

Baptist Testimony

VOLUME 58 NUMBER 6 NOVEMBER/DECEMBER 2012



The Word Has It

Ken Floyd
MARBC Executive Director

*“Strengthen me according
to Your word,”*

— Psalm 119:28

“Rich”

Like the beautiful and colorful contrasts of the autumn leaves we have enjoyed this spectacular fall season and the sunrays that will glisten off new fallen snow this winter, we are blessed to observe the multi-colored aspects of God’s grace in the lives of MARBC churches and servants. Paul describes God’s handiwork in the lives of His children as being “according to the riches of His grace, which He lavished upon us” (Ephesians 1:7-8).



Sharon and I continue to be greatly blessed as we minister together for God and the MARBC fellowship daily. What a joy it is to meet so many wonderful servants of God in our frequent travels. We are encouraged as we receive regular expressions of appreciation regarding the personalized support, practical resources, and spiritual care that the MARBC is able to provide.

It is a great joy to complete our sixth year serving you as representatives of this Biblically sound church network whose heritage is rich and whose potential for Great Commission influence is strong. We know that many of you pray regularly and give sacrificially. Thank you for your ministry partnership and financial

stewardship that enables this to happen. God is using our association to make an eternal impact!

We pray for the encouragement and strengthening of the churches and friends of the MARBC as the year 2012 comes to a close. During the Christmas season, let us further rejoice in *“the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that though he was*

rich, yet for your sakes He became poor; that you through His poverty might become rich!” (2 Corinthians 8:9). We are confident that 2013 will bring abundant opportunities for multi-colored riches of God’s grace to be put on display in the lives of each person and church in the MARBC family.

— You have His Word on it! (KEF)

2013 MARBC COUNCIL OF 16

Jim Howard, Nathan Pierpont, and Tom Townsend were elected to three-year terms as Council of 16 members at the annual conference. The Executive Committee: Chairman, George Coon; Vice-Chairman, Jim Howard; Secretary, Aaron Hadley; and Treasurer: Jerry Diserens. We express our thanks to outgoing Council member Greg Carlson for his faithful service. The following men comprise this year’s council (year term ends in parentheses):

Bill Blount, Hesperia Baptist, Hesperia, (2013), nancyandbill@sbcglobal.net

Doug Crawford, West Cannon Baptist, Belmont, (2013), dougc@westcannon.org

Jerry Diserens, Evangel Baptist, Taylor, (2013), jdiserens@usa.net

George Coon, *Chairman*, Northeastern Baptist, Kalamazoo, (2014), gcoon@nbckz.com

Ken Pierpont, Jr., Evangel Baptist, Taylor, (2014), kenpierpont@gmail.com

Scott Florida, Alpine Baptist, Comstock Park, (2014), sflorida@alpinebaptist.com

Jim Howard, *Vice Chairman*, First Baptist, Cedar Springs, (2015), pastorhoward@csfbc.com

Nathan Pierpont, Northeastern Baptist, Kalamazoo, (2015), npierpont@nbckz.com

Tom Townsend, Calvary Baptist, Battle Creek, (2015), parsonstomt@gmail.com

Steve Ayers, Faith Baptist, Benzonia, Northern representative, SAyers1002@aol.com

Jeff Burr, Forest Hills Baptist, Grand Rapids, Grand Rapids area representative, jburr@fhbcgr.org

Rich Griffith, Parma Baptist, Parma, Southern representative, pastorrdgriffith@yahoo.com

Aaron Hadley, *Secretary*, First Baptist, Edmore, Central representative, fbcedmore1@frontier.com

Brian Knight, Dollar Bay Baptist, Dollar Bay, Upper Peninsula representative, brian@bbcincchrist.org

Jamey Miller, Fellowship Baptist, East China, Eastern representative, jmill762@yahoo.com

Dave Sill, Shelby Rd. Baptist, Shelby, Western representative, dsill@shelbyroad.org



70TH MARBC ANNUAL CONFERENCE HIGHLIGHTS

Conference attendees from all generations were greatly blessed by the messages, testimonies, and fellowship that were a part of the 70th Annual MARBC Conference that was hosted by the gracious members of South Baptist Church in Flint, Michigan on October 29-30. Several first time attendees and displayers participated in this year's conference. Pastors Scott Snyder, Larry Burk, Don Chapin, and the South Baptist Church staff and family were exemplary in their efforts to help facilitate a wonderful conference atmosphere for all in attendance. We express our heartfelt thanks to the entire South Baptist Church family for their generosity extended to us.

