

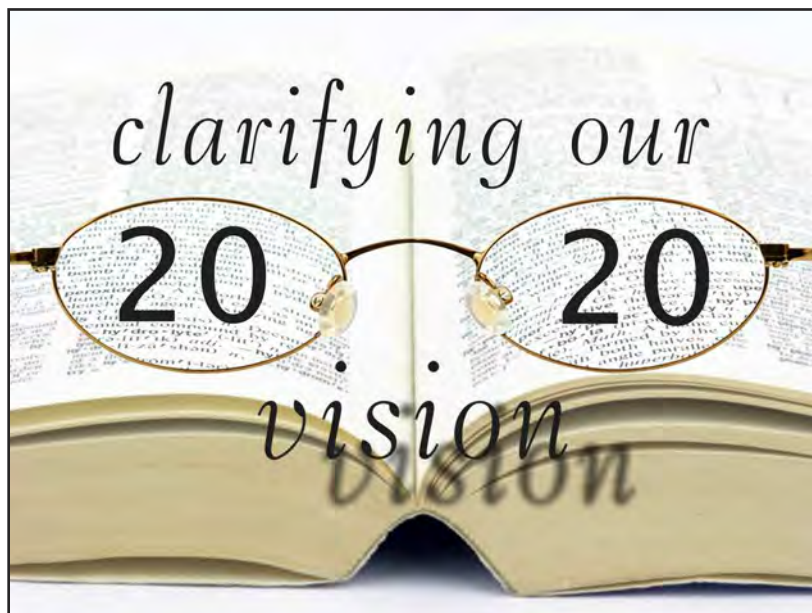
Fellowship FOCUS



Omaha's Community Bible Church Welcomes Convention-goers

Here's what to expect:

- Installation of FEBC President Blaine Donaldson
- Exciting Children and Youth Activities
- Convention Project: Reaching Those Who Cannot Read
- Dr. Roger Peugh, Convention Speaker
- Plenty of entertainment and Omaha hospitality!



**116th Annual
FEBC CONVENTION - JULY 15-18**

See pages 8-11 for more information!

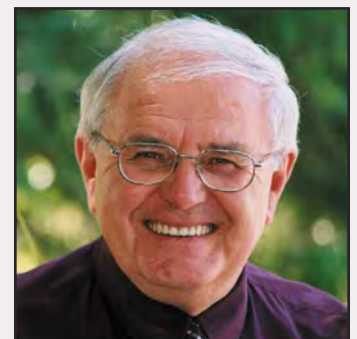
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Comment



By Sharon Berg, Editor

Significant and historic: I've heard those two words used to describe this year's annual FEBC convention in July. Significant, because the **Vision Team** will share ideas for a new direction for the Fellowship. Historic, because we'll hear from our first full-time president, **Blaine Donaldson** (read a letter from Blaine, and more about his life, on pages 6). It's going to be interesting, so don't forget to register online at febministries.org or at your church office. For convention information, including plans for children and youth, turn to pages 8-9.

By now you know that the convention is being held at my church, **Community Bible** in Omaha. I know the convention committee, under the leadership of **Kathy Dick**, and **Mel and Arlene Friesen**, has been hard at work on all of the details. You can look forward to a warm welcome from our congregation. And I hope you will take some extra days to see some of the sights of the Omaha area. If you've never been here before, don't miss the Henry Doorly Zoo (ask any of us why it's no ordinary zoo), beautiful Lauritzen Gardens, the historic and eclectic Old Market, and the gleaming Strategic Air and Space Museum. Need a restaurant or shopping recommendation? Ask, and we'll gladly point you in the right direction.

Looking forward to seeing you soon ...

Sharon

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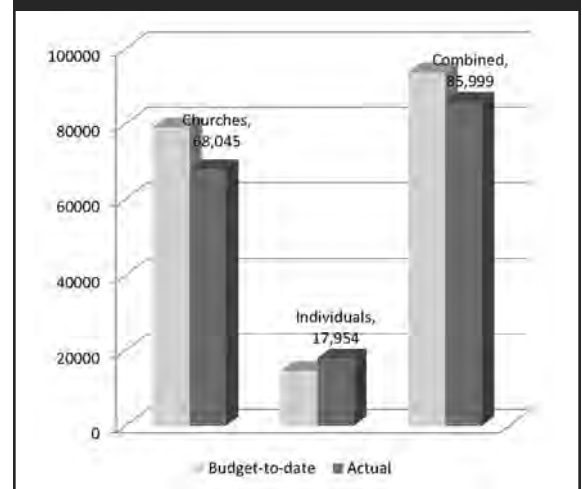
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Focus on FEBC Church Planting

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From the President

By Don Krehbiel, Interim President, Fellowship of Evangelical Bible Churches

Making a Move of Eternal Value

When moving, it's easy to think of our earthly treasures; the possessions that we do not want to give up.

I know that many of you have moved at least once in your life. Isn't moving exciting? *Oh, sure!*

When one is young, and it is time to start a family or just move out of your parents' home, moving really *is* exciting, as is moving to a new location, for one often gets new furniture, appliances and other items to spruce up the new house.

As you acquire more material possessions, you start to look at moving differently. You may look at all you have and wonder, *Does all this really have to go to the new location?* Now you have to decide what it is that you want to take with you or what you need to dispose of. This can be a trying time, as you look at each item and decide its fate.

Yes, my wife, Arlene, and I have taken the plunge and moved to a new location. We have definitely felt the Lord's

leading in this as we have thought about moving for a number of years. We have moved into an apartment complex restricted to people at least 55 years old.

When you make what probably is your last move, you may ask, *How long will I live before the Lord takes me home?* Yes, that thought occurred to us. We rely on God's timing, and in the meantime trust Him for good health and comfortable living.

When moving, it's easy to think of our earthly treasures; the possessions that we do not want to give up. But we must set our sights on treasures for the future, when we'll spend our time with God in heaven. We must ask God for wisdom in sharing Christ's love and His message of salvation. The rewards we will receive in heaven are much greater than what we can have while on earth. As Paul wrote in 1 Corinthians 3:6: "I

planted, Apollas watered, but God gave the increase." Maybe you have said something that touched a heart, and influenced someone to seek more information about our Heavenly Father. Maybe you have planted, or maybe watered or even had the opportunity to lead that person to Christ.

Now that Arlene and I have moved, our prayer is that we allow God to use us in this new place to be a witness for Him. Yes, we do like our new location and apartment. God is *so good and faithful*. ■

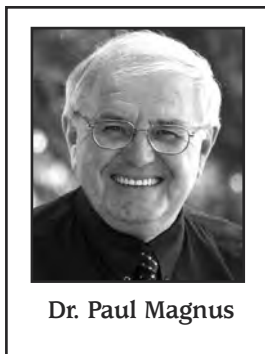
P.S. Blaine Donaldson is the new FEBC President, so this may be my last article. In writing these articles, I have thought more deeply about the Fellowship and appreciate it more. I hope to be involved in the future, and I trust that more people will volunteer to serve on a commission.

Leadership Education Seminar Offers Solutions to Stress of Church Board Service

By Vivian Wall, Commission on Education

How does one deal with the pressures of serving on a church board with integrity, grace, and in a way that promotes unity? How does one address the conflict that arises from different visions, yet joyfully serve the congregation? How can a church board member be disciplined, or discipled? And what do we learn from the statistics of burn out and depression among ministry families?

Dr. Paul Magnus, former president of Briercrest Family of Schools, explored these and other issues at "Developing and Transforming the Church Board," the leadership education seminar featured at the recent FEBC Workshop at Langham Evangelical Bible Church, Langham, Sask. Using Ephesians, 1 Timothy, Exodus 18 and portions of Acts, Dr. Magnus taught about boundaries that empower (limitations without mini-management), duties of a board and its relationship to others, evaluating boards, discipleship within boards, and conflict. The 32 people attending appreciated his presentation on how to have crucial conversations when the stakes are high, opinions vary, and



Dr. Paul Magnus

emotions are strong. The last session dealt with conflict resolution, bringing discussions to decisions, and giving clarity to expectations.

Dr. Magnus brought to bear the psychology behind conflict and motivation, using diagrams that helped us to see the connection between responsibility, accountability and relationships. He urged us to make our churches safe enough to talk about issues, rather than avoid them or engage in controlling behaviors.

Dr. Magnus challenged boards to be a pastor to the Pastor, to care deeply and well for the shepherding families. Leadership is a noble thing, demanding character, spirituality, wholeness and modeling at home. Will we accept the challenge?

Vivian Wall, wife of Dwaine Wall, is a 1975 graduate of Briercrest Bible College and studied Christian Education under Dr. Magnus' oversight. She attends Evangelical Mennonite Bible Church in Lustre, Mont.

By Harvey Schultz, Ministries Coordinator



Learning to Evaluate the Emerging Church Movement

In the last issue, I pointed out that, among other things, the movement is a reaction to perceived weaknesses of evangelical churches. What are these perceptions to which emergents are reacting? Are they true of my (your) church?

Some of these are:

- Too much emphasis on the “hereafter” and not enough on the here and now.
- Too much emphasis on correct doctrine and not enough on relationships
- Too great a tendency to “dissect” and analyse the Bible without being transformed by it
- Too much emphasis on rationalism and not enough on mysticism
- Too many Christians want to live in the Christian “ghetto” and not be salt and light in the world
- Too often church worship services are “shallow,” entertainment oriented, and one-dimensional (people are spectators, not participants)
- Too much emphasis on fear-motivated Christianity (“do this or ...”).

What are the movement’s tendencies and practices?

Knowing what the perceived weaknesses are helps us understand what emergents are attempting to do. They are engaging in practices which will, in their opinion, overcome these flaws. They say that their desire is to experience God rather than merely know about Him.

