



# **Fall Semi-Annual Meeting**

**October 1, 2023  
The Road Church  
Grain Valley, Missouri**

## Welcome to the 42<sup>nd</sup> Year of Blue River-Kansas City Baptist Association!

Dear Friends,

It has been an honor to serve you and your churches as the Interim Director of BR-KC this last year. My role didn't change much as I continued to meet with pastors and churches to encourage and serve you at every opportunity. I want to say a huge "thank you" to our new Administrative Assistant, Amy Cox, who has done a phenomenal job in picking up where Jennifer Hutton left off. Amy will be stepping away from BR-KC shortly for a brief maternity leave to welcome their second child into the world. Please pray for her and drop her a card if you feel so led to encourage her and Matt.

2023 has been a great year and I have been encouraged to hear many of our pastors reporting increased attendance, members joining, and baptisms. Still, many of our churches have not seen new growth and struggle to maintain current levels of ministry outreach. We want all of our churches to experience Kingdom growth and to be making disciples. That's why the theme of tonight's Semi-Annual Meeting is Church Planting/Replanting. There are three areas that demand continual vigilance and priority among our churches: Discipleship (Developing Leaders), Church Planting (Evangelism), and Church Replanting (Partnering for Revitalization of declining churches). I trust you will be blessed by the story of The Calvary Family of Churches tonight as pastor Jeremy Conrad shares how a normative sized church planted or replanted/revitalized over 30 churches in the last decade.

I pray that you know that your church and your ministry are infinitely precious to us and we deeply desire to be a partner who is here to serve and encourage you! Ministry is too hard to do alone; we definitely are better together!

Gregg Boll  
Interim Director of Missions

# Agenda

## Worship Celebration

Welcome and Prayer	Dale Smith, Pastor of The Road
Praise and Worship	The Road Worship Team
Business Session	Greg Washington, Moderator-Elect
Credentials Committee Recommendations	Wayne Geiger, Member
Nominating Committee Recommendations	Bob Springate, Member
Finance Committee Recommendations	Greg Guthrie, Chairman
Search Committee Recommendations	Gary Jones, Vice Chairman
Personnel Committee Report	Doug Schildknecht, Chairman
Guest Speaker	
Calvary Family of Churches	Jeremy Conrad, Executive Director
Panel Speakers	Matt Miller, NAMB Send City Missionary
	Luis Mendoza, MECPC Director
	Jeremy Conrad, Calvary Family of Churches
	Brian Grout, MBC Multiplying Churches Missionary

## Jeremy Conrad, Executive Director at Calvary Family of Churches

Jeremy and his family are members of Calvary Wellspring, where Jeremy serves as an elder. As the CFC's Executive Director, he provides organizational oversight and strategic vision for the network. He is also responsible for leading the staff team, implementing scalable systems of congregational care, and overseeing daily operations. Jeremy's main ministry is to his wife, Caroline, and their kids, Tatianna, Olivia, and Caleb. In his spare time, Jeremy enjoys team sports, collaborative board games, and anything that gets him outside with his family.



## Recommendation of the Credentials Committee

The Credentials Committee met at the end of August to review the following church desiring membership into the Association. The Credentials Committee recommends Overflow Church for full membership:

**Overflow Church**  
3200 Blue Ridge Ext  
Grandview, Missouri 64030  
Alan Findley, Pastor



Submitted by the Credentials Committee  
Stephen Conley  
Wayne Geiger  
Gary Jones  
Randy Messer  
Ray Stewart  
Roger Smith

## Recommendations of the Nominating Committee

Moderator	Pastor Greg Washington, <b>Abiding Faith</b>
Moderator-Elect	Rev. Jim Vest
Clerk	Amy Cox, <b>BR-KC Baptist Association</b>
Treasurer	Kim Rice

### Administrative Committee

Bill Bowers, Norfleet  
Anthony Harwell, Belvidere Heights  
Luis Sanchez, Northland en Español  
Brian Stone, Connection Point  
Dennis Rittenhouse, Peculiar First  
\*Travis Yeargans, River's Edge

### Finance Committee

Greg Guthrie, Heart of Life  
\*Jon Melvin, Grace Family Fellowship  
\*Becca Soulis, South Haven  
Greg Vincent, Grace Family Fellowship  
\*Nicolas Wilson, Peculiar First  
Sandy Woodside, Independence First

### Credentials Committee

Stephen Conley, Raintree Community  
Wayne Geiger, Grain Valley First  
Gary Jones, Testimony  
Randy Messer, Oak Grove First  
Ray Stewart, Grace & Truth  
Roger Smith, Grace Family Fellowship

### Personnel Committee

Adam Claxton, Antioch Southern  
Linda Graham, Connection Point  
\* Mike Roy, Pathway  
\*Keith Sisney, Norfleet  
Jerry Tharp, Lone Jack First  
Doug Schildknecht, Bucker 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 the Nominating Committee

Dennis Barnes, Grain Valley FBC  
Vicki Hart, Peculiar, FBC  
Sheriann Kessinger, Grandview FBC  
Carmen Kraus, Connection Point  
Jon Melvin, Grace Family  
Bob Springate, Fellowship

# Report and Recommendation of the Finance Committee

Date : 09/15/2023  
Time : 8:09:27 AM

**Blue River Kansas City Baptist Association**  
**Balance Sheet**  
**August 2023**

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**Accounts**

<b>Assets</b>		
<b>Cash &amp; Cash Equivalents</b>		
101000 - Commerce Checking Account	\$150,779.06	
<b>Total Cash &amp; Cash Equivalents</b>		<b>\$150,779.06</b>
<b>Investments</b>		
130002 - Change in Value of Investments	\$27,732.15	
140000 - Charles Schwab	\$124,377.69	
<b>Total Investments</b>		<b>\$152,109.84</b>
<b>Total Assets</b>		<b>\$302,888.90</b>
<b>Liabilities, Fund Principal, &amp; Restricted Funds</b>		
<b>Liabilities</b>		
<b>Tax &amp; Liabilities</b>		
201000 - Federal & FICA Tax Withholding	\$672.54	
201500 - State Tax Withholding	\$168.00	
<b>Total Tax &amp; Liabilities</b>		<b>\$840.54</b>
<b>Total Liabilities</b>		<b>\$840.54</b>
<b>Fund Principal</b>		
270000 - Unrealized Losses & Earnings on Inv	\$23,528.15	
299999 - BRKC Fund Principal	\$141,586.66	
Receipts Over (Under) Expenses	\$17,241.22	
<b>Total Fund Principal and Receipts Over (Under) Expenses</b>		<b>\$182,356.03</b>
<b>Restricted Funds</b>		
Total Temporary Restricted	\$119,692.33	
<b>Total Restricted Funds</b>		<b>\$119,692.33</b>
<b>Total Liabilities, Fund Principal, &amp; Restricted Funds</b>		<b>\$302,888.90</b>

