

THE MESSENGER

Thousand Hills Baptist Association, 1701 Jamison, Kirksville, Missouri 63501

660-342-7658 * 1000hillsba@gmail.com or rdnations@gmail.com * www.1000hillsba.org

INSIDE...

From the DOM

Richard Nations talks about the Protestant Reformation in his column on page 2

Photos of recent events

Recent church anniversaries, ordinations, prayer tours and retreats in the association are pictured on page 3.

Reception for the Boyers

Page 4 has an announcement about a reception to honor Don Boyer and his wife, Jolette. Don has served as the manager of the Grand Oaks Baptist Assembly, Chillicothe, for 32 camping seasons. The Boyer's are stepping back and Don has become the assistant manager.

Calendar

The calendar for November, December and January is on page 4.



The missionary efforts of the International Mission Board are the recipients of gifts given by Southern Baptist Churches during the month of December to support IMB ministries around the world.

The Lottie Moon week of prayer for International Missions is scheduled for December 3-10 with missionaries featured each day. Funds given to this special offering go 100% for the support of IMB missionaries, ministries and special projects.

Please support this offering in your church this December. If you would like more information check the website at www.imb.org/lottie-moon-christmas-offering.



Ministers and Wives
Christmas Dinner
Tuesday, December 5th,
6:30 PM
Pure Air Baptist Church

The church is located south of Novinger just off of Highway 149 at Pure Air Trail. Watch for signs. We will enjoy Christmas music, a catered meal and a devotional by association moderator Pastor Rodney Dorr. There will be gifts for all.

The catered meal is being provided free of cost. Please RSVP to 660-342-7658 or 1000hillsba@gmail.com by December 1st.



From the Director of Missions Bro. Richard Nations

This is the 500th anniversary of the Protestant Reformation. In 1517 a Roman Catholic monk named Martin Luther nailed a document on the wooden church door at the Catholic church at Wittenberg, Germany. These “95 Theses” were theological disputations objecting to corrupt practices in the church. Included in these objections was a protest against the church selling “indulgences” to people which purported to shorten their time in Purgatory upon their death. Luther was an avid student of the Bible and had come to discover true faith was found through confessing to Christ, not following man-made rules and practices of the church. He immediately created a firestorm of protest and was eventually hounded out of the church and thus began a movement that continues to this day among protestant and evangelical churches.

The practice of selling indulgences was a repugnant one. An agent of the church named Johann Tetzel was traveling around Germany offering these certificates for sale. They granted the bearer less consequences for their sins upon death. It was simply “selling salvation” to these poor souls who were being deceived. Luther saw it for what it was, a corruption of the church. A popular story about Tetzel says he would sing a jingle as he preached, “Every time a coin in the coffer rings, a soul from Purgatory springs.”

When I was in college at Southwest Baptist University I had occasion to go into the faculty lounge of the theology school one afternoon. The lounge had a refrigerator with soda pop for sale to the staff. It was an honor system with a coffee mug for your payment. The director of the department had made a little sign on the door that read “Every time a coin in the coffee cup rings, a soda from the refrigerator may spring!” It was a funny take on Tetzel’s practice, maybe a little more innocent.

Several THBA pastors have been preaching about the Protestant Reformation this fall. Some are structuring their messages around Luther’s five “*Sola*” tenets. These Latin phrases are:

- * *Sola Scriptura* - The Bible alone is the source of truth and authority
- * *Sola Fide* - Faith alone is sufficient for salvation
- * *Sola Gratia* - We are saved by grace only
- * *Sola Christus* - Christ alone is our Lord
- * *Sola Deo Gloria* - We live for the glory of God alone.

If you like church history, you might want to pick up a copy of Ben Hawkins’ new book “Pathways to Reform” which chronicles the stories of the reformers in the 15th and 16th century in Europe. You can get a copy for \$5 from The Pathway newspaper at the Missouri Baptist Convention.

Celebrate the Reformation this fall. Thank God for men like Martin Luther who rose up and proclaimed Jesus Christ as the only way to be saved from sin. Salvation is not for sale and cannot be earned. We are “justified by faith” (Romans 5:1).

And if you come to my office, the coffee is free, no coin needed! Have a great month! Thanks for reading *The Messenger* today.

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The Friendship Baptist Church celebrated their 150th anniversary on September 17th. The Matt Carrol family, of Macon, sang in the afternoon service. The church is located southeast of Macon. Pastor Greg Rhinehart is the pastor.



Dr. John Yeats (left) the executive director of the Missouri Baptist Convention held a prayer service on the steps of the Macon County Courthouse on October 18th. This was one of five stops around the association in the MBC Pray Across Missouri tour.



Pastor Andy Cordray was ordained to the ministry by the Pure Air Baptist Church and the Fellowship Baptist Church on October 15th. Pictured (from left): Chris Harrison (Fellowship Baptist), Barbie Cordray, Andy Cordray and Jeff Daniels (Pure Air Baptist). The Cordrays have two children, Mikel and Mikala. He is a bivocational pastor serving the church and is owner of Integrity Construction, Kirksville. pastor Larry Gibson, Fellowship Baptist, preached the ordination sermon.



Northeast Missouri Pastors and wives heard Dr. John Mark Yeats of Midwestern Baptist Seminary, speak to them on disciple making at the NEMO pastors and wives retreat at Calvary Baptist Church, Hannibal, October 6-7.

Do you have some news or an announcement for *The Messenger*? Send it to Richard Nations at rooohillsba@gmail.com. Attach a photo and identify the participants or send a note about the upcoming event.

November Events

- 1 Prayer at Putnam County Courthouse, 1:30 PM
- 1 Prayer at Schuyler County Courthouse, 3:30 PM
- 2 Prayer at Adair County Courthouse, 8 AM
- 2 Prayer at Sullivan County Courthouse, 10:30 AM
- 5 Daylight Savings Time ends
- 11 Veterans Day
- 12 Reception for Don Boyer at Grand Oaks Baptist Assembly 2-4 PM
- 21 Minister's Lunch, King's Buffet, 11:30 AM
- 23 Thanksgiving
- 23-24 Office Closed, Thanksgiving holiday

December Events

- 3-10 Week of Prayer, Lottie Moon-International Missions
- 5 Ministers/Wives Christmas Dinner, Pure Air, Novinger, 6:30 PM
- 25 Christmas Holiday - Office closed 12/25-29
- 31 Hymn Sing, Lancaster Baptist Church

January Events

- 1 New Year's Day (office closed)
- 11 Bible Training Centre classes begin
- 16 Minister's Lunch, King's Buffet, Kirksville, 11:30 AM
- 23-25 Midwest Advance conference, Springfield, IL
- 25 Executive Board mtg., Fellowship Baptist, 6:30 PM



The Grand Oaks Baptist Assembly

Invites you to a reception for Don and Jollette Boyer as Don steps back as manager of the camp to become assistant manager. The reception will be held on Sunday afternoon, November 12 from 2-4 at the camp dining hall. A short program will be held at 3 PM.

Brad and Erin Fields are now the manager and food service coordinator at the camp.

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