

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."



Restoration House Gala Grosses over \$65,000 for the Fight Against Human Trafficking *by Britney Hamm*

On January 23, 2016, the Restoration House of Greater Kansas City, a residential recovery program for survivors of human trafficking, held its second annual Hope Now Freedom Gala and Honor Dinner. Over 350 people braved the bitterly cold evening to attend the event at the Arrowhead Stadium North Club.

The event began with a silent auction. Melony McKaye, Morning Host of Life 88.5, acted as the evening's M.C. While guests feasted on succulent chicken, Kansas Assistant Attorney General, Christine Ladner, took the podium.

Ms. Ladner moved guests to tears with real stories of victims her legal team has rescued. She opened their eyes to the shockingly simple ways traffickers prey on victims and the devastating depth of victims' trauma-induced attachment to their captors. She angered them with the

injustices of loopholes allowed by our legal system. She inspired them with the hope that progress is happening, as recent changes in Kansas and Missouri legislation prove.

Gib Thurman of Thurman Auctioneering conducted the live auction. For the last item, Mr. Thurman auctioned off a custom-made diamond necklace designed by Especially Jewelry. The winner of the necklace later



RHGKC staff enjoying the photo opportunity

presented it to Christine McDonald, Restoration House's Program Director, in a beautiful display of God-inspired generosity.

After the live auction concluded, September Tribble, Executive Director of Restoration House, and Christine McDonald took the stage. Ms. Tribble gave a few remarks of gratitude, exuding her passion for her work before turning the podium over to Ms. McDonald, who herself is a survivor of sex trafficking.

Ms. McDonald left no eye dry as she dedicated five



Christine Ladner addressing the crowd

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SAVE THE DATE



Williams-Farmer Preaching Fellowship

Join us for our annual Williams-Farmer Preaching Fellowship featuring the teaching of Dr. Willie Rice, Sr. Pastor of Calvary Baptist Church of Clearwater, Florida. Dr. Rice was the 2015 SBC Pastor's Conference President.

Highlights

- Free registration.
- Lunch included.
- Chance to see the new Spurgeon Library at MBTS.
- Limited seating so register early.

Register online at <http://2016wfpf.eventbrite.com>

Contact 816-795-1822 for more information

Date: April 15, 2016
Time: 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.
Location: Spurgeon Library at
Midwestern Baptist Theological Seminary
5001 N. Oak Trafficway, KCMO



Executive Board Meets

Our Executive Board met at **Spring Valley Baptist** in Raytown the end of January where we heard outstanding reports of God moving and using the Horn of Africa team made up of members of **Noland Road, United Believers, Ethiopian Church in Olathe, and First Baptist Oak Grove.**



Pastor Travis and Johnetta Yeargans attend the meeting

The Board also welcomed **River's Edge Fellowship** led by Pastor Travis Yeargans, into the Association. That makes four consecutive meetings of the Association where we have received new churches joining BRKC!

Join us for our next Executive Board Meeting which will be held on Thursday, April 28th at 6:30 p.m. We will be meeting at **Calvary Baptist, 900 NW 22nd Street** in Blue Springs.



Dr. Asefaw Indrias of the Ethiopian Church joined with Randy Messer, FBC Oak Grove, Nicole Brown of Noland Road and Ed Newsome from United Believers to share on the recent trip to the Horn of Africa

Pastor Victor Lee of Greater Bethel Missionary Baptist visits with Moderator, Pastor Gary Jones of The U Church and Dr. Rodney Hammer



Vancouver Retreat Ministers to Church Planters

BR-KC Association representatives from **LifeQuest, First Baptist Grandview, Noland Road, and Blue Ridge** churches helped put on a church planter family encouragement retreat for partners in Vancouver, Canada in February. Pastor Scott Patty and Christian



Pastors and wives take time to worship

Businessman David Atchison of Grace Community Church in Nashville joined us, teaching on making disciples and leaders in the church. God mightily used the childcare, youth, worship, fellowship and teaching times to deeply encourage these families serving in physically beautiful but spiritually destitute Vancouver.



JoAnne Ruble stops to take a picture with her group of kids

Restoration House Gala

continued from page 1

one-hundred dollar bills to five of her friends who died at the hands of pimps, johns, or drugs. Through their stories, she reminded listeners that the harsh street life is reality for far too many people. She compelled them to remember that Restoration House isn't about a cause; it's about real people, with real lives and hopes and dreams. Finally, she dedicated one last hundred dollar bill to hope – hope that these victims can experience healing and restoration.

Dr. Rodney Hammer, Board President of Restoration House, concluded the night with a presentation of the first ever Cry Purple Award. This award, named after Christine McDonald's book, is to be given annually to someone who

has shown exceptional efforts in the fight against human trafficking. This year's award went to Christine Ladner for her remarkable work in the Kansas Attorney General's office against human trafficking.