Services are often very laid back. Participation by all is encouraged. Rational analysis is out. Feelings and sensations are in. Structure is out. Different groups may be doing different things throughout the auditorium at one and the same time.

People are encouraged to engage in practices many of us knew nothing about. “Lectio divina” is promoted — a way of reading Scripture without using your

head. Read from the “heart.” Don’t seek information. Don’t seek to critically analyse a passage. Let it speak to your heart.

The use of “labyrinths” is promoted. This is not a maze but a “path” in a three-stage journey which begins with (1) purgation (entering into the labyrinth), and continues with (2) illumination (reaching the center where your mind is emptied) and ends with (3) exiting the labyrinth totally absorbed by what has been given to you in the illumination stage.

“Journaling,” another practice which is promoted, does not refer to merely writing down what happens to you day after day. It is spending time in silence, asking God to speak to you and writing down whatever comes to your mind. Some go so far as to say that God is actually dictating what they are writing down.

Many in the movement strongly promote mysticism, which has been defined as the belief that there can be an unmediated encounter with God. Contemplative prayer is practiced where you reach God through solitude, not through Jesus Christ. Some disdain, and at times, even deny the necessity of rational understanding and seek truth instead through feelings, dreams, visions and extrasensory perceptions.

There is a strong emphasis on the “here and now” as opposed to the “hereafter.” Getting to heaven is not nearly as important as getting heaven to earth now. Whole churches are devoting themselves to the pursuit of social justice causes, such as endorsing and embracing the “green” causes. For some it is clear that the Church’s business is mainly political. They believe we are called to usher in the Kingdom of God on earth.

What are the dangers and weaknesses of the movement?

• **View of Scripture:** It is increasingly being viewed as a human product with mistakes. Traditional terms like revelation, infallible, inerrant, absolute truth are

shunned. Emergents question the importance of doctrine which is viewed as mere expressions of logic and which, they say, leads to exclusivism.

• **The “knowability” of God is undermined:** We can know *about* God but we can’t really *know* Him since He is infinite, they say.

• **View of the atonement:** Christ’s death for sins is repugnant to some and labelled as a case of “cosmic child abuse”! Instead of atoning for our sins, His death is a moral example of God’s love for us.

• **A false dichotomy:** Information vs. transformation; doctrine vs. relationships; experiential worship vs. renewing the mind; rationality vs. faith; head vs. heart. (*We believe that there need not be a wedge between rationality and faith, or truth and experience.*)

• **Tolerance:** As postmoderns, they hesitate to brand anything as wrong. They usually don’t condemn homosexuality, but stress the need for loving relationships with homosexuals. (*However, true tolerance says you have your right to your opinion, and I will fight to defend your right, even though you are wrong.*)

• **Universalism and inclusivism:** A number of emergents can’t imagine that God would send anyone to hell. Universalism states that in the end, everyone will be saved. You don’t need to know what Christ taught to be a Christ-follower. Inclusivism reaches out to people of all faiths *including* the non-Christian eastern faiths.

• **Practices which can lead the unwary into occultism:** Some of these are lectio divina, labyrinths, journaling, mysticism and centering prayer where you repeat the same phrase over and over, hundreds of times (*any practice which leads to the emptying of the mind has been used for centuries as an entry point for the occult.*)

• **Redefinition of missions:** Increasingly missions has become a question of social compassion, not conversion.

• **No spiritual compass for the young generation:** When the words of the Bible take on meanings that are constantly shifting, depending on who is reading it, where is the spiritual compass for the next generation? Mainline churches which don't have sure answers have been losing out for decades.

• **Increasing attraction to the Eucharist:** The return to mysticism is creating an increased attraction to the catholic Eucharist in which the bread and wine of communion are said to be transformed into the very body and blood of Jesus Christ with the (*mystical*) power to convey salvation to the participants. Today the Roman Catholic Church is promoting a "New Evangelization" program using the Eucharistic Jesus. Emergents are showing a growing interest/attraction to this practice (cf. Hebrews 9:28.)

A framework for evaluation

It has not been the goal of these articles to ferret out and analyse all the teachings of those who might be considered emergents. Rather, it has been my goal to present a framework each reader can use to do his own evaluation of the movement and its various proponents. Books written by emergent authors should be read carefully and discerningly. Everything should be sifted through the grid of Scripture. Most likely it would be very unwise to use the writings and study materials of emergent authors for Bible study groups. And I strongly encourage each one to read one or more of the following books to gain a more accurate and thorough understanding of this movement: "Why We're Not Emergent" by Kevin DeYoung and Ted Kluck, and "Be-

coming Conversant with the Emerging Church" by D. A. Carson.

Prominent authors and speakers of the movement:

Brian McLaren, Rob Bell, Leonard Sweet, Doug Pagitt, Dan Kimball, Tony Campolo, Stan Grenz, John Franke, Erwin McManus, Michael Horton, Andy Crouch, Frederica Mathewes-Green, Tony Jones, Donald Miller, Barry Taylor, Spencer Burke, Peter Rollins, Karen Ward, Diana Butler Bass, Scot McKnight, Robert Weber, etc.

It is also wise to know about the teachings of the following because emergent authors often refer to them: *Richard Foster, Madam Guyon, St. John of the Cross, Ignatius Loyola.* ■

Answered Prayer Brings a Pastor to Valley Bible

By Rita Voth, Correspondent



Valley Bible Fellowship of Morris, Man., welcomed **Pastor Ryan and Uma Rear** on Jan. 1. The search for a full-time pastor was a lengthy process. We were blessed with many great speakers including **Myron Henschel** as interim pastor, and **Glenn Krobel**, who served as part-time pastor for two years until March 2009. We started searching for a full-time pastor again in May 2009.

Because our congregation is small and aging, we felt that if a suitable candidate did not apply by the end of 2009, we would consider closing our church. But God is faithful! He answered our prayers when Pastor Ryan applied for the position in September. The elders met with him several times before asking Pastor Ryan and his family to preach and

meet the congregation in October. A few weeks passed, with the congregation praying for God's leading, and Ryan and Uma accepted the call to Valley Bible.

An installation service was held Feb. 14, with several pastors and Christian leaders bringing greetings and encouraging words. **Pastor James Thiessen** from **Hodgson Bible Church**, our sister church in **Hodgson, Man.**, brought the message, and gave Pastor Ryan and the congregation the challenge to reach into the community and be witnesses in all areas of life.

Pastor Ryan and Uma met while working with physically and mentally challenged people in Edmonton, Alta. They felt called to church ministry, and Pastor Ryan began studying at Taylor Seminary in Edmonton in 1997.

After graduating from seminary, the couple served for five years at a Korean Baptist Church in Edmonton, working with youth and young adults. In 2004, they accepted a new position in Manitoba, serving at the Roblin and Grandview Free Methodist churches for more than three years. Following that, they moved to the Interlake region, ministering most recently at the Moosehorn Baptist Church in a six-month interim position.

The Rears are parents to Cassandra, 14, and Samuel, 13.

"As a family, we are thrilled to be in Morris serving in Valley Bible Fellowship Church," Pastor Ryan said. "Our new church has great people, and Morris is a great community. We are grateful to be here."

Meet the New FEBC President



For the first time in 121 years, the Fellowship has a full-time president! Rev. Blaine Donaldson began his duties on May 1. Blaine is not new to the FEBC, having served as pastor of the Randville Bible Church, and on the Commission on Education and the Executive Committee. More recently, Blaine, his wife, Autumn, and their two children have been living in Felch, Mich., where he pastored the Felch Mountain Bible Chapel. The family is now making their new home in Omaha.

Blaine Donaldson was born in Lac La Biche, Alta., on Sept. 5, 1968. His father taught school and his mother was a nurse. The family moved home to Nova Scotia in 1970. Blaine's parents had a small farm, where he milked the family cow before and after school and helped with various chores. Blaine became an avid hockey player, and from the age of five, he loved to work with computers.

Although Blaine had a strong Christian heritage from his grandfather and great-grandfather, he did not grow up in a Christian home. His parents were kind, consistent, and excellent providers, but they had no involvement with the Lord or with church. In 1985, Blaine started attending a church with some friends. There he came to understand that Jesus died for his sins, and after some time, Blaine believed on Jesus as his Lord and Savior.

After graduating from high school, Blaine attended Mount Allison University in Sackville, New Brunswick. He was working on a bachelor of science, ma-

joring in math and physics, when the Lord indicated that He had other plans for Blaine. Between his sophomore and junior years, Blaine worked two full-time jobs. At the end of the summer, during an evening service at his home church, the Lord clearly called him into ministry. Blaine said, "I did not hear a voice — it was louder than that." He finished his third year at Mount Allison, then left to attend Briercrest Bible College.

It was at Briercrest that he met Autumn Jewel Brown of Langham, Sask. They were married on May 5, 1991. That summer, Blaine and Autumn worked with Friendship Ministries in Calgary, Alta., teaching English as a second language (TESL) to Arab immigrants. They also worked with an Arabic-speaking church, visiting Arabic homes in order to witness about Jesus and introduce them to an Arabic-speaking church. This mission internship was an exciting time of ministry for Blaine and Autumn. They continue to have a warm place in their hearts for the Arab people. ■

"Through various circumstances, the Lord opened the door to this position. I am confident that this is the Lord's will, and I am growing in anticipation as to what He is going to do through it."

Blaine graduated from Briercrest in 1993 with a bachelor of arts in Bible, and a minor in Pastoral Studies. Blaine's home church in Nova Scotia called him to be associate pastor, and he served until 1995. Senior Pastor Ches MacKenzie mentored Blaine in pastoral ministry, and this had a profound effect on him. Blaine does not believe that he would still be in the ministry without Pastor MacKenzie's influence.

