



MBFN News

www.mbfm.org

A MESSAGE FROM THE MBF PRESIDENT

I recently had the privilege of traveling outside of the United States on vacation. Because of a family member's generosity, my wife Kendra and I were able to take one of those river cruises in Europe. It was a great experience and far more luxurious than is normal for us. While the trip provided many once-in-a-lifetime moments, it was lunch at Stiftskeller St. Peter that may have resonated the most with me in my role with the MBF.

This restaurant, inside St. Peter's Abby in Salzburg, Austria, claims to have been serving guests since 803 AD. No, not 1983, or 1803, but rather 803 AD. Among its most famous patrons, Christopher Columbus, Johan Faust, Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart, and now my wife, Kendra Franks! Well, I think she's famous and pretty!

But, what struck me as I was enjoying a nice lunch, is the idea that for a thousand plus years, the church had been serving the needs of guests both physically and spiritually. Should the Lord tarry, I hope that every Missouri Baptist church could develop the same testimony. With so many pressing issues demanding our churches and ministries attention today, we often don't have much time to think about tomorrow, or ten thousand tomorrows, much less the 443,475 yesterdays since 803 AD. Which is where the Missouri Baptist Foundation is able to help.

Since 1946, we have been helping Missouri Baptists manage and develop ministry funds in order to accomplish Gospel Advancing ministry. *Ministry for Tomorrow*, you might say. That *tomorrow*, of course, begins today. Which is why we help churches with their current financial needs, whether through a short term cash savings account allowing for liquidity, or a short term investment as a church is saving for a project, or via a church loan where interest goes to fund other ministries.

But most of all we really want all Missouri Baptists to think about tomorrow. Are you thinking about tomorrow? Inside you will read about a few folks who have been caught doing just that, and about a church who is helping build relationships among all of their congregation, not just the ones who can go up and down stairs.

But I am really asking about you. What is going to happen to all of the resources the Lord has provided to you in this life? Could the resources you leave behind, (since you will not need them in heaven anymore), be able to ensure your local church's ministry continues to thrive or bless a child at the Missouri Baptist Children's Home?

We would love to be that partner to help you come to conclusions concerning those and other questions related to finances. Just reach out and give us a call, one of our team members would love to start the conversation with you.

Who knows, if the Lord tarries, your gift might just help your church continue to minister in 3003 AD and beyond!

Dr. Neil Franks
President and Treasurer

There's more inside.....

Fellowship of
Christian Stewards pg 2 - 3

Church Loans pg 4

Leadership and the Church pg 4

The Missouri Baptist Foundation was founded in 1946 to "strengthen the mission and ministry efforts of Missouri Baptists." Today, we have never been more committed to that purpose. Governed by a Board of Trustees elected by the Missouri Baptist Convention, our team is available to meet with any Missouri Baptist church or individual across the state who is interested in making a kingdom impact. As a ministry of the Cooperative Program, there is no charge for utilizing our planning services. We may be reached by email at mbfoundation@mbfn.org or by phone at 573.761.0717 or 1.800.776.0747.

mbfoundation@mbfn.org

Website: mbfn.org

Fellowship of Christian Stewards

Each year, the Missouri Baptist Foundation (MBF) honors those who have been generous with their life and resources to benefit God's kingdom. MBF established the Fellowship of Christian Stewards in 2001 as a way to present personal examples of whole-life Christian stewardship – the gift of talents, time and treasures. Pastors, ministry leaders and lay members can make nominations. MBF trustees consider the nominations and choose those to be recognized. In addition, MBF awards a grant to each fellow to support a chosen ministry. MBF Trustees and Staff wish to announce the 2018 class of the Fellowship of Christian Stewards.



