

the **ESSENGER**

American Baptist Churches of Nebraska



**ABC/NE
Date Data**

MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

Family Reunions
(annual conventions)
Sept. 26-28, 2003 - North Platte
Sept. 17-19, 2004 - Kearney
Sept. 9-11, 2005 - Kearney

Senior High Retreat
April 4-6, 2003

ABW Ministries Conference
June 6-8, 2003

AB Men's Conference
August 15-16, 2003

E-Mail Addresses:

RegionOffice@
ABCofNE.omhcoxmail.com
sgillies@
ABCofNE.omhcoxmail.com
shuskey@
ABCofNE.omhcoxmail.com
Messenger@
ABCofNE.omhcoxmail.com

A Heart for Ministry in The Heartland

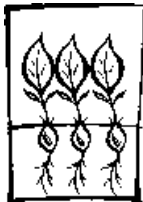
**American Baptist Churches
of Nebraska**

6404 Maple Street
Omaha, NE 68104-4079

Phone 402-556-4730
Fax 402-556-1910



SEEDS ARE PLANTED FOR TOMORROW'S HARVEST



"Tomorrow's Harvest" is a three-year mission partnership of the American Baptist Churches of The Dakotas; the American Baptist Churches of Nebraska; Mid-American Baptist Churches and ABC's National Ministries. At least nine churches will participate. A pastor and two laypersons from each church form a renewal team that will meet with similar teams from other churches over the next three years.

Dick Sutton and Harry Riggs, from National Ministries, are acting as coaches providing consulting and training resources toward the goal of developing self-sufficient transformational leaders for the future. The cooperating regions chose as their theme verse, Hosea 10: 12. While any church may pursue renewal on its own, Sutton maintains that transformation efforts are enhanced through cooperating with other congregations, making the whole far greater than the sum of parts. Churches hold one another accountable, learn from and support one another. Churches that are a part of this distinctive renewal effort are challenging the notion that a church should be content with the status quo. They are creating a new vision--one they believe will spread throughout the three regions and beyond--a vision overflowing with new life.

The "kick-off" event for "Tomorrow's Harvest" was held October 19 at First Baptist Church of Storm Lake, IA. At that time the local church renewal teams were commissioned. Nebraska churches participating are First Baptist, Columbus and Parkside Baptist. Two other Nebraska congregations had representatives at Storm Lake and are considering participation.

Hosea 10:12
**"Sow for yourselves
righteousness;
reap steadfast love;
break up your fallow
ground;
for it is time to seek the
Lord,
that he may come and rain
righteousness upon you".**

Arizona Mission Trip

The ABC of Nebraska Mission Trip to Arizona was a special time of listening, observing and learning how God is at work in the lives of our Native American Christian brothers and sisters and in the ministries of their churches. The trip, which took place October 7-14, included visits to Valley Christian Center in Phoenix, AZ; Rainbow Acres ranch for the developmentally handicapped; Sunlight Baptist Mission in Second Mesa; First Mesa Baptist Church; Bacavi Community Church; the Hopi Cultural Center; Keams Canyon Community Fellowship; Hopi Mission School and Middle Verde Rock Church. "The members of the group were particularly impressed with the commitment of the Native American Christians and now understand at a deeper level how the America For Christ Offering makes a difference in peoples lives," according to tour group leader Don Gaines

Tour group participants included Charles & Norma Coffin, Omaha Parkside; Al and Lou Grotelueschen, Octavia; Marilyn Waldron, Lincoln Second; Charles Davison, Columbus First; Betty Kizlin, Omaha Parkside; Ken and Vera Mae Duncan, Superior; Rachel Pearson, Columbus First; and Don Gaines, ABC/NE Minister of Mission Support.

From the Executive Minister..... Susan Gillies

What You Put In, Is What You Get Out

Philippians 4:18 tells us to think about things that are honorable, just, pure, lovely, gracious, excellent and things worthy of praise.

This is a terrific strategic plan to foster creative thinking and to live a life of joy and faithfulness.

