

MISSIONS & MINISTRY

Ministry Teams are making it happen in BR-KC

The Association's Ministry Teams met February 11 at the Mission Center to continue their work of implementing the goals and action plans of VISION 2020, our long-range strategy for Associational Missions. Over 25 people participated in the sessions.

Gospel Outreach team continued their encouragement of churches involved in GPS (God's Plan for Sharing), the North American Mission Board evangelism initiative leading up to Easter Sunday. They also are working on a Covenant of Prayer related to personal, corporate and associational outreach, and will ask every church to adopt the Covenant as their own.

Resourcing Churches is the team tasked with partnering churches together for the purpose of sharing materials and resources. A new page on the BR-KC web site (www.blueriver-kansascity.org) has been created where churches can register to become a "partnering church." Look under the "Churches" menu.

Assisting Community Transformation is focusing on school-aged children dealing with poverty. One need that has been discovered is that many children lack nutritious meals during the weekend.

The Back Snack program addresses this need. After training, representatives from churches pick up the back packs, fill them with food provided by Harvesters and deliver them to the school to send home on the weekend. The following week they pick up the back packs, clean them and repeat the process.



Church Planting is planning a luncheon on Thursday, May 6, 11:30 AM - 1 PM. in the Atrium at First Baptist Church, Raytown. The goal of the luncheon is to cast a vision for church planting to existing churches and church pastors in our association, inviting them to explore further what it could mean for them to get involved in partnering with a church plant in the future.

John Marshall from 2nd Baptist, Springfield will speak during the luncheon sharing how God led him to lead his church to become a church-planting church.

Equipping Leaders is the team assessing leadership training needs in the churches. They are working to develop networks among our churches to address those needs and are compiling a list of gifted leaders across the Association.

The next meeting of the teams is March 11, 11:00 AM at the Mission Center. The teams are open to anyone who would like to help the work of the Association. You can register to join a team by going to our web site at www.blueriver-kansascity.org. Click the "Ministries/Ministry Teams" menus.

