



# Associational News

May/June 2009

## Associational Children's Camp June 28 – July 2

Counselors are still needed for the camp (adults and mature teens). Male counselors especially whether your 17 or retired. Volunteer your help!

Still time to register. Find registration details on the website [here](#). Final Deadline May 15!!!!

A few items are still needed for the camp. If you or your church would like to help furnish these items call the associational office. (see inside for items still needed)



### Affiliated Churches

Ashley  
Ava Missionary  
Bara  
Beaucoup  
Beaucoup First  
Chester First  
Clarmin  
Concord  
Coulterville First  
Cutler First  
DeSoto First  
Dowell First  
DuQuoin First  
DuQuoin Second  
Elkville First  
Ellis Grove  
Elm Street  
Fairview  
Harrison  
Korean Vision  
Lakeland  
Matthews  
Murdale  
Nashville First  
Nine Mile  
Oak Grove  
Okawville First  
Paradise  
Pinckneyville First  
Rock Hill  
Roe's Dale  
Sand Ridge  
Sparta First  
Steeleville  
Sunfield  
Tamaroa First  
Tilden First  
Unity  
University  
Walnut Street  
Willisville  
Winkle



In Sub-Saharan Africa the HIV/AIDS crisis is affecting large segments of the population. In 2007 over 1.6 million adults and children died because of AIDS. Currently, there are over 22.5 million adults and children who are living with the HIV virus in Sub-Saharan Africa. Because of the lack of health care, the limited access to anti-retroviral drugs and the continued increase in the spread of HIV, thousands of individuals die a very painful and horrible death each year. In addition to the HIV/AIDS crisis thousands in Sub-Saharan Africa die each year from sicknesses like cancer, tuberculosis, malaria and other life ending diseases – often the only care they will receive is at home.

The BGR In-Home Care Kit is a compilation of medical and hygiene supplies that Baptist Global Response is asking churches, groups, or individuals to provide to assist caregivers who are taking care of home-bound, terminally ill patients. Items in this kit will make the caregivers' tasks much easier, but more importantly will ease the suffering of the ones affected by the illness. The BGR In-Home Care Kit consists of a 5-gallon, heavy duty bucket with a sealable lid. In Africa a bucket is a very valuable item that can be used to haul and store water, store food away from rodents and insects, and store goods away from inclement weather and environmental challenges. Inside the bucket are items that will assist in keeping patients clean and dry and items to protect their mat or mattress from soiling. Medicated lip balm and lotion are included to help treat the skin problems that AIDS sufferers battle. Other items are included that will make life easier and less painful.

Help relieve  
suffering—  
Lead your  
church to put  
together one or  
more kits.

If you would like more information about putting a kit together, you may call the associational office for details or log on to the associational website for a link to all the details.



## **After the Resurrection, now what?**

There is little doubt that the disciples were distraught over the crucifixion though only one actually witnessed it. The others scattered in spite of how much Jesus tried to prepare them for it. It was after the resurrection that their feet began to move swiftly. News of his possible resurrection was rumored about the city. He did appear to the disciples and it was over a forty day period. However, the day came when they gathered for his ascension. There must have been many mixed emotions on that day as they stood there gazing into space. After two men jolted them with a question and some reassurance, they headed back to Jerusalem and gathered in the upper room. But what would they do? Three years living, eating, sleeping, and walking with Jesus, hearing about his cruel death, then witnessing a climatic resurrection from the dead; after all that, what would they do? What action would they possibly engage in? Luke the historian gives the answer. The first thing they did after regrouping in that upper-room was to devote themselves to prayer. But it wasn't just a light hearted before-the-offering-type prayer, it was persistent prayer, an unremitting devotion to prayer. Surely there is a major lesson that the church today can learn from these apostles upon whom the church is built. The one thing that emerged as the highest priority immediately after the resurrection was prayer. The text is even clear that it wasn't just one or two that sought to engage themselves in prayer but they were all in one accord. In other words, there was agreement among them. We might ask, 'did this persistence in prayer continue?' As Luke continues narrating the story to Theophilus, his first description of the church reveals four activities to which they were devoted and guess what, prayer was one of them (Acts 2:42). Now someone might ask again, okay, that wasn't too long after the upper room experience, but what about much later? Did the church still continue with a high priority in prayer? Let's fast forward about thirty years to one of Paul's writings. In 1 Tim 2:1 while

writing to Timothy (and the church) in Ephesus, Paul exhorts the church to engage in prayer on behalf of all men. The evidence is conclusive that after the resurrection, the 'now what' was 'prayer.'