When I lived in Kentucky, I had neighbors named Garnet and Jerry. Both men were tobacco farmers but they also had cattle. The cattle had ear tags for identification. Jerry had memorized his cattle by number. He could identify them all. This troubled Garnet, who told me he was very wor-

ried about Jerry. He felt that if Jerry kept putting all those numbers in his head, the day would come when Jerry's head would fill up and he would go crazy. I couldn't convince Garnet otherwise.

There have been times, in the more than 20 years since, that I've remembered the story and wondered if I might go crazy because of all the stuff with which I was filling my head. Garnet may not have been as "limited" in his understanding as I thought at the time. If our minds are filled with negative thoughts, that is simply all that can come out of us. If we think on things that are pure and worthy of praise, words of encouragement will come out.

What if we compliment our youth when we spot them doing a good or excellent thing? What if we compliment our pastor for gracious care or honorable action? What if we consciously put out of our head hateful, vindictive, sarcastic, hypercritical, condescending thoughts? What if we even get rid of thoughts of boredom, superiority, inadequacy, and picky perfectionism? And diligently replace them with thoughts of things that are honorable, just, pure, lovely, gracious, excellent and worthy of praise.

It takes practice. The results are worth it.



VOLUNTEERS NEEDED NOW !

Volunteers are needed at Camp Moses Merrill on good weather days in November and December. How about YOU?? Volunteers are needed to cut limbs off downed trees and clear tree branches and undergrowth — especially from the area where the chapel will be built in the spring. There are other volunteer jobs, too. Please call Camp Merrill to schedule a time. 402-666-5639



INSTITUTIONAL SUPPORT PROGRAM

by Don Gaines

The mission outreach of a church takes many forms. Primary among these, of course, is all that takes place in the church - - - worship, Christian education, fellowship, service projects, etc. As a missionary denomination, many Baptists think next of foreign missions, which means sharing the gospel and expressing the love of God with people around the world. One area that some don't know about, or don't call missions, is the ministry to children, youth and adults in our Baptist-related institutions. They need our prayer and our dollars. Financial support is given through the Institutional Support Program (ISP). This money is designated by churches and sent to the Region Office along with other mission money. The money is then forwarded each month to the designated institutions, and the churches are credited with giving that amount to American Baptist Mission Support. The ISP institutions approved in Nebraska are:

AMERICAN BAPTIST HOMES OF THE MIDWEST (Which includes Maple Crest in Omaha) seeks to offer care, hope and dignity to people of many ages, cultures and conditions. They endeavor to demonstrate genuine concern of the individual needs of those they serve by providing services from a base of Christian principles.

CENTRAL BAPTIST THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY in Kansas City, KS is committed to the education and development of men and women called by God to be leaders for the church of Jesus Christ.

ROGER WILLIAMS FELLOWSHIP in Kearney aims to serve all students at UNK. Their main goal is spreading and encouraging the gospel of Jesus Christ through fellowship, discipleship and outreach.

OTTAWA UNIVERSITY in Ottawa, KS is committed to nurturing the whole person: intellectually, physically, and spiritually. OU provides opportunity for growth in the Christian community through formal classroom work and a full range of extracurricular activities.

THE UNIVERSITY OF SIOUX FALLS in Sioux Falls, SD, a four-year Christian learning community of about 1,400 students, offers a demanding liberal arts education in 30 major fields of study. Fully accredited, USF offers a variety of academic programs in business, wellness, sciences and professions.

There are also a dozen or so nationally approved institutions which can solicit funds from churches in all of the Regions. These include the AMERICAN BAPTIST ASSEMBLY near Green Lake, WI, and BACONE COLLEGE and MURROW INDIAN CHILDREN'S HOME in Muskogee, OK.

The ministries of these institutions are extensions of the ministries of your church. They enable us to do together what churches cannot do individually. Please pray for them and include them in your mission giving.

ABC/NE New Year's Prayer Vigil

ABC/NE will begin the new year by praying for each church in the region. The Prayer Vigil will take place at Camp Moses Merrill but others will participate in local churches and homes.

