

## In This Issue:

- 2  
Special Called Meeting  
of the Association
- 3  
Called Meeting (cont'd)  
Campus Ministry  
ReBuilding Roundtable
- 4  
Church News  
Where God is at work  
Financial Report  
Calendar

**"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."**

## Messengers approve reports, budget at Annual Meeting

Mission Trip reports from the Horn of Africa were the featured highlight of this year's BR-KC Annual Meeting. Dr. Rodney Hammer interviewed Matt Sprink of First Baptist, Blue Springs and Jim Tompkins of Pleasant Prairie about their recent trip to Ethiopia and their work among Eritrean and Somali refugees.

The meeting was held at South Haven Baptist Church in Belton. South Haven's musicians led in the worship service held in their new 800 seat sanctuary. They were assisted by the Praise Team from Iglesia Bautista Pan de Vida in Grandview.

### *Horn of Africa Missions*

Dr. Hammer gave a "State of the Association" report that featured the interviews with Sprink and Tompkins. The two men and Dr. Hammer had just returned from a 10-day trip to the Horn of Africa, ministering to refugees in the northern and southern parts of Ethiopia.

Over 166,000 Muslim refugees are in four camps in southern Ethiopia. They are literally camped in the desert where everything they need to survive, food, water, clothing and medical care must be brought to them. The region has been stricken with drought for months. It is estimated that

10 children die each day in the camps from malnourishment and disease.

Our team was able to deliver over 400 Birthing Kits that help provide sanitary conditions for women who are giving birth in the camps.

The northern part of the country is home to thousands of Eritrean refugees fleeing their country because of persecution and political unrest.

BR-KC churches gave over \$8,258 to help purchase supplies in Ethiopia to be shared in the two areas.

### *Annual Sermon*

Rev. Jeff Funderburk from Heart of Life Church in Garden City gave the Annual Sermon. He used the story of Abraham believing and following God from Genesis.

He shared how God brought Abraham "out of his tent" in order to gain a new perspective on the greatness of God. He exhorted us to move out of our small "tents" of mindset and catch a larger vision of what God can do through the Association. There are over 130 churches in the Association with thousands of members. We should be about accomplishing great things for God.

### *Joint Committee Report*

The Administrative and Finance Committees brought a joint report and proposal



*Outgoing Moderator Eric Williams (left) from Calvary Temple welcomed incoming Moderator Doug Schildknecht (center, FBC, Buckner) and Moderator Elect Dennis Roth (Heart of Life).*

regarding how best to utilize the proceeds from the Mission Center when it sells. They have worked hard to develop a plan of investment and ministry applications.

No action was taken on their report. There will be a special called meeting of the Association on Tuesday, November 15 to discuss their proposal and vote to approve their recommendations (see article on page 2).

### *Budget Approved*

Messengers approved a \$391,907 budget for 2012 allocated as follows:

<b>Gospel Outreach,</b>	<b>\$31,200</b>
<b>Resourcing Churches</b>	<b>\$14,300</b>
<b>Ast. Com. Transform.</b>	<b>\$3,400</b>
<b>Church Planting</b>	<b>\$38,000</b>
<b>Equipping Leaders</b>	<b>\$4,300</b>
<b>Administration</b>	<b>\$39,550</b>
<b>Operations</b>	<b>\$49,915</b>
<b>Personnel</b>	<b>\$211,242</b>

### *Missions Fair*

Hundreds enjoyed the Missions Fair held in the foyer of the church prior to worship. Over 30 ministry partners had displays at the fair.





# Special Called Meeting Nov. 15 to determine how best to invest proceeds from Mission Center sale

The Administrative Committee of the Association has called for a special meeting of the Association to be held at Noland Road Baptist Church, 4505 S. Noland Road, Independence, MO on Tuesday, November 15 at 7 PM. All churches should be represented by their messengers at the meeting. The purpose of the meeting is to hear, discuss and vote on a proposal from the Administrative and Finance Committees on how to best utilize the proceeds from the sale of the Mission Center when it sells. A summary of the proposal follows on this page. The full report of the committees can be downloaded from [www.blueriver-kansascity.org/called\\_meeting.html](http://www.blueriver-kansascity.org/called_meeting.html).