E.M. Bounds says, "What the church needs today is not more machinery or better, not new organizations or more and novel methods, but men and women whom the Holy Ghost can use—people of prayer, people mighty in prayer. The Holy Ghost does not flow through methods, but through people. He does not come on machinery, but on people. He does not anoint plans, but people—people of prayer."

While surveying the pastors in this association face to face recently (some yet to be done), two questions have been concerning prayer. The spiritual discipline that most pastors feel the greatest need in is prayer. Well if that's true for the shepherd then it might also be true for the sheep and sure enough that is the one meeting that has almost vanished from our churches. Only a handful of churches actually have a prayer meeting of some kind. How could we restore corporate prayer to its proper priority in the church? Besides scheduling a prayer group we could restore it in our worship when we meet corporately. We could eliminate all the zipper prayers by which we open the service and close the service and bless the offering and on and on it goes. Zipper prayers are the kind we zip a meeting open with or zip it closed. It is very programmatic and predictable because it's what we do at a particular time in our 'service.' What if we began to pray for our city, our community, our missionaries, our government and do it specifically with intention in each and every meeting of the church. John Wesley said, "God does nothing but in answer to prayer." Maybe that's why the apostles and women went to prayer after the resurrection; they knew that God would do nothing but in answer to prayer. Let's restore the priority of prayer for our nation and for ALL the NATIONS.

Praying that prayer would be a priority,

*John*



2009 Celebrate Life Festival

### Saturday, June 13

10 am - 4 pm

Where— Mt. Vernon Airport, Rt. 15, Mt. Vernon, Illinois,

help Celebrate Life & Community—a Community Expo & Fundraiser with Free Admission & Parking

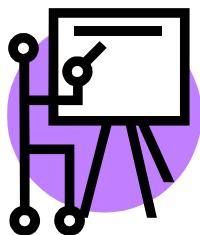
- Food & Drinks
- Activities for All Ages
- Community Service Info
- Arts & Crafts & • Music & Fun
- Live Auction of Homemade Quilts & More
- Prize Drawings & • Celebrate Angels Model sponsored by supporters of Angels' Cove of Baptist Children's Home & Family Services

#### Children's Camp items needed:

1) rolls of plastic, 2) duct tape, 3) permanent markers, 4) aluminum foil, and 5) clothes line

#### Interested in ESL training?

ESL training will be offered in July (date to be announced) The class will take two weekends with a total of 15 hours. A work book is required, available from LifeWay \$20-25, five participants are needed to form a class. If interested in teaching English to International students, phone Sherry Gravot 318-1233. or email [sherry63@shawneelink.net](mailto:sherry63@shawneelink.net)



#### Materials Available

If your church could use some metal folding chairs, 8 foot folding tables, Christian and USA flags and stands, 8' step ladder, or a metal 4 drawer filing cabinet, then contact the associational office. The items are being offered free if needed by one of the associational churches.



#### Thoughts and Prayers

*Our sympathy is extended to Pastor Mark Lee of Beaucoup Baptist in the loss of his father, John Lee. Mark's father served as a pastor for many years. May the grace of our Lord Jesus sustain the family in the days ahead.*



#### News from around the association.....

**Calling ALL MEN—Mark the date!!** On Saturday, September 12, men young and old are being asked to come together to help put a new roof on Dowell Baptist Church building. Please mark your calendar and plan to be there as men come together from many churches to assist one of our own in need.



#### Churches without Pastors

As of the printing of this newsletter, the following churches are without pastors. Please pray for these churches as they seek a new pastor.

- University Baptist -Carbondale
- Concord Baptist—Pinckneyville
- Nine Mile Baptist—Tamaroa
- First Baptist—Tilden

Harrison—Murphysboro



#### Church Closure

Cross Baptist Church officially closed its doors. The church was started in 1906 and constituted in 1910. We thank God for the over 100 years of witness and ministry through the membership of Cross Baptist Church. To Him be the Glory!!



