



ABC/NE Date Data

2010 Prayer Emphasis ALL MONDAYS See page 3

February 20
10 am Mission & Finance Dept.
Noon Executive Comm.
1:15 pm Board of Directors
At FBC Grand Island

PLAN NOW . . .
ABC Eastern NE Mission Event
April 9-10
FBC, Norfolk
See P. 6

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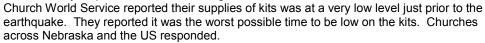
Nebraska Baptists Respond To Haiti Earthquake

Relief efforts in Haiti will continue for months and years to come following the devastating earthquake in Haiti in January.

Immediately after the earthquake, ABC/NE Emergency Services Consultant Jason Workman and representatives of ABW Ministries and ABMen nationally, regionally and locally were in contact seeking to respond in the most effective ways possible.

The primary response tool was through financial gifts to **One Great Hour of Sharing** marked for Haiti Earthquake. People can continue to support relief efforts in this way—through their church's regular mission reports.

The next response was the preparation of **Personal Hygiene Kits** for Church World Service to distribute. These kits are extremely helpful for months following a disaster.



Sunset Hills Baptist Church in Omaha challenged other ABC/NE churches to match their commitment to assemble 100 kits. Second Lincoln immediately accepted the challenge and others have followed. [Related stories on p. 6]



Focus Forward on HOME Mission

WHAT IS HOME MISSION?

- ABC Home Mission is mission outreach in the USA & Puerto Rico.
- It includes traditional Home Mission Christian Centers, Indian Ministries, Church Planting, Evangelism, Discipleship Development, Camping.
- It's also new & cutting edge outreach as missional churches become mission stations.
- ABC Home Mission is coordinated by ABC's National Ministries (The Home Mission Societies of ABC) nationwide and ABC of Nebraska for mission in Nebraska.

HOW DO LOCAL CHURCHES MAKE AN IMPACT?

- Volunteering Mission work trips, short and long-term volunteer service
- Giving AMERICA FOR CHRIST This offering is used 1/3 in Nebraska and 2/3s across the USA and Puerto Rico.
- Baptist Churches have a heart for mission but often this focus is overseas. Don't forget
 the worldwide mission but at the same time don't turn your back on America. There is
 mission on our doorstep.

WHAT'S AHEAD?

National Ministries, in partnership with ABC/NE, is committed to serving local churches
faithfully and tirelessly by seeking to equip and network them as front line missional
entites engaged in ministries of evangelism, discipleship, community transformation and
justice rooted in love; AND, assisting individual Christians to become more Christ-like.

. Susan Gillies

A Hole in Our Souls?

Sometimes it's scary to discover that we are more materialistic than we would like to be. I was raised to value faith above all and relationships far above possessions.

When I worked at ABC-USA in Valley Forge, I drove to work each day past one of the biggest malls in the country. The King of Prussia Mall is really two huge malls next to each other. It was very easy to stop on my way home and pick up anything I thought I needed (or wanted). It was also very easy to stop at one of dozens of restaurants. This mall felt like a world unto itself. And I, along with thousands of others, felt very, very com- of mine clean out his father's desk after his dad died. In the fortable there.

The owners of the mall were constantly remodeling and improving it. After one renovation I stood at the railing of a balcony over a large circular area. The floor one story below me was beautiful inlaid marble. Above my head was an awesome stained glass dome. It was really beautiful. I thought, "Wow, this is almost like a temple!." And then I realized it indeed was a temple -- A temple to materialism. For many people this had become the most important place. Oh, they probably would have said their homes were more important but their behaviors indicated this was their favorite space.

Materialism is a contagious disease in our culture. If you think you are immune you may need to look a little deeper. You simply can't have grown up in this culture and not be affected by it.

I realize you may not go shopping everyday. Some of you live far away from malls - or wish you did! But another way to check your level of materialism is to think about your attitudes about money. What is money for? Whose money is it? Some of you want to stop reading this column right now because it

seems like I'm going to write about money and you don't want to read it. Why? We become defensive when the subject of money comes up. We don't want our pastors to preach about stewardship. One pastor told me he is only allowed one stewardship sermon a year. And there are very few churches left that have every member visitation to explain the church action plan and ask for financial commitments. Why are we so touchy about money?

