



Fall Semi-Annual Meeting

October 17, 2021  
New City Church  
Raytown, Missouri

# Welcome to the 40<sup>th</sup> Year of Blue River-Kansas City Baptist Association!

Greetings in the Lord!

I thank God for each one of you and are so glad you could join us. 2020 was a tough year and 2021 has proven to have plenty of challenges as well. Yet we know that Romans 8:28 is still valid and that the Lord is accomplishing His purposes in spite of earthly challenges.

We hold on to this great hope and reality as we experience loss, grief, personal and ministry challenges.

We have sought to provide resources, encouragement, and consultation to you this year as well as coordinated missional outreach.

By investing in ministry through BRKC you have collectively aided reaching and discipling students, planting new churches, aiding human trafficking victims, reached out to immigrants, offered help in disaster zones, and impacted communities from the urban core to rural communities.

Lets celebrate the work God has done and is doing, strengthen our fellowship, and encourage one another for the days are short.

*Rodney L Hamman*



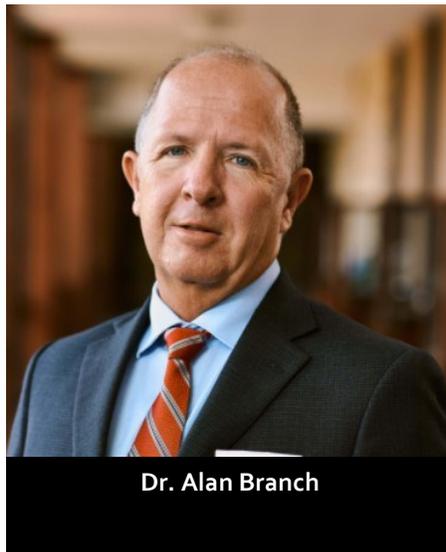
# Agenda

## Worship Celebration

Welcome and Prayer	Daniel Smith, New City Church
Praise and Worship	Daniel Smith
The Baptist Home Presentation	Dr. David Sundeen, Executive Director
Business Session	Marvin Tigner, Moderator
Nominating Committee Recommendations	Bob Springate, Member
Finance Committee Recommendations	Alan Shelby, Chairman
Ministry Updates	
Collegiate Ministry	Travis Hamm
Restoration House Update and Video	Dr. Rodney Hammer, President
Associate Director/Revitalization	Gregg Boll, Associate Director
Executive Director Report	Dr. Rodney Hammer, Director of Missions
Outgoing/Incoming Moderator Recognition	Dr. Rodney Hammer

## Training Workshop

The Bible and Human Sexuality	Dr. Alan Branch, MBTS
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## Recommendations of the Nominating Committee

Moderator	Pastor Larry Thomas, <b>Connection Point Church</b>
Moderator-Elect	Pastor Rich Cummings, <b>Grace Baptist Oak Grove</b>
Clerk	Jennifer Hutton, <b>BR-KC Baptist Association</b>
Treasurer	Kim Rice

### Administrative Committee

Pedro Achucarro, Iglesia Pan de Vida  
Mike Asher, Fellowship, Greenwood Campus  
Wendy Campbell, Manna Fellowship  
Scott Divish, Grace Family Fellowship  
Faye Huff, Fellowship, Raymore Campus  
John Thomas, Oak Grove FBC

### Finance Committee

Pat Barker, Sterling Acres  
Jim Odom, Manna Fellowship  
Alan Shelby, Harvest  
Greg Vincent, Grace Family  
Cory Weeda, Abundant Life  
Sandy Woodside, Independence First

### Credentials Committee

Wayne Geiger, Grain Valley First  
Gary Jones, South Kansas City  
Randy Messer, Oak Grove First  
Mike Roy, Pathway  
Ray Stewart, Grace & Truth  
Price Wright, New City, Raytown

### Personnel Committee

Jamie Alaniz, Grace Family  
Scott Flippin, Fellowship  
Ron Griffin, Harvest  
Lynn Lewallen, Connection Point  
Doug Schildknecht, Buckner First  
Josh Wollberg, Harrisonville First

The Nominating Committee is appointed by the Moderator in consultation with an advisory group composed of the Moderator-Elect, the Director of Missions and the Clerk. (Bylaw 9.8.1).

### Submitted by Nominating Committee

Dennis Barnes, Grain Valley FBC  
Sheriann Kessinger, Grandview FBC  
Carmen Kraus, Connection Point  
Jon Melvin, Grace Family  
Bob Springate, Fellowship  
Dawn Stewart, Grace & Truth