Between sponsorships, auction profits and donations, the Gala grossed over \$65,000 for the work of the Restoration House. But beyond providing much-needed funds for Restoration House to continue freeing victims and bringing hope to survivors, something more was accomplished. Every guest in the room was made aware and informed about the realities of human trafficking. With that knowledge comes the challenge to stand up and boldly say, "Not in our city!"

Blue River-Kansas City Baptist Association News

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Steven Robinson.....Director of Development
Luis Mendoza.....Multi-cultural Church Strategist
Travis Hamm.....Student Minister
Carson Conover.....Student Minister
Andrew Huesing.....People Teams

Executive Director Report

Dear Partners in Missions,

Be encouraged that you serve a great and holy God who links us together in a network of churches who partner together to see lives and communities changed by the gospel of Jesus Christ here locally, nationally and around the world!

WILLIAMS-FARMER PREACHING FELLOWSHIP

An annual equipping event of BR-KC, the Williams-Farmer Preaching Fellowship is a high quality, impactful one-day seminar for preachers about the task of preaching. Dr. Willie Rice, past President of the SBC Pastors Conference and Senior Pastor of Calvary Baptist Church in Clearwater, Florida, will lead this year's seminar.

Come sharpen your saw, be encouraged and equipped further for the God-called privilege to preach His Word. It will be held in the fabulous new SPURGEON LIBRARY at Midwestern Seminary on April 15, from 9am-2pm, lunch included and it's free, compliments of BR-KC!



WE'VE CLOSED ON NEW OFFICE



On Monday, February 15 we closed on the new office property for the Association! Gary Jones, BR-KC Moderator and Pastor of **The U Church** in south Kansas City, and Jennifer Hutton, BR-KC Clerk, signed on behalf of the Association. The new office property is at 806 Main Street, Greenwood, MO 64034. We anticipate moving to the new location in April. We will let you know the exact date for beginning operations in the new office as soon as possible. We have

a few repairs and minor renovations to make first.

NEW PASTOR

Finally, please join me in welcoming Dr. Richard Young, recently called to serve as Senior Pastor of **South Haven** church in Belton. His first Sunday will be March 20. Welcome Dr. Young!

Thank you all for your support, prayers and partnership in the gospel! It is a joy to serve with you.

People Teams Holds Soccer Camp

The People Teams, led by Andrew Huesing, will once again hold their annual soccer camp for immigrant children. They need volunteers to help with the soccer league in the Northeast on Saturdays from April 9 through May 14 from late morning to early afternoon.

Volunteers will help drive kids, coach teams, or build relationships with families from many nations and various people groups. Anyone interested should contact Andrew at kcpeopleteams@gmail.com and begin to clear their Saturday schedule this spring.



Campus Ministry

Carson Conover, Blue River/Longview

I've been facilitating Explore God conversations with students on campus at Blue River and Longview Community Colleges. Explore God Discussion Groups are designed



to create a safe environment where students can seek credible answers to challenging spiritual questions. Below are some of the questions we've been discussing.

- Does my life have a purpose?
- Does God exist?
- Why is there evil and suffering?
- Is the Bible reliable?
- Is Jesus God?



In previous updates I mentioned a college student who got involved with one of these groups. Since then he's begun attending LifeConnection nearly every Sunday. He brought his girlfriend--she's a senior in high school. We are the first church she has ever been connected to in her life.

I've been meeting one to one with him for two months to read and discuss the Gospel of Mark (we're meeting this morning to finish the book). Additionally, he's been participating in our member classes. All of this is leading naturally to a conversation about whether or not he's ready to entrust his life to Christ.

This past Saturday, they both came to our house because she had several questions about God and faith. She said, historically, she's had a very negative view of religious people. She has softened toward it since she's been a part of LifeConnection. I was able to walk her through a gospel booklet called Two Ways To Live to share Christ with her. I was also able to give her a few resources to help her continue to process her questions and doubts.

Will you pray for these students? That God would draw them to His Son Jesus?

News from the churches

Greater Belthel Missionary is in need of a passenger van. If you have a van to donate or sell at a reasonable price, contact Pastor Lee at 305-5156 or 761-3400.

Blue Ridge Baptist in Independence is looking for a part-time administrative assistant. Email resumes to pastorchane@blueridgebaptist.com.