In 1995, the Lord called Blaine to serve at Randville Bible Church, near Iron Mountain, Mich. He served there until 2008. Blaine also served at Felch Mountain Bible Chapel, a Baptist church, for the past eight years (2002-2010).

"I was very happy as a pastor in the church at Felch," Blaine said. "Through various circumstances, the Lord opened the door to this position. I am confident that this is the Lord's will, and I am growing in anticipation as to what He is going to do through it."

As the FEBC's new president, Blaine will communicate the vision of our Fellowship to our churches, and convey their ideas and concerns to the Executive Committee. "My goal is to fully embrace the 20/20 vision, which will be formally presented at the 2010 Convention," he said. "I hope to be a catalyst for the Fellowship to implement this vision, and to develop consistent, consequential, caring relationships with the pastors of the FEBC and, as much as possible, with their leadership. As these relationships develop, I hope to develop more significant interest and passion for the greater FEBC ministry."

Blaine and Autumn have two children: Adrianna, 14, and Anthony, 7. Autumn enjoys being a full-time homemaker and serving the Lord alongside Blaine. Blaine still likes to work with computers and technology, although recently he developed an enjoyment of hunting and fishing with his family. ■

By Phyllis Ingle, Commission on Women's Ministries

"Prayer and Projects" Connects Fellowship Women with Missionary Sisters

Have you ever received a letter asking if you need money for a special project? Have you ever received a letter asking you to share a personal prayer need? That is what happens every year to our FEBC women missionaries. So what's that all about?

Well, let me back up a little bit. It is the desire of the Commission on Women's Ministries to promote spiritual fellowship and growth among the 44 women's ministries groups in the Fellowship with our focus being to:

"... consider how to stimulate one another to love and good deeds encouraging one another."

Hebrews 10:24, 25

Each year, letters are sent to our FEBC missionaries asking them for a prayer request and a project for which our women's ministry groups could pray and contribute. Our goal is to connect each women's group in the Fellowship with a specific missionary with whom they can

correspond, pray for, and also help with a need or project that would take money to complete. Because we have 90 some missionaries, we divide the list into two parts and help half one year and the other half the next year.

It is exciting to see the variety of requests that we receive, and some of the prayer requests are so full of longing for their peoples to know Christ. After we have compiled the list of missionaries who wish to participate and their requests, we send this list to each of the churches' women's ministries. We request they share this list with their particular group and choose one of the missionaries to be their project. We ask they send their choice to Sharon Skillman (Evangelical Mennonite Brethren Church, Lustre, Mont.), project coordinator. She then creates a board with each missionary's name, their mission, the prayer request and the project request which will be displayed at Convention in July. The churches who have contacted

Sharon earlier will already be on the board, and there is specific room for the many other churches to sign-up then for their choice. Then it is their responsibility to correspond with the missionary, help in her project request (up to \$100) and pray for her.

We are excited again this year for the contact and bonding that comes from the Prayer and Projects effort. It is our desire that all our missionaries will respond to the letter, and all of our women's groups will encourage one another in support of our missionary sisters. ■

Phyllis chairs the Commission on Women's Ministries. She and her husband, Jim, attend Evangelical Bible Church in Omaha.



"The pursuit of love" is everywhere you look! It's romanticized on TV and in the movies we watch. There are books about it, songs about it, internet dating, and even seminars on it — all of which are designed to help you find that special someone to love.

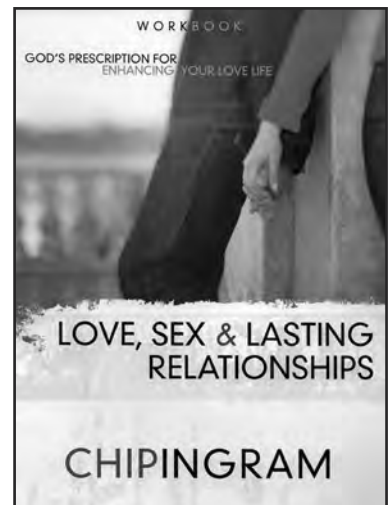
So why is "true love" so elusive? Could it be that the picture of love we see in today's culture is nothing more than an illusion? If so, what does real love look like?

In this 10-part small group curriculum, you'll discover that there is a better way to find love, stay in love, and grow in intimacy for a lifetime.

Whether single, single again, or wanting more from your marriage, join Chip and learn how you can begin the journey toward a lasting, loving relationship.

- Session 1** Hollywood's Formula for Lasting, Loving Relationships
- Session 2** Two Models for Lasting Relationships
- Session 3** Before You "Fall in Love"
- Session 4** How to Know if You're in Love
- Session 5** Love and Sex: Knowing the Difference Makes all the Difference
- Session 6** The Difference between Love and Sex
- Session 7** Sexual Purity in a Sex-Saturated World
- Session 8** How to Say "Yes" to Love and "No" to Second-Rate Sex
- Session 9** Wake Up, World! There's a Better Way to Do Relationships
- Session 10** The Second Sexual Revolution

Available from the FEBC Video Library at no charge to your church.



Omaha's Community Bible Church Welcomes Convention-goers

With a new vision and a new full-time president for the Fellowship, our 116th annual convention in July promises to be unique. Here's what you need to know if you go ...

Community Bible Church has the privilege of hosting the Fellowship of Evangelical Bible Churches Annual Convention, July 15-18. Committee chairs have been appointed and are at work. The CBC congregation looks forward to welcoming 150-200 delegates, missionaries, young people and families from across the Midwest and Canada. The Commission on Missions has selected the convention theme "Every Tribe, Tongue, People and Nation" (Revelation 5:9B), a theme that will be explored by guest speaker **Dr. Roger Peugh** of Grace Theological Seminary, Winona Lake, Ind.

This convention will also be unique in that we will welcome the first ever, full-time president of our Fellowship, **Blaine Donaldson** (*see p. 6*). He was hired by the executive under mandate from the delegates at the 2009 convention. The matter of "Clarifying our 20/20 Vision" will be central to much of the time devoted to convention business.

What's planned for children and youth?

The children will enjoy taking nature hikes and learning through various science experiments as they study what the Bible has to say about what God created. They'll also swim, create sand sculptures, fish, and visit the world-class Henry Doorly Zoo!

"Youth in the Wild" is the theme for the youth retreat at Camp of the Good Shepherd near Louisville, Neb. How has God used the wilderness, whether literal or metaphorical, in the lives of His followers to move them on to greater things and a closer relationship with Him? **Dave Foster**, pastor of Family Ministries at Parkview Church of Iowa City, Iowa, is guest speaker for the youth.

What's the convention schedule?

The FEBC is led by an executive committee which repre-

sents the seven commissions (committees). The Fellowship will be installing its first ever full-time president. The commissions will arrive on Wednesday evening and be in session all day on Thursday. The convention itself begins with an evening service on Thursday; the last business session is Saturday afternoon.

Host home or hotel?

We pray that our welcome will include sunny days with moderate temperatures. We know we can provide a warm welcome to our church and to a number of host homes for those who prefer that option to a hotel. You can also look forward to delightful meals, prepared on site.

How much are registration fees?

Registration fees will be the same for folks from both sides of the border this year: \$90 for adults, \$80 for missionaries, \$30 for children, and \$115 for the youth going to Camp of the Good Shepherd. There is an additional late registration fee after June 15.

What else is there to do and see?

There are many opportunities for extending your stay to experience some of the entertainment and delights of our city. Golfers may be interested in one of our 42 golf courses. You might find it very enjoyable to make your stay a week instead of a long weekend. Look at www.visitomaha.com and click on "Things to do" or "Sample Day Trips."

How do I register?

Register online at febministries.org, or contact your church office.

2010 FEBC Convention Speaker



Dr. Roger Peugh,
Professor of World
Missions

Grace Theological
Seminary
Winona Lake, Ind.

"Every Tribe, Tongue, People and Nation" Revelation 5:9b

Thursday evening:

Why? The Love of Christ constraining us

Friday evening:

What? The Love of Christ ministering through us

Saturday evening:

How? The Love of Christ lived out in His strength

Sunday morning:

Where? The Love of Christ to every people group

Reaching Those Who Cannot Read

By Ben Watson



How can the Church reach the world with the Scriptures, and information that explains the Scriptures, when 70 percent of the people either cannot, will not or do not read?

Ben Watson served as pastor of the Randville Bible Church in Michigan, and on the commissions on education and churches, and the FEBC Heartland Extension Committee. He presently is supervisor of Alternative Media at the Source of Light headquarters in Madison, Ga.

How can the Church reach the world with the Scriptures, and information that explains the Scriptures, when 70 percent of the people either cannot, will not or do not read? Source of Light Ministries International has a plan that I believe will excite you and invite your involvement.

What is Source of Light Ministries International (SLM)?

Source of Light is an independent faith mission that exists to bring people of every nation, language and ethnicity into a mature relationship with Jesus Christ and into fellowship with a local church.

SLM is a worldwide, disciple-making, church-planting mobilization that uses the medium of Bible lessons for all ages in both printed and electronic format to achieve its goals. Lessons are distributed throughout the world by the International Headquarters in Madison, Ga., and its Discipleship Training Branches and Associate Discipleship Schools.

What is the Alternative Media ministry?

It is that part of the total ministry of SLM that places the Bible courses into media in addition to print. Our media include large print, Braille, and audio and computer-based applications, including online courses and live webinars.

Our purpose is to make studying God's Word possible to everyone, regardless of their level of literacy, geographical location or physical limitations.

