



Vol. 74 No.7

Central Connection

Connecting with American Baptist Women's Ministries of the Central Region

Just a reminder, this is the last full newsletter until August. If you know someone who would like to be added on to the email list or address list, please let me know at jordyfritz5@gmail.com or you can talk to me at Conference I will have a sign-up sheet there and a few extra copies of this month's newsletter. I hope to see you all there!

You will see another attachment on your email or in your packet. It is the proposed by-laws changes which will be voted on at this Summer Conference. Also, included are the Standing Rule changes approved by the Board at the March, 2024 Board meeting. There is more information later on in the newsletter and who to contact if you have any questions.

I hope everyone has a wonderful summer and see you all at conference!

Mona Huggins

Giving us the latest tea in AB Women's Ministries

The Lord appeared to us in the past, saying, "I have loved you with an everlasting love; I have drawn you with unfailing kindness." Jeremiah 31:3

It's May, and what a busy time of the year it is for us in AB Women's Ministries of the Central Region, as well as in our families. I'll have already attended the Luther Rice Rally on April 23 at FBC Olathe by the time you read this article, but I love spring rallies because I have missed my friends from the association since last fall! Seeing them made me happy! Next up is the Mission Tour with Amanda Good as our visiting global servant special. Amanda and I plan on visiting six sites around Kansas, May 13th thru 17th. That's going to stretch my faith because we will be covering many miles; I don't like to be stuck in a car for so long! However, God has been with me on this planning journey, and I am looking forward to seeing many of my Central Region friends.

I'm asking for your prayers to cover us as we travel. Be sure to check the locations, dates, and times on the map provided in this issue and try hard to attend one of the events. Also, in May, there is plenty of administrative preparation as the planning of the Summer Conference draws near. I pray each of you reading this newsletter will plan on coming to Topeka for the Crazy Courageous Fearless Faith event! If you cannot attend, please try to connect with us somehow; i.e. praying, supporting the Mini-Project, Love Gift, or the conference. Of course, I will be preparing for the annual meeting on Saturday, June 8th. Remember to have your reports ready by Thursday afternoon so they can be placed in attendee bags.

I'm thinking 100 will be plenty. Many of you will be planning or attending graduation parties, and it can be a lovely, yet daunting task to prepare such events. Please take some time to draw near to our heavenly Father as He does to you! My husband and I have been listening to a podcast called, The Bible in a Year. We are on day 100!!

I am embarrassed to say that I have never read the Bible in its entirety; and I am loving all the learning going on in my brain, but especially in my soul! Since starting this study, I have become more familiar with God; and reading the Bible and spending time in prayer has caused me to become more aware of God's hand at work in my life. I am more at peace, my fears are fewer, and I am feeling empowered to take a few risks knowing that God loves me and will be near me if doubts arise. Please read the scripture above this article once again! Take it in and make the words your own. I'm praying I will see YOU soon! My prayers for each of you are always in my heart.

Happy Spring!

Details, Details, Details

I am an organizer and a planner, until last spring. That is when my parents' health issues started to require more of my time and attention. My planning capabilities became sporadic, very short term, and sometimes spontaneous. Now, after a year of this less-structured life, I found a verse that I grabbed and cling to daily. Psalm 37:23 – The Lord directs the steps of the godly. He delights in every detail of their lives. (NLT) Every morning, sometime between awakening and in the middle of my shower, I literally open my hands, raise them to the Lord, and ask Him to take the details of the day.

After all, He cares about me. I Peter 5:7 – Casting all your cares (all your anxieties, all your worries, and all your concerns, one and for all) on Him, for he cares about you (with deepest affection, and watches over you very carefully.) (AMP) I may make a doctor appointment, or lunch date, or plans to visit my mom for the afternoon, but anything, and I mean ANYTHING, can happen that changes or adds to my original plans. Proverbs 16:9 – The heart of man plans his way, but the Lord establishes his steps. (ESV) And, Isaiah 55:8 – “My thoughts are nothing like your thoughts,” says the Lord. “And my ways are far beyond anything you could imagine. (NLT) (underlining is mine) The results of this attitude and posture are rest and contentment. It is simple, but not easy. It is a daily choice.



