

GRR Clergy Spouse Retreat

Intimacy With God Through Prayer

Leader: Janet Droy

Janet lives in Rockford, IL where she leads a city-wide intercessory prayer team called "We Are One".



Friday April 21 - Saturday, April 22

Lake Springfield Baptist Camp

5878 Iron Bridge Road
Springfield, IL
Phone: 217-670-2356

Cost: **Registration is \$40.00 for the weekend. \$20 for first-time attenders.** This includes food and lodging at the camp.

Camp Lodging:

The retreat is housed in Carter Hall, a modern building containing bedrooms with 4 bunk beds each, modern bathrooms, and a kitchen/ meeting area. The building is air conditioned and heated.

Send Registration to:

(Download Form)

Judi Mills
7812 Hunt Road
Springfield, IL 62712

Registration Deadline:

If possible, register by April 11

All clergy spouses are invited.

This includes spouses of pastors and other church ministry staff, both active and retired.

The Mainstream is a twice-monthly publication of the American Baptist Churches of the Great Rivers Region, 3940 Pintail Drive, Springfield IL 62711 Telephone: (217) 726-7366

Email: debbie@abcgrr.org Web: www.abcgrr.org To subscribe or unsubscribe to The Mainstream or to change contact information, please send an e-mail to Debbie Naugle with your request: debbie@abcgrr.org.

New Members of the Churches of the Great Rivers Region

First Baptist Church, Carthage, IL Welcomes: Helen Mennenga and Jackie Guerney



Register Today! The American Baptist Churches Biennial Mission Summit will meet in Portland, Oregon, June 30 - July 2, 2017

GRR Website & Mainstream

For more news of mission and ministry, **go online** and click on the links (brown lettering) in these columns.

E-mail GRR Webmaster, **Richard Ricks: revrick4@comcast.net**

Mainstream Contact Information

Send your stories of mission and ministry. Please also send the names of new members to:

**Linda Ricks
232 Devron Circle
East Peoria, IL 61611**

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The Mainstream

News of Ministry and Mission

American Baptist Churches of the Great Rivers Region



God's New Thing

April 2017 No. 1

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Online edition now interactive

web: www.abcgrr.org

2017 Calendar

April:

- 21 - 22: **Clergy Spouse Retreat**
Lake Springfield Camp
- 22: **Area I Annual Meeting**
Blackhawk Baptist Camp
- 22: **Area IV Spring Rally,**
Crainville Baptist Church
Carterville, IL
- 23: **Open House & Rededication Ceremony,** Lake
Springfield Baptist Camp,
Springfield, IL
- 25: **Area II Spring Rally**
FBC White Hall, IL
- 30: **Area IV Annual Meeting**
FBC Mattoon, IL

June 28

- **July 2: ABCUSA Biennial**
Portland, Oregon

August:

- 18 - 19: **Baptist History and Polity Course**
ABC-GRR Resource Center, Springfield, IL

September:

- 28: **Minister's Conference**
Chesterfield, MO
- 29 - 30: **GRR Annual Assembly**
Chesterfield, MO

A Word From Paul Gibson, ABCGRR Executive Minister



Good News!!!!

Patty Bilyeu and Rex Rogers. That is the answer to this question. **Who are the two new area ministers for the Great Rivers Region?** We are excited about this! We have been waiting a long time and the search process was difficult. We had many good and qualified people to consider, but these two seemed to be just the right ones for the positions. If you know either Patty or Rex, then you would know why we are excited. They are wonderful people and they bring good skills and enthusiasm to this position. We will officially welcome them as staff starting on July 1, 2017. Praise the Lord!!!!

More "Good" news! A wonderful thing happened at our **Area III Annual Meeting.** **Jon and Amanda Good and family** were missionary guests at this gathering. They are preparing to go to Hungary as newly appointed missionaries for ABCUSA working in the area of church planting. During the meeting someone noted that the (continued on p. 2)

Area had a good amount of money in its account and that the money probably wasn't given to just sit in an account. They took care of that. Someone suggested that they **give \$10,000 of the slightly more than \$12,000** in the account to support the Goods as they prepare to leave this fall. They voted on it and then the tears of joy came, first from Amanda, but then from almost everyone. If you haven't met or heard of the Good family, you would love to meet them. They are a great family who are committed to going to where God wants them....and for them it is Hungary. We are blessed to have people like that called to the mission field.

