

Great Rivers Regional Scholarship Programs

Scholarship programs exist in the Great Rivers Region to assist young people who are members in Great Rivers Region American Baptist Churches to secure a college and/or seminary education. Scholarships for any college student (regardless of major) or seminary student from the Gernenz-Shurtleff / Wilcoxon Scholarship are available. Ministerial students attending ABC-related schools and seminaries in preparation for ministry can also apply for the Harold O. Long Scholarship. All applications must be received in the GRR office by April 1, 2010.

To receive an application for these scholarships, write to: Scholarship Committee, Att: Sharon Downs, PO Box 3786, Springfield, IL 62708, phone: 217-726-7366; fax: 888-922-2477, email: Sharon@abcgrr.org



Recordings of speakers and workshop leaders from the 42nd Annual Assembly of ABCGRR are available. Contact Debbie Naugle: debbie@abcgrr.org.

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!

University Baptist Church, Champaign, IL Welcomes:

Christine Campos, Joel Versypt, Michael LeMay, Joshua Budnik, Jacob Porter, and Nancy Hubbs

First Baptist Church, Paris, IL Welcomes: Ethan Graham and Randy Gerber

Central Baptist Church, Quincy, IL Welcomes: Krista Donoho, Ryan Donoho, Barbara Holmes, Stacy Linder, Mary LaRocco, Beth Travis, and Shane Travis

2010 GRR Missions Conference

Speaker:
Dan Buttry
serves as an
International
Ministries glob-
al consultant
for peace and
justice.



Date: April 23 - 24

Place: Cherry Hills Baptist Church
2125 Woodside Road
Springfield, IL



The Mainstream

News of Ministry and Mission

American Baptist Churches of the Great Rivers Region

January 2010 No. 1 Email: grrabc@abcgrr.org web: www.abcgrr.org

GRR Calendar

2010 Theme: Thy Kingdom Come

February 20 - **Trivia Night**
Lightbody Conference Center
Lake Springfield Camp

February 26 - 27 - **Scrapbooking
Fundraiser LSBC**

March 6 - **Area III Annual Meeting
Also Seminar: Less
Clutter Less Noise
with Kem Meyer**
FBC Champaign, Savoy, IL

March 13 - **Area V Annual
Meeting**
Second Baptist Church
Kansas City, MO

March 14 - **Area II Annual Meeting**
Central Baptist Church
Springfield, IL

March 20 - **Area IV Annual
Meeting**
FBC Centralia, IL

March 21 - **Area I Annual Meeting**
FBC Sterling, IL

April 16 - 17 - **Clergy Spouse
Retreat,**
Lake Springfield Camp

April 23 - 24 - **GRR Missions
Conference**
Cherry Hills Baptist Church
Springfield, IL



Do your church's publications release the response in people that you have intended...that people will notice your message?

Join with others in finding helpful insights and strategies on Saturday, March 6 at First Baptist Church of Champaign,

Savoy as you participate in Kem Meyer's Less Clutter... Less Noise seminar.

Register for seminar.
- Churches of all Areas of GRR are invited to send a team.

Download Form:
www.abcgrr.org/areas/KemMyerFlyer2010.pdf

Here is an excerpt from her new book:

"Scrambling to keep up and looking for ways to get their message heard, **churches are creating more** brochures, getting new logos, printing in four-color, advertizing, emailing, building complex web sites and writing clever content. By default, they try to communicate using methodologies that are all about 'sending the right message.'"

"**Here is what happens.** The people they are scrambling to reach do what they have to do to survive the onslaught. They shut down. Stop listening. Move on. Because more is not better."

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“What you need is air. A fresh perspective. An encouraging nudge. A few ‘aha’ moments. A simple example or two.”

Kem is Communications Director for Granger Community Church of Granger, IN. She is part of a church that feels God is using their experiences to teach and challenge other churches - in short a type of “teaching church.”

