

MISSIONS & MINISTRY

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Board votes to relocate staff to new offices

One number can make quite a difference. 4001 has been our address on Lakewood way since 1987. Our new address will be 4041 NE Lakewood Way, (Suite 260). The addition of that one number represents a new, more effecient, less expensive office space for the Association staff.

The Executive Board voted at the February 10 meeting to lease 1,564 sq. ft. of office space at a new office park just down the hill from our current location. This new space will be available June 1. It is being finished out to meet our needs and will include a conference room, a shared office space for WMU and Student Ministries as well as offices for the rest of the staff.

The near unanimous vote marks the close of one door in the history of the Association, but also heralds the beginning of a new paradigm of ministry

to and with our churches. Associational meetings and training events will be held out in our churches rather than the Mission Center. This will help create more of a sense of community among our

churches as we get to know one another better by visiting each other's locations. The move will also allow us to "spruce up" the Mission Center in preparation for its sale or lease. After the building is vacated, some much needed

painting and minor repairs can be done to help make the building "move in ready" for prospective buyers or tenants. Our realtors have assured us this will be a great help in showing the building. Both professional contractors and volunteer labor will be used for the repairs.

The Board also voted to release the Missouri Baptist Children's Home from their lease with the Association, allowing them to relocate their offices, They are in negotiations for space in Kansas City on Raytown Road that will give them more room than they have currently.

The Mission Center will still be used by Grace and Truth Baptist Church, a new church start that leases space for \$500/mo. The money from their lease will be used to cover the monthly expense of maintaining minimum utilities until the Center sells or leases.

The new office space will be finished out similar to the adjoining suite owned by First Community Bank, who is also our new landlord. Having our landlord in the same office complex is a good assurance that the building will be well

(see Ex. Board on page 3)



New office complex just down the road from the Mission Center (in background)



New, smaller office space (highlighted)



Human Exploitation Workshop

Saturday, March 12 10 AM – 2 PM

South Haven Baptist Church
16800 Bel-Ray Blvd, Belton.

Cost is \$25.00 and includes lunch.

Reservations are required.
Call Jennifer at 795-1822.

UMKC Chinese group focuses on kingdom

by Kayla Rinker (reprinted from an article in the January 25, 2011 issue of *The Pathway*)

For Henry Chen, pastor at Emmanuel Chinese Campus Mission, focusing on the kingdom and not the here and now is essential.

The mission is located within walking distance of the University of Missouri-Kansas City (UMKC) and since its launch in April of 2008, Chen said only a few of the mission's members have been there from the beginning.

"About 70 percent of our members are students from China," Chen said. "Many of them will not stay here, but will go back to China. Because of that, we have extended our mission to China and made it our purpose to disciple students while they are here. That way, they can go back to China and be influential there. We want to focus always on kingdom growth."

To reach its goal of discipleship, the mission hosts a traditional worship service on Sunday mornings and a fellowship meeting on Friday nights.

"Friday night is our main outreach program," Chen said. "We start with dinner, we sing for fifteen minutes, we have a time of testimonies and sharing and then we break into small groups."

Partly due to the success of Chinese churches and missions like Emmanuel, the International Mission Board (IMB) has recently announced its plans to take this idea of Chinese church plants to the next step. They want to bring the Gospel to the university cities

of China. The IMB believes that these cities and their 4 million+ students could be most strategic for the advancement of the Gospel.

"I think that it is a great idea," Chen said. "College campuses are more open than other parts of China and you can get a great response there. Also, if you can influence the college student, they will in turn be a great influence to the country as a whole. Revival among colleges and universities through campus ministry is an excellent idea."

However, Chen said ministering at the campus mission, with its members constantly coming in and going out, is quite a challenge.

"We love our kingdom mindset and fulfilling our purposes here at UMKC, but our unique situation has both a positive and a negative side," he said. "What we need is more stable families to come join our college students so that we can keep the ministry going."



Henry Chen & his wife visit with B.G. Johnson about their work at UMKC.



NO HOME LEFT BEHIND

BR-KC to co-sponsor Prayer Walk "A-Cross" Missouri

The Association, along with the Evangelism Department of the Missouri Baptist Convention and FBC, Oak Grove, is co-sponsoring a prayer walk across the state of Missouri in preparation for the *GPS-No Home Left Behind* emphasis this Spring.

