

# Baptist Testimony



## The Word Has It

Ken Floyd  
MARBC Executive Director

*“Strengthen me according  
to Your word,”*  
– Psalm 119:28

## “Grace”

What a blessing it is with each issue of the Baptist Testimony to review the many reports of God’s grace demonstrated in and through the churches and servants of the MARBC. This issue is no exception. In fact, there is SO MUCH information in this particular issue that I could not include the column that I had prepared for this issue. However, I think that you will agree with me that sacrificing the space for my column is worth it as you read the many ways in which God is at work among us. The theme of “grace” is evident on every page.

I would encourage you to make note of several opportunities that are shared in this issue for you to participate in our fellowship in the next two months. And, we certainly appreciate your prayerful support on the 5th Annual Day of Prayer ... and every day for that matter. There are many wonderful opportunities and several challenging situations that we have been asked to assist in as a part of our ministry in this blessed fellowship of churches.

So, let me simply share a scripture verse that quotes the sentiments of the Apostle Paul for the Ephesian believers and which I often pray as I remember you and your church: *“So now, brethren, I commend you to God and to the word of His grace, which is able to build you up and give you an inheritance among all those who are sanctified.”* (Acts 20:32)

You have His Word on it! – (KEF)

VOLUME 57 NUMBER 5 SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER 2011

## FIFTH ANNUAL MARBC DAY OF “ONE ACCORD” PRAYER



September 25, 2011

*“They raised their voice  
to God in one accord”*

– Acts 4:24

**Purpose:** a day for MARBC churches to devote their attention to prayer for our churches, pastors, state fellowship, camps, ministries, missionaries, and special needs.

### Ideas for Participation:

- **Preach and teach on the topic of prayer** in worship services, Sunday School, ABFs, and small groups. I.e., a study of the Disciple’s Prayer in Matthew 5; prayers recorded in the Bible, the qualities of prayer, hindrances to prayer, etc.
- **Plan a 24-hour prayer marathon or other prayer event** leading up to Sunday. Materials related to various prayer events are available from the MARBC office.
- **Join with a sister church or churches in your area** for a special prayer service.
- **Take a moment during the morning worship service to pray** for the churches, pastors, camps, missionaries, and ministries of the MARBC. Pray also for sister churches in your area. Every church in the MARBC fellowship is encouraged to pause at the 10:00 a.m. hour on September 25 to come before the Lord praying in “one accord.” While worship and service times vary in our churches, most of our churches are assembled in some ministry setting at the 10:00 a.m. hour. This would also be a good time for deacons and/or other church members to pray on behalf of their pastors in anticipation of Pastor’s Appreciation Month in October.
- **Use the special Day of Prayer to focus upon the ministries of the MARBC.** Bulletin Day of Prayer inserts are available to download at [www.marbc.net](http://www.marbc.net) or by contacting the MARBC office. Some MARBC churches receive a special love offering on behalf of the MARBC. The MARBC ministry office and Executive Director are supported by the love gifts from churches in the fellowship.

## “REFLECTING GOD’S GRACE”

*“... that I may finish my race with joy, and the ministry which I received  
from the Lord Jesus, to testify to the gospel of the grace of God.”*

– Acts 20:24

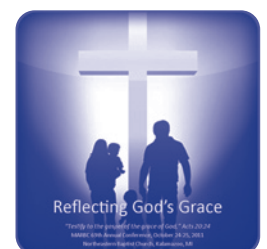
### 69TH MARBC ANNUAL CONFERENCE

**Dr. Charles Ware, Keynote Speaker**

**Monday-Tuesday, October 24-25, 2011**

Northeastern Baptist Church, Kalamazoo, Michigan

*The 69th Annual MARBC Conference will be held on Monday and Tuesday, October 24-25, at Northeastern Baptist Church in Kalamazoo. This year’s conference features an adjusted schedule format to allow more time for those attending to travel on Monday.*



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**REFLECTING GOD'S GRACE – 69TH MARBC ANNUAL CONFERENCE** (continued)

**CONFERENCE SCHEDULE**

**MONDAY, OCTOBER 24**

- 12:00 – 1:00 p.m. **Registration and Displays**
- 1:00 p.m. **General Session** – Message: Ken Floyd – “God’s Gracious Servants: The Ministry of the Gospel of the Grace of God,” Acts 20:17-38
- 2:15 p.m. **Break and Displays**
- 2:30 p.m. **MARBC Family Session** – Association Reports / C-15 election
- 3:30 p.m. **Super Seminars:** Men: Charles Ware – “Grace Relations”  
Women: Terre Ritchie – “What If I Give All I Have?”
- 4:45 p.m. **Dinner in local restaurants**
- 7:00 p.m. **General Session** – Message: Charles Ware – “One Blood: One Race,” Ephesians 2
- 8:30 p.m. **Council of 15 Dessert Fellowship for New Pastors and Wives**

