

THE MINNESOTA-WISCONSIN BAPTIST



FALL
2018
Vol. 33, No. 3

IN THIS ISSUE

The importance of
disaster relief training
Page 3

TCMA summer
internship program
Page 5

Highlights from 2018
Pastors' Conference
Page 10

FIRST PERSON: '13
years ago, a church
took a chance on me'
Page 2

Truck driver who killed
Minneapolis family of
5 finds mercy
Page 11



MWBC AT SBC

Nearly 100 Minnesota-Wisconsin Baptist Convention people attended the Southern Baptist Convention's annual meeting in Dallas, June 12-14. Leo Endel, MWBC executive director, said the two-state convention may have had more messengers and guests at this SBC convention than ever before. From left to right, rear section: Melissa Springer, Paul Springer, Angela Tavernelli, Mark Millman, Lenard Tavernelli, Michael Indorf, Bonnie Indorf, Leo Endel, Sarah Endel, Derek Ambrosion, Carina Hill, Jackie Hill, Tra Xiong (Hmong National Baptist Association's executive director); front, NyiaChou Vang, Mycie Vue, Joe Young, Foua Young, Vabounmee Moua, Cindy Vang, Sheng Moua, Ya Vang, Mai Ngia, Washong Vue, Noah Hill, and Paeen Vue.

MWBC shows growth in giving and receiving

By David Williams

Rochester, Minn. – The Minnesota-Wisconsin Baptist Convention's financial picture is looking strong these days and Leo Endel, executive director, believes it is in response to prayer and sacrificial commitment to missions beyond their convention.

Financial reports show MWBC's Cooperative Program receipts from the churches are up significantly this year and the portion passed on to the Southern Baptist Convention is more than double the same period a year ago.

An SBC report shows that MWBC is leading all state conventions this year in the percentage increase of CP forwarded to the SBC.

"In the spring an audit confirmed that we had received about \$100,000 more in 2017 than we had budgeted," Endel said.

At their May meeting the Executive Board took action to use some of it to cover an urgent situation involving a church planter's funding, kept half of the rest for the MWBC church planting fund and sent the other half on to the SBC.

But that one-time extra gift is only part of



the increase the SBC has seen this year from the MWBC.

The rest is a combination of increased giving by the churches and an increase in the percentage forwarded to the SBC.

During the first six months of 2018, gifts from churches were 9 percent ahead of budget requirements.

"The convention made a commitment several years ago to increase our giving to the SBC by a half percent each year until we could reach our goal of passing 50 percent on to national causes," Endel said.

Even as they made that commitment, leaders realized that at that pace, it would take

MWBC more than half a century to reach the goal.

But MWBC has stepped up the pace, making dramatic strides in the past few years:

- 2015 – 17 percent to the SBC
- 2016 – 20 percent to the SBC
- 2017 – 22 percent to the SBC
- 2018 – 32 percent to the SBC

As leaders work to develop a proposed 2019 budget, they are hoping to include another healthy increase in the percentage passed on to the SBC, Endel said.

"We believe that God has blessed the MWBC because of our commitment to give to missions beyond ourselves," Endel said, adding that he believes God's blessing is also in response to the concerted prayer of the churches.

"At last year's annual meeting we pressed a major revitalization initiative to help our existing churches find greater strength and impact," he said.

"We kicked off the initiative with 40 Days of Prayer and the distribution of more than 6,500 prayer guides that were distributed by our

See CP gifts ... Page 9

13 years ago, a church took a chance on me

By Jacob Rock

Minneapolis – July marked the 13th anniversary of my ordination as a minister and installation as pastor of New Hope Baptist. Not only have I served the church longer than any other place of vocation, I have been a pastor longer than any other occupation in my life. I am so thankful to our great God for this opportunity and look forward to many more years in this calling. I remember asking Wayne Bandy (the director of missions at the time of my ordination) why the council chose to ordain someone like me, who had no experience or education. Wayne told me that the council agreed that although I lacked education and experience, I had potential.

Over the past 13 years I have participated in more than 100 baptisms and professions of faith, written around 1,000 sermons, preached to thousands of people at dozens of churches in several states, hosted over 2,000 people on mission trips and gone on three mission trips, completed four Bible college diplomas; two college degrees; three seminary degrees; and seven college certificates (I call myself a “re-purposed” high school dropout). I have witnessed several of our adult church members complete college and seminary degrees and teenagers go from high school volunteers to college graduates. I taught half a dozen classes for Midwestern Baptist Theological Seminary as a guest instructor, planted two churches and

sponsored a third, memorized 10 books of the Bible (OK, the 10 shortest books, but 10 books nonetheless), written dozens of songs for the church, served the city of Minneapolis as board chair of the Phillips West Neighborhood Organization, got married to a Proverbs 31 woman I met in church, and we have a son who loves Jesus. I know the previous paragraph may seem self-aggrandizing but that is not my intent. I bring those highlights up because 13 years ago a church and an ordination council took a chance on me. By the way, I truly believe it was a chance no other church or ordination council in the world would have taken. Because that chance was taken, I have been blessed to experience all these highlights and many, many more. For

this I say thank you! To God and to God’s people, thank you for giving me a chance. I also ask that each and every one of us would seek to see the potential in others. There are people in our churches who need chances, too. I want to put special emphasis on the main thing I have learned over the past 13 years –the mission is God’s and we just “work here” (the church could and/or would and/or should go on with or without any one of us). I have experienced our church survive seemingly impossible situations and persist despite the odds against her, many, many, many times. The church is indeed the Bride of Christ. He will protect and provide for her. Jesus Christ is our reason, resource, refuge, and redeemer.

The purpose of associations

What is the purpose of associations within the Southern Baptist Convention? I’d like to give a short summation of the roots of the local association and how it is a vital partner to our state and national conventions. Within the Southern Baptist Convention, there are three levels of partnership:

- Associations
- State conventions (such as the Minnesota-Wisconsin Baptist Convention)
- National convention (Southern Baptist Convention)

Local associations predate the larger

organizational structures. The first association in the modern era to employ an associational missionary was in 1653 when William Thomas was elected in a meeting at Swansea Church in Abergavenny. This they did “to establish the ancient order of things.” When these Baptists from England fled to America, they brought with them the pattern for associational missions. In 1707 the Philadelphia Association was organized. The Southern Baptists’ typical form of polity is congregationalist: each local church is autonomous without formal lines of responsibility to organizational

levels of higher authority. The convention is conceived as a cooperative association by which churches can pool resources rather than as a body with any administrative or ecclesiastical control over local churches. The SBC maintains a fraternal, cooperative relationship with 42 state and regional Baptist conventions covering all 50 states and territories of the United States. The SBC has 1,131 local associations. Local associations provide the most grass-roots organizational structure in Baptist life, promoting regular opportunities for fellowship, cooperative ministries, and partnership missions.

