

2009 Katrina Mission
Rebuilding Homes
Reclaiming Hope

The long process of recovery from Hurricane Katrina continues, and in places like the New Orleans neighborhood of Little Woods, much more help is needed.

This spring, Church World Service and its members will host a fourweek ecumenical work project in New Orleans. In partnership with the Crescent Area Recovery Effort, we hope to help 12 more families return home. Join us as we show the world how people of faith, working side-by-side, can make great things happen for our neighbors in need. Volunteer groups will arrive on Sunday, begin work Monday and leave for home on Saturday.

The weeks of the project are:
Sunday, April 19 - Saturday, April 25
Sunday, April 26 - Saturday, May 2
Sunday, May 3 - Saturday, May 9
Sunday, May 10 - Saturday, May 16

Join us in this celebration of hope!



The Mainstream is a twice-monthly publication of the American Baptist Churches of the Great Rivers Region,
3940 Pintail Drive, Springfield IL 62711
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Our Great Rivers Region
Churches Celebrate
New Members!

Olney First Baptist welcomes:
Ruby Davis and Jacob Wendling

Raritan Baptist welcomes:
Jake Marsden, Glen & Julie Barber,
Jerry & Stephanie Hughes, and
Sadie Kugler, Becky & Travis
Peterson

GRR Celebrates
Church Ministries

"Paving our way..." **Pastor Shaker Samuel, First Baptist Church of Murphysboro** (Area IV), describes a new ministry of the church that is gaining the attention of the city government and service clubs of the city. Watch the video to find out about this ministry initiative. Find the video on the GRR web site at <http://www.abcgrr.org/> Click on the "Celebrate Church Ministries" button in the left column then underneath the video frame, click on play.

Mainstream Contact
Information

Send your stories of mission and ministry. Please also send the names of new members (fruit of this mission and ministry) to:

Linda Ricks
232 Devron Circle
East Peoria, IL 61611

E-Mail: Ricks4Lr@comcast.net



The Mainstream

News of Ministry and Mission

American Baptist Churches of the Great Rivers Region

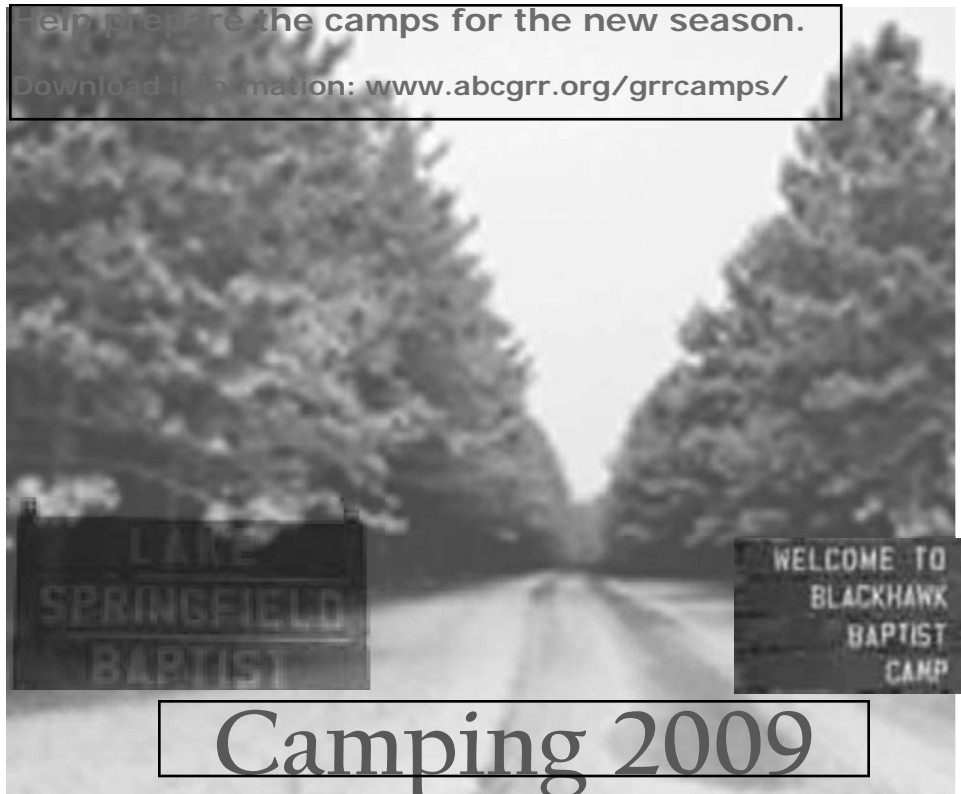
April 2009 No. 1 Email: grrabc@abcgrr.org web: www.abcgrr.org