It is our audio ministry that the Commission on Missions has selected for the 2010 Convention Project. Since its beginning in 1952, SLM has been a print-based publishing ministry. In recent years, however, we have become aware that most of the world's population either can't, don't or won't read a printed book. We've also become aware that these people can be reached by a digital, solid-state, solar-powered audio player called the Papyrus Audio Player. This player has several features that make it ideal for any person who cannot read print media.

- The Papyrus Solar Player fits easily into a pocket or purse.
- The rear solar panel allows the sun or even artificial light to

charge the battery for up to eight hours of playing time.

- Groups as large as 200 can hear the message through the built-in speaker.
- An oral learner or a visually-impaired person can easily navigate from one program to another.
- It is secure. The user cannot change the messages that have been placed in it.
- Users can listen from either the 1GB internal memory or an optional removable SD card of any size. For example, Scripture could be on the internal memory and Bible studies on the SD card.

How does Source of Light plan to use the players?

In the pilot project, 100 Christian leaders from Ethiopia will be trained to teach with the players. Over a one-year period, their ministry will be to take the players to non-reading groups of people. They will play the lessons, and then discuss the lessons, receiving feedback similar to what we receive in our printed lessons. At the end of the year, someone from SLM will meet with those leaders in Ethiopia to assess the ministry and determine how to proceed, both in Ethiopia and throughout the rest of our fields. If it is as successful in Ethiopia as we believe it will be, we plan to utilize these on all of our fields.



Projected (but not final) costs:

- **Players:** \$50.00 per player total for 100 players = \$5000
- **Training and Evaluation by SLM personnel** = \$7,500
- **Total MegaVoice Project** = \$12,500

As you pray about your part in this year's convention project, know that many people who would never be able to read a Source of Light Bible lesson will now be able to hear them, and because they hear, they will trust Jesus Christ as their Savior and grow into maturity. In this the Scripture will again be fulfilled, "So then faith [comes] by hearing, and hearing by the word of God" (Romans 10:17 KJV).



9001 Q Street
Omaha, NE 68127
Office 402.339.7857
www.cbcomaha.org



116th Annual Convention

July 15 - 18, 2010

The Children's Program

The theme this week will center on how we can learn about God through studying what He has made.

Our kids will participate in nature hikes, learn through various science experiments and study what the Bible has to say about what God has made.

The Kids will also have the opportunity to swim, create sand sculptures, fish and visit the Henry Doorly Zoo!

What the Youth Will Be Doing

Our theme this year will be "Youth in the Wild".

We'll be focusing on how God has used "the wilderness" to spur some of the greatest events in history and move those who love Him into a closer more impactful relationship with Him.

We will be staying at Camp of the Good Shepherd in Louisville, Nebraska. It will be the perfect place for our students to be challenged by God using them in their "wilderness".

Also, you do not want to miss out on the games... all we can say is tube socks filled with shaving cream.

We hope your youth can make it!

Hotels

Holiday Inn Express SW

www.hiexpress.com/omaha-sw

\$99.95 + taxes

group name under "CBC"

Comfort Inn SW

www.choicehotels.com/hotel/ne082

\$79.99 + taxes

group name under "CBC"

Welcome to Community Bible Church

In the early 60's several families met in a home in southwest Omaha with a God-given determination to see an evangelical witness rise as rapidly as the population of the area. Three of these families included brothers who also shared a successful development and construction company. They offered a three acre plot to this small body of believers. In 1962 a house was built on this plot to temporarily serve as a church building.

Not all of their aspirations were realized and by 1964 several families had moved away including the pastor. When the Philips Petroleum Co. offered to buy the property, the board decided to sell, but the city refused to re-zone the property for commercial use. God had other plans!

In 1968 Dr. Harold Burkholder was called to serve as part-time pastor. Under his ministry the church grew, and in 1969 plans for a new church building were approved. The church grew in size during Dr. Burkholder's ministry, who resigned in 1973 to make way for a full-time pastor.

Two pastors served until the coming of Dr. Roger Andrus in 1976. In 1980, under his leadership, the church embarked upon a building addition that included the gym, church offices and main lobby. Dr. Andrus retired May 1982, and Douglas Hornok was called to serve as pastor. Rev. Hornok pastored the flock until January 1990. In February 1990, Charles Tschetter became Senior Pastor.

In 1997 the CE addition was added west of the worship center, providing overflow seating, classrooms and enhanced nursery facilities. The sanctuary and kitchen were remodeled in 2004 and 2005.

We thank God for His rich blessings through the past four decades and believe that He desires to continue to use us as we remain faithful and obedient to Him.

We are excited to host the 2010 FEBC Convention and hope you will join us. You might find it very enjoyable to make your stay a week instead of a long weekend. Look at www.visitomaha.com and click on "Things to do" or "Sample Day Trips".



May 1, 2010

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Our Savior is good! These are exciting times for the FEBC. It is my pleasure to invite you to gather together as a Fellowship at **Convention 2010: Clarifying our 20/20 Vision**, in Omaha, July 15-18.

The Lord is revealing His plan for us for the next decade. Through the input of many of our churches, the diligent work of the Vision Committee, and the unanimous confirmation of the FEBC Executive, the Lord has issued a visionary call to return to the founding principles and identity of our Fellowship.

This last year, members of the Executive attempted to visit each Fellowship church, presenting the current status of the Fellowship and listening to the church's desire for the FEBC. While we observe many positive things within the Fellowship, there are several disturbing trends. Some of our churches have grown, but most have either stagnated or declined over the past decade. In spite of adding a number of churches to the Fellowship, our overall attendance has increased by a meager 2.5%. Most of our growth has been through transfer growth (60%), with another 20% coming through biological growth. Our Fellowship was founded by people transformed by their relationship with Jesus Christ, who possessed a resultant evangelistic zeal, yet our current efforts toward evangelism have been sporadic and generally ineffective.

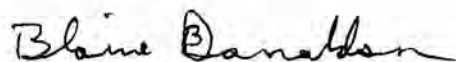
As a Fellowship, we have many strengths: we have a strong commitment to the authority of God's Word; we believe God can and will change us to be like Jesus in the way that we live; and we desire to take the gospel around the world through missions. We have a strong heritage, yet our vision for the next ten years must not focus on our strengths, but on overcoming our weaknesses.

We are at an important crossroads in our Fellowship's history: **I encourage as many of you as possible to join us in the formal presentation of this renewed vision.** We believe that the Lord is calling us follow this vision, and we are excited about what He is going to do. Come see firsthand where the Lord is leading us. Come hear His voice calling you to embrace this vision.

There will be many changes necessary in order to implement this vision. This next year, the Executive will be communicating, listening and planning for these changes. However, **there will be no constitutional changes or major financial changes at Convention 2010.** Our focus will be on introducing, explaining, and discussing the vision. At the end of the discussion, we will hold a vote regarding the essence of the vision. I believe that when you understand how the Lord is leading us, you will share our excitement, and desire to join with us in following His call.

I would like to express my personal thanks to the well-qualified Vision Committee. Together, they have logged over nine hundred hours in discerning and articulating this vision. I am grateful that the Lord provided a professional consultant, Terry Schultz, to coach them through the process. This is one of the most important Conventions that we have ever had. All people are invited, but **it is especially prudent that as many of our pastors and lay leaders attend** as possible. This is the future of our Fellowship, and we need your input, passion, and fellowship.

Your brother in Christ,



Blaine Donaldson, President
Fellowship of Evangelical Bible Churches

Joining our hands to strengthen His Church

Legacy Giving



Today's resources for tomorrow's ministries

Guaranteed Payments for Life: The Charitable Gift Annuity

The gift annuity is an arrangement under which you make a contribution to the Fellowship of Evangelical Bible Churches and receive, in turn, guaranteed payments for life. It's a way of giving that allows you to make a substantial gift even though you may need ongoing income from your assets.

What are the Benefits?

In addition to guaranteed payments, a charitable gift annuity provides other benefits, including:

- A portion of the payment is tax-free.
- Charitable deduction in the year of the gift
- An annuity rate often higher than the interest paid on current fixed investments
- Capital gains tax savings on appreciated assets
- Satisfaction of assisting the FEBC in its mission

How Does it Work?

Most charitable gift annuities are funded with cash or listed securities. When you contribute securities, the annuity payments will probably exceed the dividends you were receiving.

The Fellowship invests and manages your contribution, and at the end of your life the remainder is available to the Fellowship for present or future work.

The amount of the annual payments will depend on the amount transferred, the ages of the beneficiary(ies), and the annuity rate schedule in effect at the time of the gift. Once the annuity is established, the payments will remain fixed, regardless of changes in the economy. The security of fixed, guaranteed payments makes the gift annuity an especially attractive option.

What About Taxes?

The most notable tax benefit of a gift annuity is the chari-

table deduction in the year of the gift. The amount of the deduction depends on the rates in effect and on the age(s) of the annuitant(s) at the time the annuity is established. An additional benefit occurs when appreciated securities are contributed. Capital gains tax is avoided on the part of the property that is considered a gift. The rest of the capital gain (assuming the donor is one of the beneficiaries) will be recognized over a period of years, spreading out payment of the capital gains tax. Consider the following examples (actual interest rates may differ):

Peter and Norma M, both aged 75, contribute \$10,000 cash to our organization for a gift annuity, naming themselves as the beneficiaries. As long as either of them lives, they will receive payments of \$600 per year (an annuity rate of 6.0%). For the duration of their life expectancy, \$388.80 of their annual payments will be tax-free. They will also receive a charitable deduction of \$3,624.64 (based on a federal discount rate of 4.2%).