Because the SBC is so large (over 47,000 churches) and unable to have a close relationship with each of its churches, it has traditionally looked to local associations to determine the “Baptistic” identity of churches desiring to align with the Convention in its cooperative endeavors. Although state conventions are smaller than the SBC, they still rely upon the local associations for this important matter. *Steve Dyess is state missions catalyst for the Minnesota-Wisconsin Baptist Convention.*



MINISTRY

Steve Dyess



Give a helping hand

Join us for the 35th
MWBC ANNUAL MEETING
October 26-27, 2018
Southtown Baptist Church
Bloomington, Minnesota

Minnesota-Wisconsin Baptist Convention

LOCATION

Southtown Baptist Church
2600 W 82nd St
Bloomington, Minnesota

HOTEL

Holiday Inn Bloomington Airport South
1201 W 94th St
Bloomington, Minnesota
952-884-8211

ANNUAL MEETING SCHEDULE

Friday	11am—Registration Noon—Convention Prayer 1pm—Opening Session 5pm—Missions International Dinner 6:30pm—Evening Session
Saturday	8:30—Registration 9am—Morning Session

EVERYONE IS ENCOURAGED TO ATTEND

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION, GO TO WWW.MWBC.ORG OR CALL 507-282-3636.

THE MINNESOTA-WISCONSIN BAPTIST
519 16th St., SE Rochester, MN 55904
(USPS 012-645)
Leo Endel
Executive Director
David Williams
Editor

The Minnesota-Wisconsin Baptist, the official publication of the Minnesota-Wisconsin Baptist Convention, is published quarterly (4 times per year) for \$5.50 per year by the Minnesota-Wisconsin Baptist Convention, 519 16th St. SE, Rochester, MN 55904 in conjunction with Western Recorder Inc. Periodicals postage at Rochester, Minn., and additional mailing offices.

To subscribe: Send \$5.50 to the above address.

To register a change of address: Send the mailing label from page 1, along with your new address, to the above address.

POSTMASTER: Send address changes and form 3579 to Minnesota-Wisconsin Baptist at the above address.

To submit advertising: Contact the MWBC for rates and conditions. Publishing services provided by the Western Recorder Inc., Box 43969, Louisville, KY 40253.

The Minnesota-Wisconsin Baptist:

A quarterly Christian newsjournal with a focus on Minnesota-Wisconsin Baptists—their interests, churches and partners.

Is your church making news? Send news to David Williams, at davidwilliams@compuserve.com or P.O. Box 628, Liberty, TX 77575.

Has your church updated its subscription list? The Minnesota-Wisconsin Baptist is provided free of charge to all resident member families of churches related to the MWBC. Churches are responsible for updating their portion of our mailing list, maintained by Peter Michelson at the state convention office. Other people may subscribe for \$5.50 per year by sending payment to: Subscriptions, Minnesota-Wisconsin Baptist, 519 16th St. SE, Rochester, MN 55904.

Does your church have something to advertise? Advertising space at \$8 per column inch is available for meetings, products or services sponsored by MWBC churches and missions, the state convention and entities of the Southern Baptist Convention.

The big picture

If you found out today that you had less than six months to live, what would you do?

You might turn to your bucket list and attempt to live the dreams you intended to pursue. I get that, but I also imagine you'd begin to think seriously about what you really believe happens next.

PERSPECTIVES



Leo Endel

Will you simply just cease to exist? Will you face a higher power and give an account of your life? Will you go “to a better place” as many put it? I really believe that the Biblical explanation of life provides answers to the human story that make sense in the world we know. I don't believe that other philosophical or religious explanations make rational sense with what we see and experience. Not every road leads to Minneapolis; not every religious belief leads to heaven.

I've increasingly explained life through a summary diagram.

Creation: God created a good and perfect world. Within His creation He gave us the choice to either believe Him or not believe Him. Without a choice, we could never truly love God. He stacked the deck in our favor by giving us only one prohibition—don't eat from the tree of the

Life: The Big Picture

Where will you go from here?



knowledge of good and evil.

Fall: But mankind was drawn to that one prohibition and rebelled against God. This rebellion decimated God's good creation. Both we and our world were broken. We live today in a world where sin, pain, and death reign.

Law: God came to our rescue by providing the law to teach us right and wrong and to show us how best to live in this broken world. But we could never perfectly live the law. We can't even keep the Ten Commandments. Our minds are short circuited with lust, selfishness, lies, hatred, envy, pride, etc. We can't earn our way to heaven because heaven is perfect and we're not. We are hopelessly convicted by our own sin.

Redemption: BUT God came to this world in the person of Jesus, who lived a perfect life even in this broken world, and satisfied the justice of God (that sin/evil must be punished) with the love of God for all mankind. He took the punishment for our rebellion. He offers us forgiveness

for all our sins and failures. He rose from the grave declaring His power over death. Jesus has redeemed us; we simply believe Him and trust Him. We simply acknowledge His gift. In life or in death, we believe what He taught us and we trust Him.

New Creation: Jesus will return to this earth and bring an end to the brokenness and suffering of this world. He will create a new heaven and a new earth where those who believed in Him in this life will live eternally with Him. We will experience the bliss of living in a world that is not broken, but is an eternal blessing. There will be no more crying, no more pain, no more suffering. We will never rebel against Him again, for we will know beyond question the goodness of the Lord. We will be forever healed.

That's Life: The Big Picture. Where will you go from here? Will you trust Him today?

Leo Endel is executive director of the MWBC.

Fresh Ideas: Loving people in the workplace

For many of you, eight hours of your day is spent with the same people, five days a week at your work place.

FRESH IDEAS



Autumn Wall

Are you leveraging your time at work for the sake of the Kingdom? Many Christians desire to share Jesus with people around them but just don't know how.

It's much easier than we think to be a witness for Christ at work...it starts with knowing people.

As you look around your office today, how many of your coworkers do you really know? Here are a few ways you can be intentional to know those around you.

Know the simple things.

Do you know their spouse and kid's names?

Their birthdays? Favorite snacks?

Know the deep things.

What's their story? What are they passionate about? What makes them afraid?

Know the spiritual things.

What do they think about the church? Who do they say Jesus is? Do they have a Bible?

Know the personal things.

What do they do on their weekend? What makes them tick inside? What are they hurting over right now?

Know the random things.

What's their favorite sports team? What kind of music do they like? Are they an introvert or an extrovert?