Connie Northup, President
Missouri River Association

SAVE THE DATE!!!

2024 ABWMCR Summer Conference
Location– First Baptist Church, Topeka, KS
Date– June 7–8, 2024

ABW SUMMER CONFERENCE IS JUST AROUND THE CORNER. HAVE YOU REGISTERED? You can register your attendance through the website at www.abwmcr.org, the Central Region website at www.abccr.org or by a paper registration form. If you need help in getting registered, feel free to contact me at Lchiles@kc.rr.com or 913.727.2232. This year for our Summer Conference, the mini project is for the Topeka West Side Baptist Church Baby Closet. The mission of the Baby Closet is to enhance families with newborns through age 5 where children need basic care items; and to help promote a more stable family environment.

Each month a family may receive per child: 36 diapers, 36 wipes & 1 can formula, along with 8 items of clothing. Pajamas (2 pairs) per child and other needed items may be given to families. The Baby Closet recently partnered with the Shawnee County Library to enroll families in the Dolly Parton Imagination Book program. 100% of all donations are used exclusively to help families and church neighbors. Some served families even donate gently used items back to the Baby Closet. When we come together June 7–8, you can bring the following items and place them at the display, and we will get them to the church following our Conference.

The main items needed include Diapers of any brand (sizes 1–5), Baby Wipes, Formula Similac sensitive 12.5 oz / Similac 360 total care 12.4 oz, Boys and Girls Clothing (sizes 2T – 5T), things such as gently used or new highchairs, strollers, Pack 'n Play are also accepted. Monetary donations are always appreciated. Please invite your church family, your personal family members and your friends to come and share this experience with you. You will be blessed by being together with your sisters in Christ and to experience all the fun we have together. I hope to see you then!

Lois Chiles
Conference Associate



SAVE THE DATE!!!

2024 ABWMCR Summer Conference
Location– First Baptist Church, Topeka, KS
Date– June 7–8, 2024

Do you have your American Baptist Women's Ministries Summer Conference registration mailed or ready to be mailed? It is almost here!

Summer Conference will take place at First Baptist Church Topeka, KS, June 7–8. Register through the www.abwmcr.org website or by sending in your paper registration form (contact me if you need me to send one). All registrations need to be postmarked by May 31 or additional fees must be added.

You will hear inspiring words from our speaker, Mary Shannon, laugh, laugh, laugh, and enjoy a time together with other women of God. You won't want to miss out on any of it!

Lois Chiles
Conference Associate



Watch our website

www.abwmcr.org and the Central Connection for future information.

Lois Chiles, Conference Associate
201 Cottonwood Dr., Lansing, KS 66043
Lchiles@kc.rr.com
(913)–727–2232 or (913)–683–8680



