



## **MEMO**

**Date:** August 2012  
**To:** Pastors and Staff  
**Subject:** Monthly Update

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***Dear Michigan Baptist Leader,***

This month's mailer includes information on:

- **Church Equipping Conference** to be held on September 15<sup>th</sup> at Cornerstone Baptist Church in Roseville. Our goal is to have 1,001 Michigan Baptists at this one day training event which offers more than 50 workshops for virtually every leader or potential leader in your congregation.
- **Basic Training Journey** will be on October 3-5, 2012 at Bambi Lake Retreat and Conference Center. This event is not just for church planters and their leadership team. It is also for existing church leadership who want to see their ministries revitalized.
- Our **Annual State Convention** is November 8-9 at Monroe Missionary Baptist Church in Monroe. Come and join us as we celebrate our diversity as ***"Partners in Advancing God's Kingdom"*** in our state.
- And, an opportunity to nominate someone who you believe deserves the **Outstanding Volunteer of the Year** award.

**As always, we thank you for your faithful support through the Cooperative Program.** Because of your faithful giving, lives are being transformed by the Gospel, not only in Michigan, but across the world.

***Partners in Advancing God's Kingdom!***

DOING WHATEVER IT TAKES TO SEE LIVES TRANSFORMED FOR CHRIST THROUGH STARTING, STRENGTHENING AND MOBILIZING CHURCHES  
8420 Runyan Lake Road, Fenton, MI 48430 | TEL: 810.714.1907 | [www.MichiganBaptists.org](http://www.MichiganBaptists.org)

## QUESTIONS FOR OUR LEAD MICHIGAN MISSIONARY

*The following is a reprint of a discussion with Bobby Gilstrap, Michigan Baptist's Lead State Missionary / Executive Director, on several topics of interest to the convention of churches in Michigan originally printed in the June / July Beacon. The questions are not in any priority order.*

### **EVANGELISM**

**BEACON: Some are concerned that there is no longer going to be a strong enough emphasis on Evangelism. Do you see that to be true?**

GILSTRAP: The short answer is absolutely not. We have been very intentional to keep evangelism at the forefront of much of what we are doing. A primary part of mobilizing our churches is evangelism. That takes the form of many opportunities for us to encourage and train our members to reach out into their communities with the message of Christ. I honestly see that the future holds more evangelistic opportunity than in the last few decades.

### **REGIONS**

**BEACON: The new refocused strategy that was approved by the convention last fall includes five regions, referred to as associational clusters in the plan. Does that mean that we are eliminating the current associations?**

GILSTRAP: This kind of question has arisen several times across the state. The regional map used in the refocusing presentation clustered two or more associations together to form what were called an associational cluster. Basically, it created five regions in the state, which included all fifteen associations. There was never any mention publicly or privately by the Future Focus Team of eliminating associations. It was not even discussed.

**BEACON: If that is the case, why break up the state into regions?**

GILSTRAP: That is simple to answer. The primary purpose was to identify regions strategically where we could best assign our missionaries for meeting the needs of our churches. After much prayer and study, it became obvious that clustering the associations geographically was a great approach to provide specialized missionaries for every area of our state.

**BEACON: How do you see the regions or associational clusters affecting the current associational structure?**

GILSTRAP: Very little for the most part. The clustering is to help us to assign our Church Starting Strategists and Church Strengtheners/Mobilizers to the five areas of our state. It isn't a plan to create a new structure of the associations merging. All of our associations are encouraged to continue to serve their area churches. In fact, the intent was to honor the historic place of the associations among Michigan Baptists.

I commonly refer to the regions as "resourcing regions." That really describes the intent of the regional structure to provide boundaries for assigning our specialized missionaries to assist churches in each region. Ideally and eventually, we envision having one Church Starting Strategist in a region for every 750,000 to 900,000 people. We further envision having one field Church Strengtheners/Mobilizer for every 40 to 75 churches in a region. These specialized missionaries will work beside our local churches and associations to help them in strategic ways to fulfill their vision and mission in their field of ministry.

### **ASSOCIATIONS**

**BEACON: How do you see the associations working within the regions?**

GILSTRAP: Not much differently than they have historically. One main difference will be that local church leadership will have to "step up" and take a stronger and more active leadership in their association, since there will not likely be a full-time Associational Missionary for each association. In part, associations can work through their leadership teams or committees to continue to fulfill their mission within their geographical area.

Admittedly, the associations in a “resourcing region” will likely choose to work together for things like training events in partnership with our field missionaries. By collaborating in such a way, it will reduce duplication of efforts in many ways. The hope is that both the convention and the associations are able to be far more effective.

**BEACON: If that is the case, how will the state missionaries relate to each “resourcing region?”**

GILSTRAP: As mentioned before, we will have specialized field missionaries that can help to resource the vision of the churches and through the strategic plan of their associations. Of course, we are moving toward that goal, as we are able. I don’t foresee a new structure forming ... just a cooperative effort in each of the five regions to be more effective. The hope is to reduce duplication of efforts. In addition, we will no longer have generalist in the areas, assigned to smaller groups of churches. We will have well-trained, specialist assigned to each region.

**BEACON: Some have thought that the associations were being asked to merge into five larger associations, maybe like the earliest days of our convention. Do you see that as a viable option?**

GILSTRAP: First, each association is its own organization with full autonomy. No other Southern Baptist entity has any authority to tell the association what it needs to do. That is part of the blessing of being Southern Baptist. Secondly, we have never made such a request nor would we. I continue to believe that there is great value in our associational ministries staying engaged in the smaller geographical areas. However, those kinds of decisions remain within the realm of the local association. Third, as I mentioned, the regional structure for the state convention’s refocusing was recommended and approved as a way to assign our specialized missionaries to assist our cooperating churches. That can only be better for our churches.

