

“ There is no foundation for comfort in the enjoyments of this life, but in the assurance that a wise and good God governeth the world. ”

-William Law

baptist builders club makes four contributions

Baptist Builders Club provided grants for several churches across the country to help meet their facility needs.

- Sovereign Grace Baptist Church (Modesto, California) \$10,000
- First Baptist Church (Kuna, Idaho) \$10,000
- Victory Baptist Church (Fullerton, Nebraska) \$7,500
- Heritage Baptist Church (Cedarburg, Wisconsin) \$15,000

BBC also gave \$15,000 to First Baptist Church in Princeton, Indiana, to help the church as it recovers from the effects of an earthquake earlier this year.

new churches added to the GARBC

The GARBC welcomed three new churches to the association Wednesday after messenger approval. *Bennington Baptist Church* in Bennington, Nebraska (Peter and Mary Lou Jenks) and *Heritage Baptist Church* in Cedarburg, Wisconsin (Mark and Melissa Brooks) received mission church status. *Jehova Chamma Baptist Church* in Green Acres, Florida (Jocelyn and Gerta Dorcin) received full fellowship status.

attendance swells on Iowa churches night

Thunderstorms and lightening didn't deter nearly 1,700 people from coming Wednesday night to hear Iowan Duke Crawford share God's Word. The storms forced Students Alive! to pack into the Eagle's Nest for their SPAM-O-RAMA.

special thanks...

To *Andrea Gower* from the *Resource Center* and *Don Anderson of FBBC* for their great work in facilitating our conference's move to Ankeny.

To *Copy Systems, Inc.* in Des Moines and *Sales Representative Ryan Ong* for providing a copier for Conference use. See Ryan at the Copy Systems display booth for more information. Ryan is proud member of Ankeny Baptist Church.

To *McGowen, Hurst, Clark & Smith, P.C.* for underwriting the cost of producing *CrossWords*.

DON'T KNOW MUCH ABOUT OCCUPATIONAL FRAUD?

Next to tax fraud, occupational fraud is the most costly type of fraud in the United States. It costs organizations over \$600 billion annually, increasing eight percent each year. While large corporations might seem to be the ones where fraud would most likely occur, organizations with less than 100 employees are 10 times more likely to become victims of occupational fraud. Additionally, at least one-half of all employee theft takes place within organizations with have fewer than 100 employees.

A study conducted in 2006 estimated that most victimized organizations lost an average of six percent of annual revenues. Since most nonprofit organizations strive to "break even" each year, a six percent loss could be crippling, especially for churches striving to accomplish God's work within their local communities.

Fraud usually goes undetected because three primary reasons: internal controls don't exist, those controls could be manipulated or the controls were insufficient to prevent fraud in certain areas.

Churches have become prime targets for occupational fraud, usually because many of them depend on volunteer labor to perform monthly and yearly accounting services. In addition, some simply don't have the volunteers available to adequately institute internal controls or segregate various accounting duties. However, such precautions are necessary even for the smallest organizations.

In thinking of your church, does the same person reconcile monthly bank statements, approve expenses and issue reimbursement checks? If so, you may need to find someone else capable of performing one of those tasks to avoid temptation and commitment of occupational fraud. Or you may want to institute a set of internal controls to monitor that person to ensure the integrity of all accounting processes.

McGowen, Hurst, Clark & Smith, P.C., a locally-owned CPA firm in West Des Moines, Iowa, can help your church not only institute a system of internal controls, it can also assess existing controls to ensure no fraud is currently taking place. Please call Joni Tonnemacher at 515-288-3279 with questions or to schedule a confidential, no obligation meeting about your concerns.



CROSS WORDS

*GARBC Annual Conference News Sheet
June 26, 2008*

*"God forbid that I should boast except in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, by whom the world has been crucified to me, and I to the world."
(Galatians 6:14)*

*"The Glory
of the
Cross"*

Making a tax-deductible contribution to the GARBC has never been easier! Use the form below to make a contribution with your credit card.