The Finance and Administrative Committees are committed to proper stewardship of the proceeds from the sale of the building. They are excited to see how God will use the funds to further His Kingdom through the VISION 2020 plan. The committees have worked hard to develop the following plan for spending and investing the proceeds.

### Spending Recommendations

It is recommended that the proceeds from the building be spent over the next nine years with the earnings from the investments going into an earnings account. Each of the five ministry teams will be allocated a percentage of the proceeds to support projects in that particular area of ministry. Each quarter, the association will accept grant proposals from BR-KC churches, church plants, associational ministry teams, or associational personnel. The Finance and Administrative Committees will review the proposals and submit approved applications to the ministry teams who will issue the grants based on a variety of factors as outlined later in this article.

### Investing Recommendations

The Finance and Administrative Committees researched options for investing the proceeds from the sale of the building in an Earnings Account of

some type. They reviewed information regarding the potential investment products as well as different providers of those products. The details of this research are contained in the investing recommendations on page 3.

### VISION 2020 Grants

The committees envision a system of grants which shall be available to all BR-KC churches, church plants and associational personnel to expand missions and ministry. These grants would be funded by the proceeds from the sale of the Mission Center.

The grants would target the five VISION 2020 ministry areas of Gospel Outreach, Resourcing Churches, Assisting Community Transformation, Church Planting and Equipping Leaders. The funds would be allocated according to the following percentages:

- Gospel Outreach 22.5%
- Resourcing Churches 20%
- Assisting Comm. Transformation 10%
- Church Planting 22.5%
- Equipping Leaders 15%

A sixth category, Restructuring Contingency, will set aside 10% of the funds to be used after the first year to make adjustments to the allocation percentages if needed.

Funds will be available and allocated on a quarterly basis over nine years. Therefore, the ministry team leading each objective could potentially receive 1/36th of their total allocation each quarter for distribution. The funds not allocated in a given quarter will be invested back into the Earnings Account.

Grant applications would be made to the Executive Director each quarter and reviewed by the Administrative Committee, Finance Committee and the appropriate Ministry Team. Each church or ministry receiving a grant must report

on the use of the grant before any further grants could be made to that church or ministry. Any unclaimed funds will remain in the Earnings Account.

### Examples

Assume the amount received from the sale of the Mission Center is \$1,000,000. Ten percent of that (\$100,000) would be allocated to the Restructuring Contingency part of the plan and remain available for use after the first year.

Twenty-two and one-half percent (22.5%) of the proceeds (\$225,000) would be allocated for use in Gospel Outreach. One thirty-sixth (1/36) of that money, or \$6,250 would be available for Gospel Outreach each quarter for nine years after the sale of the building. Any money not used during any given quarter would remain in the earnings fund.

Likewise, Assisting Community Transformation would have 10% of the proceeds set aside for ministry (\$100,000). Grants awarded each quarter could not total more than \$2,777.77 during the first nine years (1/36th of \$100,000). Any money not awarded as a grant would remain in the Earnings Account.

### How do earnings add up?



The first year after the sale of the building only 1/9th of the proceeds would be available for grants (\$111,111.00.) The remaining \$888,889 would be growing in the Earnings Account. The following year another \$111,111.00 becomes available and \$777,778.00 (plus any earnings from the first year) remains in the Earnings Account. While returns vary greatly with the performance of the investments, it is estimated that the earnings after nine years could total as much as \$250,000.

(see "Proposal" on page 3)

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- Jennifer Hutton.....Administrative Assistant
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- Luis Mendoza.....Multi-cultural Church Strategist
- Travis Hamm.....Student Minister

## Proposal *(cont'd from page 2)*

That number could be even higher if some of the grant money goes unclaimed.

### **Investment Recommendation**

The Finance and Administrative Committees have worked diligently to assemble a plan that will best fit the Association's goals and objectives, as well as place the funds in a safe and trusted entity.

The committees met with a number of organizations to determine the best method of investing and dispersing the funds. Within these organizations there are a number of different products that could be used to accomplish our goals and objectives. After meeting with three groups, it was determined to first choose the product that best fits our needs and then compare the organizations that offer that product.

