



The **2009 Annual Meeting of the Great Rivers Region** will be held October 30 and 31 in Peoria IL. This is a new date and format. The continuing education for ministers will be on Thursday, October 29th



Thursday afternoon and evening (1:00 to 8:30 PM): **Ministers Conference** *Registration for this event is not included in the Annual Meeting.*

Dr. George Bullard will teach from his book **Pursuing the Full Kingdom Potential of Your Congregation**. Registration will include a copy of the book and dinner. Dr. Bullard is a ministry partner and the strategic coordinator with The Columbia Partnership. Dr. Bullard has coached numerous local, regional and national denominational organizations among various Baptist groups. He is widely recognized as an advisor to denominational leaders, a futurist, a strategic planning expert, and writer. This is sure to be a challenging and enlightening event for GRR ministers. You can follow his work at www.thecolumbiapartnership.org



Friday afternoon (**Annual Meeting begins at 2 PM**):

Dr. Molly Marshall will teach on the Kingdom of God. Dr. Marshall is no stranger to the Great Rivers Region, having spoken at many GRR events across the years. She is the President of Central Baptist Theological Seminary (now in Shawnee KS). Dr. Marshall has served as youth minister, campus minister, and pastor. She has been involved in theological education for 25 years, and is leading Central Seminary through a major transition. Her books have included: **No Salvation Outside the Church?**, **What it Means to be Human**, and **Joining the Dance: A Theology of the Spirit**. We look forward to her biblical/theological teaching on the Kingdom of God.



Friday evening (session will begin at 7:30 PM):

Dr. Glenn E. Porter will be our guest preacher on Friday evening and during the concluding worship on Saturday morning. He is presently the Senior Pastor of the Queen Street Baptist Church in Norfolk VA. Dr. Porter earned his Master of Divinity and Doctor of Ministry degrees at the Samuel D. Proctor School of Theology. He has served on the regional staff for American Baptist Churches in New Jersey. Before joining the staff of ABC New Jersey, he served the historic Gillfield Baptist Church in Petersburg VA (one of the oldest African American Baptist churches in America). Dr. Porter wrote of this church in his book **Facing the Rising Sun**. His professional experience is diverse, including pastor, college professor, prison chaplain, and journalism (both print and broadcast). Those who attended the **Fanning the Flame** national pastor's conference got a small appetizer of Dr. Porter's preaching. We are pleased to welcome him for his first visit to the Great Rivers Region.



Ministers and Spouses Luncheon (Friday Noon).

Tickets must be purchased

Dr. Alistair Brown began as the tenth President of Northern Baptist Theological Seminary in September 2008. His previous position was the General Director of the Baptist Missionary Society. Dr. Brown is originally from near Edinburgh. His career began in journalism, but soon he responded to call to ministry. His studies at the University of Edinburgh concluded with a PhD in New Testament. Dr. Brown is leading NBTS through a time of transition with the vision “to prepare leaders with evangelical passion and missionary skills in biblically grounded and culturally relevant ministries.”



GRR Mission and Ministry Banquet (Friday 5:00 PM).

Tickets must be purchased

Speaker to be announced. Duane and Marcia Binkley will not be able to be with us.

Saturday morning workshops will meet from 9:00 AM until 10:30 AM. Each workshop will be 40 minutes long and will be repeated. Session I is 9:00 to 9:40 AM, session II is 9:50 to 10:30 AM. In keeping with our meeting theme, these workshops are about Kingdom ministry with the down, out and forgot about, both near and far. Leaders are from Great Rivers Region churches.

Rev. Dr. Larry Jones -- **Ministry with Those Imprisoned.** Rev. Jones serves as the ABC-endorsed chaplain at the Dixon Correctional Center. This is the largest medium-security facility in Illinois, housing over 2000 persons. It is also unique in its diversity.

Rev. Dr. Reg Mills – Mental Illness: What Can I Do?

Dr. Mills is the Senior Pastor of the Central Baptist Church in Springfield IL.

