

Mobile Baptist Association  
**Executive Committee Report**

November 7, 2006

Brother Thomas Wright, Associational Missionary

**Secular Attacks on Christmas**

The story of the birth of Jesus continues to encourage humanity that the Creator God loves His creation and is involved in our lives. Be diligent this Christmas season to remind our members to wish people Merry CHRISTmas. Secularists continue the ridiculous attempt to replace the celebration of the birth of Jesus with a secular winter holiday. Even believers can become seduced by popular culture and secular philosophy. Lead your people to recognize attempts to intimidate us into silence. Pray for and train your people to be bold and biblically accurate witnesses.

Convene your Evangelistic Ministries Committee to discuss ways to use Christmas as a bridge to meet spiritual needs. This is a great season to move toward your 1:10 baptism goal.

**Secular Response to Biblical Truth**

It has been interesting to watch the secularists respond to the biblical decision to disaffiliate Hillcrest. Secularism, as you know, is the attempt to remove the influence of the Bible or the church in the public sector. The articles refused to acknowledge or even mention our commitment to remain faithful to biblical truth. The attempt is to make human opinion as equal to, or superior to, the Word of God. It is important to warn our people that even evangelical Christians can be influenced by secularism when we create arguments autonomous from the Bible.

**Partnership Missions Trip to Ukraine Report: 22 Conversions**

Our team of four worked with Victor Glinkin, the "Senior Pastor" (DOM) for churches in the Nikolaev Oblast and pastor of Central Baptist Church. Rick Cagle and I led 40 pastors in a Pastor's Conference and Donna and Amy Wright led their wives at a Pastor's Wife Conference. Rick and I spoke in 4 churches on Sunday, Amy played piano and gave a testimony. We served with the pastor of New Odessa to conduct outdoor evangelism (64 people attended); a gospel supper (58 people attended in separate villages) on Monday; and outdoor evangelism in one village on Tuesday (31 people attended). The response was VERY positive and the leaders were pleased with the 22 conversions and multiple rededications. It was important for us to see these believers attend worship services in unheated buildings with outdoor toilets. Their priority was worship, not comfort.

We stayed the first and last night at the Seminary in Odessa and in member homes the remaining four nights.

With the visit of IMB missionaries Mick and Brad, we discussed three areas of potential partnership:

1. Training teams to help pastors, youth leaders, music leaders and Sunday School teachers
  2. Evangelism teams to help with the 5 current new work locations
  3. Evangelism and other support teams for a new church in an area of 40,000 people
- Please let Rick or I know if you are interested in joining or leading in any of these areas.

### **MBA Churches 108 and 109**

Please welcome and pray for our two newest churches/missions:

The Refuge Church is a mission of FBC Satsuma and is meeting in Citronelle under the leadership of Pastor Max Dempsey.

Ebenezer Baptist Church, just off Cottage Hill Road, joined us in October under the leadership of Pastor Rudolf Overstreet.

### **Camp Whispering Pines Katrina Repairs**

We have a work day this Saturday at 7 a.m. Meals will be provided if you let us know you can come. Please continue to promote the need for construction teams and memorial gifts.

### **Seeking Volunteer Coordinators**

Do you have someone in your church that would be interested in these volunteer or MSC leadership positions: 1) to help plan MBA disaster relief preparation and response; 2) to lead the planned MBA School of Theology; 3) to consult with African American Churches; 4) and to lead in our church planting emphases.

### **Budget**

Your MBA staff continues to carefully monitor budgets to be sure we spend less than we receive. Year to date, we are under in income by \$23, 660.76 but we still have a net income of \$14,313.51. If you have not sent in your budget commitment cards for 2007 please do so when your 2007 budgets are completed. Thank you for your faithfulness to support the MBA and please continue to interpret for your folks the importance of local cooperative missions.

Budget Requirements per Month	49,471.33
Budget Requirements to Date	445,241.97
Given Year to Date	424,824.21
Variance Year to Date	-20,417.76
Church Receipts Required per Month	43,368.41
Church Receipts Required to Date	390,315.69
Church Receipts Received Year to Date	366,654.93
Variance Year to Date	-23,660.76
Given Year to Date	424,824.21
Actual Expenses Year to Date	410,510.70
Net Income	14,313.51

### **Churches Seeking Pastors**

Continue to pray for the nine churches we have listed as seeking a pastor. Please let us know when their status changes: Airport, Central (BV), Citronelle FBC, Crawford, Highpoint, FBC Mobile, Myers Memorial (BV), Navco (BV) Pine Springs (BV) and Trinity (BV).

### **Dave Baker's Resignation**

We are saddened that Dave Baker has been led to a new area of ministry at Mobile Infirmary. He has served with distinction as Assistant to Chuck and Receptionist. Please be in prayer as we seek his replacement.