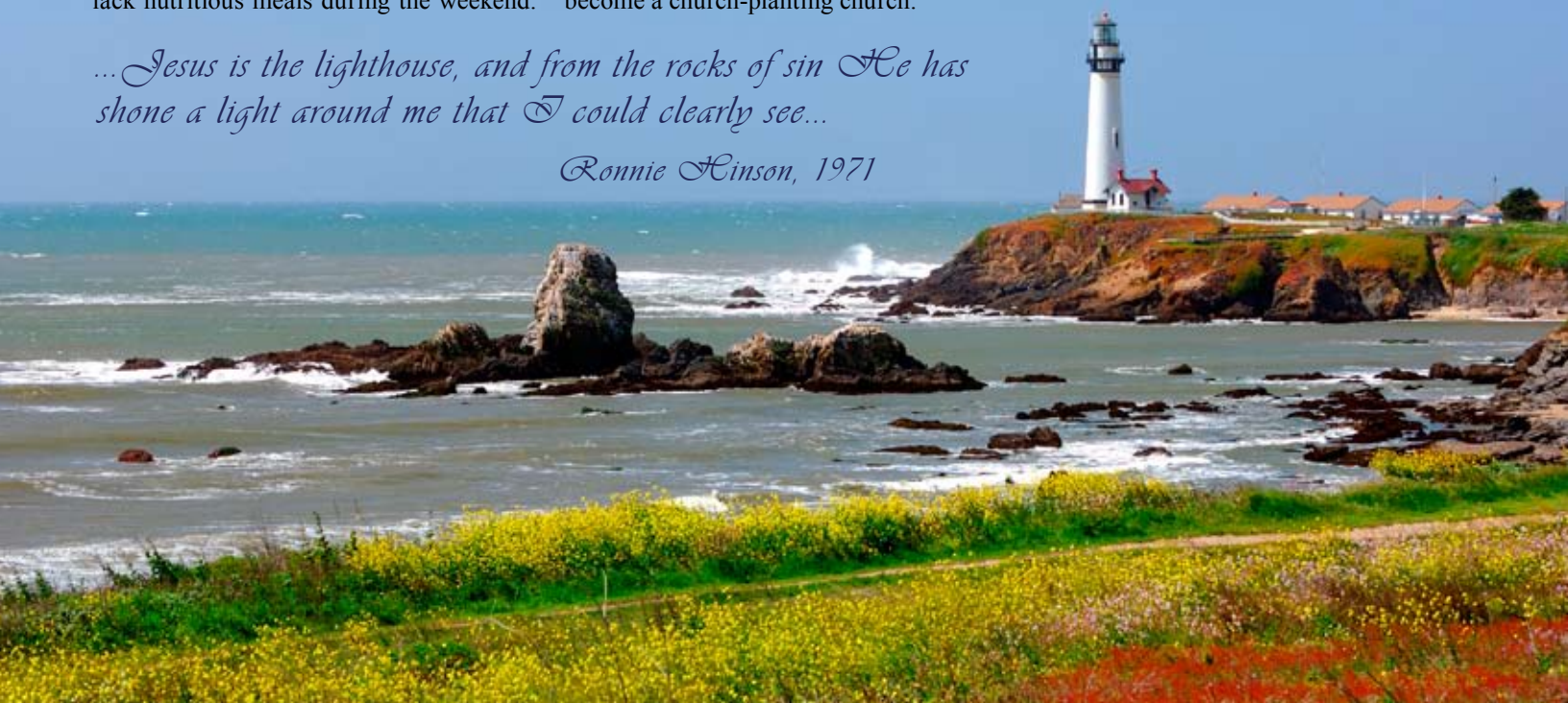
Haiti relief is piling up

This picture shows just a part of the donations for Haiti received at the Mission Center. Pastor Judson Pierre of First Haitian Baptist Church is making arrangements with the State Department to have the materials transported to Haiti. Over \$9,000 has been received from BR-KC churches.



...Jesus is the lighthouse, and from the rocks of sin He has shone a light around me that I could clearly see...

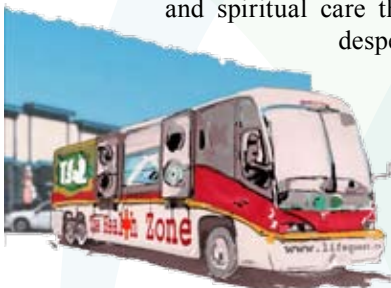
Ronnie Hinson, 1971



Church to launch mobile medical clinic

LifeQuest Church in Belton, MO is transforming their community by reaching out to people with the love and compassion of Christ. One avenue they have chosen is a free mobile medical clinic. The unit will provide routine, outpatient health and wellness services to medically underserved residents of the Kansas City area.

Providing a clinic that is in a patient's neighborhood allows the church to build long term, lasting relationships. Genuine, caring relationships are often what motivates a person to accept the physical and spiritual care they so desperately need.



The church has assembled a team of 18 doctors, nurses and administrators and hopes to launch in the 2nd quarter of 2010. They have received a \$100,000 matching grant to purchase the mobile unit and are seeking partners to contribute towards the grant. They are also networking with churches to partner with them to meet needs in their communities.

Would your church like to reach your community through this much needed ministry? If so, LifeQuest Church would love to explore ways to partner with you to make this happen. Contact Pastor Dan Blankenship at dblankenship@lifequest.tv.

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Hiking ministry reaches out to men

Since 2001, members of the Eagle Backpacking Club have been hiking around Missouri, Arkansas, and Colorado. Mike Bloom, Associate Pastor at Belvidere Heights Baptist Church in Grandview, started the ministry 9 years ago.



It is an outdoor Christian ministry designed to not only reach Christian men but also unsaved men. Their hikes are in the Spring and Fall and occasionally in the Summer. The next hike is scheduled for April 16-18.

All men that are interested in seeing God's creation up close and personal, and are in good physical shape, are invited to contact Mike at hallelujah82@msn.com for more information.

NAMB asking for "Buckets of Hope"

Buckets of Hope is a North American Mission Board project that will provide food buckets for the people of Haiti. Churches and/or individuals are being asked to prepare a Bucket of Hope and bring it to the BR-KC Mission Center no later than March 5 between the hours of 8:30 AM and 4:30 PM.

Go to www.namb.net and click on the *Buckets of Hope* link for instructions on how to prepare a bucket. This web site includes pictures of the bucket, a PDF flyer and video instructions on how to put the bucket together. Buckets must be packed with a specific list of food items inside. Please follow the detailed instructions carefully. This will ensure that every bucket quickly passes through customs and into the hands of the Haitian people.

The bucket and supplies will cost approximately \$30.00. NAMB also asks that \$10 in cash (to help with shipping costs) be put in an envelope and securely taped to the top.



