

GREAT RIVERS REGIONAL Great Rivers Regional Scholarship Programs

Scholarship programs exist in the Great Rivers Region to assist young people who are members in Great Rivers Region American Baptist Churches to secure a college and/or seminary education. Scholarships for any college student (regardless of major) or seminary student from the Gernenz-Shurtleff/Wilcoxon Scholarship are available. Ministerial students attending ABC-related schools and seminaries in preparation for ministry can also apply for the Harold O. Long Scholarship. All applications must be received in the GRR office by April 1, 2012.

To receive an application for these scholarships, write to: Scholarship Committee, Attention: Debbie Naugle, PO Box 13457, Springfield, IL 62791, phone: 217-726-7366; fax: 888-922-2477, email: debbie@abcgrr.org

New Resource: Scholarship Opportunities Brochure. Find it at www.abcgrr.org/ministries/SchshpBrchr12.pdf

New Post Office Box

The American Baptist Churches of the Great Rivers Region has a new post office box. **The new box number is 13457.** The new mailing address is: **P.O. Box 13457, Springfield, IL 62791**. The physical address of 3940 Pintail Drive, Springfield, IL remains the same.

Great Rivers Region Churches Celebrate Growth

First Baptist Church, Ashland, IL Welcomes: Viola Bradshaw, Frank Reed, Jeff Donnan, Kelly Donnan, Sidney Donnan, Chad Shannon, and Erica Shannon

Iglesia Misionera Shalom, Aurora, IL Welcomes: Efraín David, Neyda David, Gabriel David, Emmanuel Garcia, Juan López, and Maida Granados.

Primera Iglesia Bautista Hispana Elgin, IL Welcomes: Rocío Donoso, Nicolás Donoso, Miguel A. Balandrán, and Cecilia Garcia.

First Baptist Church, Farmington, IL Welcomes: Caleb Haines, Emily Haines, Hunter Henderson, and Kira LeBron

First Baptist Church, Greenville, IL Welcomes: Keith Chambers

First Baptist Church, Kansas City, MO Welcomes: Jill Meister, Gary Edwards, Kim McRorey, and William J. Beat

Mainstream Contact Info

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**

DISCIPLE NOW !!!!

As you go ... make disciples Matthew 28:19

The Mainstream

News of Ministry and Mission

American Baptist Churches of the Great Rivers Region

January 2012 No. 2 Email: grrabc@abcgrr.org web: www.abcgrr.org

2012 GRR Calendar

- February 10-12: **Area I Winter Youth Retreat**
FBC Moline, IL
- February 11: **Area IV Church Ministries Conference**
FBC Mt. Vernon, IL
- March 10: **Area III Discipleship Summit** FBC
Bloomington, IL
- Area V Annual Meeting**
FBC Columbia, MO
- March 11: **Area II Annual Meeting**
FBC Waverly, IL
- March 18: **Area IV Annual Meeting**
Grand Avenue, Carterville, IL
- March 24: **Area I Leadership Summit - Creekwood Baptist Church, Rockford, IL**
- April 13-14: **Clergy Spouse Retreat**
Lake Springfield Baptist Camp
- April 27 -28: **GRR Mission Conference**
Cherry Hills Baptist Church, Springfield, IL
- May 3: **Personality- Based Discipleship with Dr. Jeffrey Johnson**
FBC Decatur, IL

More dates: www.abcgrr.org/upcomingevents/calendar.html

Area 4 GRR presents...

Come Follow Me!

Ways to Discipleship

A Church Ministries Conference

Saturday, February 11, 2012

8:30 a.m. - 1:45 p.m.

First Baptist Church, Mt. Vernon

Keynote Speaker:
Dr. Dwight Stinnett,
Executive Minister
of the Great Rivers
Region



Music Leader: **Rev. Rod Mays**
Pastor of Worship
First Baptist Church
Centralia, IL

Workshops:

"In-side-out Living": Prayer and Scripture in Discipleship
Rev. James Harkness

Making Disciples through Camping
Doug and Jennifer Brady

Making Disciples through Music
Rod Mays

Workshops Continued, next page.

