

MISSIONS & MINISTRY

Executive Board and Ministry Teams meet



New Haven Baptist Church was the site of the first meeting of 2010 for the Executive Board and the VISION 2020 Ministry Teams. Pastor John Edwards welcomed the board and guests and led in an opening prayer.

Moderator Charles West of River Blvd. Baptist opened the business session. Dr. Hammer then surprised Associate Director Loren Hutchinson with a presentation marking his 25th anniversary with the Association (*see story on page 3*).

Kim Rice, BR-KC bookkeeper, was elected Treasurer of the Association by a unanimous vote. She takes the position held by Mary Ann Allen who resigned late last year.

The Administrative Committee reported that William Glasgow, Block & Company had been retained as realtors to handle the sale of the Mission Center. The Association voted to sell the property at last year's Annual Meeting.

The Finance Committee reported an excess of income over expenses for 2009 of \$38,055. The Association now has \$41,000 over and above designated funds. This is the first time in several years that the Association has ended a year without having to use designated money for general operating expenses.

This surplus came about by closely watching spending, reducing the budget where possible, and the generous grace of God reflected by the giving of our churches. The Association ended 2009 receiving 98% of its budget in donations. This during one of the worst recessions in decades. Praise God!

Dr. Hammer spoke to the Board updating them on our strategic planning and the work of the Ministry Teams. "It's not enough to complete the planning process," he said, "We now must implement those plans or we've accomplished nothing."

Following the Board meeting, all five VISION 2020 Ministry Teams met. Over 35 people joined teams and participated in the planning sessions. The teams next meet at the Mission Center on February 11 at 11:00 AM. Lunch will be served following the meeting. Anyone interested in local missions is welcome to meet with the teams. Read more at www.blueriver-kansascity.org/ministry_teams.html.

Haitian relief efforts

The Association is collecting clothing, canned goods, personal hygiene items and over-the-counter medical supplies for shipment to Haiti. Representative Emmanuel Cleaver's office said that the State Department will arrange shipment for whatever is collected.

In addition, a Haitian Relief Fund has been established for churches and individuals who wish to donate money to the relief efforts. The fund will be used to assist two of our BR-KC churches in their Haitian ministries.

Rev. Judson Pierre, Pastor at First Haitian Baptist Church of Kansas City plans to travel to Haiti later this month or in early March. He will take part of your donations to sister churches on the island. They, in turn, will use the funds for repairs and to assist their members who were affected by the earthquake.

Red Bridge Baptist in Kansas City has an orphanage on the island. Some of the funds will go to help that ministry. Thousands of Haitian children were left as orphans as a result of the earthquake.

Bring items for donation to the Mission Center during our office hours of 8:30-4:30. Make checks payable to BR-KC and be sure to mark them as Haitian Relief Funds.

"Wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow."