Another symptom of materialism is hoarding. I helped a friend drawer were hundreds and hundreds of ballpoint pens – used up . . . no more ink. This man had been through the depression and had actually stood in bread lines. He knew poverty. Evidently he could not throw away even a worthless pen. Maybe a refill could be found someday; maybe another use could be found for the pens. This man had known want and couldn't risk returning to it. Few of us can find such touching psychological reasons for our junk. But we do find strength or safety in it..

I think there is a hole in our soul and we try to fill the hole with things. [Another common way to try to fill the hole in our soul is to overeat, but that's striking way too close to home.] We need to fill the hole with something else. Maybe this is the time for even good church folks to begin to free ourselves from the addictions which never adequately fill our souls. Put a sticky note where you can see it that says, "Fill the Hole with Something

There is freedom in our faith. My starting point? "My hope is built on nothing less than Jesus' blood and righteousness. . . . On Christ the solid rock I stand, all other ground is sinking sand."

Guest Columnist.....Nola Oberhelman



Years ago I walked one Sunday morning down our country road to the church with my older brother and sister. I complained every step of the way--my feet hurt! I couldn't walk! Please lift me up! I swung between their hands to avoid putting my hurting feet to the ground. On the church steps my brother set me down and removed my shoes, and there in the toes of my sturdy brown oxfords were Saturday's sandy socks. My brother shook the gravel out of the shoes, the sand and grit from the socks, and putting the soiled socks in his pocket, he sent me into Sunday school.

The church seems to me to be a pretty good place to take Saturday's soiled socks. Many times I hear that people who have slipped from attending church

will come back when a problem has righted itself. "My family's so messed up right now." "I've got so many things that aren't working out." "I've really screwed up some things, and I don't belong in church with all my bad stuff." There's no better place to take the "bad stuff." God wants us to give the bad stuff to Him. He'll take care of it, and may even assign a helping task to those who are in the pews waiting and wanting to be a part of the solution. "Wash me and I shall be whiter than snow. Fill me with joy and gladness, let the bones which thou hast broken rejoice." (Psalm 51:7-8)

Take Saturday's sandy soiled socks to church and encourage others to do so also. God is great with laundry.

[Reprinted from Spotlight On AB Women's Ministries of Nebraska]



2010 ABC/NE PRAYER EMPHASIS . . .

The ABC/NE Mission Department is asking Baptists in Nebraska to pray for the ministry of Moses Merrill Camp & Conference Center. The Mission Department is suggesting that everyone PRAY on MONDAYS for MOSES MERRILL and pray everyday in MARCH AND MAY.

This emphasis calls on all Nebraska Baptists to affirm this vital ministry. For churches in Fremont and Columbus, it's a ministry in their backyard. For churches in Chadron, Alliance, Scottsbluff and Bridgeport, it can seem far away. And yet, it's a ministry that belongs to all Nebraska churches. It is also a ministry that is changing lives, as children, youth and adults find a deeper relationship with Jesus than they have known before.



Every year, the ABC/NE embarks on a different prayer emphasis. One year there was a prayer retreat at Moses Merrill Camp & Conference Center during which each church and pastor was the subject of prayer. Other years, churches have had prayer partners. The purpose of the prayer emphasis is to recognize and affirm the importance of prayer, and to focus our prayers on others in the ABC/NE family. Join in this year's emphasis . . . Clip this article and tape it where you'll see it!

Please JOIN IN PRAYER — Put it on your calendar!

PRAY ON MONDAYS FOR MOSES MERRILL

AND EVERYDAY IN MARCH AND MAY

THANK YOU!

Nebraska Baptists Are Stepping Up!!

Nebraska Baptists and many others understand the value of the outreach ministry of Moses Merrill Camp & Conference Center (MMCCC). The year-end financial appeal netted strong, positive results.

Moses Merrill Director **MaryBeth Robertson** expressed thanks for year-end contributions, "God is doing a great work among us. Lives are being changed by this ministry. We appreciate everyone who is part of this team — from Chadron to Prairie Union! Thanks be to God!"

Facility Manager **Clarence Reiss** said, "In my 10 years at Moses Merrill I've seen the churches come through and do what's necessary to keep this ministry growing. It makes everything I've done worthwhile. Let's not stop now."



ABC/NE Mission Department Chairman **Kathy Brown**, First Omaha, said, "Between the great response to "Holidays With the Merrills" in Nov. and the year-end financial appeal, the Mission Department is validated in its decision to make Moses Merrill our ABC/NE mission focus for 2010."

