

# connect

Meeting America's  
Greatest Need

BCP  
A PUBLICATION OF  
BAPTIST CHURCH PLANTERS

Fall-Winter 2011

## *Are Mission Agencies Really Needed?*

*Dr. David C. Little, President*

For many years most churches have required missionaries to be connected to a credible agency. Many churches have this requirement in their bylaws. Why? At the top of the list is accountability, both to the sending church and supporting churches. Churches want to know that financial and legal requirements are being addressed. Most churches do not feel they can adequately meet the needs of their missionaries without the expertise of a mission agency.

Most agencies have the best interest of their missionaries at heart. Almost all missionaries I know deeply appreciate the services provided by their agency. It is comforting for them to know that behind their local church is an agency that will do everything in its power to meet their needs, whenever and wherever.

Recently, some have suggested that the missionary's sending church be the missionary's agency. Before a church accepts this responsibility, they should think through the following:

- Is the church prepared to handle up to 30 to 50 donations per month per missionary, receipting donors, paying out professional expenses, medical payments, preparing tax documents, and etc. on a regular basis? Missionaries frown on late checks or not receiving an immediate response to a question.
- Is the church prepared to send prayer letters, correspond with supporting churches seeking support requirements, and answer specific questions regarding the work of the missionary?
- Is the church prepared to send their pastor or members to the field of service to encourage and support the missionary's work?
- Is the church prepared to evacuate their missionaries, either for medical or life threatening reasons, regardless of the cost? There is no time to call a business meeting in desperate situations.
- The work of being an agency is complex and should not be considered without serious thought.

Some have suggested missionaries use clearing houses. It is one option but here is a word of caution. Clearing houses simply channel money from the donors to the missionary. They do not answer questions, solve problems, visit the missionary on the field, rescue them in time of trouble, or comfort them in time of sorrow. Can a sending church do what is needed for their missionary? Some can, but as churches and pastors change, will the missionary end up on the short end of the stick?

No agency will do everything right all the time. Fault can be found, but overall, churches would do well to demonstrate appreciation for the work accomplished. When was the last time you wrote and thanked the agency that serves your missionaries?

Baptist Church Planters seeks to be transparent with the churches, missionaries, and donors we serve. Our Council has an "open meeting policy." As supporting churches and individuals, you are welcome to sit in and observe. Our financial reports are available to you if you so desire. Our Regional Field Directors will always be "up front and totally honest" with you regarding questions you might ask.

We are here to serve local churches and missionaries. If you have questions, feel free to call us. We are available.

# BCP CANDIDATE CLASS OF 2011



## ORLANDO & DEBBIE COLLAZO

**Sending Church:**  
Calvary Baptist Church  
Lansdale, PA  
**Contact Information:**  
Ph: 215-782-3170  
Email: collazoch@aol.com

Orlando and Debbie were raised in Philadelphia, PA. Orlando served for the past twelve years as associate pastor in his home church. Orlando will graduate from Calvary Baptist Theological Seminary with a Master of Divinity degree in May 2012. They will be planting a church in the Hispanic community in Lorain, OH. They have four children.



## KENNETH & JOYCE MILLER

**Sending Church:**  
Faith Baptist Church of N. Chili  
Rochester, NY  
**Contact Information:**  
Ph: 585-538-4261  
Email: kfm812@hotmail.com

Ken and Joyce were both saved at an early age and surrendered to the Lord for whatever He would ask them to do. They trained for ministry and have been used of the Lord in various ministries, mainly in upstate New York. After their last ministry, they were asked by Faith Baptist Church of Hamlin, NY to be interim pastor. The Millers join BCP as Apollos missionaries, willing to pastor the Hamlin work under the direction of BCP.



## DEREK & AIMEE PHILLIPS

**Sending Church:**  
Inland Manor Baptist Church  
Hobart, IN  
**Contact Information:**  
Ph: 515-333-2808  
Email: dphillipsiowa@gmail.com

Derek and Aimee were both raised in Christian homes and both attended Faith Baptist Bible College, Ankeny, IA. They served in youth ministry at Calvary Baptist Church in Mason City, IA before following the Lord's leading into church planting. They plan to serve with BCP missionaries, Scott and Brooke Greening, establishing a church in Schaumburg, IL. They have three young children.