Mildred R, who is 80 years old, contributes \$20,000 of securities (with an original cost of \$8,000) to charity for a gift annuity. With an annuity rate of 7.6%, she receives fixed, guaranteed payments of \$1,520 per year as long as she lives. For the duration of her life, \$428.35 of her annual payments will be tax-free, and \$643.25 of them will be taxed as capital gain. She also receives a charitable deduction of \$9,922.40 (based on a federal discount rate of 4.2%).

Gift annuities are a popular vehicle, allowing people the opportunity to simultaneously make a gift and provide for their future financial security. We would be pleased to answer your questions, send you a personal financial illustration, or schedule a meeting with you. There is no charge and you are under no obligation. Let us hear from you if you want to take a closer look.

Go to www.febclegacy.org for more information.



Letters to the Editor

FEBC Ministries Coordinator Harvey Schultz received this feedback in response to Part 1 of his article on the Emerging Church, which appeared in the March/April issue of the Focus. (Read Part 2 on p.4):

Thanks for your article in *Fellowship Focus* on the Emerging Church. We are touching on many of these issues in youth Bible study, and it was good to hear words and thoughts from a different (balanced) perspective. It's kind of tough sometimes to be balanced. The struggle with faith and doctrine and experience

has been discussed a lot this last year, and I suppose the subject won't just go away — nor should it, perhaps. But thanks for stepping out and encouraging balance. We kind of get a bipolar view from many different sources.

I sure am thankful that we can "Know Christ," and that it's not just a ridiculous and futile chasing after of a mystery or something that can never be understood. It seems that this is the hardest thing to get through to our young people. Anyway, thanks again, and I look forward to your next part.

*Sean Brandow, Youth Pastor
Christian Fellowship Church of Rhineland,
Sask.*

I just read your first article on the Emerging Church movement as printed in *Fellowship Focus*. Well done; thanks for doing that. This is a real growing concern. When I read Brian McLaren or Dallas Willard, I find their stand on soteriology is not biblical. Then I ask myself why I should be interested in their ecclesiology.

I am looking forward to the next article.

*Henry Esau
Grace Evangelical Bible Church,
Abbotsford, B.C.*



Welcome, Mr. President

Blaine Donaldson has accepted the position of president for our Fellowship and began May 1. He will be the first full-time president and the first paid president since the position was established in 1948. (See introduction on page 6).

For years, many on the Executive Committee, on the commissions and in local churches have seen a need for someone to keep in closer touch with our pastors and churches, but our financial position always ruled this out. Last summer the delegates of the 30 churches represented voted to establish this position. For this year, the position will be funded through gifts to the President Fund. To date, \$5,200 has been given to the President Fund. For next year, the president will be funded through the budget, but this will still require an increase in church and individual giving.

Christian Ministry Scholarships

College students considering careers in Christian ministry may apply for a scholarship of \$1,000 from the Fellowship. Request information and application forms from orders@febministries.org. Deadline to submit scholarship applications is May 31.

Summer Mission Assignments

College students involved in short-term mission assignments this summer may apply for a grant from the FEBC Commissions on Missions. E-mail orders@febministries.org for more information.

What does a Fellowship do?

When our churches first banded together in 1889, some of their key purposes were to encourage each other, to promote doctrinal fidelity, to work together in missions/evangelism efforts and to build up each other through training and annual conventions. Soon the evangelism efforts resulted in new churches, and in many cases the Fellowship helped the new churches purchase land and buildings.

Today the Fellowship holds title either solely or jointly to more than \$3.4 million of property used rent-free by our churches (and a camp). In addition, the Fellowship has either loaned money directly or co-signed for loans for many of our churches.

Another function of the Fellowship has been to credential (that is, to license or ordain) clergy serving in our churches or with mission agencies. The Commission on Churches provides churches with a pastoral search kit to help the church determine what kind of pastor it needs. The Commission screens candidates for doctrinal fit with our churches and Fellowship. The Commission advises the church of any doctrinal red flags, but the church decides whether it will hire the candidate. The Commission also assists the local church in holding an ordination council.

The Fellowship coordinates the volunteers who minister to churches, missionaries, Women's Ministry groups, and youth.

Since its beginning, the annual convention has been a key program of the Fellowship. Initially and for many years, a com-

mittee was appointed each year just to plan the annual convention. More than a business meeting, the convention was a time to connect with churches and friends, a time to minister God's Word, a time to train workers in the local churches. As far back as 1911 the Conference included a one-day "Sunday School Convention" and a youth program.

Pooled resources are also a characteristic of the Fellowship. Funds from individuals, bequests and churches have been pooled to fund scholarships, pastor care, mission projects, relief efforts and church planting. Each church becomes a partner in these projects. Some churches receive a direct benefit while all churches enjoy a larger ministry through these projects. As early as 1912, our Fellowship purchased land and a building in Chicago for a "mission house."

As a member of a church in our Fellowship, you have a role beyond your local church in building up other believers and churches, turning new people to Christ and training people for ministry. Thank you!

A Few Good Women and Men

Volunteers from your church and other churches make our Fellowship work. This summer 36 people are needed to be elected to one of the commissions. If you are interested in serving on a commission, or want more information, talk to your pastor or email info@febministries.org. Qualified people are nominated by their churches, and then selected by vote at the annual convention.

20/20 Vision

As a result of last summer's roundtable discussions, a Vision Team was formed to analyze the Fellowship and try to determine what our Fellowship should look like in A.D. 2020. The Vision Team has met numerous times in person and through on-line meetings. They presented their 20/20 Vision to the Executive Committee in April, and will present it to the Fellowship at the annual convention in July.

Coming Soon to Your Church

A delegation from the Executive Committee hopes to visit your church soon. This is part of the task to develop a new vision for the Fellowship. The Executive Committee wants to hear what churches see as greatest importance in a Fellowship relationship. **Harvey Schultz** and **Paul Boeker** have already met with 24 of our 42 churches.

Shepherd Search

Networking is often the best way for a church to find a pastor. You may know someone who would be a good shepherd for one of these churches, and you can pass this information on to qualified men with the Shepherd's heart.

Tahlequah, Okla. — **Community Bible Fellowship** (pastor)

Vita, Sask. — **Vita Bible Church** (pastor)

For more information go to: www.febministries.org/opportunities_pastoral_openings.htm. To request an FEBC Application for Ministry, e-mail info@febministries.org

EYES ON THE WORLD

By Fayth Boeker, Commission on Missions



How would you like to say good-bye to family and friends, sell your home and its contents, get a variety of shots for deadly diseases and take off for a land that has a completely different culture and where people speak a language unlike yours? At least 50 FEBC individuals and families are living this kind of life today.

Pack your bags, and let's visit the largest country in South America. It is the fifth largest both by area and population *in the world!* The coastline is 4,655 miles long (7491 kilometers). Its economy is the eighth largest in the world. The most popular sport there is *futebol* (soccer). You will know where you are when you land and hear the people speaking — not Spanish, but Portuguese — the only country in the Americas to do so. Yes, this large country of South America is Brazil. In A.D. 1500 Portugal claimed this area; thus the language and culture reflect that connection to this day.

Ivan and Elwyn Goossen are brothers who grew up in Brazil, along with brothers Joe and James. All four returned there as missionaries (Avant Ministries), although Joe and family have now moved on to Asia. **Ivan and Mary Goossen** raised their family of four in Fortaleza. The youngest two remain at home. Ivan is field director and Mary runs the guest house. As soon as a new couple arrives to manage the guest house, Ivan and Mary will be free to move to a locale within the radio outreach to participate in that church planting effort.

Elwyn and Linda Goossen (both are second-generation missionaries) and their three children live in the interior, about six hours by bus from Fortaleza in northeast Brazil. They maintain and manage radio stations AM 780 and FM 103.3, tools to help in the *real* work of Avant in northeast Brazil — planting churches. Radio is being used to spread the “Good News” of Jesus, and thus start the growing seeds that develop into new Christians. As believers multiply, the Avant church-planting teams move in to help establish local congregations with local pastors and biblical teaching.

Ken and Lori Stucky (Brazil Gospel Fellowship) live in Mossoro, a town about half the size of Omaha, Neb., located four hours from Fortaleza. Along with Ken's father and brother, they help minister in Christ is Life Church and manage Alpha Christian School, known in Brazil for its excellence in education. Their oldest daughter teaches English part-time and is considered a third-generation missionary. Eric Townsend (from Hebron Bible Church), is spending six months with the Stucky families as he continues his graduate work in counseling at

Grace University. Eric received an FEBC mission grant to help with this assignment.

Scott and Patsy Buhler and their family of three work in a camp ministry with Teach Beyond (formerly Janz Team). They are directors of Quest, a Christian camp and training center. The Buhlers focus on evangelism and leadership training through camps, retreats and leadership seminars. Day-camps and working with businesses is also part of their strategy to reach the community. The Buhlers live in southern Brazil, far from the Goossen and Stucky families in northeastern Brazil.

Far from the bustling large cities of Brazil live a group of missionaries dedicated to Bible translation in the Nambikuára territory of west central Brazil. About 80 years ago this violent tribe killed the first missionaries. Today they have the Word of God in their hands, partially due to the work of **Menno and Barb Kroeker** (Wycliffe). The New Testament was distributed in 1993. MegaVoice audio players with the New Testament were left in all the villages in 2007. In 2009 the Kroekers returned to the villages to distribute a new set of audio players. The work has been dangerous, difficult and discouraging, but it has produced churches scattered among the villages. <http://www.sil.org/americas/brasil/IndGrps/ENGLNBST.HTM>

PRAY • PRAY • PRAY • PRAY • PRAY • PRAY

Ivan and Mary Goossen (Omaha-EBC) will be in the United States May 11–24. Pray for safety in travel and as they attend the Avant Field Directors Conference.