#### **Southern Illinois Hispanic Outreach Project by Robert Evaul**

I have been the catalytic missionary to the Hispanics of Southern Illinois for SIHOP for a little over five years. This project was started a little over six years ago when the DOM's of three local associations in Southern Illinois saw the need for outreach to the many Hispanics in this area. The three associations are Kaskaskia, Salem South and Nine Mile and last year Clear Creek Association joined SIHOP. They presented their project to IBSA and they have also partnered with the project. This last month I had an experience that showed me just how awesome our God is and how much in tune with God's will this project has been. April the 12th was Easter and it was decided a while back to have a combined Easter Sunrise Service for the Baptist Hispanic churches of Southern Illinois. As most of you know, there is a church in Fairmont City, Agape church

pastored by Calixto Ulloa, and then there are three other churches planted through SIHOP. These are El Calvario in Effingham pastored by Tony Muñoz, the Hispanic church in Carbondale now pastored by Roberto Cruz, and the newest plant in Centralia. It was decided that these four churches would worship together at 6:30 AM in Centralia for the Sunrise Service. It was a surprise and yet a great joy to see around 80 Hispanics at this Sunrise service! Five years ago there was nothing like this in Southern Illinois. I marvel at how the Lord has really opened the door to be able to minister to the Hispanics here and am so thankful for the vision of the DOM's, our IBSA and the English speaking churches who have worked together to see the Gospel preached to the Hispanics of Southern Illinois. We have had a few events throughout the years where all the Hispanic churches meet together for fellowship and worship. Each time we meet together, the group grows. Our next event in which the churches will meet together will be **September 5th**. We will have our annual Amigos de SIHOP Hispanic Christian Music Festival. All churches are invited, both Hispanic and English speaking as well. Set that date on your calendar and plan to be with us for a great time of fellowship, praise and worship.

- 7 National Day of Prayer **MAY**
- 10 Mother's Day
- 25 Memorial Day
- 31 **Day of Prayer and Fasting for World Evangelization**

**June**

- 5-6 Missions Spectacular, TBA
- 14 Father's Day
- 12-13 Illinois Missions University, Lake Sallateeska
- 18 Children's Mission Day Camp, Lake Sallateeska
- 18 Nine Mile Pastors' Luncheon (TBA)
- 19-20 Mother Daughter Camp, Lake Sallateeska
- 22-26 Super Summer, Greenville College, Greenville
- 23-24 SBC Annual Meeting, Louisville, KY

If you would like to be added or dropped from this newsletter list either email or phone with your request.



**Contact Us:**  
  
**Phone**  
Office: (618) 357-5171  
Fax: (618) 357-5171

**Address**  
P.O. Box 256  
Pinckneyville, IL 62274

**Electronic**  
ninemileassociation@yahoo.com  
[www.9mileassociation.org](http://www.9mileassociation.org)

**Pastors/Wives/Staff Birthdays and Anniversaries**

**May Birthdays:**  
8<sup>th</sup> – Carol Evaul  
26<sup>th</sup> – Rev. Gary Pate

**May Anniversaries:**  
14<sup>th</sup> – Rev. Charles & Charlotte Smith  
21<sup>st</sup>—John & Cindy Baker  
26<sup>th</sup> – Rev. Wes & Debbie Henson  
25<sup>th</sup> - Rev. Steve & Donna Bareis  
28<sup>th</sup> – Rev. Terry & Nancy Capps

**June Birthdays:**  
2<sup>nd</sup> – Rev. Charles Allen  
3<sup>rd</sup> – Debbie Henson  
21<sup>st</sup> – Judy Wright

**June Anniversaries:**  
7<sup>th</sup> – Rev. Paul & Donna Hicks  
15<sup>th</sup> – Rev. Bob & Carol Evaul  
21<sup>st</sup> – Rev. Greg & Carolyn Sutter

*Nine Mile Baptist Association*  
*P.O. Box 256*  
*Pinckneyville, IL 62274*

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