

# The E-Update of the Midwest Baptist Conference

A publication of the Midwest Baptist Conference, 20 E. McKinley Way, Poland, OH 44514

Summer, 2006

## Love Lift for Ukraine Update

Greetings from the Midwest Baptist Conference, where there is a sense of excitement during the not-so-lazy days of summer as we work to finalize plans for our missions trips to Ukraine for the Summer months of 2006!

A total of seventy-two people from the Midwest Baptist Conference, comprised of seven teams from MBC Churches, will be traveling to various parts of Ukraine at different times between July 19 and August 22. Day camps, youth camps, youth evening events, visitation to orphanages and women's institutions, street meetings, door-to-door witnessing, a sports camp, a mountain camp in the Carpathian Mountains and a 24/7 residential camp will be conducted by our missions teams. Churches sending teams include: Lakewood Baptist, Mentor Baptist, First Baptist Church of Greenhills, Fite Memorial, First Baptist Church of New Castle, Berean Baptist, Calvary Baptist (Avon Lake, OH), and First Baptist Church of Glenarden. The vision team will be putting on one-day programs and the Mercy Ministries team will visit orphanages and women's institutions.



FBC Glenarden 2006 Ukraine Team

We are already planning for the spring and summer 2007 missions trips to Ukraine. In the spring we will be providing much-needed marriage conferences from March 21 – April 1, 2007. The Vision Team (pastors and key lay leaders) will also go to be involved in ministry and to explore the potential for new sister-church partnerships or to meet with existing partner churches to plan for the summer missions events. The summer dates scheduled at this time for 2007 are: July 18-31, July 25-August 7, July 25-August 6, and July 27-August 6.

## God at Work Through Church Planting

There is much going on in the MBC back home in the USA! Rod Hairston and the launch team for **Messiah Community Church**, to be planted in Owings Mills, MD, had a Vision Night at the local elementary school where they served supper and shared the vision for the new church to a crowd of 150 people. A storm caused a power outage that prevented much of what was planned from being presented. But, as Rod described the evening, God moved in an amazing way to confirm in the hearts of those involved that He is the power behind the success of this ministry!

**Terra Nova Community Church** is currently planning for their launch as well. Jason Allison has been sent by Crossroads Community Church of Mansfield, OH (itself a very successful church plant out of Berean Baptist Church in Mansfield), to plant this church in nearby



Rod & Sheri Hairston with Leah (13), Tyla (8), Jeremy (10) and Maya (11)

Delaware, OH. The launch team has been meeting at a lodge since April 9, and has grown to have forty-five people in attendance. Jason has a passion for the thousands of young families in Delaware who don't know Christ. The launch date for Terra Nova is September 24. Another "granddaughter" church of Berean Baptist will be launched this fall! On October 1, **New Hope Community Church** in Loudonville, OH will be launching a satellite church in nearby Wooster, of which Matt Thompson is the campus pastor.

**Steel City Church**, based in downtown Pittsburgh, PA, will have its launch on September 10, 2006 at 6 p.m. at the Altar Bar—1620 Penn Avenue, Pittsburgh, PA.. Many MBC churches from Ohio and Pennsylvania attended the preview services held by Damian Williams (Church Planter) and the launch team in the spring of this year. Damian has secured an interesting location . . . a church that has been converted into a bar! It's as if God is reclaiming His house through Steel City Church!

The Mideast Baptist Conference will be hosting a **Quickstart** training event for district pastors interested in becoming church planting coaches. It is a 24 hour seminar to be held from October 2-3, 2006. There is also **Coaching Recertification**, instructed by Gary Rohrmayer of the Midwest Baptist Conference, that is scheduled for the morning and afternoon of Thursday, February 22, 2007. The venue for both events is First Baptist Church of Glenarden.

### **Dave Scull Called as Associate Minister of Camping and Student Ministries**



Our new Associate Minister of Camping and Student Ministries is already on the job and making an impact for Christ! Dave Scull, called by the MBC Board of Overseers on June 15, had already been acting as interim Camp Director for Camp Burton. This August, Dave and Jennifer celebrate 20 years of marriage. They have three sons: Tyler- 15, Mick- 13, and Ryan- 12. Dave's vision for Camp is fourfold: Relationships (with District Pastors and churches), Programs (multi-year plan for discipleship of children), Facilities and Staff.

