



MEMO

Date: May 2013
To: Pastors and Staff
Subject: Monthly Update

Dear Michigan Baptist Leader,

This month's mailer includes information on:

- The **Pastor, Staff and Spouse Retreat** at Bambi Lake Retreat and Conference Center on **July 15-18**. Our special guests will be Rick and Stephanie Sowell from Choctaw, OK. Rick pastors Choctaw Road Baptist Church. You can read his blog at www.choctawroad.com.
- Camps for children and youth. With summer right around the corner and so are **Metamorphosis, Girls' Camp, Mom and Me, Boys' Adventure Camp**, and **Quest**.

Be sure and mark your calendars on **Saturday, September 14, 2013** for the premier training event in our state, **THE CHURCH EQUIPPING CONFERENCE**. This will be one stop training for every leader in your church. Further details can be found on our website www.churchequippingconference.com. **Please note early registration has been extended through June 11th.**

We have also enclosed a "**Are We Looking for You?**" poster. The BSCM is looking for applicants for three positions: Regional Church Starter Strategist, Regional Church Strengtheners/Mobilizers and a Ministry Assistant/Bookkeeper. Would you please post this flyer in your church or even use it as a bulletin insert to help us get the word out about these opportunities?

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 around 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

How Long Is Eternity?

My wife received a troubling email from a friend yesterday. A former coworker had passed away, alone, in a nursing home.

For more than seven years, they worked together in a classroom.



BOBBY GILSTRAP
Lead State Missionary
Baptist State
Convention of Michigan

Numerous times over the years, Brenda had shared her faith with her coworker in a variety of ways. Her coworker had even observed that over the years there was something unique and different about Brenda's life.

However, her coworker never accepted Christ as Lord and Savior.

Upon hearing the news of her friend's death, Brenda was grief-stricken at the thought of this coworker's future for all of eternity: being separated from God.

On April 15, the world was horrified at the terror attack during the Boston Marathon.

With three dead and more than 170 injured, it has once again caused America to reflect on our safety and our future.

But, for those three individuals who lost lives, they now face eternity beyond this life.

Our world is full of illustrations that remind us that we have no assur-

ances of tomorrow. With that in mind, we must ask ourselves "How long is eternity?"

If we take serious our belief that eternity is forever, and that where we spend eternity is determined now, then we will desire to live with urgency. An urgency that demands our attention on eternity and not just our present life.

Our finite, human mind, cannot comprehend the length of eternity. Regardless of our understanding, even one moment separated from God will be too long.

Are you burdened for the eternity of your family, friends, neighbors and coworkers? Do you know what their eternity will look like beyond this earthly life? If we look at those around us through the eyes of Jesus, we will not see them just as they are today but as they will be for all eternity.

Eternity is a long time. How different will eternity look for those around you because of your life?

Let me challenge you to join me in seeking every opportunity to share your faith with those within your circles of influence. Let us be reminded, that eternity is a long time to be separated from God.

As "*Partners in Advancing God's*

Kingdom," our desire is to resource the vision of your local church to make a difference in the eternity of persons in your community.

Through your Cooperative Program gifts, you make possible the wide range of Great Commission ministries that are provided as a convention of churches.

The missionaries and mission-action teams of the Baptist State Convention of Michigan are ready to serve every church in reaching their communities.

There is urgency: Let's make a difference for the Kingdom of God!

Thank you Michigan Baptists for your consistent and sacrificial support

of missions through the Cooperative Program. You are the reason the Good News is being shared and future leaders are being developed for Kingdom service.

"As "Partners in Advancing God's Kingdom," our desire is to resource the vision of your local church to make a difference in the eternity of persons in your community."



bobby_gilstrap



BobbyGilstrap



**ARE WE
LOOKING
FOR
YOU
?**

Serve the Lord & Our Convention of Churches as:

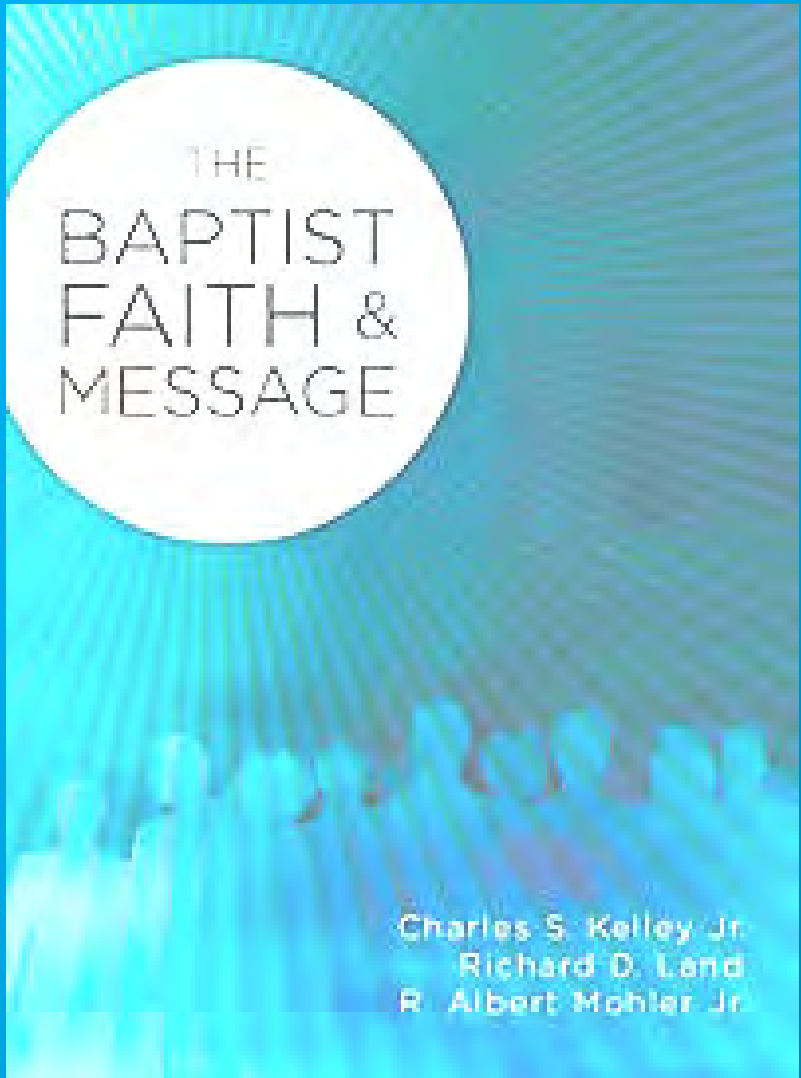
- A Regional Church Starter Strategist (Region 4)
- A Regional Church Strengthener/Mobilizer (All 5 Regions)
- A Ministry Assistant/Financial & General (Fenton, MI)

**For Further Information and
to Apply, go to
www.Applications.bscm.org**



**BAPTIST STATE
CONVENTION *of*
MICHIGAN**

Supported by the Mission Gifts of our Churches Through the Cooperative Program



THE
BAPTIST
FAITH &
MESSAGE

Charles S. Kelley Jr.
Richard D. Land
R. Albert Mohler Jr.

Everyone is invited to
join us for. . .

*The
Baptist
Faith
&
Message*

**Presentations by
Michigan Pastors**

**Tuesday, June 4, 2013
9:00 a.m. —3:00 p.m.**

**At the
Baptist State Ministry Building
8420 Runyan Lake Road
Fenton, MI 48430**

Learn what we believe.





Metamorphosis Youth Camp

Where: *Bambi Lake Conference Center*

Who: *Students who have completed grades 6-12*

When: *June 17-21, 2013*

Cost: *\$155.00*

Online registration at www.register.bscm.org. More information at www.michiganbaptists.org/church-strengthening/youth-ministry or contact Dave Bauer, 517-699-LIFE, dave@cedarstreetchurch.org.

Your gifts through the Cooperative Program make this event possible.

HEARLESS

Girls' & Teen Girls' Missions Camps

July 8-12, 2013

Bambi Lake

A missions camp for
girls in grades 4-12.

Cost: \$155

Registration Deadline:
June 24, 2013

Register Online at
www.Register.BSCM.org

Girls must have completed third grade to attend camp.

Contact
cindy@bscm.org
for more information.



Mom & Me Retreat



an overnight missions retreat for
girls and their moms
at Bambi Lake

July 12-13, 2013

Mom and Me is a special time for mothers and daughters to share together at Bambi Lake Retreat & Conference Center. Participants will have an opportunity to meet and spend time with missionaries as well as participate in a variety of activities including worship, crafts, swimming and more.

Registration begins at 4:00 pm on Friday, July 12 with dinner being served at 6:00 pm. The overnight retreat will conclude by 4:00 pm on Saturday, July 13.

Cost: \$50 per person (\$55 after the Registration Deadline)

Age: 4 to ???

Registration Deadline: June 24th

(We will need to have received at least 20 registrations by June 24th or we will have to cancel.)

