

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."



KC Churches Develop Leaders, Reach Out to Refugees in Africa

by Benjamin Hawkins from *The Pathway*/ Reprinted from March 8, 2016 issue

OAK GROVE – Pastor Randy Messer of **First Baptist Church** walked into a classroom in the Horn of Africa and heard voices, crying out and pleading to someone, but he saw no one.

But as Messer stepped further into the room, he found the source of these cries. A group of young pastors had come to class earlier, where they knelt on the floor praying and crying out to the Lord. These would be Messer's students for the next several days.

"How powerful that was," Messer said. "The presence of the Holy Spirit was just thick in the air. It was very, very humbling. I want that kind of Spirit to capture my heart."



"Excuse me," he added, after getting emotionally choked up about the experience. "It's a precious thing to remember, a sacred thing."

Messer travelled to the Horn of Africa with fellow Missouri Baptists from other churches in the Blue River-Kansas City Baptist Association (BRKC), Jan. 5-15. This trip makes the sixth time that the BRKC has sent a team to the Horn of Africa. During this trip, two members from **Noland Road Baptist Church** in Independence led a group of Missouri Baptists to minister

and share the gospel in a refugee camp in the area. Meanwhile, Pastor Messer taught at a Bible institute in the area, training young pastors who would plant churches throughout the region.

During the two-week period, he helped give these men biblical and pastoral wisdom about marriage and family life and taught them about the book of Romans.

"They were just hungry to get that information, a refreshing hunger," Messer said. He added that **FBC, Oak Grove**, had a passion for helping with the Bible Institute because they knew the students there would reach out to people in the Horn of Africa in ways that no Westerner could.

"We want to be part of planting churches not only here in Missouri, but around the world," he said.

Occasionally, since returning from the Horn of Africa, Messer has been asked why he went back a second time and why he would want to return to the Bible Institute again. In

reply, he points people to the sweet experiences of prayer that he experienced with his godly students – some of whom were refugees who had previously been in prison for their faith.

One experience, especially, stands out in Messer's memory. While teaching on Romans 8, where Paul writes



about the Spirit crying out to God, "Abba, Father," within the believer's heart, he sensed that he should stop lecturing and let the Spirit work in the group.

"The students all stood," he said, "and we began to experience 20 minutes of worship and sensing the presence of the Spirit teaching us and capturing our hearts."

"I want more of that. In those 20 minutes, the teacher became one of the students, ... no translator needed."

WE HAVE MOVED

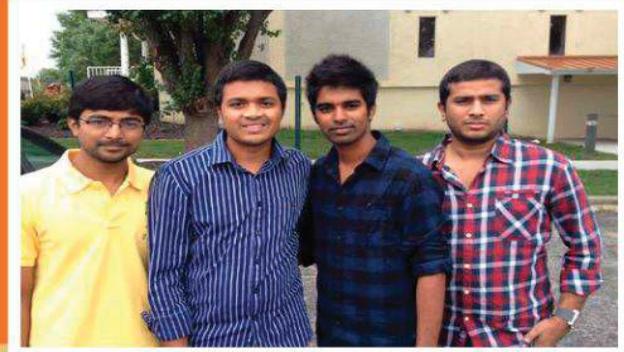
Our new address is
806 W. Main Street
Greenwood, MO 64034
Our telephone number
has also changed. Visit our website
for the new number.





SOUTH ASIAN HINDUS IN KANSAS CITY

South Asian Hindus	Data	Rank
% Non-Christian Overseas		
India Nepal Bhutan	94% 97.8% 97.9%	9
Believers in KC	Some	8
Evangelical Witness	Some	8
Population in KC	9,000	10
Access Overseas	Fair	7
Total (Average)		8.4



THE HINDU TEMPLE

in Shawnee and visitkc.com estimate that the Greater Kansas City area boasts 4,000 families from India, and over 3,200 of these families are Hindus. Most of these come from India with some from Bhutan, and Nepal. The largest Indian language groups are Hindi, Telugu, Bengali, Gujarathi, Marathi, and Tamil.

Although these families are concentrated in Shawnee, Overland Park, and around UMKC, South Asian Hindus are spread all throughout Kansas City because many work in the technology, medical, and energy fields. Around 900

Bhutanese-Nepali refugees live in Kansas City, Kansas, and about 20 families live on the Missouri side. About 75% of those are Hindu.

Hindus worship millions of deities in an effort to reach a higher caste when re-incarnated. Some Indians follow Jainism and more Catholicism, but most are Hindu. The higher castes currently have large barriers to Christianity because it is perceived as "a Western religion." In Kansas City, young Indians from Hindu families become atheists possibly because of the emphasis on Science in their career fields.