**TUESDAY, OCTOBER 25**

- 8:30 a.m. **Season of Prayer**
- 9:00 a.m. **Workshop Session #1:**  
Dave and Carolyn Culver – “But the Siblings are Different Colors” (A personal testimony about the specific challenges and dynamics of multi-ethnic marriage, third culture children, and adoption.)  
Jeff Parker – “A Roadmap for Building in Tough Economic Times” Part 1 (Ideas for working with a building that is too small or dysfunctional)  
Dan Pugh – “Building Redemptive Relationships” (Learning to practice great redemptive words such as grace; confession; forgiveness; unity; and peace)  
Terre Ritchie – “That Couldn’t Be God Asking Me to Do That... Could It?” (If you are afraid of change, you might want to attend this workshop!)  
Joel Shaffer – “Social Involvement without the Social Gospel” (Reflecting God’s grace through a theology of social responsibility for the church)  
Mark Sigmon – “The World at Our Doorstep” (Practical insights and ideas for effective local ethnic outreach)
- 10:15 a.m. **Break and Displays**
- 10:30 a.m. **General Session** – Message: Charles Ware – “Walking Worthy,” Ephesians 4:1-7
- 11:30 a.m. **Lunch in local restaurants**
- 1:30 p.m. **Workshop Session #2:**  
Dave and Carolyn Culver – “But the Siblings are Different Colors” (A personal testimony about the specific challenges and dynamics of multi-ethnic marriage, third culture children, and adoption.)  
Jeff Parker – “A Roadmap for Building in Tough Economic Times” Part 2 (Ideas for church design, capital campaigns, and construction management; includes a panel discussion by experts on church building)  
Dan Pugh – “Building a Culture of Peace” (Developing a Biblical plan for dealing with conflict in the church before it arises)  
Terre Ritchie – “Safe Places on the Internet for Your Children and Students” (Information to assist you in helping children, students, and adults safely surf the web)

**BAPTIST TESTIMONY**  
Official Organ of the Michigan Association  
of Regular Baptist Churches

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Baptist Testimony is published bi-monthly, seeking to serve the cause of Regular Baptists in our association & State Fellowship. It will be sent to churches at a cost of 38 cents per copy. Individual subscriptions are \$5.50 per year. Deadline for copy is the 15th day of even-numbered months.

- 2:45 p.m. **Break and Displays**
- 3:00 p.m. **General Session** – Message: Charles Ware – “Color Me Love,” John 13:34-35

**CONFERENCE SPEAKERS**

The first session of the conference will begin at 1:00 p.m. on October 24, with an opening message by MARBC Executive Ministry Director, Ken Floyd.



**Ken Floyd**

Dr. Charles Ware, President of Crossroads Bible College in Indianapolis, Indiana, will be the keynote speaker. God has blessed Dr. Ware’s ministry in multiple ways. He has served as a senior pastor, college president, author, sports chapel speaker, and conference speaker. His passion is to raise church leaders who will lead their ministries to Biblically reflect ethnic diversity, promote urban ministry, and be living examples of the fruit of Bible-based racial reconciliation.



**Charles Ware**

Dr. Ware will share messages relating to the conference theme, “Reflecting God’s Grace,” and will examine the importance of churches reaching the various cultures represented in their particular communities as a part of fulfilling Christ’s calling.

Dr. Ware’s newly released book, “One Race: One Blood,” which he co-authored with Dr. Ken Ham (Answers in Genesis), will be the featured gift book at the conference. He will lead a Super Seminar on Monday afternoon related to multi-cultural ministry entitled “Grace Relations.”

Other conference speakers will share in the workshop sessions that are scheduled during the conference. The workshop sessions will focus upon pastoral ministry helps, practical missions methodology, conflict resolution, and women and children’s ministry.

- Dr. David and Carolyn Culver have served in church and missions ministry for over thirty years. They have been active in discipleship ministries for men and women and have authored and co-authored several Bible studies for Regular Baptist Press. The Culvers have four adult children and six grandchildren. They will lead a workshop entitled, “But the Siblings are Different Colors.” Christian multi-ethnic families are

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**David & Carolyn Culver**

already reflecting God's grace, but they have some specific challenges and dynamics. The Culvers are learning about those in their own children's lives through multi-ethnic marriage, third culture children, and adoption.

