

MISSIONS & MINISTRY

Ministry Teams to launch January 21

- Gospel Outreach
 - Resourcing Churches
 - Assisting Community Transformation
 - Church Planting
 - Equipping Leaders

These are the five objectives of VISION 2020, the Association's strategic ministry plan for the coming decade. Our purpose is to help our member churches reach the lost and develop disciples by encouraging and assisting them in these five areas. Our vision statement for this effort says,

"We envision a network of healthy Baptist churches partnering together to transform lives and communities through the power of the Gospel of Jesus Christ at home, in North America and around the world."

This is an exciting new direction for associational ministry, and you can play a key role in our missions effort. A Ministry Team will be formed to oversee the goals and work of the Association in each objective. These teams will be made up of volunteers who have a heart desire for local missions and want to work with people from sister churches to share the Good News of Christ with the lost in our communities. (see "Teams" on page 2)

Executive Board to meet at New Haven

The Executive Board will hold their next meeting on **Thursday, January 21** at New Haven Baptist Church, 5501 Blue Ridge Cutoff in Raytown. The meeting will begin at 10:30 am and conclude at 11:30. **Ministry Team meetings will follow from 11:30 - 12:30.** (see story on this page).

Board members will hear an update from the Administrative Committee on the disposition of the Mission Center. A realtor has been hired and has been bringing potential buyers to the building. The initial meeting of our Ministry Teams will take place after the meeting and end at 12:30.

New Haven will provide a chili lunch for \$5.00 starting at 12:30 PM for anyone who would like to stay and fellowship.



Teams (cont'd from page 1)

How can you “plug in” and be a part of local missions?



Go to our web site online at www.blueriver-kansascity.org and

click on the Ministries link to find the Ministry Team pages. Read through the descriptions of each Ministry Team’s assignment and pray about which one best suits your skills and desires. Then simply come to the Ministry Team meetings and take part in the discussions and planning. The first meeting will be at New Haven Baptist Church, 5501 Blue Ridge Cutoff in Raytown on January 21 at 11:30 am, immediately following the Executive Board Meeting.

Frequently Asked Questions

1. How often will the teams meet?

The teams will meet once each month from January - May of 2010. After that, each team will determine their meeting schedule based on their goals and work load. The starting schedule for 2010 is as follows:

- January 21, 11:30 AM, New Haven Baptist Church, Raytown, MO
- February 11, 1:30 PM, TBA
- March 11, 1:30 PM, TBA
- April 8, 1:30 PM, TBA
- May 13, 1:30 PM, TBA

2. Who will lead the teams?

Leaders have already been enlisted for each team by Dr. Hammer. Each year, Dr. Hammer will visit with the team leaders to see if they wish to continue. If a leader

asks to step down from the position, Dr. Hammer and the association staff will enlist a replacement in consultation with the team.

3. How long can I serve on a team?

Membership on a team is fluid. You can join for any length of time that suits your schedule. You can sit in on an individual meeting to give input to their work, or to see what the team is like and what work they are doing before deciding if you want to join the team. We hope that you will make a personal commitment to become a regular active member, participating in each meeting of the team, but your level of involvement is strictly up to you.

4. Can I be on more than one team?

Yes. You can be a part of as many teams as you wish.

5. How can I get off a team once I start working with one?

Simply notify the team leader that you will no longer be able to be involved.

6. Exactly what will the teams do?

A Master Ministry Plan has been developed by the Association with specific goals and action plans for each of the five objectives. The Ministry Teams will function as administrators to see that each goal is addressed. They will determine the best way to accomplish the action plans and will recruit the volunteers needed for the



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work. The Association staff will be at their disposal for consultation and assistance, but the team will have the responsibility of carrying out the goals of the Master Ministry Plan.

Each year, each Ministry Team will be asked to give input to the Association’s budget process. As new ministry needs are identified by the team and new goals are set, the team will be expected to help develop a budget that will enable them to accomplish their goals. That budget request will be submitted to the Finance Committee of the Association who will in turn submit

the entire budget to the Executive Board for recommendation to the messengers at the Annual Meeting of the Association.

7. Will team members be expected to do all of the work called for in the goals and action plans?

No. The teams will enlist the volunteers needed to carry out the action plans.

8. Can I invite others to join my team?

Absolutely! We want to encourage you to enlist anyone who you feel has a heart desire for local missions and would be a good addition to the team.



9. How much is budgeted for the work of each team?

The 2010 budget carries the following amounts for each objective area:

- Gospel Outreach \$35,305, Resourcing Churches \$16,100, Assisting Community Transformation \$3,900, Church Planting \$18,000, Equipping Leaders \$7,300.