MAIN SESSIONS.

The wonderful worship sessions were coordinated and led by Nathan Pierpont, Worship Pastor at Northeastern. Cindy McNeil (Shelby Road Baptist Church, Shelby) accompanied on the piano and keyboard, and Greg Carlson (First Baptist Church, Allegan) ministered on the organ. Several members of South Baptist Church also ministered in the services by playing instruments. They also shared in a stirring choir and dramatic presentation during



Worship Session

BAPTIST TESTIMONY

Official Organ of the Michigan Association of Regular Baptist Churches

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Council of Fifteen - MARBC

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Monday evening's session. Our thanks are also extended to Lissy Pierpont, who not only assisted her dad in the worship sessions but also served as the conference photographer. For the fourth consecutive year CEF missionary Deanna Miller was a blessing to the children in attendance as she shared Bible lessons, special crafts and activities.



Instrumentalists

Main session messages focused upon the theme, "To All Generations," which was based upon the benediction that the Apostle Paul offered for the believers in Ephesus, "Now to Him who is able to do exceedingly abundantly above all that we ask or think, according to the power that works in us, to Him be glory in the church by Christ



Jesus to all generations, forever and ever. Amen." (Ephesians 3:20-21)

Nathan Pierpont leads worship

Monday's messages called upon our association to "Appreciate Our Heritage." Former MARBC State Representative Maynard Belt began the conference by answering the question "Is One's Heritage Really Significant?" in the affirmative from Deuteronomy 2. Maynard also shared



Ladies prayer session



Mark Cizauskas solo



Signing for worship

personal reflections about how God has used the ministry influence of the MARBC in its seventy years of existence. In the Monday evening session, current MARBC Executive Ministry Director Ken Floyd challenged the MARBC constituency to "embrace their Gospel heritage," by noting the key emphases of the Apostle Paul's farewell address recorded in Acts 20.

Tuesday's messages challenged the association to "Embrace Our Future." Current MARBC pastors delivered three powerful messages. Pastor Bob McNeil, Shelby Road Baptist Church in Shelby, presented a convicting message that asked the question "Is Anything Happening?" He shared ten key dynamics that allowed the early church in the Book of Acts to be effective and relevant.

This was followed by a message from Pastor Chris Weeks, Kent City Baptist Church in



Cindy McNeil & Nathan Pierpont piano duet



Bob McNeil



Maynard Belt

(continued on next page)



Main Session with Chris Weeks

Kent City, which focused upon “The Two Arms of Embracing” from 2 Timothy 1. The message focused upon two key principles in reaching the next generation for Christ: being a transformational leader and being an incarnational agent.

Pastor Mark Shaw, Calvary Baptist Church in Greenville, preached the final message of the conference. Focusing upon Hebrews 13:20-21, he challenged the conference attendees as they prepared to re-enter their ministry world to “work hard and ‘chill-lax!’ because God is the One Who Perfects and is in the process of perfecting His Church. The key to embracing the future is to recognize that we are involved in “the LORD’s work.” And with this closing admonition, everyone left to do just that.



Mark Shaw

Perhaps the most talked about feature of this year’s conference were testimonies shared by special guests at the conference.

SPECIAL TESTIMONIES.

Born in Colon, Michigan, MARBC ministry veteran Dr. Joseph Bower shared a testimony during Monday evening’s session about God’s work in his life and



During Monday evening’s session about God’s work in his life and



ministry. Stating that he now tells people who ask him that his blood pressure level is “91 over 71,” he rehearsed with great spiritual fervor how God has watched over his 91 years of life and 71 years as a minister of the gospel.

Former MARBC State Representative John Wood helped launch the Tuesday morning “Season of Prayer and Praise” by sharing about the early days when the association first hired a full-time representative. With the humor and candor that endeared him to the association churches, Brother Wood recalled what it was like to “trail blaze” the development of the association.