• Jeff Parker is the president of Jeffery Parker Architects. For the past 30 years he has specialized in equipping churches with purpose-driven, cost-effective facilities, including MARBC churches. He will lead a two part workshop titled, "A Roadmap for Building in Tough Economic Times." The second workshop will include a panel discussion involving experts in the field of church building and expansion.



**Jeff Parker**

• Dan and Kathy Pugh. Senior pastor of Montrose Baptist Church, Montrose, MI. Married 29 years, Dan and Kathy have



**Dan & Kathy Pugh**

always done ministry together. They met while working at Regular Baptist Press; were missionaries to street gang youth in Chicago; and have pastored in urban, suburban, and rural ministries. Dan is a trained counselor through Faith Baptist Counseling Ministries in Lafayette, IN, and is a certified instructor with Peacemaker Ministries. Dan will lead two workshops relating to dealing Biblically with conflict.

• Terre Ritchie is the Executive Director of CBH Ministries in Grand Rapids, MI. She grew up in Pontiac, MI and came to Christ at the age of 7. She and her husband, Tom, had 4 children and 11 grandchildren, as well as several heart-felt adopted children and grandchildren from Romania, Russia, and Ukraine. She received an art degree from Kendall College of Art and Design and a Masters from Syracuse University. She also assisted in leading several ministry teams to Romania caring for abandoned and sick children. The Lord called her husband, Tom, home to glory in 2006 after 40 years of marriage. Terre will lead three sessions primarily targeted for women relating to developing a closer walk with God, honoring His call, and a special session relating to the internet and its influence upon children and students.



**Terre Ritchie**

• Joel Shaffer is the Executive Director of Urban Transformation Ministries in Grand Rapids, MI. In addition to his current ministry, Joel and his wife (Sherilyn) have been ministering the gospel among the poor in two Grand Rapids inner-city neighborhoods for over 20 years in various capacities as a homeless shelter manager, an urban youth missionary, and church planting. Joel will lead two workshops dealing with practical methods of gospel ministry within a Biblical context.



**Joel Shaffer**

• Mark Sigmon is the founder and director of Global Impact Services, a ministry that helps churches and organizations find effective strategies for greater global impact. Over the past twenty years he has led mission organizations, committees, and short-term teams; served in forty countries; and taught, researched, and written on missions. He is the national Course Coordinator for Perspectives and leads a local ethnic outreach. He and his wife Cindi have three children. Mark will lead two workshops relating to "glocal" missions opportunities.



**Mark Sigmon**

• Mrs. Deanna Miller, missionary with Child Evangelism Fellowship of Greater Detroit, will once again lead the Children's Sessions (K-6th grade) during the main sessions of the conference. Along with Biblical teaching, she leads the children in creative craft sessions. We ask that parents please pre-register, if possible, so that we can adequately plan for these sessions. Nursery care will also be provided by the church.



**Deanna Miller**

## CONFERENCE DETAILS

A MARBC Ministry Hour will be held on Monday afternoon. Ministry reports, the proposed 2011 budget, and election of the Council of 15 will be a part of this session. Nomination forms for the Council of 15 will be available to download from the MARBC website, [www.marbc.net](http://www.marbc.net), and will also be emailed to each member church in early September. Details relating to the nomination process are included on these forms.

Conference brochures are being mailed the first week of September to every MARBC church. If your church does not receive a conference packet, please contact the MARBC office. All conference related materials are also available at the MARBC web site, [www.marbc.net](http://www.marbc.net), including area hotel information.

A new feature this year is the opportunity to make pre-registration payments for the conference registration online using a credit card. Thanks to a partnership with the GARBC, registrants may go to the GARBC website, [www.garbc.org](http://www.garbc.org), and make a secure credit card payment by clicking the "DONATE NOW" icon located in the middle of the right hand column of the home page. This will take registrants to the "GARBC Ministries Secured Online Payments Page." Simply fill out the Form as indicated with all the required information. Be sure to state in the "Comment" section of the Payments Page, "MARBC conference registration."

