

Oldham-Trimble Baptist Association

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

the CALL

www.otba-ky.com

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July 18, 2008

REFLECTIONS BELIECTIONS

—from rick

The First Kingdom- Focused Church

Antioch was not merely the first church where believers were called Christians. It was also the first church which had a Kingdom focus.

You might ask, "How can Jerusalem not be considered a Kingdom-focused church? After all, on the day of Pentecost people from many nations became believers as they heard the gospel proclaimed in their own language."

Consider, though, the following:

The church at Jerusalem was slow to accept that the gospel could cross the lines of their ethnic group and traditional religious beliefs and practices. The church at Antioch early on was affected by men from Cyprus and Cyrene who readily preached to other ethnics. (Acts 11:19-20)

The church at Jerusalem had not explicitly followed Christ's command to be witnesses beyond Jerusalem, many choosing to remain there even after the persecution which began with Stephen's martyrdom. The church at Antioch soon sent out Paul and Barnabas on mission. (Acts 13:2,3)

The church at Antioch was following the Spirit's leadership and rode on the front edge of a wave of gospel expansion. (Acts 11:21) The church at Jerusalem was constantly being surprised by gospel advances and sometimes seemed to want to "police" the Spirit's movements. (Acts 11:22; Acts 15:1-21)

Despite its cutting-edge mission, the church at Antioch did not disregard the church at Jerusalem but recognized its role as a Kingdom partner. Upon hearing prophetically of a coming famine, Antioch believers gave sacrificially to support their Jerusalem Kingdom partners, who would have been devastatingly affected by the famine. (Acts 11:27-30)

These are critical lessons for churches who desire to be Kingdom churches:

—Listen carefully for God's direction and be ever ready to obey and act.

—Do not regard your own expression of "doing church" as the norm for all other believers.

—Expect the Spirit to be moving ahead of us to leap boundaries and barriers to bless all people with Life. That is His Mission.

—Continued to next column

ADULT CLOTHES CLOSET AND INFANT/CHILD RESOURCE CENTER

Both of these good ministries are in need of volunteers. Especially needed are church teams of 2-3 individuals who will work one evening per month. Both centers are open on Mondays from 6-8 pm, except holidays.

In line with their gifting, individuals may work with clients or sort and display donations. Also, volunteers who speak Spanish, however limited, are greatly needed.

For more information, contact one of the leaders listed below:

Adult Clothes Closet
Evelyn Morgan
222-1322

Infant/Child Resource Center
Angela Thomas
222-4197

Upcoming OTBA Meetings

Executive Board Meeting
August 11, 2008
Poplar Ridge BC
6:15, Dinner; 7:00, Meeting

Vision Team Meeting
September 8, 2008
OTBA Ministry Center
6:30, Dinner; 7:00, Meeting

—Be ready to give sacrificially—money, time, leaders—to see God's Kingdom expand.

—Be a sending church, a multiplying church.

—Be careful to recognize sister churches, not as competitors, but as partners in Kingdom work.

—Remember! There's little place in Kingdom work for "Lone Ranger" churches. Even with the difficulties of their day, the early churches labored at communicating with each other, supporting each other, and partnering for Kingdom advance.

The western church stands at a pivotal time. It is being swamped by a cultural sea change. If its decline is to be reversed, the western church will have to nurture strong, Kingdom-focused churches that transform their communities, their culture, and the world.

Ask God to show you how your church measures up to the insights we can gain from the church at Antioch—the first Kingdom-focused church.



Oldham-Trimble Baptist Builders

HELP WANTED! Project: July 19-25

Volunteers are needed to donate framing, roofing, and siding skills for Lighthouse Ministries of Mayfield, KY. The ministry provides emergency housing for homeless women and their children.

OTBB volunteers will work on a 6,150 square foot building which will add space for the ministry to house 8 new families.

Cost for the trip will be \$70 per person, which will provide meals for the week. For shorter stays the fee is \$10 per day. The group will be housed in FBC, Mayfield facilities.

For more information or to sign up, contact the OTBA office or Shane Courtney at 255-7718 or wscourtney@bellsouth.net.

All willing volunteers are welcome! All levels of skill can be used.



Good News Homes

The ministry continues faithful in its ministry of providing transitional housing and guidance for displaced families in the Oldham-Trimble area. As always, there are more requests for help than GNH has facilities to house them.

Funding is always an issue for GNH—especially daily operations funds. If your church could consider designating some missions or benevolence funds their way, whether regular or one-time gifts, that would go a long way to providing needed stability in resources for this work that is so vital to our area's homeless families.

To find out how you can help, contact Rose Boyd at 225-0351.