Many of these things you can't learn just by listening to their phone calls. Take a coworker to

lunch and get to know them for real. You see, when we know people — really know them — we will see opportunities to minister to them that we otherwise would have missed. Is a holiday coming up? Does their family live out of state? Invite them to celebrate Thanksgiving with your family!

Do they love baseball? Do you have a team in your area? Buy tickets to go to a game with you.

Find ways to connect with your coworkers every day in the office to build relationship, then look for opportunities to take that relationship outside of office hours. Then, when you're at the Thanksgiving table or sitting at a baseball field, share Jesus with them!

Your workplace is a mission field to which you have been assigned and Ephesians 5:16 tells us to “make the most of every opportunity.” Will you be intentional to befriend those God has already put in your path and share Jesus with them this month?

Autumn Wall is an author, speaker, worship leader, pastor's wife and mother of three, living in Indianapolis.

Re-dreaming the dream

Fifty-five years ago, Aug. 28, 1963, Martin Luther King, Jr. took his place on the steps of the Lincoln Memorial and addressed a crowd of 250,000. His name is permanently linked with the Civil Rights movement.

REFLECTIONS



Bill Tinsley

Boulevards, schools and institutions are named for him. But Martin Luther King, Jr. was first and foremost a Baptist preacher. His words that day, and the non-violent actions he adopted grew out of his faith.

When he announced, “I have a dream,” it was a dream that sprang from Scripture and the teachings of Jesus. Inspiring a generation to correct past

wrongs, he exhorted, “In the process of gaining our rightful place we must not be guilty of wrongful deeds. Let us not seek to satisfy our thirst for freedom by drinking from the cup of bitterness and hatred.”

“I have a dream that one day my four little children will live in a nation where they will not

be judged by the color of their skin but by the content of their character,” he said. “I have a dream that one day every valley will be exalted, every hill and mountain shall be made low. The rough places will be made plain and the crooked places will be made straight. And the glory of the Lord shall be revealed, and all flesh shall see it together. . . . With this faith we will be able to hew out of the mountain of despair a stone of hope. With this faith we will be able to transform the jangling discords of our nation into a beautiful symphony of brotherhood.”

King's words need to be heard again. The Bible is a dreamer's book. God is always inviting us to a new dream that transcends prejudice, suspicion and resentment. Abraham's story begins with a vision and a dream: to leave his home in Mesopotamia so that God can make him a blessing to the nations. (Genesis 12:1-3). Jacob's life is transformed in a dream at Bethel where he saw angels ascending and descending from Heaven.

God told him, “In you and your descendants shall all the families of the earth be blessed.” (Genesis 28:14). Peter's vision at Joppa changed his

opinion regarding other ethnicities.

He said, “I certainly understand now that God is not one to show partiality, but in every nation the man who fears him and does what is right is welcome to Him.” (Acts 10:34-35).

Paul the Apostle was a devout Jew when he was young. He had little use for Gentiles and was a zealous Pharisee. But a vision of Christ changed all of that. He later devoted his life to reaching people of all nations with the message of God's love in Christ. In a world and a time known for its prejudice, violence, slavery and sexual abuse he wrote, “There is neither Jew nor Greek, slave nor free man, there is neither male nor female, for you are all one in Christ Jesus.”

Prejudice, discrimination, resentment and violence are enemies that never die. Every generation must re-dream the dream and seek God's vision to overcome these destructive forces.

Bill Tinsley is a former executive director of the Minnesota-Wisconsin Baptist Convention. Published in various local newspapers around the country, his column “reflects” on current events and life experiences from a faith perspective.

TCMBA summer internship program

By Jude Reinertson

Minneapolis – The inaugural debut of the Twin Cities Metro Baptist Association’s church summer internship program was a great success. Six churches hosted ten college students for a three-month internship to learn more about ministry, experience hands-on leadership, experiment with problem solving and figure out what God is calling them to do.

Pastor Chris Reinertson of Southtown Baptist in Bloomington, Minn., and Pastor Bob Smith of Jacob’s Well in Minneapolis began brainstorming this idea a year ago. They worked together to create an application for churches to apply to be hosting churches as well as college-age students to apply to be interns. Reinertson got the word out to TCMBA churches in January about the opportunity, and Smith began fundraising to supplement the salaries. Each church was required to participate financially as well as provide a supervisor and a detailed job description.

The interns were paid a stipend for their three-month commitment: 1/3 from the church, 1/3 from TCMBA and 1/3 from outside fundraising. Each church determined the hours and job description for their intern(s). The entire group of interns and supervisors met in June to kick it off and again in July for a mid-way recap. During this time the supervisor and intern also set goals to meet at least once a week to read through and discuss 1 Timothy, “The Baptist Faith & Message” and the book “Deep & Wide” by Andy Stanley.

At the July large-group meeting, Chris Reinertson shared Ephesians 5 about “submission” and explained this is not about a hierarchy but more about how we need to out “one-another” to each person we come in contact with. They discussed how to be filled with the Spirit and live as wise, not unwise. Each intern then shared their highlight so far in their internship experience. Responses ranged from discipling



Left to right, Anikka Reinertson, Pastor Chris Reinertson of Southtown Church, and Matthew Racine.

kids and seeing fruit to transformation of lives during mission trips, camps and Vacation Bible School. One intern learned how to do social media and technical audio visual skills. Another came from a very large church in the south and was serving now at a very small church in the suburbs, so he better understood that programs do not define a church.

Reinertson also challenged the student interns and supervisors to share their daily, weekly, and monthly strategy for staying close and intimate with Christ. As seasoned pastors, the supervisors know the distractions of ministry life can easily weigh them down. In just a couple of months, the interns also felt this weight for the first time as they were given more responsibility in church leadership. They each shared ideas such as daily being in the Word, having a mentor, encouraging each other, spending time with unchurched, and journaling.

Because of the positive feedback from



These are some of the interns and supervisors in Twin Cities Metro Baptist Association’s internship program this summer. Lily Weiner, left, and Pastor Scot Mendenhall of Unlock Church.



Six churches participated and there were ten interns who worked during the three-month internship.

Left to right, Brenna Ledesma, Jacob Smith, and Pastor Bob Smith of Jacob’s Well.

both the churches and the interns, the goal is to increase participation for 2019. For more information, contact Reinertson, who also serves as TCMBA director of missions.

Participating churches were Calvary Church (supervisor Ben Bolin; interns Aron Yingling and Keegan Yingling); Crystal Lake Baptist (supervisor Phil Smith; intern

Joseph Dawson); Jacob’s Well (supervisor Bob Smith; interns Jacob Smith, Madeline Smith, and Brenna Ledesma); Northwood Church (supervisor Jon Dack; intern Kaylei vonFelden); Southtown Church (supervisor Chris Reinertson; interns Anikka Reinertson and Matthew Racine); Unlock Church (supervisor Scot Mendenhall; intern Lily Weiner).