-Ps. 51:7



OUR STEWARDSHIP

Church Giving 2009

Church	2009 Assn. Mission Giving	Church	2009 Assn. Mission Giving	Church	2009 Assn. Mission Giving
Abiding Love	1,686.76	East Lynne, First	1,179.01	Noland Road	23,773.65
Anchor Point	144.46	Ebenezer Missionary	0.00	Norfleet	3,941.26
Antioch	343.16	Faith	6,897.01	Oak Grove, First	37,828.97
Antioch Southern	2,474.81	First Haitian	230.00	Oakwood	1,200.00
Armour Heights	240.00	First Westside	973.21	Olive Branch Missionary	50.00
AZ-U-R	150.00	Fleming	665.10	Peculiar, First	5,154.87
Bales	0.00	Forest Avenue	0.00	Paradise Outfitters	910.00
Baruch Hashem	2,850.00	Freeman	1,602.08	Plaza Heights	4,000.00
Beaumont	0.00	Grace Point	4,842.73	Pleasant Hill, First	0.00
Belvidere Heights	2,400.00	Grain Valley, First	14,912.43	Pleasant Prairie	165.89
Besonia	100.08	Grand River	0.00	Pleasant Ridge	2,030.01
Bethany	0.00	Grandview, First	10,675.17	Principe de Paz	800.00
Beverly Hills	400.00	Greater Faith Missionary	0.00	Raymore, First	2,511.00
Big Creek	9,873.60	Greendale	1,114.49	Raytown, First	31,100.00
Birchwood	4,116.62	Greenwood Missionary	100.00	Red Bridge	650.00
Blue Ridge	8,788.13	Heart of Life (First, Garden City)	4,500.00	Redeemer Fellowship (1st Calvary)	0.00
Blue Springs, First	29,356.82	Hickory Grove	1,370.97	River Boulevard	2,587.87
Blue Summit	1,507.00	Hispanic, Rockwood	100.00	Roanoke	2,013.48
Broadway, Oak Grove	2,585.81	Holmeswood	2,085.17	Rockwood	1,484.03
Buckner, First	8,246.05	Holy Hill	0.00	Russian, Kansas City	0.00
Calvary Temple	0.00	Iglesia Pan de Vida	862.18	Second Missionary	0.00
Calvary, Blue Springs	1,118.26	Immanuel	9,384.02	Six Mile	2,146.00
Calvary, Independence	1,465.09	Independence, First	1,083.29	South Haven	20,488.13
Carlisle	654.60	Kansas City Korean	0.00	South Kansas City	900.00
Celebration Community	0.00	Lees Summit, First	24,195.44	Southview	5,924.11
Central	3,090.94	Life Connection	463.26	Sovereign Grace	0.00
Church of Faith	115.00	Lifeline	0.00	Spring Valley	12,962.61
Clearpoint	850.00	LifeQuest	70.00	Spruce St. Matthew	900.00
Cleveland, First	465.00	Little Blue	3,407.00	Sterling Acres	6,580.15
Colbern Road	0.00	Living Stones Community	0.00	Strasburg	10,985.45
Coleman	0.00	Logos	0.00	Susquehanna	100.00
Connect Ministries	0.00	Loma Vista	974.03	Sycamore Hills	9,007.90
Corinthian Missionary	200.00	Lone Jack	1,200.00	The Avenue	0.00
Cornerstone	0.00	Longview	600.00	Tree of Life	35.00
Country Meadows	2,596.43	Martin City	1,278.89	True Vine Missionary	0.00
Covenant Memorial	0.00	Maywood	1,950.00	Truth Bible Fellowship	2,367.74
Coventry Estates	1,924.27	Mt Washington	829.35	U Church	75.00
Creighton, First	3,117.76	New Birth Christian Ministries	0.00	United Believers	350.00
Crescent Creek	0.00	New Haven	0.00	Vietnamese	1,320.00
Cross Creek	90.69	New Life Cambodian	0.00	Word of Life Community	0.00
Crossroads	650.00	New Salem	1,382.90	Wornall Road	800.00
Discovery	0.00	New Zion Missionary	0.00	Total	\$385,777.28

If each church increased their Assn. giving by 1/2 percent of undesignated offerings, it would result in over \$115,000 for local missions.



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Have you joined a ministry team?

VISION 2020 Ministry Teams are the place to be if you want to become involved in local missions beyond your church's community. These volunteer teams meet monthly at the Mission Center for the purpose of planning and implementing the VISION 2020 Goals and Action Plans. Membership on the teams is open in that you may attend any meeting anytime you want to give input to the work of the Association. Read more about the teams and register to serve at http://www.blueriver-kansascity.org/ministry_teams.html.

Ministry Teams Meeting Schedule

February 11
March 11
April 8
May 13

All meetings are at 11:00 AM
at The Missions Center
4001 NE Lakewood Way
Lee's Summit. Lunch after

Ministry Teams are open to anyone who wants to have an active role in directing the ministries of the Association. You can serve month-to-month as your time allows. Find more details at www.blueriver-kansascity.org/ministry_teams.html

From your Executive Director

Oh, baby! It's starting to get good now! I'm praising the Lord for what He is doing among us in Blue River-Kansas City Baptist Association.