# MARBC NEWS & NOTES

**ALLEGAN, FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH (GREG CARLSON, PASTOR)** – First Baptist Church will celebrate its 170th Anniversary on Saturday-Sunday, September 24 and 25. The church invites you to join them during this special weekend to rejoice in God's blessings upon its ministry. A special concert on September 24 at 6:30 PM with southern gospel quartet, Skylight, will be followed by an Ice Cream Social. Previous pastors will be the featured speakers on Sunday, September 25: Ray Mayhew at 9 AM; Jim Turner at 10:30 AM; and Clare Saliers at 6 PM. Former associate and youth pastors will also be in attendance. Dinner on the grounds will follow the morning services. The anniversary celebration will also feature photo displays of memories; a video trip down "Memory Lane," reunion with dear friends, and a possible tour of the old church building downtown. A new history of the church will be given to each household represented. There will be other special features to enjoy during the weekend.

**EVART, CALVARY BAPTIST CHURCH (SCOTT FARRELL, PASTOR)** – A team of 13 people ranging in age from 8 to 60 were sent by First Baptist Church to partner with missionaries Dave and Jan Santos in Sao Paulo, Brazil. The team consisted of seven men and six women, including both the senior pastor and youth pastor and ministered for two weeks in July.



*Missionaries Dave and Jan Santos and the FBC Evart mission team*

While in Sao Paulo, the team served in Vacation Bible School at Castro Alves Baptist Church. During that week, God brought many children to the church and seven came to know Christ as Savior. Members of the team with construction

expertise worked on preparing the church parking area for a delivery of cement.



*Ministering in the building project*

Immediately after the team went back to the states, another team came to finish the pouring of the concrete, this was a huge undertaking that only God could bring to reality.

Team members were invited to the homes of the people from the church where they heard their testimonies and were deeply moved by what they heard. They were also able to do some outside painting at an orphanage and meet some incredible people who sacrifice daily to serve the Lord in taking care of the children.

God did great things in the hearts of the team and they all feel greatly blessed to have participated in this life-changing experience. Seeing what missionaries do and the sacrifices they make helps to understand the commitment behind the support of missionaries in the local church. The words taken from the Doxology say it best, "Praise God from Whom all blessings flow! Amen."



*Helping at a Brazilian orphanage*



*Pastor Steve High gives game time instructions*

**GRANT, GRACE HISPANIC BAPTIST BIBLE CHURCH (PEPE MORALES, PASTOR) / RICE LAKE BAPTIST CHURCH (DAN FULLMER, PASTOR)** – The Grace Hispanic Baptist Bible Church recently held two special ministry events in the facilities of Rice Lake Baptist Church. The church plant held a Daily Vacation Bible School the week of August 15. Several sister MARBC churches assisted in the ministry of the DVBS, including Blythefield Baptist Church in Rockford, First Baptist Church in Fremont, First Baptist Church in Newaygo, Kent City Baptist Church in Kent City, and Rice Lake Baptist Church in Grant. There was an average attendance of 127 children. Friday night's closing program had 147 children and 40 adults in attendance. The group rejoices that 47 made commitments to Jesus Christ as Savior during the week.



*Joe Murray with a family reached by Grace*

On Sunday, August 28, a Thirteenth Anniversary Service was held in the afternoon. The service included singing, recognition of those who pray, help, and

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*Participants of Grace Hispanic Baptist Bible Church DVBS*

give to the Lord's Work for the Hispanic Community, and a special gospel message by Joe Murray, member of



*Children sing at Anniversary service*

Rice Lake Baptist Church, assistant with the Grace Hispanic Baptist Bible Church ministry, and missionary with Release Time Bible Ministry. Seven individuals gave testimonies of their professions of faith and participated in believer's baptism. The service was followed by a time of fellowship.



*Pastor Pepe Morales*

Pastor Pepe Morales is the founding pastor of the church. He is faithfully involved in the preaching and teaching ministry of the church, leads Thursday night Bible group studies, holds weekly jail ministries, a weekly Hispanic radio ministry, and ministers in the many migrant camps in the region. We are thankful for Brother Morales' commitment to this important work and commend this ministry to our MARBC family.

**HAMILTON, HAMILTON BAPTIST CHURCH (JIM RUSE, PASTOR) –**

Once again, Hamilton Bible Institute is pleased to invite those in the community who are interested in an in-depth survey of the Bible to join us Tuesday, September 7, from 7:00-9:30 p.m. All the following classes will be held on Monday evenings. The cost is \$35 for each five week module. The Institute is sponsored by Hamilton Baptist Church and is located at 3690 M-40, in Hamilton. The Old Testament module being offered at this time will cover the United Kingdom of Israel and Hebrew Poetry. Other modules involving the New Testament and major biblical doctrines will be offered throughout the fall and spring. Contact the church office for more information. 269-751-8596.