As you look at the months ahead keep what is happening in our region in your prayers. Also continue to keep our missionaries in your prayers. We have great opportunities all over the world to reach out with the love of Jesus. Check out the spotlight on church planting in the Dominican Republic. This is one of the seven areas that we gave money to for church planting.

Remember, Be rightly related to God and find your joy there and out of you will flow rivers of living water. Be a vessel that God can pour His love through. Hopefully I will see you at some of the events coming up around our region.

Paul

Church Planting Spotlight

Project 2 - Dominican Republic:

There is a need to plant 5 new churches in the Dominican Republic and to also help construct a community center. The total cost for these projects will be around \$78,000.00 for the first year. We have sent them

\$50,000.00 to help them get started on the first year. These projects will be under the supervision of our missionaries there, **Vital and Ketly Pierre**. This will help meet the needs of both Dominicans and Haitian immigrants who have come into the area. The largest group of people served will be children. An example of the costs for the church plant in Boca Chica includes \$5,000 for construction of their building, and \$2,400 for a stipend and transportation for the pastor. As you can tell, they aren't being overpaid. Please keep Vital and Ketly, and the five new church plants, in your prayers during the coming year. More people will come to know and love Jesus because of our giving to this vital work. Praise Jesus!!!!!!

Area I Annual Meeting

*Engaged With Each Other
In Area I*

Blackhawk Baptist Camp

4491 W. Henry Rd.
Oregon, IL

April 22, 2017

10:00 a.m - 3:00 p.m.

(Registration at 9:30 a.m.)

Cost: \$10:00 (payable at the door)

Speakers: **Ray Schellinger and Karen Horsman**

Music: **The Area I Youth Praise Team**

Offering for NIU Campus Ministry

Supply Shower for Camp

(Gift Cards from Menards, etc. and Paper Supplies)

Love Packages Ministry - Used Christian Books and Materials for Foreign Countries

Lake Springfield Baptist Camp to Hold Open House and Rededication Ceremony



You are invited to **Lake Springfield Baptist Camp**, 5878 Iron Bridge Road, Chatham, IL for an open/house/rededication service on **Sunday, April 23, 2017 from 3:00 to 5:00 p.m.** The rededication service will be at 3:30 p.m.

Peter and Jacob Starks were members of the **First Baptist Church of Graymont, IL**. Jake was a much loved camper and Pete was a much loved counselor. After both passed away much too soon in 2015, a bequest was given to First Baptist Church of Graymont who then tithed an amount from the bequest to LSBC. The Board of Directors of Lake Springfield Baptist Camp chose to hold a portion of these funds in restriction for a future project in their name. In the fall of 2016, the Board of Directors voted to use these funds to remodel the camp manager's home and rename it the Starks Memorial House, in honor of Peter and Jacob.

Please join us to honor the memory of Peter and Jacob Starks and to welcome LSBC's new resident managers, **Rev. John and Kelsey Parrish** and their daughters, Peyton, Piper, and Paisley.

Area IV Annual Meeting

Doing God's New Thing Together

Date: **Sunday, April 30, 2017**

Time: 2:30 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.
Registration begins at 2:00

Place: **First Baptist Church of Mattoon**
1804 South 9th Street
Mattoon, IL 61938

Keynote Address: **Dr. Molly Marshall** President, and Professor of Theology and Spiritual Formation, at **Central Baptist Theological Seminary** in Shawnee, Kansas



Evening Worship Message by **Rev. Muriel Johnson**, **Regional Associate Minister Serving Area IV**

Cost: **\$15.00 for Adults**
\$ 5.00 for children (8 - 18)*
Children under 8 free

Send check payable to **GRR - Area IV** to FBC Mattoon or **register online at abcgrr.org**

*Children 8 to 18 will go **Isaak's Family Fun Center** where they will play laser tag, miniature golf and climber play from 2:30 to 6:30 p.m. Pizza will be provided. If you have more than 3 from your church please have an adult to help supervise.