



# Opportunity Outreach

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

[biblemethodist.org/alabama/church-expansion-dept.htm](http://biblemethodist.org/alabama/church-expansion-dept.htm)

Fall 2009

*From the Church Expansion Board (Rev. Bob Blankenship):* Bro. John



Ingram's great love of people and strong desire to win them to Jesus has been evident throughout his six years as Church Expansion secretary. When elected, he had a part-time job as a mail carrier, a job he voluntarily resigned because he felt he could not continue carrying mail and fill his new position. He made many

more sacrifices, spent countless hours on the phone and traveled thousands of miles faithfully promoting and expanding our conference to new locations. We appreciate his service and example and know that only the Lord can fully reward him. Thank you, Bro. John Ingram. God bless you!

*From Secretary Ingram:* As I reflect over my six-year journey as Church Expansion Secretary, I am truly amazed with the many ways the Lord has blessed our endeavors. The ready response of willing workers to help us build, remodel and repair has encouraged me. The generous giving of the conference churches has brightened my heart. The constant prayers and warm expressions of love and thoughtfulness from our Bible Methodist family have enabled me to carry on the work of church expansion. The wise and patient counsel of the Godly men who have served on our board has been a priceless asset to me and to our department.



We rejoice that the church and parsonage in Columbus, GA have been restored; the church in Salina, KS is worthy and solid; the church in Dayton, TN is diligent; and our newest addition, the church in Bland, VA is poised to reach the unreached and spread scriptural holiness in the beautiful Blue Ridge Mountains. Thank God for His blessings on our department and its work!

Thus, with mixed emotions, I step down as Church Expansion Secretary. I will forever be grateful for the opportunity to serve in this capacity. I will miss the challenging but rewarding and fulfilling work of church planting and certainly the joy of working with all of you. I truly feel, however, that the time has come for new and fresh leadership that will lead the Church Expansion department to higher levels of ministry.



Rev. Mark Potter, pastor of the Tuscaloosa Bible Methodist Church has been elected to be the new Church Expansion Secretary. Brother Potter is an energetic, gifted and proven leader. I wish him great success as Secretary of the Church Expansion department. I urge each of you to pray for Brother Potter and extend to him the right hand of fellowship.

## Opportunities for YOU to be involved in church planting:

- Encouragement
  - Thinking of / Praying for You Cards
  - Birthday & Anniversary Cards (Sneak in a dollar!):
    - Tyrel Hurst – August 14
    - Curtis Going – August 30
    - Robert & Kathleen Lands – September 17
    - Robert Lands – September 18
    - Jennifer Going – September 22
- Project for Salina church: New pulpit – approximately \$900
- Project for Columbus church: Parsonage renovation cost \$29,500. Offerings to defray this cost may be sent to Tim Helms (address at end of newsletter).



**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:* The 16<sup>th</sup> annual Kansas State Holiness Youth Camp was held at Abilene, KS, June 8-12. The first message by Evangelist Rev. Monty Hurst, older brother of camp director Todd Hurst, expounded upon the choices our young people face today. Several teens responded to the call to choose Christ that very first night. Every night of the camp saw young people at the altar yielding their lives to God. During the Wednesday night



service the Spirit of the Lord came in a special way with two altar services garnering a harvest of young souls.

We had a total of 74 campers. God gave us beautiful weather (no tornados this year). We went home from camp tired, but satisfied that God had once again used youth camp to add to His kingdom.

*Motivations of Ministry:* "Why are you coming here?" This pointed query came during our first service at the nursing home where, as an answer to prayer that God would open a door for this type of ministry, we have been able to schedule weekly services. This particular nursing home is a low-level care facility with no critical-care residents. Although some of them are more than 100 years old, all of them can somewhat take care of themselves, and most of them still have very sharp minds. Several residents have in years gone by been engaged in various fields of professional work, with a few of them having been school teachers.

My questioner, actually one of the younger ones there, peered at me, and I felt like a school kid whose teacher is asking what the capital of Peru is. I answered that we had come to have church services. She looked at me with that “Well, duh,” look and said, “I mean what makes you want to come here to be with us.”

A short answer was difficult. We do not come for pay or on assignment or to increase the numbers on our Sunday School roll. We simply want to be God’s hands to these people who are almost invisible to the world and the church.

Hopefully the relationships we have built with these wonderful people over the past year have disclosed what motivates us. Ministering to them is one of the most fulfilling parts of our ministry. They have become like family to us, and they love our children. Since preaching the funeral of one of the men from the home, we have developed a relationship with his family, and some of them have been coming to our church. Ultimately, the answer to the question above is that we want these people to see God and to know Him.



Gladys made this afghan for Tori Hurst.



**Faith Bible Methodist Church**  
5506 Armour Rd, Columbus, GA  
Pastor Curtis & Jennifer Going  
864-561-9907 ~ 706-507-9245 ~ [CurtisRGoing@juno.com](mailto:CurtisRGoing@juno.com)  
[curtisandjennifer.blogspot.com/](http://curtisandjennifer.blogspot.com/) ~ [faithbmc.org/](http://faithbmc.org/)

*From Pastor Going:* How exciting it is to be writing this Church Expansion update from the newly remodeled parsonage of the Faith Bible Methodist Church!



Jennifer and I officially took up residence in the parsonage on Thursday, July 16, and we have been enjoying our new surroundings.

Many people cooperated to make the parsonage habitable. In the summer of 2007, a new roof was installed. Then the old carpet and several pieces of left-behind furniture were removed by the youth group from the Stanton Bible Methodist Church. In the winter of 2008, the exterior of the house received a new coat of paint, and in the spring some of

the old plaster and insulation was removed by Bro. John Ingram and me. Throughout the fall of 2008 and into the winter of 2009, assorted projects (mainly destruction of old parts of the house) were accomplished. In the spring of 2009, Marshall Melton, from the Active Bible Methodist Church, shared with the Church Expansion board that he wanted to help in the renovation of the parsonage. A group from the Active Bible Methodist Church twice came to assist with various projects in the house, and then the Church Expansion board hired Marshall Melton

to complete the remaining parsonage renovations. We are very grateful for the superb job he did.

A special word of thanks is in order to Bro. Walter Hedstrom, Bro. Bob Blankenship and son Andrew, Bro. Tim Boyd, Bro. Nathan Weaver, Bro. & Sis. Charles Hodge, and Sis. Connie Unger for their invaluable assistance on moving day. We praise the Lord for a wonderful place to live here on the church property!



## 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!

## Bland Bible Methodist Church

6688 E Blue Grass Trail, Bland, VA 24315  
Website coming soon!

Jack Blankenship ~ 276-688-4534 ~  
donnabship@embarqmail.com  
Harold Gillespie ~ 276-688-3475 ~ hcgil@va.net

*From Bland, VA:* Two families of church members who planned to attend camp meeting were hindered from doing so due to the unexpected passing away of a charter member on June 29, the first day of camp. The church has enjoyed Bro. John Parker visiting for a Sunday and presenting Bible Methodist missions. Church members are working diligently to stay in contact with guests who have recently attended services. They are looking forward to having a pastor to lead them.



## Church Expansion Department - AL Conference

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OTHER BOARD MEMBERS: Rev. Walter Hedstrom, Mr. Larry Unger, Rev. Bob Blankenship