

Mobile Baptist Association
Executive Committee Report

July 09, 2012

Brother Thomas Wright, Associational Missionary

Emphasizing Biblical Prayer. Evangelistic Ministries. Church Development. Church Planting. Partnership Missions

Outreach Events

A recent article described a man who lived within two miles of nine churches. He grew up, and grew old, never having heard from even one of them! God forbid this would be in Mobile, Alabama! We need to contact every person in our community at least five times a year. This includes prayer walks, mail, social media, block parties and door-to-door visits. The rule of thumb is that 1 in five doors will have a contact. Then 1 in five contacts will have a conversation and 1 in five conversations will result in a decision to attend or accept Christ. Some say that door to door doesn't work anymore, they are absolutely right if you do not do it! Do not grow weary in praying, caring and sharing. It takes at least five touches before they even know who is sending the information.

Communication

Please encourage your people to like us on Facebook and visit www.mobilebaptists.org to register to receive the weekly News Alerts and quarterly Newsletter. Please include this information periodically in your Sunday bulletin.

Annual Missions Celebration, Thursday, October 11, 2012

Please put this date on your calendar. We begin at 3:30 p.m. and will finish by 7:30p.m.; including supper. Please share your suggestions with our Moderators and Committee Chair, Don Bond. Please continue exploring ways to involve more lay people and bi-vocational ministers.

Changing Lives of Church Members and the Nations through Missions Opportunities

We continue to explore and offer multiple opportunities for you and your church members to be involved with IMB Missionaries. Teams can be from 4 up. A wide variety of skills are needed.

Sports Evangelism Teams: Cliff Case in Santiago Chile is looking for Sports Evangelism teams to help him with events to plow and sow new church areas.

Prayer Walking and Children's Block Parties/VBS: Jim Neal in Lima, Peru needs Prayer Walking and children's event teams. Please let me help you design an international experience for your church that works with your calendar and available skills.

Japan Disaster Relief November 7-17, 2012: Buddy has one more spot available for his mission team to Japan working with the Burch's in the Tsunami region.

Seven Churches Missions Trip and Tour May 7-17, 2013: Several have expressed interest after hearing reports from the 2012 trip. Join this mission team working with local representatives and walking through the seven churches of the revelation. Total cost for nine days in Turkey is \$1,000, including room, food and transportation. Airfare is approximately \$1,200 (at the moment), so \$2,200! This would be a great anniversary or Christmas gift from your church. Contact me quickly so we can catch these great airfares.

The Impact Mobile Offering

This offering was created to provide an opportunity for churches to respond to the changes in denominational funding. Thank you to those churches who continue to promote the Impact Mobile Associational Offering. We can print the poster and brochure with any date that best fits your church calendar. The promoted date for the month of May 2012 corresponds with the nationwide Associational Missions emphasis. Undated materials are available to you today.

New Pastors and Churches Seeking Pastors

Please pray for the churches seeking a pastor and please let us know when their status changes: Airport, Berean, FBC Chickasaw, Cottage Hill, Faith (Mobile), Fellowship, Manor, FBC South Mobile.

Budget and Finance Update

Good News: The budget at midyear is in the black for all ministry areas. Projections indicate that we will complete the year in the black if income continues as it has since we met in April. Thank you for the sacrificial giving to support cooperative missions in Mobile County and beyond.

Budget Reductions: The MBA Budget and Finance Committee noted that we have reduced the MBA budget by \$79,948 since 2008. We have not been able to provide cost of living increases to the staff during this time. The 2013 budget is in process and no increases can be made again next year without additional income.

Church Development Reductions Begin in 2014: The salary reduction of \$5900 for the Church Development position begins in 2014. It will continue to reduce by 25 percent a year until the MBA has to cover the entire amount by 2018.

International Ministries Director Position Funded: We have confirmed good news that the salary and insurance for the Director of International Ministries and Church Planting will continue to be funded through our partnership with ALSBOM.

Requesting Local Churches to Cover Local Needs: The Budget and Finance Committee recognizes that churches are being asked to support locally what formally was returned to us from our Cooperative Program giving. The best solution is for our members to tithe to their churches and our churches to include the MBA in their church's tithe to missions. *Please consider designating at least 3 percent of your church's mission tithe to the MBA.*

Church Responses Vary: Autonomous churches are responding to the SBC changes in many ways. Some have increased MBA support in the budget. Some are participating in the Impact Mobile Associational Offering. Others are adjusting the percentages they tithe to missions so they can support the MBA more without impacting the bottom line of their budget. Some are now including the MBA as part of their Annie Armstrong Offering for North American Missions.

Thank You: Thank you to those churches that already have begun responding to these changes. Please continue to provide this information to your finance committee as they prepare your 2013 budget. We need to know how our churches will respond this year so we can anticipate how to cover the decrease in the CDD position funding.

Pray For Us: Please continue to pray that our strategy and activities are so in line with the Lord's Will that He will provide all of the financial and staffing resources needed. Please include the MBA staff and ministries in your Wednesday night prayer meetings.

SBC Name Change Vote: The SBC Messengers approved adding a "descriptor" of Great Commission Baptists. Autonomous local churches can determine how they want to respond. It is my understanding the legal name will not change. We will wait to see how the entities implement the descriptor. Bottom line, use it if it helps you reach the community, don't use it if you don't think it will help.