CELEBRATING FIVE YEARS

Calvary Church of New Prague, Minn., gathers for a group photo during their fifth anniversary celebration on June 3. Ben Bolin is pastor.



Give a helping hand

**Disaster Relief
Church Revitalization
Hands of Hope
Pastoral & Church Emergencies
Among National Baptist Assoc.
African American Leadership
Church Emergency
Burrell-Littleford Building Grants
Pastors & Wives Retreat**

State Missions Offering

give online at mwbc.org

Minnesota-Wisconsin Baptist Convention



STANDING STONES HOSTS 450 CAMPERS

Half of the 450 students attending this year's Standing Stones Camp at Hannibal-LaGrange University in Hannibal, Mo., this summer were from the Minnesota-Wisconsin Baptist Convention. The theme of the July 15-21 camp was "Now What?", based on 1 Peter 4:10-11.

MWBC Pastors & Wives Holy Land Trip

**10 Day Biblical Tour
January 22-31, 2019**

Limited Space available

Price from Chicago
\$1695 for the pastor
\$1895 for their wife

For more information contact Judith Sagen, judithsagen@gmail.com
or go online to RegisterNow.ittworld.com, enter the code: Endel19
Pastors must be ordained and cannot have traveled on one
of the previous trips. This is the final pastor tour MWBC will sponsor.

Churches, please consider blessing your pastor by paying for this trip.
Approximately 50 of our churches have already sent their pastors.
These tours are offered at a greatly reduced price to bless pastors and churches.
This spiritual experience will impact him and you!

The Mt. of Olives

SBC ANNUAL MEETING 2018: Greear, Pence, #MeToo draw SBC's focus

by David Roach

DALLAS — At an annual meeting that saw what chief parliamentarian Barry McCarty called an “extra heavy volume of business” on its opening day, the Southern Baptist Convention elected J.D. Greear as convention president and heard an address by Vice President Mike Pence.

Amid the national #MeToo movement, messengers to the June 12-13 SBC annual meeting in Dallas affirmed the dignity and worth of women and heard reports of policies SBC seminaries have enacted to address any allegations of sexual abuse and misconduct. Several motions and messenger questions related to the May 30 firing of former Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary president Paige Patterson, who allegedly mishandled a 2003 report of sexual assault at Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary during his presidency there.

The unofficial messenger registration total of 9,637 was up 92 percent from last year's 5,015 in Phoenix and marked the highest total since 2010. Messengers presented 20 motions during two 15-minute slots for the introduction of new motions. In addition, messengers attempted to amend reports and recommendations and raised points of order.

McCarty told Baptist Press “the Committee on Order of Business, parliamentarians and attorneys had to work double time to process the high volume of motions. But the real pressure came in correctly handling a couple of complex and controversial motions,” including one to remove trustees from office at Southwestern.

Greear elected

Greear, pastor of The Summit Church in Raleigh-Durham, N.C., received 68.62 percent of the vote for president. Ken Hemphill, a North Greenville University administrator and former Southwestern Seminary president, received 31.19 percent.

At a press conference following his election, Greear said his priorities as president will include Gospel focus, diversity, evangelism, church planting, collegiate ministry and engaging younger Baptists in the SBC's cooperative mission. He also said women should “sit at the seats of influence” in the convention and that Southern Baptist entities and churches must be “safe places for women to report abuse.”

Pence

Pence's June 13 address called Southern Baptists to pray for America and commended the SBC as “one of the greatest forces for good” in the world. The vice president drew multiple standing ovations as he spoke of the sanctity of human life and Israel among other issues.

Prior to Pence's appearance, messengers made two motions to amend the convention's agenda to exclude the vice president's address. The first attempt was defeated by messenger vote, and the second was ruled out of order because the convention had already dealt with the issue.

Two motions referred to the Executive Committee sought to prevent political leaders from addressing future SBC annual meetings. A point of order Wednesday



Above, messengers voted on 20 motions and 16 resolutions at the 2018 SBC Annual Meeting this summer in Dallas. Photos by Van Payne

expressing opposition to Pence's address was ruled “not well taken” by the chair.

Women & abuse

Two resolutions addressed the dignity and protection of women: one “on the dignity and worth of women on the one hundredth anniversary of women as messengers to the Southern Baptist Convention” and another “on abuse.”

Two motions on protecting churches from sexual predators were referred to the Executive Committee, as was a motion asking the EC to study biblical authority for a woman to serve as SBC president.

All six SBC seminary presidents addressed the issue of sexual abuse and misconduct during their reports.

Two seminary presidents —Chuck Kelley of New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary and R. Albert Mohler Jr. of Southern Baptist Theological Seminary —said the institutions they lead believe the Bible's teaching on gender precludes women from service in some faculty roles, although women hold teaching and

administrative roles at both seminaries. Kelley said women do not serve as preaching professors at New Orleans Seminary, and Mohler said women do not serve as professors in the School of Theology at Southern.

During the Ethics & Religious Liberty Commission report, ERLC President Russell Moore announced the ERLC will partner with LifeWay Research to conduct a study on the extent of abuse in churches.

Beyond the convention floor, a panel discussion in the SBC exhibit hall considered “sexual abuse in the church” and the ERLC sponsored a panel discussion on “Gospel sexuality in a #MeToo culture.”

Southwestern Seminary

In the wake of Patterson's termination at Southwestern and his June 8 withdrawal from preaching the convention sermon, interim Southwestern Seminary president Jeffrey Bingham said his “priority is to create a safe environment and a campus culture that protects and cares for the victims of abuse.”

He also expressed confidence in the seminary's trustee executive committee, the body that fired Patterson after the full board had shifted him to president emeritus status the previous week.

Some messengers, however, apparently felt the trustee executive committee overstepped its bounds. Following debate on the convention floor, messengers defeated a motion that would have removed all trustee executive committee members from the board immediately.

A separate motion was referred to Southwestern asking the full board to reconsider Patterson's firing.

Southwestern trustee Kie Bowman — who does not serve on the trustee executive committee —was this year's alternate convention preacher and delivered the convention sermon after Patterson withdrew.

ERLC motions

Two actions by messengers dealt with the ERLC. A motion was defeated to defund the ERLC by shifting its portion of the 2018-19 Cooperative Program Allocation Budget to the International Mission Board.

Later, ERLC trustee chairman Trevor Atwood moved that the Committee on Nominations' report be amended to grant trustee Dan Anderson a second term, which the committee had proposed to deny him. Messengers approved Atwood's amendment before adopting the Committee on Nominations report.