**Blue River Kansas City Baptist Association**  
**Balance Sheet**  
**September 2021**

<b>Assets</b>		
<b>Cash &amp; Cash Equivalents</b>		
101000 - Commerce Checking Account	\$106,013.04	
<b>Total Cash &amp; Cash Equivalents</b>		<b>\$106,013.04</b>
<b>Investments</b>		
130002 - Change in Value of Investments	\$47,686.15	
140000 - Charles Schwab	\$194,410.69	
<b>Total Investments</b>		<b>\$242,096.84</b>
<b>Total Assets</b>		<b>\$348,109.88</b>
<b>Liabilities, Fund Principal, &amp; Restricted Funds</b>		
<b>Liabilities</b>		
<b>Tax &amp; Liabilities</b>		
201000 - Federal Income Tax Withholding	\$2,026.98	
201500 - State Tax Withholding	\$1,009.00	
202500 - FICA Tax Withholding	\$784.76	
<b>Total Tax &amp; Liabilities</b>		<b>\$3,820.74</b>
<b>Total Liabilities</b>		<b>\$3,820.74</b>
<b>Fund Principal</b>		
270000 - Unrealized Losses & Earnings on Inv	\$48,253.58	
299998 - 2020 PPP Loan Forgiveness	\$68,200.00	
299999 - BRKC Fund Principal	\$113,727.08	
Receipts Over (Under) Expenses	(\$10,490.63)	
<b>Total Fund Principal and Receipts Over (Under) Expenses</b>		<b>\$219,690.03</b>
<b>Restricted Funds</b>		
Total Temporary Restricted	\$124,599.11	
<b>Total Restricted Funds</b>		<b>\$124,599.11</b>
<b>Total Liabilities, Fund Principal, &amp; Restricted Funds</b>		<b>\$348,109.88</b>

Financial Statement  
Thursday, September 30, 2021

	Current Month	Year-to-Date
Receipts from churches	\$33,276.40	\$340,266.10
Other Income	\$426.13	\$2,756.94
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$33,702.53</b>	<b>\$343,023.04</b>
Less Expenses	\$35,853.84	\$352,931.13
Balance as of 9/30/20	-\$2,151.31	-\$9,908.09
Budget		\$399,924.90
Budget receipts		\$343,023.04
Receipts compared to budget	86%	-\$56,901.86

**2022 Draft Budget**  
**Blue River-Kansas City Baptist Association**

<b>Accounts</b>	<b>2021 Actual</b>	<b>2022 Proposed</b>
<b>Gospel Outreach</b>		
412100 - Discretionary Missions Fund	\$5,000.00	\$5,000.00
412200 - Partnership Missions	\$15,000.00	\$10,000.00
414100 - Refugee & Immigrant Ministries	\$4,000.00	\$4,000.00
417000- Andrew Huesing/People Teams Leader	\$15,000.00	\$15,000.00
<b>College Ministry</b>		
<b>COMBINED - Student Ministry</b>	\$0.00	\$30,000.00
405100 - Travis Hamm - Impact Student Min. UMKC	\$15,000.00	
Travis Hamm Ministry Expenses	\$5,000.00	
406700 - Carson Conover - Blue River & Longview	\$6,000.00	
Carson Conover Ministry Expenses	\$2,650.00	
<b>Total Gospel Outreach</b>	<b>\$67,650.00</b>	<b>\$64,000.00</b>
<b>Resource Churches</b>		
421600 - Media Center	\$1,700.00	\$1,700.00
421400 - Discipleship Resources	\$3,000.00	\$3,000.00
422200 - Minister - Church Relations	\$4,000.00	\$4,500.00
435000 - Auto - Executive Director	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00
435200 - Auto - Associate Director	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00
435900 - Auto - Administrative Assistant	\$300.00	\$300.00
436110 - Church Revitalization Ministries	\$4,000.00	\$4,000.00
<b>Woman's Missionary Union</b>		
408000 - Age Level Development	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00
409400 - Literature/Supplies	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00
409600 - Postage and Promotion	\$400.00	\$400.00
<b>Total Resource Churches</b>	<b>\$17,400.00</b>	<b>\$17,900.00</b>
<b>Assist Comm. Transformation</b>		
401100 - Eleos Urban Ministries	\$2,400.00	\$2,400.00
401300 - Urban Christian Academy	\$2,400.00	\$2,400.00
401900 - Providence School of the Arts	\$2,400.00	\$2,400.00
401500 - Human Trafficking	\$48,000.00	\$60,000.00
401200 - Disaster Relief	\$500.00	\$500.00
<b>Total Assist Comm. Transformation</b>	<b>\$55,700.00</b>	<b>\$67,700.00</b>

**Church Planting**

411100 - Multi-Ethnic CPC	\$14,000.00	\$15,000.00
411300 - Blake Fortner - Three Trails Community	\$1,200.00	\$0.00
412600 - New Hispanic Work (Blue Springs)	\$6,000.00	\$6,000.00
415000 - Other New Works (Luis Sanchez)	\$20,000.00	\$6,000.00
414860 - New City Church Downtown - Don Hamilton	\$2,400.00	\$0.00
414850 - Restoration Life -Anthony Mondaine	\$2,400.00	\$2,400.00
414840 - Arabic NE Church Plant	\$2,400.00	\$0.00
<b>NEW - Reformation Church - Dan Cogan</b>		\$2,400.00
<b>NEW - T.B.D New Work</b>		\$6,000.00
<b>Total Church Planting</b>	<b>\$48,400.00</b>	<b>\$37,800.00</b>

**Equipping Leaders**

421000 - Leadership Training	\$8,000.00	\$8,000.00
422400 - Conferences & Special Events	\$6,000.00	\$6,000.00
<b>Total Equipping Leaders</b>	<b>\$14,000.00</b>	<b>\$14,000.00</b>

