

MISSIONS & MINISTRY

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BR-KC Baptists



BR-KC_Baptist

"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."



BR-KC Churches Focus on Africa

Several BR-KC churches and members have on-going mission work around the globe. This is truly our Mission Statement in action... "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 month, we are focusing on Africa.

[Kenya by Pastor Scott Flippin](#)

Norfleet Baptist Church partnering with Ebenezer Christian Fellowship adopted the Ariaal Rendille people of north central Kenya. We have gone into the villages in quite an expansive area and told Bible stories to the people beginning with the Creation to Church story. That



4 years ago no worshippers. Today there is a church, a school and about 70 people worshipping.



story is in essence the entire story of the Bible using Adam and Eve, Abraham, Isaiah, and Jesus. It takes about eight minutes to tell. We have seen an unbelievable response to the Gospel. Two years ago we also took on the responsibility to assist our Kenyan sponsors in training a group of Kenyan pastors who live on the edge of the north central Kenyan desert. This year we will deliver our third training session to the pastors and establish a small theological library with gently used seminary textbooks and commentaries. Pastor Carl Alexander from Ebenezer has another group of pastors he is training in the city of Nakuru, Kenya.

Between Norfleet and Ebenezer, a new church building was funded and built by our Kenyan sponsors in the

desert. That church building is being used as a regional training center for pastors, and we hope to provide training there next year. It is also being used as a school for the shepherds' children in the local village. These are children who have very little opportunity for education of any sort other than tending the goats, camels, and donkeys, as well as protecting the flocks from wild animals.

Three years ago there was no worship in our unreached and unengaged people group. Today they are no longer unengaged, and worship is happening in at least five different groups, two of which are individually larger than Norfleet.

[Togo by Pastor Dennis Roth](#)

The Heart of Life Church has worked in the same small West African country of Togo



Newest church plant
continued on page 2

2016 Annual Meeting

Sunday, October 2nd

FBC Blue Springs, I-70 & Little Blue Parkway

4 p.m. Business Meeting Q&A

5 p.m. Missions Fair

6:15 p.m. - 8:30 p.m. Annual Celebration

Come and celebrate with sister congregations what God is doing for and through BR-KC churches!

Africa*continued from page 1*

for nearly 10 years. With over 20 trips back to the same region we are continuing to develop long lasting relationships with the Ewe people of Togo. Over the years we have served in a variety of different ways, including door-to-door (hut-to-hut) evangelism, agricultural development, medical missions, church planting, and many other activities. Our focus has been to develop local leaders. When we first began our work there, we quickly noticed the lack of training for the local church leaders and lay leaders. Poor doctrine led to a variety of bad practices simply because there was a real lack of biblical training. Six years ago we started a Pastors Training Class in the rural areas where there was no hope for local leaders to attend a Bible College or seminary. Starting with 39 local church lay leaders, we recently graduated our first class with 20 graduates who have completed the five year training. Those graduates are now a part of a church planting program with two churches planted in the past year. This summer we trained local children workers by demonstrating how to put on a children's camp. Working side by side with local leaders, we put on a camp with 400 children. God is moving and we are



Teaching children

having a blast watching Him work in Togo!

Togo by Pastor Gary Jones The U Church

I work with a church in Mission Tove located in Togo, Africa that has planted



Classroom of Baptist church in Mission Tove

other churches. I am working with Cheerful Childhood & Youth (CCY), a youth ministry. I have taught preachers, pastors and church leaders in evangelism and discipleship. I have preached and taught in over ten churches.



Baptist Church of Teheza, Togo

I have a vision to take youth and young adults on vision tours in the future.

Ethiopia by Nicole Brown, Noland Road

Another trip has been made to the Horn of Africa and while many wonderful things are happening, our hearts remain with those still suffering in the refugee camps. Not knowing what their futures may hold we rest in the hands of the Lord and trust him. We hear many stories of families desperately trying to make it out and get to another country. This week someone we know personally called me to say they made it to California. Happy but scared, they had many questions about what happens next. After our conversation I couldn't help but feel so overwhelmed for them... a new country, new food, different culture, no familiar landscapes or voices. What a sacrifice for a better life but oh how thankful they were to God for seeing them through.

While in Shire, Ethiopia we were able to deliver shoes and clothing to over 420 refugees, leave 432 pairs of glasses

to be distributed, sheets for the beds in the refugee clinics, stethoscopes, blood pressure cuffs, numerous soccer balls and basketballs. Money was also given to support Christian deacons who are secretly teaching in the Orthodox organizations that are winning people over to the Lord! Bible college classes are continuing to grow in the town of Shire and the students are coming from all over to attend! There are now six church plants that continue to grow like crazy. People are on fire for the Lord even in the midst



New sports equipment for kids at Mai Aini Camp

of huge trials and hardships in their lives. It is so encouraging! Thank you for your continuing support. God has taken it and multiplied it immensely!

