

Oldham-Trimble Baptist Association

Twenty-two Baptist churches
and two church plants
serving the Oldham-Trimble area

the CALL

www.otba-ky.com

4901 South Highway 53
Crestwood, KY 40014
502-225-9449

Rick Lucas, Director of Missions
Email: director@otba-ky.com
Mary Yokley, Ministry Assistant
Email: assistant@otba-ky.com

February 1, 2008

REFLECTIONS BELECTIONS

—from rick

Fail Big!

Recently, I came across an interview of Denzel Washington—you know, the actor who regularly pulls down about \$20 million per movie and apparently is a committed Christian.

Along with the interesting interview, there was a box with some "fluff" questions in it. One asked what his favorite motto was. His answer included the phrase, "Fail big," which got me thinking...

How many times have I needed that nudge! What about me makes me afraid to take risks, attempt big things?

Of course, it's not like God wants us to fail! The truth is, though, if we *never* fail, we may not be doing much of significance. We're probably playing it safe, relying on our own resources, not His.

Sure, we say glibly, piously enough, "My Father owns the cattle on a 1,000 hills." But too often we operate as if all He's got are a few rangy Longhorns about to head off to the last round-up!

We get miserly with ministry vision and material resources. We huddle in our bunkers, afraid to stick our heads up for fear some heathen will blow it off!

Remember, the master praises the steward who got the greatest return on investment and condemned the one who played it safe (Mat. 25:14-30). Count on it: A greater return entails a greater risk!

Now obviously, we don't take the risks for our own sake. In his interview, Denzel Washington, asked about fame, replied, "It ain't about me. The one thing for me, understanding how I understand God, is that it keeps me humble, keeps the pronouns out of the picture. I've been given certain abilities, and I look at it this way: What are you going to do with what you have? Who are you going to lift up?"

Jesus made it plain what His priority was: "I came to seek and to save the lost" (Luke 19:10). He told of a shepherd who risks leaving his flock of 99 in the open field to go find the one lost lamb. (Luke 15:4)

Our risk-taking should be pointed in the direction of reaching the hurting, the wayward, the outcast, and the rebellious. Isn't that who Jesus was accused of hanging out with? The thing is, I suspect, (no statistics to point to, here) that

(continued, bottom of next column)

Phos Hilaron Church Launches Feb. 3

Phos Hilaron Church begins its "public" ministry efforts Sunday, Feb. 3 with worship experiences in Tinseltown Theatre 11 at 10:00 a.m. (Kidsperience will precede at 9:00.)

Following that, there'll be no looking back. Another worship service will follow Feb. 10. A service worship (worshiping through servant ministry and fellowship) will be next on Feb. 17, as the congregation works at Oldham Co. Middle School.

On Feb. 24 worship leaders will present "Prodigal in Vegas," in which live music and singers provide a dramatic interpretation of the parable of the prodigal son.

Please pray for the church plant as they strive to reach the lost specifically in the area of western Oldham/"east of the Snyder" that more may come to celebrate the Light of the World.

Executive Board Meeting February 11 7:00 p.m. Buckner Baptist Dinner at 6:15

This year's Annual Church Profiles, alarmingly, showed 6 churches without listed executive board members. If yours is one of those, please select a board member for the sake of input into OTBA decision-making and communication.

Russell Bennett has written, "Associations are where churches talk to one another." Please don't let your voice be silent. Be sure to inform the OTBA office of your selection of a new board member.

too many churches spend more on meals and kitchen supplies than on outreach and ministry outside the church. In far too many congregations, to redirect the time, energy, and finances of the church to those outside its walls is, indeed, risky behavior.

But I'm convinced that if we're to follow Christ in American churches today, we must take that risk—in a big way! Even at the risk of failure!

When was the last time you—or your church, for that matter—failed? failed big? Was it for the sake of those who were far from Christ? If not, perhaps you and I should be asking about what needs to change in our lives and in our churches.

Salazar Mission Trip Scholarships Available Now

Volunteers who need additional support in order to go on international missions trips may apply for assistance to the Luis & Raquel Salazar Trust for International Missions. Requests are considered in order of application and need.

Applications are reviewed and decisions made by an elected selection committee. Forms are due 4 months in advance of trip departure to allow ample time for processing. Funds allocated will not exceed 50% of trip costs.

Applicants may call the OTBA office for more specifics or to request an application form.

The committee was thrilled to see the great work God accomplished through 10 fund recipients working in 7 countries this past year. Missions work with two unreached people groups was supported. Gospel seeds were planted and a number responded to the Good News of salvation through faith in Christ. Three young people were confirmed during their trips of a calling to international missions as a vocation.

For an application or more info, please call or email the OTBA office.



Coming KBC Events

Evangelism Conference

Nationally recognized speakers, breakout sessions with something for everyone, and special events for women and youth leaders is all part of the KBC Evangelism Conference at Severns Valley Baptist Church, E-town, on Feb. 25-26. For more info go to: www.kybaptist.org/evangelismconference

LeaderCare Conference

A special workshop to help ministers thrive, *not merely survive* is set for Mar. 4, 9am, in Long Run Baptist Association, Louisville. Led by Barney Self, formerly a Lifeway LeaderCare Counselor, the workshop will focus on helping ministers serve effectively amid these demanding times. Call Long Run Assn (635-2601) for info and registration details.