Pastor Josh Gates, First Baptist Church in Fenton, shared an update about his recovery from surgery to remove a cancerous thyroid and lymph nodes. A thirty-year-old pastor in his first lead pastor role, he related the lessons he and his wife Andrea are learning as they seek to lead a church and raise a young family while dealing with adversity.

NEW ASSOCIATION CHURCHES.

The applications of three churches seeking to associate with the MARBC were presented and unanimously approved during the Monday business session.



New churches welcomed



New church pastors

Pastors and representatives from each church were officially welcomed into the association during the Monday evening session and each pastor shared a testimony on Tuesday morning (video and audio of each testimony is available at www.marbc.net). The MARBC rejoices in the opportunity to partner with these important church ministries.

- Grace Hispanic Bible Baptist Church in Grant (Pepe Morales, Pastor). This church plant is sponsored by Rice Lake Baptist Church (Dan Fullmer, Pastor) and currently meets in their facilities while their new church site continues to be developed. The church is being strategically used of God to primarily reach Hispanics working in the region of West Michigan. Two articles regarding Grace Hispanic were recently published in the November-December 2012 issue of the “Baptist Bulletin.” You may access these articles online at www.marbc.net.
- Limestone Baptist Church in Limestone (Ted Jolls, Pastor). This church plant was started by Hiawatha Land Baptist missionary Warren Jolls (Ted’s father) and later overseen by Continental Baptist Missions. It continues to be a lighthouse to a dark area in the central Upper Peninsula.
- South Litchfield Baptist Church in Litchfield (Ken Pierpont, II, Pastor). As a church struggling to survive both doctrinal and numeric decline, Ken and Jane Pierpont have been used of the Lord the past three years to help rescue this work and enable it to once again become a gospel influence in the farm regions of southern Michigan.

SPECIAL ONLINE CONFERENCE RESOURCES.

We are excited to share that all messages and testimonies from this year’s conference are available in both audio and video format and are now posted on the MARBC website. Relive the blessings of this year’s conference and share them with others. You may also access other materials that were distributed at the conference at www.marbc.net.



ASSOCIATION BUSINESS.

The Monday afternoon business session included reports relating to the MARBC budget, the Executive Ministry Director’s report, and MARBC Talents for Christ (shared by TFC director, Pastor Ken Pyne). The revised MARBC Articles of Faith were ratified and three new members of the Council of 16 were selected.

We are grateful for those who serve with the Council of 16 in helping to give direction to the ministries of the MARBC and counsel to the Executive Ministry

(continued on next page)

70TH MARBC ANNUAL CONFERENCE HIGHLIGHTS *(continued)*

Director. Special thanks are given to Mrs. Karen Avey who competently serves as the MARBC bookkeeper and Pastor Kevin Pierpont of Higgins Lake Baptist Church who serves as the MARBC Webmaster. Appreciation is also expressed to Pastor Ken Pyne and his wife Debbie for their faithful work in leading the MARBC Talents for Christ.

The Council of 16 and Ken and Sharon Floyd hosted a dessert fellowship welcoming new MARBC pastors and wives on Monday evening. Over 60 were in attendance and were blessed by the testimonies shared by the group. A pie fellowship was provided by South Baptist Church. We thank the church for their hospitality in providing this delicious treat!



New pastors and wives dessert

2013 JOINT CONFERENCE.

"Standing Together for the Gospel!" The 2013 conference will be an historic first! The MARBC is partnering with the Ohio Association of Regular Baptist Churches (OARBC) to present a joint conference on October 21-23, 2013. The three-day conference will be hosted by Emmanuel Baptist Church in Toledo, Ohio. A task force comprised of members of both state councils is planning the format and have extended invitations to speakers who will participate in the three-day conference. Be sure to reserve the dates!

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 or marbcken@aol.com.



2013 TALENTS FOR CHRIST: The 2013 MARBC Talents for Christ competition will be held on Saturday, April 20, 2013 at West Cannon Baptist Church in Belmont. Students may participate in either the Scholarship or Open Categories. Registration cost is \$65 for the Scholarship Categories. Registration cost is \$25 per individual category and \$35 per group in the Open Categories.

SPECIAL NOTE! This year's National TFC competition will be held in Dearborn, Michigan, June 26-28, during the GARBC Annual Conference and "Students Alive" events. Travel expenses will be limited and the opportunities to participate will be great. Let's have a great Michigan participation!