Camp & Conferences Dept. Chair **Orin Clinger**, Kearney, agreed, "The ministry is growing and we are committed to responding to the opportunities God is giving us. Thanks to everyone for their support."



New ABC/NE Mission Handbook

In February, churches and ABW Ministries and ABMen's groups will receive the new ABC/NE Mission Handbook produced by the Department of Mission.

The handbook will describe the various ministries of ABC-USA and ABC/NE and will be a helpful guide.

Additional copies can be made available to others who would like to have a copy.

Plan a Church-to-Church Adventure

Is this the year for a group from your church to travel to another church for a picnic or a one day teaching event, or a weekend renewal time?

ABC/NE is characterized by it's emphasis on Churches Helping Churches. Your church can be a part of this "circlewidening," energizing, renewing, nurturing, joy-building experience.

Use a tried and true method or dream up a new way of connecting. Let the region staff know so it can be shared!



Two Great ABMen Stories of Grace

CARING FOR THE COMMUNITY

Following the sad closure of Greater St. John Missionary Baptist Church in North Omaha, the building and adjacent house fell into disrepair. The buildings are beyond restoration. The City of Omaha became concerned about the safety of neighborhood children around the buildings. AMERICAN BAPTIST MEN responded in a act of caring. On a very cold December Saturday, a group of men worked on the property boarding up windows and securing the doors. Neither ABMen nor the region is responsible for the property but the kindness of the men made the neighborhood safer.

INDIVIDUAL COMMITMENT

An active layman heard the story of the financial challenges of ABC/NE ministry across Nebraska. He made a commitment at the Family Reunion to give to region ministry an amount equivalent to what he spent at restaurants. At the end of the year, the region office received a check for over \$900 and a detailed accounting that even included who he was with on each occasion! He put his faith into daily action — He's a

Nola's Take Five . . .

Ideas from Nola Oberhelman ABC/NE Christian Education Consultant

Take five steps to help teens avoid underage drinking:

- 1. Think of yourself as a coach: plan and share strategy.
- 2. Communicate specific, definite information.
- 3. Keep track of your teen's whereabouts and who he/she is with
- 4. Show your respect and your caring for him/her.
- 5. Be a good role model.

These suggestions are from *Power of Parents--It's your Influence* by MADD. And they are applicable to other situations.

GROWTH!



At this time of year, deep inside the ground, and in the trees, things are happening. Nature is getting ready for a burst of growth we call **spring**. Is that happening in **your** life and in **your** church?

PREPARE WITH JOY — NEW LIFE AHEAD!



America for Christ gifts support Christ-centered ministries that are transforming lives across the United States and Puerto Rico—from addressing children in poverty initiatives and resettling refugees violently driven from their homelands to providing evangelism training, developing discipleship resources and leading ministry workshops and conferences.

America for Christ also supports the ministry of ABC/NE and Moses Merrill Camp & Conference Center. www.nationalministries.org/GIVE/Serve

Trivia Answers from p. 8

- 1. B. FBC Columbus hosts a Hispanic church in their building and FBC Grand Island has a worship service in Spanish
- 2. C. First Baptist Omaha, First Baptist Lincoln, and Sunset Hills in Omaha all have worship services in Karen.
- D. Scottsbluff was the location of an ABC/ NE Mexican Baptist Church. After it closed, many members joined FBC, Scottsbluff.
- 4. The son born to Moses and Eliza Merrill during their years in Nebraska Territory was named Samuel. He returned years later and spoke at First Baptist, Lincoln.
- 5. Help us find the answer. We know there have been regular worship services in German, Swedish, Kachin, Karen, Chin and English. We need to check the history books or the stories of our family. Let us know what you know.

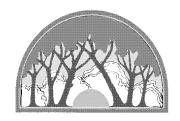
A Testimony from the Convoy . . .

Last fall, a group of Nebraskans participated in the White Cross Convoy to transport White Cross materials to Oklahoma. Here's a testimony from one of the participants (as shared in *Spotlight on AB Ministries in Nebraska*):

"At Rainy Mountain Kiowa Indian Baptist Church we met Flo Umhoolah, the White Cross Chairman. I wish all our churches had an advocate like Flo. She was determined to win the un-churched for Christ and was using White Cross to do it.