Ministry Teams Meeting Schedule

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



The "Show-Me Health State Emphasis" was introduced at the 2009 Missouri Baptist Convention Annual Meeting that was held October 26-28, 2009 in Raytown. The central focus of the emphasis is the *Vital Signs of a Healthy Church Health Assessment Tool* that was developed by a Church Health Task Force made up of Missouri pastors, Director of Missions, laypeople and the MBC Church Health Team.

The State Convention will conduct a series of 16 Church Health Clinics around the state in March and April. Their hope is that pastors will bring up to 10 of their church leadership team and staff with them to one of these clinics. At the clinic they will share the *Vital Signs Health Assessment Tool* with the participants and help each team take and score the assessment.

The local clinic will be at **FBC, Oak Grove** on **Tuesday, March 9** from 6:30 – 8:45 PM. Go to www.mobaptist.org/church_health for more details on how to register.

From your Executive Director

Dear Partners in Vision 2020,

I want to encourage you to participate as the Lord leads in our Ministry Teams. The purpose of the Association is to serve our churches together, and assist them in fulfilling the Great Commission. We will fulfill this purpose by working together to spread the gospel, resource our churches, assist in community transformation, plant new churches and equip leaders in our Association. There is a team for each of these tasks.



If you can't serve on a team, you can participate in particular projects and ministries being developed by the Ministry Teams. See the front page for initial opportunities, and also our website for more information, team leaders, etc. These teams are open to anyone at any time!

I'd also like to encourage all of our Pastors, Minister of Missions or Staff responsible for missions, church leaders, church planters and new work sponsors to attend our May 6 luncheon, 11:30 AM-1 PM, in the Atrium at FBC Raytown. This luncheon will explain the importance, the opportunity and some how-to's of partnering to sponsor new churches. John Marshall, of 2nd Baptist, Springfield, will be our featured speaker at the luncheon.



Finally, let me say a word of thanks for your generosity toward Haiti Relief! In addition to thousands of dollars donated via NAMB, IMB, MBC and other agencies by our churches, you also gave over \$9,000 and a room full of relief supplies through our Association. The funds are being split between aid for destroyed churches and the needs of brothers and sisters in Christ via 1st Haitian Baptist Church, and an orphanage operated by Red Bridge Baptist Church, also in our Association.



Leading a Child to Christ training March 12

Leading a Child to Christ is a valuable resource for parents, grandparents, and every children's worker who has a heart to see children come to personal faith in Jesus Christ. This unique evangelism training will be offered on Friday, March 12, 2010, 6:30 PM at South Haven Baptist Church, 16800 Bel-Ray Blvd., Belton, MO.

Our singular guest and adult track facilitator is Jeanne Burns, Preschool Minister and children's spiritual development specialist, Ridgecrest Baptist Church, Springfield. A separate track is offered to teach older children how to share the ABC's of Salvation with their peers. The evening agenda has training from 6:30 PM to 8:30 PM. Open dialogue with the facilitators follows. The event is being co-sponsored by the Association.

MBTS seeking volunteers for new chapel



Midwestern Baptist Theological Seminary and Builders for Christ are joining hands to accomplish the largest project in school history. They are seeking more than 1,500 volunteers to build a 38,000 sq. ft., 1,000-seat chapel! What role can your church or organization play? That's the purpose of the Spring

Coordination Conference on March 13 at the MBTS campus in Kansas City, Missouri.

The conference will begin at 8 AM and end at 5 PM. To reserve your attendance, contact the President's office at 816-414-3701 or e-mail president@mbts.edu. Please plan on attending to see how the Lord is using this project to reach the nations for Jesus Christ!

It's just a matter of time

by Vickie Gurney, Cross Creek Mission

In June 2009, I spent ten days in Guatemala on a mission trip. In order to go I had to get a passport and airline ticket. Then I had to have money; cost was seven hundred dollars for lodging and expenses while I was there. Would I do it again? I would because God called me out.

Many would say "I can't do that." The truth is, you **can** go on a short mission trip just down the road from your house.

The Saturday before Thanksgiving, Grace Point Baptist church invited us to join them and help serve people at the Miles Center across from Bales Baptist church in Kansas City. Six people from our church took food and ministered to the neighborhood and homeless in that area.

What was the cost? It was pretty minimal actually. We helped set up tables and served the people who came. Not only did we serve the people, we sat down and visited with them and had a great time! They all needed to see the love of Christ in us and not be judged for the path they had traveled.

I met a young mother, Jennifer, and her five year old daughter, Precious. Jennifer had made the decision to break away from drug abuse because her child meant more than her drug addiction. Great choice! I'm sure that wasn't an easy lifestyle change, but she did it. She needed encouragement to know she can do all things though Christ who strengthens her, but she also needed Jesus in her life and the life of her family.