For More Information Contact: cindy@bscm.org

Pastor, Staff & Spouse Retreat

July 15-18, 2013 • Bambi Lake Conference Center • \$10 p/person

UNQUENCHABLE
song of SOLOMON 8:7

Sign Up @ www.Register.BSCM.org

Guests: Rick & Stephanie Sowell



Be encouraged and challenged by Rick and Stephanie Sowell as they lead this year's retreat. You will enjoy their down-to-earth approach to teaching God's Word and ministering to people. When not working, they enjoy watching high school soccer & baseball games. Rick also loves the outdoors, including hunting, shooting and fishing.

Rick grew up in church but did not begin to follow Christ until he left home at 18. He has been serving full time in the pastorate since 1990. Rick says that ministry is measured in changed lives; he loves to see people grow in their relationship with God as evidenced by their life decisions. Rick is currently pastor of Choctaw Road Baptist Church in the Oklahoma City area (<http://ChoctawRoad.com>). It is an innovative, growing church which exists to connect, reach, grow & care.



The Sowell family story is not ordinary. Pastor Rick's first wife Debbie, died suddenly from hypertrophic cardiomyopathy in May 2005. Rick was left alone to raise three children and pastor a growing church. He married Stephanie in 2008 and they continue to serve the Lord together. Together they have 6 children and are often referred to as "The Brady Bunch."

This is a great time to get away with your spouse for encouragement, Inspiration and refreshment.

(There are no provisions for childcare.)

For more information go to www.MichiganBaptists.org/leadership

This event is made possible through your registration fees, your gifts to the Cooperative Program and the Frances Brown State Missions Offering.



BOYS ADVENTURE MISSIONS CAMP

August 5 — 8, 2013

Bambi Lake Baptist Retreat & Conference Center

Cost: \$89 per camper

(\$20 Deposit + \$69 Paid at Registration)



Camp begins with registration at 1pm on Monday & concludes at 11am on Thursday.

Adventure Camp includes participation in various camping learning experiences including: Cooking, Fire Preparation Safety, Tent Pitching, Swimming Safety, First Aid, Wilderness Survival, Tool Craft, Rope Craft, Compass Craft and Other Outdoor Skills.

Go to www.Register.BSCM.org to register online or download a mail-in registration form.

Contact [Jimmy Jones @ 248-343-6284](mailto:jimmy@bscm.org) or email jimmy@bscm.org for more information.

We're looking for a few good men!



Volunteer men are needed to serve as
camp staff for our

Boys Adventure Missions Camp

August 5-8, 2013 at Bambi Lake.

If you are available to serve or would like more information please call
Jimmy Jones at 248-343-6284 or email jimmy@bscm.org.

You may also contact Yolanda at 810-714-1907
or email Yolanda@bscm.org for more information or to request a
Camp Staff Application.

QUEST CAMP FOR KIDS

JULY 22-26, 2013

CAMP PASTOR: NATHAN NORMAN

CAMP MISSIONARY: MARGE LEWIS

WORSHIP LEADER: MATT FUGITT

COST: \$ 155.00

DAILY WORSHIP AND BIBLE STUDY

Plus. . .CRAFTS, GAMES, SWIMMING,

FISHING, DRAMA, "T" shirts, TALENT

NIGHT, NEW FRIENDS AND OLD

FRIENDS and so much more



***AT BAMBI LAKE BAPTIST CAMP
ROSCOMMON, MI***

THE FELLOWSHIP OF THE KING



*Come take a journey
with us and see where
God is leading.....*

Sign up for camp at www.register.bscm.org

This year's camp offering will go to Abundant Life Church in Iron Mountain and their backpack servant evangelism ministry.



Download Church Equipping Conference publicity

materials for your church at <http://CECdownloads.BSCM.org>.

DOWNLOADS

Church Equipping Conference
September 14, 2013
Cornerstone Baptist Church
Roseville, Michigan

POSTCARD

POWERPOINT

BULLETIN INSERT

POSTER

WORKSHOP

For more information and to register, go to www.churchequippingconference.com

Note that the Early Discounted Reservation deadline has been extended to June 11.

Church Equipping Conference



September 14, 2013
Cornerstone Baptist Church - Roseville, Michigan

WORKSHOP TOPICS

ADULT MINISTRY AND DISCIPLESHIP
CHILDHOOD MINISTRY
CHURCH ADMINISTRATION
AND COMMUNICATION
CHURCH HEALTH
CHURCH STARTING
EVANGELISM
MINISTRY AND LEADERSHIP
MISSIONS EDUCATION
AND MOBILIZATION
MUSIC AND WORSHIP
PRAYER
STUDENT (YOUTH) MINISTRY



FEATURING

DR JEFF IORG
GOLDEN GATE BAPTIST
THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY



For more information and to register, go to
www.ChurchEquippingConference.com

\$18 if registered by June 5, \$30 after June 5
Equipping every leader to advance God's kingdom



Early discounted registration has been extended to June 11.