"Then the next day we were able to meet Joan Brown who has worked so tirelessly through the years for Murrow Indian Children's home. She has retired but was filling in until the new director arrived. She has a real love for the Indian children that she has mentored for so long. It was a thrill to visit with her."

-Eileen Hanson



Moses Merrill News

microwave meals.

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Ministry in a Winter Wonderland





It can be a little harder getting to Weaver Hall in the winter than in the summer!



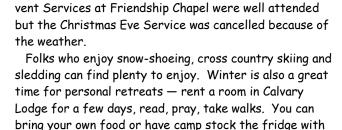
PRAYER REQUESTS:

- $\boldsymbol{-}$ for camp guests to come to know the Lord
- for many people to come and find renewal
- for young people to apply for summer staff
- for safety for camp staff and volunteers

From Camp Cat . . .

Well, my friends, this has been a winter to remember. Did anyone ask for all this snow?? Usually I like snow because it's easier to spot mice, but this year went over the top. I kept trying to explain to the staff that life was getting a little tough when Clarence finally picked me up (the first time I've let him get away with that!) and took me to the maintenance shop. I am not an indoor cat but sometimes circumstances call on us to change. I discovered indoors is not so bad after all. As a matter of fact, Ron opened the shop door and gave me a chance to get away the other day. I took one look out at all that snow and cold and decided being indoors can be a very good thing! I understand some of you resist change in your churches. My advice is to try the change. Not all change is good but you may find it's not so bad and may even be good.

You'd better schedule your events at camp for this year. The calendar is filling up. Hope to see you soon.



Does anyone really go to Moses Merrill in the winter-time? The answer is "YES!" Individuals and groups use the facility all year round. However, Dec 09 and Jan 10 proved to be very, very challenging. The December Ad-

[Everyone at Moses Merrill hopes that by the time this issue of *The Messenger* arrives in homes, the snow will be gone. But with or without snow, camp is a good place for retreats and family get-aways.]



2010 at Moses Merrill

This is the year for you to shine!

"You're It!"

Camp Brochures are ready for children and youth

2010 Posters are available

Dates for church retreats and training events are filling up.

Make plans now

Summer staff positions available.

Make Plans Now . . .

Eastern Nebraska Mission Event

BRING A CARLOAD FROM YOUR CHURCH TO EXPERIENCE MISSION IN A NEW WAY

Everyone is invited to take part in a very special mission weekend April 9-10. First Baptist of Norfolk is working with ABC/NE in planning the event.

HAITI — There will be updates on earthquake recovery efforts.

BURMESE REFUGEE GROUPS — Learn more about Kachin, Karen, Chin people who are now part of ABC/NE. Hear Dr. Marshall Peters, former missionary in Thailand.

PASSPORT TO MISSION — You'll be given a "passport" and the opportunity to visit displays and short workshops on various home and overseas mission locations.

HANDS-ON — For those who choose, there will be an opportunity to work on a project in Norfolk.

Watch for more information. Plan to attend.

ABC Missionaries in Haiti



Kihomi Ngwemi & Nzunga Mabodiga



Steve, Nancy, & Micah James

Kihomi and Nzunga serve as a vital link between International Ministries and the Haitian Baptist Convention. Nzunga teaches theology at the Christian University of Northern Haiti, trains assistant professors in teaching and writing books, administers a scholarship program, and visits and preaches in churches. He also administers the "Kids for Kids" goat projects, and provides needed school and personal supplies for children and university students.

Kihomi works with families in areas of counseling, family planning, and women's health issues. She also coordinates and advises the women's association of the Haitian Baptist Convention, representing women of all the Baptist denominations of Haiti at international conferences.

Steve and Nancy James serve in Haiti doing medical work in different clinics under the sponsorship of the Haitian Baptist Convention. They are Commissioned by both the ABC and the Cooperative Baptist Fellowship. Get an update on Haiti at www.internationalministries.org.

Learn More . . .

"Pioneer Preachers in Paradise: The Legacies of George Liele, Prince Williams, and Thomas Paul in Jamaica, the Bahamas, and **Haiti**" by Alfred Lane Pugh (2003)

The following description is taken from the back cover of the book:

This book, "Pioneer Preachers in Paradise," is about a few of the unappreciated, forgotten or unknown influential men of Baptist history. Three of them, their lives, influence and legacies are given extensive coverage.

