



Opportunity Outreach

...from the Church Expansion Department of the Alabama Bible Methodist Conference

biblemethodist.org/alabama/church-expansion-dept.htm

Spring 2009

From Secretary Ingram: Why are most Christians satisfied within the walls of their church? Haven't we often prayed the following prayer? "Lord, we pray for our country in these dark times. Please save the lost in our communities and bring them to the cross. In Jesus' name we pray, Amen."



Would you be willing to pray **this** prayer? "Lord, send me into the 'outreaches' of my community. Use me to share Your gospel with the lost. Give me a passion for souls. Help me to win some soul for Thee."

Our hope for a better world is to win people to the better Way. Churches and people must go everywhere magnifying the love and compassion of God for sinners as we see it in Christ Jesus. We are to begin at "Jerusalem" and go into the entire world sharing the Gospel.

Please continue to pray for your Church Expansion Department as we endeavor to plant and grow churches. We want to share the Gospel with the lost. We must feel the passion for souls! By helping us with your prayers and support, you are getting out of the doors of your church. You are being a channel through which God can start a new work. You are engaging in the greatest work on earth. You are asking to be used of the Lord. Now **that's** a prayer worth praying!

ALERT! Church Expansion in Bland, VA (See A): In December, members of the Executive and Church Expansion boards, Alvin & Gelene Hodge, Larry & Connie Unger, Rev. Bob Blankenship and Rev. & Mrs. Walter Hedstrom, traveled





to Bland, VA, to meet a great group of believers who are interested in becoming part of the Alabama Bible Methodist Conference. Rev. & Mrs. Clayton Jones accompanied the board members to provide music for the occasion. (Rev. & Mrs. John Ingram were unable to travel with this group, but they visited the church and he preached for them the Sunday after Christmas.) Our day together was filled with the joys of touring the area, presenting the ministry of the Alabama Bible Methodist Conference, fellowshiping over a delicious meal, and worshipping and preaching the Word at the lovely Bland Bible Church. We thank you, Bland Bible Church, for your kindness to and fellowship with us. Be assured of our prayers for your congregation and community. We ask the Alabama Bible Methodist Conference to join us in praying that the Lord will provide a full-time pastor. (Additional photos may be seen at biblemethodist.org/alabama/church-expansion-dept.htm.)

Annual Thanksgiving Offering:

So far 18 of the 40 Alabama Bible Methodist Conference churches have responded with their Thanksgiving offerings. To date, the total amount received is **\$6610**. We so appreciate **every** church, **every** person, who participated in this offering as it is our financial

lifeline, funding various projects and covering operating expenses. **Thank you for your generous giving!**

If you didn't get to participate, you still can! Mark your offering "Thanksgiving offering" and send it directly to the treasurer. (His contact info is at the end of this newsletter.)



Opportunities for YOU to be involved in planting Bible Methodist Churches:

- **Encouragement (addresses are above each church's report)**
 - **Praying for You Cards**
 - **Birthday Cards** (Tuck in a dollar—or two!):
 - Victoria Hurst – March 10
 - Zane Hurst – March 23





Faith Bible Methodist Church

5506 Armour Rd, Columbus, GA

Pastor Curtis & Jennifer Going

864-561-9907 ~ 706-507-9245 ~ CurtisRGoing@juno.com
curtisandjennifer.blogspot.com/ ~ faithbmc.org/

From Pastor Going: We praise God for His continued help in the process of planting the Faith Bible Methodist Church. We have sensed His faithfulness to us and His presence with us over the months since our last report.

Recently, a veteran church planter shared with me what he felt were the ingredients of successful church planting: patience, prayer, and persistence. As ambassadors for Christ and the Alabama Bible Methodist Conference, we are endeavoring to exhibit those qualities in our ministry. We want to be *patient* to allow God to work in His time and His way; we want all that we do to be energized through effectual, fervent *prayer*; and we want to be *persistent* in reaching out to the Columbus community and in living and preaching the holy life to which God calls all of us.

In January 2008, our Sunday morning congregation consisted of only 11 people. Although not everyone comes every Sunday, our congregation has now nearly doubled! In January 2009, our peak Sunday morning attendance was 25, boosting our average attendance to 16, the highest average that we have had in the year and a half since we opened the doors of the church. Our Sunday evening congregation has also been growing. We are encouraged by this numerical growth, and we trust that God will help us to continue to reach new people.

Work has begun on the parsonage that is located on the church property. For the past couple of months there has been weekly progress, but much remains to be done: repairing plumbing, replacing parts of the floor, hanging drywall, laying carpet, installing the heating and air, and a myriad of other projects. Some of the windows have been replaced, but several more need to be replaced. Completion of the parsonage project will be a great asset to the church.

Thank you for your prayers and support. Please continue to pray that God would help us to be a bright light shining in the city of Columbus.



Salina Bible Methodist Church

1506 Beverly Street, Salina, KS 67401
salinabmc.org

Pastor Todd & Marla Hurst

610 West State Street, Salina, KS 67401
785-452-9453 ~ TameHurst@juno.com

From Pastor Hurst: On Thanksgiving Sunday, our church family shared a sumptuous carry-in dinner with all the “doin’s” and an afternoon of rich fellowship.

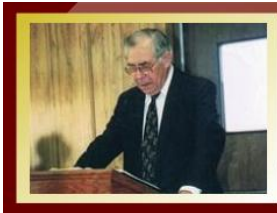
For a Christmas program, we wanted to plan something different. (When you

have a small congregation, sometimes you have to get creative!) We engaged the Wright Trio from Gardner, KS, to present us a Christmas concert. They did an outstanding job. We felt God's presence so close! Thirty-two attended the concert and afterward shared dinner and fellowship.

The Lord is really blessing the nursing home ministry we started last October. We take our children with us, so it has become a family ministry. We sing about 5 songs, then Todd plays a couple of songs on his banjo and also preaches. (Sometimes Todd preaches four times on a Sunday!) We visit the Sterling House every Sunday and the Drury Place every third and fifth Sunday. We usually have 25-30 attending at each location. The people have become like family to us. Most of the Sterling House residents are 80-100 years old and have very alert minds. One of our regular attendees is 102. Another is a retired school teacher who is 99. These senior citizens minister to us just as much as we minister to them! Please pray that our ministry will keep growing.



Thank you (again) for our new carpet—here's the photo! Thank you for the beautiful Christmas cards and your kind expressions of love over the holidays! Also thank you, Church Expansion department, for providing us with salinabmc.org! We pray that it will be an effective tool to bring people to church and Jesus.



Dayton Bible Methodist Church

Pastor Robert & Kathleen Lands
199 Ashley Lane, Dayton, TN 37321
423-775-0829 ~ BobLands@juno.com

From Pastor Lands: The Lands appreciate your continued prayers for them and Brother Freeman. God enables Brother Lands to conduct the preliminaries of their services and Brother Freeman to preach the Word. They rejoice in recent, new interest from the community and pray for daily strength to press forward, happy to be serving God and ministering to the needs of their community!



Church Expansion Department - AL Conference

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