**HOUGHTON, EVANGEL BAPTIST CHURCH (STEVE WILSON, PASTOR) –**

Evangel Baptist Church held an ordination service for its associate pastor, Nathaniel Marsh, on Sunday, August 21. A special fellowship dinner in celebration of the



*Nate and Natalie Marsh with Nate's parents*

ordination was held following the service. An ordination council was held on Friday, August 19, to examine Pastor Marsh regarding his doctrinal convictions and proficiency in handling Scripture. Rev. Ken Floyd, MARBC, served as the council moderator. Brian Knight, pastor of Bethany Baptist Church in Dollar Bay, served as the council clerk. The council unanimously recommended that Brother Marsh be ordained by the church.

An ordination service was held on Sunday morning, August 21. Evangel's senior pastor Steve Wilson led the service. MARBC Director Ken Floyd gave the charge to the church. Tom Maxwell, Nate's former youth pastor, gave the charge to the candidate. Nate's parents, Larry and Nancy Marsh of Roanoke, Virginia, were also in attendance. A delicious fellowship meal was held in honor of Pastor Marsh following the service. Nate is a native of Roanoke, Virginia, and is a graduate of Cedarville University (where he met his wife, Natalie) and Dallas Theological Seminary. Natalie is originally from California. The Marshes have two small children and are in their second year of ministry at Evangel.



*Nate Marsh and his youth pastor, Tom Maxwell*



*Pastor Steve Wilson & Pastor Nate Marsh*

**ISHPEMING, BIBLE BAPTIST CHURCH (JIM HILL, PASTOR) / WEST CANNON BAPTIST CHURCH (DOUG CRAWFORD, PASTOR) –**

A team from West Cannon Baptist Church in Belmont assisted an Upper Peninsula sister church in an MARBC CPR project in July. Pastor Jim and Ruth Hill report: Plans began in January to have a group from West Cannon come to help Bible Baptist Church reshingle the church building. We are so thankful for West Cannon's Executive Pastor Mark Cizauskas organizing the more than 40 who came.

Mark spoke in Sunday School and the morning service on July 31st and work began Monday morning, August 1. The extremely warm weather and some rain slowed down the project, but it was completed in four days, along with some other painting, cleaning and maintenance projects. Jim and Marie Chase, Continental Baptist Missions missionary builders supported by Bible Baptist Church, were able to come up to supervise the project.



*West Cannon and Bible Baptist CPR project*



*CPR roofing project in Ishpeming*

The plan was to do the parsonage roof, too. But that was too much project. So, a week later the church family spent about 5 - 14 hour days reshingling the parsonage and garage roofs. There was rotted wood on the parsonage roof that needed to be replaced, and unexpected rain the first day that damaged the living room ceiling. We are so grateful for the help of the group from West Cannon and many of the Bible Baptist Church family who were able to help with the project.

**KINGSFORD, FAMILY BAPTIST CHURCH (KEVIN SULLIVAN, PASTOR) / VESTABURG, FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH –**

A team of eleven people from First Baptist Church traveled to the far western Upper Peninsula to assist in an MARBC initiated CPR ("Church Partnering Relationships") project in July. The team aided the Family Baptist Church in Kingsford, which is located next to the city of Iron Mountain on the



*Pastor and Mrs. Kevin Sullivan*

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MARBC NEWS & NOTES

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CPR ministry team from First Baptist in Vestaburg



Staining the front of the building



Preparing the chair railing

Wisconsin border. Family Baptist Church is pastored by Kevin Sullivan. The first main project involved the repainting of the exterior of the church building. The team also restained the front of the building and stained and installed new chair railing in the lower level of the building. The Vestaburg team was able to get a donation of some paint from the Sherwin Williams paint store and other supplies from the local hardware store. The First Baptist Vacation Bible School children raised money that went directly to this project. They were able to raise \$131.63 in just pennies! The Family Baptist Church family and Pastor Kevin Sullivan are greatly blessed by this special partnership with their sister church from down state.

**MIDDLEVILLE, FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH (FRANK SNYDER, PASTOR)**

– The First Baptist Church of Middleville held its 2nd Annual “FBC Amazing Race” on July 30th. The FBC Amazing Race is a team competition requiring teams of two to locate and complete a series of challenges. The team that completes all the challenges in the fastest time wins. The competition included a mix of both intellectual and physical challenges. There were forty two-person teams who competed in the race.

