

MISSIONS & MINISTRY

The Newsletter of The Blue River-Kansas City Baptist Association

In this newsletter:



Spring Semi-Annual

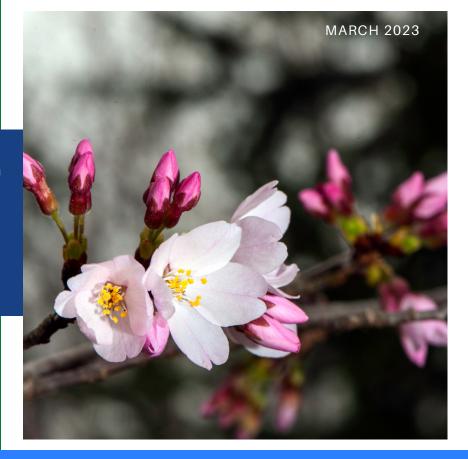
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Mark Clifton Leads Pastor's





SPRING SEMI-ANNUAL MEETING!

We hope you'll join us on Sunday, March 26th, from 5pm - 7:30pm at Testimony Church for our Spring Semi-Annual Gathering. In staying true to the name of our host church, the evening will highlight several inspiring testimonies from pastors around the Association that will give you hope and encouragement in your own ministry. These will not be solely testimonies of great success, but stories of perseverance in the face of great personal hardship that highlight God's faithfulness and goodness. Also, come and hear a report from the newly appointed Search Committee about their progress in finding our next Executive Director of Missions for BR-KC. We will enjoy finger foods and dessert (please bring a dish to share!) before the program begins at 6pm.

<u>Full</u> Details

IMMIGRATION INFORMATION MEETING

By Luis M Mendoza

On Thursday, February 23, under the sponsorship of BR-KC Baptist Association and The Multiethnic Church Planting Center, we held an Immigration Information Meeting at Iglesia Bautista Palabra Viva. The purpose of these gathering was threefold: First, understand the ways God wants us to treat the foreigner residing among us. Second, explaining the new sponsorship program issued by USCIS, a new and temporary window of opportunity that has been made available for people proceeding from the countries of Cuba, Haiti, Nicaragua, and Venezuela to come legally to this country if the sponsorship requirements are met. And lastly, share about some specific ways we as churches can share the gospel with foreigners arriving to this country.

During this meeting, Lisandra Rodriguez, an immigrant from Cuba, did an excellent job explaining the purpose, requirements and timeline of Form I-134A. Rodríguez came to the US as a young girl. Since becoming an adult, she has had the desire of helping people, not only with some specific immigration issues, but also helping foreigners to better navigate the intricacies of a new country. Bill Niffen, an immigration attorney, was also present during this meeting and graciously responded to questions from those gathered.

Last year, I realized that I after living in this country for 33 years, absorbed in being able to achieve my own goals, my own "American dream"; mostly unintentionally, I have become disconnected from fully understanding the needs and situations that foreigners face when they come to this country....





MARK CLIFTON LEADS PASTOR'S HUDDLE

Since the beginning of 2023, Mark Clifton, Senior Director of Replanting/Revitalization for the North American Mission Board (NAMB), has held a once a month Pastor's Huddle to encourage our pastors and share practical, biblical ways to increase their effectiveness and joy in ministry. With two meeting locations to better accommodate both the North and South parts of the Association, Mark's Pastor's Huddle has drawn pastors from all areas of the Association and beyond.

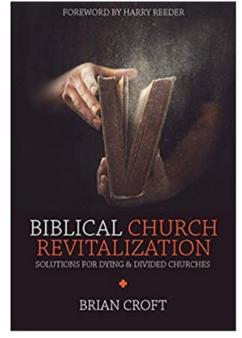
The Huddles are studying the book, *Biblical Church Revitalization* by Brian Croft. Through this study, along with Mark's knowledge and experience in ministry, many pastors are sharing the great encouragement this has brought to them in their own ministry.

If your church is plateaued or in decline, you are not alone. Gregg Boll is certified in the Resound Revitalization process that was developed in connection with NAMB and the Missouri Baptist Convention. He would love to meet with you to discuss this process and see how this may benefit your church. Please contact the office at 816-623-5360 or email Gregg at

greggb@kcbaptist.org.



If you are a pastor and are interested in joining our next Pastor's Huddle, please email Amy for more information - amyc@kcbaptist.org.



Check out Job Postings

Check out the Classifieds