**Administration**

401450 - Digital Media	\$18,000.00	\$12,000.00
401800 - Association Emphasis	\$2,000.00	\$1,000.00
436000 - Conv/Training - Executive Director	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00
436200 - Conv/Training - Assoc Director	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00
436600 - Conv/Training - Admin Assistant	\$500.00	\$500.00
451000 - Office Supplies	\$1,500.00	\$2,500.00
451500 - Postage - Administrative	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00
452500 - Legal Fees	\$2,000.00	\$2,000.00
452600 - ACS Accounting	\$3,840.00	\$3,900.00
452800 - Online Giving Fees	\$1,200.00	\$1,500.00
455000 - Miscellaneous Administrative	\$3,500.00	\$3,000.00
<b>Total Administration</b>	<b>\$35,540.00</b>	<b>\$29,400.00</b>

**Operations**

432100 - Communications Assistant	\$2,500.00	\$4,000.00
441500 - Janitorial Supplies	\$250.00	\$250.00
442500 - Maintenance & Repair	\$1,500.00	\$2,000.00
443500 - Vehicle Maintenance	\$550.00	\$550.00
444000 - Insurance - Property	\$6,430.00	\$7,008.00
444200 - Insurance - Vehicle	\$1,481.00	\$1,614.00
444300 - Insurance - Workman's Comp	\$2,027.00	\$2,209.00
444500 - Equipment	\$3,200.00	\$3,200.00
445000 - Electricity	\$2,000.00	\$2,000.00
445500 - Telephone/Internet	\$4,700.00	\$5,000.00

446000 - Water	\$150.00	\$175.00
446200 - Trash & Sewer	\$630.00	\$650.00
441000 - Security System	\$450.00	\$450.00
<b>Total Operations</b>	<b>\$25,868.00</b>	<b>\$29,106.00</b>
<b>Personnel</b>		
431000 - Exective Director <i>salary</i>	\$86,067.21	\$88,581.15
431100 - Exective Director <i>housing</i>	\$39,629.68	\$39,629.68
431200 - Exec Dir Hsing paid from design annuity	-\$18,200.00	-\$18,200.00
431200 - Associate Director	\$69,828.57	\$72,283.43
431300 - Associate Director Housing	\$12,000.00	\$12,000.00
431800 - Administrative Assistant	\$49,812.06	\$51,306.42
432000 - Financial Secretary	\$3,706.87	\$3,818.08
433200 - Annuity - Exec Director	\$8,606.72	\$8,858.11
433400 - Annuity - Assoc Director	\$6,982.86	\$7,228.34
433900 - Annuity - Admin Asst	\$4,981.21	\$5,130.64
434200 - Payroll Tax Expense	\$4,060.00	\$4,218.00
434400 - Bonuses - Christmas and Longevity	\$1,200.00	\$1,200.00
<b>Total Personnel</b>	<b>\$268,675.18</b>	<b>\$276,053.85</b>
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$533,233.18</b>	<b>\$535,959.85</b>

## MINISTRY REPORTS

### Vision Statement

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.

Objectives:

- Gospel Outreach
- Resourcing Churches
- Assisting Community Transformation
- Church Planting
- Equipping Leaders

### GOSPEL OUTREACH

#### People Teams

*By Andrew Huesing Team Leader (kcpeopleteams@gmail.com)*

People Teams continues to chase the opportunities that God brings:

**Teen Discipleship Groups.** We continue doing discipleship groups with Congolese and Rwandan teens through sports and choir with Bible study. In 2021 we added a group of girls. Some of these groups interacted with the youth group from Raintree Community Church, and even a couple of Muslim girls joined the activities. Mixing youth groups from downtown and the suburbs has been a healthy experience for all the teens because it stretches them outside their comfort zones. For the Christian kids, it shows that missions can be as simple as being yourself and letting your faith seep into conversations as you do what you enjoy with a student from a different background.

**Mission Trip** - We also took a trip to Texas for our teen leaders to be staffers at a Boys camp. We stopped in Ft. Worth and had the opportunity to interact along the way with Muslims from Pakistan, Bangladesh, and American converts to Islam. I was very encouraged by the spiritual growth that



God produced in the nine teen leaders who came to serve. The Middle Schoolers got to go to City Union Mission Camp for a weekend to study the wisdom in the book of Proverbs.

**Volunteer Teams** - Summer teams from Abundant Life, Connection Point, and Lee's Summit Christian came to the Northeast KC for various outreaches with internationals. Having events and week-long camps fueled by sacrificial and flexible volunteers help broaden the impact in the international community and also bless those who come to volunteer. One Muslim college student accepted Christ at the Milestone sports camp hosted by Connection Point, and I have seen a difference in his life since then.



**Muslim Outreach** - Meeting people and having spiritual conversations has been more limited in the Muslim community the past year, but I'm thankful for some opportunities that the LORD still provides.



Volunteers from Abundant Life answered a Friday call to help save a Somali wedding in the last minute with a cake, decorations, or photo booth. Helping this family save face on their big day has led to open doors. Pray also for A\*\*\*\*\* from a Muslim family who questions the Muslim belief that your sins can be forgiven just by going to Mecca and touching a rock. He is heavily considering salvation through Jesus; pray for him as he spends the next three months in Africa.