### **COOPERATIVE PROGRAM GIVING**

**BEACON: Over the past few years, there has been concern about the financial condition of the convention. What does the future look like for us?**

GILSTRAP: Actually, things appear to be improving. In great part, due to the faithful support of missions by so many of our congregations, we are seeing some positive signs of recovery. I am so grateful for the faithfulness of so many Michigan Baptist churches in spite of the tough economic times. It has been a slow and painful process to try to return to fiscal health, but we do see the early stages of more positive trends in Cooperative Program giving from our churches.

We are working hard to maintain our expenses under income on a monthly basis. Our churches need to know we want to be good stewards of what is provided through the Cooperative Program.

For the last 18 months, my mantra has been “The resources are in the harvest.” I fully believe this is the core of seeing our situation turn around. The giving through the Cooperative Program by our churches is most often a mere reflection of what God is doing in each local fellowship. It’s a spiritual issue. As our churches are outwardly focused on reaching their communities and their world for Christ, more people are reached, and God’s people joyously give to the storehouse (their local church). It’s the law of the harvest. In turn, each church passes on a percentage of those undesignated gifts to partner for missions, evangelism, and more through the Cooperative Program. Recent months are showing an increase in Cooperative Program support. I’m not confident enough yet to call it a sustained trend, but it is evidence of God’s work among our churches. That is exciting.

The future? I am encouraged that the future looks healthy as God provides greater resources through our churches as they engage in harvest work. As our churches continue to give to state, national and international mission causes through the Cooperative Program, I foresee greater opportunities for our convention of churches to cooperatively make an impact in “lighting the darkest corners of lostness” in Michigan. It really will be a new day.

### **SUPPORTING INTERNATIONAL MISSION TRIPS**

**BEACON: How can the convention afford to send our staff on international mission trips?**

GILSTRAP: That’s a great question. It would be appropriate for the convention to help send its state missionaries

on mission trips to lead out in reaching our world. That is not our current practice. Each of our missionaries has saved up funds to pay their own way to be a part of mission trips.

I commend them for their commitment to personally fulfill the Acts 1:8 challenge as Christian leaders, regardless of their position or funding from the convention. They go, at great personal sacrifice.

### ***BAMBI LAKE RETREAT AND CONFERENCE CENTER***

**BEACON: Some have thought that Bambi Lake Baptist Conference Center was being sold. Is that the case?**

GILSTRAP: I have also heard that rumor. It has been recommended to be sold by our auditors, but there has never been any action to put Bambi on the market. Finances have deemed it necessary to be one of the options considered to save the convention financially. It is essential that we live within our means so selling Bambi Lake was one of the options. However, there has never been any formal action to sell our camp.

**BEACON: If it is not to be sold, how is the camp doing?**

GILSTRAP: From all the reports I am getting these days, Bambi is better than ever! We have a great team at the camp that is delivering unprecedented quality customer service. The programming for so many events is better than ever and attendance is turning upward. The one thing that will insure the success of this great Michigan Baptist resource is increased support through attendance. The more of our churches and associations that host events at the camp will help the camp be profitable. There are days, weekends, and weeks available for all kinds of events. Bambi Lake can host most every kind of retreat and conference. I pray that more of our leaders will see this great venue and utilize it for their upcoming events on top of supporting existing activities at the camp.

### ***THE FUTURE***

**BEACON: Finally, what do you see in the future? What excites you?**

GILSTRAP: I remember a quote by Yogi Berra. He said, "The future ain't what it used to be!" That is so true for Michigan Baptists. And I think that is a good thing.

The future holds so much potential. I see God's hand guiding us into an exciting future of more effective days of reaching people for Christ. Here are the seven things I envision for Michigan Baptists.

1. I envision a convention of churches that are more committed than ever to joining God and His people in advancing His Kingdom.
2. I envision our existing churches sharing Christ more effectively than ever before in their communities.
3. I envision many of those same existing churches binding together to support starting hundreds of new churches in the next few decades.
4. I envision more of our churches than ever before engaging in all four areas of the Acts 1:8 Challenge. I see churches that are mobilized in evangelism, missions, disaster relief, community ministries and so much more.
5. I envision better serving, supporting, and extending the ministry of the local church.
6. I envision working together voluntarily to enlarge God's Kingdom with greater cooperation than ever in our history.
7. I envision more servant leaders who are developed to their God-given capacity through networks of pastors and leaders that are encouraging each other to be all God has created them to be.

What excites me most is what is to come. I am excited about our future as we maximize every opportunity that God provides. I am excited for Michigan Baptists to one day see the results of faithfully following Jesus even during the spiritually and economically dark days of the past.

Follow on [www.TWITTER.com/bobby\\_gilstrap](https://www.TWITTER.com/bobby_gilstrap) or on [www.FACEBOOK.com/BobbyGilstrap](https://www.FACEBOOK.com/BobbyGilstrap)

# Church Equipping Conference

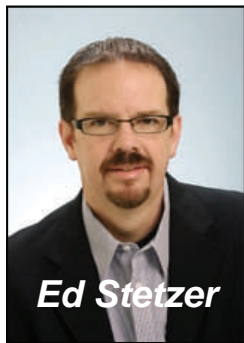
**Sat., Sept. 15, 2012**

**8:30 AM - 4:10 PM**

**Cornerstone Baptist Church, Roseville**



## The Day's Schedule



**Ed Stetzer**

- 8:30 - 10:00**    **General Session**  
**Worship: Nathan Platt & Cornerstone Worship Team**  
**Speaker: Ed Stetzer—"Subversive Kingdom: Living as an agent of gospel transformation."**
- 10:00 - 11:10**    **Breakout Session 1**
- 11:15 - 12:25**    **Breakout Session 2 (& Lunch 1)**
- 12:30 - 1:40**    **Breakout Session 3 (& Lunch 2)**
- 1:45 - 2:55**    **Breakout Session 4**
- 3:00 - 4:10**    **Breakout Session 5**