Elwyn and Linda Goossen (Omaha-EBC) request prayer for the Kid's Club outreach each Sunday.

Remember **Ken and Lori Stucky** (Omaha-CBC) as they reach Brazilian children through a school.

Scott and Patsy Buhler (Dalmeny, Sask.): Pray for Scott, acting vice-president, in his responsibilities with CCI Brazil (Christian Camping International) at the national convention. Also pray for Patsy as she home schools their children.

Menno and Barb Kroeker (Jansen, Neb.) are in retirement transition. Please pray for them as they continue to readjust to living in Tennessee, developing new ministry interests and keeping in contact with the work in Brazil.

FOCUS ON OUR CHURCHES

CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP CHAPEL

Winnipeg, Man.

John Harwood, Pastor

We were thrilled to welcome back **Mike and Carolyn Reimer** and family from Bolivia. They returned to that country for a short time to finalize their ministry there and say good-bye to the people who have come to mean so much to them. The Reimers will leave for Uruguay in early fall to begin a ministry there.

The youth at CFC enjoyed a mini-retreat at **Russ and Myra Friesen's** cabin in February, complete with their own Olympic Winter Games! They also hosted a fund raising dinner in March for Haiti relief and also to help subsidize their retreat in May.

The children in Awana took part in their annual Grand Prix in March, building a race car out of a block of wood, and racing it against other cars. Our Awana rep, **Len Friesen**, brought the high-tech racing track, and shared a message about making sure God receives first place in our lives.

Nancy Kunkel, Correspondent

COMMUNITY BIBLE CHURCH

Omaha, Neb.

Charles Tschetter, Senior Pastor

"31 Days with the Master Fisherman," by **Dr. Larry Moyer**, was our corporate daily devotional in March, designed to encourage all believers to improve their evangelism skills. This increased focus on evangelism prepares us for the formal launching of the "Flying Strong" ministry at CBC. "Flying Strong" is a two-year ministry for churches that will help us change from being primarily a congregationally-minded to a community-minded church.

Eric Townsend was accepted for a six-month mission internship with **Ken and Lori Stucky**, serving under Brazil Gospel Fellowship Mission. The Fellowship of Evangelical Bible Churches awarded Eric a grant of \$500 toward his expenses for this short-term assignment.

On April 1, **Sarah Wissink** started to serve in the church office as part-time graphic designer/office administrator.

We welcomed Jews for Jesus on Good Friday, and their Christ in the Passover presentation.

Dr. Don Tschetter, who spent many years serving in leadership roles at CBC, and who was loved by many, went home to be with the Lord on Feb. 25.

New Members

Monte and Yomba von Seggern;

Claudia Wissink

Sharon Berg, Correspondent

COMMUNITY BIBLE CHURCH

Wolf Point, Mont.

Wayne Bergen, Pastor

Wayne Bergen has been our full-time pastor since February 2009. He had filled in as pulpit supply for our church.

We decided to increase our financial support for missions at our annual business meeting in March.

Easter started with an early morning service, followed by breakfast and then the regular service at 10 a.m. Although some families were away, about 47 attended. It is encouraging to have several new families showing interest in attending.

Tom Heidner, Correspondent

COMMUNITY BIBLE FELLOWSHIP

Tahlequah, Okla.

The congregation continues to enjoy the blessings of excellent speakers filling the pulpit.

We have now participated in four social events since our last update, each providing its own brand of fun. We highly recommend hosting a Game Night at your church. One special evening was planned by our Missions Committee. The focus during March was on **Hannah Curby** and church planting via Avant Ministries in Italy. We consumed an authentic Italian dinner while the members of the committee shared Hannah's ministry with us.

Our music directors, **Ron Goossen** and **Roberta Jones**, asked us to leave one of our Christmas trees up, undecorated, in our church foyer. Roberta placed "gifts" all about the tree to represent new hymnals for purchase for our new worship center. Each gift purchased was replaced with a snowflake, and when the tree was filled with snowflakes, the new hymnals were ordered. Again, we enjoyed yet another blessing and received the new hymnals in time for worship on Easter.

Bryn Smith, Correspondent

CORNERSTONE BIBLE CHURCH

Mountain Lake, Minn.

Nathan Janzen, Pastor

Evelyn Regier Einfeld, a long-time missionary to Japan, passed away on April 6. Her father was a pastor at our church for many years.

The churches in Mountain Lake have many joint activities. Right now they are starting to plan and prepare for POW WOW this summer. We observed Good Friday together with another church, and on Palm Sunday evening the community churches held a concert with special numbers from the churches. Another joint activity is the Awana and youth program in our church.

The Grace University Chorale and the Tabor Choir ministered in our churches in March. Three more musical groups gave a concert to raise money for Haiti.

Martha Baerg, Correspondent

CORNERSTONE BIBLE CHURCH

Steinbach, Man.

Jared Hiebert, Senior Pastor

Family Ministries' winter event at the Kleefeld Rec Centre featured ice skating and board games. We enjoyed homemade donuts and hot chocolate, ending with a chili potluck. About 75 people took advantage of the wonderful weather to enjoy the fun and fellowship.



Five-year-old Melody Wiebe encourages Laura Dueck to learn to skate by using a chair for balance. Cornerstone's Family Skating Day was enjoyed by all ages.

In March our trustees organized an all-church work day, with projects that included painting, mudding walls, and cleaning up storage areas, the kitchen and the yard.

Lori Quiring, our missionary from Peru, was guest speaker at Women's Ministries annual "Spring Celebration" business meeting in April.

Baptisms

Jakob and Tanja Borsch, and

Andy and Jen Plett

New Members

Greg and Julie Dole

Carol Bercier, Correspondent

COUNTRYSIDE BIBLE CHURCH

Meade, Kan.

David Cummings, Pastor

A group from our church traveled to Lafayette, Ind., to take part in the Faith Biblical Counseling Training, Feb. 6-13. The Teens Living for Christ took a Ski Trip March 13-16.

Our Church Family Retreat was held in Wichita March 19-21, with Pastor Cummings speaking on "Heroes: Every Man Dies. Not Every Man Lives."

continued on page 16

FOCUS ON OUR CHURCHES

continued from page 15

The **Jeff and Angie Howard Family** shared their experiences in Ecuador.

Our Annual Soup Supper was held Feb. 15, with proceeds totaling \$1,455.

Milestone

Jake Z. Friesen, the oldest member of our church, but still attending regularly, had his 97th birthday on March 27.

Ann Classen, Correspondent

DALMENY BIBLE CHURCH

Dalmeny, Sask.

Dennis Friesen, Senior Pastor

We officially installed our youth pastoral couple, **Dave and Larisa Cornelius**, in March.

Thirteen people from our congregation are planning a mission trip to Talnoe, Ukraine, this summer. They sponsored a soup dinner and a Daae Family gospel singing concert to raise funds.

"The Marriage Course," a seven-week study, was offered to couples to strengthen and build relationships.

Along with the Community Church, Easter Week services were held at our church. We studied the Feasts of the Lord that are outlined in Leviticus 23. We ended our Kid's Club this year with a short Easter program and chicken supper to which all families of the kids were invited.

Marilyn Harder, Correspondent

EVANGELICAL BIBLE CHURCH

Omaha, Neb.

Dr. Don Pahl, Senior Pastor

Missions was the emphasis for our March "Hearts for the Harvest" event. These missionaries came to update us on their work, and encourage us to participate in short or long-term missions: **Willie Hunter** (*Gospelink*); **Roger and Lois Reimer** (*HCJB Global*); **Ira, Marcia and Katy Beasterfield** (*Camp Forest Springs*); and **Keith and Olivia Heppner** (*Rio Grande Bible Institute*). Our goal was to raise \$12,000 to be used for three projects: a scholarship for an RGBI student, a trail mower for Camp Forest Springs, and funding for short-term missions. That goal was not only met, but exceeded. We enjoyed a Tex-Mex dinner as a finale.

Baptisms

Joey Lilo, Madison Vesley, Nathan Vesley, Josiah, Noah and Sarah Krehbiel

Betty Masters, Correspondent

EVANGELICAL BIBLE CHURCH

Dallas, Ore.

Jerry Franz, Senior Pastor

Mark and MaryLynn McCulloch were commissioned as missionaries at a service

in January, as they prepared to leave for their field in Montenegro with Operation Mobilization. Our Missions Weekend in February featured **Dave and Drenda Duff** from Ecola Bible College.

In January we hosted the annual Teacher Appreciation Luncheon for our local school district teachers. We held a "Focus on Marriage" simulcast, open to our community, in February. The 53rd Dallas Community Awards Banquet honored two of our members for their activities in and for the community of Dallas: **Jim Fowler** was named Dallas First Citizen, and **Ben Simpson** was named Junior First Citizen.

Alice McCulloch and **Anna Burwell** are heading the newly formed EBC Church Orchestra. Practices started in January.

Baptisms

Daniel Glasscock, Jarrett Brateng, Emily Basaraba and Wyatt Basaraba

Anne Casey, Correspondent

EVANGELICAL BIBLE CHURCH

Langham, Sask.

Greg Guarnett, Senior Pastor

Our senior youth spent an evening with **Pastor Lee Young** and the **Salem Church** youth in Waldheim. It was a fun time of connecting with our sister church kids.

Parents are leading the senior youth through **TrueU**, a DVD-based apologetics curriculum.

Our annual Ladies' Salad Supper drew about 120 women for delicious salads, and to hear **Linda Chamagne** speak about her life and ministry to the underprivileged in downtown Saskatoon.

Bill and Marie Pascoe participated in a Mexico mission trip with another church, and returned with enthusiasm and encouragement for us to get involved.