The National Institute of Mental Health reports that 1 in 4 adults will experience a mental health disorder in a given year.

Mental illness impacts people you know. This workshop will look at the nature of mental illness, how mental illness impacts our families and churches, and what you can do to provide Christ-like help for persons and families dealing with mental illness.

Rex & Becky Cooper -- **Medical Mission in the Dominican Republic.** Rex and Becky Cooper are active lay leaders in the First Baptist Church of Mattoon IL. They are also part of the mission partnership team for Kristi Engel. Kristi is a nurse appointed by International Ministries to the Dominican Republic. Rex & Becky have volunteered in the Dominican Republic.

Rev. Roger Jackson -- Growing a Heart for Neighborhood Ministry.

Rev. Jackson is the Senior Pastor of the Elliott Avenue Baptist Church in Springfield IL. This is a historic neighborhood church in Springfield. That neighborhood and the ministry opportunities have changed!

At 11:00 we will gather for our **closing worship** with Dr. Porter as our preacher.

As usual, there will be great music, exhibits, meal opportunities, and good fellowship. Oh yes, just a little bit of business. Make your plans now!

Tentative Schedule:

Thursday, October 29

1:00 to 8:30 PM – Ministers Conference (registration will include dinner)

Friday, October 30

9:00 AM Regional Ministry Board breakfast and meeting

Noon – Ministers & Spouses Luncheon

2:00 PM – First Session of Annual Meeting (business then teaching)

5:00 to 7:00 PM – GRR Mission and Ministry Banquet

7:30 to 9:00 PM – Second Session of Annual Meeting (worship)

Saturday, October 31

breakfast opportunities

9:00 to 10:30 AM – Workshops (Session I is 9:00 to 9:40 AM; Session II is 9:50 to 10:30 AM)

11:00 to Noon – Third Session of Annual Meeting (concluding worship)



**Join the prayer, purpose, and passion of
Great Rivers Region churches in Peoria
October 30 and 31**



ABC Great Rivers Region Annual Assembly in Peoria, IL October 30-31, 2009

Holiday Inn City Centre * 500 Hamilton Boulevard * Peoria, IL 61602

Hotel Reservation call (800) 474-2501 or (309) 674-2500 – Block Code “AMERICAN BAPTIST” – **October 23, 2009**

EARLY BIRD REGISTRATION DEADLINE: SEPTEMBER 25, 2009

COMPLETE ONE FORM PER ADULT ATTENDING: PHOTOCOPY ADDITIONAL FORMS AS NEEDED

PLEASE INDICATE BY CHECKING THE BOX IF CHILDREN WILL BE ATTENDING (fill out information on the back side)

Name _____ *First Name as desired on name tag:* _____
 Mailing Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____
 Phone _____ Email _____ Church/City _____

ARE YOU A VOTING DELEGATE? IF YES, CHECK BOX AND HAVE CLERK SIGN: _____

STEP 1 – REGISTRATION – PUT AN X IN THE APPROPRIATE BOX THAT APPLIES TO YOU

INDIVIDUAL	FAMILY	CHURCH
ADULT - \$30.00	FAMILY - \$65.00 (2 adults & unlimited children) Complete one form each per family member and mail in together with payment.	CHURCH - \$150.00 (Unlimited adults & children) Available only when pre-registering all attendees together & mailed in one envelope together before September 25, 2009 .
CHILD - \$5.00 (with accompanying adult) (Birth to Age 4 and Elementary K-5 th Grade)	(This individual's form is part of a paid Family Registration) - \$0.00	(This individual's form is part of a paid Church Registration) - \$0.00
DEDUCT (\$10.00) EARLY BIRD (On Adult only, if sent by September 25, 2009)	DEDUCT (\$10.00) EARLY BIRD (Only if sent by Sept ember 25, 2009)	
TOTAL INDIVIDUAL \$ _____	TOTAL FAMILY \$ _____	TOTAL CHURCH \$ _____