The purpose of the FBC Amazing Race is to reach out to the Middleville community telling them about Christ, gaining interest in our church, and to raise funds for the Special Operations Warrior Foundation. The goal is to demonstrate the church’s love of Christ and, most importantly, Christ’s love for each and every person. The church seeks to plant seeds within the community to further spread the Gospel, just as Christ has directed in His Great Commission.

After a short message from Pastor Frank Snyder teams completed the following challenges:

- Finding spoons throughout stage coach park that spelled Soldier,
- Finding 4 coins in a mud pit, completing an obstacle course or making a basketball shot from behind the hoop,
- Drinking a 44oz slushy,
- Decoding a phrase using 500 bricks,
- Kicking a goal blind folded,
- Completing 3 Frisbee golf holes,
- Completing a 20 piece match relay game,
- Walking on stilts and completing 2 out of 3 legs of a wipe out course on water,
- Solving a domino puzzle



Sam Thaler & Nate Vaught



FBC Amazing Race mud pit



FBC Amazing Race water obstacle

- Teams completed the final leg of the race back at First Baptist Church campus and had to solve a 14’ by 48’ billboard puzzle.

Winning the race this year was the team of Sam Thaler and Nate Vaught (Nate won last year with Sam’s older brother Josh Thaler) with a time of 2:46:13.

Following the race, an “Amazing After Party” was held at the church facilities and included inflatables, games, and food.

The inaugural FBC Amazing Race in 2010 was held in honor of Army Corporal Nate Roush, a member of First Baptist Church in Middleville, who was killed in 2009 while serving in a special operations unit in Afghanistan. Adding to the success of last year’s event the FBC Amazing Race team decided to raise money for the Special Operations Warrior Foundation. The Special Operations Warrior Foundation provides full scholarship grants and educational and family counseling to the surviving children of special operations personnel who die in operational or training missions. The Foundation also provides immediate financial assistance to severely wounded special operations personnel and their families. This is the same foundation that is providing resources to the 36 families of those recently killed in the helicopter crash in Afghanistan.

The FBC Amazing Race was able to raise over \$3,600 through player registrations, challenge level sponsors from many local businesses, and personal donations made during and after the event. More donations have been received after the event. If you would like to make a donation please contact the Special Operations Warrior Foundation at [www.specialops.org](http://www.specialops.org).



The FBC Amazing Racers race on

# SPECIAL OPPORTUNITIES

**CAMPUS MINISTRY SUMMIT:** The #1 time people walk away from church and their relationship with God is during their college-age years! Vision for Youth (VFY) is committed to doing all it can to help stop this exodus from the church. They are holding two seminars in Michigan in the coming weeks:

- **National Youth Ministries Summit.** Sponsored by “Vision for Youth” ministries and hosted by Cornerstone University in Grand Rapids. Saturday, September 17, 9:00 a.m.-3:30 p.m. Cultivating students of influence and developing spiritual leaders in your church and student ministry. Speakers include Mel Walker, Glenn Amos, Tim Ahlgrim, Don Jackson, and Gerald Longjohn. \$30 pre-registration rate per person which includes all sessions, notes, resources, interaction, snacks, and lunch. \$25 for full time students. Contact “Vision for Youth,” 570.586.1843; [www.visionforyouth.com](http://www.visionforyouth.com); [info@visionforyouth.com](mailto:info@visionforyouth.com).
- **Campus Ministry Summit.** Sponsored by “Vision for Youth” ministries and hosted by Northeastern Baptist Church in Kalamazoo. Saturday, September 24, 9:00 a.m.-3:30 p.m. The number one time people walk away from God and quit going to church is during college. Learn how to stop the exodus in your church. The summit is designed for pastors, youth pastors, church leaders, campus missionaries, Sunday School teachers, campus student leaders – anyone working with college-age young adults. \$30 pre-registration rate per person which includes all sessions, notes, resources, interaction, snacks, and lunch. \$25 for full time students. Contact “Vision for Youth,” 570.586.1843; [www.visionforyouth.com](http://www.visionforyouth.com); [info@visionforyouth.com](mailto:info@visionforyouth.com).

