



MISSIONS & MINISTRY

Blue River-Kansas City Baptist Association

Vol. 28, No. 6

Visit us at www.blueriver-kansascity.org

E-mail: lisadye@kcbaptist.org

June 1, 2009

Association launches new web site

The Association's web presence at www.blueriver-kansascity.org received a complete makeover this Spring. The new site is more interactive and features content that will be more timely.

Ministers wishing to relocate to our area will find a page of church staff openings, and churches looking for local mission projects will find a page listing ways individuals and groups can volunteer to help a sister church or ministry. The headlines from the current month's newsletter will be displayed with a link to a pdf file of the full newsletter. Each month's Association Prayer Calendar will also be available for downloading.

A page featuring each of our current church starts will allow Church Planters to list needs and/or give updates on their work so you can know how to pray for them.

A calendar on the home page will have active dates highlighted. When you place your cursor on a date, a pop-up box will show what activity is scheduled.

When you go to the church page, you will find an image map of the Association divided into eight segments. By clicking on a segment you will be taken to a detailed map of that area with colored dots showing the location of every BR-KC church. Hovering your cursor over the dots will reveal the name and contact info for that church, and if the church has a web page, you can go to it with one click. The home page will feature a rotating slide show of images highlighting ministries from around the Association.

Surf on over to blueriver-kansascity.org and let us know what you think. We would value having your feedback.

Engaged



We are pleased to announce the engagement of Lisa Dye, BR-KC Administrative Assistant, and John McMechan of Blue Springs. This is the first marriage for both. They are planning to be married at Summit Woods Baptist at 2:00 pm on Saturday, August 29 of this year and to honeymoon in New England.

John is Supervisor of Custodians for the Blue Springs School District and is celebrating his 30th year with the district.

We wish the best for Lisa and John.

Sunday School training set for June 20

The Association is conducting a Sunday School Worker training clinic on Saturday, June 20 for Grace Point Baptist, 10415 Chestnut Dr. in South Kansas City. The clinic will be from 9:00 - 11:30 AM.

Age-level classes will be held for Preschool, Children, Youth and Adult leaders covering how to prepare to teach in a way that transforms lives. Emphasis will be on learning styles and teaching methods.

In addition to the four age-level classes, two special classes will be offered; *How to Study the Bible Understanding Biblical Backgrounds* and *Ministering to the Hospitalized and Bereaved*. Both of these classes will be one hour in length, so you can attend both if you desire. The age-level classes will be two hours long.

The clinic is free of charge and everyone is welcome to attend. No registration is necessary.

Living Proof of a Loving God to a Lost World 816 795 1822

BLUE RIVER-KANSAS CITY

Resources Churches Ministries New Work Partners Staff Contact Us

Reaching the Country

WELCOME!

[Click here](#) for the Phase 2 VISION 2020 Report.

Please [click here](#) to download the May prayer calendar.

CURRENT NEWS

- Executive Board hears VISION 2020 Report
- Oak Grove Church Planter reaching outdoorsmen
- New Hispanic work
- Mission Trip Brazil
- Capital needs grant available
- Volunteers needed

Download the full newsletter [here](#).

COMING EVENTS

May 2009						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
26	27	28	29	30	1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31	1	2	3	4	5	6

ENVISIONING MISSIONS

Dear Partners in Mission, As most of you know, we are in the midst of an Envisioning and Strategy Planning process for our Association. It has 4 phases. Phase 1 was the formation of an Evaluation Team and determining their objectives and process. Phase 2 was a three-part...

[Read the rest of the article here.](#)

Remember the VISION 2020 Strategy Planning Advisory Group in your prayer time.

Red Bridge ministers to orphans in Haiti *By Mitch Shiffer*

(This article originally appeared in The Pathway. It has been edited to fit this space.)



In society, one of the saddest situations may be that of a child who is an orphan. Children who are without parents or live in such poverty that they do not have proper care can develop an affinity to permanent disease.

