



Opportunity Outreach

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

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

Summer 2009

From Secretary Ingram: Sometimes we need to become a part of something larger than ourselves, something that will challenge us to go beyond the boundaries of our present involvement. We have only to look around us, and we can see great challenges to stretch us beyond ourselves. Consider that God's challenge to you may be helping to plant a church, or supporting one already planted, or engaging in personal soul-winning—the greatest work on earth. We are called to be “fishers of men” (Matt. 4:19). What a noble calling!



“Not called!” did you say? “Not heard the call,” I think you should say,” declared General William Booth, the founder of the Salvation Army. “Put your ear down to the Bible and hear Him bid you go and pull sinners out of the fire of sin. Put your ear down to the burdened, agonized heart of humanity and listen to its pitiful wail for help. Go stand by the gates of hell and hear the damned entreat you to go to their father's house and bid their brothers and sisters and servants and masters not to come there. Then look Christ in the face—whose mercy you have professed to obey—and tell Him whether you will join heart and soul and body and circumstances in the march to publish His mercy to the world.”



Every day we encounter many hurting people who have no idea who God is or how or where they can find Him. Will you join me in accepting our responsibility in this critical matter? Will you help to plant churches, encourage and support our church planters and seek to win the lost? Will you hear the call to be a fisher of men? This is my appeal to you today. The time is NOW. Let's launch out and **go fishing!**

Spring Church Expansion Rallies: Nineteen churches hosted rallies. Thanks to every church and pastor for opening your doors and hearts and wallets to support church planting. Our goal was 193 shares (1 share = \$10/month). Since some shares are still coming in, the full tally will be reported at a later date.

Church Expansion in Bland, VA: On May 11, members of the Church Expansion board met with the congregation at which time the congregation voted to become part of the Alabama Bible Methodist Conference as a Church Expansion church. A pastor may be on the way. Pray for wisdom and grace during the selection and installation process.



Opportunities for YOU to be involved in church planting:



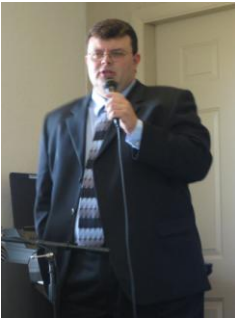
- Encouragement
 - Thinking of / Praying for You Cards
 - Birthday & Anniversary Cards (Sneak in a dollar!)
 - Kenneth Hurst - June 6
 - Todd & Marla Hurst - June 6
- Project for Salina church: New pulpit – approximately \$900
- Project for Columbus church: Volunteers have completed as much work as they can. The remainder has been contracted out to Marshall Melton Construction, and the cost of completion is estimated at \$29,500. Offerings to defray this cost may be sent to Tim Helms (address at end of newsletter).



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: Hello from the beautiful city of Columbus, Georgia. What a blessing it is to be a laborer for God in His harvest field!



The past few months have been months of progress. In February, our church held its first revival and had an average attendance of 23. The highest attendance was 27 on the closing night. We appreciated the preaching ministry of Rev. Henry Miller and the music provided by Billy & Bekey Herron. God blessed us with His presence in the revival meeting.



Over the past three months we have had 16 first-time visitors and have gained two new regular attendees.

We are deeply grateful to the men of the Active Bible Methodist Church, who have sacrificed their time and energy to work on remodeling the parsonage. This project has proven, not unexpectedly, to be an extensive undertaking, and

much work remains to be done. At present, we plan to move into the parsonage in late June or

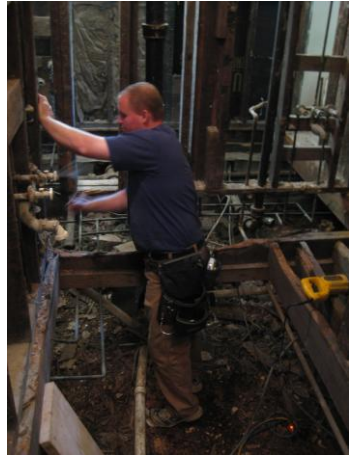




early July. We will be happy to have more adequate accommodations for our fellowship gatherings and for those who come to minister to us as well as easier

accessibility to the community. We intend the parsonage to be a tool to bring people to Jesus.

Please be in prayer with us for the Great Commission Camp which we will be hosting **August 4-6**. A group of young people from Illinois will be joining us to canvass area neighborhoods and reach out to our community. A day-time VBS may be held, and services will convene in the church each evening. Come join us at 7:00 PM (EDT)!



Thank you for your interest in the ministry of the Faith Bible Methodist Church. We are grateful for faithful support of this church expansion endeavor.



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 Sis. Marla Hurst: The week before Easter started out encouraging. Everyone seemed to be planning to attend on Easter Sunday. Todd worked on his Easter sermon, and I prepared for our Easter program, the special music and an Easter egg hunt. The children love to hunt for the eggs, and I love to hide scripture verses inside each egg for us to read together.

I talked to our next door neighbor and, yes, her two children could come to church. She asked if she could send candy and prizes for the Sunday school children. I was delighted to see her participate in this way!

Excited, I shopped for the children's eggs and anticipated telling our young people of Christ's resurrection and listening to songs like "He Lives!"

And then came Wednesday... one of our ladies told me that the mother of one of our teens was mad at her daughter, so the daughter couldn't come to church. How sad! Then the weatherman predicted rain. Oh, no! What about our Easter egg hunt? I guessed we'd have it inside.



On Friday, our daughter Victoria played with the neighbor's children. They informed her that one of the boys was in trouble so now they couldn't come on Sunday. Well, there went two more and the candy that had been promised. To say the least, I felt down. Ever been there?

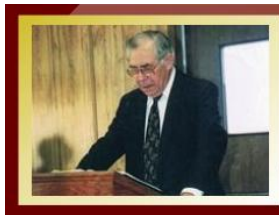
On Saturday, we went calling. We walked across the street to a family—a grandma and three grandchildren who had come a couple of times before. Yes, the kids wanted to attend. Grandma promised they'd be there if the kids wanted to get up in the morning.

Saturday night as I prepared my Sunday school lesson, I felt so discouraged. I bowed my head and prayed, "Lord, there's nothing we can do. I wanted so much to have a full house on Easter morning, but I give that to You. Work behind the scenes and help people to come." The load lifted and my heart was at peace again!



Yes, it rained. Yes, we had the Easter egg hunt inside. But, yes, God worked miracles! The teenage girl came, our neighbor's two children arrived with lots of candy, the grandma brought her three grandchildren and their mother (the mother's first time). Also, two of our church people brought three of their adult children. We had 33 people altogether!

"He lives, He lives, Christ Jesus lives today." He is alive in Salina, KS. Hallelujah!



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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