



February 2008

Ten Financial Firestorms in the Church

This past year firestorms occurred without warning in California and Georgia. Once a firestorm begins, it destroys everything in its way until it burns out. A firestorm is no respecter of persons. It wipes out homes, cars and lives without notice. The only major defense against a firestorm is to clear the underbrush surrounding the path of the fire. If that underbrush is cleared, then the firestorm will burn itself out.

Likewise, churches face firestorms, especially in the financial area. These financial firestorms will impact churches in the next few years. Once these financial firestorms arrive, there is little a church can do to recover. However, a financial firestorm can be prevented if church leaders take the time to clear "the underbrush" before the storm destroys a fellowship. Keith Hamilton, Georgia Baptist Convention church financial services specialist, notes ten financial firestorms on the horizon:

- 1 Trust me?** The next generation will not give the church its trust. The church will have to earn it.
- 2 Guess who's coming to church. The government.** Churches must deal with compliancy issues, of which there are many. Church leaders can no longer fall back on the belief that they are so small the government won't notice. Church financial team members must know the rules and the church needs to budget for that training.
- 3 Prize fighting is dead.** There has to be a way to conduct church business without fighting. Many churches are moving away from monthly business meetings to quarterly meetings and even just an annual meeting, empowering committees to make decisions and act on them.
- 4 It is not about balancing the checkbook.** The church treasurer can't be someone who "has a job," but someone who is called by God to do it. Also, because the job requires constant training, a treasurer should always have a trained assistant who can take over if necessary.

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Your associational missionaries and staff recently met off site for a day of planning and discussion in order to better serve you in 2008.

KCKBA 2008 Calendar: The First 6 Months

January

18–19 KNCSB Worship Ldr/Family Retreat

February

7–8 Church & Community Ministries
Ldrshp Mtg, KNCSB

11–17 Focus on WMU Week

29–3/1 Women's Ministry/Missions:
Tapestry, KNCSB

March

2–9 N. American Missions Week of
Prayer, A. Armstrong Easter Offering

7–8 Youth Worship Arts Camp, WCC

8 VBS Jumpstart, Salina

12–14 Missionary/Staff Ldrshp. Team Mtg.

23 Easter

28–30 Eagle Retreat, Ministry Kids in
grades 7-12, WCC

April

1 Minister of Education Conference,
KNCSB, Topeka

4 KNCSB Exec. Board Meeting

9 **KCKBA Bible Drill, 7:00 pm**

11–12 S.T.E.P.S., WCC

11–12 Mission Challenge Weekend, WCC

15 **KCKBA Executive Board Mtg., 7 PM**

18–20 KNCSB Single Adult Mission, WCC

19 **KCKBA VBS Clinic, 9:30 AM**

19 KNCSB Children/Youth Bible Drill
& Speaker's Tournament, WCC

22 **KCKBA VBS Clinic, 7:00 PM**

28–30 Northern Plains APPLE, Denver, CO

May

1 National Day of Prayer

1–2 Missions Mobilization Management
Team Meeting, Topeka

5 **Softball Coaches' Mtg., 7 PM**

18 Day of Prayer for VBS

25 Paradise Youth Worship

27–30 Summer Missionary Orientation

30 KNCSB Foundation Board Meeting,
Baptist Building, Topeka

June

6 WCC Board of Directors Meeting,
WCC, Salina

8–9 WMU SBC Annual Meeting,

10–11 Southern Baptist Convention,
Indianapolis, IN

13–23 College World Series, Omaha

26–29 Super Summer/Collegiate Staff
Orientation, WCC, Salina

30–7/4 Super Summer, Week 1, WCC

- 5** **The heart-strings giver.** A budget must match the vision to survive or it will go out of business. While the current generation gives because God calls us to give, the next generation will give to the church because of their hearts.
- 6** **Your church is not the only "game" in town.** There are many parachurch organizations doing a great job, but Christ died for His church, and it stands above any parachurch organizations. The church must teach tithing once again—teaching that the tithe belongs to the church and offerings go to other ministries. One method of teaching this is to include tithing testimonies in worship.
- 7** **Buildings and bureaucracy will crumble.** We are moving to a time when buildings will not impress. It's about people. Look at what you are doing in your church. If you're doing it just because you've always done it—no matter the results—it might be time to rethink.
- 8** **Granny is getting older.** If everyone 60 years old and older quit giving to your church, how long could you continue? Teach your younger generation about giving and challenge your senior adults to practice estate stewardship.
- 9** **Charge ahead.** The church must address the issue of debt. Consumer debt is destroying our church finances because people are consumed in debt. The average person has credit card debt of \$9,000 each. Teach people how to get out of debt.
- 10** **God's Money.** We've got to stop apologizing for talking about money in church. The Bible speaks first about the love of God and second about money. We must teach Christian stewardship in our churches, although just having a class may not be enough. Preach it from the pulpit for everyone to hear.