The island nation of Haiti is one of the poorest in the world. Haitian children are either void of parents, suffering from poor nutrition, or living in conditions that would be deemed unlivable. But they do have hope.

In the village of Pignon, an orphanage exists that is dedicated to nursing orphans back to health and raising them to become spiritually strong Christians. The ministry, which is run by Red Bridge Baptist Church on the south side of Kansas City, is known as the Haiti Home of Hope.

What is now the Haiti Home of Hope started from a series of short-term trips by a missionary named Webb Chenault. Around the mid-1980s, Red Bridge Baptist became aware of Chenault's ministry in Haiti and began to donate financially.

As Chenault visited Red Bridge, he would speak of the ministry and try to recruit missionaries. He was getting older and someone would be needed to run the orphanage. Bill and Jennifer Campbell

and their son, Jessie, who were members of Red Bridge, answered the call, and the Haiti Home of Hope was officially established in January 2003.

Though the orphanage does provide for the physical needs of the children, Red Bridge Pastor Vic Borden said that this is not the only purpose. "It is to be used to raise up a generation of Haitians that are mighty in spirit," he said.

The orphanage is both a place for caring for the children and a training ground for missionaries. Those who come experience first-hand missions.

The orphanage cares for 35 full-time orphans and provides jobs to the community



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of Haitians, employing about 30 people. This has allowed the orphanage to make an economic splash to the extent of being the third-largest employer in the area. "That is a huge shot in

the arm to the economic growth there, to the area, because they have a paycheck," Borden said.

For more input, visit www.haitihomeofhope.org. Trips are often being prepared or planned. Borden said groups from multiple locations have been to the orphanage. "There is always something in the cooker," he said. The church can be reached at 816-761-1194 if you would like to know more about the ministry.



Baptist Global Response, an independent Baptist relief organization whose board

is made up by Southern Baptists, is working with Missouri Baptist Convention and other Southern Baptist Convention agencies to coordinate the collection of "In-Home Care Kits." These kits consist of a five gallon bucket containing a number of health and hygiene items that will eventually be sent to AIDS victims and other under-privileged in Africa.

Churches are asked to produce as many of these "kits" or "buckets" as possible and deliver them to the Missouri Baptist Convention building at 400 East High Street in Jefferson City by August 15. Office hours are 8 AM to 5 PM Monday through Thursday and 8 AM to 12 NOON on Friday.

Instructions concerning putting these buckets together are available at www.baptistglobalresponse.com/main/ (click on "In-Home Care Kit Materials" at the bottom of the page). These instructions must be followed to the letter. The approximate cost per bucket is \$100.

Hillcrest Transitional Housing helps homeless



Hillcrest Transitional Housing offers displaced families a disciplined educational program within a caring Christian environment. Unlike many organizations whose focus is immediate or emergency care, Hillcrest's objective is to move families from homelessness to self-sufficiency within 90 days by addressing the total life situation of the homeless families they serve.

In exchange for rent/utility-free housing, residents are required by written agreement to work full time, obey program guidelines and attend volunteer-taught classes in life skills, employment, community living and budgeting. Hillcrest also provides the following through a network of community support: auto repair/donation, food pantry, medical assistance, dental work, GED classes, and more.

To learn more about how you or your church can help, visit their web site at www.hillcresttransitionalhousing.org.

Blue River-Kansas City Baptist Association News

Loren Hutchinson, Editor
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Dr. Rodney HammerExecutive Director
Lisa Dye.....Administrative Assistant
Loren HutchinsonAssociate Director
Travis Hamm.....Student Minister



Strategy Planning Retreat

Thursday, September 3

9:00 AM – 3 PM

First Baptist, Raytown (Atrium)

For all pastors, staff,

and interested lay leaders.

Lunch included

Envisioning Missions with Dr. Rodney Hammer

Dear Partners in Mission,

I'd like to share with you about **evangelism**, our association **finances**, and our **envisioning** process.