**Blue River Kansas City Baptist Association**  
**Analysis of Revenues & Expenses -Annual Budget Info**  
 August 2023

Accounts	MTD Actual (This Year)	MTD Budget (This Year)	MTD Budget Remaining (This Year)	YTD Actual (This Year)	Annual Budget (This Year)	Annual Budget Remaining (This Year)
<b>Revenues</b>						
301000 - Member Contributions	\$41,779.87	\$44,549.38	\$2,769.51	\$275,440.42	\$534,592.50	\$259,152.08
308000 - Interest & Dividends	\$259.58	\$0.00	(\$259.58)	\$2,411.81	\$0.00	(\$2,411.81)
309000 - Miscellaneous Other Income	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$32.96	\$0.00	(\$32.96)
<b>Total Revenues</b>	<b>\$42,039.45</b>	<b>\$44,549.38</b>	<b>\$2,509.93</b>	<b>\$277,885.19</b>	<b>\$534,592.50</b>	<b>\$256,707.31</b>
<b>Expenses</b>						
<b>Gospel Outreach</b>						
412100 - Discretionary Missions Fund	\$0.00	\$208.33	\$208.33	\$1,350.00	\$2,500.00	\$1,150.00
412200 - Partnership Missions	\$500.00	\$833.33	\$333.33	\$5,400.00	\$10,000.00	\$4,600.00
414100 - Refugee & Immigrant Ministrie	\$474.00	\$333.33	(\$140.67)	\$2,896.00	\$4,000.00	\$1,104.00
417000 - Andrew Huesing/People Tear	\$1,330.00	\$1,333.33	\$3.33	\$10,640.00	\$16,000.00	\$5,360.00
<b>College Ministry</b>						
405000 - Combined Student Ministry	\$3,300.00	\$3,333.33	\$33.33	\$26,760.00	\$40,000.00	\$13,240.00
<b>Total College Ministry</b>	<b>\$3,300.00</b>	<b>\$3,333.33</b>	<b>\$33.33</b>	<b>\$26,760.00</b>	<b>\$40,000.00</b>	<b>\$13,240.00</b>
<b>Total Gospel Outreach</b>	<b>\$5,604.00</b>	<b>\$6,041.65</b>	<b>\$437.65</b>	<b>\$47,046.00</b>	<b>\$72,500.00</b>	<b>\$25,454.00</b>
<b>Resource Churches</b>						
421400 - Discipleship Resources	\$124.94	\$250.00	\$125.06	\$819.43	\$3,000.00	\$2,180.57
421600 - Media Center	\$131.94	\$141.67	\$9.73	\$1,447.42	\$1,700.00	\$252.58
422200 - Minister - Church Relations	\$101.57	\$500.00	\$398.43	\$1,773.48	\$6,000.00	\$4,226.52
435000 - Auto - Executive Director	\$0.00	\$83.33	\$83.33	\$51.51	\$1,000.00	\$948.49
435200 - Auto - Associational Director	\$36.71	\$83.33	\$46.62	\$379.37	\$1,000.00	\$620.63
435900 - Auto - Administrative Assistan	\$0.00	\$25.00	\$25.00	\$92.66	\$300.00	\$207.34
436110 - Church Revitalization Ministrie	\$560.44	\$333.33	(\$227.11)	\$6,109.24	\$4,000.00	(\$2,109.24)
<b>Woman's Missionary Union</b>						
408000 - Age Level Development	\$75.00	\$83.33	\$8.33	\$175.00	\$1,000.00	\$825.00
409400 - Literature/Supplies	\$0.00	\$83.33	\$83.33	\$92.50	\$1,000.00	\$907.50
409600 - Postage	\$0.00	\$33.33	\$33.33	\$197.25	\$400.00	\$202.75
<b>Total Woman's Missionary Union</b>	<b>\$75.00</b>	<b>\$199.99</b>	<b>\$124.99</b>	<b>\$464.75</b>	<b>\$2,400.00</b>	<b>\$1,935.25</b>
<b>Total Resource Churches</b>	<b>\$1,030.60</b>	<b>\$1,616.65</b>	<b>\$586.05</b>	<b>\$11,137.86</b>	<b>\$19,400.00</b>	<b>\$8,262.14</b>
<b>Assist Comm. Transformation</b>						
401100 - Elos Urban Ministries	\$200.00	\$200.00	\$0.00	\$1,600.00	\$2,400.00	\$800.00
401200 - Disaster Relief	\$4.60	\$41.67	\$37.07	\$20.70	\$500.00	\$479.30
401500 - Human Trafficking	\$0.00	\$7,500.00	\$7,500.00	\$47,000.00	\$90,000.00	\$43,000.00
401900 - Providence School of the Arts	\$0.00	\$200.00	\$200.00	\$1,600.00	\$2,400.00	\$800.00
<b>Total Assist Comm. Transformation</b>	<b>\$204.60</b>	<b>\$7,941.67</b>	<b>\$7,737.07</b>	<b>\$50,220.70</b>	<b>\$95,300.00</b>	<b>\$45,079.30</b>
<b>Church Planting</b>						
411100 - Multi-Ethnic CPC	\$1,550.00	\$1,550.00	\$0.00	\$12,400.00	\$18,600.00	\$6,200.00
412600 - New Hispanic Work (Blue Spr	\$500.00	\$500.00	\$0.00	\$4,000.00	\$6,000.00	\$2,000.00
414810 - 2819 Life Church - Emmanuel	\$200.00	\$200.00	\$0.00	\$1,600.00	\$2,400.00	\$800.00
414820 - Overflow Church - Alan Findle	\$200.00	\$200.00	\$0.00	\$1,600.00	\$2,400.00	\$800.00
414850 - Restoration Life (Anthony Mor	\$200.00	\$200.00	\$0.00	\$1,600.00	\$2,400.00	\$800.00
415000 - Other New Works (Luis Sanch	\$500.00	\$500.00	\$0.00	\$4,000.00	\$6,000.00	\$2,000.00
<b>Total Church Planting</b>	<b>\$3,150.00</b>	<b>\$3,150.00</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$25,200.00</b>	<b>\$37,800.00</b>	<b>\$12,600.00</b>
<b>Equipping Leaders</b>						
421000 - Leadership Training	\$0.00	\$458.33	\$458.33	\$2,090.35	\$5,500.00	\$3,409.65
422400 - Conferences & Special Events	\$1,100.20	\$416.67	(\$683.53)	\$3,908.37	\$5,000.00	\$1,091.63
<b>Total Equipping Leaders</b>	<b>\$1,100.20</b>	<b>\$875.00</b>	<b>(\$225.20)</b>	<b>\$5,998.72</b>	<b>\$10,500.00</b>	<b>\$4,501.28</b>
<b>Administration</b>						
401450 - Digital Media	\$0.00	\$166.67	\$166.67	\$0.00	\$2,000.00	\$2,000.00
401800 - Association Emphasis	\$0.00	\$83.33	\$83.33	\$293.48	\$1,000.00	\$706.52
436000 - Conv/Training - Executive Dire	\$0.00	\$83.33	\$83.33	\$0.00	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00
436200 - Conv/Training - Assoc Director	\$332.20	\$83.33	(\$248.87)	\$1,567.78	\$1,000.00	(\$567.78)
436600 - Conv/Training - Admin Assista	\$0.00	\$41.67	\$41.67	\$0.00	\$500.00	\$500.00
451000 - Office Supplies	\$63.22	\$83.33	\$20.11	\$250.03	\$1,000.00	\$749.97
451500 - Postage - Administrative	\$0.00	\$41.67	\$41.67	\$597.52	\$500.00	(\$97.52)
452500 - Legal Fees	\$0.00	\$166.67	\$166.67	\$0.00	\$2,000.00	\$2,000.00
452600 - ACS Accounting	\$345.50	\$333.33	(\$12.17)	\$2,764.00	\$4,000.00	\$1,236.00
452800 - On-line Giving Fees	\$334.11	\$83.33	(\$250.78)	\$668.00	\$1,000.00	\$332.00
455000 - Miscellaneous Administrative	\$187.54	\$250.00	\$62.46	\$1,731.41	\$3,000.00	\$1,268.59
<b>Total Administration</b>	<b>\$1,262.57</b>	<b>\$1,416.66</b>	<b>\$154.09</b>	<b>\$7,872.22</b>	<b>\$17,000.00</b>	<b>\$9,127.78</b>