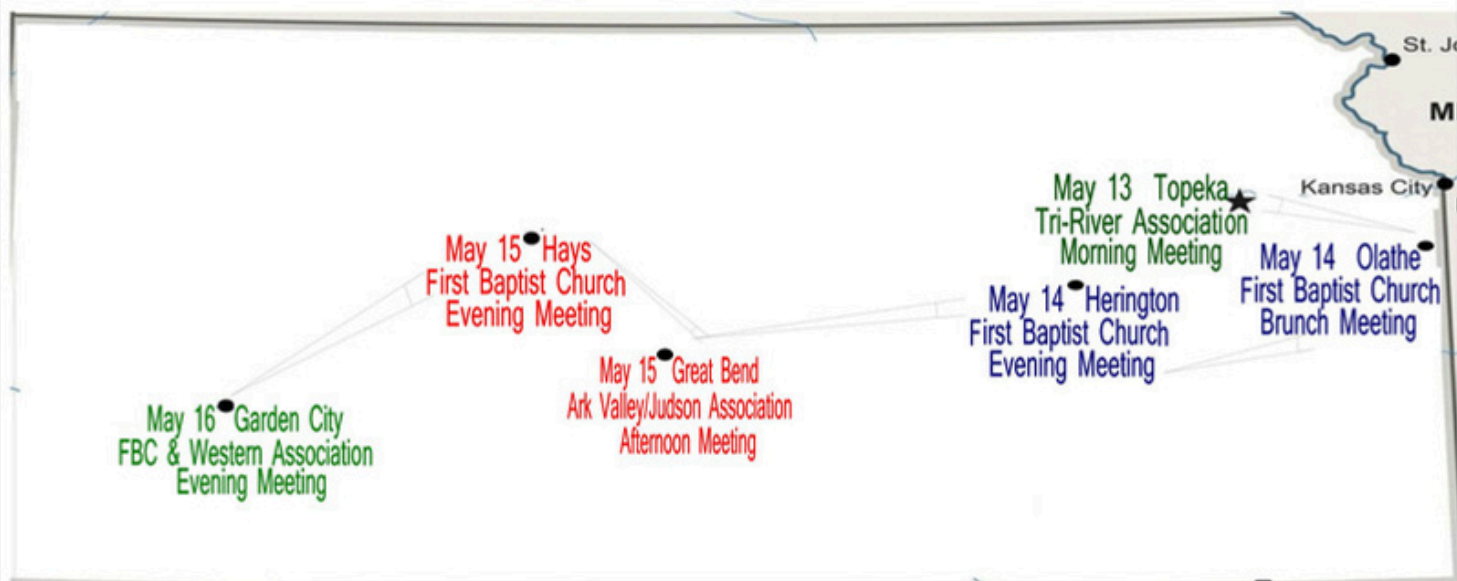


Announcing the 2024 mission tour

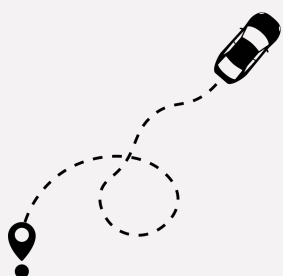
Hosted by the American Baptist
Women's
MINISTRIES
of the Central Region

with Global Servant Special

Amanda Good



May 13th Topeka Tri-River Association Morning Meeting
May 14th Olathe First Baptist Church Morning Meeting
May 14th Herington First Baptist Church Evening Meeting
May 15th Great Bend Ark Valley/Judson Association Meeting
May 15th Hays First Baptist Church Evening Meeting
May 16th Garden City FBC & Western Association Evening
Meeting



2023–24 ABWMCR Project

Hello ABWMCR Sisters in Christ,

We have crossed over the halfway mark in our fundraising efforts for this year's Project. As of mid April, we have raised \$12,216.20! Way to go! I look forward to seeing how our Mighty God will honor our efforts as we continue to keep our eyes on the fulfillment of this important work. If you have any questions, or are in need of more information, please feel free to contact me.

Grace and Peace,
Melissa Newberry
Project Associate
ABWMCR
revnewberry@yahoo.com
913-549-8568

Remember: All Project monies are mailed directly to:

GOAL: \$30,000




powered by CauseVox

Janet Kincaid
ABMWCR Treasurer
13103 S. Widmer St.
Olathe, KS 66062

Missions & Service/ White Cross/ Global Servant Specials

Mission and Service Ministries

The Annual Report, 2022/2023 of International Ministries is full of good information to share about IM. There's an article about Talita Cumi which is about the girls' schools that Barbara Bolick shared with us at last year's Women's Luncheon. Included is a map showing IM's "Our Impact at a Glance". 257 churches were planted in Nepal, 400 pastors and Christian Leaders were equipped to establish faith-based enterprises to support ministry, 208 served in short-term missions and more stories. You can check at your church to see if there is a copy of the report there or go the website: internationalministries.org.