As we continue to envision the future God has for us, we carry on the work of **evangelizing**, making disciples, ministering to people, and strengthening our churches today. Please take note of the summer evangelism ideas from the Missouri Baptist Convention noted in this newsletter. Even if you have your summer evangelism plans in place, there may be some ideas or aspects mentioned that will strengthen or expand your approach. Don't let the summer go by without intentionally sharing Christ here and beyond!



I also want to thank you for your **financial** partnership. Giving to the Association helps provide church planting, student outreach, missions education and training, disaster relief preparedness, and equipping and encouragement for pastors, staff, and church leaders. Your giving also provides direct support for language work, strategy development, networking

needs of our churches and ministries, benevolent assistance and now **church capital improvements**. See details in this newsletter of churches assisted through these monies given to the Association's ministry. Our giving in 2009 is very close to budget, and in April you gave over \$7,500 more than expenditures! Additionally, thirty-nine of our churches gave more in the first quarter of 2009 than they did in 2008. We praise the Lord for His provision through your generous missions giving.



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Our **envisioning** and strategy planning process continues in Phase 3. In this phase we are following up individually with pastors who gave interviews to offer encouragement and assistance to them and their churches. Also, our Strategy Planning Advisory Group, consisting of nine pastors, continues to work with staff to discover God's vision and future plan for

ministry. This is not a decision-making group, but we will share their thinking, ideas and proposals for your consideration and feedback. Please pray for this whole process, that we might hear well from the Lord, build on the past and embark on the future in a manner pleasing to him.



Don't forget to put September 3 on your calendar. All in the Association are invited to participate in a one-day strategy planning retreat led by the Strategy Planning Advisory Group and Association staff. Your voice is welcome, and your input is desired.

Nine churches receive Capital Needs Grants

Twenty-two thousand dollars was awarded to ten churches through the Association's Capital Needs Grant Program. The Church Capital Needs Fund had been held in a certificate of deposit for several years. These designated funds had not been used for some years, but the Administrative Committee voted in February to release the funds in the form of \$2,500 grants.

The grants were advertised in the newsletter, on our web page and at the April Executive Board Meeting. Grants were awarded by the Administrative Committee on a first come – first served basis.

The following churches received grants:

- **AZ-U-R** – upgrade in Worship Center
- **Connect Ministries** – Renovate lower part of building to provide showers and sleeping area for visiting mission teams
- **Crossroads Church, KC** – building repairs
- **Forest Avenue** – air conditioner repairs
- **Life Connection** – trailer for storage
- **LifeQuest** – addition to childrens area
- **Rockwood** – roof repairs
- **Wornall Road** – steeple work
- **New Haven** – air conditioner repairs.

Black Church Sunday School Conference 7-11

Charles Grant, Black Church Consultant with LifeWay Christian Resources in Nashville, will conduct a 3-4 hour Black Church Sunday School Conference on Saturday, July 11 starting at 9:00 AM. The conference will be held at New Haven Baptist Church, 5501 Blue Ridge Cutoff in Raytown.

The purpose of the conference will be to highlight LifeWay's new Urban Sunday School Curriculum, specifically designed with African-American churches in mind. The goal is to strengthen Sunday School in the black church, expand LifeWay awareness, and promote the African-American Initiative and the new urban curriculum. The conference is for pastors, Sunday School Directors, teachers and workers, and is free of charge. All expenses are being covered by LifeWay and BR-KC.

Evangelism Assistance from the MBC

The MBC Evangelism Department has produced a great two-in-one resource for churches. *Raising the Cross Across Missouri* is a guide for sharing the Gospel with everyone in your community. It focuses on four key concepts:

- Praying
- Engaging
- Sowing and
- Harvesting

Although this emphasis was targeted toward Spring, the concepts can be used throughout the year.

Transformers is a set of eight ideas for summer evangelistic events:

- Backyard Sports Day
- Drawing the Net
- Family Fun Run, 5K and Picnic
- Horse Whisperers Event
- "Slice of Life" Gospel Outreach
- Sports Pre-game Meal
- Tractor Rodeo and
- Wild Fish & Game Supper

The manual provides instructions for carrying out these events and is free of charge from the MBC. E-mail gtaylor@mobaptist.org or call 1-800-736-6227 and ask for extension 650.