**Training for Every Leader in Your Church**

## Registration Deadlines:

**On-time Registration (June 1 - Aug 20)** **\$15 each**

**Late Registration (Aug 21 - Sep 15)** **\$20 each**

**(Lunch is provided, so advance registration is greatly appreciated.)**

**Special offer: Free registration for your pastor when six others from your church register.**

## There are sixty-nine unique breakouts including:



**Brian Frye**  
**"Reaching College Students"**



**John W. Smith**  
**"Resources for Hurting Pastors"**



**James Gaillard**  
**"Giving a Good Invitation"**  
**"Urban Church Planting"**



- ## Special Activities
- **That Lucky Minister's Wife!** A two-session breakout with Diana Davis to support and encourage minister's wives.
  - **Youth Ministry Luncheon:** Q & A with John Howard, an experienced youth minister, and networking for youth ministry leaders
  - **Pastors & Wives Luncheon:** Separate lunch for pastors and wives with a gift for each pastor's wife.

For more information go to [www.ChurchEquippingConference.com](http://www.ChurchEquippingConference.com)

**Breakout tracks include Evangelism, Missions, Prayer, Youth Ministry, Childhood Ministry, Adult Ministry & Discipleship (including Women's & Men's Ministry), Church Health, Administration & Communication, Worship & Music, Pastoral Ministry & Leadership, and Starting Churches.**

## Church Equipping Conference Breakout Workshops

	Session 1 (10:00 – 11:05)	Session 2 (11:15 – 12:20)	Session 3 (12:30 – 1:35)	Session 4 (1:45 – 2:50)	Session 5 (3:00 -4:05)
Missions Education and Mobilizing	<b>Engaging God's People in Mission</b> <i>Ed Stetzer</i> <b>Sanctuary</b>  <b>Involve PS/Kids/Youth in Missions</b> <i>Cynthia White</i> <b>Rm 62</b> <b>Involve Adults in Missions</b> <i>Pat Ingram</i> <b>Rm 61</b> <b>Training Mission Teams</b> <i>Bert Spann</i> <b>Rm 58</b>	<b>WMU is Relevant Today</b> <i>Candace McIntosh</i> <b>Rm 44</b> <b>Mission Education Options</b> <i>Pat Ingram</i> <b>Rm 62</b> <b>Engage the Unengaged World</b> <i>Terry Sharp</i> <b>Rm 61</b> <b>Engage Unengaged North America</b> <i>Bob Burton</i> <b>Rm 64</b> <b>Prepare a Church for a Mission Trip</b> <i>Mark Zdawczyk</i> <b>Rm 182</b>	<b>Impacting the Family for Missions</b> <i>Cynthia White</i> <b>Rm 62</b> <b>Use Mission Teams Effectively</b> <i>Bert Spann</i> <b>Rm 58</b> <b>Engage the Unengaged World</b> <i>Terry Sharp</i> <b>Rm 61</b> <b>Engage Unengaged North America</b> <i>Bob Burton</i> <b>Rm 64</b> <b>Prepare a Church for a Mission Trip</b> <i>Mark Zdawczyk</i> <b>Rm 182</b>	<b>Mission Education Options</b> <i>Pat Ingram</i> <b>Rm 61</b> <b>Involve PS/Kids/Youth in Missions</b> <i>Cynthia White</i> <b>Rm 62</b> <b>Training Mission Teams</b> <i>Bert Spann</i> <b>Rm 58</b> <b>Intro to Disaster Relief</b> <i>Win Williams</i> <b>Rm 182</b>	<b>WMU is Relevant Today</b> <i>Candace McIntosh</i> <b>Rm 44</b> <b>Involve Adults in Missions</b> <i>Pat Ingram</i> <b>Rm 61</b> <b>Impacting the Family for Missions</b> <i>Cynthia White</i> <b>Rm 62</b> <b>Use Mission Teams Effectively</b> <i>Bert Spann</i> <b>Rm 58</b> <b>Intro to Disaster Relief</b> <i>Win Williams</i> <b>Rm 182</b>
Evangelism		<b>Ministry Evangelism Ideas</b> <i>Mark Nipper</i> <b>Rm 17</b> <b>Other Beliefs &amp; Interfaith Witnessing</b> <i>Cody Lorange</i> <b>Rm 55</b>	<b>Other Beliefs &amp; Interfaith Witnessing</b> <i>Cody Lorange</i> <b>Rm 55</b>	<b>Ministry Evangelism Ideas</b> <i>Mark Nipper</i> <b>Rm 17</b> <b>Reaching College Students</b> <i>Brian Frye</i> <b>Rm 63</b> <b>Ideas for Evangelism Training</b> <i>Bob Burton</i> <b>Rm 64</b>	<b>Giving an Effective Invitation</b> <i>James Gailliard</i> <b>Rm 287</b> <b>Leading a Child to Christ</b> <i>Todd Capps</i> <b>Rm 42</b> <b>Reaching College Students</b> <i>Brian Frye</i> <b>Rm 63</b> <b>Ideas for Evangelism Training</b> <i>Bob Burton</i> <b>Rm 64</b>
Prayer	<b>Purposeful Praying</b> <i>Mike Jackson</i> <b>Rm 56</b>	<b>Enhancing Personal Prayer</b> <i>Mike Jackson</i> <b>Rm 56</b>	<b>Prayer Walking</b> <i>Bob Foy</i> <b>Rm 56</b>	<b>Purposeful Praying</b> <i>Mike Jackson</i> <b>Rm 56</b>	<b>Enhancing Personal Prayer</b> <i>Mike Jackson</i> <b>Rm 56</b>
Adult Sunday School, Small Groups & Discipleship (includes Women's & Men's Ministry)	<b>Bible Teaching for Adults</b> <i>Ross Ramsey</i> <b>Rm 280</b> <b>Heaven In Sight Senior Ministry</b> <i>Jim Glidewell</i> <b>Rm 281</b> <b>Becoming a Missional Disciple</b> <i>Mark Williams</i> <b>Rm 283</b>	<b>Caring For &amp; Reaching Adults</b> <i>Ross Ramsey</i> <b>Rm 280</b> <b>Basic Adult Small Group Ministry</b> <i>Steve McNeil</i> <b>Rm 281</b>	<b>Caring For &amp; Reaching Adults</b> <i>Ross Ramsey</i> <b>Rm 280</b> <b>Becoming a Disciple Making Church</b> <i>Sonya Tucker</i> <b>Rm 282</b> <b>Making Disciples Series</b> <i>Sergio Arce</i> <b>Rm 281</b> <b>Meaningful Men's Ministry</b> <i>Roscoe Belton</i> <b>Rm 283</b>	<b>Bible Teaching for Adults</b> <i>Ross Ramsey</i> <b>Rm 280</b> <b>Growing Your Small Groups</b> <i>Steve McNeil</i> <b>Rm 281</b> <b>Becoming a Missional Disciple</b> <i>Mark Williams</i> <b>Rm 283</b> <b>Be a Barnabas: Mentor &amp; Encourage</b> <i>Sonya Tucker</i> <b>Rm 282</b> <b>Fresh Ideas for Women's Ministry</b> <i>Diana Davis</i> <b>Rm 43</b>	<b>Heaven In Sight Senior Ministry</b> <i>Jim Glidewell</i> <b>Rm 280</b> <b>Basic Adult Small Group Ministry</b> <i>Steve McNeil</i> <b>Rm 281</b> <b>Becoming a Disciple Making Church</b> <i>Sonya Tucker</i> <b>Rm 282</b> <b>Meaningful Men's Ministry</b> <i>Roscoe Belton</i> <b>Rm 283</b> <b>Fresh Ideas for Women's Ministry</b> <i>Diana Davis</i> <b>Rm 43</b>