Diversity

Southern Baptists elected to committees, boards and other leadership positions included women and members of ethnic minority groups. First Vice President A.B. Vines is African American, and Second

See SBC 2018 gifts ... Page 10



2018 MWBC COOPERATIVE PROGRAM REPORT/STATE MISSION OFFERING REPORT



CP - Cooperative Program
AA - Annie Armstrong Easter Offering

CHURCH NAME.....	CP	AA*
BAY LAKES BAPTIST ASSOCIATION		
Amherst, Amherst Bible Church	\$300.00	\$0.00
Appleton, Appleton Hmong	\$3,928.50	\$5,436.00
Appleton, Hmong Baptist Mission	\$447.83	\$50.00
Appleton, Valley	\$20,776.24	\$6,020.00
Ashland, Eagle Wings Fellowship	\$50.00	\$25.00
Black Creek, Community Bible C	\$2,731.00	\$2,485.25
Clintonville, First Baptist Church	\$1,086.75	\$810.23
Green Bay, Bethel	\$666.66	\$0.00
Green Bay, Graceway Fellowship	\$3,907.89	\$1,256.75
Green Bay, Highland Crest	\$43,376.01	\$1,600.00
Manitowoc, New Beginnings	\$114.00	\$361.00
Neenah, Living Vine Church	\$885.24	\$798.00
Sheboygan, Mapledale Baptist C	\$1,829.83	\$297.00
Tilleda, Bethany Baptist Church	\$983.00	\$350.00
Waupaca, Fellowship Baptist Ch	\$898.39	\$0.00
BLBA TOTAL	\$81,981.34	\$19,489.23

SOUTHERN WISCONSIN ASSOCIATION		
Janesville, Resonate Church	\$2,270.07	\$0.00
La Crosse, New Hope	\$250.00	\$80.00
La Crosse, Three Rivers Fellows	\$1,179.00	\$0.00
Madison, Campus Community Ch	\$600.00	\$0.00
Madison, Casa De Oracion	\$73.00	\$0.00
Madison, East Madison Baptist	\$3,052.00	\$290.00
Madison, Hope In Christ Assembl	\$1,383.87	\$272.00
Madison, Midvale Baptist Church	\$6,410.15	\$1,590.00
Madison, Red Village	\$5,000.00	\$0.00
Madison, Sovereign Joy Baptist	\$971.68	\$2,069.15
Muscoda, Blue River Valley	\$721.71	\$100.00
Platteville, Rolling Hills	\$2,308.84	\$0.00
Portage, River of Life	\$1,085.26	\$656.40
Reedsburg, Trinity Baptist Churc	\$8,500.04	\$0.00
Richland Center, Heartland Chur	\$0.00	\$0.00
Sparta, Gospel Baptist Church	\$1,893.21	\$732.50
Sun Prairie, United Hmong	\$1,336.51	\$0.00
Whitehall, Mision Bautista Hispa	\$272.50	\$0.00
WI Dells, Rock of Hope	\$1,878.28	\$344.71
WI Rapids, Church at Wazeecha	\$1,756.12	\$750.00
WI Rapids, First Baptist Church	\$250.00	\$0.00
SWBA TOTAL	\$41,192.24	\$6,884.76

LAKELAND BAPTIST ASSOCIATION		
Bassett, Westosha Baptist Churc	\$1,004.00	\$800.00
Brown Deer, Brown Deer Baptist	\$0.00	\$1,036.00
Greenfield, Layton Avenue Baptis	\$8,343.15	\$2,918.00
Kenosha, Fellowship Baptist Chu	\$12,497.02	\$6,471.00

Kenosha, Missio Dei Fellowship	\$4,087.00	\$9,154.00
Kenosha, Parkside Baptist Churc	\$3,737.60	\$2,957.40
Milwaukee, Ephesians Baptist Ch	\$961.50	\$835.00
Milwaukee, Ethnos Church	\$1,580.36	\$0.00
Milwaukee, Grace Point Commun	\$230.04	\$0.00
Milwaukee, Iglesia Bautista Nuev	\$310.00	\$0.00
Milwaukee, Korean Baptist Churc	\$900.00	\$0.00
Milwaukee, Mercy Memorial	\$400.00	\$99.00
Milwaukee, Monumental Baptist	\$1,683.00	\$620.00
Milwaukee, Mt Horeb Baptist Chu	\$450.00	\$100.00
Milwaukee, Mt Pilgrim Miss.	\$1,200.00	\$0.00
Milwaukee, Northwest Baptist Ch	\$5,335.99	\$0.00
Pewaukee, Crossroads Church	\$2,345.41	\$0.00
Pl. Prairie, Pleasant Prairie Bapti	\$3,415.00	\$1,847.00
Racine, Hope Commnuity Church	\$3,401.48	\$1,394.00
Racine, Immanuel	\$5,419.19	\$2,185.00
LBA TOTAL	\$57,300.74	\$30,416.40

TWIN CITIES METRO ASSOCIATION		
Amery, First Baptist	\$10,800.00	\$2,867.00
Bloomington, Southtown Baptist	\$6,686.30	\$2,450.00
Brooklyn Park, Ebenezer Commu	\$300.00	\$0.00
Brooklyn Park, North Center Bapt	\$1,270.59	\$230.00
Brooklyn Park, Vietnamese Baptis	\$360.00	\$0.00
Burnsville, Church of the Way	\$400.00	\$100.00
Burnsville, Crystal Lake Road	\$0.00	\$430.00
Burnsville, Richfield Bible Churc	\$2,700.00	\$0.00
Coon Rapids, First Hmong	\$750.00	\$0.00
Eden Prairie, Hope of Nations Fel	\$127.66	\$120.00
Edina, Grace in the City	\$1,759.38	\$0.00
Elk River, Glory of Christ	\$1,235.00	\$0.00
Fridley, Good News Hmong	\$250.00	\$0.00
Maple Grove, Northwood Commu	\$1,000.02	\$0.00
Maple Grove, Unlock Church	\$2,533.82	\$0.00
Minneapolis, Gracepoint Minnea	\$600.00	\$0.00
Minneapolis, Jacob's Well Dinkyt	\$1,849.29	\$150.00
Minneapolis, Risen Church	\$1,471.45	\$0.00
Monticello, First Baptist Church	\$687.46	\$550.00
New Prague, Calvary Church	\$10,643.74	\$0.00
Northfield, Northfield Community	\$6,506.23	\$0.00
Oakdale, Eternal Life Hmong	\$1,476.00	\$0.00
Oakdale, Gospel Hmong	\$473.88	\$0.00
Red Wing, Acts 2 Fellowship	\$0.00	\$3.72
Roseville, Iglesia Bautista Nueva	\$250.00	\$0.00
Roseville, Roseville Baptist Chur	\$3,200.00	\$1,927.00
Shakopee, River South Bible Chu	\$3,350.64	\$0.00
St. Louis Park, First Ukrainian Ev	\$0.00	\$300.00
St. Paul, Followers Of Christ Hm	\$1,367.00	\$0.00
St. Paul, Hmong Hope Communit	\$250.00	\$0.00
St. Paul, Hope of Nations Gospel	\$333.56	\$58.00
St. Paul, Iglesia Hispana Betel	\$450.00	\$573.00