We thoroughly enjoyed hosting the FEBC Workshop! Business was accomplished and the fellowship was warm.

Marilyn Friesen, Correspondent

EVANGELICAL MENNONITE BRETHREN

Lustre, Mont.

John Skillman, Pastor

Making *verenika* (cottage cheese dumplings) and sewing stitches in a queen-size medallion quilt kept the ladies busy preparing for the annual *Schmeckfest* (Festival of Tasting) at Lustre Christian High School (LCHS). We have also held monthly potlucks for students living in the LCHS dormitory who attend EMB. We have such a variety of international students, and these are good times to interact with the teens.

In January, we were privileged to meet together after church and pray for our Fel-

lowship churches. We moved to different prayer stations in various church rooms, where prayer requests were written.

Pastor John and **Martin Fast** have been faithful in their ministry of jail visitation, visiting at Wolf Point and Glasgow this winter to encourage several men who have been eager for their prayers and visits.

Lustre Christian High School had a successful Spiritual Emphasis Week in early March as **Otis Kline** from the Glendive, Mont., Dinosaur Museum gave presentations. The students also were able to travel to this Creation-based museum for an all-day visit at the end of the seminar.

Our church participated in one of the "Faith Cometh by Hearing" projects this winter. We helped provide IPOD "sticks" that come loaded with the New Testament to servicemen around our world.

Sharon Skillman, Correspondent

EVANGELICAL MENNONITE BRETHREN CHURCH

Marion, S.D.

Randy Maass, Pastor

Marion EMB cooperates with a seven-member Marion Area Ministerial Association. Combined services were held in different churches each Sunday during Lent, with none of the pastors speaking at their own church. The final service before Easter was held Wednesday evening March 31, with Pastor John DeGroff of Calvary Reformed Church (Monroe, S.D.) speaking at the Bethesda Church. Attendance was much better compared to former years, when services were held on successive nights.

EMB and Bethesda Church met together at EMB for our annual joint Good Friday service. Both pastors led the congregation in "The Order of Tenebrae," remembering the death of Jesus.

Pastor Maass has had some interesting messages from the Gospel of John on Jesus' claims of "I AM." The Sunday school class is using the book of Mark as their study.

Ray Becker, Correspondent

FAITH EVANGELICAL BIBLE CHURCH

Henderson, Neb.

Michael Fink, Pastor

Our high school youth group enjoyed a pizza and movie night in February, viewing "Left Behind" and considering the importance of their relationship to Christ. The junior high group made and sold pizzas in March as a fundraiser, giving half of their monies to needs in Haiti, and using the remainder for an overnight party at the church.

Awana Grand Prix in February was a big

FOCUS ON OUR CHURCHES

event for the children of our church and community. Children purchased and designed their cars, meeting strict requirements. Race day brought parents, relatives and friends to share the excitement.

Easter Sunday was a special event beginning with an Easter Breakfast, and featuring a children's story by **Pastor Mike**.

Alice Decker, Correspondent

GRACE EVANGELICAL BIBLE CHURCH

Abbotsford, B.C.

Dr. Warren Schatz, Pastor



We were blessed to have Teen Challenge Women's Centre minister to our congregation in March. Several young women shared their story and led the worship in song, and **Anne Donkers**, centre director, gave the message. With the help of the young women, our main kitchen received a much-needed cleaning at a "Kitchen Work Bee," followed by high tea at SerendipiTea.

FEBC missionaries **Milton and Kathi Torio** are planning to minister this spring in Romania, Moldova and Serbia with Tabita Ministries International, using chalk talks and music. Tabita Ministries reaches out to help widows, the destitute, mothers and children, the elderly and the infirm.

On Palm Sunday, a fellowship breakfast was held in the activity centre with the congregation remaining at their tables during the worship service. Since Vancouver had recently hosted the Olympic games, and many families had travelled to Vancouver to take part in the festivities or watched them on TV, it seemed appropriate to use images of people celebrating the Olympic games to show how the crowd might have reacted to Jesus' entry into Jerusalem. The children marched in procession between the tables following an authentic Olympic torch, an updated version of people waving palm branches in celebration.

Grace Toews, Correspondent

For information about Grace Church and its ministries visit www.graceabbotsford.com

HEARTLAND BIBLE CHURCH

Lincoln, Neb.

Scott Hecht, Pastor

Jim and Olya Wiens (Avant Ministries) shared their ministry in Russia with us in February.

Missions Movie Night in January featured a DVD about the well-digging projects of the New Tribes Mission, and another about the ministry of Missionary Aviation Fellowship in Borneo and Kalimantan.

At our Talent Night for families in March, many musical numbers, artistry displays and readings were shared.

Our new quarter in the adult Sunday school features a class on Isaiah and one on Core Christian Knowledge.

Trudy Reimer, Correspondent

HODGSON BIBLE CHURCH

Hodgson, Man.

James Thiessen, Pastor

In April, members of our congregation reported on recent mission trips: **Charlie Holland** shared about his youth mission trip to Jamaica; and **John and Sara Plett** filled us in on their "Back to the Bible" tour to Israel. Both of these trips occurred over the Easter season.

Our youth program, led by **Logan and Mel Spence**, is a vital part of the church. They report about a fun, energetic group of about 12-15 youth who do not attend our church. Many come from non-Christian homes. Some are just beginning to learn about the Gospel this year. A few have made a commitment to follow Jesus at some point in their lives. Logan and Mel attended Nipawin Bible College Youth Retreat with a few of our youth, two of whom have never attended a Christian youth retreat, and it was exciting to see them encouraged and challenged to follow Jesus wholeheartedly.

Last winter we enjoyed the Financial Peace University, a 13-week video program on money management.

On April 12, we heard the sermon via DVD, being reminded not to "fast forward" and go home early. (**Pastor James** and his wife, Juliann, were attending the installation service in the **Riverbend Bible Church**, Dallas, Man.).

Sara Plett, Correspondent

JANSEN BIBLE CHURCH

Jansen, Neb.

Paul Carpenter, Pastor

Dr. Bob Wilkin was featured at our Bible Conference in March, instructing us in Jesus' method of evangelism demonstrated in the book of John.

The Awana Grand Prix races brought in

families of clubbers. The Gospel was presented in the context of the wide and narrow roads and their destinations.

Calvary Bible College Chorale presented a concert on March 19, arriving with the last blast of winter snow.

Tena Dick, Correspondent

NORTHEAST BIBLE CHURCH

Calgary, Alta.

John Fehr, Pastor

During April **Pastor John** was the guest speaker for a weekend church conference in Montreal, Quebec. He spoke about letting your roots go down deep, producing healthy plants and a bountiful harvest. This is a series he will preach here at Northeast this spring. While he was away, **Pastor Nilo** from our Filipino Congregation filled the pulpit for him, and we were inspired by his message to have faith in God for miracles.

A miracle happened just yesterday, when an immigrant family we have helped over the last two years reached out to help another recent immigrant with a much-needed monthly bus pass. Kindness and practical love coming full circle — only God can do this!

A young mother recently used her dry-walling skills to move ahead a stalled renovation project in our upstairs meeting room. Others primed and painted. Many hands using their unique gifts make up our growing church family.

Julie Ann Simpson, Correspondent

RICHER FELLOWSHIP CHURCH

Richer, Man.

Simon Cheung, Pastor

Our annual meeting went well. We could see in "the financial picture" how faithful God has been to us.

Our ladies group held a Saturday movie matinee, inviting friends and women from the community and their daughters to see "Faith Like Potatoes."

The youth group took a short break, but is hoping to get going again with some gym sessions this spring.



One cold night, our Awana group held

continued on page 18

FOCUS ON OUR CHURCHES

Hawaiian Night, with summer games played, summer clothes being worn, and of course, “summery” snacks for everyone.

We do not have Sunday school classes at this time, but during part of the church service we have children’s church for ages two through five years, and six through ten years old.

Susan Reid, Correspondent

SALEM CHURCH

Waldheim, Sask.

Darrell Derksen, Senior Pastor

We are in the middle of offering “Christianity Explored” to our church and community. We also hosted a Love and Respect Marriage Conference in March. Since we were just shy of the 2,000 people needed to host a live conference, **Dr. Emerson** and **Sarah Eggerichs** provided the teaching through their conference video. You may want to explore their ministry website at www.loveandrespect.com

We recognize that our church is strengthened as we share our best with the people around the world. **Bryan Lester**, an emergency room nurse, spent 10 days in Haiti serving with GAIN. **Deborah Unruh** left on a 10-day missions exploration trip to western Asia in March, including specific ministry to university students. **Tim and Lorraine Redekopp** left for the Haggai Institute in Maui in April, where they will spend five months serving people from around the world with leadership training.

Our church continues to enjoy the spiritual impact of Sunday morning Bible classes, and it has been encouraging to see the strong attendance in the adult classes.

STUARTBURN GOSPEL CHAPEL

Stuartburn, Man.

Mark Funk, Pastor



Wes Schellenberg, working with InterAct Ministries in Calgary, Alta., presented the mission’s work and needs to our church family in March. Wes ministers to the Muslim people in the city and does administrative

work for the mission as well. Our church’s women’s ministries has supported Wes and his wife, Carol, financially for many years.



Don Pickle, representing Avant Ministries, also ministered to our congregation in March. Don relayed the work that is going on around the world. Some countries have more Christians, per capita, than our country of Canada, but there are still many countries that need to hear the Gospel. The mission is trying to send small groups of missionaries into areas with no evangelical churches with the goal of starting a church and equipping local people to run it within five years.