**Blue River Kansas City Baptist Association**  
**Analysis of Revenues & Expenses -Annual Budget Info**  
 August 2023

Accounts	MTD Actual (This Year)	MTD Budget (This Year)	MTD Budget Remaining (This Year)	YTD Actual (This Year)	Annual Budget (This Year)	Annual Budget Remaining (This Year)
<b>Operations</b>						
441000 - Security System	\$0.00	\$37.50	\$37.50	\$0.00	\$450.00	\$450.00
441500 - Janitorial Supplies	\$0.00	\$8.33	\$8.33	\$121.09	\$100.00	(\$21.09)
442500 - Maintenance & Repair	\$26.33	\$166.67	\$140.34	\$1,009.25	\$2,000.00	\$990.75
443500 - Vehicle Maintenance	\$0.00	\$45.83	\$45.83	\$430.25	\$550.00	\$119.75
444000 - Insurance - Property	\$639.52	\$642.50	\$2.98	\$4,967.23	\$7,710.00	\$2,742.77
444200 - Insurance - Vehicle	\$199.80	\$148.00	(\$51.80)	\$899.10	\$1,776.00	\$876.90
444300 - Insurance - Workman's Comp	\$362.08	\$202.50	(\$159.58)	\$1,697.47	\$2,430.00	\$732.53
444500 - Equipment	\$206.86	\$208.33	\$1.47	\$1,654.88	\$2,500.00	\$845.12
445000 - Electricity	\$115.15	\$166.67	\$51.52	\$1,217.16	\$2,000.00	\$782.84
445500 - Telephone/Internet	\$382.60	\$416.67	\$34.07	\$3,197.75	\$5,000.00	\$1,802.25
446000 - Water	\$14.36	\$14.58	\$0.22	\$119.49	\$175.00	\$55.51
446200 - Trash Pick Up	\$66.00	\$54.17	(\$11.83)	\$528.00	\$650.00	\$122.00
<b>Total Operations</b>	<b>\$2,012.70</b>	<b>\$2,111.75</b>	<b>\$99.05</b>	<b>\$15,841.67</b>	<b>\$25,341.00</b>	<b>\$9,499.33</b>
<b>Personnel</b>						
431000 - Executive Director	\$2,000.00	\$7,381.76	\$5,381.76	\$6,000.00	\$88,581.15	\$82,581.15
431010 - Exec Dir Housing Allow	\$0.00	\$1,344.14	\$1,344.14	\$0.00	\$16,129.68	\$16,129.68
431100 - Exec Dir Hsing designated shc	\$0.00	\$441.67	\$441.67	\$0.00	\$5,300.00	\$5,300.00
431200 - Associate Director	\$6,385.04	\$6,385.04	\$0.00	\$51,080.32	\$76,620.44	\$25,540.12
431300 - Assoc Director Housing	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00	\$0.00	\$8,000.00	\$12,000.00	\$4,000.00
431800 - Administrative Assistant	\$2,898.00	\$2,691.00	(\$207.00)	\$21,666.00	\$32,292.00	\$10,626.00
432000 - Financial Secretary	\$318.18	\$318.17	(\$0.01)	\$2,545.44	\$3,818.08	\$1,272.64
433200 - Annuity - Exec Director	\$0.00	\$738.18	\$738.18	\$738.18	\$8,858.11	\$8,119.93
433400 - Annuity - Assoc Director	\$638.51	\$644.50	\$5.99	\$5,071.93	\$7,734.04	\$2,662.11
434200 - Payroll Tax Expense (FICA)	\$246.04	\$351.50	\$105.46	\$1,852.17	\$4,218.00	\$2,365.83
434400 - Christmas Bonus	\$0.00	\$100.00	\$100.00	\$0.00	\$1,200.00	\$1,200.00
<b>Total Personnel</b>	<b>\$13,485.77</b>	<b>\$21,395.96</b>	<b>\$7,910.19</b>	<b>\$96,954.04</b>	<b>\$256,751.50</b>	<b>\$159,797.46</b>
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$27,850.44</b>	<b>\$44,549.34</b>	<b>\$16,698.90</b>	<b>\$260,271.21</b>	<b>\$534,592.50</b>	<b>\$274,321.29</b>
<b>Net Total</b>	<b>\$14,189.01</b>	<b>\$0.04</b>	<b>(\$14,188.97)</b>	<b>\$17,613.98</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>(\$17,613.98)</b>
<b>Other Expenses - Unbudgeted</b>						
601000 - Schwab Management Fee	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$372.76	\$0.00	(\$372.76)
<b>Total Other Expenses - Unbudgeted</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$372.76</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>(\$372.76)</b>
<b>Net Operating Total</b>	<b>\$14,189.01</b>	<b>\$0.04</b>	<b>(\$14,188.97)</b>	<b>\$17,241.22</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>(\$17,241.22)</b>