Those desiring to compete in the Scholarship Category should register at the National TFC website where other information and cost details are shared. You may go to www.garbc.org/tfc for more information, downloadable materials, and scholarship details. A link to this website is also available at www.marbc.net.

Registration deadline for the 2013 MARBC State Competition of Talents for Christ is March 1, 2013. Please make checks payable to Evangel Baptist Church and mail the registration to: Michigan TFC, Evangel Baptist Church, 16994 S. Telegraph Rd., Taylor, MI 48180.

Students competing in the Scholarship Category have the opportunity to receive a First Place \$1000 scholarship or a \$500 scholarship for Second Place. All state winners may compete in the National competition at GARBC Conference for additional \$5000 (1st place) and \$2500 (2nd place) scholarships to the participating schools.

MARBC churches and young people are strongly encouraged to participate. The preparations for TFC will help develop godly discipline and character. The results of this preparation allow our youth to minister in meaningful ways in several settings. With the opportunities for

scholarships from participating colleges in the Scholarship Division and camp scholarships from The Springs Camp in the Open Division, there are also practical benefits for TFC participation.

SCHOLARSHIP COMPETITIONS:

Bible Knowledge
Brass
Female Public Speaking
Female Voice
Male Voice
Oral Interpretation of Scripture
Piano
Preaching
Strings
Visualized Bible Teaching
Woodwinds
Writing

OPEN (NON-SCHOLARSHIP) INDIVIDUAL CATEGORIES:

Art
Bible Knowledge
Brass
Digital Media
Female Public Speaking
Female Voice
Male Voice
Oral Interpretation of Scripture
Piano
Preaching
Strings
Visualized Bible Teaching
Woodwinds
Writing

OPEN (NON-SCHOLARSHIP) GROUP COMPETITIONS:

Vocal Duet
Small Vocal Ensemble
Large Vocal Ensemble
Puppet Team
Drama Team
Instrumental Ensemble

For further information or questions regarding Talents for Christ, contact our Michigan coordinator, Pastor Ken Pyne - krpyne@usa.net, 734.946.5680. A PDF file containing all of the Talents for Christ information is available to download at www.marbc.net.

WITH THE LORD

"We are confident, yes, well pleased rather to be absent from the body and to be present with the Lord." -2 Corinthians 5:8

CLYDE AFMAN — Pastor Clyde Afman (89) went home to be with his Heavenly Father peacefully, at home with family members at his side, on Monday evening, August 20. Born in Bradley, Michigan on February 6, 1923, he was a man who made a difference in the lives of many. He served his country in World War II. Following the war, he met the love of his life, Pauline Wielhouwer. They were married for over 66 years.

Obedying God's call on his life, Clyde received Bible training at Grand Rapids Baptist College and Grand Rapids School of the Bible and Music. He served in the following pastorates: Oak



Clyde Afman

Street Baptist Church in Durand, MI; Sandusky Baptist Church in Sandusky, MI; Countryside Bible Church in Jonesville, MI; Rudyard Bible Church in Rudyard, MI; Rexton Mennonite Church, Rexton, MI; and in retirement he served as Pastor of Visitation at First Baptist Church in Fremont, MI.

Clyde was passionate about sharing Christ with everyone he met. His legacy lives on with the many he led to Christ throughout the years, and through the ministries of his children and grandchildren. In addition to his wife Pauline, Clyde is survived by six children, Carol (Gene) Kent of Lakeland, FL, Jennie (Graydon) Dimkoff of Fremont, MI, Paula Afman of Lakeland, FL, Bonnie (Ron) Emmorey of Fremont, MI, Ben Afman of Baltimore, MD, and Joy (Kelly) Carlson of Yampa, CO; 17 grandchildren, and 6 great-grandchildren.

A memorial service was co-officiated by his son-in-law Rev. Kelly Carlson and Rev. Steve Summerfield of First Baptist Church in Fremont. Memorial contributions may be made to Mel Trotter Ministries, 225 Commerce Ave. SW, Grand Rapids, MI 49503. This is the ministry where Clyde first preached many years ago.