Pastor Mark and his family, along with a team from our church, are planning a mission trip to Costa Rica early in 2011. **Irvin and Linda Boschmann** have been teaching Spanish to those interested in being a part of the team. The team will be involved in evangelism ministries as well as working construction. Please pray that this will be an effective outreach to the people living in Costa Rica, and that our eyes will be opened to the opportunities in missions.

We enjoyed a formal dinner and movie night Feb. 12. The youth group and their leaders cooked a wonderful meal, followed by the movie “Fireproof.”

Many unsaved parents from the community came to watch their children compete in the Awana grand prix in February. Awana has been a real ministry of our church, bringing the Gospel to about 65 children every year.

Marilyn D. Thiessen, Correspondent

VITA BIBLE CHURCH

Vita, Man.

Our youth prepared and served a Valentine banquet for the adults. The funds raised will help build a play area for children and a beach volleyball court. Our annual fish fry in March raised money for new shingles.

Women’s Ministries held a treasure exchange in January, with **Carolyn Jaman** as speaker. In March, a supper buffet of ethnic

foods complimented the Banqueting Table theme. **Elda Loeppky** was our speaker.

Gordon and Linda Reimer hosted the Family Ski Day at their dairy farm. Activities included cross-country skiing, football, milking and table games.

We are currently offering the Financial Peace University to 15 participants.

Jane Roman, Correspondent

PASTORAL POSITION AVAILABLE

The Humboldt Bible Church in Humboldt, Sask., invites applications for the position of full-time pastor with the following qualifications:

- prior pastoral experience either as lead or associate pastor
- ability to demonstrate genuine love for and acceptance of all people in the congregation
- good preaching/teaching communication skills
- a passion for excellence in worship which will blend traditional and contemporary approaches
- a clear track record in previous ministries of church growth through evangelism

The church is evangelical, non-charismatic and affiliated with the Fellowship of Evangelical Bible Churches. Church and community profile available upon request. Visit our website at:

www.humboldtbiblechurch.ca

Please send resume to:

Hugh Jenkins

PO Box 2421,

Humboldt, SK S0K 2A0

e-mail: h.jenkins@sasktel.net.

The Fellowship Focus is

available online

without cost.

<http://www.febcministries.org/>

fellowship-focus



Letter to the Editor

Hello!

My name is Elizabeth Clevenger and I'm a Calvary Bible College sophomore. I've been receiving a scholarship from the Fellowship of Evangelical Bible Churches for the past two years, and would like to let you know how college is going.

I just got back from chorale tour over spring break, and it was great! I met some amazing older people who are either retired or continuing to min-

ister wherever they can. Calvary's president and wife came with us and encouraged us every step of the way to be patient with each other and to grow through any difficulties that come up. I did grow and learn, not only from being with 25 other people for 10 days, but also from the new people we met and the songs we sang.

Right now I am reading "Knowing God," by J.I.Packer, for one of my classes. It is showing me my true position/relationship with God, and freeing me from so much incorrect

theology. Also, after a chapel speaker talked about a new believer who decided to memorize a verse every day, I decided to do the same thing! Right now I am almost done with 2 Timothy. My goal is to memorize the whole New Testament, alternating each book with a psalm or Old Testament chapter.

I love the teachers and friends I have here at Calvary, and am grateful for your financial help! Thank you so much.

Elizabeth Clevenger

THE RECORD

BIRTHS AND ADOPTIONS

Cornerstone Bible Church Mountain Lake, Minn.

- **Tienna Mae** to **Micah and Kris Hopper**, March 30; grandmother is **Eunice Wall**

Countryside Bible Church Meade, Kan.

- **Caleb Andrew** to **Cameron and Kendra Ediger**, Jan. 12; grandparents are **Richard and Nancy Ediger**; great-grandparents are **Nick and Helen Ediger**
- **Josephine Amber** to **Darren and Jackie Lewis**, Jan. 21; grandparents are **Doug and Bev Lewis**; great-grandfather is **Abe Isaac**

Evangelical Bible Church Dallas, Ore.

- **Eva Louise** to **Alan and Kelly Casey**, Jan. 22; grandparents are **Bob and Becky Baxter** and **Jim and Anne Casey**; great-grandparents are **Johnny and Rachel Reimer**

Grace Evangelical Bible Church Abbotsford, B.C.

- **Olivia Helena** to **Paul and Martha Flaming**, March 11

Heartland Bible Church Lincoln, Neb.

- **Myah Lily** to **Mari and Tom Schlegel**, Feb. 17

Salem Church Waldheim, Sask.

- **Lexi Danae** to **Daniel and Renee Derksen**, Jan. 19; grandparents are **Pastor Darrell and Priscilla Derksen**; great-grandparents are **Don and Nettie Douma**
- **Holden James** to **Blayne and Jodi (Magee) Hettinga**, Jan. 21; grandparents are **Jim and Donna Magee**; great-grandma is **Wanda Ratzlaff**
- **Landyn Christopher** to **David and Stefanie Neufeld**, January 21; grandparents are **Ken and Annette Neufeld**
- **Andrew Donald** to **Don and Kerri Schultz**, Feb. 13
- **Everett Geoffrey** to **Michael and Michelle Lauen**, Feb. 19
- **Jericho Kayleb Messiah** to **Jose and Maria Serrano**, Feb. 19; grandmother is **Heather Klauke**

WEDDINGS

Cornerstone Bible Church Mountain Lake, Minn.

- **Chantal Reynolds**, daughter of **Pastor LeRoy and Sharon Reynolds** (First Mennonite Church, Butterfield, Minn.) to **Titus Penner**, son of **Jonathan and Kathy Penner**, Dec. 12

Salem Church Waldheim, Sask.

- **Louise Roth** to **Bill Bueckert**, Feb. 27

DEATHS

Community Bible Church Omaha, Neb.

- **Dr. Don Tschetter** (82), Feb. 25

Community Bible Church Wolf Point, Mont.

- **Agnes Baerg** (96), March 25

Cornerstone Bible Church Steinbach, Man.

- **Frank Klassen** (85), March 2
- **Ralph Guenther** (77), March 8

Cornerstone Bible Church Mountain Lake, Minn.

- **Evelyn Regier Einfeld** (88), April 6

Countryside Bible Church Meade, Kan.

- **Helen Classen** (92), March 6

Evangelical Bible Church Dallas, Ore.

- **Wilma Lafferty** (84), Dec. 28
- **Howard Henry Friesen** (89), Jan. 7
- **Helen Isaac** (98), Jan. 17

Evangelical Bible Church Langham, Sask.

- **Allan Friesen** (83), March 19

Grace Evangelical Bible Church Abbotsford, B.C.

- **John A. Friesen** (92), Feb. 16
- **Peter Mierau** (93), March 24
- **Lena Peters** (93), March 27

Salem Church Waldheim, Sask.

- **Rosaline Unruh** (83), Feb. 3

NO ENDORSEMENT



Focus on FEBC Church Planting

News and updates on our church plants and their pastors

By Harvey Schultz, Ministries Coordinator

Humboldt Bible Church, Humboldt, Sask. Ed and Susan Fischer

When the Fischers arrived in 2005 membership was down to six. There were no local elders. Recently seven people joined the church, bringing total membership to 20. Now there are two elders with a third one in training. Ed has resigned and will move by the end of summer. Please pray as we search for a new pastor. It is our hope that after the installation of a new pastor, the church will be able to carry on as a fully autonomous church. Praise the Lord! On June 5 representatives from the other FEBC churches in Saskatchewan plan to converge on Humboldt for a roofing bee, as the shingles need to be replaced.

Community Bible Church, Tisdale, Sask. Brian and Linda Friesen

Attendance has increased significantly in the past six months and has been pushing past the 50 mark. The Lord keeps bringing additional people into the group — either newly-arrived believers or new contacts. The small auditorium is often full, and a solution addressing space problems must be found. Pray not only for a solution to the cramped quarters, but also that more of the newcomers would be willing to assume full responsibility for “their” church through service, membership and generous giving.

Community Bible Church, Indian Head, Sask. Bill and Sandra Glasspell

This church is no longer receiving financial subsidies and would be fully autonomous were it not for the fact that it has only one local elder. Pray for additional men who are committed to Christ, growing in their Christian walk and willing to serve. Pray also for the financial challenge the group faces as they seek to assume full financial responsibility. The church’s new website has received hundreds of “hits”.

Richer Fellowship Church, Richer, Man. Simon Cheung

Simon’s perseverance in identifying with the community has made the church much more visible in the town. The “Financial Peace University” series has further enhanced that visibility, and some additional people have started attending this year. Financially the group has climbed out of a hole and their bank balance is showing slow but steady signs of improvement. Pray for the salvation of local people who would then “join up” with this church.

Hebron Bible Church, Hebron, Neb. Jeff and Wendy Friesen

As of May 31, this church will no longer receive subsidies from the FEBC. They are not a large group (average 35 - 40) but fortunately, they own their own building debt free. They, too, are looking for additional men to serve as elders, as they have only one local elder at this point. Pray for committed, qualified men and for the financial challenge they face.

Paradise Valley Church, Natoma, Kan. Ben and Sharon McConnell

Ben and Sharon have effectively and wonderfully identified with and integrated into the local community, but there has been little visible fruit. The FEBC Commission on Church Planting does not believe it is wise to continue subsidizing church plants indefinitely. Ben and Sharon are, however, committed to carrying on the ministry. They have opened a coffee shop/bakery to subsidize their own salary. Pray for stamina for them and for visible results due to their ministry.

Community Bible Fellowship, Tahlequah, Okla.

Since November 2009, the church has been without a pastor. Attendance has remained constant. A pastoral search is underway. Please pray that the man of the Lord’s choosing to shepherd this flock will be found soon, and that he will lead it to full autonomy.