



Massachusetts Baptist Association

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SONshine Thots from a Ray

I flew out of Providence airport on Tuesday, November 29, to visit my sister, Stephanie, in Trussville, AL. Some of you know she conquered breast cancer only to discover she had lung cancer (she never smoked) and has had some small tumors develop in her brain. She has chemo for her lungs and radiation for her tumors, but praise God she is upbeat, without pain (though tires easily) and is trusting that God has everything under control. Stephanie's twin, Marcia, came to visit her after Thanksgiving from Colorado and Carolyn suggested that I go visit with them - I did.

Since I was going to be in Alabama, I thought I could go visit with Bob and Susan Wellner, who now live in Shorterville, AL, about 45 minutes north of Dothan. Bob is still having infusions for his pancreatic cancer and had a treatment the day I arrived. I was able to stay overnight in their guest room and fellowship with them. Bob is still leading music in their church, Susan plays keyboard - you know his heart's desire is to finish strong until the Lord calls him home. Keep them in your prayers; they pray for you all.

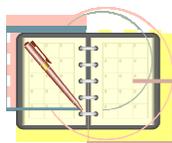
I left Bob and Susan's and drove back to Birmingham where my sisters picked me up at the airport rental return. We drove to Stephanie's son's home for supper and to visit with his wife and 3 teenage children. What a delight! The next morning, I got to visit with Stephanie's daughter's children, another delight but for one thing. All six grandchildren had heard the stories of the "bad big brother" who had tied their grandmother and aunt to a palm tree and shot them with his "BB" gun. Sad but true. Thankfully they forgave me!

We had a wonderful visit, just the three of us! We also visited the 16th Street Baptist Church in Birmingham, an African-American church that was bombed and the Civil Rights Museum across the street. We ate BBQ ribs at Dreamland Restaurant, went to a SS class party and visited the Moundville Archaeological museum. I flew home on Saturday, December 3rd. God has blessed me with an extended Christian family over five generations, from my grandparents, parents, siblings, children and grandchildren - all of them believers. And none of them were mean like I was. I know what it is to have God's mercy and grace poured out on me!

Carolyn and I pray for you all to have a blessed Christmas and New Year's. May your services be filled with the presence of the Holy Spirit in a special way this month. We love you all.

MBA Church Giving - November 2016

Dates of Interest



DECEMBER

**December 13 -
9:00am**

**MBA Central
Pastors' Fellowship**

We are going to begin discussion of Thom Rainer's book *Who Moved My Pulpit?* I have more copies if you want to join us
Rice Memorial,
Northborough

**December 19 -
10:00am**

**MBA Monday
Morning Prayer**

Seminary Classroom
at BCNE

**December 24 & 25
CHRISTMAS EVE &
CHRISTMAS DAY**

We rejoice, *Jesus
Christ is born!*

**December 31
NEW YEAR'S EVE**

CHURCHES	NOVEMBER	YEAR TO DATE
APPLE VALLEY CHURCH	\$42.00	\$84.00
BEULAH BAPTIST CHURCH	\$100.00	\$100.00
BURNCOAT BAPTIST CHURCH		
CHAPEL ON THE HILL		\$327.27
CHRIST BAPTIST, WORCESTER		
CHRISTIAN FAITH FELLOWSHIP		
EMBARK CHURCH		\$52.00
EMMANUEL, WEST SPRINGFIELD	\$77.10	\$152.10
FAITH BAPTIST, GREENFIELD		
FAITH BAPTIST, MENDON		
FIRST BAPTIST SUTTON		
FIRST HAITIAN BAPT OF WORC		
FIRST BAPTIST PORTUGUESE		
FRIENDSHIP, BRIMFIELD		\$310.00
GREENVILLE BAPTIST		
HAVEN		
HILLTOWN COMMUNITY		
HOPE CHAPEL	\$1,638.11	\$2,969.16
I.B. CASA DE ORACION & MISSIONS	\$25.00	\$50.00
I.B. CASTILLO FUERTE, PITTSFIELD	\$30.00	\$60.00
I.B. NUEVA JERUSALEM	\$200.00	\$400.00
I.B. QUICHUA-NUEVA VIDA	\$100.00	\$200.00
I.B. QUICHUA-NUEVA JERUSALEN	\$120.00	\$120.00
LEOMINSTER BRAZILLIAN		
LIFEWAY B.C. INTERNATIONAL	\$150.00	\$150.00
LINCOLN CONGREGATIONAL		
MEETINGHOUSE BAPTIST CHURCH		\$150.00
MERCY HOUSE		\$150.00
NEW HOPE, AYER		\$200.00
NEW RICE KOREAN		\$50.00
PLEASANT STREET BAPTIST	\$137.02	\$260.67
PORTUGUESE AMERICAN BC	\$50.00	\$100.00
PROVIDENCE MOLDOVIAN BAPTIST		
REDEMPTION FELLOWSHIP		
RICE MEMORIAL		\$267.25
SHALOM NAPALI CHURCH		
SLAVIC BAPTIST CHURCH	\$50.00	\$100.00
THE CHURCH ON SEVEN HILLS		
UNITED FAITH BAPTIST		
VIDA NUEVA CHURCH		
VITA NOVA	\$42.00	\$84.00
WOODLAWN BAPTIST		
WORCESTER BAPTIST		
WORCESTER NEPALI		
ZION		
TOTAL CHURCH GIVING	\$2,719.23	\$6,252.45