Most of these funds are already earmarked for specific projects, but the Association has some discretionary funds that can be applied to the work of a team if needed.

Teams and leaders

Gospel Outreach will be led by **Jeff Funderburk**, pastor at Heart of Life Church in Garden City, and **Randall Stotts**, pastor at First Baptist Church, Blue Springs.

Resourcing Churches will be led by **Loren Hutchinson** of the Association’s staff and **Todd MacLean**, pastor at Big Creek Baptist Church in Pleasant Hill.

Assisting Community Transformation will be led by **Eric Williams**, pastor at Calvary Temple Baptist Church in Kansas City.

Church Planting will be led by **Chane Hutton**, pastor at AZ-U-R Church in Lee’s Summit and MBC Church Planting strategist, **Jason Allen**, Church Planter at LifeConnection in Independence, and **Chris Pinion**, pastor at LifeQuest Church in Belton.

Equipping Leaders will be led by **Randy Messer**, pastor at First Baptist Church of Oak Grove.

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God's Plan for Sharing

GPS is the central theme of Southern Baptist's North American evangelism initiative through the year 2020.

GPS Across Missouri is a major evangelistic campaign to deliver the Gospel to 2.3 million households across Missouri in the weeks leading up to Easter Sunday, 2010. GPS Across Missouri has four phases.



The Preparation Phase (January and February, 2010) is the time for each church to determine the areas where they will Prayerwalk, as well as take steps to improve "First Impressions" of church facilities, getting ready for company Easter Sunday.

The Prayerwalking Phase (March 6 & 13 are suggested Saturdays) is the time for each church to Prayerwalk (or Prayerdrive in some cases) their community, asking God to bless families and open hearts to the Gospel.

The Distribution Phase (March 20 & 27 are suggested Saturdays) is the time for each church to return to the prayer walked areas and place a plastic bag on each door containing a presentation of the Gospel and a brochure from the church, inviting residents to worship Easter Sunday, April 4. During this phase, a national media campaign will be underway that will reinforce the message of the Gospel brochure.

The Follow-up Phase will be conducted from Easter through Mothers Day (April 4-May 9), during which time churches will be following up with those who attended Easter Sunday.

The BR-KC Mission Center will serve as

a distribution point for the plastic bags used in the Distribution Phase. E-mail Lisa McMechan at lisam@kcbaptist.org or phone 795-1822 and let her know how many bags your church will need. We will place the order with the Evangelism office at the MBC.

For more details about GPS, go to

www.gps2020.net

www.mobaptist.org/mogps

A place for used Sunday School literature

B.G. Johnson of First Baptist, Raymore will come to your church once each quarter and pick up your left over Sunday School materials and used Bibles. He delivers the materials to a warehouse in Decatur, Alabama from where they are shipped overseas to missionaries and churches.

You can reach B.G. at 331-7124.

Strasburg Acteens minister to Muslims in Kansas City *by Angela Allard*

Strasburg Baptist Church Acteens hit the pavement running November 7 and November 14, 2009. They took the Literacy Project to the inner-city and received so much more.

After meeting with Omar Segovia, pastor of Central Baptist Church, the girls were invited to go out into the community of 550 Garfield and promote the Book Fair the girls would be bringing to the church. The girls were surprised to learn that Central Baptist Church serves a community with 70 different languages and cultures. The community is primarily made up of African Muslims and Hispanic immigrants. Most cannot read or speak english.

The goal for the Acteens was to get God's truth into the community, by helping to build bridges for Central Baptist Church. Upon our arrival on November 7 we decided to begin by experiencing the culture. So, like any good Baptist we went to lunch!

We went to a Somali restaurant run by a local family in the area. While we were there, we were able to minister to the people in the restaurant. We passed out CD's that we downloaded from SomaliChristian.com and movies of the Jesus film project.

Some CD's were received with caution and some not at all.

We were reminded quickly about how dangerous it was to be a Christian in that culture. A woman that was in the restaurant received a CD and realized that she was being watched. After a moment or two she made a huge fuss about giving back the CD. When she gave back the CD we realized that the sleeve was empty. Somehow she had managed to keep the CD and returned only the sleeve it came in.

"It was explained to us that it would be like we were overseas, but we could never have guessed how true that was."

We later proceeded to walk the community and meet with the Muslim children and women, while the men escorts we took with us met with the men. The girls definitely had a culture shock. It was explained to us that it would be like we were overseas, but we could never have guessed how true that was.

On November 14, 2009 it was time for the fair and all of the girl's hard work paid off. We had children that we met from Somali, Burundi, Kenya, Tanzania, Mexico, and

United States. The girls had prepared well for this. They were able to distribute Spanish, English, Arabic, and Somali Bibles, along with the New Testament on CD in the Somali, Swahili, and Haitian Creole languages. We also distributed the Jesus Film Project in English and African Languages. They also made sure that children's books were available. Every one we could get to was offered a Bible and every one was offered books.