Please continue to pray for the Eritrean refugees as well as the Ethiopian brothers and sisters. They need encouragement and love just like we do. We have so much in common, we are just in different parts of the world and our needs look a little different sometimes.



Students at the Shire Bible School

4th Quarter Grant Schedule

**October 7 - Grant Requests Due
Oct. 26 - Grant Checks Written**

*info and applications available at
<http://blueriver-kansascity.org/grant/>*

Blue River-Kansas City Baptist Association News

Jennifer Hutton, Editor
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Travis Hamm.....Student Minister
Carson Conover.....Student Minister
Andrew Huesing.....People Teams

Associate Director's Report

God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble. Therefore we will not fear, though the earth should change and though the mountains slip into the heart of the sea, though its waters roar and foam, though the mountains quake at its swelling pride. There is a river whose streams make glad the city of God, the holy dwelling places of the Most High. Psalm 46:1-4

With the overabundance of news and the media saturation of our lives, a person could easily become jaded and discouraged with the sad state of affairs of our nation. The earth is changing at neck-break speed and most of it is not for the good. We see ample proof of our nation's steady slide off of the moral precipice, spiritually, morally, even rationally. We are bombarded by news of natural disaster, senseless murders, racial strife and unrest in our cities. If that fails to rattle you, the news of ISIS' brutal campaign with its resulting refugee crisis and the relentless persecution of believers ought to do it. Like the Psalmist, we may feel that the level of chaos, lawlessness and division have reached such inflated levels they could be metaphorically compared to the "earth changing" and the "mountains slipping into the heart of the sea". The waters of troubled, fallen humanity roar and foam around us, they cause the mountains to quake. How is a believer to live out their faith in the Lord in the midst of such a crazy world?

David understood how we feel in times like this. After all, he knew what it was like to be on the run from Saul and the whole Israeli army, bent on snuffing out his life. Or for his son to betray him, usurp his throne forcing him to flee his palace in Jerusalem just to stay alive. Here's the good news. If David could manage to keep his faith in the goodness and sovereignty of God in the midst of such dark, dire circumstances, so can we. The troubling times we live in test, purify and reveal the quality of our faith. It is only when things are bad that we learn that God is our refuge and strength, a present help in time of need. There is a river whose streams make glad the city of God and it is the gospel and grace in which we are privileged to know and live in every day because of our relationship with the risen Lord. We can say, "*This is the day that the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it.*" Because He Himself has said, "I WILL NEVER DESERT YOU, NOR WILL I EVER FORSAKE YOU," ...we can confidently say, "THE LORD IS MY HELPER, I WILL NOT BE AFRAID. WHAT WILL MAN DO TO ME?"

Whether you are a pastor, staff member or church member, persistence and perseverance may be the most important thing we do in the midst of this amoral, immoral, post-Christian America we live. It is not our success but our faithfulness that Paul said was all important to the Lord. We are all stewards of the gospel. Blue River-

Campus Ministry Update

Travis Hamm, UMKC/Rockhurst

Recently my wife, three kids, and I said goodbye to Bola.



We shed some tears as reality set in that this may be the last time we see her. It has been our joy to have this sweet Nigerian girl living in our home for the last two years. She has spent much time with us: eating meals, playing with the kids, doing household chores, watching family movies, discovering that Britney and I still struggle with our sinful flesh, laughing until we cry, crying until we smile, celebrating birthdays, seeing Britney and I discipline the children, waiting for the arrival of our youngest child. Bola has become family.

This day comes as no surprise to us. We've known since the first day we met Bola that Kansas City was a temporary season for her. She came pursuing a biology degree at Rockhurst University, the necessary next step in her quest to be a doctor. Such knowledge, though, did not prevent us from welcoming her fully into our lives and hearts and growing as followers of Jesus together.

Britney and I get the joy of discipling young men and women who are amid a preparatory season of life in which some of life's biggest decisions are made. We've been able to journey alongside them during this time, all the while showing them that a full and fulfilled life is one where Jesus is Savior and Lord of everything. We've been blessed to see students accept this good news for the first time. And we've enjoyed seeing several students, like Bola, continue to mature as Jesus followers. But there is one harsh reality about our ministry calling. The students end up moving on.