The Vigil will take place January 2-4, 2003. The region staff and any others who wish to join them will gather at Camp at 5pm on Thursday and conclude with the noon meal on Saturday. There will be times of prayer for each church individually and for the region as a whole. The schedule of when specific churches will be the focus of prayer will be printed in the December *Messenger*.

People are welcome to come for an hour or two or for the whole vigil. Overnight accommodation and meal prices will also be included in the December *Messenger*. Churches are encouraged to set aside time during the Vigil to pray for their own ministry and for the ministry of other churches in the region.

If anyone would like to know, before the next *Messenger* comes out, when their church will be prayed for, they should contact the region office in Omaha 402-556-4730.

Region Office Clean-Up/Clean-Out!

The ABC of Nebraska office in Omaha will be essentially shut down December 9-20 for the cleaning of files. Some staff persons are calling it the "Decade Clean-Up" but a few others are suggesting it is more of a "Millennial Clean-Up." Either way, it has been quite some time since a deep cleaning has been done on files. New strategies of information management and fresh approaches to file retention systems will be put into place. December was selected as the time for the clean-up because it is usually the month that churches and pastors make the fewest contacts with the office. Anyone needing to reach region staff during this period should call the region office and follow the directions on the answering machine.



A Good Way To Give But Time Is Short!

It appears that on Jan. 1, 2003, the American Council on Gift Annuities will lower distribution rates on charitable gift annuities written and issued after the beginning of the year. The change is due to the weak financial markets and lower interest rate environment of the recent past.

These next two months are a good time to establish a gift annuity, before payment rates are adjusted lower. Gift annuities are one of the more simple life income agreements to complete. Minimum gift to place in an annuity is \$1,000. And that gift is assured to the benefit of future mission and ministry as well as providing a current income to the donor. Please understand that the rates effective after Jan. 1 will still certainly be attractive. But sometimes we like to squeeze out an extra half percent if it is available!

I will be happy to answer questions or help anyone establish an annuity. Call 877-688-9024 or e-mail me at WeersABF@aol.com From Paul Weers - AB

Family Thanksgiving Activity

As you join together with family and friends, there will probably be decorations and food that symbolize some of the things for which we give thanks. Often seen are figurines or pictures of pilgrims and Native Americans reminding us that the Indian people helped the early settlers get through those difficult days. We eat turkey, pumpkin, corn and cranberries that suggest foods available to the early settlers.

What are the symbols you would choose today to show the things for which you are most grateful? Go around the table several times and have each family member share a thought. Some might be funny . . . "my symbol would be a picture of a messy room to remind me of my brother!" . . . or it might suggest something you do as a family . . . "my symbol would be camping gear!" . . . it might also speak of faith . . . "my symbol is a cross representing my Savior." Or, you could ask each person to come to the Thanksgiving table with a symbol or picture of something for which they give thanks.

Thanksgiving is a national holiday commemorating the pilgrims giving thanks at the very beginning of our country. It is also a special time to recognize the many things for which we are grateful today.



Women's Conference Set for 2003

The American Baptist Women's Ministries Conference at Camp Merrill will be June 6-8, 2003. Barbara Hoxworth, Bridgeport, is coordinator of the conference and has announced the theme: **Hope Renews**. The theme scripture is Romans 15:13.

The Conference speaker is Ruth Spencer. She is co-leader of the Campus Ministry Advisory Board of Keuka College, a member of Small Church Ministries Team, and coordinator of Seeds of Renewal events.

The committee is planning an exciting weekend. Watch for more details.

North Korea Mission Update from ABC's Benjamin Chan

On the mission front, the Baptist team represented by Hungarian Baptist Aid, Baptist World Aid, Baptist Missionary Society and International Ministries continues to work on four specific goals:

1. Provide medical equipment to the Provincial and Children's Hospitals in Sariwon. We praise God that the International Medical Fund has committed \$25,000 towards this effort. Former IM missionary, Dr. Dan Fountain who visited North Korea with the team in June, administers the Fund.

2. Provide training to North Korean medical doctors. The Baptist Missionary Society in the United Kingdom spearheads this program.