	<b>Session 1 (10:00 – 11:05)</b>	<b>Session 2 (11:15 – 12:20)</b>	<b>Session 3 (12:30 – 1:35)</b>	<b>Session 4 (1:45 – 2:50)</b>	<b>Session 5 (3:00 -4:05)</b>
Child-hood Ministry	<b>Bible Teaching for Preschoolers</b> <i>Cindy Thomas Rm 41</i> <b>Bible Teaching for Children</b> <i>Todd Capps Rm 42</i>	<b>Bible Teaching for Preschoolers</b> <i>Cindy Thomas Rm 41</i> <b>Children’s Music Resources</b> <i>Todd Capps Rm 42</i>	<b>Bible Teaching for Children</b> <i>Todd Capps Rm 42</i> <b>Caring for Kids</b> <i>Cindy Thomas Rm 41</i>	<b>Reaching Kids</b> <i>Cindy Thomas Rm 41</i>	(See above: <b>How to Lead a Child to Christ</b> )
Youth Ministry		Youth Ministry Network Lunch <i>John Howard Room 45</i>	<b>Bible Teaching for Students</b> <i>John Howard Rm 16</i> <b>Small Groups for Youth</b> <i>Ken Leslie Rm 17</i>	<b>Student (Youth) Ministry</b> <i>John Howard Rm 16</i>	<b>Bible Teaching for Students</b> <i>John Howard Rm 16</i> <b>Small Groups for Youth</b> <i>Ken Leslie Rm 17</i>
Church Health	<b>Church Conflict Management</b> <i>Dale Huff Rm 54</i> <b>Church Renewal Journey</b> <i>Bob &amp; Phyllis Hoy Rm 180</i> <b>Deacon Ministry</b> <i>Randy Salazar Rm 53</i>	<b>Church Conflict Management</b> <i>Dale Huff Rm 54</i> <b>Beauty from Ashes</b> <i>Kevin Blackwell Rm 53</i>	<b>Assimilation: Closing the Back Door</b> <i>Justin Miller Rm 54</i> <b>Deacon Ministry</b> <i>Randy Salazar Rm 53</i>	<b>Opening the Front Door</b> <i>Scott Blanchard Rm 55</i> <b>Transformational Church</b> <i>Sergio Arce Rm 54</i> <b>Beauty from Ashes</b> <i>Kevin Blackwell Rm 53</i>	<b>Opening the Front Door</b> <i>Scott Blanchard Rm 55</i> <b>Assimilation: Closing the Back Door</b> <i>Justin Miller Rm 53</i> <b>Transformational Church</b> <i>Sergio Arce Rm 54</i> <b>Church Renewal Journey</b> <i>Bob &amp; Phyllis Foy Rm 180</i>
Administration & Media	<b>Help for Church Treasurers</b> <i>Seth Kraus Rm 18</i>	<b>Church Legal Issues</b> <i>Seth Kraus Rm 18</i>	<b>Help for Church Treasurers</b> <i>Seth Kraus Rm 18</i> <b>Using Social Media &amp; the Web</b> <i>Marc Bewley Rm 44</i>	<b>Church Legal Issues</b> <i>Seth Kraus Rm 18</i> <b>Using Social Media &amp; the Web</b> <i>Marc Bewley Rm 44</i>	
Worship & Music		<b>Worship Technology</b> <i>John Ayers Rm 190</i>	<b>Worship Technology</b> <i>John Ayers Rm 190</i>	<b>All for One – One for All</b> <i>Nathan Platt Rm 190</i>	<b>All for One – One for All</b> <i>Nathan Platt Rm 190</i>
Pastoral Ministry & Leadership	<b>You Lucky Minister’s Wife</b> <i>Diana Davis Rm 43</i>	<b>You Lucky Minister’s Wife(cont)</b> <i>Diana Davis Rm 43</i> <b>Resources for Hurting Pastors</b> <i>John Smith Rm 11</i> <b>Developing Lay Leaders</b> <i>John Botkin Rm 52</i>	Pastors / Wives Lunch <b>Room 45</b>	<b>Tools for Tentmakers Today</b> <i>George Fountain Rm 52</i> <b>Strategic Planning</b> <i>Steve Davis Rm 12</i> <b>Resources for Hurting Pastors</b> <i>John Smith Rm 11</i>	<b>Tools for Tentmakers Today</b> <i>George Fountain Rm 52</i> <b>Strategic Planning</b> <i>Steve Davis Rm 12</i> <b>Developing Lay Leaders</b> <i>John Botkin Rm 11</i>
Starting Churches		<b>Urban Church Starting</b> <i>James Gailliard Rm 287</i> <b>Why Church Starting?</b> <i>Larry Allen Room 282</i>	<b>House Churches that Really Work</b> <i>Jason Wing Rm 34</i>	<b>Urban Church Starting</b> <i>James Gailliard Rm 287</i> <b>House Churches that Really Work</b> <i>Jason Wing Rm 34</i>	<b>Why Church Starting?</b> <i>Larry Allen Room 18</i> <b>Church Starting for Laypersons</b> <i>Jason Wing Rm 34</i>
		<b>First Lunch Hour</b>	<b>Second Lunch Hour</b>		