This is the bitter-sweet pill of leading a college ministry. The parallels between parenting and discipling students are many. You give time, money, and energy

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3rd Quarter Grant Report

Gospel Outreach	FBC Buckner	\$ 2,000.00
	Grace Point	\$ 500.00
	Impact Ministries	\$ 1,000.00
	Blue River/Longview Student Min.	\$ 2,469.45
Flex Funds	Sterling Acres	\$ 1,200.00
Resourcing Churches	Discovery Church	\$ 629.80
	Beverly Hills	\$ 1,747.35
	River's Edge	\$ 2,792.31
	FBC Peculiar	\$ 799.99
Assisting Comm. Transformation	Impact Ministries	\$ 400.00
	Blue Summit	\$ 1,292.37
	FBC Oak Grove	\$ 1,292.36
	Restoration House	\$ 2,984.73
Church Planting	Church of Faith	\$ 2,719.45
	Mosaic Bible Fellowship	\$ 750.00
	LifeConnection Grain Valley	\$ 750.00
Equipping Leaders	The U Church	\$ 1,500.00
	United Believers	\$ 900.00

News from the churches

Longview Baptist in Lee's Summit has an opening for a part-time Minister of Music. Send resume to 1300 SW Longview Road, Lee's Summit, MO 64081 or email longviewbaptist@att.net.

Cedar Creek Community in Lee's Summit is looking for a part-time secretary and a treasurer (possibly dual role). For details contact life@cedarcreekcc.org or call 816-942-6835.

Calvary Baptist in Blue Springs is hosting an event "In Honor and Remembrance" of the 15th anniversary of 911 at 10:45 a.m. on September 11th at 900 NW 22nd Street.

Oakwood Baptist in Lee's Summit is looking for a part-time worship pastor. Send resume to Pastor Russ Taylor at russ@obckc.com.

Volunteers are needed to help in the children's area for the MBCH Apple Festival on September 10 from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. at **FBC Raymore**. Contact JoAnne Ruble at 816-286-9573.

Associate Director Report

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Kansas City stands with you to support you in any way we can, both materially and spiritually. We provide consultation for churches and search committees, can help you set up a process for reaching and making disciples, and we can connect your mission team with others needing ministry or groups wanting to do ministry with your church. We offer VBS worker training, host an annual preaching conference and plan to host a worship leaders and small groups/Bible teacher's conference next year. We offer a monthly gathering for pastors who find themselves in a declining church and want to bring back life and growth. These are just a few ways we can serve you. It really doesn't make sense to be a lone ranger church or minister in the midst of the most cooperative, collaborative denomination the world has ever known. Cooperation is a core value of Southern Baptists. Be sure you are a Southern Baptist in practice, not just in name. Don't hesitate to call us if you need encouragement, help or material assistance of any kind.

Periodical

Student Ministry

continued from page 3

into helping them mature. But the mark of good parenting/discipleship is that those who you invest in will move on to effectively invest in others. There is no doubt that the day you say goodbye is filled with much sadness. But it is also filled with much hope. Hope that they will go on to live joy-filled and fruitful lives. You give your life to these not begrudgingly, but because God has called you to them and you love them.

Thousands of new students have walked onto the two college campuses just a block away from our home, and they have begun this preparatory season. My prayer continues to be that God allows us to journey alongside some of them, all the while sharing the gospel, helping them mature as disciples, and sending them out to become world-changers for the glory of God.



Awareness and Volunteer Training Event
September 15th
6 - 8 p.m.
Heart of Life Church
LSMO

Ongoing Needs:
Quik Trip Gas Cards
Grocery Gift Cards
Storage Shelves
Freezable Meat

July Financial Report

	Current Month	Year-to-Date
Receipts from churches	\$34,621.36	\$255,310.57
Other Income	15.16	76.98
Total	\$34,636.52	\$255,387.55
Less Expenses	(35,090.33)	(260,205.86)
Balance as of July 31, 2016	(\$453.81)	(\$4,818.31)
Budget	\$467,420.19	Annual \$38,951.68 Monthly \$272,661.76
Budget Receipts + other income		255,387.55
Receipts compared to budget	94%	(\$ 17,274.21)

Calendar

September

- 1 E3, Antioch Sthrн, Harrisonville
- 5 Office Closed for Holiday
- 8 Ministry Teams
- 13 Legacy Cohort, Coventry Est.
- 15 E3, South Haven Belton
- 22 E3, Calvary Blue Springs
- 29 E3, Sycamore Hills Indep.

October

- 2 Annual Meeting, FBC Blue Spgs
- 7 Grant Requests Due
- 11 Legacy Cohort, BR-KC office
- 13 Ministry Team Meeting
- 26 Grant Checks Written