Kem Meyer started her calling in communications before she was a Christian. After she entered into a relationship with Jesus Christ, she started to volunteer at Granger. She and her husband are the parents of two children.

The seminar Kem will lead explores what it takes to have a communications strategy that communicates the Good News in the language and limited time of the world we live in. All materials churches use to communicate are considered - paper and electronic.

Want to learn more about Kem and her “mantra” Less Clutter...Less Noise? Find her blog at www.kemmeyer.typepad.com.

Early registration saves each person \$10. Registering as groups saves even more.

Download the flyer/registration material at: <http://www.abcgrr.org/areas/KemMyerFlyer2010.pdf>

Find a review of her book at: www.abcgrr2.org/Review_Kem_Meyer_Less_Clutter_Less_Noise/engage.html

Dr. John Grisham Tells More of His Story



As part of plans for a three month sabbatical in 2006, **John Grisham** expressed an interest in learning to run again.

His sabbatical proposal to the Great Rivers Region personnel committee included plans to participate in a 12 week training program in Springfield, IL called Abe's Army. At the conclusion of the program all of the participants were encouraged to participate in the Illinois State Fair 10k (6.2 Mile) Abe's Amble.

With his predictable sense of humor Grisham tells about running in the 2006 Abe's Amble. He says “I had three goals for the Amble. I wanted to finish standing up. I did not want to throw up, and I did not want to step on any little animals or small children.”

Grisham has continued to run since the summer of 2006. He plans on about 60 miles a month, as weather and schedule permits. He has worn out 6 pairs of size 16 running shoes as he has participated in 41 running events which have ranged in distance from one mile up to the ½ Marathon.

One of his favorite running stories is about how he had a first place finish for his age group, as the only runner for his age group, at the 2007 Waverly, IL Community Picnic 5k Run (3.1 Miles).

Slightly more seriously he speaks of the 2008 Lincoln Memorial ½ Marathon (13.1 Miles) in Springfield when he almost achieved the goal he had set for himself as he finished with an official time of 2:00.05.

Camping 2010



Lake Springfield Baptist Camp Fundraisers

Trivia Night

Place: Lightbody Conference Center at Lake Springfield Baptist Camp

Date: February 20, 2010

Time: 6:00 p.m.

Cost: \$80 per table (8 people per table)

Theme: Summer Camp

Get your teams ready for a night of Trivia! There will be 10 categories with 10 questions each and a prize for the winning team. Snacks will be provided. What a great event to come and enjoy the fun and fellowship. Proceeds go toward recreation equipment for Lake Springfield Baptist Camp.

Scrapbooking Fundraiser

Place: Lake Springfield Baptist Camp

Dates: February 26 - 5:00 to ????
(no meal provided)

February 27 - 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. (Bring sack lunch, dinner provided)

Scrapbooking Fundraiser (continued)

Cost: \$30.00 - Overnight housing in Carter Hall (bring bedding & toiletries)

\$20.00 No overnight housing

Who: All Scrapbookers and Crafters (Bring a snack to share)

Come for fun, fellowship, and door prizes. It is a great opportunity to meet new friends and get new ideas. Vendors will be available on sight to purchase items.

Deacon and Deaconess Training Event

Central Baptist Church, Quincy, IL is hosting a “The Work of the Deacon & Deaconess” training event on Friday and Saturday, January 29-30, 2010. This event will train men and women to serve the Lord through the local church as “Servants of the Table and Word.”

The leadership development event begins Friday, January 29, 6:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. It continues Saturday, January 30, 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. The cost is \$25.00 per person which includes lunch and a copy of Harold Nichols' book, “*The Work of the Deacon and Deaconess*” (Judson Press).

The Rev. Jeffrey D. Brown, Ph.D., Associate Professor of Christian Studies at Hannibal LaGrange College, Missouri, will facilitate the event. The deadline to register: Monday, January 25, 2010.

For more information contact the church.