**Blue River Kansas City Baptist Association**  
**Summary of Restricted Accounts**  
**August 2023**

Accounts	Beginning Balance	Restricted Revenue	Restricted Expenses	Ending Balance
<b>Temporary Restricted</b>				
<b>Miscellaneous Designated Funds</b>				
230503 - Assoc Director Ministries	\$650.06	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$650.06
230504 - Student Ministry Support	\$50.00	\$50.00	\$50.00	\$50.00
231000 - Mission/Ministry Support Club	\$278.33	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$278.33
235600 - Church Funeral Assistance	\$22.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$22.00
235700 - Human Trafficking Home	\$10,902.15	\$856.66	\$7,500.00	\$4,258.81
<b>Total Miscellaneous Designated Funds</b>	<b>\$11,902.54</b>	<b>\$906.66</b>	<b>\$7,550.00</b>	<b>\$5,259.20</b>
<b>Administrative Grants</b>				
241100 - Robert D. Meade Memorial Fund	\$1,456.46	\$0.00	\$200.00	\$1,256.46
241300 - Robert Lee Rosell Memorial Fund	\$1,640.42	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,640.42
241500 - Tierney Endowment Fund	\$3,422.79	\$0.00	\$1,630.00	\$1,792.79
242400 - Disaster Relief	\$3,947.37	\$400.00	\$1,139.07	\$3,208.30
<b>Total Administrative Grants</b>	<b>\$10,467.04</b>	<b>\$400.00</b>	<b>\$2,969.07</b>	<b>\$7,897.97</b>
<b>Student Ministries Grant</b>				
244200 - Campus Missionaries	\$22.91	\$0.00	\$22.91	\$0.00
<b>Total Student Ministries Grant</b>	<b>\$22.91</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$22.91</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>
<b>Church &amp; Community Grants</b>				
245100 - Rheubin L. South Missions Offering	\$9,035.59	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$9,035.59
246100 - Refugee/Immigrant	\$540.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$540.00
246300 - People Team Support	\$200.00	\$300.00	\$500.00	\$0.00
<b>Total Church &amp; Community Grants</b>	<b>\$9,775.59</b>	<b>\$300.00</b>	<b>\$500.00</b>	<b>\$9,575.59</b>
<b>Temporary In &amp; Out Funds</b>				
247000 - Miscellaneous Designated	\$2,460.99	\$19.78	\$1,000.00	\$1,480.77
247300 - Horn of Africa Missions	\$13,660.34	\$0.00	\$1,500.00	\$12,160.34
247301 - Vancouver Partnership Mission	\$1.15	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1.15
247304 - Ethiopian Child Sponsorship	\$105.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$105.00
247305 - Shire Church Child Sponsorship	\$11,730.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$11,730.00
247307 - Children's Project of Ethiopia	\$693.03	\$735.00	\$1,008.00	\$420.03
<b>Total Temporary In &amp; Out Funds</b>	<b>\$28,650.51</b>	<b>\$754.78</b>	<b>\$3,508.00</b>	<b>\$25,897.29</b>
<b>WMU In &amp; Out Funds</b>				
247400 - WMU Training Event	\$257.00	\$150.00	\$330.00	\$77.00
247600 - WMU Mission Fund	\$475.93	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$475.93
247800 - WMU Girl's Camp	\$1,694.67	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,694.67
248000 - Misty Ernst Memorial Fund/WMU	\$3,171.49	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$3,171.49
248100 - WMU Job Corp	\$68.91	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$68.91
<b>Total WMU In &amp; Out Funds</b>	<b>\$5,668.00</b>	<b>\$150.00</b>	<b>\$330.00</b>	<b>\$5,488.00</b>
<b>Board Restricted Funds</b>				
242600 - Housing Grant - Executive Director	\$13,550.87	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$13,550.87
243000 - Capital Improvements(Rockwood Sale)	\$3,016.38	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$3,016.38
247200 - Block Party Trailer Rental	\$5,577.90	\$250.00	\$300.00	\$5,527.90
247700 - Portable Baptistry Rental	\$612.42	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$612.42
249100 - New Works	\$8.46	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$8.46
<b>VISION 2020</b>				
280000 - VISION 2020	\$42,858.25	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$42,858.25
<b>Total VISION 2020</b>	<b>\$42,858.25</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$42,858.25</b>
<b>Total Board Restricted Funds</b>	<b>\$65,624.28</b>	<b>\$250.00</b>	<b>\$300.00</b>	<b>\$65,574.28</b>
<b>Total Temporary Restricted</b>	<b>\$132,110.87</b>	<b>\$2,761.44</b>	<b>\$15,179.98</b>	<b>\$119,692.33</b>

**2024 Proposed Budget**  
**Blue River-Kansas City Baptist Association**

Accounts	2023 Budget	2024 Proposed Annual
<b>Gospel Outreach</b>		
412100 - Discretionary Missions Fund	\$2,500.00	\$0.00
412200 - Partnership Missions	\$10,000.00	\$7,200.00
414100 - Refugee & Immigrant Ministries	\$4,000.00	\$4,000.00
417000- Andrew Huesing/People Teams Leader	\$16,000.00	\$16,000.00
<b>College Ministry</b>		
405100 - Collegiate Impact	\$40,000.00	\$43,000.00
<b>Total Gospel Outreach</b>	<b>\$72,500.00</b>	<b>\$70,200.00</b>
<b>Resource Churches</b>		
421600 - Media Center	\$1,700.00	\$1,700.00
421400 - Discipleship Resources	\$3,000.00	\$3,500.00
422200 - Minister - Church Relations	\$6,000.00	\$6,000.00
435000 - Auto - Executive Director	\$1,000.00	\$300.00
435200 - Auto - Associate Director	\$1,000.00	\$1,500.00
435900 - Auto - Administrative Assistant	\$300.00	\$200.00
436110 - Church Revitalization Ministries	\$4,000.00	\$5,000.00
<b>NEW - Church Intern Scholarship</b>		\$6,000.00
<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>\$19,400.00</b>	<b>\$26,600.00</b>
<b>Assist Comm. Transformation</b>		
401100 - Eleos Urban Ministries	\$2,400.00	\$1,200.00
401900 - Providence School of the Arts	\$2,400.00	\$0.00
401500 - Human Trafficking	\$60,000.00	\$40,000.00
<b>401500 - designated for Rodney's REHOPE salary</b>	\$30,000.00	\$25,000.00
401200 - Disaster Relief	\$500.00	\$500.00
<b>Total Assist Comm. Transformation</b>	<b>\$95,300.00</b>	<b>\$66,700.00</b>
<b>Church Planting</b>		
411100 - Multi-Ethnic CPC	\$18,600.00	\$20,000.00
412600 - New Hispanic Work (Blue Springs)	\$6,000.00	\$6,000.00