White Cross

The reports should be coming to me before the end of the month of April and I am looking forward to see how your Association has participated. Anadarko Christian Center will be one of our recipients for White Cross for the 2024/2025 year joining Bethel and Murrow. The White Cross packets for the next year will be available at the Summer. The Association White Cross Associate needs to be sure she or someone is designated to pick up the info from me. Hopefully you are planning to attend the Summer Conference in June in Topeka.

Global Servant Specials/Special Interest Missionaries

There are still some Global Servant Specials who have birthdays before the end of the year: Dan Chetti, Anita Gutierrez, Gordon and Lee and Hwang. Eric and Yuree Lembke, Keith Myers and Larry Stanton. I just got ours in the mail. For the new year, Susan Harding will be dropped (you can still correspond with her) and Ben Sullivan added.

Please keep up your correspondence with your specials though the summer.

Shirley Fair, 2120 905 Rd., Alden, KS 67512, 620.534.3841



Mary Gates Atkinson Scholarship

Scholarship Time

Hello Ladies,

It is the time of year for Scholarship recipients to renew or a chance for new Scholarship recipients to apply for the Mary Gates Atkinson Scholarship! Also, please keep in mind our current Scholarship recipients who are Macy Greuter and Amy Marcoux. If you can send them words of encouragement, I bet they will appreciate it! If you need their information, please contact Cindy Fritz.

The Scholarship Application Deadline is
May 1, 2024!!!

Church & Community
Cindy Fritz
Address: 311 Maple St Gypsum,
KS 67448
Email: cindyfritz26@gmail.com



PERSONAL DEVELOPMENT & LOVE GIFT *The Book of the Month*

May – Hebrews

The book of Hebrews offers several valuable lessons that are relevant for Christians today:

The Superiority of Christ – In our world of competing philosophies and ideologies, Hebrews reminds us of the supremacy of Jesus Christ. He is greater than any other figure or system, and our faith should be firmly rooted in Him. (Chapters 7–10)

The Importance of Faith – Hebrews emphasizes the role of faith in the Christian life. In times of uncertainty, suffering or doubt, we are called to trust in God's promises and remain steadfast in our belief in Jesus Christ. (Chapter 11)

Perseverance Through Trials – Just as the author of Hebrews faced persecution and hardship, Christians today encounter various challenges. Hebrews encourages us to persevere through trials, knowing our faith will be strengthened and that God is faithful to sustain us. (Chapter 10:19–39)

The Need for Encouragement and Community – Hebrews tells us that encouraging one another in the faith and gathering together as believers is important. (Chapter 10:25)

Warnings – Hebrews gives us warnings about falling away from the Christian faith. Today we experience many cultural pressures and temptations. We must guard our hearts and minds against unbelief and disobedience. (Chapter 2:1–4)

Drawing Near to God – The book encourages us to draw near to God with confidence, knowing we have access to him through Jesus Christ. Through prayer, worship, and study of God's Word, we can deepen our relationship with him and experience his presence in our lives. (Chapter 13)

Hope in Christ's Return – Hebrews reminds us of the hope we have in the promised return of Jesus Christ. Regardless of the challenges we face in this world, we can look forward to the day he will come again to establish his kingdom. (Chapter 4:9–11)



Jo Templin,
Personal Development Coordinator

PERSONAL DEVELOPMENT & LOVE GIFT

Proposed By-Law Changes and approved Standing Rules for the
American Baptist Women's Ministries of the Central Region

The American Baptist Women's Ministries Board of the Central Region met in March, 2024. As part of the meeting, the Board made a recommendation for amendments to the current By-laws. The proposed changes are outlined in the By-Laws document included in this newsletter. The recommended changes will be voted on at Summer Conference in June, 2024.

As well, changes to the Standing Rules document were approved by the Board in March, 2024. The approved Standing Rules document is included in this newsletter.

If you have questions or need additional information regarding the recommended By-law changes, or approved Standing Rules.
Please contact Jo Templin at Templin_2@hotmail.com