- George Liele became a Baptist preacher under the auspices of white Baptists in the English colony of New Georgia. He
 organized the first independent Baptist Church for slaves and free blacks in Savannah and became the first black Baptist to
 preach on the tropical island of Jamaica, eventually establishing the first independent Baptist churches and church schools.
 His letters to an English publisher pleading for assistance resulted in the arrival of British missionaries. Three of the seven
 national heroes of Jamaica are Baptist preachers, all directly influenced by Liele.
- Prince Williams, a self-baptized preacher and follower of a John the Baptist religious sect in Long Island, emigrated to the
 Bahama Islands from Spanish East Florida. Landing on a beach near Paradise Island, he preached on the streets and organized the first continuous Baptist chapel in Nassau, the "Mother Church" of all Bahamian Baptists. Today, Baptists constitute the most numerous Christian denomination on that island nation.
- Thomas Paul was the son of free blacks in Exeter, New Hampshire who became the organize and pastor of the First African
 (a.k.a. Joy Street) Baptist Church in Boston, Massachusetts and the organizer of the Abyssinian Baptist Church in New York
 City. He not only encouraged slaves and free blacks to emigrate to the new independent nation of Haiti but, with the assistance of the Baptist Missionary Society of Massachusetts, was the first African American Baptist missionary to preach and
 teach there.

This book deftly explains how the legacies of these pioneer preachers and the others who followed them contributed to the development of the culture of several of the Greater Caribbean Islands.

The book is available from Judson Press.

LOCAL CHURCH NEWS . . . Featuring four ABC/NE churches

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH, BROKEN BOW

The Vision Statement of the church is "A People of Prayer, Purpose and Passion."

The church was organized in July of 1881 and it the oldest church in Broken Bow and the first Baptist church organized in Custer County.

Two pastors serve the congregation. Retired ABC pastor and missionary Rev. Al Cole and his wife Sudie live in Lexington and usually serve the church the first two Sundays of each month. Roger McDermott and his wife Angie live in Kearney and are usually at the church the last two Sundays of the month. Roger has a degree in Psychology and Biblical Studies from Grace Univ. He works for the Union Pacific during the week. Angie is a licensed independent Health Practitioner with the state of NE. She works for FBC, Kearney, and provides her services to Broken Bow one day a month. Both Pastor Cole and Pastor McDermott take their turns with "Morning Devotions" on the local radio station.

The church actively supports the four ABC offerings and the Broken Bow Food Pantry. The ABW Ministries group is active, filling White Cross quotas, supporting Love Gift, participating in Custer Assoc. projects and meetings and sending shoeboxes to Operation Christmas Child. The ABMen group meets for breakfast once a month.

The members of the church are very committed to the support of Moses Merrill Camp & Conference Center, the ABC/ NE Family Reunion and the Roger Williams Fellowship at UNK.

Currently the congregation is studying the book of John on Wednesday nights, using Roger Fredrickson's commentary.

RIVERSIDE BAPTIST CHURCH

Riverside Baptist Church, rural Decatur, NE, began in a home 135 years ago this March. It is one of three "open country" churches active in the ABC/NE. (The other two are Palestine and Prairie Union.)

The congregation actively supports the four ABC Mission Offerings every year (America for Christ, One Great Hour of Sharing, World Mission Offering, RMMO). In addition the church has an ongoing offering for ABC Missionary Mike Mann and his work in Thailand as well as for the Penny Project--which will help fund the Backpack Project of the Herman/Tekamah/Decatur Church & Community Council, in which the church participates.

The ABW Ministries group meets monthly and fulfills its White Cross quota every year. The Men's Council takes care of maintenance, repairs, and special projects at the church. They raise their funds annually through the Pony Express, which started in 1948 as the Lord's Acre.

In terms of special events and traditions in the life of the church, Pastor Beverly Melchor-Young writes, "We have a wonderful sunrise service on the bluff behind the church, where a member built and installed three crosses. The men cook a delicious breakfast for us after the service. When anyone is baptized at Riverside, they then get to climb the bluff and carve their name into the sandstone there."

Rev. Melchor-Young has been Pastor for 5½ years, and Rev Harland Minscer is the Pastor Emeritus. [Minscer is currently serving as Interim in Bridgeport.]