There were four different criteria used to determine the best product; **cost, flexibility, investment options and fiduciary duty to the Association.** The committees looked at several different options, but focused in on three different products:

- Internally Managed Account
- Endowment Trust
- Donor Advised Fund

They decided on a Donor Advised Fund for the following reasons:

1. **Cost** – the cost of the donor advised funds are much less than endowment trusts, but greater than internally managed accounts.
2. **Flexibility** – there is a significant difference between providers on the restrictions on disbursements from the donor advised funds. Some have no fees or restrictions on when or where disbursements are made and other providers charge fees. There are no restrictions on the timing of the disbursements, therefore this product provides a great amount of flexibility.
3. **Investment options** – Some providers limit the options to the investment pools they provide, whereas others allow the donor to have a customized investment plan created by outside financial advisor.
4. **Fiduciary duty** – this product places

the fiduciary duty on the provider rather than on the contributor into the fund. This option provides the protection that the finance and administrative committees desire.

The committees decided the best product for the Association is a Donor Advised Fund.

The committees then focused on which provider would best assist the Association in accomplishing the goals of the spending plan. The committees reviewed information provided by three different donor advised fund providers:

1. The Missouri Baptist Foundation
2. The Baptist Foundation of Oklahoma
3. The National Christian Foundation



After reviewing information from all of the providers, the decision was made to recommend the

National Christian Foundation (NCF) for the following reasons:

1. NCF has no restrictions on the timing of the disbursements of the funds.
2. NCF has no fees associated with disbursement of the funds.
3. NCF is a much larger organization that provides greater stability and safety of the funds.
4. NCF allows for greater individualized investment planning using a local financial advisor.

A professional advisor will greatly assist us in these investment decisions. The committees are recommending Steve Cox of Providence Financial Advisors. Mr. Cox is a registered investment advisor and a Chartered Financial Advisor with over 23 years in the investment field. He is also an approved advisor by the National Christian Foundation to manage assets held within donor advised funds.

Mr. Cox is a long-time member of First Baptist of Raytown. He has served faithfully in various leadership positions and as a Sunday School teacher. The committee has met with Mr. Cox and recommends that he manage the proceeds of the building that are placed in a donor advised fund with the National Christian Foundation.

## Campus Ministry

by Carson Conover  
MBC Collegiate  
Minister



The Fall semester has kicked off at both Blue River and Longview Community Colleges where I do campus ministry. We have several small groups that meet on campus each week – three at Blue River and one at Longview. The goal of these groups is to connect with students (whether they'd consider themselves religious, irreligious, or somewhere in between) and build relationships.

We're working through the Gospel of Mark, considering the person and work of Jesus. There are at least a handful of students plugged in who do not claim Christ, nor are they connected in any meaningful way to a local church.

I'm excited to see what God will do in the lives of these students. Each week we meet with two of those students. Both students are friends of mine who are consciously considering whether or not they're going to commit their lives to Jesus Christ. So, we're meeting weekly to read through the Scriptures together as they work through their doubts and questions while considering Jesus' identity.

Please pray for God to save these students, bringing them forgiveness and new life.

### ReBuild Roundtables Nov. 8-10

Cost: \$199

20-\$100 Scholarships Available

Contact D.A. Horton at  
dahorton@kbck.org or phone 786-1771

[http://therebuildinitiative.org/?page\\_id=976](http://therebuildinitiative.org/?page_id=976)

Rebuild Roundtables bring together 30-40 men who are multiplying leaders in the urban context. Pastors, church planters, artists, and urban leaders in the marketplace gather with others from the same urban region to connect, share, inspire, and equip.