415000 - Other New Works (Luis Sanchez)	\$6,000.00	\$6,000.00
414850 - Restoration Life -Anthony Mondaine	\$2,400.00	\$0.00
414810 - 2819 Life Church - Emmanuel Joseph	\$2,400.00	\$4,800.00
414820 - Overflow Church - Alan Findley	\$2,400.00	\$4,800.00
<b>NEW - Future Church Plant</b>		\$5,000.00
<b>Total Church Planting</b>	<b>\$37,800.00</b>	<b>\$46,600.00</b>
<b>Equipping Leaders</b>		
421000 - Leadership Training	\$5,500.00	\$4,000.00
422400 - Conferences & Special Events	\$5,000.00	\$5,000.00
<b>Total Equipping Leaders</b>	<b>\$10,500.00</b>	<b>\$9,000.00</b>
<b>Administration</b>		
401450 - Digital Media	\$2,000.00	\$750.00
401800 - Association Emphasis	\$1,000.00	\$1,200.00
436000 - Conv/Training - Executive Director	\$1,000.00	\$1,500.00
436200 - Conv/Training - Assoc Director	\$1,000.00	\$1,500.00
436600 - Conv/Training - Admin Assistant	\$500.00	\$250.00
451000 - Office Supplies	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00
451500 - Postage - Administrative	\$500.00	\$750.00
452500 - Legal Fees	\$2,000.00	\$2,000.00
452600 - ACS Accounting	\$4,000.00	\$4,200.00
452800 - Online Giving Fees	\$1,000.00	\$750.00
455000 - Miscellaneous Administrative	\$3,000.00	\$10,000.00
<b>Total Administration</b>	<b>\$17,000.00</b>	<b>\$23,900.00</b>
<b>Operations</b>		
441500 - Janitorial Supplies	\$100.00	\$200.00
442500 - Maintenance & Repair	\$2,000.00	\$2,000.00
443500 - Vehicle Maintenance	\$550.00	\$2,000.00
444000 - Insurance - Property	\$7,710.00	\$5,000.00
444200 - Insurance - Vehicle	\$1,776.00	\$2,700.00
444300 - Insurance - Workman's Comp	\$2,430.00	\$2,000.00
444500 - Equipment	\$2,500.00	\$2,500.00
445000 - Electricity	\$2,000.00	\$2,000.00
445500 - Telephone/Internet	\$5,000.00	\$3,500.00
446000 - Water	\$175.00	\$175.00
446200 - Trash & Sewer	\$650.00	\$650.00
441000 - Security System	\$450.00	\$0.00
<b>Total Operations</b>	<b>\$25,341.00</b>	<b>\$22,725.00</b>

**Personnel**

431000 - Exective Director <i>salary</i>	\$88,858.15	\$85,000.00
431100 - Exective Director <i>housing</i>	\$39,629.68	\$15,000.00
431200 - Exec Dir Hsing paid from design annuity	-\$18,200.00	-\$15,000.00
431200 - Associate Director	\$76,620.44	\$65,000.00
431300 - Associate Director Housing	\$12,000.00	\$15,000.00
431800 - Administrative Assistant	\$32,292.00	\$33,906.60
432000 - Financial Secretary	\$3,818.08	\$4,008.99
433200 - Annuity - Exec Director	\$8,858.11	\$8,500.00
433400 - Annuity - Assoc Director	\$7,734.04	\$6,500.00
434200 - Payroll Tax Expense	\$4,218.00	\$3,000.00
434400 - Bonuses - Christmas and Longevity	\$1,200.00	\$1,200.00
<b>Total Personnel</b>	<b>\$257,028.50</b>	<b>\$222,115.59</b>
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$534,869.50</b>	<b>\$487,840.59</b>

## Recommendation for Next Director of Missions

The Executive Director Search Committee recommends for your approval and affirmation Gregg Boll as the new Director of Missions for the Blue River-Kansas City Baptist Association.

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**Submitted by the Director of Missions Search Committee:**

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Carson Conover, Life Connection

Scott Flippin, Sycamore Hills

Gary Jones, Testimony (formerly South Kansas City)

Welby Jones, Sterling Acres

Luis Mendoza, Palabra Viva

Alan Shelby, Harvest

Jerry Tharp, Lone Jack First

Larry Thomas, Connection Point

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## MINISTRY REPORTS

### BRKC 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)*

The new prayer guide is here! This one is special because it highlights the voices of believers from various groups as they request prayer for their people. My favorite part is that each believer has a chance to speak to the American church with a lesson that they have learned from their own people, and it's pretty exciting. I'm grateful for your support for this project in raising awareness and soliciting prayer for the nations in KC and beyond.

This summer we celebrated the baptism of two young adults who came through our discipleship program over the past 8 years. Zakayo was baptized at Central Baptist Church (a sister BRKC church), and Ritchi was baptized at Midtown Baptist Temple. Both of their testimonies shared from the stage emphasized how God used the People Teams ministry to reach them and grow their faith, and now they are leaders who are discipling the next generation. Praise God for His faithfulness through your support and prayers.

One highlight from the fall was meeting a man from the Baha'i religion in KC from Congo. Because of the language barrier, three Congolese teens were able to speak to him about the true Gospel. These teens walked away from the conversation very surprised that someone could reject Jesus as God and not believe that Jesus died and rose for our sins. I'm very thankful for this opportunity for their eyes to be opened to the reality of lostness in our own communities among our own people. Pray for Innocent, Patrice, and Diyeme as they wrestle with how to process this experience, and pray for the Baha'i friend to have the blinders removed.