3. Provide food and medical care to 600 orphans from newborn to age seven. It costs about \$10 per month to help a child. International Ministries has made a commitment to raise \$72,000 by the end of 2003.

ABW Ministries Scholarships

Three scholarships for the school year 2003-2004 will be given by Nebraska ABW Ministries to young women attending American Baptist colleges or universities. Applications will reach local ABW Ministries presidents soon. The deadline to submit them is February 15.

Save Soup Labels

Murrow Indian Children's Home has received a van by saving Campbells soup labels, but in order to meet the deadline, 60,000 labels were borrowed! Now those labels must be paid back. Continue to save Campbells soup labels and mail them directly to the school.

4. Establish a biscuit factory in Pyongyang. Once operational, the factory could produce up to 100,000 high-protein biscuits a day for children in orphanages and schools. Pray for the team as they develop a plan for this to happen.

"According to a 1998 survey conducted by the World Health Organization, 16 percent of the children in North Korea suffer from severe malnutrition and 63 percent of them suffer from chronic malnutrition."

Ongoing prayer needs:

Praise God for the faithful Christians in Korea who are seeking to meet the physical and spiritual needs of their neighbors. Pray for Korean Christians as they seek to proclaim Christ to their nation.

Basic medicines and medical equipment are rare and needed in North Korea. Pray for the generous supply and distribution of medicines and medical equipment.

Ask God for open minds, open hearts and open doors in North Korea to allow for widespread opportunities to meet the physical, emotional and spiritual needs of the people.

ABC/NE Trivia

- What is the book *To A Golden Shore* about?
 - Pioneer settlement in Nebraska wheat country
 - Mission work in China
 - Christian attitudes about acquiring wealth
 - The story of Adoniram Judson
- What book of the Bible suggests that there is a plumb line against which God's people can measure themselves?
 - Amos
 - Habbakuk
 - Isaiah
 - Acts
 -
- Which of the following persons was not affiliated with American Baptist Churches, USA?
 - Mark Hatfield, former Senator from Oregon
 - Howard Cosell, sports announcer
 - Martin Luther King, Jr.
 - J. L. Kraft (of Kraft Foods)
- Has the ABC-USA national convention ever been held in Nebraska?
 - Yes, in Omaha
 - Yes, in Lincoln
 - Yes, in Scottsbluff
 - No
- Where is the ABC-USA's Central Region?
 - Kansas, Oklahoma, Arkansas
 - Iowa, Minnesota
 - Illinois, Missouri
 - None of the above

(answers on page 8)



Family Reunion Follow-Up

Evaluations have been compiled from the 2002 Family Reunion (region convention) in Kearney. Responses to the program were very positive. Of those responding, 88% rated the entire convention as good to excellent (the top two ratings). Sunday Morning Worship scored 98%, Missionary Chuck Shawver's presentation and the Camp Merrill Presentation on Saturday morning both scored 95%. Comments, criticisms, and suggestions will be reviewed in detail by the 2003 Annual Meeting Planning Committee at its first meeting November 4.



Camp Moses Merrill News

2849 Co. Rd. 31 Box 170A Linwood, NE 68036

Clarence Reiss, Director (402) 666-5639

E-mail: campmerrill@nntc.net

Website: www.campmerrill.com

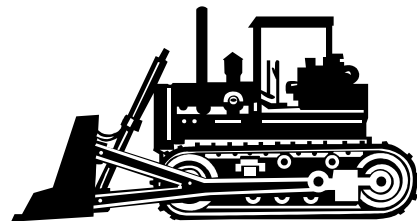
Thank You, Thank You, Thank You!!!