—This article is reprinted with permission from *The Christian Index*.

FamilyFEST

Kansas City

July 21-25, 2008

FamilyFEST is a perfect family vacation you won't soon forget. Grow closer together as family members work together doing missions right here at home...or far away! Visit www.wmu.com/volunteerconnection for more information.

Praise and Worship Gathering for Students to Occur near Kansas City

PARADISE is a journey to *awaken* students from every part of the body of Christ to the supremacy of God's Son, to call them to *adore* Him as King, and to inspire them to *arise* to bravely join Him in accelerating His kingdom purposes for this generation. Teenagers will join together in a national worship gathering on May 25, 2008, convened at the geographic center of the nation. This event is designed to bring together thousands of young believers for worship and prayer.

The registration has already outgrown the original location and has moved even closer to KCKBA churches. Register now to take your students to this awe inspiring day of worship.

- **Location:** About 30 minutes south of Kansas City, Kan., near U.S. Highway 69 and 20 miles south of Kansas Highway 68.
- **Contact:** Terry McIlvain at KNCSB, 800.984.9092, or tmcilvain@kncsb.org or visit www.paradise08.com.

The Eagle Retreat Designed for Teenage Children of Ministers

The Eagle Retreat for 7th–12th graders whose parents are in a paid ministerial staff position is planned for March 28–30 at Webster Conference Center. Contact KNCSB Family Ministries Director Tim Boyd, 800.984.9092, or tboyd@kncsb.org for registration information.

Ignite National Youth Leadership Conference 2008

Ignite National Youth Leadership Conference is for youth leaders and high school students who are leaders in their youth groups. KNCSB, Lifeway, and the North American Mission Board are some of the sponsors of this event.

Date: March 15, 2008

Location: Des Moines, Iowa

Information: Visit www.kncsb.org or www.ignite-youth.org.

Regional Heart of the Child Convention Scheduled for Spring

The regional **Heart of the Child** Convention on April 4–5, 2008 will be held at First Baptist Church, Broken Arrow, Oklahoma. It is designed to equip leadership in renewing their spirit and joy as they plan to teach preschoolers and children.

Conferences are available to assist your ministry to preschoolers and children through Sunday School, including a Spanish track, Missions, Discipleship, Worship and Music, Recreation, Church Weekday Education, Special Needs, and Parenting Education.

The Kansas-Nebraska Convention of Southern Baptists (KNCSB) joins with Arkansas, Missouri, Oklahoma, New Mexico and Texas to bring the best in preschool and children's conferences to the region. The conference fee of \$69 includes 2 lunches, 1 banquet dinner, snacks, and all conference materials.

Register by March 26 at bgco.org/preschoolchildrensconvention. For more information, call Debbie Carter at 1.785.267.1233.

Children's Camp Dates Announced for Summer 2008

The new year brings another opportunity in the KCKBA Children's Ministry program. This year, the KCKBA Kids Adventure Camp for children who have finished 3rd–6th grades will be held July 7–11, 2008. New Hope Conference Center near Holt, Missouri will again be the location. It is an hour's drive, or less, from most KCKBA churches.



Bible study and worship are important at children's camp. Pictured above is a scene from worship time in 2007.

The cost of \$125 includes meals, lodging, a camp T-shirt, Bible study notebooks, and tons of fun!

Brochures will be available later in February and may be requested by calling 913.599.4455 or downloaded at www.kckba.org.



Fun and fellowship are other key ingredients for a successful children's camp. In the above photo, children are enjoying the annual campfire and marshmallow roast at the 2007 camp.