# Church Equipping Conference

Saturday, September 15, 2012

## BREAKOUT WORKSHOPS

### MISSIONS EDUCATION AND MOBILIZATION BREAKOUT WORKSHOPS

- **Engaging All God's People in Mission** - Ed Stetzer

Consider ways that churches can involve more people in ministry and mission. Discover strategies to engage all God's people in mission.

- **Engaging the Unengaged Peoples of the World** - Terry Sharp

An overview of the Embrace emphasis of the IMB and the resources available to assist churches and associations in embracing unengaged/unreached people groups globally. Also, learn how to identify, embrace, engage and evangelize those overlooked people groups who live in your community.

- **Engaging the Unengaged Peoples of North American** - Bob Burton

Who are the unengaged people groups in North America? How do you identify and engage them? What can you do to evangelize them? Attend this workshop to find answers to these questions.

- **How to Involve Adults in Missions** - Pat Ingram

What are some ways you can involve more adults in missions? Explore ideas for involving the maximum number of adults in your church in missions.

- **How to Involve Preschoolers, Children and Youth in Missions** - Cynthia White

Youth, children, and preschoolers can be involved in missions. This conference will look at a number of ways to increase involvement in missions.

- **Impacting the Family for Missions** - Cynthia White

Families can be involved in missions together. Discover ways to help families identify and be involved in mission opportunities.

- **Introduction to Disaster Relief** - Win Williams

Southern Baptist disaster relief is Christian love in action, meeting urgent needs of hurting humanity in crisis situations. Learn about Disaster Relief ministry and how you can be involved.

- **Keys to Effectively Using Mission Teams** - Bert Spann

Visiting mission teams can enhance the ministry and outreach of your church. Explore ways to most effectively use mission teams in your church.

- **Missions Education Options for Your Church** - Pat Ingram

Explore the variety of missions education resources that are available for your church. Find resources that meet your church's needs for missions education.

- **Preparing for a Short Term Mission Trip** - Mark Zdawczyk

What is involved in preparing for a short-term mission trip? Attention to all the details and necessary preparation can result in a positive and life-changing mission trip for those who participate.

- **Training Mission Teams** - Bert Spann

Discover resources and approaches for training persons to participate on a mission team. Proper training can make all the difference in having a meaningful and effective mission trip.

- **WMU is Relevant Today** - Candace McIntosh

It's not your grandmother's WMU. Find out how WMU is relevant today in helping women be involved in missions education and missions action.



### EVANGELISM BREAKOUT WORKSHOPS

- **Campus Ministry: Reaching College Students** - Brian Frye

Looking for a simple and proven way to connect college students with Christ? Join us for this crash course on launching a multiplying collegiate ministry in your local church...and we'll even show you an easy tool to get things started!

- **Giving an Effective Invitation** - James Gailliard

How do you give an effective invitation? Are different approaches appropriate in different situations? Why are invitation counselors important and how do you prepare them? Learn how you can be more effective as you invite people to respond to God's word.



- **Ideas for Evangelism Training** - Bob Burton

This workshop will investigate various resources for evangelism training such as RELAY, The NET, FAITH, tracts, and marked New Testaments. Learn how to best use evangelism training resources strategically to equip members to share their faith.

- **Understanding Other Beliefs and Interfaith Witnessing** - Cody Lorange

Some 215 million people now live outside their nation of origin and many of these "diaspora people" now call the United States home. Our new neighbors come from every nation, tribe and tongue and have brought to our cities a level of ethnic, cultural and spiritual diversity unlike anything the American church has ever seen. During this session, we will lay out foundational Biblical and Missional principles for faithful cross-cultural engagement with Hindus, Muslims, Buddhists and others. Bring your questions!