**Next Steps** - We plan on continuing to invest where God has planted us and adding an event to honor Afghan and Iraqis who risked their lives to work with US Soldiers and are now living in KC. We also have opportunity to serve the 750+ Afghans expected to come to KC in the next few months by providing furniture and connecting believers to one new family to walk alongside them as they resettle into American life.

### Student Ministry Report

By Travis Hamm, Executive Director Collegiate Impact ([travis@collegiateimpact.org](mailto:travis@collegiateimpact.org))

For those who may be unaware, Collegiate Impact is a network of local churches and on-campus ministries working together to bring the gospel to over 70,000 Kansas City area college students from 17 colleges. Currently, we have ministries on four of those campuses: University of Missouri-Kansas City, Blue River Community College, Longview Community, and Maple Woods Community College.

This fall semester college campuses have been bustling with people and activity, a stark difference from this time last year when COVID-19 led most of Kansas City schools to move classes entirely online. This year, though still using caution via mask requirements, our campuses are back in person, and this has given our Core Team of leaders greater opportunity to connect with and minister to students.



During the first few weeks of class our Core Team spent time engaging with as many students as possible and inviting them to connect with our ministry. As a result we...

- **Saw 626 students fill out our contact form.**  
**Had 40 one-on-one meetings (Gospel Appointments) with students where we got to share the Gospel with them.**

We celebrate the significant connections we have been able to make and the conversations that have resulted. In fact, since the beginning of the semester we have seen...



Biblical teaching delivered to students at our Fall Retreat.

- **2 students put their faith Jesus as their Lord and Savior. 1 student get baptized.**

Our Core Team members are continuing to follow up with these students, connecting them to local churches, and helping them learn the basics of following Jesus.

In October we have launched 9 Small Group Bible discussions and we are continuing to connect with students through our Question of the Week tables.

Would you continue to pray for our Core Team to have more gospel conversations with students and to help

students take steps in following Jesus?

There is so much more that could be said, but they say a picture is worth a thousand words. Therefore, enjoy the included highlight pics of the semester.

We are grateful for God's provision and grace to our ministry during this unique time. Our desire is to bring the gospel to many more students this year. We would love your help in this! If your church is currently ministering to college students or desires to, I would love to come alongside and help. Please contact me (travis@collegiateimpact.org or 816-838-2801) and let's find a time to discuss this possibility.



Core Team member, Daniel, leading Question of the Week at University of Missouri: Kansas City (UMKC).

If you would like to stay updated with us, I encourage you to follow us on social media.

Facebook - <https://www.facebook.com/collegiateimpact.kc>

Instagram - <https://www.instagram.com/collegiateimpact/>



BRKC, we are truly thankful for your continued support of this ministry.

### [Horn of Africa](#)

*Nicole Brown, The Gathering Church (brown2380@sbcglobal.net)*

Please continue to pray for the people of Ethiopia, especially the refugees, the widows, the sponsored children and our team of faithful servants. Because of the war that still goes on in Africa, we are unable to travel to Ethiopia. We stay in contact with our team there as much as we can given the sporadic internet access. When things settle down, we will return. In the meantime, thank you for your prayers for these dear people.

### [Vancouver Partnership](#)

BR-KC continues our partnership with Coquitlam and supports 4 church planters in Vancouver. From planting a church to partnering with those already on mission in Vancouver, you and your church can make a difference. For more information about how your church can get involved in partnering with church planters in Vancouver, visit <https://www.namb.net/send-network/send-city/vancouver/> or contact the BR-KC office.

Check out what's happening in two of those ministries:

#### [Victor Thomas, The Point Church](#)

This past year we have clearly felt and heard the need to return to South Africa. We have always said that we never 'left' South Africa but rather felt a call to come to Vancouver, and in openness to always follow where we are being called, we are moving back, across the world, to Cape Town.



We have absolutely loved our time in Vancouver, Canada and still love this city and its people deeply. Vancouver has been our home, where we grew as partners and as a family. We are going to miss all our friends and church family greatly! It is honestly hard to hold the grief of leaving but excitement for the coming adventure at the same time. We will still have the Summer here and then transition to moving and life in Cape Town.

In 2022 Victor will be moving into the role of Executive Director of Living Hope. For our Canadian and International friends, Living Hope is an organization that helps care for many communities in South Africa through community development programs, including health care, education and social development. As an organization it works toward 12 of the 17 Sustainable Development Goals.

This reconciliation and restoration of relationship with people and the environment has always been a strong pull on our hearts and we are so glad to be given the opportunity to pursue it in SA. We are looking forward to reuniting with extended family, old friends and starting many new friendships in SA and as always trying to learn and grow.

#### Conrad Au, The Common Place

BRKC Baptist's partners in Vancouver, The Common Place, hosted a soccer camp during the summer in partnership with Athletes in Action (AIA)

God moved the hearts of the non-believers in the Coquitlam area where BRKC has been partnering for a decade. 12 non-believing or disconnected-from-church families sent their children to experience a week-long gospel-centered soccer camp.