All of the following people have volunteered at CMM during 2002. The camp wouldn't exist without their help. Larry Adams, Jason Albert, Jole Austin, Keith Baker, William Bebb, Zane Bebb, Stephen Bebb, Dave Black, Matt Bobo, Dustin Brouwer, Angie Brown, Katie Buchta, Kassie Bush, Cami Cain, Casey Cain, Calli Cain, Charlie Campbell, Cheryl Clark, Anna Clements, Dan Clevenger, Orin M. Clinger, LeRoy Clinger, Meg Cochelle, Matt Davison, Patricia DeFrancesco, Anna DeMuth, James DeWitt, Chuck DeWitt, Allison Elliot-Rowtier, Glendon Epp, Annalea Epp, Jessica Erickson, Andy Falk, Jake Fitzgerald, Stephen Foreman, Beth Frazier, Drew Freeman, JoLynn Funk, Mike Gangwish, Nessa Gaunt, Lucy Giesbrecht, Hugh Giesbrecht, Katie Giesbrecht, Tom Gillming, Willy Gwin, Rob Gwin, Meggen Hackwith, Becky Halliwell, Evanna Hardin, Dave Heintzleman, Theresa Hemenway, Stan & Monica Hendershot, Frank Henderson, Jennifer Hendrickson, Ken Hightower, Kevin Holloway, Beth Holloway, Nicole Huisman, Jason Hurlbut, Wayne Huson, David Ivey, Charissa Jergensen, Debbie Johnson, Kristy Johnson, Scott Jones, Hans Julius, Caleb Kinnaman, Scott Koch, Jillian Korisko, Chad and Lisa Kreitler, Justin Lamberson, Harold Lane, Kristin Larson, Brendan Lebsack, Chuck & Chris Lien, Brett Lindau, Cindy Lopez, Chrissy Lopez, Janelle Lucas, Ray Marian, Paul Marine, Bryan Marine, Pete Marsh, Jon Mayo, Merielle McCoy, Teri Monson, Pat and Julie Moore, Janelle Myers, Pat Nelson, John Olive, Carmen Olson, Apryl Petersen, Lora Rice, Mel Ryun, Landon Sanchez, Christina Sawtelle, Nathan Schmidt, Jessica Schwartz, Jeff Schwarz, Greg Sizer, Kimberly Sizer, Gina Slechta, Curt Sorenson, Gail M. Southwick, Ron Southwick, Roger Spencer, Robin Stoops, Katie Stoops, Regan Stoops, Brittany Thalls, Chrissy Thomas, Billy Thompson, Jamie Turner, Dan Turner, Seth Vopat, Shelly Vyhlidal, Riley Weems, Don Wellensiek, Tracy Wells, Karen Westerfield, Brad Wiese, Nate and Kate Wilcox, Jamie Wilson, Ken and Whitney Wombacher, Jason Workman, Project Campers, Lincoln 2nd Mission Group, MAD campers, Adult Ministries Campers

A special thank you to everyone who has supported the camp in prayer, financial support or attended an event at camp!

Spotted the following in a trade publication of an NMPP Energy publication.

Valuable for all you are and all you do
Open to trying new things
Loyal and reliable year after year
Untiring in your willingness to help
Nice to be around
Thoughtful in providing feedback
Eager to share your talents and skills with others
Energetic in the tasks you accept
Ready with a smile to put people at ease
Special! That's what you are!



Building Bridges Update...

The week after Family Reunion the trees started coming down. The ground has been cleared for the chapel and proposed building sites. A new culvert has been put in place and dirt-work began for regrading Gillies Climb.

Keep the Pastor You Have

By Area Minister Dave Lundholm

Strategy for Pastoral Leadership:

The story is told of a pastoral pyramid scheme. If you're not happy with your pastor send her/his name to five other churches. The pyramid is 5 levels high so at the end of a few weeks you get the names of 6875 pastors to choose from. Be careful not to break the chain. If you do, you get your pastor back. The assumption is that there are lots of pastors out there to pick from and that people are just standing in line to come to Nebraska. The assumption does not match the reality. Currently, there are 576 pastors in the personnel system that are willing or might consider com-

ing to serve a Nebraska church. It's good to keep the pastor you have because the selection of others is limited.

Another assumption is that the search process is quick. "It shouldn't take more than a couple of months to find a replacement pastor." Actually the average is closer to 18 months (the longest search I've done went 22 months.) Add to that the fact that it takes a new pastor a year or so to "learn" the congregation and you have a period of three or four years before the church returns to the level of operation that it had under the previous pastor. Research from the AI-

ban Institute indicates that a pastor is most effective starting in his seventh year.