The walk will take place from Kansas City to St. Louis, mostly along Hiway 50. A prayer rally will be held at Central Baptist Church, 550 S. Garfield in Kansas City on Wednesday night, April 13 at 7:00 pm. The walk will begin the next morning with stops and prayer rallies at the following towns along the way:

- April 14 – Lone Jack
- April 15 – Warrensburg
- April 16 – Sedalia
- April 17 – California
- April 18 – Jefferson City
- April 19 – Linn
- April 20 – Gerald
- April 21 – Wildwood
- April 22 – St. Louis

(Locations to be announced)

Pastor Randy Messer and a crew from FBC, Oak Grove will coordinate the trip along with Gary Taylor, Evangelism Director for the MBC. Randy and his group have carried the cross from Santa Monica, CA to Washinton D.C. in years past.

Anyone who would like to can register to help carry the cross by going to the website www.crossacrossmo.org.

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Dr. Rodney Hammer Executive Director
 Jennifer Hutton Administrative Assistant
 Loren Hutchinson Associate Director
 Travis Hamm Student Minister

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Each quarter, ministers from around the Association will have the opportunity to come together for the purpose of learning, prayer and mutual support. These meetings will be held in four locations, allowing everyone easy access.

The ministers meeting at each location will determine the agenda for the meetings, giving input to the Association staff who will facilitate the sessions according to the desires of the group. Any pastor or staff minister is welcome to attend any of the locations.

March Locations @ 10 AM

- March 3 FBC, Grandview
- March 17, Coventry Estates, Indep.
- March 24, Antioch So., Harrisonville
- March 31, United Believers North, KC

From your Executive Director

Dear Partners in Mission,

I want to update you about our new office, evangelism strategies and partnership opportunities. Today just before writing this I signed the lease on new, downsized but adequate office space for our Association. Why go ahead and sign a new lease and move before our building sells or leases? Moving to the new space this spring allows us to gain a fixed rate 5 year lease at a below market rate due to slowness of the economic recovery. It helps us proactively plan our transition out of our current facility. It also allows us to shut down most of our building and reduce its expense, and will result in us spending less time managing a property and more time with pastors, churches, and new work. We can do it without needing additional budget while enhancing our ability to sell or lease the building.

The Lord has also led us into evangelism strategies in which all of our churches can participate. God's Plan for Sharing (GPS) 2011 is an Association, State and National evangelism strategy to prepare the soil with prayer walking, gospel seed sowing, and special opportunities for church events and follow up. Another opportunity is Pastor Matt Burton of New Salem Baptist Church offering to train or guide a church in door-to-door evangelism and personal witnessing. Furthermore, the Lord continues to develop an exciting outreach to immigrant peoples from all over the world here in Kansas City. People Teams of volunteers from our churches have formed, and more are needed. Training is provided. Lastly, the Lord birthed a vision in Pastor Randy Messer's heart for FBC, Oak Grove and BR-KC to partner in prayer walking across the state of Missouri in support of GPS and revival in our State. A cross will be carried from Kansas City to St. Louis over a ten day period from April 13-22 with prayer rallies held each night along the 50 Highway route, starting in BR-KC at Central Baptist Church the first night.

These are all opportunities for BR-KC churches to join in prayer and evangelism efforts. Training and consultation and connections are available to our churches interested in participating.

Speaking of connections, we have a goal to see all of our churches partnered in various ways with at least one other church or new work in our Association. The reasons for partnering include mutual blessing, Kingdom efforts, learning, and resourcing. Contact us with your questions. We can make suggestions for a partner church, coordinate partnerships and provide consultation on how churches can maximize such a partnership.



Guidestone Financial Services of the SBC currently helps over 2,000 pastors and pastor's widows with extra money needed for housing, food and vital medications through their program, Mission Dignity. It has also ensured a well-deserved dignity, independence and, often, the ability to continue serving.

Right here in our area, Billy Hines, a former pastor in our Association has received help with medical expenses and other bills.

"We spent everything we made trying to stay in the ministry over the years. We did not have anything left to put aside for a 'rainy day' and at the same time

keep a good reputation as people who paid their bills in the areas we served."

"I absolutely don't know what we would have been able to do without their [Guidestone] help. I know we would not have a home without the help of Mission Dignity."

Mission Dignity exists through the voluntary donations of individuals and churches across the nation. If you or your church wants to take part in this ministry to retired Baptist pastors and pastor's widows, go to www.missiondignitysb.org. You'll find complete information about how to help, and you can even make a donation online.