**NORTH AMERICAN MISSIONS CONGRESS.** September 27-29, Crossroads Bible College, Indianapolis, IN. Free registration! You are invited to attend a great networking congress on Sept. 27-29 at Crossroads Bible College, Indianapolis. Congress organizers Ariel and Yna Abadiano are offering free registration. They explain, “The Lord has recently led us by faith to waive the registration fees for the congress, thus opening the door for His children to take advantage of a rare opportunity to invest their God-given talents, resources, and time for that which is closest to His heart—the ‘glocal’ (global and local) harvest. This will allow this 3-day congress to be offered free of charge registration for the first 400 NAMC participants to [register online](#) at our website.”

This is a historic gathering in North America of conservative Baptist church leaders and follows similar congresses held on 3 other continents. You are encouraged to participate for your own edification and for the encouragement of our international brethren. Plenary sessions will tackle issues that are crucial to movements and partnership efforts as well as offer challenging perspectives in “glocal” missions. Emphasis will be placed upon cross-cultural church planting ministries, missions’ partnerships, stewardship, tent-making missions, etc. For more information, consult the NAMC website, <http://namc.partnersministry.com.ph>; or email – [namc.congress@gmail.com](mailto:namc.congress@gmail.com).

**SMARBC MEN’S RETREAT, “MORE THAN CONQUERORS,” THE SPRINGS CAMP, OCTOBER 20-22:** If you’re interested in a real “shoot’em up” men’s retreat, you won’t want to miss this one. If you like to shoot hoops, bring your basketball. If you like to shoot golf, bring your clubs. If you like to shoot targets with a variety of “military hardware” than bring your shotguns, rifles, hand guns and lots of ammo. If you like to shoot fish...bring your bow. If you like to shoot eagles...bring your camera. But most seriously, be prepared to allow God to aim in on your heart with some messages that will challenge you to examine your faith and be the man God calls you to be. Basic cost will be \$90 for Plan A (5 meals) Thursday night 7pm through Saturday about 4pm and \$55 for Plan B (3 meals) Friday night 5pm through Saturday about 4pm. Your stay at the Springs Camp will be in cabins (bunk-bed mode: bring bedding or sleeping bags). Additional cost is added for golf (about \$25 for 18 holes/cart) and for shooting clay pigeons (?). This will be a great opportunity to invite an unsaved friend. We would also extend the invitation for you dads to bring your sons (age 10 and up). Lastly, if you are a bow hunter you might want to bring a stand.

Contact Pastor Rich Griffith at 517-531-3645 if you have any questions.

Early Bird discount by September 20th (Plan A \$85 or Plan B \$50)

Late Registration after October 10th (Plan A \$95 or Plan B \$60)

Please register by sending your check (payable to “S.M.A.R.B.C.”) to:  
Lansing Ave Baptist Church, 4000 Lansing Ave., Jackson MI 49202

## ANNIVERSARY ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

### September

- 5 - Pastor & Mrs. James Barrett, First Bapt., Carson City – 30 years!
- 5 - Rev. Ken & Margy Riley, Lake Ann Camp – 30 years!
- 6 - Pastor & Mrs. David Somers, First Bapt., Vassar
- 7 - Pastor & Mrs. David Henriksen, Interpas Ministries, Grand Rapids
- 7 - Pastor & Mrs. Matt Moser, Calvary Bapt., Kalkaska – 20 years!
- 7 - Pastor & Mrs. David Oberst, Lansing Ave. Bapt., Jackson
- 8 - Pastor & Mrs. Tim Murdoch, First Bapt., Holland
- 8 - Pastor & Mrs. Ken Pierpont, Jr., Evangel Bapt., Taylor
- 9 - Pastor & Mrs. Tom Randall, Kingsley – 45 years!
- 10 - Pastor & Mrs. Brian Knight, Bethany Bapt., Dollar Bay
- 10 - Pastor & Mrs. Paul Lamberson, Kentwood Bapt., Kentwood
- 12 - Pastor & Mrs. Mark Sterken, Shelby Rd. Bapt., Shelby – 25 years!
- 12 - Pastor & Mrs. Greg Carlson, First Bapt., Allegan
- 12 - Pastor & Mrs. Eric Sass, First Bapt., North Adams
- 18 - Pastor & Mrs. Chad Vitarelli, Calvary Bapt., G.R.
- 20 - Pastor & Mrs. Steve Nichols, Berean Bapt., Portage
- 21 - Pastor & Mrs. Brian Myers, South Bapt., Bay City – 15 years!
- 21 - Pastor & Mrs. Ken Vanderwest, Kent City Bapt., Kent City – 15 years!