Often churches encourage pastors to move along because there are congregational issues that the churches do not want to face. "The pastor must be the problem." But when the same issues return time and again with different pastors, the issues are congregational ones. It is much better to solve the congregational issue than it is to get a new pastor.

The best strategy for pastoral leadership is to keep the pastor you have.

LOCAL CHURCH NEWS

by Darlene Rimpley

December - January
Deadlines

November 1, 2002 - Print Copy
Home Town Editor
Darlene RIMPLEY
Rt. 1 Box 74 A
Arnold, NE 69120

November 8, 2002 - E-Mail
E-Editor
area.minister.ne@charter.net
Subject: Messenger

ALBION, FBC: The York Association ABW Fall Rally was held at FBC on Oct. 19

ALLIANCE, FBC: The church ABY held their Fall Kickoff with a special program of prayer and planning. The ABW had its fall meeting September 17 with a good attendance. Joyce Rowe led the meeting and served as hostess. White Cross work was begun. Pastor Jim and Joyce Rowe attended the Family Reunion in Kearney. They also led the afternoon vespers service at the Good Samaritan Health Care Center during the month of September. A soup and pie fellowship dinner on September 29 ended a month of growth and inspiration.

ARNOLD, FBC: The annual joint meeting of the Custer and North Platte Associations was held at Arnold on October 20. Elective Sunday School classes are being offered for Junior High through adults. FCA meets at the church on the 2nd and 4th Wednesdays of the month.

CHAPMAN, FBC: Four of our youth were baptized at Bader Park on Sept. 8th after making a decision to accept Christ. Our ABW invited the Grand Island ABW for supper and a program, which we all enjoyed. This summer, Nola Oberhelman coordinated, and most of the women helped to provide a Kid's Day Camp every Tuesday from 10:00am-2:00pm. There were several children in our church who would not have been ministered to without this outreach.

COLUMBUS, FBC: A garage and bake sale was held Oct 18-19 to benefit the building fund. The youth served a noon lunch. The youth group is selling 2003 calendars as a moneymaker for Youth Group events. "Trick or Treat the Christian Way" was held at New World Inn on Oct 27, with FBC having a booth to hand out treats. On Oct 31 the church held a "Fall Festival" night for the family.

FREMONT, FBC: Both Gilbert and Helen Schulz and Roger and Delores Rasmussen celebrated their 50th anniversaries, with an open house. FBC is sponsoring a Girl Scout troop, which meets at the church. FBC contributed over \$3,000, workers and food towards the Habitat for Humanity house. Pastor Leland Foreman was installed as Senior Pastor of FBC on October 20.

GIBBON, FBC: A dedication of a flag and flagpole in memory of Jon Warrington and Brad Gangwish was held on Sept. 25. The annual Sunset Social for senior citizens was held on Sept. 25. The noon meal was the traditional chicken and noodles. Chris Sayre provided entertainment on a medley of instruments. Pastor Appreciation Picnic was held on October 12.

FAIRBURY, FBC: The Deacons hold a prayer and healing service the first Sunday of every month. T Bob and Phyllis Stahl celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary recently.

GRAND ISLAND, FBC: Zachary Moore is the new part time youth minister at FBC. He is the son of Rev. and Mrs. Pat Moore of Chapman. "Scrap booking" is held at the church the first Tuesday of each month. Christian Fellowship and Sew meets each Tuesday for quilters.



Local Church News

HOLDREGE, FBC: Teachers given special recognition at Promotion exercises on Sept. 8 were Pat Nelson for 20 yrs of teaching, Shirley Smith and Linda Black for 15 years, and Anita Spencer and Kristy Brandy for 10 years. Family Night was held on Sept. 15, with games, supper and the first of a series of videos on the Ten Commandments. A soup supper and open house sponsored by the youth, was held on Oct. 16. The youth began a month-long silent auction. An open house was for the All Stars for Jesus and FBC Youth Programs.

JUNIATA COMMUNITY CHURCH: The annual beef noodle supper was held Oct. 16. There were craft items, baked goods for sale and a quilt raffled. The congregation approved a fund for a 3-level elevator. A kitchen shower was held to stock the church kitchen.

