

GRR Calendar

2009 Theme - Plant the Harvest

2009

October

10 - Lake Springfield Camp Workday

29 - Ministers Conference

Dr. George Bullard - Leader

30 - 31 - GRR Annual Assembly

Holiday Inn City Centre
Peoria, IL

November

6 - 8 - 2009 ABY Gathering

First Baptist Church
Decatur, IL

2010

April

23 - 24 - GRR Missions Conference

Cherry Hills Baptist Church
Springfield, IL

Mainstream Contact Information

Send your stories of mission and ministry. Please also send the names of new members (fruit of this mission and ministry) to:

Linda Ricks
232 Devron Circle
East Peoria, IL 61611
E-Mail: Ricks4Lr@comcast.net

Our Great Rivers Region Family Is Growing!

Creekwood Baptist Church,
Rockville, IL Welcomes:
Don Bell and Gwen Bell

Northern Baptist Church, West
Frankfort, IL Welcomes: Barbara
Dillon, Roberta Dillon, Cameron
Wyatt, Alexi Wyatt, David Motsinger,
and A. J. Shinn

THE GATHERING 2009

He's Kinda A Big Deal
Matthew 6:19-21

"Where your treasure is,
your heart will be also."

November 6-8, 2009

First Baptist Church
Decatur, Illinois

Speaker: Rev. Kathy Hutchins

Praise Band: Day 40

Missions: The Penny Project
Goal: 50,000 Pennies

For: Youth Grades 8-12, College
Freshmen & Sophomores

Cost: \$50 for Youth
\$35 for Youth Leaders



The Mainstream

News of Ministry and Mission

American Baptist Churches of the Great Rivers Region

October 2009 No. 1 Email: grrabc@abcgrr.org web: www.abcgrr.org



2009 ANNUAL ASSEMBLY OF THE GREAT RIVERS REGION

Friday October 30 -
Saturday, October 31, 2009

Holiday Inn City Centre
500 Hamilton Blvd.
Peoria IL

GRR Annual Assembly Schedule

Friday

9:00 a.m. - Regional Ministry
Board

Noon - Minister's & Spouses
Luncheon

2:00 p.m. - First Session

Business and Dr.

Molly Marshall - Teacher

5:00 - 7:00 p.m. - Mission and
Ministry Banquet

7:30 - 9:00 p.m. - Second Session
-Dr. Glenn E. Porter - Preacher

Saturday

7:00 a.m. - Breakfast Opportunities

-- American Baptist Women's
Ministries

-- American Baptist Men

-- Northern Seminary

(continued)

SPEAKERS



Dr. Glenn E. Porter, senior pastor of Queen Street Baptist Church, Norfolk, VA will be our guest preacher on Friday evening and during the worship on Saturday morning.



Dr. Molly Marshall, president of Central Baptist Theological Seminary will teach on the Kingdom of God.

GRR Annual Assembly Schedule (continued)

9:00 -10:30 a.m. - Workshops
9:00 - 9:40 - Session 1
9:50 - 10:30 - Session II

Workshops

Ministry With Those Imprisoned:

Rev. Larry Jones serves as the ABC-endorsed chaplain at the Dixon Correctional Center. This is the largest medium-security facility in Illinois, housing over 2000 persons. It is also unique in its diversity.

Rationale and Vision for Urban Community Ministry:

Rev. Dr. Robert Scott is the Senior Pastor of the historic Central Baptist Church in St. Louis. He is leading the church into biblically-based, holistic ministry.

Medical Mission in the Dominican:

Rex & Becky Cooper are active lay leaders in the FBC of Mattoon IL and part of the Mission Partnership Team for Kristi Engel, a missionary nurse appointed by International Ministries to the Dominican Republic. Rex & Becky have volunteered in the Dominican.

Growing a Heart for Neighborhood Ministry:

Rev. Roger Jackson is the Senior Pastor of the Elliott Avenue Baptist Church in Springfield IL. This is a historic neighborhood church in Springfield. That neighborhood and the ministry opportunities have changed!

11:00 - 12:00 noon - Third Session
Concluding Worship Service -
Dr. Glenn E Porter - Preacher

How to Register:

1. **Download registration** materials from GRR web site at: www.abcgrr.org/annualmeeting/

2. **Register online** securely: <https://www4015.sslldomain.com/grr-reg/annualmeetingreg/reg.cfm>

Lodging:

Find information in the packet you downloaded or received in the mail or find information and instructions at www.abcgrr.org/annualmeeting/hotelLodging.htm

2009 Ministers Conference

Pursuing the Full Kingdom Potential of Your Congregation.

Place: Holiday Inn City Centre
Peoria, IL

Date: Thursday October 29, 2009

Time: 1:00 to 8:30 p.m.



Dr. George Bullard will teach from his book [Pursuing the Full Kingdom Potential of Your Congregation](#). Dr. Bullard is a ministry partner and the strategic coordinator with The

Columbia Partnership.

Registration Information:

(This is a separate registration from the Annual Assembly)

Registration includes a copy of the book and dinner. **Download** the Ministers Conference Registration Form and mail it (www.abcgrr.org/annualmeeting/2009/2009MinistriesConfReg.pdf) or **register online**. https://www4015.sslldomain.com/grr-reg/Ministers_Conference/regpc.cfm

Learning Purpose By Design

In March 2008, Area III sponsored a seminar led by Jason Moore and Len Wilson of Midnight Oil Productions. The theme of this seminar was "Telling the Gospel Story to a Digital Generation." **Ridgeview Baptist Church, Danville, IL** was one church who had both pastoral staff and lay leaders participate. Since this seminar, gifted members of the congregation – among them, those who participated in the seminar - have put their learnings to use. Below is a summary of what the church has done as described by the church's senior pastor, **Rev. Dr. Mark Keyser**.

Ridgeview Baptist strives to be a church where the love of Christ is proclaimed, shared and felt. Realizing that Jesus calls every Christian to be an ambassador for Him, the church endeavors to manifest His love by responding to three Biblical mandates: "Love the Lord your God with all your heart, soul, mind, and strength" (Mt. 22:37), "Love one another as I have loved you" (John 13:34) and "Love your neighbor as yourself" (Mark 12:31). During the fall, the church is focusing on Jesus' example of love for his Father, his disciples and those yet to embrace the good news. Ultimately, the church wants to show the love of Christ both individually and corporately.

One of the tools the church is using to keep this vision front and center includes visual representations of this common purpose. God has blessed the ministry with a graphic artist who developed a church logo that incorporates images of loving God, loving each other

and reaching out to the world. During the fall series, which focuses on each aspect of the vision for several weeks, 4x6 foot banners highlighting the vision and expressions of love are gradually being unveiled. After the series, they will provide continuing reminders of



church's call and ministry together.

The church continues to think of additional ways to utilize the logo. The new pictorial directory is shaped around the vision and graphics, including candid pictures of love in action. Future plans include putting the logo on shirts, jackets, coffee mugs and window clings, in hope of keeping their purpose in mind, and introducing others to Jesus' love.

No doubt God gifts every church with special abilities to help communicate and implement His vision for ministry. For Ridgeview, one man's gift in graphic design is proving fruitful in numerous ways.

Leadership Change

Incoming: Rev. Adrian Lamkin, Interim Pastor, FBC Highland, IL

Outgoing: Rev. Thomas J. Davis, Pastor, FBC, Highland, IL