Another highlight is how God has provided many opportunities for Heidi to minister to new contacts this summer. She's reading the Bible with her Italian hairdresser who has good questions about faith, seeing some other ladies from the neighborhood join in some church events, and having great talks with people who live on our block.



Heidi and I took a trip to the Horn of Africa to encourage a local ministry team among a Muslim people group. We are praying about joining them, and we are in the process of applying with the International Mission Board. We are in a season of feeling like we are not pouring out everything we have, but God has been gracious to bring people our way who need His love and His message. Thank you for your prayers.

**Student Ministry Report**

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



**I have good news to share, BRKC!**

By God’s grace:

- In August, we added 2 new Ministry Apprentices to our staff team: Kaitlynn King (UMKC) and Caleb Fain (Maple Woods).
- We have a gospel ministry presence on 8 Kansas City area campuses this year.
- In the first weeks of the fall semester, our staff and student leaders were able to connect with 185 students, have 133 spiritual conversations, share the gospel 43 times, and led 22 discipleship meetings.



Our Collegiate Impact Staff

We are grateful for the opportunities God has given us thus far to bring the hope and peace of Jesus to college students.

As we press on with the semester, here’s some current ministry needs that you can prayerfully considering partnering with us:

- We need some BRKC women to befriend female college students in our Befriend-a-Student Program - [www.collegiateimpact.org/befriend-a-student-program](http://www.collegiateimpact.org/befriend-a-student-program)
- We’re looking for BRKC churches to join a rotation of providing weekly homecooked dinners for our UMKC and Avila ministries.
- We’re in need of new Bibles for our Avila ministry.

If you are interested in helping with one of the above needs, email me – [travis@collegiateimpact.org](mailto:travis@collegiateimpact.org) .

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

Because of the gospel,



*Travis Hamm*

Travis Hamm  
Executive Director, Collegiate Impact  
[www.collegiateimpact.org](http://www.collegiateimpact.org)



Clay-Platte Baptist Association  
Kansas City Kansas Baptist Association  
Blue River - Kansas City Baptist Association

Blue - Collegiate Impact Ministry on Campus  
Red - No Collegiate Impact Ministry on Campus

## Horn of Africa

*Jim and Nicole Brown*

We are thankful to report that two Ethiopian members of our team in the Horn of Africa have been busy serving the widows in the Northern Tigray region. As you may remember, there was no electricity, internet or banking for quite some time because of the war in the region.

By the grace of God, the banking system has reopened and funds are available so that 70 widows may receive food, water, oil and spices. Every month the team makes a trip to 30 of the widow's homes. The gospel is being presented while building relationships with each one.

Ten of the women are either deaf or blind, so they are helped each month while the remaining are on a rotation. The Lord weaves beautiful ways to help those in need.

We are so thankful to hear of the stories taking place. When the Lord's servants are being obedient, needs are being met, and the lost may come to know him! What more could you ask for?



Please continue to pray for Ethiopia and for Weldit who is still in captivity.

## Vancouver Partnership

*BJ Chursinoff and Jeff Thompson, Gospel City Church*

Here are some of the things that have been happening in the life of Gospel City Church this past year: We still have around 60+ people coming to our Sunday service each week. And God has been deepening a collective passion in us to worship Him more than we ever have! Over half the people that attend on Sundays are involved in our midweek Home Groups where we are continuing our way through the study 'The Bible From 30,000 Feet.' We've baptized 4 people this year... praise God! And we have 22 members who officially call Gospel City Church home. 4 of them are enrolled in our 3rd level of our Pipeline Discipleship course that we use to train our members to fulfill the Great Commission. We've also started our very own Youth Group this year! We had several Youth events over the summer. And now our Youth are meeting on the 2nd and 4th Friday of each month to learn the Bible, and develop meaningful relationships with their peers in the church. God is moving in Gospel City! Thank you for your ongoing financial support and thank you for your prayers! Your partnership in the Gospel is truly appreciated.

*Conrad Au, The Common Place*

In this past year, The Common Place has become a community home for both immigrants and long-time Canadians searching for truth through open dialogue.

God opened doors through our community engagements, including summer soccer camps, partnering with community stakeholders to serve our common neighborhoods, and simple acts of loving our neighbors. Our lifestyles as covocational missionaries (working in the marketplace while leading a church) has continued to break down barriers.

God has brought people from Afghanistan to Abbotsford (our country's closest resemblance of the Bible Belt) to our regular gatherings. We continue to find God sending those who had walked away from church in the past to get reconnected.

In a city where church attendance continues to decrease, and inflation has caused people to work at all hours of the week, around 20 people now call The Common Place their church home as they connect with us through different avenues in a month. In addition, we were also privileged to witness six deci-



sions to follow Jesus this past year, and are actively engaging them to ensure their families hear the Gospel as well.

We also adopted a church planting family newly-endorsed by the North American Mission Board who are reaching a growing Portuguese-speaking community in our region. As a supporting church, The Common Place is partnering with them to encourage them, provide them with resources and connections, and to help Portuguese-speaking people hear the Gospel and experience a community that can resemble Revelation 7:9-10.



Personally, my wife Rachel and I (Conrad) are in the final steps in adopting our 7-year-old son K (his name is shortened for security concerns). He moved in with us in July of 2022 to become a member of our family even as the adoption process remains ongoing. K's former foster parents are close friends of Rachel's parents, and Rachel and her family have known and provided respite care for K since his birth. When we were still dating and I met K, God stirred in our hearts separately about potentially providing a forever home for K.

We ask our long-time BRKC partners and family for the following:

- Pray with us as we continue to navigate this post/pre-Christian era in Vancouver, how best to share the Gospel with a growing community who wants nothing more than to distance themselves from it.
- Pray Luke 10:2 for workers for the harvest, challenging us to call workers from within.
- Pray for supplication as our team battles inflation (for example, the Au family mortgage payments have almost doubled since January 2022), while praying in thanksgiving for all the ways that God has provided thus far.
- Here's how your church partner with us:
  - Let me (Conrad) know you would like to join The Common Place's prayer network on Facebook
  - Pray how your church can send teams and missionaries to explore serving God in Vancouver
  - Pray how your church can adopt The Common Place as we adopt and support other missionaries in Vancouver.