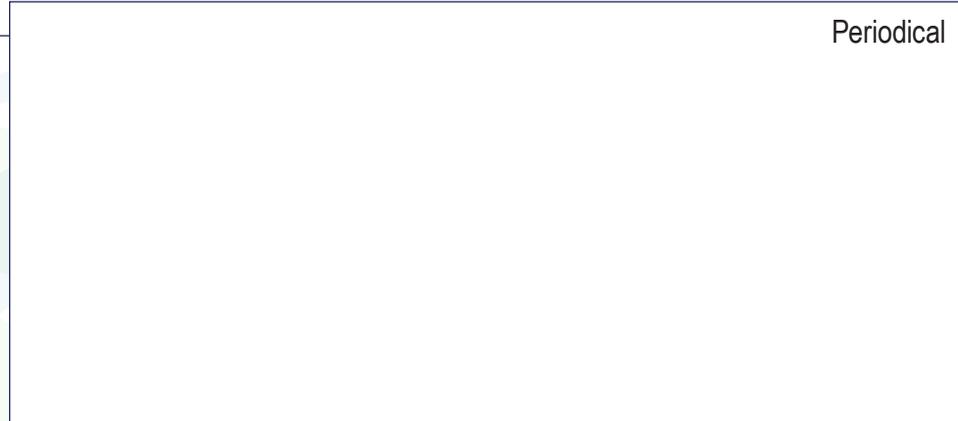
Disaster Relief training will be held on March 11-12 at the Pulaski Baptist Association, 26224 Silver Lane, Waynesville, MO. Additional training information and online registration can be found at www.mobaptist.org/dr or by emailing disasterrelief@mobaptist.org or calling 800-736-6227 x317.

MBCH will host Walk 4 Kids on May 14th at Coleman-Livengood Park, 5912 Lane Avenue in Raytown, For more info, visit MBCH.org or call 800-264-6224.

Lone Jack Baptist has 25 free toddler chairs. Call or text Jerry at 816-529-8293.

Returning Missionary Needs Help

The International Mission Board has laid off several hundred career missionaries in order to reduce costs and balance the budget. Many of these missionaries are in their 50's and 60's, and face the prospect of trying to find employment here in the states. Southern Baptist foreign missionaries live uncluttered lives. That works well on the mission field, but means that returning home,



VBS Workers Training



Training for:

- Pastors/Directors
- Bible Story Leaders
- Missions Leaders
- Music Leaders
- Preschool Leaders
- Craft Leaders

Thursday, March 31
6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.
First Baptist Church
1416 Main, Grandview, MO

many don't have houses to come home to or cars to drive. One of these returning missionaries is a Missouri native with ties to BR-KC. She is in need of an automobile. Any used car in reasonable running condition would be helpful. **FBC, Lee's Summit** has put out the word among their membership, and they would like for all of the churches in the Association to let their members know of

the need. If you know of an automobile that could be donated to this missionary, please contact Jennifer at 816-795-1822 or jenniferh@kcbaptist.org. If more than one car is offered, we will contact the people necessary to see that all donations reach a returning missionary in need. Thank you for prayerfully considering and sharing these needs.

HELP BRING AN END TO SEX TRAFFICKING

5K & FUN RUN TO RAISE AWARENESS AND FUNDS TO SUPPORT THE ENDING OF HUMAN TRAFFICKING

RUN FOR 1 5K

FACEBOOK.COM/RUNFOR1 #RUNFOR1 @_RUNFOR1

50% of proceeds benefit Restoration House

APRIL 2

LOCATED AT COMMUNITY AMERICA BALLPARK, KANSAS CITY, KS
ADULT REGISTRATION FEE: \$35

100% OF THE NET PROCEEDS GO TO SUPPORT THE ENDING OF HUMAN TRAFFICKING

RUNFOR1.COM

ALL TYPES OF RUNNERS AND WALKERS ARE WELCOME

SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES AVAILABLE EMAIL ASLAVENS@RUNFOR1.COM FOR MORE INFORMATION

January Financial Report

	Current Month	Year-to-Date
Receipts from churches	\$23,045.60	\$23,045.60
Other Income	15.14	15.14
Total	\$23,060.74	\$23,060.74
Less Expenses	(36,468.08)	(36,468.08)
Balance as of January 31, 2016	(\$13,407.34)	(\$13,407.34)
Budget \$467,420.19 Annual	\$38,951.69 Monthly	\$38,951.69
Budget Receipts + other income		23,060.74
Receipts compared to budget	60%	(\$ 15,890.95)

Calendar

March		April	
3	E3, Sycamore Hills, Indepen.	14	Ministry Teams
8	Legacy Cohort, Blue Ridge	15	Williams-Farmer Preaching Fellowship, MBTS
10	Ministry Teams	20	Admin & Finance Committee
25	Office Closed for Holiday	28	Executive Board Meeting, Calvary, Blue Springs
31	VBS Clinic, Grandview FBC		