OMAHA, BENSON BC: A photo day was held for the new directories, which will be printed. The Senior Caring Ministry had a lesson on "Avoiding Scam Artists" at their October meeting.

SCOTTSBLUFF, FBC: The church will join in "Operation Christmas Child", a gathering of items for the Samaritan's Purse, which will be distributed to children throughout the world.

OMAHA, FBC: Schoolteachers were recognized and honored on Sept. 29. A FBC Child Protection Policy has been put into place at FBC. AWANA began its new year with a good attendance.

LINCOLN, FBC: During September, the church family brought boxes of cereal to donate to the Southeast Lincoln Food Pantry. Daniel Chetti, who with his family are the first International Ministries missionaries in Lebanon, spoke at several services and meetings of FBC. The Chinese Fellowship Group hosted a "China Night" for the FBC family. Dinner was served and a short program was given, all in appreciation to FBC for their support and love. FBC is in charge of the Chuck Colson Prison Fellowship meeting on the 4th Thursday of each month. Les and Lois Hunt celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary recently.

TEKEMAH, FBC: The church potluck picnic and fun day was held at the City Park on Oct. 13. They were joined by Riverside Church for the music, games, and food. The ABW are making up baby, health, and school kits to send for mission work.

CHADRON, FBC: MOPS meets at FBC on the 2nd and 4th Wednesdays.

LINCOLN, BELMONT BC: The Capitol Association ABW Ministries held their fall rally at Belmont Baptist on Oct. 12, with guest speaker Nina Jean Meth.

McCOOK, FBC: The men hold a prayer breakfast every 3rd Saturday at the Country Kitchen.

NORFOLK, FBC: AWANA began their new year with a carnival, followed by a Husker Night. FBC hosted the Wayne FBC for a fun time "out behind the church shed" on Oct. 13. A potluck meal followed devotions. Kites were the theme one Sunday in Sunday School in September. It included the making of kites, kite-flying demonstrations, kite flying itself, and prizes for the longest flight, the best homemade kite, and for bringing the most guests to Sunday Schools. The Heart Sisters/ABW had a fall get-together. The theme was "Patchwork Parade", and ladies brought their favorite quilt for a "Sew and Tell" time. FBC helped sponsor the Kiev Symphony Orchestra and Chorus on Oct. 22. The 150-member group performed at the City Auditorium.

NORTH PLATTE, FBC: The Sunday School picnic was held Sept. 29. The ABW Ministries of North Platte Association fall rally was held at FBC on Oct. 10. Music was by "Spirit of Joy Singers" from McCook. Ivan Maline celebrated his 90th birthday on Oct. 4. Gene and Margaret Williams celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary on Oct. 6 at an open house. A work day was held on Oct. 12, which included striping the parking lot and painting the garage.

OMAHA, JUDSON BAPTIST: The last Sunday of September, Judson Baptist Church held a worship service for the Open Door Mission led by Associate Pastor, Glenn Williamson. On October 6th, Judson held it's 115th Anniversary Celebration and its First Annual Heritage Sunday. September 11th marked the founding of our church in 1892. October 12th Judson had an all church hayrack ride and picnic. Judson hosted the Omahaland American Baptist Women's Ministries and heard Daniel Chetti, American Baptist Missionary to Lebanon. The AWANA program is going strong. The older youth are looking forward to November and the Rock'n Lock'in at Benson Baptist. Also, the youth are thinking about where they might go on their next mission trip.

OMAHA, SUNSET HILLS BC: A SHBC web site has a schedule of all meetings and events. The new church directories have arrived and are being distributed. Zoe Elisabeth Clark, newborn daughter of Roper and Tina Clark, was dedicated on Sept. 29. The church's boards made presentations during Sunday services in September and October, leading up to the stewardship kickoff on Oct. 20. The youth have been learning about several possible summer ministry projects. The annual baked steak dinner was held on October 26. Interested youth are being trained on the sound system. They've also been training to operate the sound and projection systems. "Forgiven," the church's men's quintet, will present its annual concert at Sunset Hills at 3 p. m. on Sunday, November 17. The group sang to near-capacity crowds Sept. 29, at First United Methodist Church in Osceola, NE, and Oct. 7 at Maple Crest Condominiums in Omaha.