Ex. Board (cont'd from page 1)

maintained and under stable ownership.

The photos below show a conference room and an office in the bank's portion of the building. The detail and quality of



the work is top rate. Your new Association office will be a beautiful and comfortable work space.

In other business, the Board heard an outstanding financial report that



showed our churches gave 100% of our budget for 2010. They approved some minor changes to the 2011 budget that adds funding for two church plants.

Loren Hutchinson shared information about new additions to the Association's web site at www.blueriver-kansascity.org and the new Online Forums that are available for our churches to use to post needs and share praises.

Randy Messer, pastor at First Baptist, Oak Grove, brought a motion that the Association forgive \$6,000 of the remaining \$18,000 owed by Dr. Hammer from a relocation loan the Association gave him when he became our Executive Director. It unanimously passed without discussion.

After the meeting adjourned, the ladies of Country Meadows served a wonderful meal of home-made beef stew, salad and dessert. Several stayed for the fellowship.

Ministry Teams

March 10
April 14

11 AM – 12, Lunch after

Mission Center

4001 NE Lakewood Way
Lee's Summit, MO

[www.blueriver-kansascity.org/
ministry_teams.html](http://www.blueriver-kansascity.org/ministry_teams.html)

News from the churches

In God's Hands Ministry, a new church start at 7546 Troost in Kansas City, is in need of a 15-passenger van to transport people to worship. They also are looking for churches who will partner with their ministry. If you can help with either need, call pastor Jess Thomas at 816-523-7500.

Holy Hill Baptist Church, 201 NW 11th St. in Blue Springs, MO, is celebrating its 13th year with a musical on Saturday April 9th at Heartland Church of Blue Springs, 400 SW Lake Village Dr.

On Sunday April 10th they will continue their celebration with a 10:45 AM service and a 3:00 PM service at Holy Hill.

Faith Baptist Church in Harrisonville ordained Dusty Ialman and Mike Oparnico to the office of deacon.

Grace Point Baptist Church is seeking a person to fill a part-time church administrative secretary position, approximately 27 hours per week, \$11 per hour. Persons interested should e-mail a resume, (no phone calls) to Personnel Team, gppt2011@gmail.com or mail a copy to: Personnel Team, Grace Point Baptist Church 10415 Chestnut Drive, KC, MO 64137.

Anchor Point Baptist Church, 25501 E. Bundschu Road, Independence is holding a revival starting April 10. Sam Moore, Bentonville, AR will be the evangelist and Craig Johnson, Sycamore Hills Baptist will lead the music. All are invited to pray for the church as they prepare.

Beverly Hills Baptist Church, 31st and Crysler in Independence, will host a Gospel Concert on March 25th beginning at 7:00 PM. A love offering will be taken, all of which goes to the performers, to help with their expenses. Light refreshments will be served in the fellowship hall following the concert.

Country Meadows Baptist Church, 4901 Lee's Summit Road in Kansas City, is hosting a bake sale on April 9th. You can rent a 6-foot table space for \$25.00. If your group would like to sell items to raise funds for your ministry, contact Sandy Farmer at 816-824-0194.



VBS Workers Clinic
Saturday, April 2
9:00 – 11:30
FBC, Grandview
1416 Main



in concert at
Club D-Mask-Us
April 7 7 PM
1221 SE Broadway Dr.
Lee's Summit, MO
 also appearing
Bread of Stone, Manafest
and Cory Lamb
Tickets \$10
seating is limited so order now at
816-525-7999

January Financial Report

	Current Month	Year-to-Date
Receipts from churches	\$24,600.27	\$24,600.27
Other Income	11.32	11.32
Total	\$24,611.59	\$24,611.59
Less Expenses	(29,672.89)	(29,672.89)
Balance as of 1/31/2011	(\$ 5,061.30)	(\$ 5,061.30)
Budget \$383,764.00 Annual	\$31,980.33 Monthly	\$31,980.33
Budget Receipts + other income		24,611.59
Receipts compared to budget	76.9%	(\$ 7,368.74)

March Calendar

3	E ³ Meeting, FBC, Grandview	17	E ³ Meeting, Coventry Estates
6-13	Week of Prayer for NAMB	24	E ³ Meeting, Antioch Southern
10	VISION 2020 Ministry Teams	25-26	GA Weekend Retreat
12	BR-KC WMU Annual Mtg. Human Exploitation Workshop	31	E ³ Meeting, United Believers