STEP 2 – MEAL TICKETS --- PUT AN X IN THE APPROPRIATE BOXES PLEASE SPECIFY DIETARY NEEDS	WORKSHOPS (FREE) (Put an X in the box for your choice) PLEASE CHOOSE ONLY ONE WORKSHOP FOR THE TIME PERIOD
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FRIDAY, OCTOBER 30, 2009	SATURDAY, OCTOBER 31 ST WORKSHOP 9:00 am – 9:40 am
<i>Luncheon:</i> Ministers and Spouses Luncheon, 12:00 pm - \$15.00	A Ministry with Those Imprisoned – Rev. Dr. Larry Jones
<i>Banquet:</i> GRR Mission and Ministry Banquet, 5:00 pm - \$25.00	B Mental Illness: What Can I Do? – Rev. Dr. Reg Mills
SATURDAY, OCTOBER 31, 2009	C Medical Mission in the Dominican Republic – Rex & Becky Cooper
<i>Breakfast:</i> American Baptist Men of GRR, 7:00 am - \$ 8.00	D Growing a Heart for Neighborhood Ministry – Rev. Roger Jackson
<i>Breakfast:</i> GRR Women's Ministries, 7:00 am - \$ 9.00	SATURDAY, OCTOBER 31ST WORKSHOP 9:50 am – 10:30 am
<i>Breakfast:</i> Northern Seminary, 7:00 am - \$ 9.00	A Ministry with Those Imprisoned – Rev. Larry Jones
	B Mental Illness: What Can I Do? – Rev. Dr. Reg Mills
	C Medical Mission in the Dominican Republic – Rex & Becky Cooper
	D Growing a Heart for Neighborhood Ministry – Rev. Roger Jackson

STEP 3 – GRAND TOTAL OF STEPS 1 AND 2

GRAND TOTAL \$ _____

MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO : GRR ANNUAL ASSEMBLY OR CREDIT CARD INFORMATION

Credit Card Type: _____ VISA _____ MasterCard _____ American Express Expires (Month/Year): _____
 Account Number: _____ 3-Digit V-Code (on back of card): _____
 Signature: X _____ Print Name: _____

MAIL REGISTRATION WITH CHECK OR CREDIT CARD INFORMATION TO:
 AMERICAN BAPTIST CHURCHES OF THE GREAT RIVERS REGION
 P.O. BOX 3786 SPRINGFIELD, IL 62708-3786

ANNUAL ASSEMBLY REGISTRAR: Debbie Naugle
PHONE: (217) 726-7366 **FAX:** (888) 922-2477
EMAIL: debbie@abcgrr.org

2009 GRR 42ND ANNUAL ASSEMBLY NURSERY AND CHILD CARE MEDICAL RELEASE FORM

Emergency Contact Information

Parent's/Guardian's Name

Address

City

/_____
ST

/_____
Zip Code

(____)_____
Home Phone

(____)_____
Cell Phone

Names of Children Attending Annual Assembly

Youth's Name

Age

M F
Sex

Allergies/Special Health Considerations

Youth's Name

Age

M F
Sex

Allergies/Special Health Considerations

Youth's Name

Age

M F
Sex

Allergies/Special Health Considerations

Youth's Name

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Sex

Allergies/Special Health Considerations

Youth's Name

Age

M F
Sex

Allergies/Special Health Considerations

Youth's Name

Age

M F
Sex

Allergies/Special Health Considerations

Medical Information

Physician's Name

Phone Number

Insurance Company

Policy Number

The above information is accurate and complete to the best of my knowledge. I will not hold any agents, employees, and/or representatives of the American Baptist Churches of the Great Rivers Region responsible for any errors or omissions that I may have made in the completion of this form.