Each day, the children learned a part of the gospel story. Their families also experienced the camp at the end of each day as coaches from Athletes in Action wrapped up each day reaping the day's gospel theme in front of their families.

Eight of those families continued to connect with The Common Place at their next gathering.

Praise the Lord for what He has done and continues to do!

#### CHALLENGING BRKC Baptist Churches!

In hosting the camp, AIA and The Common Place wanted to keep the cost low - AIA charged each child just under \$25 USD for the camp in early-bird promotion to contribute to the cost of the coaches, with AIA covering the remainder of the coaching cost. The Common Place was responsible for local elements including field rentals, snacks, and follow-up expenses, totalling around \$1000 CAD.

There were 20 children at the camp, 17 of them not previously connected to a church. The Common Place is challenging BRKC Baptist churches to adopt at least one of these children by praying for them and consider contributing at least \$50 USD to cover the child's cost of the camp.

Should you be interested, contact BRKC and you will receive information on one of the children who attended the camp and how your church can specifically pray for them!



## RESOURCING CHURCHES AND EQUIPPING LEADERS

By Gregg Boll, Associate Director of Missions ([greggb@kcbaptist.org](mailto:greggb@kcbaptist.org))



What do you report for the year we would all rather forget and fast forward through? Surprisingly, even with needing to cancel many of the events we usually offer pastors and churches, it was a busy year.

As usual, I was able to preach in many of your churches in the pastor's absence. I was so pleased to hear that our emphasis on giving pastors and staff a sabbatical is being heeded so some of those I preached for were away on a much-needed sabbatical.

Covid has caused many of our churches to decline rapidly and pushed some of them who were nearing the end of their life to close or merge with other churches. A role I have begun, which goes hand in hand with my role of Associate Director, is that of Kansas City zone leader for the newly formed Resound Revitalization Network. The need for revitalization among our Missouri Baptist Convention churches is so great that the MBC has created a new position and network for helping declining churches. Brandon Moore is the Director. We divided the state into 5 zones with a zone leader appointed for each one. So far this year, I have done a revitalization process with four churches formerly and a three more, informally. A church who wants to go through the process must vote to do it. By voting to enter the revitalization process they are committing to completing the entire process of assessments, usually about 7-9 weeks, then voting again at the end of the process on the recommendations made by the Revitalization Team. These assessments look at demographics around the church, congregational readiness for change, pastoral/leadership assessment, finances, facilities assessment, and evaluating current governance and practices. Obviously, this process can take far less time if we learn soon in the discovery process that the church is within a few months of closure. If they vote to embrace the recommendations, the state Revitalization Team commits to walk alongside the church in helping implement the changes and recommendations.



ed for each one. So far this year, I have done a revitalization process with four churches formerly and a three more, informally. A church who wants to go through the process must vote to do it. By voting to enter the revitalization process they are committing to completing the entire process of assessments, usually about 7-9 weeks, then voting again at the end of the process on the recommendations made by the Revitalization Team. These assessments look at demographics around the church, congregational readiness for change, pastoral/leadership assessment, finances, facilities assessment, and evaluating current governance and practices. Obviously, this process can take far less time if we learn soon in the discovery process that the church is within a few months of closure. If they vote to embrace the recommendations, the state Revitalization Team commits to walk alongside the church in helping implement the changes and recommendations.

This year I have worked with Discovery Church, Forest Grove Baptist Church, Carlisle Baptist Church, Calvary Baptist in Independence, The Church in Waldo, Archie Baptist Church, and Peculiar Baptist Church. Of these seven, one church disbanded, five merged or are in the process of partnering/merging with another church, and one will soon vote on the recommendations we made.

Our hope is to resume our Lunch & Learn equipping luncheons before the end of the year and other training opportunities we offer regularly. Remember, we scholarship pastors and staff who wish to participate in the Convergence Leadership Lab which is offered each year. Currently, I am working with pastor Jerry Tharp to develop and offer a leadership seminar called Follow First Leadership Training that Jerry has developed through his years as a pastor and missionary in Brazil.



### WMU

By Linda Graham, Associational WMU Director ([lgrahamwmu@aol.com](mailto:lgrahamwmu@aol.com))

We held our WMU annual meeting March 13th at First Baptist Grandview. We had 29 in attendance with 10 churches represented. Our theme was "Missions Is Brewing" and we served tea and homemade

bread. Allan Locke; IMB missionary to Ghana, spoke about their work and age-level consultants told about new material available.

We held our regional WMU training called Equip 2021 at Connection Point Lees Summit on August 7th with 27 attending. We had a missionary couple speak and age-level special workers told about their age level. We had the prayer calendar and a bookstore.

Our theme for the year has been “Relentless” and our watchword is Hebrews 10:39NIV. We are encouraging women to be ambassadors for Christ and to be involved in their community.



Check our Facebook page for info and call us if interested in Women’s Missionary Union.

