



Opportunity Outreach

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

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

Spring 2010



From Secretary Potter: Winter greetings from the Expansion Department! First of all, I want to say thank you to the 26 churches that have sent in their November self-denial offerings to help our conference in its ongoing vision for new churches across the Southeast. Of the 26, **18 either met or exceeded their goal (see below)!** Seventeen churches have yet to respond, but I am confident they will join our efforts to see the kingdom of God advance and the message of holiness reach into cities and towns all across the nine states that we

represent. Our goal was \$15,000. To date, **\$8803.90** has been received.

Bland	Enterprise	Mt Ivah	Waycross
Brent	Flat Rock	Pell City	West Blocton
Chattanooga Temple	Friendsville	Piedmont Bible	Salina
Covington	Glencoe	Ponca City	
East Lake	Miltonvale	Trinity	

Since the last newsletter, I have traveled to our Mid-America churches with Conference President Hedstrom to cast vision for our church expansion works and the future of the organization. I am excited about our work in Salina, KS, and believe God is going to help the Hurst family to establish that church in the very near future. Buying the property they currently rent would be a big step toward establishing this congregation. Pray that the money can be raised.

What a blessing to see God working in our churches in Ponca City, Oklahoma City and Miltonvale! Keep praying for these pastors and their congregations as they labor some distance away from the Alabama district.



I want to update you briefly on where the Department is headed. I promised to share our vision with you in this newsletter, however, we must determine what exactly our vision is before it can be shared! We have found this process requires more time than expected. Please allow me to forego a vague, premature vision now for a real and obtainable vision later. Our goal in the next few months is to bring together holiness leaders who have been successful church planters for a symposium to discuss their best strategies for starting new works. From their insights, the board will craft a plan that fits with our organization and philosophy of church planting. We desire your continued prayers and support as we organize and plan because without the leadership of the Holy Spirit our efforts will be in vain. ▶

Keep praying for our churches currently under the umbrella of the Expansion Department. Because God is working in these churches, we are trusting Him to enable us to start new works across our conference soon. Thank you again for your prayer and financial support. Without both, none of this would be possible.

Opportunities for YOU to be involved in church planting:

- Encouragement
 - Thinking of / Praying for You Cards
 - Birthday & Anniversary Cards (Sneak in a dollar!):
 - Victoria Hurst – March 10
 - Zane Hurst – March 23
- 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 question came as somewhat of a surprise. “Who is your pastor?” I’d become acquainted with the lady through our home school group and assumed she knew my husband is a pastor. After telling her this and that we are Bible Methodists, she had another question: “What is a Bible Methodist Church like?” I tried my best to explain our church to her. More questions followed: “You’re not a contemporary church, are you? Is it just a social affair? You’re conservative? Not like many churches today, right?” Her questions were heart-stirring for me! I am so thankful that our church is not like many others. The Bible is still being taught and preached and followed, our songs still have deep, theological meaning and we still allow the Holy Spirit to lead our services. She then told me that her family has been looking for a church because they are tired of the contemporary churches. I gave her one of our church info postcards that Bro. Darrell Stetler II made for us. (Thank you, Bro. Darrell!) Pray that this family will come!

Several Sundays ago, the Holy Spirit did indeed control our service. Testimonies were given, and the Spirit moved with conviction on several of our young people. A boy from our neighborhood, who has been to our church perhaps only three times, responded to the altar call and gave his heart to Christ! We were thrilled when, after the altar call, he stood to his feet and declared, “Zane prayed with me, and after I prayed, I felt like a big weight rolled off my heart.” For an unchurched 11 year old, that’s pretty good theology!





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: Philippians 4:6 gives the admonition to *be anxious for nothing*, but, to be honest, I had a difficult time obeying that verse on the first week of December when a pipe I was inspecting for a leak broke in my hands and water began to gush into the church building. By the time the water was turned off, the carpet in three-fourths of the building was ruined. The next three weeks were spent consulting with insurance agents, drying the building completely and selecting and installing the new carpet. While the situation was frustrating, the company that insures the building was very helpful and completely covered the cost of replacing the carpet. A special thanks goes to James Marchant of the Ada Chapel Bible Methodist Church for his help in laying the new carpet.

We continue to enjoy the newly remodeled parsonage, which has proven to be an ideal location for fellowship with our small congregation. In November Jennifer and I enjoyed hosting a Laymen Appreciation Banquet in the parsonage, and in December our church family joined together there for a Christmas dinner.



We have sensed God's presence and help in our church services, and we continue to build relationships with people in the community that we hope will draw them toward the church and ultimately toward a right relationship with God.

We are looking forward to a revival with Bro. Darrell Stetler the weekend of February 26-28. Please join us in praying that it would be a time of God working in the lives of the people of the Faith Bible Methodist Church in a deep way.





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
blandbmc.com

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

From Bland, VA: We had two special services recently. Bro. Richard Hutchison of Barnabas Ministries was with us November 8th. His information was so enlightening! Our hearts were burdened as we saw the needs and realized the limits of what we can do. He made us want to pray more, however, for God has NO limits! On December 8th, we were privileged to have Missionaries Steve & Beth Stetler and Kent with us. How we enjoyed the service and the good fellowship over the meal that followed!

The church ministered by distributing various things: treat bags of candy, an orange and apple to those who attended the program; fruit baskets to all the widows in the church; and an offering and fruit basket to a needy and sick family.

Inclement weather caused us to cancel services twice in December. One of the cancellations postponed our Christmas program until the Sunday morning after Christmas! Inclement weather prevented services again the first two Sundays in January. On the third January Sunday, we were so glad to gather again!

We are still looking for a full-time pastor. Bro. Harold Gillespie is filling the pulpit and doing well, considering he's employed 10-12 hours a day. We would appreciate the prayers of the conference regarding a pastor for our church.



Church Expansion Department - AL Conference

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