

# MISSIONS & MINISTRY

Vol. 36, No.5

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May, 2017

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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."**

VISION  
2020

## The Flourishing Ministry of Arab Fellowship Church - A Lighthouse for Jesus Christ by Dr. Asefaw Indrias

In Revelation 5:9 the word of God says "and they sang a new song, saying: You are worthy to take the scroll and to open its seals, because you were slain, and with your blood you purchased for God persons from every tribe and language and people and nation".

The Arab Fellowship Church started in 2006 with three believers - Brother Samir, Brother Ashraf, and Sister Eveveice. In May of 2010, Pastor Amgad moved to Kansas with his wife, Amir, and their child, and became the Pastor of the Arab Fellowship Church. He started reaching out to all Middle Eastern, African Arabic speaking believers and non-believers to spread the good news of the gospel.

The Arab Fellowship Church is supported from different local Presbyterian churches while I am one of the church planters supported by the BR-KC church planting budget. Your funds allow me to be able



to help the Arab Fellowship Church.

The main purpose of the Arab Fellowship Church is to provide service to the Arabic speaking people and to witness to non-believers to accept Christ as their personal savior. The church also provides spiritual support to refugees currently displaced and barely surviving in our area who are from the Middle East, as well as to orphanages. For example, during Christmas of 2016, the church invited all Syrian refugees who live in Kansas and Missouri to come together for dinner,

share testimonies to encourage people and worship in Arabic. I had the privilege of sharing my testimony and telling about the mission trips to the Eritrean refugee camp in Ethiopia.

Pastor Amgad and the board members have dedicated themselves in proclaiming the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ to the metropolitan area. I am also committed to ministering to the Arabic speaking folks in Kansas and Missouri

If anyone wants to get involved and support the Arab Fellowship please contact the BR-KC office or Pastor Amgad at 805-665-6032.



## Williams-Farmer Preaching Fellowship Friday, May 5, 2017 9 a.m. - 2 p.m. lunch included

**Harvest Baptist Church  
901 NW 19th Street, Blue Springs, MO 64015**

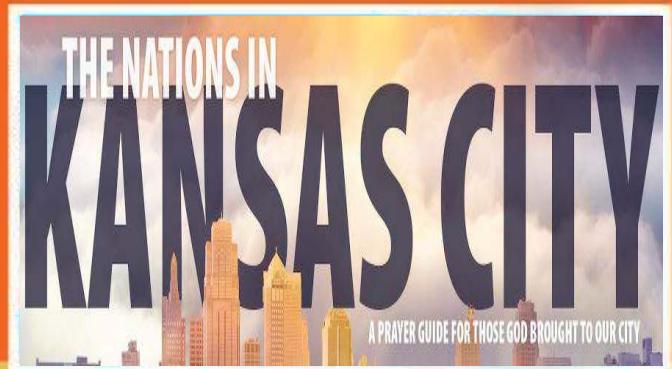
The Annual Williams Farmer Preaching Fellowship is an opportunity for pastors to hone their preaching skills and gain new ideas. This year's session is led by Hosea Bilyeu, former pastor of Ridgecrest Baptist in Springfield. This workshop is designed to introduce you to a time tested approach to sermon development that will allow you to stay fresh in the pulpit until you finish the race!

*This event is Free but registration is required at [wfpf2017.eventbrite.com](http://wfpf2017.eventbrite.com)*



## MORMONS OF FRENCH POLYNESIA IN KANSAS CITY

Polynesian Mormons	Data	Rank
% Non-Christian Overseas	16.2%	2
Believers in KC	Few	9
Evangelical Witness	Some	8
Population in KC	500	7
Access Overseas	Easy	4
<b>Total (Average)</b>		<b>6.0</b>



# OVER 500

Polynesians live in Independence, Missouri, French Polynesia and American Samoa sit amidst many islands North-East of New Zealand and directly West of South America.

Despite Evangelical missionaries from London landing there as early as 1830, many have been converted to the RLDS branch of Mormonism (now called "Community of Christ")

back in French Polynesia. Mormon missionaries have been going there for generations, and there are currently whole islands that follow this religion. Those who have converted to Mormonism believe that Jesus will return to Independence, Missouri, so it is understandable why so many left the islands to settle in Independence.

As an island people, they are very laid back, and they are famous in Kansas City for their dancing performers in two different dancing groups: Shake Polynesia and Treasures of Polynesia.

*+ Pray for believers to befriend them and show the true way to follow Jesus.*

There are also a dozen families in KC from Micronesia. This nation is 95% Christian or Catholic back home on their islands, and the Micronesians in KC worship together in the Northland integrated with other ethnicities. Pray that they will preserve the true Gospel and not only keep a cultural Christianity but grow in vibrant faith in the LORD."