## RESOURCING CHURCHES AND EQUIPPING LEADERS

*By Gregg Boll, Interim Director of Missions (greggb@kcbaptist.org)*

I begin my report by stating an obvious reality. I think it is wise not to assume that everyone has the same understanding of what an Association is or what an Association should be doing. The Association isn't an entity that stands alone from the churches and has some outside source of resources. You, and your church are the Association. The Association exists because the 120 plus churches of this region voluntarily entered into a partnership with one another and established it several years ago. BR-KC is funded by these churches and is, in its purest form, the collaborative work of several churches. I'm not the face of BR-KC. You are. I am merely a minister, a missionary responsible for facilitating the gospel partnerships within our network of churches. Therefore, I work for you! Consider me as an extra staff person available to you and your church and funded jointly by several churches who unselfishly share me with you.

The second reality that needs to be stated: If you and your church are partnering and networking with other churches for Kingdom expansion then we have an Association. I am grateful and encouraged that many of you are engaged in Kingdom partnerships. Even those churches who don't utilize the services of the Association, but simply support it, can know they are involved in life-transformational ministries.

So, what do I do as that extra person on your church staff? Here are a few ways I have served our churches this year:

- Worked with pastor search committees to find the best pastor for their church
- Helped two churches merge and become one stronger church that is truly able to reach it's community
- Served as a mediator between the pastor and church leadership to resolve conflict and preserving the pastor's ministry at that church
- Lead a declining church through the Resound Revitalization Process to become healthy again
- Met or called several pastors for encouragement and counseling....pastoring pastors
- Mentored younger pastors/elders who are confronting the challenges of a new pastorate
- Celebrated with several churches holding anniversary services
- Advocated for pastors to receive a sabbatical with their elders and/or key leaders
- Served as interim pastor to help churches become healthier before receiving their new pastor
- Held a workshop to help a church develop healthy small groups/discipleship ministry
- Currently working with the MBC and other state leaders to help develop a Discipleship Process and a Developing Leaders Process for our churches
- Worked with BR-KC Credentials Committee to bring new churches into covenant membership in BR-KC
- Currently strategizing with other Metro DOM's for future joint initiatives to reach the City and equip leaders
- Facilitate a pastor's cohort to discuss best practices for church health and ministry effectiveness
- Helped a church and church plant find a facility/church to use
- Presented at the Montana Baptist Convention annual training event
- Preached in several BR-KC churches
- Co-Sponsor a Theological Cohort for pastors with Jason Allen/Life Connection
- Co-Sponsor a Pastor's Collective Luncheon with Chris Williams/Fellowship Greenwood

And, of course, Amy Cox, our Administrative Assistant, is integral to all of these ministries. It is our honor and privilege to serve you and your church. Please, never hesitate to reach out if we can serve you in any way!

### WMU

*By Linda Graham, Associational WMU Director (lgrahamwmu@aol.com)*

MO WMU is celebrating 100 years of existence! The state wide event was held in April at First Popular Bluff Baptist Church. We had a celebration here locally at Belvidere Heights Baptist Church on Sept 9th from 2 to 4PM. We had a table full of history items and two quilts on display. We reminisced about what it was like back then and did the prayer calendar to pray for missionaries. We feasted on appetizers, cake and punch. The ladies of WMU at Belvidere Heights did a wonderful job hosting this event by doing everything in the kitchen; preparing appetizers and then serving them. The pastor and several youth helped us by directing and opening doors.



## ASSISTING COMMUNITY TRANSFORMATION

### [REHOPE \(formerly known as Restoration House of Greater Kansas City\)](#)

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

#### A STORY OF REHOPE

"I never would have moved past what happened to me if it weren't for REHOPE. On the way to REHOPE Farms I saw a billboard that said 'Freedom Road.' At REHOPE Farms, God helped me overcome illness, addiction, and the terrible, crushing experiences of having been trafficked. I'm studying now to become a Peer Support Specialist and love helping other women who come through the program."

-REHOPE Graduate



REHOPE Farms

Dear REHOPE partners,  
**Thank You!**

We are so grateful for your investment in REHOPE! Your gifts have resulted in changed lives for former victims of human trafficking. Your gifts serve women and children. Your gifts helped this REHOPE graduate (story at left)!

#### Tiny Cottage Village News

We have exciting news about our tiny cottage village. This village will soon be a reality, enabling REHOPE to support many more women and children. The utility systems designs are finished. Subcontractors are lined up to begin excavation and erosion-control. Work will follow to deliver water, electricity, and roads to the tiny cottages. Government reviews are almost complete, including a conservation department analysis that ensures no native bat species will be disturbed by our project!



We are also thrilled to announce that we have successfully raised most of the capital funds needed for all TEN cottages. Thanks to your generous donations, women will soon move into these cottages to continue their healing journey.

We are now looking toward the next phase of our expansion project. We have had a church commit to raise the funds necessary to build the barn and another significant grant which will allow us to start planning the Community Center! Glory and thanks be to God!

#### Changed Lives

We are grateful to the Lord for changed lives. We have eight women who will be baptized on October 22<sup>nd</sup>. We also have four current and former participants who are now part of the staff at REHOPE. One has progressed to a Case Manager position and the other three have just received their Peer Support Specialist certifications. All are experiencing amazing growth and making significant impacts on the program and the other participants. Our houses remain full, and the women are doing well living in community.

#### Online Store

With the closing of Rehope Market & Café in Greenwood, we are now turning our attention to an online store where we will be able to sell branded merchandise as well as our survivor-made products. All proceeds help fund our programs and services. Follow us on social media to stay informed on this progress!

#### Current Needs

We have focused much of our fundraising efforts recently on the Sky's the Limit capital campaign which allows for expansion of our programs and services. Now we are focusing back on raising funds to support ongoing operating expenses. These funds provide for life-changing programs and services which constitute the core of what we do. If you are interested in making a gift, please visit [rehope.org](http://rehope.org). We also ask you to keep our women, children and staff in your prayers. We see God working in the lives of these survivors but also know that the enemy never stops prowling and looking for ways to destroy the progress the participants are making. Pray often and diligently for God's hedge of protection to be around hearts and minds.

We are grateful for your partnership!

## **Disaster Relief**

*By Chris Houghtaling*

The following are callouts that our Blue River Kansas City Disaster Relief volunteers have participated in since the last Semi-Annual Meeting.

**Turkey/Syria Earthquake** - Our last report left off with news that Missouri Baptist Disaster Relief worked with a partner in Turkey to bring Help, Hope, and Healing through the distribution of water filters and by building water purification systems for large scale use after the massive earthquake brought unimaginable devastation to the region.