Dave reports that, at this early date in the camping season, at least 15 children have given their lives to the Lord Jesus Christ – with many more recommitments! Another highlight is the S.W.A.T. program which encourages 9<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> graders to mature as they volunteer alongside camp staff throughout the week. Through the first three weeks of July Camp Burton has hosted 208 campers. The goal is to have 400 campers by the end of July. Please be in prayer for Dave and the Camp Burton staff.

### **First Baptist Church of Struthers, OH Closed - Restart Planned**

On May 31, the church members of the First Baptist Church of Struthers praised God as they voted to close the church by the end of June. We praised God because of the willingness of the church membership to dissolve with the purpose of redirecting the assets of the church to the MBC to help plant a new church at the same location that will minister to young people – a ministry desperately needed in a city dominated by churches catering to the elderly. What a tremendous sacrifice by people who have invested so much of their lives over many decades in that place! With oversight from the MBC church planting leadership team, the church planter will form a launch team to plant the church over the next several months.

### **BGC Annual Meeting**

The Baptist General Conference Annual Meeting was held from June 28 – 30, at Bethel University in St. Paul Minnesota. The theme of the conference was the need to die to ourselves so that we can be fruitful for God. Among the events was

### **Seed Money Offering Update**

Funding is desperately needed for these and our other church plants to get off the ground. The goal for our Seed Money Offering this year is \$200,000. As of the end of June we have raised **\$122,402.84**, with many churches still planning holding an offering over the summer and



into the autumn months! Thank you for your contributions and to the many pastors in our district who have given of their time to bring the message/presentation to fellow churches across the district.

As you can see from the churches names above, the effort and generosity of the Mideast Baptist Conference is not in vain! It's not too late to join in and plan a Seed Money Offering held at your church. Contact Dave at the MBC office if you are interested.



John K. Jenkins

the Wednesday night program that highlighted young leaders from across the country and celebrated the achievements of the last three years: 300 new churches started, 155 missionaries, and \$13 million raised through Xtreme Steps.

The Mideast Baptist Conference was well represented by Charles Hill at the Wednesday night meeting, who offered the challenge of taking risks for the Kingdom. On Thursday evening, John K. Jenkins spoke on courage using Hezekiah as an example. The message was a Biblically-based challenge to have courage to change followed by practical ways to make this truth effective. Charles and John gave a great indication of the motivation of the Mideast Baptist Conference through their messages on risk-taking and courage to make changes to spread the Gospel of Jesus more effectively!



Charles Hill

I had the opportunity to share the MBC's ministry with Ukraine via the sister-church partnerships, and Sandi shared information on Mercy Ministries and the video that those in attendance at the MBC Annual Celebration experienced during the Ukraine Luncheon. The BGC website has the details of each day of the conference, as well as information on how to order CD's of all the messages offered.

**Be Praying for Butch Badar and Family**

We will want to keep Butch Badar and his family in prayer. As most of you know, Butch's wife, Ruth, suddenly went to be with the Lord late at night on June 12, 2006. A memorial service was held at Covenant Baptist Church in Columbus, OH on July 9, at 4 p.m. As a body of believers, the Mideast Baptist Conference has



indeed struggled with our friend and fellow pastor as he strives to hear God's voice in the midst of such a significant tragedy. Please continue to support the Badar's in prayer and I encourage you to send financial support to the MBC where we have set up a fund to benefit the Badar family.

As you can see, we are making a difference in our communities as God leads the Mideast Baptist Conference. A more in-depth description of these and other ministries from our district can be found at our web site: [www.bgc-mideast.com](http://www.bgc-mideast.com).

Thank you for all your efforts. Sandi and I remember you often in our prayers and thank God for you as we struggle together to bring as many people to Christ as possible!

In His Service,

Dan Peterson, District Executive Minister