We had a wonderful Executive Board Meeting Thursday, Jan 21 in which we recounted some of the work of God in 2009, celebrated 25 years of ministry by Loren Hutchinson and moved to implement VISION 2020, our BR-KC Vision and Ministry Plan for 2010-2020. Many thanks to New Haven Baptist Church and Pastor John Edwards for hosting us warmly and feeding us well! We enjoyed the fellowship and built more ties across the Association as we thoroughly enjoyed surprising Loren.

We celebrated the work of God in 2009 by recounting our Envision strategy planning process that resulted in five Ministry Teams. The teams had their inaugural meetings after the Executive Board met. We praised the Lord for giving of \$386,000 in 2009, equaling 2008 giving in the midst of lower receipts for many churches and the worst recession and unemployment our country has seen for a long time. We praise the Lord that we were able to expand assistance to our churches and ministries while lowering costs. We received \$38,000 more than we spent in 2009, wiping out deficit spending and increasing our net cash on hand to \$41,000 more than our designated giving commitments. We also gave over \$20,000 in capital improvement monies to twelve



of our churches.

We voted to lower our 2010 budget by \$17,000 to reflect money saved by changing our personnel health insurance coverage from Guidestone to Aetna. We also have a 2010 challenge budget that includes approximately \$45,000 more for six months salary and expenses for an Associate Director of Missions for Missional Outreach. This contingency budget for a new staff member will only be enacted if receipts are sufficient and approval is given by our Personnel Committee and Executive Board.

We also reported on our "Pledge-the-Vision Campaign" which asked our churches to indicate their planned Associational giving for 2010. We received pledges from about one-third of our churches and entered the same amount of giving as last year for those churches that didn't respond.

The total came to \$417,000. This gives us an idea of what we might expect for 2010. If you would like to see the detailed Pledge-the-Vision report, contact Lisa in our office. Thank you for your continued giving!

Another Board action elected Kim Rice as our new Associational Treasurer. We hired Kim, a local CPA, BR-KC church member and financial secretary, as our new part-time financial secretary in December, 2009. Welcome, Kim!

Our Ministry Teams of Gospel Outreach, Resourcing Churches, Assisting

25th Anniversary with BR-KC celebrated at Executive Board meeting

February 1 will mark the beginning of Loren Hutchinson's 26th year of ministry with the Association. Loren came to Blue River-Kansas City at the same time as Dr. Dean Preuett in 1985. Dr. Preuett retired a few years ago.

Loren was originally called to lead the Association's music, youth, media library and evangelism ministries. When the staff was downsized in the early 1990's, he and Dr. Preuett became Associate Directors under Dr. Morton Rose. Loren currently serves as the staff consultant for church programming and leads the communications work of the Association, including the Association's web site, monthly newsletter

and Online NEWS.

A surprise celebration at last month's Executive Board meeting marked the event. Loren was presented with a commemorative plaque, a gift card for Ruth's Criss Steak House on the Plaza and a specially decorated cake.

Present to help with the celebration were Loren's son Robert, pastor at Faith Baptist in Harrisonville, and Loren's fiancée, Tatyana Shkuratova. Tatyana is in her final year of studies for the Doctor of Pharmacy degree at UMKC. She and Loren met while Loren was helping John Mark Clifton to restart Wornall Road Church. Tatyana is originally from St. Petersburg, Russia.

Monthly Prayer Calendar available online

The BR-KC Association publishes a monthly prayer calendar on our web site. Each



month's calendar lists different churches, pastors, staff, ministries, partners and Association leaders for which to pray.

You can download the calendar as a pdf file by going to our BR-KC web page located at www.blueriver-kansascity.org. Click the Prayer Calendar link on the home page.

Community Transformation, Church Planting, and Equipping Leaders met for the first time and are moving ahead with plans to meet the objectives and goals in our VISION 2020 Master Ministry Plan. These teams are OPEN in membership. You can join or participate at any time. The teams will be reporting to the Association about our joint work and how you can be involved in "a network of healthy Baptist churches, partnering together to transform lives and communities by the power of the gospel of Jesus Christ here, in North America and around the world!"

As I once saw in an advertisement by Mellon Bank, "At the beginning of the day, it's about vision. At the end of the day it's about the courage to implement."