Now, why did God send me there that day? It was to give this young lady and her family hope! It only cost me six hours of my Saturday, and it may have been an everlasting life conversation for Jennifer and her family. Call our Blue River-Kansas City Baptist Association office and see where you can serve. It may be here in our area or internationally, but God has a plan for you. There are ministries where you can serve in your own back yard. We are called to share the love of Christ where we are. Just do it, and watch God at work!

News from the churches

First Baptist, Raytown has some used Divorce Care VHS tapes they will give to any church that can use them. They have a set 1-13. Contact Julie Herron at 353-1994.

Anchor Point Baptist Church would like to invite the churches in our Association to the ordination of Dennis Jackson into the Gospel Ministry. The service will be held on March 7 at 3:00 PM at the church, 25501 E. Bundschu Rd, Independence, MO 64056. Ordained men of the Association are invited to join the Ordaining Council.

33 Miles - One Life Tour is coming to **Country Meadows Baptist Church**, 4901 Lee's Summit Rd. Kansas City, MO on March 26th at 7 PM. Tickets are on sale now for \$12 each. Tickets can be purchased online at www.cmbc.net or at the Family Christian Store in Independence. Churches with groups of 10 or more can order tickets by calling 373-6445. Those group tickets can be picked up at Country Meadows during normal office hours, M-Th 8 AM - 3 PM. For additional information contact Tracy Smith at 373-6445.

Plaza Heights Baptist Church of Blue Springs, MO is seeking a full-time pastor of student ministries. 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: March 15.

Primera Iglesia Bautista, a new church plant in Independence, needs an electric drum set, Spanish Bibles and New Testaments, and financial support for a radio program that began airing in February. The radio program airs five days a week on KKKH, 1250-AM at 5:30 AM. If you or your church would like to help meet these needs, contact Luis Mendoza at mendozas94@sbcglobal.net One time or monthly donations are welcome.

Beverly Hills Baptist Church's monthly concert for March is on the 26th. Performing will be Cameron Smith and The Gloryland Quartet. The concert begins at 7:00 PM. A love offering will be taken.

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.

Glory House Services at **First Haitian Baptist Church** is a community of Haitian immigrants seeking a few students who enjoy teaching English, Spanish, Computer, and Haitian Creole skills to adults in our community education programs. They teach Haitian Creole at the church every Saturday to missionaries who travel to Haiti. For more information, e-mail Altema Mackley at glory.house.services@gmail.com or altema01@netzero.com.

Dr. Jim Akins, a former pastor of two BR-KC churches passed away on Sunday, January 31, 2010 in Winterville, GA. Jim pastored **Southview Baptist Church** in Raytown and **Birchwood Baptist Church** in Independence.

Bob Mendelsohn of *Jews for Jesus* will recreate the traditional Passover service and explain how it foreshadowed Jesus' death and resurrection in a presentation called "Christ in the Passover" at **Grace Point Baptist Church** on March 7 at 10:30 AM. Call 761-4342 for directions.

Volunteers needed to help starving children

Summit Woods Baptist Church in Lee's Summit will be partnering with *Feed My Starving Children* to pack meals for needy children around the world including Haiti. An informational meeting for groups interested in volunteering will be held Sunday, March 21 at 3 PM at Summit Woods Church. Everyone is invited to help. Details can be found at www.feedkidskc.org or by calling 816-525-8215.

January Financial Report

	Current Month	Year-to-Date
Receipts from churches	\$21,397.92	\$21,397.92
Other Income	576.16	576.16
Total	\$21,974.08	\$21,974.08
Less Expenses	(31,368.52)	(31,368.52)
Balance as of 1/31/10	(\$ 9,394.44)	(\$ 9,394.44)
Budget \$385,829.00 Annual	\$32,152.42 Monthly	\$32,152.42
Budget Receipts + other income		21,974.08
Receipts compared to budget	68.3%	(\$10,178.34)

Calendar

March	April
5-6 Disaster Relief Trng. Holt, MO	2 Good Friday (Office Closed)
7-13 Week of Prayer for NAMB	9-10 M-Counter (WMU)
11 Ministry Teams Meet, 11:00 AM (Missions Center)	10 Assn. Children's Bible Drill
13 BR-KC WMU Annual Mtg.	15 Executive Board Meeting
16 Finance Committee Meets	Ministry Teams Meeting
	16, 23, 30 GA Retreats 1, 2 & 3