St. Paul, Kang Nam Korean Chur	\$300.00	\$310.00
St. Paul, Salt City Church	\$10,522.59	\$0.00
St. Paul, Twin City Hmong	\$1,050.00	\$605.00
Sunfish Lake, Bethel Baptist Chu	\$3,600.00	\$1,758.00
TCMBA TOTAL	\$78,554.61	\$12,431.72

NORTHWOODS BAPTIST ASSOCIATION		
Badger, Badger Baptist Church	\$516.59	\$0.00
Brainerd, Ch on the Wise Rd	\$699.00	\$672.00
Breezy Point, Eagles Nest	\$2,123.50	\$0.00
Cambridge, Cross Pointe Church	\$1,500.00	\$1,989.00
Crookston, Prairie Community C	\$3,738.75	\$71.97
Ely, Berean Baptist	\$420.00	\$0.00
Grand Rapids, Calvary Pines Bap	\$1,233.66	\$100.00
Grand Rapids, Grand Rapids Bap	\$50.93	\$0.00
Hill City, Hill City Baptist Church	\$300.00	\$0.00
Rice Lake, Hope Baptist Church	\$1,952.00	\$1,575.00
Roseau, Immanuel Baptist Churc	\$917.60	\$0.00
Superior, Lake Point Church	\$387.92	\$0.00
Thief River Falls, Cornerstone	\$250.00	\$0.00
Warroad, Westside Baptist	\$184.55	\$0.00
NWBA TOTAL	\$14,274.50	\$4,407.97

PIONEER/WESTERN ASSOCIATIONS		
Austin, Austin Baptist Church	\$362.40	\$50.00
Austin, Primera Iglesia Bautista	\$918.43	\$0.00
Chester, Chester Woods Commu	\$857.51	\$0.00
Mankato, Hope Baptist Church	\$724.52	\$100.00
Marshall, Radiant Life Church	\$2,063.09	\$570.00
Red Wing, Hiawatha Valley Bapti	\$0.00	\$30.00
Rochester, Emmanuel Baptist Ch	\$8,857.64	\$3,380.00
Rochester, Joyful Hope Baptist C	\$60.00	\$0.00
Rochester, Rochester Hmong Ba	\$1,291.00	\$1,008.00
Sartell, Park Fellowship	\$2,909.92	\$0.00
Viola, Viola Bible Church	\$1,455.70	\$620.00
Willmar, Grace Baptist Church	\$50.00	\$0.00
Winona, Cornerstone Community	\$3,333.77	\$2,506.50
PWBA TOTAL	\$22,883.98	\$8,264.50

NO ASSOCIATIONAL AFFILIATION		
Eau Claire, Jacob's Well	\$4,500.00	\$0.00
Eau Claire, One in Christ Church	\$1,981.93	\$715.00
Grantsburg, Living Hope Church	\$0.00	\$520.00
OTHER TOTAL	\$6,481.93	\$1,235.00

TOTAL	\$302,669.34	\$83,129.58
--------------------	---------------------------	--------------------

* Annie Armstrong Receipts July 2017 thru June 2018

NOTE: No giving has been received from MWBC-affiliated churches not listed above.

CP gifts

Continued from page 1

churches to their members. I cannot help but believe that God is responding to our prayers.”

Endel said a new 40 Days of Prayer booklet is being developed and will be ready to distribute at this year’s annual meeting.

This year’s booklet will be written by 40 MWBC pastors and leaders.

“We thank God for His gracious

provision, and we pray that we may be wise stewards who faithfully and powerfully bring glory to Christ here in Minnesota and Wisconsin,” Endel said.

Julie Sundeen, MWBC executive assistant and office manager, reports that gifts from the churches through the Cooperative Program from January through June of this year reached \$302,669, up nearly six percent over the same period last year when gifts totaled \$285,538.

Receipts as of June 30 were \$25,669 ahead of budget requirements. (See the financial statement above, page 9)

Meanwhile, William Townes, vice-president for convention finance for the Executive Committee of the Southern Baptist Convention, released a nine-month report for October 2017 through June 2018 that shows MWBC has passed on to the SBC \$184,239 through the CP, compared with \$83,961 for the same period the previous year, an increase of 119.44 percent.

That increase includes the special one-time gift of about \$45,000 from the 2017 surplus.

During the same periods, MWBC’s designated gifts increased 41.03 percent,

from \$175,270 to \$247,185.

Designated gifts include Lottie Moon Christmas Offering, Annie Armstrong Easter Offering, World Hunger Offering and other designated items.

For October 2017 through June 2018, MWBC’s gifts to Lottie Moon totaled \$165,215 (up from \$117,927 the previous year) and gifts to Annie Armstrong totaled \$78,105 (up from \$53,950 the previous year).

2018 PASTORS' CONFERENCE

With the theme "Fulfill Your Ministry," the Southern Baptist Convention's Pastors' Conference speakers sought to encourage and inspire pastors with their messages. Pastors also elected Danny Wood, senior pastor of Shades Mountain Baptist Church in Birmingham, Ala., as president of the conference, held in conjunction with the SBC's annual meeting in Dallas June 12-13.



