

BAMA MINUTES – APRIL 14, 2010

The Bristolville Area Ministerial Association met Wednesday, April 14, 2010 at North Bristol Christian Church. Present were host pastor Dale Briggs, Ron McIlvaine, Jody Baker, Jim Gardiner, Roger Norton, Rich Whipkey, Tal Lewis, and Fred Keener.

Host pastor Dale Briggs opened the meeting by sharing a portion of Colossians 3 and the importance of being clothed with qualities like forgiveness, compassion, and kindness, with love being the thread that binds all of these virtues together. Dale emphasized the need of most believers to be more heavenly-minded.

Following prayer, the minutes of the March 10, 2010 meeting were read and approved. Treasurer Jim George was unable to attend the meeting, but had reported by e-mail that we have \$3,805.07 in the treasury, not including the offering from the Lenten service at Greene Community. It was reported that North Bloomfield Assembly of God has started donating \$10/month to BAMA.

In Old Business, Jim George had shared that he will be going to Cleveland early next week with the collection of computers and other electronic equipment and parts for Ret3 Job Corp Inc. So far, he has a pickup load, and may need to take his trailer as well. Items can be delivered to him and left in his shed if he's not available.

Rich shared that Dean & Brenda Losch, a homeless couple who had asked many of the churches in the area for help over the past couple of months, have been attending and participating for the past month at North Bloomfield Assembly of God. One of the members there has allowed the Losch's to set up their trailer in their driveway. Dean had been doing Amish taxi runs, but now his former boss has hired him back part time.

This year's Lenten services seemed to be much appreciated. Dale commented about what a great spirit there was. North Bloomfield Assembly's participation was also appreciated.

Jody shared that 2 assemblies and a comeback service with Dan Smith, pastor of Momentum Church in Independence, have been set up for May 5 at North Bloomfield High School. There will either be one assembly before lunch and 1 after, or 2 right over the lunch hour—one for junior highs, the other for senior highs. The comeback event will be held at the school at 6 or 6:30. BAMA pastors are invited to the assemblies as well as the comeback program, and of course the comeback event is open to everyone. Though Dan Smith came down in price a bit, Jody felt that including the food for the comeback event, the total cost will still be around 1,700-\$1,800. Jody said that several teens from the church have chipped in personally, which encouraged some adults to help too. About \$700 has been given or pledged so far, not including BAMA's promised donation of \$600. North Bloomfield Assembly has collected pledges or donations for \$500. Jody said any of the events may be videotaped, so that we have something to use to promote and publicize Dan Smith in the future.

There was a discussion about the Blackwood's, who had been scheduled to come to Wildare in May. 4 churches in the Bristol area had been planning to chip in \$150 apiece to cover the cost of that event. However, Dale shared that he had found out that the group that was to come was not actually the Blackwoods, but another group using their name. Dale also said that the concert didn't make it firmly on the schedule anyway. Others BAMA members seemed interested in getting involved in the

Blackwood's coming, and Tuesday, November 16 was set as the date to have them at Wildare's Family Life Center. BAMA churches are free to contribute toward the \$600 cost; any money left over could go into the BAMA treasury. Dale said he will make sure that date is still available for the Blackwood's, and Tal will confirm that the Family Life Center is available. It was thought that since this concert will be around the same time as the annual BAMA Thanksgiving service, it could be especially promoted at that event.

Dale circulated information from the Country Neighbor Program encouraging people to vote for the Senior Services levy in Trumbull County, which supports such services as Meals on Wheels, personal care, and expanded transportation. No increase in taxes would be involved.

Roger announced that this year's Baccalaureate service will be held Wednesday, May 26 at 6 p.m. at Bristol U.M.C. Roger said he is asking Jim George to have the message. (As always, the Gideons will be on hand to pass out New Testaments afterward.)

Jody shared that he is working to purchase the rights to show the movie "To Save a Life," about teen suicide. Jody prefers to show the movie in a "neutral" location rather than a church. It was felt that the Bristol Town Park would be a good possibility. Roger offered the use of Bristol U.M.C.'s video projector; Dale said it works very well to project onto the outside of the church. Ron offered the use of his sound system. With graduations and open houses, it seems like a bit of a challenge to set the date for this event, but Jody is looking toward late May.

Following a brief discussion about copy machines, closing prayer was offered by Jody Baker. Our next meeting will be held at 9 a.m. on Wednesday, May 12 at Mecca Community Church, with Chris Furl as host pastor. Those who can meet for prayer at 8:30 a.m. are invited to do so.

Respectfully submitted,
Fred Keener, Secretary