Training Offered for Vacation Bible School Leaders in 2008

Get ready for VBS 2008! Get great ideas, teaching helps and have fun during one or more of the events. Samples of LifeWay's 2008 VBS *Outrigger Island*® are now available at the KCKBA office.



VBS Jumpstart

Sat., Mar. 8: 1st Southern Baptist, Salina, Kansas, 9:30 AM–3:00 PM

During the morning, receive specific training in one of these *Outrigger Island*® core conferences: VBS Directors; Pastors & Evangelism; VBS Music; Children's Bible Study; Children's Crafts; Preschool VBS; Youth VBS; Adult VBS (new this year!). A core conference will also be available for leaders in Club VBS: *Cactus Canyon*®. The afternoon will provide two elective sessions with over ten choices. To register, contact Barbara Spicer at KNCSB, 1.800.984.9092. A cost of \$10 includes conferences and a box lunch.

Local *Outrigger Island*® VBS Clinics (choose one location)

Sat., Apr. 19: Emmanuel Baptist Church, 10100 Metcalf, 9:30–11:30 AM

Tues., Apr. 22: Nall Avenue Baptist Church, 67th & Nall, 7:00–9:00 PM

VBS directors and pastors will receive a variety of ideas and helps in planning, promoting, conducting, and follow-through for VBS. A new conference this year for pastors and staff will have a strong focus on VBS as a reaching tool, age-appropriate evangelism, and effective follow-up. All Preschool leaders, VBS music, Children's Bible study, crafts and missions will have separate conferences to help with preparation to teach and lead...for *FREE*. Childcare is available only by reservation, 913.599.4455 or loisz@kcbaptist.org by April 14. Your association and state convention are ready to assist church leaders as you prepare to lead in Vacation Bible School. Choose one or more of these training opportunities for help in preparing for VBS 2008. Contact Marie Clark for further information on training or curriculum choices.

April is an Important Month for Children and Youth Bible Drills

The date for the Kansas-Nebraska Children's Bible Drill/ Youth Bible Drill and Youth Speakers Tournament at Webster Conference Center, Salina, Kansas is April 19, 2008. The children's Bible drill is for those currently in grades 4–6. All participants must first qualify in a church drill, and then proceed to the KCKBA associational Bible drill scheduled for 7:00 PM, April 9 at Emmanuel Baptist Church, 10100 Metcalf, Overland Park, Kansas.

A complete packet with all information and materials was mailed to each KNCSB church in mid-August 2007. Contact your pastor or church office for these materials. For replacement materials, contact Barbara Spicer at KNCSB, 1.800.984.9092.



Participants, winners, and coaches from the KCKBA 2007 Bible Drill.



...to Steve Dighton, senior pastor of Lenexa Baptist Church, upon the loss of his father, J.W. Dighton, on December 27, 2007. Services were held on December 31 in Ardmore, Oklahoma.