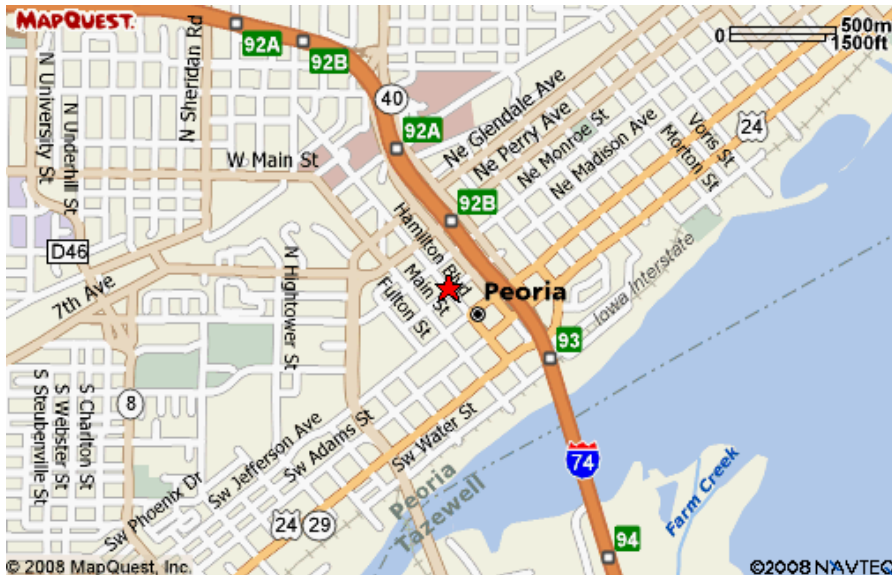
I hereby authorize the designated ABC/GRR Annual Assembly Youth Worker(s) to obtain necessary emergency medical treatment, as they deem necessary for the welfare of my child/children if I cannot be immediately reached at the time an emergency should it occur during the American Baptist Churches of the Great Rivers Region Annual Assembly.

I give permission for my child/children to participate in on-site and/or off-site activities. I release ABC/GRR Annual Assembly and individuals from liability in case of accident during activities related to ABC/GRR Annual Assembly, as long as normal safety procedures have been taken on **OCTOBER 30-31, 2009.**

Parent's/Guardian's Signature

Date

The Annual Assembly of Great Rivers Region churches will be held at the
Holiday Inn City Centre, 500 Hamilton Blvd., Peoria IL
For hotel reservations call (800) 474-2501 or (309) 674-2500 **before October 23**
Make reservations using block code **“AMERICAN BAPTIST”**



From the North (via NE Jefferson Ave S / US-24/ SR-29)

Turn right onto Hamilton Blvd and arrive at 500 Hamilton Blvd, Peoria, IL 61602

From the South (via I-155 N / SR-121 N)

Take ramp left for I-74 West toward Peoria, at **exit 93**, take ramp right for Adams St / US-24 / IL- 29 toward Jefferson Ave / Downtown Peoria / Greater Peoria Regional Airport, Turn right onto US-24 North / NE Adams St, Turn right onto Eaton St, Keep straight onto NE Washington St, Turn right onto US-24 / Hamilton Blvd, Keep straight onto Hamilton Blvd, Arrive at 500 Hamilton Blvd, Peoria, IL 61602

From the West (via I-74 E)

At **exit 93**, take ramp right for Washington St toward Greater Peoria Regional Airport, Turn onto NE Washington St, Turn right onto US-24 / Hamilton Blvd, Keep straight onto Hamilton Blvd, Arrive at 500 Hamilton Blvd, Peoria, IL 61602

From the East (via I-74 W)

At **exit 93**, take ramp right for Adams St / US-24 / IL-29 toward Jefferson Ave / Downtown Peoria / Greater Peoria Regional Airport, Turn right onto US-24 North / NE Adams St, Turn right onto Eaton St, Keep straight onto NE Washington St, Turn right onto US-24 / Hamilton Blvd, Keep straight onto Hamilton Blvd, Arrive at 500 Hamilton Blvd, Peoria, IL 61602