Breakthrough with Camping



- * Community
- * Leadership
- * Personal Discovery
- * Relationship with Christ

Get registration materials from your church office,
or call Sharon at (217) 726 - 7366
or download: www.abcgrr.org/grrcamps/index.htm



Look inside for GRR Calendar, Mission Conference and more...

GRR Calendar

2009 Theme - Plant the Harvest

April

17 - 18 - Clergy Spouse Retreat
Lake Springfield Camp

24 - 25 - GRR Missions Conference
Cherry Hills Baptist
Church, Springfield, IL

May

2 - Blackhawk Baptist Camp
Cleanup

5 - Boundaries Course - GRR
Resource Center, Springfield, IL

16 & 23 - Lake Springfield Baptist
Camp Cleanup

28 - Church for All Generations
with Edward H. Hammett
FBC Bloomington, IL

June

5 - 7 - GRR Women's Ministries
(formerly ABWM)
Lake Williamson, Carlinville, IL

20 - 50th Anniversary of Blackhawk
Baptist Camp

25 - 29 - Biennial Meeting of ABC-
USA, Pasadena CA



GRR Missions Conference

April 24 - 25, 2009



Friday:

3:00 p.m.: "Mission & Ministry in
Rural and Small Town
Churches" with Susan Gillies

6:30 p.m.: Plenary Session

- Testimonies on Habitat Projects
in the Gulf

- Special Music by 4-Given

- Preaching by Rev. Wilfred
Brown

- Offering for Alajuelita Project
in Costa Rica

Saturday:

7:30 AM Continental breakfast with
GRR Staff



9:00 - 10:55 a.m. - Workshops

11:15 a.m.: Plenary Session

- Special music Karen Musical
Troupe

- Message on Baptists in Burma
with Dr. Angelene Naw

Offering for Break the Chains project

Register: www.abcgrr.org/mission-sConf/index.htm



Clergy Spouse Retreat

with

Ruth
Shipman

April 17-18, 2009

Lake Springfield
Baptist Camp

Theme: **Choose Joy**

For more information about this
retreat, contact:

Judi Mills (217) 585-8292

Download Flyer / Registration:
[http://www.abcgrr.org/
ClergySpouses/index.htm](http://www.abcgrr.org/ClergySpouses/index.htm)



BE RENEWED - BE REFRESHED
BE EMPOWERED
in Christ Jesus

ABW Ministries - GRR
Annual Conference
June 15 - 16 - 17
Lake Williamson

with

Henrietta Brown

More Information:

[http://www.abcgrr.org/abwm/
index.htm](http://www.abcgrr.org/abwm/index.htm) or call:

Marcia Wimmer: 217-877-4128

Being Church for All Generations... A Seminar for Church Leaders and Pastors

Seminar Leader: **Dr. Eddie Hammett**
Senior Coach for Lake Hickory
Learning Communities & Valwood



Christian
Leadership
Coaching, and a
founding partner
of the Columbia
Partnership. He
is the author of
four books deal-

ing with how the church can be pre-
pared for more effective ministry in the
21st century.

Date: Thursday, May 28, 2009

Time: 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Location: First Baptist Church
2502 E College Ave
Bloomington, IL 61704

Cost: \$30.00 - Includes lunch, note-
book, and one copy of Hammett's
book for the Pastor, and 3 lay leaders
(Additional people from a church will
be charged \$5.00 each for lunch)