## TOM & CAROL PHILLIPS

**Sending Church:**  
Temple Baptist Church  
Fredericksburg, VA  
**Contact Information:**  
Ph: 434-568-7278  
Email: thomascarol.phillips@gmail.com

Tom and Carol were saved early in life and have given their lives to God's service. After serving as a local church pastor, they sensed the call of God into missionary work serving in Micronesia for many years. With much experience and wisdom, they seek to use their abilities to assist churches needing assistance and restoration.

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## A new missionary getting ready to plant

Claudia Shirk of Batavia, NY won the BCP tractor given away in June at the GARBC Conference, Denver, CO. Her grandson loves it!





"Grand Opening" – Sept. 25, 2011  
Great Commission Baptist Church,  
Schaumburg, IL

**Three Projects - Three Special Services**

This fall Brent & Michele Howard (ChurchCare Construction missionaries) were able to attend three special services of churches they helped in construction projects. Recently, the Howards said, "It is such a blessing to see the buildings being used to God's glory! We enjoyed seeing how the Lord has already been at work bringing new lives into each of these churches."



Construction Praise & Recognition Service - Oct. 1, 2011  
Heritage Baptist Church, Wampsville, NY



Building Dedication Service - Oct. 9, 2011  
Community Regular Baptist Church, Bussey, IA



**CHURCHCARE CONSTRUCTION:**  
**Looking for Builders!**

ChurchCare Construction receives numerous calls from pastors and churches asking for help on new builds and additions. It gives us great joy when we are able to partner with many of these churches by providing them with an affordable building team, which skillfully guides them through all the phases of church construction. This is the way it is supposed to work. It saddens us greatly, however, when we have to turn away a church who requests our help simply because we do not have enough builders to meet the growing need. ChurchCare Construction needs:

- Full-time Lead Builders who are experienced with all areas of construction
- Full-time Associate Builders who are familiar with most aspects of construction and are willing to learn
- Architects who are willing to partner with us



**Howard Fraser**

Change the life of a church and its community by becoming a part of ChurchCare Construction.

For an informational packet, email: Howard Fraser, Director of ChurchCare Construction at: [howard.fraser@churchcare.org](mailto:howard.fraser@churchcare.org)

Pray for the Eaton and Murphy families working on a building project in Caldwell, NJ.

**THE GREтна STORY ON DVD**

Would you take seven minutes to show a story about church planting? How about at your missions conference? In a Sunday School opening? In a main service?

BCP has published the story of Gretna Baptist Church, Gretna, NE. The theme is, "What does it take to plant a church?"

Go to our website and click on "Planting Churches in North America" and you can watch the DVD, or contact us and ask for the DVD. (440-748-1677 / [bcp@bcpusa.org](mailto:bcp@bcpusa.org))



[www.bcpusa.org](http://www.bcpusa.org)



**Pastor Bryan Clark**, pastor of Gretna Baptist Church, Gretna, NE audited our 2011 Candidate School to learn more about church planting. Pastor Clark wants Gretna Baptist Church to

continue the missional passion of planting new churches. We commend Pastor Clark for taking the time to learn.

*NOTE: Any pastor or layman desiring to learn more about church planting is welcome to audit our Candidate Classes.*

Next Candidate Class, September 21-25, 2012.



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## JOY Club Ministry KAREN PECK, DIRECTOR

Can you imagine the happy faces of boys and girls as they rush through the doors of church buildings across the United States and Canada? They are headed to JOY Club to hear the precious truth that God loves them and has a plan for their lives. Their faithful leaders will sing songs with them, listen to Bible verses that the children have committed to memory, help them work in their handbooks, share prayer requests, and of course teach them from the Word of God. We are excited to share with you that because of donations and memorial gifts given to JOY Club, we have been able to rewrite and print new 5th and 6th grade handbooks in full color with some great graphics. We will soon be working on the revisions for the 3rd and 4th grade handbooks. God continues to bless this children's ministry and we want to honor Him not only in its content but also in its appearance. Thanks for praying for this ministry. It is making a difference in the lives of children, families, and churches.



**A Very Special Thank You** to our dear friends from Abbe Road Baptist Church, Elyria, OH. They faithfully come in every Thursday to stuff and stamp envelopes to help us get our big mailings out. What a happy bunch that do a vital service for BCP. We appreciate them so much and wonder how we would get along without them!

## MEMORIAL GIFTS

*Since our last publication,  
 gifts were given in memory of:*

- Joseph Deeks
- Virgil Freyermuth
- Carlita Plew
- Mary Woodward