### ASSISTING COMMUNITY TRANSFORMATION

#### Restoration House of Greater Kansas City

By Rodney Hammer, President ([president@restorationhousekc.org](mailto:president@restorationhousekc.org))

The last 12 months have been a time of tremendous change and growth for Restoration House. We will highlight a few of those here:

#### Hope and Healing

The house is full and the women are finding hope and healing through the love of Jesus Christ as well as that of our staff and amazing volunteers! Over the past 12 months, we have seen two women graduate from our residential program and two women were baptized. We had one participant receive her high school diploma through an online program and a graduation ceremony was held, complete with cap and gown! We have two that have received their CNA certifications and two more working toward their high school diplomas. Most of the women are working, saving, and planning for the future. Some are working on reunification with their children and families.



#### Renovation and Expansion Project

Starting last spring, Straub Construction, with help from our volunteer community, has been hard at work renovating the church building on our property in Harrisonville.

Thanks to grants given by the Mabee Foundation, Sunderland Foundation and generous private donors, we are nearing the completion of our renovation project. Twelve additional bedrooms are being added which will allow us to triple capacity!

#### Micro-Enterprise

The women continue to work and expand their micro-enterprise business and over the summer we added McLain’s Bakery as an outlet for their survivor-made tumblers, candles and soaps. These items, plus many more, are also sold through Rehope Market in Greenwood. Our herd of goats continues to grow and this summer we experienced the birth of baby Isaac (son of Abraham and Sadie). The women are now using goat’s milk to make candles and soaps.



#### Training

We have partnered with the Human Trafficking Training Center to provide quality education and training to the community at large. This last week we helped sponsor a training with the Kansas City Police Department where over 60 law enforcement received training on how to rec-

ognize, interview and help human trafficking victims.

### Minor's Home

We continue to provide residential services to minor survivors of human trafficking. So far in 2021, we have successfully had two girls move on from residential services. One was reunified with her legal guardian. Another is currently receiving non-residential services after being placed in a foster care program. We were very excited to connect this young girl with a Christian family from MBCH's Treatment Family Care Program. This allows the Mabee House staff to continue seeing her weekly as well as provide resources for her to be successful in the community. This young girl is very excited about being part of a family where she can continue her recovery.



In 2020, we had a total of 44 requests for services. We were able to provide services to 11 minor/adolescent clients during the year in spite of the Covid-19 lockdown. However, Covid didn't stop us from impacting lives. During the year, a young lady came to the Mabee House who was a believer in Wicca. Her life had not been easy and so she grabbed onto something that someone else introduced her to. She came from a dark place and didn't want anything to do with Jesus Christ. The staff at the minor's home didn't judge but just loved. After about three months, she went to the staff and said "I want to get out of this darkness. I don't want to live like this anymore. Can you tell me about Jesus?" Our Director, Chuck Phillips, came into the house one day and encountered the girl with a huge smile on her face. She asked Chuck, "Did you hear what I did? I accepted Jesus into my heart." Within a short time at Restoration House Minor's Home, this young lady experienced life transformation through the power of Jesus Christ. When she left the home, her question was "Who is going to read the Bible to me every morning?" The staff had been doing that during her stay at the home. The staff didn't know at the time, but they impacted her life very dramatically.

### Disaster Relief

*By Roger Masters, Director, Carmen Kraus Co-Director and Chris Houghtaling, Secretary*

In December 2020 our DR trailer was broken into and all chainsaws, generator and pumps were stolen.



It had been stored behind a local church for over a year without a problem. Fortunately we were covered by insurance and thankfully in January some of the items were recovered by police. The trailer is back to normal now and meeting the needs in the area.

Some of our team volunteered in the remodel at The Church Of Three Trails, in Independence (Leighton and Kay Clemons were instrumental in this job). In June we had our monthly meeting at Rehope Market & Cafe which was well attended.

July saw some of our members work an ash-out in Colorado, and we found a more secure

inside storage location for our trailer. We also removed a dead tree from the Independence branch of The Baptist Home. We cleared debris from wind damage in the Excelsior Springs area. The Red Cross referred us to assist a lady without insurance when a tree fell on her house. We had 16 volunteers put in a full day, one was a professional with his equipment. In September we had members help in Louisiana after Hurricane Ida. October 8-9 we hosted local DR training at First Baptist Blue Springs.



We encourage volunteers to join us as serve our Lord with our hands, backs and feet both locally and nationally.

## CHURCH PLANTING

### Multiethnic CPC—Luis Mendoza

*By Luis Mendoza, MECPD Director  
(planterluis@gmail.com)*

#### **Blessing the International Community in Kansas City**

Last May we had an event with the participation of multiple leaders and representatives of different ethnic groups. Our goal was to identify their most heartfelt needs. We discovered that many of them need to enjoy the opportunity to have spaces where they can develop friendly relationships with each other and also with people of other nationalities, languages, and cultures. Many of them are unaware of the educational opportunities that may be available to their young children. We learned that many of them would like to learn more about American culture and understand some of the holidays that are celebrated in the United States. It was reaffirmed that they need help learning English, learning to drive and with some immigration issues, especially in relation to becoming residents and citizens of this country.