- **Leading a Child to Christ** - Todd Capps

Too often, children's leaders and parents do not feel equipped to share the gospel, or they lack the understanding of how to talk with children about salvation in terms that children can understand. This training can provide you with the tools to guide parents, leaders, and older children in how to share their faith. This is a step-by-step method of sharing Jesus with children and equips leaders and parents to confidently share their faith.

- **Ministry Evangelism Ideas** - Mark Nipper

Meeting people's felt needs can open doors to share the gospel. The conference will look at ideas and resources for effective ministry evangelism.

#### PRAYER BREAKOUT WORKSHOPS

- **Prayer Walking: Taking Prayer to the Streets** - Bob & Phyllis Foy

Learn about prayer walking, an excellent way to begin to pray with insight for your community. As you walk and pray, you gain insight into needs and make a difference through prayer.

- **Enhancing Personal Prayer** - Mike Jackson

How is your personal prayer life? Would you like to discover ways to enhance personal prayer? This workshop will help you.

- **Purposeful Praying** - Mike Jackson

Make your prayer life more intentional. Learn how to be more specific and purposeful as you intercede for others and make supplication for yourself.

#### ADULT MINISTRY & DISCIPLESHIP BREAKOUT WORKSHOPS

- **Becoming a Disciple-Making Church** - Sonya Tucker

This conference will focus on scheduling, approaches, methods and resources for helping disciples become more effective, more fruitful followers of Christ.

- **Be a Barnabas: Encouraging and Mentoring** - Sonya Tucker

ENCOURAGING disciples in their relationship with God and others; EQUIPPING them for leadership and services; and ENGAGING them in life-changing ministry and mission—examine a process for spiritual growth and identify tools to help you guide the process that leads toward spiritual maturity that reproduces itself.

- **Becoming a Missional Disciple** - Mark Williams

Become a disciple of Jesus who is making a difference in the world. Discover how to grow spiritually and look beyond yourself to the needs of those around you.

- **Basic Adult Small Group Ministry** - Steve McNeil

Are you seeking to start an adult small group ministry or revitalize an existing ministry? This workshop will cover the basics of an effective small group ministry.

- **Caring for and Reaching Adults Through Sunday School** - Ross Ramsey

Sunday School and small groups are effective tools to provide congregational care for members and prospects. Caring opens doors for reaching. Learn how to use your adult Sunday School or small groups to do both better.

- **Fresh Ideas for Women's Ministry** - Diana Davis

Based on her book by the same title, Diana challenges any size church women's group to new heights. Learn do-able tips for reaching newcomers, encouraging Christian growth and fellowship, and igniting joy in ministry and missions.



- **Growing Disciples Resources** - Sergio Arce

*Growing Disciples* is a foundational discipleship resource developed by Claude King, co-author of *Experiencing God*, that will guide new and growing believers to understand and begin implementing six disciplines into their daily lives. Study is great for small-group settings in homes, churches, or community centers.

- **Growing Your Small Group Ministry** - Steve McNeil

Help your small groups avoid becoming inwardly focused. Learn how to grow individual groups and your total small group ministry.

- **Keeping Heaven in Sight: Growing Older with Jesus** - Jim Glidewell

To hear our society tell the tale of getting older is an experience of steady unrelenting decline. Is that the reality? The Bible tells it differently, but is anyone listening? Even at church? Developing ministry to and with adults as we grow older in Jesus.

- **Life-Changing Bible Teaching for Adults** - Ross Ramsey

Learn how Bible study can be transformational for adults. Discover effective methods and approaches to help adults experience spiritual transformation as they study the Bible.

- **Meaningful Men's Ministry** - Roscoe Belton

What can your church do to meet the unique needs of men? How can you help men grow in faith? How can you encourage men to be involved in meaningful ministry? Learn how to get men in, grow men strong, and send men out.

#### CHILDHOOD MINISTRY BREAKOUT WORKSHOPS

- **Life-Changing Bible Teaching for Children** – Todd Capps

Investigate the learning styles and characteristics of children (grades 1-6) and how that impacts the way we teach them. Learn how children can experience spiritual transformation through meaningful Bible study.

- **Caring for Kids: Ministry to Preschoolers** - Cindy Thomas

What are preschoolers' biggest needs? Learn how we can effectively minister to meet those needs and lay spiritual foundations in their hearts.

- **Children's Worship and Music Resources** – Todd Capps

Look at the resources available for children's music ministry and the resources for children's worship. Special attention will be given to Worship Kids Style.

- **Life-Changing Bible Teaching for Preschoolers** - Cindy Thomas

Discover practical tips on how to make the Bible come alive for the preschoolers in your classroom. Learn how to lay foundations for faith in the lives of preschoolers.

- **Reaching Kids: Outreach to Preschoolers** - Cindy Thomas

We have a generation of compute- savvy preschoolers. Let's explore how to reach preschoolers and make the Bible relevant in this media-driven society.

#### YOUTH MINISTRY BREAKOUT WORKSHOPS

- **Life-Changing Bible Teaching in Student Ministry** - John Howard

This workshop will consider the essential ingredients of correctly engaging students in the word of truth. Discover how the lives of teenagers can be transformed through Bible study.

- **Life-changing Small Groups for Youth** - Ken Leslie

Youth can experience life-changing Bible study and relationships in small groups. Find out how to impact the lives of youth through small groups.

