



## AMERICAN BAPTIST CHURCH DEVELOPER'S CALL FOR GREATER STAR MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH

Greater Star is one of the GRR's New Church Plants located in St. Louis Missouri. The congregation's worship attendance has reached an average of 50 people on Sunday Mornings. The neighborhood in which the Congregation ministers is largely populated with low income households headed by single parents who face many challenges in raising children in an urban context. In response to the needs of this community, Greater Star is already engaged in many ministry efforts to empower and enrich the community. In addition to Sunday Worship, Church School and weekly Bible Study, Greater Star also has an active food pantry that serves 35 to 40 families a month, a "Live and Learn" program that addresses the health issues of African Americans and a vibrant youth ministry!

Pastor Robert Mayfield and Assistant Pastor Kevin Anthony, a second year theological student at Eden Seminary, are both dedicated leaders who have been stirred by the number of children who don't have access to affordable after school and weekend programs to nurture young people. *"Two of the greatest needs in this community are affordable daycare and safe spaces for children to learn and play", explains Pastor Mayfield. "We understand the mission of the church is to introduce people to Christ" We want the residents to "get some Jesus in their lives" and we believe that by serving this community we are lifting up the name of Jesus by modeling God's love and care for all people.*



The congregation has claimed a vision to open up a day care center, and for the past three years, the church has been working through the details and regulatory requirements associated with building and program needs. The facilities of Greater Star include more than enough space for the day care and a gymnasium. Most of the work done so far has been accomplished by the congregation with the help of supporters and friends. FBC of Wood River has already been a great support to Greater Star's ministry efforts. The facility changes for the day care will also be used in the evening and during the weekend to support children and youth activities for the entire community. The Day Care center is "almost" a tangible reality yet there are still a few challenges yet to be faced. Building materials and certified electricians are needed to complete some of the wiring that is related to fire and alarm systems and additional equipment and furniture will be needed.

Greater Star has a slogan that affirms that they are a church where **"The Lord is lifted up and the Word of God is taught!"** Let us add a tangible seed of encouragement and a heartfelt "AMEN" for their efforts by giving generously to this call. The gift you give today will make it possible for more people to experience the love of God through the service and witness of this congregation and the American Baptist Churches of THE GREAT RIVERS REGION!



**Send your check in the enclosed envelope today!  
ABC-GRR POB 3786 Springfield, IL 62708**

If you want to support New Church Planting in the Great Rivers Region through the ABCD program please contact the GRR Regional Office for more information.  
217-726-7366 [www.abc-grr.org](http://www.abc-grr.org)