The most amazing thing was watching God work. We saw homeless, drug addicts and alcoholics confessing their sin and asking for prayer. We met children who could be beaten, shunned, or killed for fellowshiping with us and accepting God's Word. The whole experience was truly a blessing from God.

I know the girls and everyone that went with us feel our lives are changed forever. We ask that everyone keep Central Baptist Church in your prayers. They have a lot of work to do, and need God's strength to do it. Also we ask that you stay in prayer for the Muslim children that took home the Bibles. Pray that they are protected. Pray that the church is able to accomplish their goals. There is so much that needs to be done. Pray for the church and community.

News from the churches

Country Meadows Baptist Church is excited to announce that they have called two new staff members. Dr. Jeff Paul is the new Senior Pastor. Dr. Paul comes to Country Meadows from First Baptist Church, Archie, Missouri along with his wife Julie and his daughter Jordan. His first Sunday was November 22. Dane Cockrell has been called as Youth Pastor. Dane is a recent graduate of Southwest Baptist University.

Holmeswood Baptist Church, 9700 Holmes Road, is offering Church Drama classes beginning January 12 from 6:30 - 8:30 pm. The classes will be starting with "Intensives" working different aspects of drama for a few weeks, (e.g. script analysis, sketch writing, stage make-up, stage lighting, stage management, acting, etc.). Anyone interested can call the church office 816-942-1729 or Patty Freeman 913-721-0237.

Longview Baptist Church is searching for a part time Music Minister. Please send resumes to longviewbaptist@att.net, or mail to 1300 SW Longview Road, Lee's Summit, MO 64081, or contact Vince at 816-645-4962.

U Church is in need of a van to transport children to and from their preschool. If you or your church has a van you would like to donate to this ministry, contact pastor Gary Jones at 816-977-3858, or by e-mail at afrinomics@hotmail.com.

First Baptist, Lee's Summit will host an Orchestra Workshop with internationally renowned composer/arranger Dr. Camp Kirkland on Saturday, February 6 from 9 AM to 4:30 PM. Anyone who would like to participate should contact Randy Buffington at 816-525-0700.

Little Blue Baptist Church was recognized by the IMB and WMU for their per capita giving to the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering. Congratulations Little Blue.

Noland Road Baptist Church is seeking a Senior Pastor with exemplary leadership skills. Minimum requirements include at least 5 years of ministry experience in a Southern Baptist church and a graduate degree from a Baptist seminary. E-mail resumes to pastorsearchcomm@nolandroadbaptist.org

Churches asked to Pledge-the-Vision

VISION 2020 has been an exciting process of discovering God's Will for the cooperative ministries of the churches in the Association. The goals outlined will require both human and financial resources.

The human resources will come from those in the churches that God calls out to serve on our Ministry teams. The financial resources will come from the churches and individuals in the Association.

We would challenge each congregation to examine the goals of VISION 2020 and prayerfully consider how their church should support the work financially. It is our hope and prayer that every congregation

would participate at one of the following levels:

- **9K Challenge:** Pledge \$9,000 over and above your current Associational annual giving for each of the next four years.
- **2K-5K Challenge:** Pledge \$2,000 to \$5,000 over and above your current Associational annual giving.
- **All-for-One Challenge:** Pledge to increase your Associational giving by some amount annually.

Go to www.blueriver-kansascity.org and click on the **Pledge-the-Vision** link. Both churches and individuals can complete a response form to Pledge-the-Vision, or call Lisa at 795-1822 to make your pledge.

November 2009 Financial Report

	Current Month	Year-to-Date
Receipts from churches	\$32,533.46	\$344,254.62
Other Income	0.10	552.91
Total	\$32,533.56	\$344,807.53
Less Expenses	(25,370.59)	(323,418.57)
Balance as of 11/30/2009	\$ 7,162.97	\$ 21,388.96
Budget \$394,334.00 Annual	\$32,861.18 Monthly	\$361,472.98
Budget Receipts + other income		344,807.53
Receipts compared to budget	95.4%	(\$ 16,665.45)

Calendar

January	February
18 MLK Day (Office Closed)	9 MBC Evangelism Conf., St. Joe
19 Finance Comm., 4:45 PM	11 Ministry Teams , 1:30 PM
21 Executive Board Meeting	Mission Center
10:30 AM, New Haven B.C.	14-20 Focus on WMU
Ministry Teams Meet 11:30 AM,	20 Children's Ministry Day-WMU
New Haven B.C.	