TECUMSEH, FBC: Friend Day was held on Oct. 6, with coffee and donuts served before church. A potluck lunch followed worship. Dan and Christy Weaver, missionaries to Guatemala, were guest speakers on Oct. 27. Items are being collected for Samaritan's Purse Christmas shoeboxes.

LINCOLN, SECOND BC: ABW Sunday was observed on Sept. 15. Rev. Karen Selig, National ABW President, was the speaker. The "Young At Heart Singers", a group of 32 retired men and women from First Baptist in Lansing, Michigan, presented a concert at SBC on Sept. 30. Church Women United met at SBC on Oct. 4. Rev. Dr. Norman Leach, Executive Director of the Lincoln Interfaith Council, spoke on "Challenged to Reconcile." An installation service for Rev. Renae Odell, the new Associate Pastor for Family Ministries, was held Oct. 6. Daniel Chetti, the first International Ministries missionary serving in Lebanon, spoke at SBC on Oct. 8. Laymen's Sunday was held Oct. 13 with guest speaker, Rev. Ted DeHass.

PARKSIDE, BC: Over 1,000 Campbell soup labels were sent to Murrow Indian Children's Home to help in the purchase of a new van. The church is continuing to collect the labels for Murrow.

WILSONVILLE UNITED BAPTIST/CHRISTIAN:

The Southern Union Fall Rally was held at the church on September 29.

OMAHA GREATER ST. JOHN'S: The church held its first Sunday School breakfast with great success. The breakfast was held to attract people from the neighborhood and to provide fellowship. We had some people in attendance we had not seen in a while. The people stayed for worship and one came forward for baptism. We hope to continue the breakfast outreach.

NEW MEMBERS:

CHAPAMAN, FBC: Crystal Herald, Matthew Hudnall, Molly Hudnall, Tyler Parker

OMAHA, BENSON BC: Dani West

HOLDREGE, FBC: Jason and Harmony Winget

LINCOLN, SECOND BC: Curtis Blunt, Kevin Sleeper; Carrie and Heather Garner

"Forgiven" Singing for the Lord

"Forgiven" is the name of the men's quintet at Sunset Hills Baptist Church in Omaha. The group was formed four years ago and is gaining recognition around the region. Regular performers at Omahaland's Annual Men's Prayer Breakfasts, the group also has sung at Camp Merrill on Memorial Day, Judson Baptist's Outreach picnic and a number of other events. They've even opened Omaha Royals games singing the national anthem.

"Forgiven" will present its annual home concert on Sunday, November 17 at 3:00pm at Sunset Hills. The concert is open to everyone. A free-will offering will be taken.



Trivia Answers

1. d. Check the library for this fascinating book about our first missionary, Adoniram Judson
2. a. Amos 7:7-8
3. b. Cosell. Hatfield, King and Kraft were all a part of ABC.
4. b. The ABC convention was held in Lincoln.
5. a. The Central Region is Kansas, Oklahoma & Arkansas. [Iowa & Minnesota make up the Mid-American Baptist Churches; Illinois & Missouri make up the Great Rivers Region.]

ABC of Nebraska staff

- Executive MinisterSusan Gillies
- Area MinisterDave Lundholm
- Minister of Mission SupportDon Gaines
- Director of Camps & Conferences..... Clarence Reiss
- Asst. Camp DirectorDave Janzen
- Camp Staff: Trudy Reiss & Traci Specht
- Office Manager & Asst. Treasurer..... Sylvania Huskey
- Office Staff: ...Peggy Cannon & Sue Gammel
- Church Life Consultant.....A. J. Wagstaff
- Pastor to Pastors (W)Paul Kondy
- Pastor to Pastors (E)Dick Peterson
- Youth Ministry AdjunctJason Workman

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Omaha NE 68104-4079
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Fax: 402 556 1910

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