JAY DYKSTERHOUSE — Rev. Jay Dyksterhouse (85) went home to be with His Lord on August 4. He served in the U.S. Navy from 1945-47 and was invited to a Bible Study where he learned about God's love, forgiveness, and assurance of eternal salvation available through faith in Jesus Christ.

Jay attended Grand Rapids Junior College where he met his wife, the former Norma Bertrand. They were married in 1947 at Wealthy Street Baptist Church. Jay and Norma served as ABWE



Jay Dyksterhouse

missionaries in Chile, teaching pastors at a Bible institute until 1970. Jay then returned to Grand Rapids and served as pastor of Lake Drive Baptist Church until 1989. He and Norma then moved to Sebring, Florida, where Jay continued to teach adult Bible studies and provide correspondence Bible studies for Spanish speaking prisoners.

Following Norma's passing in 2000, Jay continued to minister to adults through Bible studies in Scottsdale, Arizona, and spend time with his grandchildren. He reconnected with family friend Shirley Knol in 2004, and they were married and shared their time between Scottsdale and Grand Rapids. Jay is survived by his wife Shirley, daughters Judy Graham and Joyce DenBleyker, son Paul Dyksterhouse, and grandchildren.

Jay's life was devoted to his family, and to ministering to the spiritual needs of people, wherever he was living. Jay's Bible lessons and sermons can be downloaded from www.sermonstogrow.com at no cost. A memorial service was held on August 8th at Wealthy Park Baptist Church, Grand Rapids, MI. The family has requested that in lieu of flowers, gifts be made in his name to Wealthy Park Baptist Church, 2233 Michigan NE, Grand Rapids, MI 49503.

OLLIE GOAD — Dr. Ollie Goad (84) went home to be with his Lord on Thursday, September 27, 2012. Ollie was born in Lynchburg, Virginia, the son of Ollie and Myrtle Goad, Sr. He was a veteran of the U.S. Navy. He was a graduate of Moody Bible Institute and received his Doctorate in Theology at Trinity Baptist College in Georgia. He served as pastor at Wealthy Street Baptist Church in Grand Rapids, MI, as well as several pastorates in Virginia, Georgia and Maryland. In retirement he served as an interim pastor with Interpas Ministries. His wife, Phyllis, went to be with



Ollie Goad

the Lord in April. Ollie is survived by his children, David (Rosemary) Goad, Mark (Karen) Goad, Jonathan (Ginger) Goad, Michael (Claudia) Goad; 8 grandchildren and 12 great-grandchildren. A Service of Praise and Thanksgiving was held at West Cannon Baptist Church in Belmont, with Pastor Doug Crawford and Pastor Will Davis officiating. Those planning an expression of sympathy are asked to consider Moody Bible Institute, 820 N. LaSalle Blvd., Chicago, IL 60612.

PHYLLIS SMITH — Phyllis Jean Smith (78) was called to her heavenly home by her Lord on December 1. She was reared in Chicago and was a 1955 graduate of Bob Jones University. Phyllis served the Lord as a pastor's wife alongside her husband, Pastor Earl Wesley Smith, for 41 years. The Smiths served in MARBC pastorates in Portage, Middleville, and Newaygo, and also in Chico, California. They also ministered in associate pastorates in Detroit, Lansing, and Bailey, Michigan. Phyllis was a teacher and currently a member of First Baptist Church in Newaygo. She loved to sing and played the organ, piano, and flute. Survivors include her husband, Wes; their two sons, Gordon and Brian; and seven grandchildren.



Phyllis Smith

(continued on page 7)

MARBC NEWS & NOTES

COMSTOCK PARK, ALPINE BAPTIST CHURCH (DOUG COMPTON, PASTOR) –

On Sunday, October 21, 2012, Alpine Baptist Church in Comstock Park, Michigan, celebrated both Pastors' Appreciation Day and the 20th Anniversary of Pastor Doug Compton's ministry at Alpine. During the Morning Worship Service, various members of the congregation shared how important the ministry of Pastor and Sue was to their family in their special time of need. All of those present were blessed and challenged by each family as they recalled the impact of Pastor and Sue's concern and ministry to their family. Pastor and Sue Compton received a gift from the congregation presented by Church Board Chairman, Glen Siegel. The service was followed by a time of fellowship for everyone in attendance.



