



Out of My Mind...

A Publication of the Church Mobilization Unit of the Midwest Baptist Conference
Gary Schroeder, Editor ~ Linda Penney, Graphic Design ~ Vol. 3-7 July, 2007

FROM THE FIELD... Pastor Mike Mullins from Calvary Baptist, Warren PA writes:

On May 12-13, 2007 Calvary Baptist Church and Heart-to-Heart Ministries hosted a "Western Round-Up: Molded for the Master's Use" weekend. Heart-to-Heart ministries embraces Jesus' attitude for children and adults with disabilities. Our Scripture challenge is taken from Luke 14:21-24

The *Western Round-Up* was designed as an inclusive community event where children and adults of all physical and mental abilities could participate without barriers to restrict them, so that every one would have fun. Each participant received a bandana, sheriff's badge, saddle bag, and a Good News bracelet. Approximately 77 people enjoyed a huge western barbecue followed by a concert with *Chalice*, homemade ice cream and horseshoe cookies.

God brought many blessings during of this wonderful weekend of ministry. One grandmother dropped off her granddaughter to "help" and stayed with us all day. She was very blessed, sharing with us that she suffers from depression and hadn't been out of the house for more than an hour for several months. A young mom and her 3-year old autistic son came, spending most of Saturday with us. She was apprehensive to come because of fear that her child would be rejected due to "yelling" behavior. Both she and her child were welcomed and blessed.

Unknown to any of us, a family of grandparents participated with us all weekend with a heavy burden on their heart. Their first grandchild, yet unborn, may have Trisomy 18, a fatal disability. During the Sunday morning service, an article called *Welcome to Holland* was read. (Look this up on the internet to get the full impact.) These grandparents found encouragement in this reading as they eagerly prepared for a trip to Italy and may be going to Holland instead.

ON THE MEND

Barbara Wheeler
Marianne Hazel
Eisaman Family

SURROUNDED IN LOVE:

The Badar Family

IN THE FOLD:

We welcome Rev. Scottye Holloway, his wife Josie and their children, Schrese, Abigail and Jonathan to the MBC. Scottye is assuming the pastorate of Bethel Baptist, Cleveland Heights and comes to us from Minneapolis / St. Paul, MN. Please pray that God may richly bless their ministry in the years ahead.



Divine Intention by Larry Shallenberger

Memories, Hopes and Conversations
by Mark Lau Branson

Out In
Cyberspace

www.bluefishtv.com
www.ninemarks.com
www.PreachingPlus.com

For Your Consideration...

Coming off a great Annual Leadership Conference, I've picked up on a strategy that has proved valuable for the churches that have employed it. That strategy involves the pastor bringing lay leaders from the church along with him to the conference. These leaders are able to hear, and be inspired by, the same plenary session speaker and then spread out to receive the greatest benefit from the numerous seminars that are offered. This kind of coverage guarantees the widest exposure to information that will be beneficial to the congregation as well as a shared group experience that will serve well during the introduction of new ideas. Once the group gets back home they de-brief the experience and discuss how what was learned can be practically applied in their setting.

To make it attractive for lay leaders to give up a vacation day to attend the conference, the church pays their registration, food and housing costs. This serves not only as an incentive but also as an expression of value and appreciation for the ministry of these volunteers which is most likely well-deserved (and possibly overdue).

As you develop your budget for 2008, why not plan to provide this kind of opportunity for your lay leadership? You'll be glad you did. See you in Cleveland next May!

Selah: "Crisis has a way of sneaking up and biting you on the behind. It exposes either your lack of preparation or the foolishness of your presumption of security."
Dan Allender