### October

- 1 - Pastor & Mrs. John Wood, St. Louis
- 1 - Pastor & Mrs. Stephen Ayers, Faith Bapt., Benzonia
- 2 - Pastor & Mrs. Craig Perry, Forest Hills Bapt., G.R.
- 3 - Pastor & Mrs. Daryl Crawford, Oakfield Bapt., Rockford
- 4 - Pastor & Mrs. Jeff England, Victory Bapt., Sand Lake
- 4 - Pastor & Mrs. Tim Yankee, Calvary Bapt., Ludington – 25 years!
- 5 - Pastor & Mrs. Terry Fulk, Calvary Bapt., Fruitport
- 9 - Pastor & Mrs. Mike Brayton, Kingsley Bapt., Kingsley
- 10 - Pastor & Mrs. Brad Lambright, Marlette Bapt., Marlette – 30 years!
- 13 - Pastor & Mrs. Andy Brubaker, First Bapt., Portland
- 15 - Pastor & Mrs. Jerry Dorman, Berean Bapt., Livonia
- 20 - Pastor & Mrs. Larry Burk, South Bapt., Flint

*May your marriage and ministry be marked by God's guidance and blessing!*

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## KEN'S ROAD REPORT

Ken still has a limited amount of open dates available for the fall of 2011 and is scheduling meetings in 2012. Contact Ken if you would like him to speak or minister in your church.

- Sept 10 Closed Door Ministries board meeting, Grand Rapids
- Sept 12 EMARBC meeting, First Baptist Church, Oxford
- Sept 13 SMARBC meeting, Parma Baptist Church, Parma
- Sept 13 GRARBC Breakpoint, Kentwood Baptist Church, Kentwood
- Sept 18 First Baptist Church, Stanton, MI
- Sept 20 MARBC Council of 15 meeting, West Cannon Baptist Church, Belmont
- Sept 22 Ordination council, Berean Baptist Church, Portage
- Sept 25 Calvary Baptist Church, Battle Creek, MI (pastor installation service)
- Sept 25 MARBC One Accord Day of Prayer
- Sept 26-27 Baptist Bible College & Seminary Trustee Board meetings, Clarks Summit, PA
- Sept 28-29 North American Missions Congress, Indianapolis, IN
- Oct 2 South Litchfield Baptist Church, Litchfield, MI
- Oct 9 North Park Baptist Church, Grand Rapids, MI
- Oct 11 GRARBC Breakpoint, Alpine Baptist Church, Comstock Park
- Oct 16 Faith Baptist Church, Benzonia, MI
- Oct 24-25 MARBC Annual Conference, Northeastern Baptist Church, Kalamazoo
- Oct 31 Shelby Road Baptist Church, Shelby, MI

Please send all support checks, correspondence, church bulletins, newsletters and requests for speaking engagements to:

MARBC

830 Russwood St., NE  
Grand Rapids, MI 49505

Phone: (616) 364-5688

[MARBCKen@aol.com](mailto:MARBCKen@aol.com)/[MARBCSharon@aol.com](mailto:MARBCSharon@aol.com)  
[www.MARBC.net](http://www.MARBC.net)

**EMAIL ADDRESS** – Do we have your accurate e-mail address? Many people and organizations change their email addresses from time to time. Does the MARBC have your current address? Why not be sure by sending us an email and including your updated contact information? Send your information to either [marbcsharon@aol.com](mailto:marbcsharon@aol.com) or [marbcken@aol.com](mailto:marbcken@aol.com).

## AN END TIME CALL to obey THE GREAT COMMISSION

to MAKE DISCIPLES of all nations right here and to the ends of the earth

as NETWORKS are built from the coming together of independent, Bible-believing BAPTISTS

committed to reaching this goal in BIBLICAL, RELEVANT and EFFECTIVE MEANS

“DECLARE HIS  
GLORY TOGETHER  
AMONG  
THE NATIONS”

### OBJECTIVES

- Stir PASSION for “Glocal” Missions
- Provide TOOLS for “Glocal” Missions
- Develop STRATEGIES for “Glocal” Missions

Inviting all Pastors, Church planters, Seminary professors, Church members, Missions leaders, Organization leaders, Association leaders, Christian Education practitioners, Tentmakers, Multi-cultural church and Ministry leaders.

# NAMC

## North American Missions Congress

September 27 - 29, 2011

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Visit <http://namc.partnersministry.com/ph> for ONLINE registration or email Ariel Abadiano at [namc.congress@gmail.com](mailto:namc.congress@gmail.com) for more information.