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***If you have information that you would like to have included in our monthly newsletter, please call or email the UBA office by the 20th of the month. We would be happy to promote any special events (revival, singing group, special programs/ministries, etc.)***

**CONTACT INFORMATION:**

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I wanted to share with you this month the Mission Challenge that I presented at the 147th Annual Association Meeting on October 20, 2014. I used Acts 1:8, which is a very familiar passage used for missions and witnessing. The verse says, “And after you have received power, you shall be my witnesses in Jerusalem, Judea, Samaria and to the ends of the earth.” I ask that we focus on the first place that Jesus says we are to take His witness and that is Jerusalem. Hopefully, we all understand that our Jerusalem is where we live in our communities. So, I set the challenge that for this coming year, our churches focus on 35 homes around their church building.

Next, I shared ways we, as an association, want to help our churches to reach the families in these 35 homes around them. All these forms of help come directly from the success of the early churches in the Book of Acts. The first thing we notice is that the early church prayed about everything. So, we have challenged our churches to pray like never before for these selected 35 homes around the church. The association wants to come along beside the churches and pray with them for these homes.

Secondly, we notice that the early church was in unity. The Bible says many times that they were in one accord. If we are in unity as a church and even as a group of associational churches, we will be focused on what Acts 1:8 tells us – we are “witnesses.” We, as an association, want to help train people in the churches on how to witness to the families in these 35 homes by using a simple program for witnessing called, “Three Circles”.

Thirdly, the early church gathered together often and celebrated the blessing of God upon them. We encourage our churches to celebrate God’s blessings as they reach out to these 35 homes and then we will all celebrate together at next year’s Annual Meeting.

It’s important that we have a focus to start somewhere and I pray that our associational churches take this challenge and reach out to the 35 homes around their church. If we are faithful in reaching our Jerusalem, then we can do a better job when called out to reach the areas of Judea, Samaria and the ends of the earth.

I’m looking forward to what will be done as we work together with the same focus. I believe there are some days of celebration ahead! Just remember the challenge: 35 homes around your church!

Serving the Lord Together,

Terry Mathis, Director of Missions

**UBA theme for 2015:**

**THE POWER OF ‘AND’**

**It’s you AND me working TOGETHER to bear witness to the POWER OF JESUS CHRIST in Jerusalem, AND in all Judea AND Samaria, AND to the ends of the Earth**

**Volume 1, #42**

*We would like to welcome, to our association, Brother Matt Snell as the new pastor of Dixon Springs Baptist Church. Bro. Matt and his wife, Katrina, have been working with Dixon Springs Baptist and serving as their interim for some time now. We welcome them to the association and look forward to working with them.*

**A message from the D.O.M.:**

**Pastors’ Wife Birthdays**

**November 24 – Karen Faulkner, wife of David Faulkner, Pastor of County Line**

**November 27 – Michele Easter, wife of Cliff Easter, Youth Pastor at Metropolis First**

**Pastor & Wife Anniversary**

**November 29 - Bill & Pauline Gholson, New Salem**

**Pastor Church Anniversary**

**Dr. Ed Hollis, Vienna First - 2006**

***Church Contributions for Budget***

***(rec’d & deposited in September)***

Brookport First $ 818.21

County Line $ 200.00

Cypress First $ 47.00

Dixon Springs $ 184.00

Hillerman Missionary $ 640.72

Immanuel $ 290.41

Joppa Missionary $ 939.51

Karnak First $ 557.66

Life Church Eastland $ 200.00

Metropolis First $ 0.00

Mt. Zion $ 467.55

New Beginnings $ 0.00

New Hope $ 0.00 New Salem $ 30.00

Oak Grove $ 41.79

Seven Mile $ 504.00

Simpson $ 208.00

Vienna First $ 0.00

Waldo $ 466.67

Weaver Creek $ 25.00

**Secretary’s office hours: Monday-Thursday, 9:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.**

**Union Baptist Association**

**P.O. Box 29**

**Metropolis, IL 62960**

*Return Service Requested*

**NOVEMBER 2014 NEWSLETTER**

***MISSION OF THE UBA*** *– To glorify God by assisting its family of churches and other activities to carry out the Great Commission (Matt. 28:18-20) individually and collectively*

**Non-Profit Organization**

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