“
**God is more concerned
 about the church house
 than the White House.
 Until the church is right,
 He won't fix our society.**
 ”

*Tony Evans,
 pastor of Oak Cliff Bible
 Fellowship in Dallas*



“
**It will build your faith, it will light your
 path, it will feed your soul, time cannot
 age it, the ages cannot time it, it's the
 only book that's ever read you. ... Not only
 is the Word alive and enduring, but when
 you get the Word in you it sustains you.**
 ”

*Charlie Dates,
 pastor of Progressive Baptist Church in Chicago*

“
**It makes no difference whether they
 are Jew or Greek, whether Black or
 White, rich or poor, whether young
 or old, Democrat or Republican,
 immigrant or citizen, refugee or
 diplomat. The same Lord is Lord over
 all who calls upon His name. That
 confession makes us unstoppable.**
 ”

*J.D. Greear,
 pastor of The Summit Church in
 Raleigh-Durham, N.C. and SBC president*



“
**"We haven't seen a
 lot of winning from
 the Cowboys lately,
 but we had some
 big wins (at Harvest
 America crusade) as
 thousands of people
 came to faith in Jesus
 Christ.**
 ”

*Jack Graham,
 pastor of Prestonwood
 Baptist Church in Dallas*



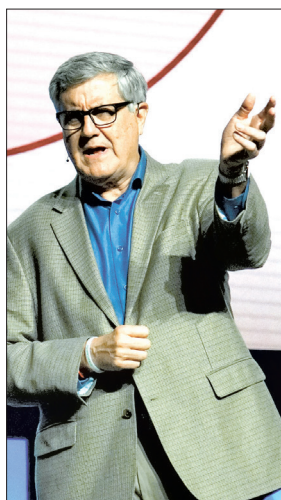
“
**There is nothing sweeter,
 nothing better and nothing
 greater than the Gospel.
 Hollywood can make you
 famous. Wall Street can make
 you rich. Washington can
 make you powerful. ... But
 only the Gospel can get you
 saved.**
 ”

*James Merritt,
 pastor of Cross Pointe Church in
 Duluth, Ga.*



“
**We need to have
 thick skins and soft
 hearts," which includes
 forgiveness and grace
 toward critics. "We are not
 meant to be isolated. ...
 Connect.**
 ”

*Juan Sanchez,
 pastor of High Pointe Baptist
 Church in Austin, Texas, and presi-
 dent of the Southern Baptists of
 Texas Convention*



“
**Forgive them.
 That's my whole
 sermon. When
 you forgive
 your critics,
 you've already
 survived them.**
 ”

*Ray Pritchard,
 president of Keep
 Believing Ministries,
 Dallas*



continued to promote a partnership with personal finance author and speaker Dave Ramsey to help teach believers principles of biblical stewardship. Ramsey addressed the SBC annual meeting Tuesday and participated in the president's panel on stewardship Wednesday.

—Interim EC president D. August Boto reported that despite numerous indicators of health in the SBC, there are also causes for concern. A “simple” remedy that would yield “gigantic” increases in Cooperative Program receipts and souls won to Christ would be for every Southern Baptist to witness and tithe, he said.

—Texas Gov. Greg Abbott greeted annual meeting attendees, thanking Southern Baptists for their prayers and support following a shooting at Santa Fe (Texas) High School last month, Hurricane Harvey last year and the Sutherland Springs shooting.

—Recording Secretary John Yeats and Registration Secretary Don Currence both were reelected without opposition. (BP)

SBC 2018

Continued from page 8

Vice President Felix Cabrera is Hispanic.

Of the Committee on Nominations' nominees elected to committees and boards, 12.6 percent were non-Anglo. Forty-three percent of the nominees not serving in pastoral roles were women.

Of the Committee on Committees' nominees elected to next year's Committee on Nominations, 21 percent were non-Anglo and 28 percent were women.

A resolution adopted by messengers denounced the so-called “curse of Ham” sometimes used “as a justification for racism.”

IMB

At a Tuesday evening commissioning service, the IMB sent out 79 new missionaries and led messengers in prayer for all 11,700 people groups in the world.

During the IMB report, president David Platt urged Southern Baptists to focus on

the work of missionaries on the field rather than the board's search for his successor as he transitions back to local church ministry. Missionaries “are the IMB,” he said.

NAMB

The North American Mission Board report included presentation of a report by a disciple-making task force appointed two years ago by NAMB and LifeWay Christian Resources.

In addition, NAMB President Kevin Ezell reported that the board's church plants are healthy and effective overall, with plants 67 percent ahead of established churches in their attendance-to-baptism ratio.

In other news:

—Southern Baptists memorialized the mass shooting last summer at First Baptist Church in Sutherland Springs, Texas, that left 26 worship attendees dead. First Baptist pastor Frank Pomeroy spoke at the June 10-11 SBC Pastors' Conference, and his wife Sherri addressed the June 11 Pastors' Wives Conference. The Pomeroyes also appeared at NAMB's June 11 Send Luncheon.

—An evangelism task force appointed last year by outgoing SBC President Steve Gaines presented a report that included eight recommendations to help Southern Baptists at all levels of convention life become more effective in evangelism.

—The 38 resolutions submitted to the Resolutions Committee marked the highest total since 1997. The 16 resolutions adopted by the convention addressed sexual purity among Christian leaders, gun violence and the proper use of social media among other topics.

—The Crossover evangelism emphasis preceding the annual meeting yielded a record 4,229 professions of faith, including 2,339 at the June 10 Harvest America crusade with evangelist Greg Laurie.

—Gaines, in his presidential address, encouraged Southern Baptists to renew their belief in the supernatural God.

“God's supernatural power is greater than any problem Southern Baptists have.... Stop talking about how big your problem is and start talking about how big your God is,” Gaines said.

—The SBC Executive Committee

PREACHING FOR THE KINGDOM

John Adolph, pastor of Antioch Missionary Baptist Church in Beaumont, Texas, preaches during a session at the annual Kingdom Growth Conference in Milwaukee. The event was May 8-10 at Jericho Church Without Walls. Some of the other guest speakers were Marcus Allen, pastor of Mount Zion Baptist Church in Madison, Wis.; Julius Malone, pastor of New Testament Church in Milwaukee; Leo Endel, Minnesota-Wisconsin Baptist Convention executive director; and Clint Calvert, MWBC church leadership catalyst.



Trucker who killed Minneapolis family of 5 finds mercy

by David Roach

OGALLALA, Neb. — A grieving father’s Scripture-laden plea for mercy led to a lenient 180-day jail sentence for the truck driver who killed a missionary family of five in a 2016 auto crash.

Cedric Pals told Keith County (Neb.) District Judge Richard Birch he has experienced “unrelenting anguish” since learning July 31, 2016, that his son, Jamison Pals, had been killed along with his wife, Kathrynne, both 29, and their three children, Ezra, 3; Violet 2; and Calvin, 2 months.

But “in spite of the anguish, there were other words that came to me — words like forgiveness, mercy and hope,” Pals said according to the Keith County News.

Tony Weekly, 55, pleaded no contest to six felony counts of vehicular homicide for slamming his semi into the Pals’ Dodge minivan in an Interstate 80 construction zone while distracted by a jumbo drink and talking on his hands-free phone.



Truck driver Tony Weekly, 55, of Florida, received a 180-day sentence for the deaths of six people in a 2016 crash in Nebraska.

The crash also killed Terry Sullivan, 56, of Denver, who was driving a separate vehicle.