Nelson Fellow - *A faithful, mature individual that exhibits whole-life stewardship through many years of Christian service.*

Dr. John Marshall has served 50 years in the gospel ministry. A native of southeast Missouri, Marshall is a sixth generation preacher who felt a call to the ministry at the age of 15. He is a graduate of Southeast Missouri State University and New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary. Dr. Marshall was the youngest man ever to earn a Doctor of Ministry degree from a Southern Baptist seminary (age 23). He has pastored churches in Missouri, Mississippi and Arkansas. Marshall became pastor of Second Baptist Church, Springfield, in 1995. During his pastoral tenure, the church was annually one of Missouri's leading churches in baptisms, as well as the state's largest contributor to the Cooperative Program. Nationally known as a mission-minded church, Second Baptist has given \$2.6 million to plant 51 new churches in the US in the past seven years. After 22 years as Second Baptist's pastor, Dr. Marshall retired from full-time ministry and is now enjoying time with family and serving as an interim pastor.

Charitable Giving - *An individual or couple that consistently models generous, sacrificial giving from the treasures God has entrusted – whether great or small.*

Anna and Archie Jackson believe God can do great things with small things to confound the wise. In 2014, Anna and Archie challenged fellow alumni of Hannibal-LaGrange University to join them in supporting their alma mater through The Widow's Mite Challenge. The Jacksons challenged HLGU alumni to commit to giving \$10 a month for one year. While it did not seem like very much, the Jacksons believed that the small gifts of many contributors would have a tremendous impact on the University. Anna and Archie have made a career of teaching and serving in the name of the Lord, and according to HLGU they are "wonderful examples of faithful, consistent givers."



Vocational Achievement - *An individual honoring God through significant contributions in his/her vocational career.*

Drs. Martha & Robert Bergen have served as professors at Hannibal-LaGrange University for a combined 60 years. Martha and Robert recently announced their retirement from full-time teaching and have been designated Professors Emeritus where they will continue their writing ministries. Martha was chair of the division of Christian studies, professor of Christian education, and director of ministry guidance. Robert was the associate dean of academic administration and distinguished professor of Old Testament and Hebrew. Both are accomplished authors and scholars and were visiting professors at the Canadian Southern Baptist Seminary and College in Cochrane, Alberta, Canada in 2016. Dr. Miles Mullen, Vice President for Academic Administration, paid tribute to Drs. Bergen by saying, "Immensely talented, they devoted their lives to each other, their local church, and generations of students at Hannibal-LaGrange University. Many, many of those students are now faithful pastors, missionaries, teachers, nurses, business owners, husbands and wives, and moms and dads because they sat under the teaching and watched the example of Bob and Martha Bergen."



(cont.) Fellowship of Christian Stewards



Ministry Achievement - Individual(s) that identify community or mission needs and actively responds to meet those needs through the gifts of their talents, time and/or treasures.

Irvin Cockriel became concerned that students are not active in church once they go to college. He researched the issue and was even more shocked to find the staggering results of the decline of college students' activity in a local church. As a result, Irv addressed his concern by developing a scholarship that would accomplish two things. One, it would be awarded by his home church, Memorial Baptist Church – Columbia, to keep students involved in church through the music ministry. Secondly, it would honor Randy Schilb, Memorial's minister of music, who has over 40 years of service to the congregation. To date, Irv and the scholarship committee have raised over \$45,000 for the scholarship fund to support students to attend a college, university or trade school in Columbia. More importantly, it is Irv's desire to see college students stay connected to the church and continue their discipleship in Jesus Christ.

Emerging Leader - Next generation young adult (ages 18-29) modeling whole-life stewardship through missions or ministry.

Cassidy Winters learned at an early age to trust God and see His love and goodness in tough times. Cassidy, a recent graduate of Hannibal-LaGrange University, is passionate about giving a voice to people who cannot advocate for themselves. She has worked with survivors of human trafficking in Southeast Asia, shared the gospel with people in remote Philippines and worked with kids in inner city Chicago. Through her travels and experiences abroad, Cassidy was motivated to start a club at HLGU to bring awareness to the issue of human trafficking. She organized an ethical fashion line to create awareness about modern slavery. Cassidy has also worked to create awareness and recruit volunteers for the Court appointed Special Advocates for Children (CASA). Cassidy's desire to share God's love with those who are hurting stems from the tragic loss of her father who was killed while pastoring the First Baptist Church of Maryville, Ill. Cassidy personally knows that in the midst of this kind of hurt, God's presence brings hope and peace.