## Partnership Spotlight ~ The Point Church in Vancouver by Victor Thomas, Pastor

The annual Vancouver Project held March 13-17, 2017, had over 100 students join us for a week helping us serve and do evangelism in Vancouver. We did outreach projects around several of **The Point's** congregations (Burnaby Mtn, Evergreen, NextGen) during the day, then we came together for worship each evening to hear what God had done and to be challenged by some great guest speakers.

WOW! What a great last few weeks! Here are some stats "fruit" as highlights from The Vancouver Project: Over 800 gospel conversations; 56 people wanting to have coffee and hear more about Jesus; and 2

Salvations during that week. Praise God!



In frames 2, 4 and 6, you can see pictures of a tool called Soularium. It gets people to select pictures that tell about their life and views. So for example, you might ask "select a picture that represents your life right now or that represents your spiritual journey".

Above are a few pictures of the week. In frames 1 and 5 you can see pictures of a "speed friending" event we ran at a local international college (100% international students who are trying to get into a local university- over 2000 students at this college). On one side we lined up and on the other side international students. Every few minutes students had to move to the right and start discussing a new topic. Topic questions covered everything from favorite food, to thoughts of faith and what questions they would ask God. This resulted in fantastic conversations and new relationships! Teachers from

the college heard we were running it and started to bring their classes down one at a time to "try it out" - amazing! Pray as we follow up with these students.

We use 5 basic questions. What incredible conversation starters and opportunities to share the Gospel.

Through it we met many who had NEVER heard the Gospel and a few who had NEVER heard about JESUS! What an incredible opportunity and what wonderful fruit we had and still are seeing. As I mentioned earlier over 800 conversations and 56 who want to learn more about Jesus.

Please pray that God will grow the seeds that have been planted!

### Blue River-Kansas City Baptist Association News

Jennifer Hutton, Editor  
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- Andrew Huesing.....People Teams

## Executive Director's Report

Over six years ago BR-KC began a partnership with the WestCoast Baptist Association of Greater Vancouver, Canada. We serve on the North American Mission Board's SEND Vancouver Coalition, and support church planting as the international advocate for the Tri-Cities area of Vancouver (Coquitlam, Port Coquitlam, and Port Moody). Your mission giving and participation through BR-KC Association helps us collectively implement an Acts 1:8 vision and facilitate the multiplication of churches and the gospel going forth in North America as well as in Jackson and Cass counties.

When we began the partnership there was only one WestCoast Baptist Association church plant in the Tri-Cities area of Vancouver. Today, through prayer, partnering, and catalytic support and the zealous efforts of the churches and planters there are five new church plants...and counting! Praise the Lord!



*Gerry Taillon, Canadian National Baptist Convention Leader addressing retreat*

In our partnership, we also provide an annual retreat for church planters and their families. We recently supplied a pastoral counselor, a childcare team, and shared retreat leadership in March of this year. It is critical for those serving cross culturally in mission fields to have times to get away and recharge spiritually, connect with others in similar mission, and for their children to know there are others whose families do the same kind

of ministry and make friendships with other third culture kids. It is a great joy and blessing to see these children and families grow in every way as we return each year.

We will provide another Vision Trip opportunity this coming Fall to visit Vancouver, meet the



*Families worshipping together*

church planters, and see how God might want to use your church in partnership there. Please let me know of your interest in going by contacting our Association office!



*Preschoolers enjoying Veggie Tales!*

*"It is such a blessing and great fun to be able to minister to little ones and know I am helping the missionary parents have a time of rejuvenation."*

**JoAnne Ruble, Manna Fellowship**

*"I am so glad God has allowed me to be a part of the Vancouver church planters retreat. It is exciting to watch church planter couples and families get to experience the time together to grow in God's Word and learn more about applying their calling to serve God in Vancouver."*

*The retreat center is a wonderful setting for such a meeting.*

*Thank you Rodney for inviting me to hang out with babies and toddlers.*

**Sheriann Kessinger, FBC Grandview**

## Campus Ministry Update

**Travis Hamm, UMKC/Rockhurst**

There has been so much going on lately with my new Collegiate Strategist role.



1) We unveiled a new website! In recent years, MBC College Ministry has not had a centralized web presence. Our strategy

team determined a website is essential for us to cast vision about college ministry and connect people to ministries. Check it out at [www.MBCollegiate.org](http://www.MBCollegiate.org) and learn more about who we are, where we are going, and how you can be involved.

2) We unveiled some videos! Stories and videos are effective tools to share a message, so in conjunction with MBC's video team we created some high quality videos for the conference and for our website.