Discipling through Short-Term Mission Work

Rev. Lois Bartley and
Dr. Albert Turl

Developing a Life-Style of Caring

Rev. Francis Bartley and
Rev. Carl Cottingham

Discipleship: Fundamental for Healthy Churches

Dr. Dwight Stinnett

Lunch, Bookstore, Fellowship Time!!

Come and bring a group from your church!!

Registration Fee:\$15.00 - includes lunch and conference materials.

Register by Feb. 4th.

Clergy Spouse Retreat

The Clergy Spouse Retreat will be held on April 13-14 at Lake Springfield Baptist Camp. The retreat will be from Friday evening through mid afternoon Saturday. **Ardys Carpenter** of First Baptist Church, Mattoon, IL will be the retreat leader.



Leadership Summit

The Area 1 Churches of the Great Rivers Region will be meeting together on Saturday, **March 24, 2012** for training on **“Remaining a Relevant Church: Up, In, Out!”** **Dr Sam Hamstra**, pastor and professor at Northern Baptist Seminary, will be leading the sessions. Each session will include a time for discussion related directly to your church. Those participating will be ready to return to their hometown and enter into ministry in their community.

The day begins at 9 a.m. and will conclude at 2:30 p.m. During the lunch break there will be introductions and recognitions of pastors, along with Area 1 business and fellowship.

The annual training event will be hosted by Creekwood Baptist Church in Rockford, IL. Including lunch and snacks, the cost for this event is \$15.00. Further registration information will be forthcoming.

Mark your calendars, invite your leadership team and church members, and learn to be relevant for tomorrow today.

Charter Bus for Immerse 2012 Trip

The National American Baptist Youth Gathering - Immerse 2012 in Washington D.C. July 24 - 28 - can be a life-changing event for youth and those sponsors who go with them.

To help youth and their sponsors, the GRR will be chartering a bus. The 55 seats on the bus will be offered at \$100 / person, first come - first served. Download **Bus Registration Packet:** www.abcgrr.org/youth/Immerse2012/Immerse-waiver-2.pdf

Discipleship Summit 2012

“I Once Was Lost”

Presented by Area III ABCGRR

Summit Leader:

Don Everts

Minister of Outreach,
Bonhomme Pres-
byterian Church,
Chesterfield MO
Co-author of:



***I Once Was Lost:
What Post Modern
Skeptics Taught Us about Their
Path to Jesus***

Date: **Saturday, March 10, 2012**

Time: **9:00 am to 4:00 pm**

Location: **First Baptist Church,
Bloomington IL**

Cost: **\$25/person - \$20/ if received before February 11** - (payable to Area 3 includes materials, food, fun)

To prepare for the Summit, Don Everts suggests a prayerful study and reflection on the “seed parables” found in Mark 4.

Area V Meeting: Saturday 3/10

Area II Meeting: Sunday, 3/11

Area IV Meeting: Saturday 3/18

Church News

First Baptist Church Benton, IL, has called **Rev. Brent Easton** to serve as Youth Minister. Brent is a 3rd generation pastor and will also be filling the pulpit as needed during the church’s pastoral search.

Personality Based Discipleship

With Dr. Jeffrey Johnson

When: **Thursday, May 3, 2012**

Where: **FBC Decatur, IL**

Cost: **\$30.00** for Pastor and 3 Lay Leaders (\$5.00 for each additional person from the same church)

Disciple Now!!!! is the theme for the Great Rivers Region in 2012. This is intended to be a season of focus to encourage churches to greater, more effective efforts in the work of discipleship.

This workshop will be a day of study and challenge for pastors, Christian educators and church leaders serving in the Great Rivers Region

Dr. Jeffrey Johnson is the Na-

tional Director of Evangelism and New Church Planting for the American Baptist Home Mission Societies and also serves the American Baptist Churches of Pennsylvania and Delaware as Regional Pastor with Congregations.



Dr. Johnson will be presenting material and doing exercises from his upcoming book ***Got Style? II: Personality-Based Discipleship.*** He will use personality based communication theory to talk about spiritual formation in ways that are complementary to individual personalities. It will include the theological foundation of the three stages of spiritual development.

Senior Pastors in attendance at this workshop will receive a coupon good for one free copy of Dr. Johnson’s newest book as soon as it is available from the publisher.