- **Transformational Student Ministry** - John Howard

Establishing a structure for student ministry through which God will transform students from the time of salvation to sanctification.

## CHURCH HEALTH BREAKOUT WORKSHOPS

- **Assimilation: Opening the Front Door** - Scott Blanchard

Discover how to move first time guests to repeat guests to regular attenders to faithful members. Be intentional about connecting guests to your church.

- **Beauty from Ashes** – Kevin Blackwell

In a declining church, a church on “life support”, how do you know the next step? Can the church be revived? If so, what do you do? Is the church dying? If so, how can you gracefully transition from the current congregation to another congregation at the location?

- **Church Conflict Management** - Lawrence Dale Huff

This workshop is a consideration of Biblical principles to prevent serious conflict and how to manage it if it does occur.

- **Deacon Ministry that Works** - Randy Salazar

Learn how to develop an effective deacon ministry. Learn how deacons can help a church be more effective in providing ministry to their members and in reaching those outside the church.

- **How to Close the Back Door of Your Church** - Justin Miller

Look at a relational approach to assimilation. Learn how to “close the back door” and keep persons in your church by helping them to build meaning relationships within the church.

- **The Church Renewal Journey** - Bob Foy

A laity led process of awakening and equipping the church laity and commissioning them back into their marketplace as a Spirit-filled and prayer-empowered congregation, focused on God’s Kingdom by praying for and adopting church planters in their Jerusalem, Judea, Samaria and in the Ends of the Earth. This is done through a series of laity-led renewal-type weekends and takes the church on a discipleship to evangelism journey.

- **Transformational Church** - Sergio Arce

Congregations have long measured success by "bodies, budget, and buildings" - a certain record of attendance, the offering, and square footage. But the scorecard can't stop there. Transformational church uses a new scorecard with emphases on accountability, discipleship, and spiritual maturity. Learn how you can use this tool to assess your church’s health.

## CHURCH ADMINISTRATION, COMMUNICATION AND MEDIA BREAKOUT WORKSHOPS

- **Help for Your Church Treasurer** - Seth Kraus

Find answers for church treasurers, especially as relates to tax law. This will include information on the seven requirements for your tax exempt status.

- **Legal Issues Affecting Church Ministries: Protecting Your Church from Child Abuse Allegations** - Seth Kraus
- What are the legal issues affecting church ministries? Special interest will be paid to protecting your church from allegations of child abuse.

- **Social Media and Websites for the Rest of Us** - Marc Bewley

So you’re not that tech savvy? There are still lots of ways you can use social media and the web to communicate about your church ministry and reach out to others.

## MUSIC AND WORSHIP BREAKOUT WORKSHOPS

- **All For One—One For All** - Nathan Platt

Crafting worship in contemporary culture for the body of Christ and an audience of One. How can we pray, preach, teach, serve and sing in such a way that we stay true to our singular objective; namely, glorifying God? How can we worship in such a way that every generation is edified and encouraged?

- **Worship Technology** - John Ayers

A look at presentation software, sound, projection and how technology is affecting today’s worship trends. An experienced worship leader will answer your questions about technology.

## PASTORAL MINISTRY & LEADERSHIP BREAKOUT WORKSHOPS

- **Developing a Local Church Strategy that Works** - Stephen Davis

Exploring together effective methods on how to effectively lead your congregation to join you in the journey of reaching your mission field.

- **Resources for Hurting Pastors** - John W. Smith

Imagine a pastor called by God into full time ministry, who loves Jesus and the people of the church God has called him to serve—reaching the point where he entertains thoughts of ending his own life. I couldn't imagine such a thing until it happened to me.



- **That Lucky Minister's Wife!** - Diana Davis

In this two-session conference, an experienced pastor's wife shares tips, encouragement and wisdom to explore the joyful side of ministry. You will leave with refurbished joy, fresh and unique ideas, and new friends.

- **Tools for Tentmakers Today** - George Fountain

Bi-vocational ministry requires special skills. Special skills require special tools. We will consider some tools that will serve and equip tentmakers for their task. Learn what ODM represents and how it can transform your bi-vocational ministry. Enjoy greater effectiveness, see wanted results, and enjoy the fulfilling rewards of achievement and success in bi-vocational ministry.

- **Training Lay Leaders** - John Botkin

Even the best pastors can't do it all, nor should they do it all. This session provides a model for raising up and training a team of leaders from the pew who will be passionate about and prepared for disciple making.

## CHURCH STARTING BREAKOUT WORKSHOPS

- **Church Planting for Laypersons** - Jason Wing

Often we think that church planting is only for "the professionals". Lay persons can be key in starting a new church, leading in various ways.

- **House Churches that Really Work** - Jason Wing

An experienced house church leader will share his experience in house church ministry. Discover what it takes to have a house church that really works.

- **Why Church Starting?** - Larry Allen

Why is church starting an effective way of reaching people and impacting your community and state for Christ? Learn why church starting is important to reaching Michigan. Also, look at ways your church can be a partner in church starting.

- **Urban Church Starting** - James Gailliard

Urban settings provide unique challenges and opportunities for starting new churches. Explore how to reach people by starting new churches in an urban environment.

For registration or information:

[www.ChurchEquippingConference.com](http://www.ChurchEquippingConference.com)

# Church Equipping Conference

September 15, 2012  
Registration Form

## Registration Deadlines:

Early Registration      by May 31      \$10 each  
On-time Registration    June 1 – Aug 20    \$15 each  
Late Registration      Aug 21 – Sep 15    \$20 each

(Lunch is provided, so advance registration is greatly appreciated.)

*Special offer:* Free registration for your pastor if six others from your church sign up.

