



Bartholomew Baptist Association

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Serving Bradley and Drew Counties

December 2014

CALENDAR

Week of Prayer for Lottie Moon	Dec. 7-14
Christmas Holidays (Office closed)	Dec 25-Jan 1
Executive Board Meeting Ladelle Baptist 6:00 pm	Jan 12 2015
Compensation Planning Workshop FBC Monticello	Jan. 14
President's Day (office Closed)	Feb 16
Annie Armstrong Offering	March 1-7
Galatians 6:6 Marriage Retreat for Pastors/Wives Fri. 8 am– 5pm Sat. Branson, Missouri	March 6-7
Inspire Women's Conference Park Hill Baptist Church, North Little Rock 8-3:30pm	March 7
Daylight Savings	March
BBA Executive Meeting	March 9

Our Main Mission... Christ

The Christmas Story

The Birth of Jesus



² In those days a decree went out from Caesar Augustus^[a] that the whole empire should be registered. ² This first registration took place while¹ Quirinius was governing Syria. ³ So everyone went to be registered, each to his own town.

⁴ And Joseph also went up from the town of Nazareth in Galilee, to Judea, to the city of David, which is called Bethlehem, because he was of the house and family line of David, ⁵ to be registered along with Mary, who was engaged to him and was pregnant. ⁶ While they were there, the time came for her to give birth. ⁷ Then she gave birth to her firstborn Son, and she wrapped Him snugly in cloth and laid Him in a feeding trough—because there was no room for them at the lodging place.

⁸ In the same region, shepherds were staying out in the fields and keeping watch at night over their flock. ⁹ Then an angel of the Lord stood before¹ them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. ¹⁰ But the angel said to them, “Don’t be afraid, for look, I proclaim to you good news of great joy that will be for all the people: ¹¹ Today a Savior, who is Messiah the Lord, was born for you in the city of David. ¹² This will be the sign for you: You will find a baby wrapped snugly in cloth and lying in a feeding trough.”¹³ Suddenly there was a multitude of the heavenly host with the angel, praising God and saying:¹⁴ Glory to God in the highest heaven, and peace on earth to people He favored. ¹⁵ When the angels had left them and returned to heaven, the shepherds said to one another, “Let’s go straight to Bethlehem and see what has happened, which the Lord has made known to us.”

¹⁶ They hurried off and found both Mary and Joseph, and the baby who was lying in the feeding trough. ¹⁷ After seeing them, they reported the message they were told about this child, ¹⁸ and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds said to them. ¹⁹ But Mary was treasuring up all these things in her heart and meditating on them. ²⁰ The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had seen and heard, just as they had been told.

NOTES:

- * If you or your church has news, please share it with us. We'll include it in the newsletter and/or on the website!
- * We can put photos of your events on the web, too!

The year is almost over so I wanted to give out an “end of the year” update on our two partnerships.

First, our mission trip to Hungary was again a great success! The six students who went with us did an outstanding job. We made new friends, reconnected with old friends, and helped our missionaries Paul and Tena Brock strengthen their ministry with the Hungarian people. Teaching English has been a wonderful tool the Lord has used through us and others, to reach the Hungarian people with the gospel of Christ. Most of the people we work with do not understand what it is to have a personal relationship with Christ. They see in us, as we try to live out Christ to them, the difference a relationship makes in someone’s life. We are currently working on plans for the next English Camp for the summer of 2015. If you are interested in learning more about this wonderful mission opportunity, please contact me and I will be glad to answer your questions. Hungary is an open mission field for us right now and we will make a Kingdom difference among the Hungarian people as long as the Lord provides us the opportunity.

Our partnership in Kansas has continued to develop and strengthen the ministry impact of Indian Ave. Baptist Church to the campus of Haskell Indian Nations University and to the city of Lawrence. Groups from BBA went up during spring break, during the summer, and finally Fran and I were back in November to bring our ministry work at Haskell to an end for 2014. The Lord has answered many prayers with our work in Kansas, but one of the greatest was the Lord providing a “person of peace” as the new president at Haskell. She is a graduate of Haskell, has worked on the campus for many years, and is very familiar with our work and with our missionary John Gaskin. She has encouraged John to be more visible on the campus and encouraged Fran and I at our last service ministry in November. There are beginning signs of more opportunities for the expansion of our work among the Native Americans. The mission opportunity is wide open for your church’s participation. Let me know how I can help your church make a Kingdom difference in Lawrence, Kansas, with Haskell, with Indian Ave., and with the Native American population, one of the least impacted people groups in American.

Now, for the report on our latest trip to Croatia. Bob Black, Fran and I spent 5 days exploring the possibility of expanding our European work into Croatia. For a bit of clarification, Croatia is a boarder neighbor with Hungary and is less than an hour drive from the Hungarian city we have worked in for the past 6 years. So, let me paint the picture for you. We had the opportunity to meet and work with our IMB missionary Eric Maroney and his family who are serving in Zagreh, the capital city of Croatia. Through this connection we met two native pastors, another pastor, a man from Cal. who has been working in Croatia as a church planter for over 10 years, and a new IMB missionary (from Hot Springs, Ark) who has begun a house church outside of Zagreh. All of these were very encouraging meetings but the main purpose of this vision trip was to explore the possibility of developing a partnership with these two native Croatian churches. Both churches have been established for over 50 years and are looking to develop a church to church relationship with a church or churches from the U.S. The possibility for one or more of our churches to establish a mission connection with a Croatian church is very high. I am hoping to see this possible partnership become a reality. Along with this new partnership possibility, I am working on plans to have a connection with Croatia this summer. Both missionaries, Eric and Paul, have looked at this joint relationship between us, Hungary, and Croatia with great excitement.. The plans I am working on now would have us spending part of a week doing an English type camp at one of the Croatian churches to be tied to the time we spend in Hungary during the next English Camp. This will require more time but the advantages with the Croatian connection is that we would be working with an established church and her pastor and leadership and will be housed in the homes of the church membership. This is a huge advantage for our mission work in Europe. These plans will not get firmed up until January 2015 but I wanted to let you know how we, as an association, can expand our mission reach into Croatia, and how it could be possible for some of our churches to establish a working partnership with an active church in Croatia. To say I am excited is really an understatement! This opportunity the Lord has provided for us opens up several doors for BBA to continue to make a Kingdom impact in Central Europe. Let me know if you have questions and your think your church would be interested in establishing a partnership in Croatia.