Visa Mastercard Discover Exp. _____

Card No. _____ CID _____

Name on Card _____

Signature _____

Amount _____ Phone No. _____

If you would like information on how to make regular automatic contributions to the GARBC, please call 1-888-588-1600, ext. 857.

BY GRACE AT FAITH!



how much does God weigh?

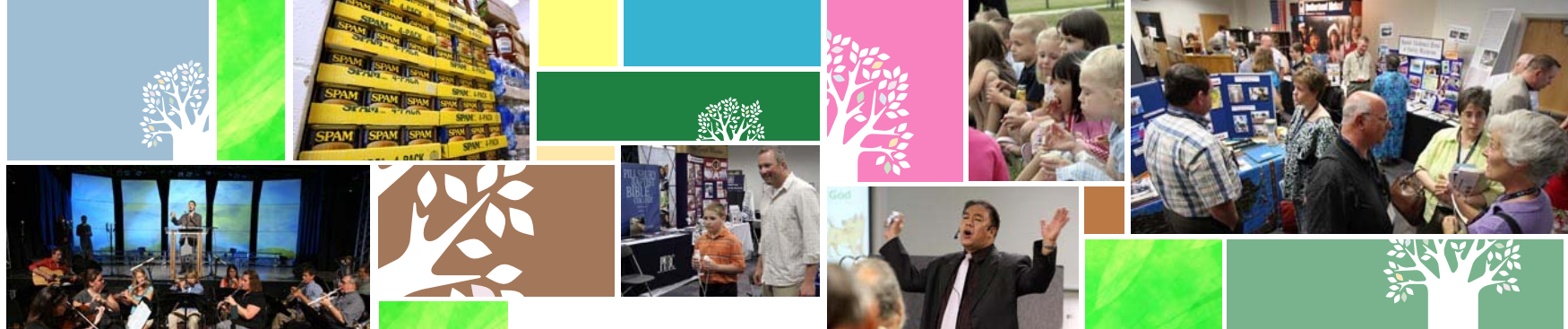
“The fundamental problem in the evangelical world today is not inadequate technique, insufficient organization, or antiquated music, and those who want to squander the church’s resources bandaging these scratches will do nothing to stanch the flow of blood that is spilling from its true wounds. The fundamental problem in the evangelical world today is that God rests too inconsequentially upon the church. His truth is too distant, his grace is too ordinary, his judgment is too benign, his gospel is too easy, and his Christ is too common.”

Thus did David Wells write about post-modern church life: preaching devoid of the cross, ministries designed to pamper the flesh, affirm sinners in their way of life, reduce Christ to nothing more than a syncretised add-on that makes our earthly lives better.

Yet the gospel of the cross demands confrontation of core realities: sinners are depraved beings whose style of life needs transformation, not affirmation. Jesus Christ, the glorious, sinless God-man became sin, bearing the full brunt of the fury of God’s eternal wrath due sinners. The sense of God should hang over our soul as heavily as our humid, Iowa summer air, knowing that our God is a consuming fire.

The trivial God portrayed by post-modernism will never restore the condition of man’s soul. The true gospel of the cross terrifies when the sense of impending eternal wrath is providentially understood. The gospel of the cross illuminates the unsurpassed glory and merit of Christ’s character and work. The gospel of the cross delights as we are inexplicably drawn to faith in the foolishness of the message preached, knowing this gospel saves when we believe.

The glory of the cross lies in what Christ becomes for the sinner: wisdom, righteousness, sanctification, redemption. Such glorious weight! This glory should press heavily upon our souls. His truth is near, His grace extraordinary, His judgment dangerous, His gospel gloriously hard, our Christ precious. “To you who believe, He is precious....” (1 Peter 2:7).



david f. wells

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CONFERENCE SCHEDULE

Thursday

7:00 p.m. Conference Session, Dr. Gary Anderson

Friday

9:30 a.m. Closing Session, Dr. John Greening
TFC Concert Service
Awards
Special Presentation
TFC Awards

ELECTION RESULTS

Yesterday the Annual Meeting of the GARBC was held. The following men were elected to 3-year terms of service as council members: Bernie Augsburger, Duke Crawford, Stan Lightfoot, Brad Quick and Ken Spink.