Pictured (left to right): Robert Hutchinson,, Loren, Tatyana Shkuratova, Dr. Hammer

They will be married May 28 in San Diego and are planning to have a reception when they return from their honeymoon.

News from the churches

Plaza Heights Baptist Church of Blue Springs, MO is seeking a full-time pastor of student ministries. Theologically conservative and supportive of the SBC and MBC. Send resume to Pastor Search Committee, Plaza Heights Baptist Church, 1500 SW Clark Road, Blue Springs, MO 64015 or e-mail to pastorsearch@plazaheights.org. DEADLINE: February 28, 2010.

Birchwood Church has costumes and props available free of charge to anyone willing to take them on an "all or nothing" basis. You may contact the church at 816-353-4445 for further information.

Interim or full-time pianist needed at **Sycamore Hills Baptist Church** in Independence for 3 services and one choir rehearsal a week. We have traditional blended style with the choir singing almost every week. Pay is \$100.00 a week. Please contact Craig Johnson at 373-1646 for anyone that may be interested.

Sycamore Hills Baptist Church would like to partner with other churches in the association to share VBS materials and decorations for Saddle Ridge in the summer of 2010. If you would like to assist your church in lowering the overall cost of conducting VBS, please contact Craig Johnson at 373-1646.

LifeQuest Church, 1400 N. Scott in Belton MO is offering an 8-week course on Dynamic Marriage starting in March. A pre-session meeting to distribute materials and explain the class format will be held March 7 at 3 PM at the church. Call 318-4673 for more details and costs.

Club D-Mask-U's, 1221 SE Broadway Drive, Lee's Summit, MO is a Christian nightclub featuring live Christian music from local, regional and national artists. Cover charge is \$3.50 or 2/\$6 at the door. Kids under 12 are free with paid adult.

- 2/5 NewFire
- 2/12 PikJC
- 2/19 Daniel Kirkley & The AZ-U-R Band
- 2/26 The Lifequest Band

Spring Valley Baptist Church, 8801 East 79th St., Raytown, MO, will be hosting a regional two-hour Telephone Encourager Training on February 21st (4 PM – 6 PM).

Allen Reger will be leading the training so that those trained will be prepared to receive the responses to the Media Campaign contacts for GPS. Please RSVP to Spring Valley at 816-356-1924 so that the appropriate amount of materials may be prepared.

Scott Mayse with **International Commission** is planning a mission trip to Jamaica November 5-14, 2010. If you would like to participate or just find out more information about the trip, e-mail Scott at ScottM@IC-World.org or call 913-731-0539.

Beverly Hills Baptist Church's monthly concert for February is on the 26th. Performing will be Evelyn Evans and One Voice. It starts at 7:00 PM and a love offering, that all goes to the performers,

will be taken.

Belvidere Heights Baptist in Grandview has called Chris Hicks to be their pastor. He has pastored in Arkansas and Missouri since 1986. His wife is Cheryl and they have two grown daughters.

MBCH Children & Family Ministries (an affiliate of Missouri Baptist Children's Home) is seeking a part-time registered nurse to work up to 10 hours per week at the Byrne Campus in Peculiar.

For more information or to apply, call or e-mail

Chuck Phillips at 816-779-5173 or charles.phillips@mbch.org.

2009 Financial Report

	Current Month (Dec.)	Year-to-Date
Receipts from churches (December)	\$41,522.66	\$385,777.28
Other Income	85.07	637.98
Total	\$41,607.73	\$386,415.26
Less Expenses	(24,941.69)	(348,360.26)
Balance as of 12/31/2009	\$ 16,666.04	\$ 38,055.00
Budget \$394,334.00 Annual	\$32,861.18 Monthly	\$394,334.00
Budget Receipts + other income		386,415.26
Receipts compared to budget 98%		(\$ 7,918.74)

Calendar

February		March	
9	MBC Evangelism Conf., St. Joe	7-13	Week of Prayer for NAMB
11	Ministry Teams , 11:00 AM (Mission Center)	11	Ministry Teams Meet, 11:00 AM (Missions Center)
14-20	Focus on WMU	13	BR-KC WMU Annual Mtg.
20	Children's Ministry Day-WMU	16	Finance Committee Meets