We have already started the process to ensure that these needs can be met. We have begun the process of recruiting new volunteers with different skill sets to help us meet the needs of these people. We are preparing some specific activities that can help these people to better understand and interact with American culture. We have already made available to them the facilities of the Welcome Center so that they can use it at their convenience. In the coming months we will resume English classes, sewing and American citizenship classes for all those who want to participate. We have also had the privilege of being able to work together, with several international pastors responding to some ministerial questions and concerns, and at the same time, helping them complete some documentation related to the administration of their churches.

At the same time, we have worked with several local American churches, helping them understand how they can better minister to people from other countries living in Kansas City. It is beautiful to see how God is raising up a group of men and women from different churches of our association to bless and minister to their neighbors from other nations.

#### **Training and Activities for Hispanic Pastors and Leaders**

One of the focus groups of our ministry are Hispanic leaders and pastors from the Kansas City area and from the entire state of Missouri and some pastors in Kansas. In the last few months, we have had the opportunity to meet with many of them to find out what is happening in their ministries and how we could help them to better fulfill their pastoral tasks. They have shared with us that they need more training not only for themselves but also for their leaders. For this reason, in the last few months we have carried out



two activities that have blessed their lives, an evangelistic training and a training to be better leaders in their churches and in any place where they work.

Hispanic pastors have also mentioned to us that they need more practical training on how to fulfill their ministerial functions. For this reason, with the help of Pastor Arnaldo Achucarro and other leaders, we have developed a curriculum to train pastors in any ministry area that they feel they still need help or improvement. We also worked on selecting some specific leaders that might be able to help us accomplishing these goals. We have also held several spe-

cial activities for pastors and leaders where we share a meal together, talk about our families, play together, and pray together. These activities have been very well received by the pastors. It is an environment to relax, distract yourself a bit, and share with friends and colleagues in ministry.

### **A Kingdom's Perspective (the story of pastor Obed Aguirre and his family)**

Last March, we had the opportunity to invite Pastor Obed Aguirre to Kansas City to help us start a Hispanic church here in Kansas City. We started the whole process to make this objective a reality. In the same month we were invited on a vision trip to Billings Montana, where there were still no Hispanic churches. Since Obed was already here, we invited Pastor Obed to come with us to Montana and participate in the vision trip.

At that time, he told us that in 2019, God had placed in his heart and that of his family to be able to go to Montana and plant a Hispanic church there, but that unfortunately for different reasons the possibility of doing so was not materialized. Pastor Obed also told us that he was informed of the reality that no Hispanic church had yet been planted in Montana.

As soon as we arrived in Montana it was very clear to Pastor Obed that God was definitely calling him and his family to plant the first Hispanic church in Billings.



With the assistance of some leaders and churches in Missouri and Montana, it was possible - in record time - to materialize the possibility that Pastor Obed and his family could move to Billings, Montana and begin the process of planting this Hispanic church.

Last June, his entire family traveled from Mexico to Kansas City and several Hispanic churches held a commissioning service for Pastor Obed and his family. A few days later they left for Montana to begin the pioneering work of Hispanic church planting in Montana. From this experience, we have learned that one of the most important things in serving the Lord is having a vision of the Kingdom of God and not simply a local

vision.

We are also very thankful that God has used us as a means to reach his goals in Billings, Montana. God is doing something beautiful in that city through the Ministry of Pastor Obed and his family. Last July, two Hispanic churches from Kansas City participated in a mission trip to Montana to support Pastor Obed in his work to plant this Hispanic church. During the Sunday we were there, we had the opportunity to participate in the first service in Spanish. This was an experience of great blessing.

### **Activities before the year ends**

As part of the process of getting to know better, blessing, and ministering to the members of our community and to the pastors and leaders, we have scheduled three activities before the end of the year. First, we will have a Thanksgiving Celebration for people of all nationalities who come to our community. During this event, people will have the opportunity to thank God for His protection, blessing and provision. God has blessed us, and we want to thank him. This will also be an opportunity for some of our members to get to know a little bit more about the main reason for which we celebrate Thanksgiving in the United States.

Second, in December we will have a free eyeglass clinic for the community. This will surely be an event that will bless the lives of many. During these clinics people receive a free pair of glasses, but better yet all participants have the opportunity to hear the message of the gospel in a personal and private way. And finally, we will end the year celebrating Christmas with all the international pastors and leaders. As always, we thank God for all that we can do through the unconditional support we receive from the churches that belong to Blue River Kansas City Baptist Association. We look to the future and to the next year with great expectation knowing that God will continue to use, provide, and bless us, so that we can be a blessing to the different ethnic groups living in Kansas City. Once again, thank you very much for all your support.





## BR-KC 2022 Yearly Planning Calendar

### January

- 1 New Year's Day (office closed)
- 17 Martin Luther King Day (office closed)
- 18 Ministry Team Meeting, 9:30 a.m.

### February

- 5 Restoration House Freedom Gala, Embassy Suites Olathe
- 15 Ministry Team Meeting, 9:30 a.m.
- 15 Finance Committee Meeting, 4 p.m.
- 25 Pastor/Staff/Spouse Appreciation Banquet, 7 p.m. @ Connection Point Church, Raytown

### March

- 15 Ministry Team Meeting, 9:30 a.m.