Pastor Doug and Sue Compton and deacon Glen Siegel

FLINT, EMMANUEL BAPTIST CHURCH (JOHN SCALLY, PASTOR) –

Emmanuel Baptist Church held a special installation service for their new senior pastor, John Scally, on September 3. Brother Scally is a graduate of Maranatha



Pastor John and Tammy Scally and family

Baptist Bible College and had previously served 18 years in youth ministry. His wife Tammy is a graduate of Bob Jones University with an emphasis in guidance/counseling. The Scallys have three young children.

GRAND RAPIDS, LEONARD HEIGHTS BAPTIST CHURCH –

Leonard Heights Baptist Church held its final worship service on Sunday, August 26. Current and former members gathered to give thanks to God for His blessings during the church's 50+ years of ministry on the northwest side of Grand Rapids. During the service there was a special recognition of Iglesias Bautista Biblica, the new ministry that will now use the church facilities. This new church plant is led by Pastor Paul and Barb Joles (Baptist Mid-Missions). A reception was held at the conclusion of the service.

GRAND RAPIDS, NORTHLAND BAPTIST CHURCH (MICHAEL FARIS, PASTOR) –

Northland Baptist Church rejoices in the addition of Pastor Mike and Elizabeth Faris this fall. The Farises come to Northland after serving in a pastorate in Pennsylvania and living briefly in Ontario where they ministered to Mike's ailing mother prior to her entrance into glory last year. Born in Belfast, Northern Ireland, Mike was subsequently raised in Ontario Canada, as was Elizabeth. They are not newcomers to west Michigan, Mike previously served as the senior pastor of First Baptist Church in Zeeland for 14 years, as well as youth pastor in two Grand Rapids area churches in the 1970s. The Farises have five grown children.



Pastor Michael and Elizabeth Faris

MANCHESTER, VICTORY BAPTIST CHURCH (GARY PAGE, PASTOR) –

Victory Baptist Church recently welcomed Gary Page as their new pastor. Pastor Page and his wife Deborah come to Manchester from

Grandville, Michigan. They have three adult children. A special installation service and dinner were held on Sunday, November 11. Speakers included Rev. Ken Floyd (MARBC), Dr. Claude Wiggins (Detroit Baptist Theological Seminary), and Rev. Paul Pickell (retired Victory pastor). Former pastor Fred Slagle shared special music and Jim Vandermeijer shared a testimony about the Pages' prior involvement at Grace Bible Church in Grandville.

Gary attended Northern Arizona University as a major in music education. He later attended Cornell University and received Bachelors and Masters degrees in Hotel Administration. In the mid-1980s, he sensed the call of God to pastoral ministry and received a Masters in Theological Studies from Grand Rapids Baptist Seminary. He previously served in pastorates in West Branch and Three Rivers, Michigan.

ROCHESTER, FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH (MARK CIZAUSKAS, PASTOR) –

Mark and Marsha Cizauskas and their family were officially welcomed to First Baptist Church on September 30 as the church held a pastoral installation service. Participating in the service were Rev. Ken Floyd (MARBC) and Rev. John Greening (GARBC) who shared comments regarding the importance of the search process. Pastor Doug Crawford of West Cannon Baptist Church in Belmont, Mark's home church and where he previously served as Executive Pastor, gave the charge to the church. Pastor Ted Herron of Watkins Glen, New York, Mark's father-in-law, gave the charge to the pastor. First Baptist deacons Bob Mangin and Dave Dykema gave special comments and greetings from the church family. A special dinner was held following the service in the Cizauskas' honor.

SMARBC REGIONAL ASSOCIATION –

Between 700-800 were in attendance for a special community rally called "Beat Bob" that was sponsored by several churches in the Southern MARBC region on Thursday, October 11. This outreach involves a man named Bob Holmes, an evangelist and one-man volleyball team who travels nationwide to share the gospel to thousands of families. Approximately 150 responded to the invitation regarding the

(continued on next page)

need for further help or information regarding their spiritual needs.

TAYLOR,

EVANGEL BAPTIST CHURCH (KEN PIERPONT, JR., PASTOR)

– Evangel Baptist Church had the special joy of ordaining two men to the Gospel ministry this fall.