Comeback Churches

Noted author, church planter and missiologist Ed Stetzer will lead *Comeback Church Conference* March 25, 10 am—2 pm at FBC, Bowling Green. Cost for the conference covers lunch and Stetzer's book by the same title. Register at www.kybaptist.org/comebackchurches.

Oldham-Trimble Baptist Association

Rick Lucas, Director of Missions
4901 So. Hwy 53
Crestwood, KY 40014

Non-profit Organization
U. S. Postage Paid
LaGrange, KY 40031
Permit Number 14

Postmaster: Return
Service Requested



**Treasurer's
Report
Jan. 31, 2008**

Sep. 1, 2007 –Jan. 30, 2008

Church Income:

Antioch -----	\$60.92
Ballardsville -----	3,127.90
Bedford -----	2,166.64
Beulah Land -----	264.62
Buckner -----	925.48
Centerfield -----	0.00
Corn Creek -----	0.00
Covington -----	995.05
Crestwood -----	5,000.00
DeHaven -----	2,263.73
Eighteen Mile -----	310.16
Harrods Creek -----	839.29
LaGrange -----	10,180.20
LaGrange Heights -----	0.00
Liberty -----	60.00
Milton -----	2,500.00
Pleasant View -----	100.00
Poplar Ridge -----	1,000.00
Providence -----	569.60
Sligo -----	1,733.76
Union Grove -----	180.00
Westport -----	4,448.95
Total Church Income -----	36,726.30

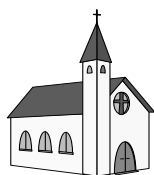
<u>Undesignated Indiv. Gift -----</u>	<u>150.00</u>
Total Undes'd Receipts -----	36,876.30

Designated Funds

B.M.C. Building Fund -----	3,074.60
New Equipment Fund -----	1,489.13
<u>Salazar Fund -----</u>	<u>2,233.75</u>
Total Designated Funds -----	6,797.48

Summary

Total Balance, 12/1/07 ----	\$41,677.08
Designated Funds -----	6,797.48
Undesignated Balance ----	\$34,882.60



**AMONG THE
CHURCHES**

Please be in prayer for
BALLARDSVILLE, COVINGTON,
CRESTWOOD, and MILTON churches
as they seek pastors.

BALLARDSVILLE will lead a team of 22 individuals on a mission trip to Honduras Feb. 9-23. They will build 10 basic homes, a church building, and conduct three church VBSs.

BEULAH LAND will hold a Chili Cook-Off Feb. 22, 6 PM, as a fundraiser for their building program. Pastor Doug Acree has retired from his secular vocation with plans to devote full-time to his ministry.

BUCKNER youth will attend the "Give Me an Answer" Conference at Southern Seminary Feb. 1-2. Also, the church will hold a Children's Ministry Meeting on Sat., Feb. 23 from 9:00-11:30. Any church children's workers/teachers are invited to join in. Please reserve your place by Feb 15 by calling the church office (222-1735) or emailing "bucknerbaptistchurch@insightbb.com."

CRESTWOOD has called as interim pastor Billy Compton, who has recently begun serving as KBC Executive Associate for Cooperative Program and served previously as pastor at Severns Valley Baptist Church. Krista Boerrigter has joined the church leadership team as Director of Connecting Ministries. Leigh Ann Greene is the new children's ministry assistant.

DEHAVEN invites all to a gospel choir concert by the St. Stephen Church Tabernacle Choir on Sunday night, Feb. 17, at 6 pm. Held at DeHaven, there will be no admission, but a love offering for choir expenses will be taken.

LaGRANGE is holding Feb. 22-23 Passport 2 Purity, a guided middle-schooler retreat for a mother and daughter or father and son. Its aim is to prepare children learn how to make wise

Biblical decisions.

MILTON continues to see good results from its Women's Ministry Bible Studies. Ladies will begin their second Beth Moore book study this month.

PROVIDENCE is hosting a wild game supper Feb. 23, 6 pm.

WESTPORT begins on Feb. 10 a 12-week study *The Blazing Center* by John Piper.



Infant/Child Resource Center

...has a big need for diapers of all sizes, but especially larger ones. They can also put to good use wipes, baby powder, lotion, wash and diaper ointment. Items can be dropped off on Monday evenings, 6-8 pm, at the ICRC at 210 E. Madison, La Grange. Angela Thomas is Board Chair and may be reached at 222-4197 or angandrew@aol.com.



**Salazar Committee
Meeting**

**Feb., 18, 7:00 pm
Sligo Baptist**



**Marriage Enrichment
Opportunity**

The Marriage Enrichment Resource Center (MERCY) will present a marriage enrichment seminar February 16, entitled "The Balancing Act: Managing the Circus of Work and Family." Presenter will be Debbie Houston, a local Bible study teacher and Southern Seminary graduate. It will be held at Baptist Hospital Northeast from 9:30-11:00 a.m. There will be no fee, though an offering will be taken to help cover expenses.

To register for this event or for more info call Penny Hudson at 939-0121 or email her at pdhud9@aol.com.