### April

- 3 Spring Semi-Annual Meeting, 5 p.m.
- 15 Good Friday (office closed)
- 19 Ministry Team Meeting, 9:30 a.m.
- 19 Finance Committee Meeting, 4 p.m.

### May

- 17 Ministry Team Meeting, 9:30 a.m.
- 30 Memorial Day (office closed)

### June

- 14-15 Southern Baptist Convention Annual Meeting @ Anaheim, California
- 21 Finance Committee Meeting, 4 p.m.

**July**

4 Independence Day (office closed)

**August**

16 Finance Committee Meeting, 4 p.m.

**September**

5 Labor Day (office closed)  
8 Nominating Committee Meeting, 3 p.m. (date subject to change)  
13 Personnel Committee Meeting, 3 p.m. (date subject to change)  
20 Ministry Team Meeting, 9:30 a.m.  
20 Finance Committee Meeting, 4 p.m.

**October**

16 Fall Semi-Annual Meeting, 5 p.m.  
18 Ministry Team Meeting, 9:30 a.m.  
24-25 Missouri Baptist Convention Annual Meeting @ St. Charles

**November**

15 Ministry Team Meeting, 9:30 a.m.  
23-25 Thanksgiving Holiday (office closed)

**December**

13 Ministry Team Meeting, 9:30 a.m.  
13 Finance Committee Meeting, 4 p.m.  
24-31 Christmas Holiday (office closed)

**2022**

January							February							March						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
26	27	28	29	30	31	1	30	31	1	2	3	4	5	27	28	1	2	3	4	5
2	3	4	5	6	7	8	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
9	10	11	12	13	14	15	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	13	14	15	16	17	18	19
16	17	18	19	20	21	22	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	20	21	22	23	24	25	26
23	24	25	26	27	28	29	27	28	1	2	3	4	5	27	28	29	30	31	1	2
30	31	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	3	4	5	6	7	8	9

April							May							June						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
27	28	29	30	31	1	2	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	29	30	31	1	2	3	4
3	4	5	6	7	8	9	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
10	11	12	13	14	15	16	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
17	18	19	20	21	22	23	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	19	20	21	22	23	24	25
24	25	26	27	28	29	30	29	30	31	1	2	3	4	26	27	28	29	30	1	2
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	3	4	5	6	7	8	9

July							August							September						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
26	27	28	29	30	1	2	31	1	2	3	4	5	6	28	29	30	31	1	2	3
3	4	5	6	7	8	9	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
10	11	12	13	14	15	16	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
17	18	19	20	21	22	23	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	18	19	20	21	22	23	24
24	25	26	27	28	29	30	28	29	30	31	1	2	3	25	26	27	28	29	30	1
31	1	2	3	4	5	6	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	2	3	4	5	6	7	8

October							November							December						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
25	26	27	28	29	30	1	30	31	1	2	3	4	5	27	28	29	30	1	2	3
2	3	4	5	6	7	8	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
9	10	11	12	13	14	15	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
16	17	18	19	20	21	22	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	18	19	20	21	22	23	24
23	24	25	26	27	28	29	27	28	29	30	1	2	3	25	26	27	28	29	30	31
30	31	1	2	3	4	5	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	1	2	3	4	5	6	7

BR-KC is excited to announce that our organization now has access to an extensive, new video library called RightNow Media! It's like the "Netflix of Video Bible Studies" and has a huge library of faith-based videos that you can access whenever and wherever you want – on your phone, iPad, computer, or at home on your TV.

As an Association, we are always looking for ways to equip our pastors and resource our churches. We believe that RightNow media is a tool that pastors can use to equip and train staff, volunteers, leaders, and the congregation. RNM has videos for everyone – kids, youth, parents, married couples, college students, single adults, working professionals, sermon illustrations, and more! And while this account cannot be shared or given away to your members, your church will qualify for a significant discount for RNM.

Signing up is quick and easy.

<https://www.rightnowmedia.org/Account/Invite/blueriverkcba>

Visit [www.rightnowmedia.org](http://www.rightnowmedia.org) for more information or contact our office if you have questions.



SAVE THE DATE!

JOIN US FOR THE 8TH ANNUAL

*Freedom Gala*

BENEFITTING  
RESTORATION HOUSE OF GREATER  
KANSAS CITY

FEBRUARY 5, 2022  
EMBASSY SUITES, OLATHE



## R|H Farms Room Adoption List

Renovations at R|H Farms are almost complete. We still have a few rooms that need adopting. Would you consider adopting a room to help us finish and furnish the space? Contact Jennifer at 816-623-5360 for more information.

- ...12 Bedrooms \$7500 per room (3 still available)
- ...Auditorium \$25,000
- ...Appliances for kitchen \$7,500
- ...Office Suite \$10,000
- ...Conference Room \$7,500
- ...Computer Room \$7,500
- ...Break room/kitchenette \$7,500
- ...Reception Office \$7,500
- ...Welcome Foyer \$7,500
- ...New Pathway \$2,500



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# Appreciation Banquet

FEBRUARY

25

Connection Point Atrium  
10500 E. 350 Highway, Raytown, MO

FEATURING

**LARRY WEAVER**  
**CHRISTIAN COMEDY**  
POSITIVE AND UPLIFTING!