Church name: \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_

Contact person: \_\_\_\_\_

Contact email: \_\_\_\_\_ Contact phone: \_\_\_\_\_

### Name

### Ministry Area

(Pastor, Worship, Deacon, Women's Ministry,  
Adult, Youth, Children, Preschool, etc.)

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| 11. | _____ | _____ |
| 12. | _____ | _____ |

Total Registered: \_\_\_\_\_

Amount Due: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Make checks payable to: Baptist State Convention of Michigan  
8420 Runyan Lake Road  
Fenton, MI 48430

[www.ChurchEquippingConference.com](http://www.ChurchEquippingConference.com).

**BASIC TRAINING**

# JOURNEY



**October 3-5, 2012**

**For Church Starting Teams and  
Revitalization of Existing Churches**

**Get Info @ [www.MichiganBaptists.org](http://www.MichiganBaptists.org)  
or 810.714.1907**

**FOR CHURCH PLANTING**

# 2012 LIGHTHOUSE OUTSTANDING MISSION VOLUNTEER

The **Baptist State Convention of Michigan** will be presenting several **LIGHTHOUSE LEADERSHIP AWARDS** at this fall's Annual meeting. One of those awards will honor an **OUTSTANDING MISSION VOLUNTEER**. Your help is needed!

Please think about lay people you know that you feel are worthy of such recognition and let us hear from you. We realize that there are many who could fit this requirement; however, for this purpose only one individual (or couple) will be selected.

Any member of a cooperating Michigan Baptist church can make a recommendation that will make a difference! The following information is required if a person (or couple) is to be considered (please submit in this order):

1. The name, address, and phone number of the person (or couple) being nominated.
2. The name of the pastor, church and association with address and phone number to which he/she/they belong.
3. A list of volunteer mission service: their (1) Jerusalem, (2) Judea; (3) Samaria and (4) Uttermost, he/she/they have participated in during the past five (5) years - including locations and dates. *(If the nominee(s) has not served **in at least 3** of the Acts 1:8 areas, please do not nominate that person.)*
4. Supporting statements supporting your nomination for "**MISSION VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR**". Why you feel he/she/they should be recognized in this manner. Please limit to 500 words.
5. Your signature with your address, phone, church, and association.

E-MAIL or mail your completed recommendation to:

[Anne@bscm.org](mailto:Anne@bscm.org)

Or

**Baptist State Convention of Michigan**

ATTN: Anne Glissman  
8420 Runyan Lake Road  
Fenton, MI 48430

**NO PHONE CALL RECOMMENDATIONS AND/OR ENDORSEMENTS CAN BE ACCEPTED!  
NOMINATIONS MUST BE RECEIVED, NOT POSTMARKED,  
NO LATER THAN THURSDAY, OCTOBER 11, 2012.**

# 55th Annual Meeting

Thursday & Friday, November 8-9, 2012  
at

Monroe Missionary Baptist Church  
14260 S. Dixie Hwy • Monroe, MI 48161



BAPTIST STATE  
CONVENTION *of*  
MICHIGAN

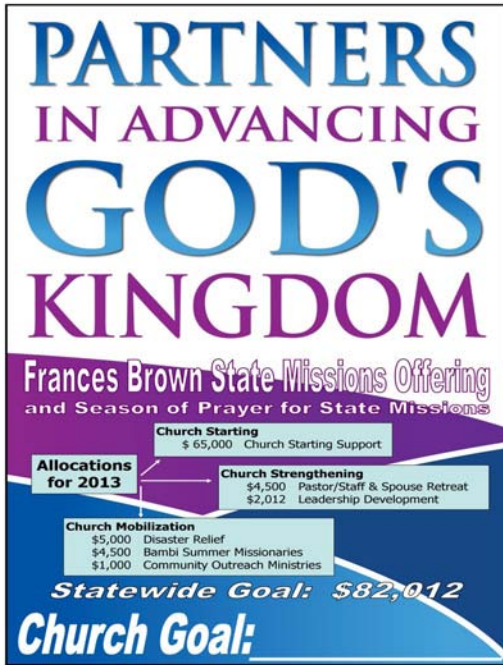
EXCITING DETAILS IN THE AUGUST BAPTIST BEACON ([www.BaptistBeacon.net](http://www.BaptistBeacon.net))



**SEND UPDATES  
ABOUT YOUR  
CHURCH TO:  
BEACON@BSCM.ORG**

*(Tell us about your new Pastor, an evangelistic outreach event, a mission trip, or something else that you'd like to share with our convention of churches.)*

**CHURCH UPDATE**



# Order Form State Missions Season of Prayer and Offering Materials

***Please go to [www.michiganbaptists.org](http://www.michiganbaptists.org) for downloadable resources.***

Complete this form for additional posters, offering envelopes, and prayer guides. You may fax the order form to 810.714.1955, e-mail your request to [yolanda@bscm.org](mailto:yolanda@bscm.org), or mail this completed form to Yolanda Chapa, 8420 Runyan Lake Road, Fenton, MI 48430.

**Please send the following *free* material:**

- \_\_\_\_\_ Poster (size is 11x17)
- \_\_\_\_\_ Offering Envelopes
- \_\_\_\_\_ Prayer Guide for September 1-8, 2012
- \_\_\_\_\_ Prayer Guide for September 9-15, 2012
- \_\_\_\_\_ Prayer Guide for September 16-22, 2012
- \_\_\_\_\_ Prayer Guide for September 23-30, 2012

Prayer guides can be used as bulletin inserts. It is suggested that churches order prayer guides for each Sunday in September.

**Send to:**

Contact Person \_\_\_\_\_

Church \_\_\_\_\_ Association \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip \_\_\_\_\_