+ Pray that God raises up more laborers to befriend these Hindus in the workplace, through

hobbies, and in neighborhoods and to share God's truth. Before they deny all deities and become atheists, these Hindus need to know what Paul told pluralists in Acts 17:22-25.

"I see that you are extremely religious in every respect.... Therefore, what you worship in ignorance, this I proclaim to you. The God who made the world and everything in it—He is Lord of heaven and earth and does not live in shrines made by hands. Neither is He served by human hands, as though He needed anything, since He Himself gives everyone life and breath and all things."

Williams-Farmer Preaching Fellowship Hosts Another Great Event



Dr. William Rice leads the group session

Pastors and preachers from all over the Kansas City metro area gathered in the new Spurgeon Library on the campus of Midwestern Baptist Theological Seminary last Friday for their annual Williams-Farmer Preaching Fellowship. This event, hosted by Blue River-Kansas City Baptist Association is an annual conference dedicated to helping pastors hone their preaching skills to better communicate the gospel. This year, Dr. William Rice, pastor of Calvary Baptist Church in Clearwater, Florida, was the keynote speaker. Dr. Rice has been a pastor for 32 years in churches of all sizes. Dr. Rice has also been the president of the Florida Baptist Convention for two years and was last year's president of the Pastor's Conference at the Annual Southern Baptist Convention in Columbus, Ohio. Dr. Rice shared a biblical philosophy of preaching as well as practical preaching practices that allow one to plan their preaching in advance so more time can be spent on good preparation and allowing the mind and heart to internalize



Pastor Rob Hutchinson (Faith Baptist) opens with prayer and a devotional

the text and find good illustrative materials from life. He laid out a healthy definition of expository preaching that is both faithful to the text and makes application to the real-life issues people are facing. A bonus at this year's event was that Dr. Rice brought his Associate Pastor along, Victor Boll, who connected with many participants informally, offering cutting edge evangelisms ideas that are effective in reaching people for Christ.

Many thanks to Midwestern Seminary for hosting us in the inspiring Spurgeon Library!



Pastor Dave Gass (Risen Savior) leads in worship

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Travis Hamm.....Student Minister
Carson Conover.....Student Minister
Andrew Huesing.....People Teams

Executive Director Report

Dear Partners in Missions,

MOVING OFFICES

We will be closed for business on Friday, April 29 to make our move and open for business on Monday May 2 in our new location at 806 W. Main Street, Greenwood MO 64034! We will have a formal open house after we get settled but we look forward to seeing you anytime you can drop by. We want to continue to serve you and the churches and work together to extend the Kingdom!



EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING



We will have admitted three more churches into our Association by the time you read this, celebrated Pro-Life Ministries, had the first reading of proposed BR-KC Bylaw Amendments, and rejoiced over mission and ministry progress at our April 28 Executive Board meetings. Many thanks to Pastor Lindy Reed and **Calvary Baptist of Blue Springs** for hosting us!

The proposed Bylaw Amendments are essentially two fold. One, that the Administrative Committee essentially take on most of the functions of the current Executive Board. Two, that the larger role of the Executive Board be folded into a semi-annual meeting of the Association. As such, we would have two larger, semi-annual meetings (one Spring and one Fall) instead of one annual meeting with quarterly Executive Board meetings three other times per year. The Administrative Committee would take on the role of the Executive Board between semi-annual meetings.

We will publish and discuss these proposed Bylaw Amendments again at our July Executive Board meeting, and then have a final decision made at our Annual Meeting Sunday evening, October 2.

VBS MISSIONS OFFERING

I would like to ask you to please consider having a "VBS Kids Helping Kids Mission Offering" this summer. The VBS mission offering funds would be used to benefit the proposed opening of a home for girls who are domestic minor sex trafficking victims. Thank you for prayerfully considering designating your VBS missions offering to help these girls in need of rescuing and restoration!



Church Planter Spotlight - Pathway Church

by Pastor Mike Roy

In the late summer of 2014, God called us to plant a Gospel driven church in the Kansas City area. At the time, I lived in the Wichita, KS area. I had lived and pastored in the KC area for many years prior to that. Some friends in this area also sensed God leading them to serve with a new church plant. We noticed and were gripped by the recent population growth of the Raymore-Peculiar area, which is among the fastest growing in the state. As we prayed about this, God broke our heart for the lostness in the area. I began making inquiries and praying with Dr. Hammer, area pastors, and MBC/SBC church planting leaders concerning the need for a new church in the area. God opened the door for us to pioneer the plant of **Pathway Church** in Raymore.