At the time of the crash, Jamison and Kathrynne Pals were on their way home to Minneapolis from a missionary training in Denver and preparing to serve as missionaries in Japan. They were part of Bethlehem Baptist Church in Minneapolis, the congregation pastored for many years

by author and speaker John Piper. Bethlehem cooperates with the Baptist General Conference.

Citing the Model Prayer’s petition for God to “forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors” (Matthew 6:12), Cedric Pals told Weekly in court July 20, “I can honestly say, Tony, both families have forgiven you. I know how much God’s forgiven me. How could I not forgive you?”

“In Luke 6, Jesus says, ‘Be merciful, just as your Father in heaven is merciful,’” Pals said, according to the Keith County News. “I am not in a position of authority to extend mercy to you, Tony. However, I can request mercy for you.” Then he turned to the judge and requested mercy.

Pals added, “Were it not for hope, I do not believe I would be in this life anymore. The grief is real, but it is temporary. The hope is just as real, but it is eternal.... I’ll just leave you with those three words: forgiveness, mercy and hope.”

Family members, jail inmates in court that day and other attendees wiped tears

from their eyes as Pals spoke, The North Platte Telegraph reported.

Despite the prosecutor’s request for a two- to three-year prison sentence, Birch sentenced Weekly to 180 days, including 30 days already served, and two years of probation for each victim.

The judge said he gave significant weight to the family’s wishes.

Weekly told the court he has spent every day since the crash thinking about the suffering he caused. Some days, he said, “I can’t go to work,” according to The Telegraph.

After the sentencing, Weekly and Pals hugged outside the courtroom, The Telegraph reported.

Cedric Pals’ wife Kathy told media she was comfortable with the sentence. “I think the suffering of knowing that you killed six people is enough,” she said, according to the Telegraph.

Weekly began his prison sentence Aug. 3. (BP)



TRAINING LEADERS

Tra Xiong, executive director of the Hmong National Baptist Association, shares a meal with men during his April mission trip. Xiong reports they trained 130 leaders and pastors from North Vietnam and South Vietnam and ordained 11 ministers.

GOOD NEWS FROM THE ASSOCIATIONS

Southern Wisconsin

Mark Millman

- Doxa Church launched in Madison in May with more than 50 attending the first meeting. Rob Warren is pastor. Team members have moved from Iowa and Ohio to be part of the launch team. The church plant is part of the Salt Network, a church planting network based in Cornerstone Church of Ames, Iowa.

- On Sunday, July 8, Casa de Oracion (House of Prayer) Church in Madison said goodbye to Pastor Gonzalo Quezada who planted the church several years ago and welcomed their new pastor, Juan Carlos Morales, who joined the church with his family earlier this year. The Quezada family is moving to Houston. (See bottom photo)

- Pastor James Walls and four other members of First Baptist in Charlestown, Ind., met with SWBA church planters during a July 10-11 vision tour in Waterloo, Madison and Wisconsin Dells. The church hopes to partner with SWBA in church planting efforts.

- Jairo and Maria Martinez, along with their daughter Valentina, have moved from Hammond, La., to Waterloo to help reach the many Spanish speaking people there. Over the last three years Martinez started a church in Hammond. They will be working with Cornerstone Church in Waterloo where Aaron Sturgill is pastor.

- A mission team from Burnt Hickory Baptist Church in Powder Springs, Ga., helped Resonate Church in Janesville for a week this summer by doing ministry and outreach activities in their community. Jesse Beernink planted the Janesville church last fall.

- Peter Ko with Livingstone Baptist Church of Madison hosted a team of 20 from a Richmond, Calif., church. The team shared the gospel on the University of Wisconsin-Madison campus and conducted a Vacation Bible School.

- Three congregations have recently combined to form Antioch International Church, averaging 100 a week as they meet in the facilities of Midvale Baptist Church. Tekeste Beyreyohanes is pastor. The church has expressed interest in becoming part of SWBA and the Southern Baptist Convention.

- SWBA's Sept. 6 quarterly meeting will feature training on visionary leadership led by Tommy Kinchen, president of the Baptist College of Florida. The 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. meeting will be at Resonate Church in Janesville and participants will see renovation of the church's facilities that have taken place over the past two years.



A team from Selma, Ala., above, came north to finish rebuilding the roof at Calvary Pines Baptist Church in Cohasset.



Left, leaders offer a prayer of dedication for Juan Carlos Morales, seated, new pastor of Casa de Oracion. Left to right are Jairo Martinez, Gonzalo Quezada (outgoing pastor), Eric Hernandez, and Mark Millman, Southern Wisconsin Baptist Association's church planting catalyst.

Northwood

Bob Stockland

- A mission team from Selma Baptist Association in Alabama helped Calvary Pines Baptist Church in Cohasset in June by completing the rebuilding of the church's roof. (See top photo)
- Pleasant Hill Baptist Church in International Falls hosted a large mission team from First Baptist Church in Paris,

Mo., and Crossroads Baptist Association. There were 66 people from 12 different Missouri churches plus two from M-W churches. The team was able to put up all new siding and windows, install a new entry door, rebuild the platform, and refurbish some areas into useable space. Part of the team also did various service projects around town.

- A mission team from Harmony Baptist Association in Missouri helped five

Northwoods Baptist Association churches this summer. Churches they helped include Ridgewood Baptist Church in Bemidji (painting and VBS), Cornerstone Baptist Church in Thief River Falls (construction), Badger (Minn.) Baptist Church (construction), Immanuel Baptist Church in Roseau (block party), and The Church on the Wise Road in Brainerd (painting).

- Pastor Lonnie Lee reports that after baptizing three on July 15, the very next Sunday Hill City Baptist Church baptized 11 more at Hill Lake.

CALENDAR

SEPTEMBER

1-30 Season of Prayer for State Missions

3 Labor Day – **MWBC Office Closed**

14-15 MWBC Executive Board, Rochester, Minn.

28-29 Pastors' Conference, Rochester Minn.

OCTOBER

13-15 Called Out Youth Conference

26-27 MWBC Annual Meeting, Southtown Baptist Church, Bloomington, Minn.

NOVEMBER

22-23 Thanksgiving Holiday - **MWBC Office Closed**

DECEMBER

2-9 Week of Prayer and Mission Study for International Missions/Lottie Moon Christmas Offering

24-1/1 Christmas/New Year's Holiday - **MWBC Office Closed**

MWBC events are in bold print.

BLBA: Bay Lakes Baptist Association

SWBA: Southern Wisconsin Baptist Association

LBA: Lakeland Baptist Association

NBA: Northwoods Baptist Association

P/WBA: Pioneer/Western Baptist Association

TCMBA: Twin Cities Metro Baptist Association

To include your event, email to
davidwilliams@compuserve.com