News from the churches...

Loma Vista Baptist, 8622 Blue Ridge Blvd., is seeking a pianist for their Sunday services. Anyone interested in applying can contact Sherry Nelson at jnelson005@kc.rr.com or call the church at 356-0078.

Maywood Baptist in Independence will celebrate the 25th Anniversary of Pastor Bob Spradling serving and leading them for the past 25 years. The celebration will be on Sunday, June 14, with the worship service beginning at 10:30. A catered lunch will be served on the lawn of the church following the service.

Beverly Hills Baptist Church, Independence, has called and welcomes Mark Mohler as their new Worship Minister.

LifeConnection Church, a new church plant in Independence, meets in a public school building and would like to have a 16' enclosed trailer to use to store and move their equipment each week. If you or your church can help, contact Pastor Jason Allen at 816-714-9248.

Bi-vocational or part-time pastor position open at **Hickory Grove Baptist Church**. Located northeast of Richmond, MO with 60 members. Contact Junior Anderson, 48603 E. 88th St., Hardin, MO 64035.

Plaza Heights B.C. in Blue Springs had 55 decisions for salvation and 117 rededications in their recent revival.

Lone Jack Baptist Church is looking for a pianist. This is a paid position. Anyone interested in applying should contact Pastor Jerry Tharp at 816-529-9203.

Loma Vista Baptist Church, 8622 Blue Ridge Blvd., will be celebrating their fiftieth anniversary on Sunday, June 28. Loma Vista was started from the vision of the Brotherhood at Bethany Baptist Church as a mission chapel on June 28, 1959. It's first list of prospects was supplied by the Women's Missionary Society of the mother church as they undertook to census the community. It was aided by the organizational structure of the Kansas City Baptist Association.

On Sunday, June 4, 1961, the people of Loma Vista Baptist Chapel submitted a petition for organization to the mother

church. Loma Vista Baptist Church's Charter day was June 25, 1961 with Rev. Richard L. Hollingsworth being the pastor.

Loma Vista would like to invite all past members to come and celebrate their Golden Anniversary, Sunday, June 28. Join them in Bible study at 9:30, worship and a special program at 10:45 and lunch at 12:30 PM.

First Baptist, Oak Grove is looking for a part-time Children's Minister. Please send resume to First Baptist Church, Children's Minister Search Committee, PO Box 129, Oak Grove, MO 64075 or e-mail randy@firstbaptistog.org.

Norfleet Baptist has 50 1975 hymnals to give away. Contact the church at 356-0079.

July Executive Board to meet at AZ-U-R

The July 23 meeting of the Executive Board will meet during the daytime from 11:00 - 12:30 at AZ-U-R Church, 1221 B SE Broadway in Lee's Summit. A hamburger lunch will be served for \$5.00 per person for those who wish to stay after the meeting.

Each church in the Association can elect two Executive Board representatives along with their pastor, but anyone interested in the work of the Association is welcome to come and hear what the Association is doing to assist our churches.

April 2009 Financial Report

	Current Month	Year-to-Date
Beginning Balance		(\$18,797.62)
Receipts from churches	\$33,145.10	\$129,097.24
Other Income	13.45	40.78
Total	\$33,158.55	\$129,138.02
Less Expenses	(25,517.12)	(121,095.13)
Balance as of 4/30/2009	\$ 7,641.43	\$ 8,042.89
<hr/>		
Budget \$394,334.00 Annual	\$32,861.18 Monthly	\$131,444.72
Budget Receipts		129,097.24
Receipts compared to budget	98.2%	(\$ 2,347.48)

Calendar

June	July
21-22 WMU Annual Mtg., Louisville	3 Office closed (Indep. Day)
23-24 SBC Annual Mtg., Louisville	20 Finance Committee Meeting
25 Church Clerk's Workshop and Luncheon, Mission Center	23 Executive Board Meeting
11:30 AM - 1:00 PM	