2007, 2006, & 2005 Annual Church Giving to KCKBA

	2007	2006	2005
47th Street	\$ 0.00	\$ 25.00	\$ 0.00
83rd Street	2,965.65	2,773.37	2,698.98
Bethesda Missionary	0.00	0.00	0.00
Blue Valley	15,000.00	15,000.00	15,000.00
Bykota	1,137.32	1,548.91	1,448.06
Calvary, Lenexa	3,112.28	2,030.30	9,178.65
Calvary Southern, Gardner	1,919.07	1,185.51	2,187.19
CenterPoint	0.00	600.00	550.00
Daybreak Community	397.84	1,338.96	700.00
Dynamic Life Baptist Ministries	0.00	NA	NA
Edgerton	1,002.31	51.47	94.14
Emmanuel	5,050.00	33,007.45	42,845.05
Emmanuel Chinese	3,100.00	2,950.00	2,808.00
Fellowship, Olathe	7,927.96	7,200.00	9,548.80
First Baptist of Bethel	0.00	0.00	\$0.00
First Baptist of Shawnee	1,650.00	NA	NA
First Family	1,000.00	0.00	0.00
First Hmong	1,518.83	430.30	415.75
First Korean	0.00	300.00	0.00
First Southern, KCK	1,377.46	0.00	718.29
First Southern, OP	10,492.37	8,836.07	3,000.00
Friendship	NA	80.59	243.68
Grace, Gardner	6,240.23	6,200.00	5,130.00
Grace Fellowship	1,311.30	109.76	NA
Haven	4,664.78	5,728.77	7,986.02
Iglesia la Esperanza	333.32	868.66	708.50
International Community	240.00	675.00	140.00
Ironhorse Community	700.00	955.10	NA
Lansing	4,981.58	4,989.09	2,969.20
Leavenworth	2,312.00	2,216.76	3,454.38
Leawood	4,648.87	10,937.38	8,015.13
Lenexa	12,000.00	12,000.00	12,000.00
Louisburg	2,449.09	2,865.27	2,255.06
Metropolitan	1,499.60	1,370.08	1,316.55
Mission Creek	1,899.54	1,866.05	1,825.31
Mt. Olive Missionary	0.00	NA	NA
Nall Avenue	17,556.46	15,627.38	18,994.31
New Hope	504.28	563.65	569.25
New Life	550.00	495.00	425.00
New Light Bethel	0.00	0.00	300.00
North Overland Park	330.00	330.00	330.00
Osawatomie	1,370.98	1,503.98	1,724.43
Parkway	4,043.92	4,799.28	5,204.00
Pearl Street	11,435.35	11,916.24	12,646.29
Pleasant Hill	0.00	0.00	NA
Rehm's Park	1,815.38	2,272.33	1,869.66
Sharon	875.00	1,125.00	1,375.00
South Leawood	7,715.19	8,971.07	2,185.41
Southside	0.00	100.00	460.28
The Gathering	120.00	150.00	100.00
The Master's Community	980.00	420.00	420.00
Vista	6,773.89	7,327.75	7,229.73
Welborn	3,083.60	3,726.35	3,148.19
West Haven	6,000.00	6,800.04	6,800.04
Westside Family	27,500.04	27,500.04	27,500.04
Total	\$191,585.49	\$221,767.96	\$228,068.37

Gracia Burnham Scheduled to Speak at Local Church

Gracia Burnham will be the guest speaker at 6:00 PM, March 2 at West Haven Baptist Church in Tongonaxie, Kansas. Gracia is the widow of Martin Burnham and the mother of their three children.

For 17 years Gracia and Martin served with New Tribes Mission in the Philippines where Martin was a jungle pilot delivering supplies, mail, and encouragement to other missionaries and transporting sick and injured patients to medical facilities. Gracia served in various roles supporting the aviation program and also home-schooled their children.

While celebrating their 18th wedding anniversary, the Burnhams and several other guests were kidnapped by the Abu Sayyaf, a militant group of Muslims. In the ensuing months some of the hostages were killed, but most were set free. In the last seven months of this ordeal, only the Burnhams and one other hostage remained. During their 376 days of captivity, they faced near starvation, constant exhaustion, frequent gun battles, coldhearted murder—and intense soul-searching about a God who sometimes seemed to have forgotten them. On June 7, 2002, in a firefight between the Abu Sayyaf and the Philippine military, Martin was killed. Gracia was wounded, but was freed.

West Haven Baptist Church invites area churches to worship with them on March 2, for this special event.

Upcoming Events and Celebrations

February

- 07–8 Church and Community Ministries Leadership Meeting, KNCSB
- 11–17 Focus on wMu Week
- 2–3/1 Tapestry for Women's Ministry/Missions, KNCSB, Topeka

February Ministry Birthdays and Anniversaries

Birthdays

- 04 Richard Sowards, retired
- 09 Ralph Hansen, North Overland Park

Ministry Anniversaries

- 01 Carl Hunker, Emmanuel Chinese, 1988
- 04 Scott Mayse, BYKOTA, 1990
- 07 Jeffery Masengale, Leavenworth, 2007
- 14 Cole Cochran, Vista, 2005
- 17 Ralph Hansen, North Overland Park, 2007
- 26 Steve Dighton, Lenexa, 1990



This summer KCKBA will again sponsor two adult softball leagues: a mixed league and a men's league. Games will be played on Monday evenings at Heritage Park in Olathe. Each league has slots for 8 teams; unfortunately, we will not be able to accommodate additional requests.

The league fee of \$350 per team needs to be paid by the first week in May. The eight-week league will begin on June 2, 2008. In the meantime, please call the KCKBA office to reserve a place for your church's team. If you have questions, contact Marie Clark, 913.599.4455 or mariec@kcbaptist.org.



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