I moved to Raymore on January 31, 2015 along with my wife Lynda and our two daughters. Our son is a student at Wichita State University. Our sponsoring church, **Antioch Southern Baptist** in Harrisonville, has been tremendously helpful. From March through July of 2015, our launch team met regularly to pray and plan for the launch. In addition to efforts to witness for Christ each day, we prayer-walked, canvassed, and served free refreshments at two large community events. We also conducted a VBS in a local park. I have conducted a weekly evangelistic Bible study in the break room of a large business in our community.



In July of 2015, a local Baptist Church of a different denomination, which was on the brink of closing, contacted us and eventually gave us their building and property. We launched Sunday Morning services in September of 2015.



Monthly Education and Awareness Meeting

May 19th 6 p.m.

Heart of Life, Lee's Summit

Current Needs

Gas Cards

Grocery Cards

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News from the churches

Grace Point, 10415 Chestnut Drive in Kansas City presents the Al Massira training event on May 6th and 7th. Register at <http://goo.gl/CA9HAv>. Call Nicole Dominguez at 816-761-4342 for more information.

B.G. and Sister Mary Roberson of **Corinthian Missionary Baptist Church** will be celebrating their 33rd Anniversary beginning Sunday, May 15th with various activities. Call the church at 924-4196 for more information.

Belvidere Heights in Grandview is looking for a part-time music director. Send resumes to Music Search Committee, 15109 White Avenue, Grandview, MO 64030 or email hbcmo@aol.com.

Armour Heights in Kansas City is looking for a bi-vocational pastor. Send resumes to 7900 Jarboe, KCMO 64114 or call 444-4534 for more information.

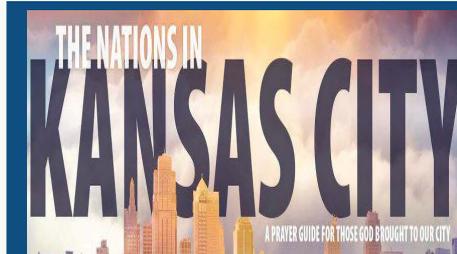
Coventry Estates in Independence is looking for a part-time Associate Pastor with duties relating to youth. Send resumes to the church at 17133 E. 39th Street S., Independence, MO 64055 or email to dbradley4@me.com.

The U Church in South KC is looking for volunteers on June 11th to help with painting and yard work at a nearby school. If interested in helping, contact Pastor Gary Jones at 816-709-0319.

Church Planter Spotlight

Pathway Church seeks to make the real Jesus non-ignorable through worship, Life Groups, and service to our community in Christ's name. We are amazed at how God has brought some people to trust Christ as their Savior and provided godly servants and leaders. We see this as a missionary endeavor as we seek to enter the everyday world of lost people

and lovingly point them to Jesus. We are targeting unreached people here. God has called us to start other new church plants in the KC area as well. Please pray that God draws the lost here to Himself through our efforts to make Jesus non-ignorable in our lives and words among them. Many young families live here. Please pray for resources to give the building a make-over, especially in an area for children.



The Nations in Kansas City is a prayer guide for the ethnic groups who God has moved into our city. Contact the Association office for your very own copy and start praying today! Cost is \$2 per book.

Or visit www.blueriver-kansascity.org/partnership-ministries/people-teams/

VBS
Kids Helping Kids
Missions Offering

Can You Help?

Would your church consider donating your VBS offering to the Restoration House Home for Minors? Contact Jennifer at jenniferh@kcbaptist.org for more information.

March Financial Report

	Current Month	Year-to-Date
Receipts from churches	\$34,863.28	\$96,995.94
Other Income	6.18	33.04
Total	\$34,869.46	\$97,028.98
Less Expenses	(38,975.82)	(120,231.88)
Balance as of March 31, 2016	(\$4,106.36)	(\$23,202.90)
Budget \$467,420.19 Annual	\$38,951.68 Monthly	\$116,855.04
Budget Receipts + other income		97,028.98
Receipts compared to budget 83%		(\$ 15,743.84)

Calendar

May	June
5 E3, Faith , Harrisonville	2 E3, Sycamore Hills , Independence
10 Legacy Cohort, Coventry Estates , Independence	13-15 SBC Annual Meeting, St. Louis
12 Ministry Teams	July
19 E3@ South Haven , Belton	28 Executive Board Meeting, Oakwood
26 E3 @ Calvary , Blue Springs	
30 Office Closed for Holiday	