#### Speakers

Dhati Lewis, Atlanta, GA  
Larry Grays, Atlanta, GA  
D.A. Horton, Kansas City, MO  
Troy Bush, Louisville, KY

## News from the churches

### Club D-Mask-U's November Schedule

- 11/5 Double Vision and The Unfailing
- 11/12 Maywood and The Awakening
- 11/19 KCCM Night
- 11/26 Closed

Club D is a ministry of **AZ-U-R Church**. Doors open at 6:30 p.m. 1221 SE Broadway Drive, Lee's Summit, MO 64081, [www.az-u-r.com](http://www.az-u-r.com), 816-525-7999

**FBC, Westside** at 801 Cesar Chavez in Kansas City, MO is seeking a part-time minister of music. Responsibilities would include a weekly rehearsal with the praise team, two Sunday morning services and a Sunday evening service. Please contact Pastor Randy Schmidt at 816-536-1653 for details.

On October 9 **FBC, Westside** celebrated their pastor's 16th anniversary with the church. The deacons and others came to the platform to wash his feet as a symbol of appreciation and support. Randy Schmidt is pastor of the church.

**Immanuel Baptist Church**, 124 W. 23rd Street, Independence, MO will observe Baptist Women's World Day of Prayer on November 7th at 10 AM. All are invited to attend.

**Noland Road Baptist Church** is seeking an Associate Pastor for Discipleship, a strong leader with a heart for discipleship, which includes equipping and assimilation. If you are interested in being a part of identifying the spiritual gifts of church members to allow them to grow spiritually and enhance overall church growth, please submit your resume and references to [personnel@nolandroadbaptist.org](mailto:personnel@nolandroadbaptist.org).

**Spring Valley Baptist Church**, Raytown, MO has 42 medium green choir robes with beige collars to donate to a church. There are also 23 Royal Blue choir robes with gold collars. If interested, contact the church office at 816-356-1924 during office hours (8:30 AM-4:00 PM).

**Martin City Baptist Church** is seeking the donation of a Gulbransen Digital Hymnal to be used in their nursing home ministry. If you have one, or know of

some one who does, please call the church 816-942-3441 or Lois Ellis 816-618-3370 or 816-223-5069.



**South Kansas City Baptist Church**, 10200 James A. Reed Rd., Kansas City, MO will present their annual *Back to Bethlehem* event on December 2nd & 3rd, 6:30 PM – 9:00 PM. This is a 20 minute outdoor walking tour and is not conducive to persons with physical limitations. Comfortable walking shoes and weather appropriate clothing is recommended.

**Living Stones Church** is now meeting in the former Castlevue building at 22603 NW Pink Hill Rd. in Blue Springs.

## Where God is at work

20,135 pounds! That's how much used Sunday School literature has been shipped overseas from BR-KC churches thanks to B.G. Johnson of FBC, Raymore. Each quarter, Johnson travels to 36 churches in the area, picks up their used Sunday School literature and transports it to Decatur, Georgia.

Edwin L. Hodges Ministries in Decatur collects the materials and ships them overseas to missionaries for their use. In the past two years, Johnson has made ten trips to Decatur and driven over 16,000 miles. He's made some of the trips alone, but on others he was accompanied by his wife or another volunteer. Did we mention that B.G. turned 89 this year? Look around. God isn't finished with you. Find out where He is at work and join him!

## September Financial Report

	Current Month	Year-to-Date
Receipts from churches	\$33,157.25	\$287,789.45
Other Income	20.24	198.33
Total	\$33,177.49	\$287,987.78
Less Expenses	(29,634.39)	(278,984.20)
Balance as of September 30, 2011	\$3,543.10	\$9,003.58
Budget \$383,764.00 Annual	\$31,980.33 Monthly	\$287,822.97
Budget Receipts + other income		287,987.78
Receipts compared to budget	100.1%	\$164.81

## Calendar

### November

- 3 E3 Meeting, FBC, Grandview
- 5 Media Library Workers Mtg.
- 7 B. Women's World Day of Prayer
- 10 Ministry Teams Meet
- 15 Called Meeting, Noland Road.
- 17 E<sup>3</sup> Meeting, Coventry Estates
- 24-25 Thanksgiving (Office Closed)

### December

- 1 E<sup>3</sup> Meeting, Antioch So.
- 4-11 Lottie Moon Season of Prayer
- 8 Ministry Teams Meet
- 15 E<sup>3</sup> Meeting, United Believers N.
- 25 Christmas
- 26-Jan. 2 Office Closed