They join as members of the Council: Tom Alexander, Bryan Augsburger, David Burman, Dick Dayton, Bob Fields, Miles Grismore, John Hartog III, David Little, James Maxwell, Chuck Pausley, Michael Peck, J. O. Purcell and Rich VanHeukelum.

Rich VanHeukelum serves as Chair, Brad Quick as Vice Chair, and John Hartog III as Secretary.

RESOLUTIONS PASSED

A resolution concerning Israel was presented and accepted by the messengers at Wednesday’s Annual Meeting. A resolution on the cross is to be presented during Thursday’s sessions. These resolutions may be obtained at the registration table or online at www.garbc.org.

AMENDMENTS TO ARTICLE OF FAITH PRESENTED

The Council of 18 presented proposed amendments to Section XIX of the GARBC Articles of Faith to the messengers at Wednesday’s Annual Meeting. This section addresses the rapture and subsequent eschatological

events. The two proposed amendments clarify our position concerning the order of major eschatological events. These amendments were placed on the floor in their reading, and will be voted upon by the messengers at the 2009 Annual Meeting. Copies of the amendments may be obtained at the Registration Table or online at www.garbc.org.

STUDENTS ALIVE!

Tonight, Students Alive! bring their youthful enthusiasm into the Convo session to hear Dr. Gary Anderson preach. Students Alive! then enjoys a post-service activity.

TALENTS FOR CHRIST COMPETITION

Don’t miss the Friday morning session at 9:30 when the TFC contestants will perform and the competition winners will be announced.

PRESIDENT’S RECEPTION

Baptist Bible College in Clarks Summit, Penn., is inviting all conference attendees to the President’s Reception on Thursday after the evening service in the big tent by the Convo. Weather considered, stay tuned for a potential change of venue. All are welcome, but you’ll need to pick up a free ticket at the BBC booth before the event.

WIRELESS NETWORK AVAILABLE

FBBC has provided wireless access for all. FBBC Wireless is the name of network. Open any browser to be directed to the FBBC wireless login page. The login is garbc and the password is faith08.

ANSWERS IN GENESIS GIVEAWAY

Before tonight’s service, visit the Gospel Literature Services booth and see Chris Brown about entering the drawing for an Answers in Genesis dvd. Chris will draw a name after the service, so be sure to enter yours!

FAITH COFFEE SHOP OPEN UNTIL FRIDAY

Looking for a quick, tasty meal on your way out of town Friday afternoon? Need a place to catch up with old friends? The Faith Coffee Shop will be open from 7 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. on Friday. Give your lunch box order to the staff by 9 a.m. and it will be ready for pickup at noon. Sandwich lunch boxes cost \$6 and salad lunch boxes cost \$7.

FAITH LIBRARY

The Faith Library contains two collections of historical significance to the GARBC. Stop by the Library this week to visit the Denver Baptist Bible College and Seminary display and the David Nettleton Memorial Collection.

RBP BOOKS & FAITH BOOKSTORE

How many \$5 certificates do you have? Tonight is the last chance you’ll have to use your mini-workshop certificates, so make sure you stop by the RBP bookstore tonight.

GARBC DVD

Free copies of a GARBC Moments dvd are available at the GARBC International display. Pick up your copy after the evening service!

THANK YOU, KREGEL

A Bible Handbook to Revelation was distributed free of charge to those attending Jim Vogel’s workshop Wednesday. The books were generously discounted by Kregel Publications for our pastors. We appreciate their generosity and encourage your support of their publishing ministry.

ONLINE EDITIONS OF CROSSWORDS

The daily editions of *CrossWords* are available to download at www.garbc.org. Encourage church family and friends back home to keep up on conference events.