Michael Breznau, Associate Pastor of Student Ministries, was ordained by Evangel Baptist Church in a special service held on Sunday evening, September 30. The church held an ordination council the previous Friday, where Michael was unanimously recommended for ordination and commended for his knowledge and articulation of the scriptures.

During the service, Michael’s father shared a personal testimony and Evangel’s Senior Pastor Ken Pierpont shared a charge to the candidate. Ken Floyd of the MARBC moderated the ordination council on Friday and also gave a charge to the church at the ordination service. A reception was held in his honor following the service.

Tim Walker was ordained on Sunday, October 28. Tim grew up at Evangel and graduated from Baptist Bible College this past spring. He is currently involved in a church plant in Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania. An ordination council was held on the Friday prior to the service. Dr. Jim Lytle, Provost of Baptist Bible College moderated the ordination council and also gave the charge to the candidate during the ordination service. A reception was held following the service.

SPECIAL OPPORTUNITIES

IRS ANNOUNCES 2013 MILEAGE RATES.

The Internal Revenue Service announced in November the new standard mileage rates for 2013. Effective January 1, 2013, the standard mileage rates will be 56.5 cents per mile for business miles driven. The reimbursement rate is an increase of 1 cent over 2012. (From ChurchLawandTax.com)

FAX MACHINE AVAILABLE.

A Brother Fax machine (model #2820) in good condition and about 3 years old is available for free to any church or ministry that can use it. It includes a new toner cartridge and user’s manual. Since this is a large piece of equipment, pick up is preferable to shipping. Contact Bea Moore, Financial Secretary at Evangel Baptist Church in Taylor, MI, phone - 734.946.5680; email – moorebee59@comcast.net.

HAMMOND ORGAN AVAILABLE.

A Hammond Electronic Organ is available free to any church or Christian ministry. The instrument has various church, orchestra, and band presets. A newer model recently replaced this organ. It is in good working condition and can still be played. Please contact Pastor Jim MacQuarrie, First Baptist Church of North Branch, MI, phone - 810.688.3141; email – fbcpcm@gmail.com.

ELDON STEVENS – Dr. Eldon W. Stevens (68) went home to be with his Lord and Savior Jesus Christ on October 6. Eldon was a native of the sand hills of central Nebraska growing up on a livestock farm. He was introduced to Jesus Christ and was born again at the age of 19. He was married to his loving wife, Rose Mary (Snakenberg) for 48 years. During his life he served as a pastor and an evangelist. In 1995 he became the president of COME International Baptist Ministries and continued in that role until the time of his death. He is survived by his loving wife Rose Mary, his three sons; Timothy Eldon of South Bend, Indiana, Andrew William of Galloway, Ohio and David Scot of Browns Summit, North Carolina and ten grandchildren. A memorial service was held at Harvest Baptist Church in Hudsonville, MI, with Pastor Ryan Kooienga officiating. In lieu of flowers the family asks that memorial gifts be given to Harvest Baptist Church or COME International Baptist Ministries. (Rose Mary Stevens, 6495 McCords Ave., Alto, MI 49302-9108; stevens1943@gmail.com)



Eldon Stevens

LEE WINTER – Rev. Lee Winter (81) entered the presence of His Savior on March 5. Lee and his wife Betty were married for over 58 years. The Lord blessed them with four children, twelve grandchildren, and eleven great-grandchildren. Lee served in pastoral ministry for 46 years. Most recently Lee served as the pastor at St. Joe Baptist Church in Homer, Michigan. He also worked for 28 years at Hayes Albion Corporation and enjoyed teaching woodworking as a 4-H leader. A memorial service was held in Albion.



Lee Winter

NEW ONLINE GIVING OPPORTUNITY FOR 2013

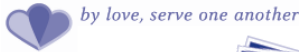
Those desiring to donate to the ministry of the MARBC may now do so online. Locate the “Donate” button on the www.marbc.net homepage. Click this button to make a tax-deductible donation to the “MARBC” or the “Floyd ministry expense fund.” You will be directed to a secure webpage hosted by regularbaptistministriesgiving.org. One time or recurring gift options are available.



Giving to the “MARBC” option allows you to share a donation to the MARBC general fund. Giving to the “Floyd ministry expense fund” allows you to share a donation to the ministry expense fund of Executive Ministry Director Ken Floyd. These funds help cover the travel expenses related to the ministry of the Executive Director.