3) We unveiled Internship & Apprenticeship opportunities! As our team has strategized how to accomplish our goals, we agreed that we needed to create training opportunities. We have been busy working to unveil our 1-Year Internship and our 2-Year Apprenticeship programs at the Great Commission Conference. The Internship is an opportunity for college graduates to give a year working alongside a Campus Missionary to bring the gospel to their college campus and make disciples. The Apprenticeship is a pathway for anyone considering a call to College Ministry to spend two years with a Campus Missionary to be trained and sent out to start a new ministry (or staff an existing one) on one of our college campuses. (If you know of anyone who would be interested in these opportunities, send them to [MBCollegiate.org/internship](http://MBCollegiate.org/internship) and/or [MBCollegiate.org/apprenticeship](http://MBCollegiate.org/apprenticeship).)

Thank you for your continued support of our family and this ministry. We are truly grateful for you.

## News from the churches

**Mt. Nebo Missionary Baptist Church**, 5445 Cleveland Avenue in KCMO is hosting a 3 day revival with Evangelist Walter L. Gant, Jr, Pastor of Gideon MBC in Edna, TX. Wednesday, May 3rd thru Friday, May 5th at 7 p.m. nightly.

National Day of Prayer for Greater Kansas City will be at noon on Thursday, May 4th on the south steps of City Hall, 414 E. 12th Street, KCMO 64106. Charles Briscoe, Pastor Emeritus from **Paseo Baptist** will lead the event.

**First Baptist Church of Raymore** announces its 50th anniversary on May 7, 2017. The church will gather for a celebration service Sunday morning at 9:30 followed by Sunday School at 11. The church will host a fellowship meal at noon for all. Returning pastors will include Bob Easton, Robert Miller and Phil Simcosky.

**First Baptist of Raymore** is hosting a retirement reception for Grant and Bonnie Schmidt, Associate Pastor of Music and Administration, on Saturday, May 6th from 2 to 4 p.m.

**Cedar Creek Community** in Lee's Summit is looking for a part-time Youth Pastor. Send resumes to life@cedarcreekcc.org.

**First Baptist of Independence** is looking for a part-time Student Minister. If interested, contact the church at 252-3377.

**South Haven** in Belton has extra material for the Lifeway VBS Starveyor curriculum which includes teaching packets and administrative guides. The material will be available after June 9th. Contact the church at 816-322-0409 and speak to Debbie Otto.

**Belvidere Heights** in Belton is looking for a part-time music director. Send resumes to bhbcmo@aol.com.

**Armour Heights** has rescheduled their upcoming May revival. The new dates are June 12th through June 16th.

**South Haven** has a large assortment of floral arrangements, silk flowers, Christmas items and greenery to donate. Call the office at 816-322-0409.

**The Church in Waldo** is in need of a church van to pick up kids from the inner city and bring them to church on Sunday mornings. If you have a van to donate, contact Pastor Peter Assad at passad618@gmail.com.



Please help  
Rehope Market  
assist  
Restoration  
House!

Rehope Market is a not-for-profit online ladies resale clothing boutique that supports the recovery ministry of Restoration House to survivors of sex trafficking. We need churches to do a donation drive of ladies new or gently used clothing and then come to Rehope Market (located at **Wornall Road Baptist Church**, 400 W. Meyer Boulevard in KCMO) with the donations to help us process and prepare them for resale. If interested, or for more information, contact Kristin Spilker at [kristin@restorationhousekc.com](mailto:kristin@restorationhousekc.com) or 816-659-2137.

### March Financial Report

	Current Month	Year-to-Date
Receipts from churches	\$59,283.20	\$130,774.33
Other Income	7.63	34.68
Total	\$59,290.83	\$130,809.01
Less Expenses	( 39,626.68)	(110,300.69)
Balance as of March 31, 2017	\$19,664.15	\$20,508.32
Budget \$472,782.29 Annual	\$39,398.52 Monthly	\$118,195.56
Budget Receipts + other income		130,809.01
Receipts compared to budget 111%		\$12,613.45

### Calendar

May		June	
4	E3, <b>Abiding Love</b> , Harrisonville	1	E3, <b>Sterling Acres</b> , Indep.
5	Williams-Farmer Preaching Fellowship, <b>Harvest</b> , Blue Spgs.	13-14	SBC Annual Meeting, Phoenix
9	Legacy Cohort, <b>BR-KC</b>	21	Finance & Admin, <b>BR-KC</b>
11	Ministry Team Meeting		
18	E3, <b>Pathway</b> , Raymore		
25	E3, <b>Harvest</b> , Blue Springs		