

B.M.I. Newsletter

BARNABAS MINISTRIES INTERNATIONAL

“Encouraging Pastors Who Encourage Congregations”

April- May- June 2004



Pastors Macel & Carol Ely

“For God is not unrighteous to forget your work and labor of love, which you have shown toward His name, in that ye have ministered to the saints, and do minister.”

-- Hebrews 6:10

THE NUMBERS GAME

In the past few months I have had several pastors say to me, “I would like for you to speak at my church, but my church is too small.” My immediate response is, “Quality far outweighs quantity”. Too many pastors appear to be intimidated by what I call *the numbers game*. When this happens the church and the pastor are in trouble.

When God measures a man, He doesn't measure his head, but his heart. When God looks at a church, He is more concerned about good character being built in the people than He is the amount of people in the congregation. In many of our pastors conferences we are hearing the methods of the secular, corporate world being taught. The priority being how to increase in numbers and finances.

I too want to see our churches grow in number and God knows most of us in ministry could use an increase in finances, but when that becomes our greatest concern we are missing the mark. We need a *kingdom concept*. In other words, we need to understand that it's not your church verses my church, but rather all of God's people working together. We are not to be competitive with one another. We are here to serve one another.

If Barnabas Ministries can help you or your church, please know that we are here to serve you. The size of your congregation or building is insignificant to us.

SONG OF SONGS 2:11 & 12 (NIV)

“See! The winter is past; the rains are over and gone. Flowers appear on the earth; the season of singing has come, the cooing of doves is heard in our land.”

NEW LIFE! These scriptures are referring to the first signs of spring; a new season of life. I used to choose autumn for my favorite season. I loved sweater weather with all the autumn, colored leaves. That was when I was younger. I didn't realize the significance of the dying part of this beautiful change. Now I choose spring as my favorite season because it represents resurrection and newness of life.

My daughter Valisha and my son-in-law Brian recently celebrated their 10th wedding anniversary. They have two children; Micah who is 9 and Abigail who is 8. They thought they were a complete family, but God had another plan for their lives. Just this week we found out that they are going to have a baby. I am going to have another GRANDchild! We are extremely excited.

Recently at a pastors conference I heard a minister speak about how God has a PURPOSE for our lives before we are even formed. He gave excellent scripture references, including Jeremiah 1:5: “Before I formed you in the womb I knew you, before you were born I set you apart; I appointed you as a prophet to the nations”. It's true. Before we were even conceived, God had a purpose and a plan for our lives.

Sometimes, as we grow older and weaker we need resurrection power to wake us up out of our slumber. May we *fulfill* His purpose and His plan. May we *celebrate* this new season of life!

Pastor Marcus Hobbs & Living Word Church



Pastor Hobbs & Living Word Church in Citronelle, AL are in the process of building 5 cabins to provide a place of rest and retreat for ministers. Pastor Marcus along with his wife Karen are networking with Barnabas Ministries International. **Congratulations on your new grandson, Gavin!**

WE HAVE A NEW WEBSITE! www.bministries.org

Thanks to SCOTT GORDY with www.piddlinround.net for his excellent work! Check us out and please sign our guest book. Our website will be a great tool for clarifying what Barnabas Ministries International is all about. We look forward to adding pictures from our travels and introducing you to many pastors you may not know.

BRITISH WEST INDIES—Cayman Brac

John and Ann Herbert pastor Crossroads Baptist Church on the small island of Cayman Brac. Through the years we have established a loving relationship with the Herberts and with the church. Pastor John is networking with BMI. If you are a worn out pastor and you need to get away from the multitude, this is certainly a place where you can find solitude. On Saturday evenings both old and young alike play dominos for entertainment. Sister Ely enjoyed playing "Brac Style". This 12 mile long island was first inhabited by pirates in hiding. The island has a very interesting history.



Pastor John & Ann Herbert
with Carol and I standing
beside their church sign.
Notice inscription:

"Let us give glory unto the Lord and declare his praise in the islands" -- Isaiah 42:12

SPEAKING ITINERARY

APR 4 – Bro.&Sis. Ely Colyell Pentecostal -- Louisiana

APR 7 – TBA - Louisiana

APR 9-11 Calvary Bible Missions Conference – Louisiana

APR 13 – Pastors Fellowship Breakfast – Louisiana

APR 14 – TBA (Louisiana)

APR 18-21 – Trinity Life Center – Virginia

APR 25 – New Covenant of Grace- -Kentucky (young Macel)

APRIL 25-27 – Harvest Time Fellowship – Indiana

MAY 02 – Redemption Road Church – Kentucky

MAY 20 – 21 – Pentecostal Tabernacle Men's Conference – Kentucky

MAY 23 (AM) – TBA - Kentucky

MAY 23 (PM) – Pentecostal Tabernacle Church – Kentucky

JUNE 06 (AM) – Life and Praise Temple – Alabama

JUNE 13 (AM) –Destiny of Grace Church – Tennessee

JUNE 13 (PM) – Abundant Life Church – Mississippi

JUNE 15-17 – Pastors Conference – Mississippi

JUNE 27 – Christian Life Cathedral Church -- Arkansas

RECOMMENDED READING (for Pastor's Wives)

First Ladies of the Parish by Ruth A. Tucker -- Historical Portraits of Pastor's Wives

Being a Minister's Wife and Being Yourself by Nancy Pannell.

MAKING ROOM FOR THE HARVEST



Last month we spoke in several evening services at East London Pentecostal Church in London, KY with Pastors Ronnie and Patty Ball. The church has been experiencing a wonderful move of God, and they are presently building a much larger church. We were privileged to have the opportunity to not only share God's Word and pray with this local congregation, but were able to see the actual construction site for the new church. Please remember the Balls and the East London Pentecostal Church when you pray as they complete this building project. More importantly, pray for the great harvest of souls that will enter this new building and come to know the life in Christ Jesus!

Please consider joining GIDEONS ARMY

Gideon's Army is the group of individuals who are financially supporting Barnabas Ministries on a regular monthly basis. If you are interested in joining or would like to make a one time donation please make checks payable to BMI or to Barnabas Ministries International.

As God supplies, I would like to join Gideons Army with Barnabas Ministries International and help minister to Pastors and their families! For the next twelve months, I will commit: _____ a month.

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Email: _____ (optional) Phone: _____

All gifts are tax deductible. Barnabas Ministries International is a non-profit organization recognized by the Internal Revenue Service as a 501 (c) 3 charitable organization. **Please make check out to BMI or to Barnabas Ministries International.** The BMI mailing address is P.O. BOX 70707, KNOXVILLE, TN 37938. Phone: (865) 925-1544