Repair Affairs

GNH helps sponsor both the Oldham and Trimble Repair Affairs, one-day repair projects for elderly and disabled home-owners of these counties. The Oldham Co. project will be Sat., Aug. 23. The Trimble project will likely be in late Sept. Applications for assistance are being taken. Donations and volunteers are also needed. For more info, contact the OTBA office.

Oldham-Trimble Baptist Association

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

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June 18, 2008

THE CALL

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PLEASE NOTE:

The OTBA office will be closed June 19-27 for vacations. Personnel will be back in the office on Monday morning June 30, bright and refreshed!



New Dawn Report

New Dawn Baptist Church continues to do well in its ministries. In a recent report pastor Jon Young reported an average attendance of 87 in worship and 40 in Sunday School. Giving has been averaging \$2,400.

This week NDBC youth are on mission in Calhoun, GA. They are assisting predominantly Anglo Antioch Baptist Church, the church that came on a mission trip here last April. They will conduct backyard Bible clubs in a nearby area that is predominantly Hispanic.

Pray for New Dawn as they continue faithful ministry here in this area—and in Georgia as well.

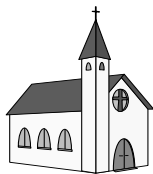


Marriage Enrichment Opportunity

The Marriage Enrichment Resource Center (MERCY) will present a marriage enrichment seminar July 26, entitled "Dealing with Conflicts Within the Blended Family." Presenter will be James Vester, a marriage and family therapy associate.

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 check out the website (www.kymrc.com), call Penny Hudson at 939-0121, or email her at pdhud9@aol.com.



AMONG THE CHURCHES

Please pray for BALLARDSVILLE, CRESTWOOD, and PROVIDENCE churches as they seek pastors.

ANTIOCH is partnering with PROVIDENCE to conduct a VBS this summer at Antioch.

BALLARDSVILLE youth will be at the Crossings Camp June 15-20 with about 35 making the trip to Jonathan Creek. The church will hear testimony from Gabi Salazar on June 29, at 6pm as she tells of God's workings during her 2-year mission to South Africa.

BEULAH LAND: The previously-announced Hope Jam had to be rescheduled for July 4. Bands such as Sonic Ministry and Bloom will begin playing at noon and will end with fireworks in the evening. The set-up will be at Foundation of Hope's site, 3509 W. Hwy. 146 in Buckner. For admission bring a canned good to benefit the Foundation of Hope ministry. All are invited.

BUCKNER youth (13 in number) are on mission to Jacksonville, FL, June 14-21. We rejoice with youth pastor Micah Patterson and wife Kyle upon their welcoming their daughter, Jordan Faith, into this world on June 16. Kelly Thorn will be going on mission to Russia in July, using English classes as an outreach tool.

CRESTWOOD is holding their Missioncation event, with 130 families going to the Gulf Coast area of Mississippi doing a wide variety of outreach ministry. A team will be traveling to Colorado for a mission trip involving sports outreach, home repairs, and church plant support. Also, two teams travel to Brazil this month and one to Poland.

DeHAVEN hosted the India Children's Choir on June 12 and enjoyed beautiful music and an inspiring tale of missions endeavor. The choir does an annual tour in support of Bibles for the World, an indigenous ministry started by leaders of a

tribe in northern India. Once a feared tribe of headhunters, the tribe is now 98.5% Christian as a result of God working through mission work begun in 1910.

HARRODS CREEK will host a bluegrass concert led by "Bluegrass 101," an excellent area band. The concert, held on Sunday evening June 29, will begin at 7:00, preceded by a potluck dinner at 6:00. All are invited.

LaGRANGE youth will go on their student life camp July 7-11, at Cedarville University, in Cedarville, OH.

PROVIDENCE has had 6 to be baptized in the last 3 Sundays. The church had 8 attend GA Camp June 9-13 and 35 youth and sponsors go to camp at Cedarmore June 16-20. Doug Boyd's last Sunday as pastor will be June 29, after which he will begin pastoral duties in his home state of Missouri.

SLIGO held their youth camp last week at Cumberland Falls. The church commissioned Amber Crawford for ministry. She will serve as Children's Ministry Director for Bethel St. John's Church, Louisville. Their seniors' group recently took a trip to Cathedral Gardens, Henryville, IN.

WESTPORT had one youth saved at youth camp at Boone's Creek Camp. There will be 26 youth and sponsors taking part in Kentucky Changers—Maysville, June 21-28. Mallory Sewell will serve this summer with a Campbellsville University team supporting VBS work across the state.

Praise the Lord!

Many of you have been praying for Ferrill Davis, former pastor of Milton Baptist, and his need for a heart transplant.

As of 5:30 Tuesday morning, he has a new heart! He is doing amazingly well and hopes to go home early next week.

He will undergo regular biopsies to make sure his body is not rejecting the new heart. So, praise the Lord! and keep praying for Ferrill and his family.