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH, McCOOK

First Baptist McCook, founded in the 1890s, is a church with a long and rich history that continues its ministry today in the southwestern corner of Nebraska. Layman Bud Keenportz writes, "We've closed the book on 2009 and we are looking forward to a fruitful and glorious 2010. We like all churches lost some members in 2009 but we also gained some members so we have cause to rejoice in that."

The congregation is currently without a pastor. A search committee has been formed under the guidance of Harry Hixson. The members are looking forward to working with ABC/NE in the search process.

The church experimented with a one board structure in 2009 but has returned to a three board organizational design with a advisory council meeting each quarter. This plan seems to work better during this interim time when lay leadership is even more critical than normal.

During the past two months since the Pastor's resignation, local Pastors have been used to fill the pulpit. "This has proven to be a good choice for the short term as we have heard from several different Pastors and have been privileged to see and hear different points of view and styles of preaching," according to Keenportz.

For 2010 the focus is on getting a Pastor in place. The congregation will remain committed to prayer and the study of God's word. They will hold their annual Valentine Dinner as well as other social events to bring the congregation together for Christian fun and fellow-

🛮 ship

SUNSET HILLS, OMAHA

The mission of the church is threefold: to grow closer to God, to build relationships with others and to share Jesus Christ in the community. According to Pastor Ron French, "God is more than good, He is great! It is our hope at Sunset Hills that our actions

reflect that message with passion and commitment. It is our hope that we will experience growth in all three areas as we intentionally focus on them throughout 2010."

Sunset Hills now has a Karen congregation worshiping at the church on Sunday afternoons. The church members are very excited about how the Holy Spirit is working to bring people together and provide the opportunity for them to learn from each other. The congregation feels honored to worship with the Karen people and to call them brothers and sisters in Christ

In the last year the church has met the challenges of replacing the roof, fixing numerous leaks, repairing the furnace, and remodeling the kitchen. The kitchen is completed and beautiful, the roof is replaced and they continue to work on leaks and the furnace.

The joys were many — baptism, prayer, preaching, singing, study and gathering in fellowship and service to the glory of God. Sunset Hills has been very involved in giving food to the Benson Baptist Church food pantry, donating clothing to local charities, volunteering and serving in community activities and caring for the body of Christ.

In late January, members packed 100 hygiene kits for Church World Service to use in Haiti.

2010 Opportunities:

- Eastern Nebraska Mission Event, April 9-10 in Norfolk
- Memorial Day Picnic at Moses Merrill, May 31
- Region Convention "Family Reunion" Sept. 17-19 Grand Island
- Adult Ministries Conference, October 4-7, Moses Merrill
- Mission Trip to Alaska, early October
- White Cross Convoy, late October
- Pastor Seminars, April 12-14 & Oct. 11-13

ABC/NE Trivia Questions

- 1. Which of the following have Hispanic Ministry as a part of their church
- program or host a Hispanic congregation? [There are others, please let •
- the ABC/NE Office know if you have a Hispanic ministry.]
- A. Albion & Arthur, B Columbus & Grand Island, C Grand Island and McCook, D. Fremont and Chadron
- How many churches currently host worship services in the Karen language?
- One, B. Two, C. Three, D. Four A.
- 3. Where was the ABC/NE Gethsemane Mexican Baptist Church located?
- A. Bridgeport, B. Superior, C. Bellevue, D. Scottsbuff
- 4. A son was born to Moses & Eliza Merrill while they served in Nebraska Territory. What was the son's name?
- 5. In the history of the Nebraska Baptist State Convention, worship
- · services have been held regularly in how many languages?

ANSWERS on page 5.

ABC of Nebraska Staff

Executive Minister	Susan Gillies
Associate Executive Minister	Dave Lundholm
Facilities Manager, MMCCC & ABC/N	IEClarence Reiss
Director, Moses Merrill Camp & Conference Center	
	MaryBeth Robertson
Camp Staff	Trudy Reiss, Barb Fisher
Dan Hermsen, Bob Schuelke, Denise Harris, Beverly Pacas	
Office Manager	Sue Gammel
Office Assistant	Margaret Brown-Moore
Christian Education Consultant	Nola Oberhelman
Church Life Consultant	A. J. Wagstaff
Pastor to Pastors (W)	Paul Kondy
Pastor to Pastors (E)	Dick Peterson
Emergency Services Consultant	Jason Workman

The Best Valentine of all:

God loved the people of this world so much that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who has faith in him will have eternal life and never really die. John 3:16 CEV





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