In May and June, MoDR gathered two teams of volunteers to take part in helping build 80 semi-permanent housing units. This provided much needed relief to families from sheltering in hot tents and sleeping on pallets. It is a next step towards stabilization.

**Guam** – In partnership with Hawaii Pacific Baptist Disaster Relief and FEMA with Admin support from Send Relief, there is currently an effort underway to bring Help, Hope, and Healing to Guam by making repairs to homes effected by typhoon Mawar.

These are necessary repairs to enable survivors most impacted to return to their homes in a safe and secure environment with adequate shelter.

**Hayti, Mo** – Volunteers helped with the rebuilding of three homes that were destroyed by a tornado.

**BRKC College Ministry** – Team members helped provide manpower for a fundraising dinner on 4/18.

**BRKC College Ministry UMKC house** - Benjamin Kirtley and his wife are serving with the BRKC College ministry. They purchased a home to not only live in but also to provide a meeting place for various ministry purposes. Team members have periodically assisted with the labor of love necessary for much needed repairs and rejuvenation.

**Oklahoma Tornadoes** - There were at least 12 tornadoes within the same event according to the research of a BRKC DR Chaplain volunteer who joined with others to form a recovery team.

**Bethany, Mo. wind event** – A wind event brought down countless trees throughout the town and surrounding communities. Many were very large. Several limbs were left dangerously hanging high up in the air. These are called widow makers for a reason.

During the end of June into the first part of July several of our volunteers spent many days cleaning up the tree damage. We were joined by a few teams outside our area. A substantial amount of work was done by the BRKC Association DR and Clay-Platte Association DR volunteers.

The town was extremely appreciative and amazed at how God's people came together to bring Help, Hope, and Healing in a way they were not able to do on their own.

**Local opportunities** - End of July into August cleanup was done from a wind event that occurred in our area. Our group joined together to help a few homeowners we became aware of through word of mouth who found themselves in a situation bigger than what they could handle.

**Pennsylvania flood recovery** – One of our volunteers joined a recovery team mid-August.

**Golden City, Mo. wind event** – A one-day response in Mid-August.

**Missouri Baptist Home for Veterans Smithville, Mo.** – We previously helped with demo work needed to prepare



this purchased building for remodeling so that it can be used for Veterans.

That remodel has since been completed. A team recently went back to help move beds from storage back into the newly renovated rooms.

### **Missouri Baptist Home**

**Independence, Mo.** – There is tree removal and trimming work on the schedule to be completed by our volunteers that should be completed by the time of our meeting unless we get cancelled by rain.



### **2023 Trainings Remaining:**

The next and last training for 2023 will be held Oct. 6<sup>th</sup>-7<sup>th</sup> at First Baptist Church in Houston, Mo. For registration and more information go to <https://modr.org/dr-training/>.

### **Disaster Relief Appreciation Day**

This event is held in May each year to raise awareness of what we do. Now is a good time to be thinking about adding a note to your calendar to highlight this ministry next May.

Volunteers may be available to come and speak or to man a table to share with others about how to become involved with our BRKC Missouri Baptist Disaster Relief team.

The above is only a list. It does not describe the faces and stories behind the list. It does not describe the impact not only regarding physical needs, but also spiritual needs; the temporary and the eternal. God's kingdom has been expanded by at least 24 since our last meeting.

Behind every bolded bullet point, there are faces, names, stories, struggles, tears, smiles. There are real people who are desperate to hear someone say I see you; God sees you. We are here for you because He sent us. This is why we exist, to bring Help, Hope, and Healing.

## **CHURCH PLANTING**

### **Multiethnic CPC—Luis Mendoza**

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

#### **Ministering to International Pastors and Leaders**

One of the main purposes of Multicultural Ministry is to minister to the pastors and leaders of the international churches located in the Kansas City area. During this year we have continued to develop relationships with them, exploring specific ways in which we can help or equip them to fulfill their ministry. We have invested time in their lives with the purpose of supporting them emotionally and spiritually. As part of this effort, we've had monthly meetings with some of them and every other month with those who cannot attend on a monthly basis.

We have blessed them by having times of fellowship, sharing meals together, praying for each other and supporting each other in the ministry. These meetings have also strengthened relationships between pastors and leaders, opened new ways to better minister to international populations and create constructive collaboration in order to achieve some of our goals, mainly in the area of evangelism. Also, this year we had the opportunity to offer a training and relaxation retreat for pastors, leaders, and their wives. During this time of retreat, we again presented to all the attendees - detailing the great need to start new churches, not only in Kansas City, but throughout the state of Missouri.

### **Ministering to people new to the United States and specifically to Kansas City**

For a variety of reasons, the overall U.S. immigrant population has grown at an abnormal rate in the last two years, and Kansas City is no exception. Although we don't know the specific number of immigrants who've arrived in the Kansas City area, the new flow of people that we see reflected in our congregations affirm that the increase is significant. Being able to minister to them in the best way is certainly a challenge, but at the same time, a wonderful opportunity.



As a part of achieving the aforementioned goal this year, we had the opportunity to offer training for churches on how to best minister to new immigrants. The assistance immigrants need primarily, among many other needs, is information about how things work in the United States, how to start some processes or applications with the immigration offices, how to get a place to live, find employment opportunities, how to enroll their children in schools, learn English, and lastly, and most importantly, how to be guided in their establishment of a personal relationship of salvation with Christ.

### **Something New**

Based on the need to see new churches planted in the Kansas City area, and potentially in other cities in the state of Missouri, we have developed a plan to train and develop leaders. Once we discover people with certain ministry potential, we begin the process of helping them better develop their skills. Although this is a new project, we have already found several people who are part of this group and who are willing to not only learn, but also practice what they've learned in specific places. We're confident that in the next year we'll recruit more people who have a calling to serve in the ministry and that we'll be able to offer them the basic training to develop new ministries in Kansas City and beyond.

Something we're also trying to achieve in 2024 is a person dedicated to helping develop people that God has called to the music ministry, specifically in the realm of leading worship services at the new church planting sites. We've already entered into conversations with a potential candidate and, in the coming months, will continue taking the necessary steps to make our goal a reality. We fully understand that in order to achieve this objective we will need the assistance of several churches willing to support this vision. If you would like to know more about how you could help us achieve this goal, please feel free to contact us.



As always, all this is possible thanks to the unconditional support of the churches that are part of our Association. Thank you very much to each and every one of you for helping this ministry in a practical and tangible way.

*Thank  
you*

For your continued support of the Blue  
River-Kansas City Baptist Association!

We truly are better together!



