00
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>20,306.88</b>	<b>213,347.30</b>

### TOTAL CHECKING AND SAVINGS TO BE ACCOUNTED FOR

	Beginning Bal. 12-1-11	Income	Expenses	Ending Bal. 12-31-11
Budget	8,758.64	20,306.88	18,471.27	10,594.25
Designated	156,086.19			160,026.68
<b>Total Monies</b>	<b>\$164,844.83</b>			<b>\$170,620.93</b>

Association Website — [www.plba.org](http://www.plba.org)



# February

## Birthdays



- 7 Rev. Richard Zimmer  
17908 Rock Creek Rd.  
Shawnee, OK 74801  
Pastor, Rock Creek
- 8 Mrs. Leigh (Will) Wilson  
36500 Lake Rd  
Shawnee, OK 74801  
Pastor's Wife, New Hope
- 16 Mrs. Jeanne (Lee) Witt  
39208 Moccasin Trail  
Shawnee, OK 74804  
Pastor's Wife, Hazel Dell
- 21 Mrs. Lois Bone  
PO Box 38  
St. Louis, OK 74866  
Former Pastor's Wife
- 21 Mrs. Betty (Burl) Mackey  
126 Sooner Dr.  
Stroud, OK 74079  
Pastor's Wife, First, Stroud
- 22 Mrs. Candace (Keith) Henley  
136 Meadow Lane  
Chandler, OK 74834  
Pastor's Wife, Chandler Southern
- 22 Mrs. Barbara (Britt) Lesley  
PO Box 159  
Wanette, OK 74878  
Pastor's Wife, First, Wanette
- 24 Rev. J.D. Cunningham  
3308 N. Oklahoma  
Shawnee, OK 74804  
Retired Pastor
- 28 Mrs. Pat Blair  
1130 E Independence Apt. 319  
Shawnee, OK 74804  
Former Pastor's Wife

## Anniversaries

- 13 Rev. & Mrs. Bobby Shatto  
PO Box 867  
Maud, OK 74854  
Pastor, First, Maud
- 14 Rev. & Mrs. Britt Lesley  
PO Box 159  
Wanette, OK 74878  
Pastor, First, Wanette

PERIODICAL POSTAGE  
**PAID**  
SHAWNEE, OK 74804

The ENCOURAGER (USPS 043260) is published monthly at the POTTAWATOMIE-LINCOLN BAPTIST ASSOCIATION Office. *Postmaster:* Send address changes to **The ENCOURAGER, 3800 N. Market, Shawnee, OK 74804. Phone: 405.273.4558 / Fax: 405.273.8478. Email: plba@sbcglobal.net. Editors:** Dr. Russell Cook, Director of Missions; Janice Maynard and Becky Traxler.

Director of Missions..... Dr. Russell Cook, 405.273.4558  
Moderator..... Mike Hazelwood, 405.279.2451  
Vice Moderator..... James Bond, 405.273.0090  
Treasurer..... Clint Dawkins, 405.273.5502  
Clerk & Office Manager..... Janice Maynard, 405.273.4558  
Media Manager..... Becky Traxler, 405.273.4558  
Bible Study Director..... David Henry, 405.275.3450  
Discipleship Director.....  
Family Director..... Shawn Crawley, 405.229.5813  
Worship Director..... Jason Henson, 405.273.2105  
Missions Director..... Mike Collyer, 405.598.3150  
Support Director..... Dr. Russell Cook, 405.273.4558  
Youth Minister..... Josh Norton, 580.668.0214  
Licensed Counselor..... Bret Ellard, 405.794.5552  
Licensed Counselor..... Larry Roberts, 405.794.5552  
Licensed Counselor..... Martha Hernandez, 405.943.4424

“...enabling each church to fulfill its unique mission for Christ and providing channels for cooperative ministry.”

# RA Racer Derby

Saturday, February 11  
Registration, 10:00 a.m.  
Morning Star Baptist, Meeker



**State RA Race**  
Saturday, February 25, 2012  
South Lindsay Baptist Church, OKC.

(Racer kits are available at the  
Association office for \$3.75 each)



**Vacation Bible  
School  
Training Clinic**  
Tuesday, April 24,  
5:30 p.m.

Bring your team to this training at **Immanuel Baptist Church, 1451 E. 45<sup>th</sup> Street!** Clinic begins at 5:30 p.m. (Orders may be placed at this event and 1 week before or after.)

**PLBA has VBS 2012 Die Cuts!**

## February '12

- 3-4 Basic Training I, OKC, 9:00 am  
3-4 Basic Training II, OKC, 1:00 pm  
4 Area Keyboard Festival, Various Places, 8:30 am  
4 OBU Winter Preview Day  
7 Singing ChurchWomen West Concert, Putnam City Baptist, OKC 7:00 pm  
8 Rose Day 2012, State Capitol Building, 10:30 am  
9 OBMEA Spring Workshop, BGCO, 10:00 am  
11 RA Racer Derby Tournament, Morning Star, Meeker, 10:00 am  
12 Racial Reconciliation Sunday  
13 Support Services team meeting, Assn. Office, 9:00 a.m.  
13 Fellowship time, Assn. Office, 10:00 a.m.  
13 Executive Board meeting, Assn. Office, 10:30 a.m.  
13 Mission Partnerships meeting, Assn. Office, 1:00 p.m.  
14 Valentine's Day  
16 Singing ChurchWomen East Concert, First Baptist, MWC, 7:00 pm  
17 State VBS Clinic, Quail Springs Baptist Church  
20 President's Day — Assn. Office CLOSED  
21-22 Church Revitalization Restart Strategy Training, BB, 10:00 am  
23 Singing ChurchMen Concert, Sunnyside Baptist, Del City 7:00 pm  
25 State RA Race, South Lindsey Baptist, OKC  
26 OBU Day in the Churches