Those completing a donation will receive an email from “simplegive.com” stating that the transaction has been completed. The receipt will read that a gift has been received for the ministry of the General Association of Regular Baptist Churches, and the budget category will state either: “Support for MARBC” or “Support for Ken and Sharon Floyd.” Please contact the MARBC office for further information.

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KEN'S ROAD REPORT

- Nov. 4 York Baptist Church, Milan (180th Anniversary celebration)
Nov. 6 GARBC State Reps online meeting
Nov. 11 Victory Baptist Church, Manchester, pastor's installation service
Nov. 12-14 GARBC Council of 18 meetings, Schaumburg, IL
Nov. 18 First Baptist Church, Mt. Pleasant
Nov. 27 Speak at GRARBC Pastors' Fellowship meeting, Standale Baptist Church
Dec. 2 Temple Hill Baptist Church, Cadillac (Pastor's installation), a.m.
Dec. 2 Calvary Baptist Church, Lake City, p.m.
Dec. 9 Ensley Baptist Church, Sand Lake (Pastor's installation)
Dec. 11 GRARBC Breakpoint meeting, Forest Hills Baptist, GR
Dec. 21-Jan. 6 MARBC Office closed, may you have a blessed Christmas season!
Jan. 20 Highland Hills Baptist Church, Grand Rapids
Jan. 28-30 Baptist Bible College & Seminary Trustee Board meetings

Contact Ken if you would like him to speak or minister in your church in 2013.

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

MARBC

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ANNIVERSARY ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

November

- 4 - Pastor & Mrs. Don Chapin, South Bapt., Flint
11 - Pastor & Mrs. Phil Maxwell, First Bapt., St. Louis
12 - Pastor & Mrs. Lewis Hague, Blessed Hope Bapt., Escanaba
16 - Pastor & Mrs. Jerry Larkin, Burt Bapt., Montrose
20 - Rev. Ken and Sharon Floyd, MARBC, Grand Rapids
26 - Pastor & Mrs. Jason LaFlamme, Munising Bapt., Munising
27 - Pastor & Mrs. Jeff Helbert, City View Church, Grand Rapids
27 - Pastor & Mrs. Ray White, Curtis Bapt., Curtis

December

- 10 - Pastor & Mrs. Chris Weeks, Kent City Bapt., Kent City
16 - Pastor & Mrs. Rich Griffith, Parma Bapt., Parma
17 - Pastor & Mrs. Jory Trim, Trinity Bapt., Grand Rapids
18 - Pastor & Mrs. Thomas Stout, Volinia Bapt., Decatur
22 - Pastor & Mrs. Douglas Crawford, West Cannon Bapt., Belmont
22 - Pastor & Mrs. Jerry Bishop, L'Anse Bapt., L'Anse
24 - Pastor & Mrs. Ken Pierpont II, South Litchfield Bapt., Litchfield
27 - Pastor & Mrs. Ted Jolls, Limestone Bapt., Limestone - 20 years!
27 - Pastor & Mrs. Marc Herron, First Bapt., Caro - 10 years!
27 - Pastor & Mrs. Steve Summerfield, First Bapt., Fremont
28 - Pastor & Mrs. George Dwelley, Cornerstone Bapt., Shingleton
29 - Pastor & Mrs. Josh Gates, First Bapt., Fenton - 5 years!

January

- 1 - Pastor & Mrs. Joe Balbach, retired, Berean Bapt., Grand Rapids
2 - Pastor & Mrs. Charles Hewlett, Hillside Bapt., Big Rapids
5 - Pastor & Mrs. Richard Liverance, Kentwood Bapt., Kentwood
17 - Pastor & Mrs. Clifford Lones, retired, Trinty Bapt., Muskegon
30 - Pastor & Mrs. Duane Cross, First Bapt., Weston
30 - Pastor & Mrs. Dan VanderVelde, Trinity Bapt., Muskegon

February

- 14 - Pastor & Mrs. Richard Halfman, Plymouth Bapt., Plymouth
22 - Pastor & Mrs. Burt Wachter, Wolf Lake Bapt., Muskegon
23 - Pastor & Mrs. Charles Richardson, Chippewa Hills Bapt., Remus

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

Mark Hoskins
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