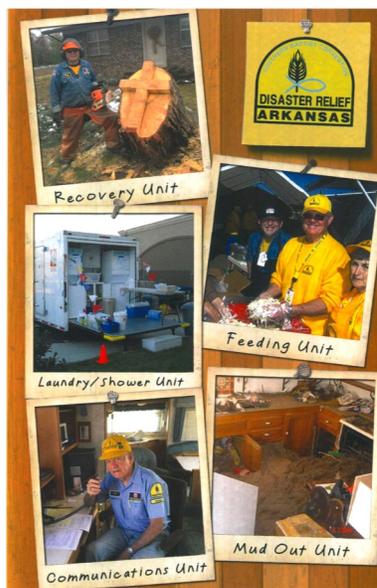
Well, 2014 is almost over, the 2015 year looks to provide BBA with many opportunities for us to be “on mission” for the Kingdom of God. As Kingdom churches and people, we must take the gospel to our close neighbors, or near neighbors, our neighbors in other states and our neighbors around the world. To be faithful to the Great Commission Mandate, we must be “on mission” in every field at the same time! We will never finish the work in one field so we cannot work them one at a time. Go! And as you go! Was what Jesus called us to do. I pray we will be faithful to go and be Kingdom focused in our efforts.

God bless you all and your work for Christ; pray for one another and determine to do more for Christ in 2015! Blessings...Merry Christmas & Happy New Year.

Your Missionary, *David O. Mitchell*

DISASTER RELIEF

ABSC will be hosting regional training for Disaster Relief volunteers both old members and new members this coming 2015 year across the state. The BBA training will be in May 2015 at Calvary Baptist Church Monticello. If you or anyone you know are interested in joining our group or would like more information you can look online at the bartholomewbaptist.org website under disaster relief, contact Michelle Hendrix at ABSC 1-800-838-2272, or call the BBA office at 226-7533. And if you are just looking to donate to the state or local disaster relief funds, you can find a link and information on the Bartholomew website under disaster relief. So whether no matter what you do (join or donate) please continue to pray for this ministry as we serve God.



BROTHERHOOD



CHILI COOK OFF

and fellowship.

Saturday January 17th at Immanuel Baptist Church Warren, 6:00 pm. Come see if you can get the bragging rights for your church for a whole year by winning the Brotherhood chili cook off.

STATE CONFERENCE ON

EVANGELISM & CHURCH GROWTH

JANUARY 26 & 27 • 2015

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH SHERWOOD

The 2015 State Conference on Evangelism and Church Growth will be held at First Baptist Church in Sherwood, Jan. 26-27. The two-day event will start at 1 p.m., Monday, Jan. 26 and continue until 1:30 p.m., Tuesday, Jan. 27. As in past years, a Prayer Leaders' Workshop will be held

immediately prior to the start of the conference from 9:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. The workshop will feature Alvin Reid, professor of evangelism and student ministry at Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary, Wake Forest, N.

-ABSC

Pulpit Supply List 2014

Victor Chapman	412-4582 490-8516
Dennis Dodson	367-5855
Wally Ferguson	226-3282 723-0447 367-9434
Ron Graham	367-4246
Dennis Green	379-1795
Gary Goggin	367-3006 224-2360
Ricky Groves	820-5490
Monta Kellebrew	265-0736
Jim Newman	460-0307 723-8211
Dave Patterson	367-9478
Leonard Russell	609-9481 367-3726
Billy George West	718-3738 367-5463
David Williams	226-5972
Kenny Worthington	723-1599 367-6769

* Currently serving as interim

** Unless noted, all numbers are in the 870 area code.

*** If you have someone at your church surrender to preach and they would like to be on our list, call the office with their information and we will be happy to add them!

Pastorless Churches

Antioch
Eagle Lake
Southside
Wilmar

Bartholomew Baptist Association

212 W. Central
P.O. Box 983
Warren, AR 71671

Phone: 870-226-7533
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We're On the Web!
www.Bartholomewbaptist.org

On Mission at Home and Around the World



2014 Christmas Programs

FBC Warren will have their Christmas program Sat. Dec. 20th at 7:00 pm with a fellowship to follow. And again a program Sunday Dec. 21st at 6:00 pm.

* These are not all the programs going on in the BBA some of them have already occurred.



FBC Monticello will be having Christmas Eve Service Dec. 24th at 6:00 pm.

Immanuel Baptist Monticello Christmas program has been put on hold due to extenuating circumstances, and is on a "to be determined" status.



As we head toward the closing of another year and enter into a wonderful new year let's get **FIRED UP** for local, state, and world missions and continue to pray passionately for revival across our cities, states, countries and our world. Because "For **NOTHING** will be impossible with God" Luke 1: 37



Raelynn Pierce

May 22, 1955-
December 1, 2014

Please be in pray
for Bro Zan
and his

family as well as
Immanuel Baptist Church
Monticello.