Junior Achievement - An elementary, middle or high school child(ren) modeling whole-life stewardship through missions or ministry.



Kavin Tingley is 14 years old and has a rare heart condition called Timothy's Syndrome. When Kavin and his family were staying at the Ronald McDonald House in Kansas City last winter, they talked about how they could provide ministry to the other families at the house. Kavin and his mother, Tammy, decided to serve brunch for the residents. They also involved members from their home church at Hamilton Street Baptist Church, Kirksville to assist them. This has become an ongoing project, with church members traveling to Kansas City to bring food and serve a breakfast buffet. They also bring paper products and toiletries for the residents, as well as providing gospel tracts and Bibles for all who want them. If given permission and the opportunity, they pray with the residents, too. Residents are grateful for the caring ministry known as "Kavin's Heart."

*Who do **you** know that you'd like to honor for their life of Christian stewardship?
Nominations for the 2019 class of Fellowship of Christian Stewards are being accepted through March 31, 2019.*



Partnering to...

ADVANCE THE GOSPEL

Philippians 1:12



Church Loans by Nick Davis, MBF Regional VP

In the New Testament the Greek word *koinonia* is used to encourage “fellowship and communion” among believers. At its core, it is the coming together in love, faith, and encouragement in Jesus Christ.

Faith Baptist Church of Climax Springs found a barrier to their *koinonia*. Their fellowship hall and education space are located in the lower level of the church building. The only access to these areas was a stairway that some church members found challenging to ambulate. An answer was needed to find a way to encourage, not discourage some people’s participation in Bible study or fellowship within the family of faith.

One answer to the challenge was to install an elevator. “A first estimate of such a project would cost \$100,000 at a minimum,” said Pastor Tony Shaw, “and this was not an option.” A second option investigated was for the installation of a stair lift that would cost approximately \$9,000. Deacon Stanley Linedecker said, “This was a more affordable answer to the problem.” Faith BC had funds for a down payment, but needed help with the balance. They contacted Missouri Baptist Foundation to inquire about a loan. They had heard about the new church loan service and wondered if it might help them with their stair lift installation.



Pastor Tony Shaw with Stanley Linedecker (standing)

MBF church loan service assists churches with new construction, renovation of existing facilities or a ministry need that requires financial support. The loans are highly competitive financing with compelling benefits that include attractive terms and rates, low closing costs, no prepayment penalties and convenient online application. However, there was one feature that convinced Faith BC to apply for a loan with MBF. “The big influence for us to work with the Foundation was the fact that the loan interest we pay on our loan goes back to accomplish kingdom purposes,” said Pastor Shaw.

The stair lift is installed and the Faith BC *koinonia* can be enjoyed by anyone. Can MBF assist your church address a ministry need with a loan? For more information, go to <https://mbfn.org/church-loans/> or call 800-776-0747.

Leadership and the Church presents



Vaughn Baker
Strategos International, President
Security: Protecting your church members



Dr. Neil Franks
Missouri Baptist Foundation, President
Stability: Getting the most from your financial resources



Dr. Glenn Miller
CEO, Miller Management
Safety: Creating a culture of financial accountability

A half day of training and development from proven leaders in the church

Aug. 30, 8:30am - 1:00pm

**Forest Park Baptist Church
725 S. Highview Ave., Joplin, MO**

OR

Sept. 22, 8:30am - 1:00pm

**Hannibal-LaGrange University
2800 Palmyra Rd., Hannibal, MO**

> \$25 per church for up to 3 attendees (includes snacks and lunch)

> For more information and to register visit LeadershipandtheChurch.com