

## COMING UP IN FRIENDS CHURCH MID AMERICA

**Kids Camp:** (grades 3&4) June 4-7  
**Junior Camp:** (grades 5&6) June 7-10  
**Senior High Camp:** (grades 9-12) June 10-14  
**Junior High Camp:** (grades 7&8) June 14-18  
**Saltshaker Sinaloa:** June 23-July 7, Sinaloa, Mexico  
**EFC-MAYM Ministry Conference:** July 21-23, Wichita, KS  
**Family Camp:** September 3-5, CQH  
**Senior's Camp:** October 3-5, CQH

## SPRING BREAK SERVICE PROJECTS 2011

Each local church youth group was encouraged to use Spring Break 2011 to serve in meaningful ways. Here are some examples of what church youth groups did during spring break:

- Bethel Friends Church served at the Oklahoma City Rescue Mission.
- Chandler Friends Church served at Oklahoma City Friends Church.
- Derby Friends Church did work projects at CQH.
- Friendswood Friends Church served at the Kickapoo Friends Center.
- Haviland Friends Church served with the Center for Student Missions doing urban ministry in Houston.
- Northridge Friends Church did service projects and neighborhood sports ministry in Wichita.
- Rose Hill Friends Church did a work project on a house in the community.

Beginning in 2008, Spring Invasion went to an every other year rotation. The next short-term mission trip to Mexico will be held in March 2012.

## MISSIONS MONTH 2011

The EFC-MAYM Missions Mobilizers will soon release Missions Month 2011 materials. These materials, including four full-color two-sided bulletin inserts, are undated and can be used at any time this year. Make plans now to highlight and promote missions in your church! The Missions Month materials will be available later this summer. This year's theme is "Holding Up Their Arms" based on the story of Moses and the ways we can 'hold up the arms' through prayer and support of the Friends Missions and missionaries that we love. Contact the Ministry Center for more information.

A DVD highlighting the Discipleship for Development work in Rwanda was sent out to all churches earlier this year. Sponsored by the EFC-NA Education Commission, this DVD highlights the work of Discipleship for Development in Rwanda.

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# INSIGHTS

June 2011

A PUBLICATION OF EVANGELICAL FRIENDS CHURCH MID AMERICA

## CONNECTED TO THE VINE

The question went something like this: "You have given your life's work to the church. Why?" I wanted to ask, "Why do you ask?" But I knew. The person wanted to know about my commitment level. Some might respond, "Because I couldn't find another line of work." That response reflects a faulty view of a call and of the Lord who calls. Others might respond, "Because I want to be able to vocalize my views." That response puts one's self over the message and ministry.



Here is what I remember saying: "I have given my life to the church, because I love the Lord Jesus, and He loves the church. What he loves I love, and what He gave His life for, I want to give my life for. There is a calling I have received from Him and I have purposed to complete it." I honestly cannot think of having spent a life of greater fulfillment any other way. God has been good and faithful, not because of what I have done, but because that is who He is. Spending my life being attached or connected to the Vine has been deepest satisfaction.

Jesus said that those who abide or dwell in Him will be ones who become fruitful and productive (John 15:5). It is interesting to observe that there are two connections we have in the church; one connection is with each other (the church or the branches) and the other is with our Lord (the True Vine). The branches and the fruit derive their source in the Vine. Becoming fruitful and productive Christ followers depends on our connection to the Vine. Our fellowship and encouragement depends on our connection with each other.

Next month (July 20-23) we are going to explore this Vine Connection at the annual EFC-MAYM Ministry Conference and meetings. We will be sending you more information about what is planned for training, equipping, "connecting", growing, eating, sleeping, and blessing. Be sure to mark your calendar and plan to come to the campus of Friends University for this special time.

David J. Robinson,  
General Superintendent



## MINISTRY CONFERENCE 2011

Register for 2011 EFC-MAYM Ministry Conference by July 6th.

*Note these examples of special conference features:*

### **EQUIPPERS LUNCH – Sat, July 23, 12:30-2:30pm**

*This Lunch is for Local Church Pastors, Clerks and Elders, whatever your church calls them (Overseers, Leadership Team, Ministry and Counsel, Executive Council, etc). This is a stand-alone event tied into Ministry Conference; leaders are welcome to sign up at only \$10 per person even if unable to register for full conference (use Ministry Conference registration form).*

Dr. Charles Mylander will lead teaching and discussion, including these topics: Biblical requirements, Roles and functions, Relationships to the pastor, Resolving conflict, Making tough decisions, Shepherding new Christians, and Prayer.

*See more in the conference brochure.*

### **COACH TRAINING – Friday, July 21**

Whether you are empowering lay leaders, children or church planters, learn how to encourage and empower leaders through coaching. A coach is not an expert or a mentor, but someone who learns the art of asking questions and listening as someone identifies God's calling on their life and then actively pursue it. In this introduction to *Coaching 101*, by Bob Logan and Sherilyn Carlton, Randy Littlefield offers some basic training that you can apply immediately!

### **DESIGN YOUR IMPACT – Friday, July 21**

The Design Your Impact workshop is a five-hour, fast-moving interactive experience. Six video stories illustrate how very different types and sizes of churches have selected and successfully launched a strategic missions focus ('spiritually own' or 'adopting a mission') based on the unique vision and resources God has given them. A participants notebook helps participants contribute to and profit from the hands-on planning that occurs throughout the day.

This is an opportunity for your mission's team and church leaders to participate together; or send representatives to explore, what the Design Your Impact workshop is all about, for either implementation into your church mission focus or to set up a time to bring the workshop to your church. *See more in the brochure.*

### **TRANSFORMATIONAL DEVELOPMENT – Fri, July 21**

This will be an interactive time of learning stories focused on helping you think through issues related to poverty alleviation and the wholistic Gospel. This four-hour study, led by David Thomas will include insights from the Thomases' and Carpenters' work in Rwanda. *See more in the conference brochure.*

## JR. HIGH BIBLE QUIZ

The final quiz of the 2011 season was held at the Northridge on April 30. There were 12 teams from six churches participating. The day was filled with great competition over Matthew 1-14. The top four teams took home plaques and gift certificates that can be used at EFC-MAYM youth events.



Congratulations to Argonia Blue who won first; Crossroads, second; Chandler Blue, third, and Haviland Blue, fourth. All-Star Medals were awarded to the top four scorers for the season: Willow Corliss (Crossroads) 172; Jesse Trace (Argonia) 149; Natalie Stewart (Haviland) 107; and Joanna Fuqua

(Chandler) 91. The Frazier Award is awarded to the top quizzier of the year: Willow Corliss from Crossroads.

The next season will begin at FSC over the second half of Matthew, starting with chapter 15. If your church would like to start a quiz team, contact the Ministry Center.

## NINE MYTHS ABOUT CHURCH PLANTING

### **MYTH #2 : Planting hurts existing churches.**

#### **FACTS:**

- New churches set new standards and raise the quality of ministry in a community.
- Planting helps existing churches recapture their Missional heart and edge.
- New churches seek to reach the unchurched. In most communities this is well over half the population. Many more new churches are needed to reach them.
- Statistics show that within our region only 17.8% of the population regularly attends church.
- New churches often reach different age, ethnic, or socio-economic groups.

*Our Home Missions Board will print one myth at a time in the Insights over nine editions. To see all nine myths go to [efcmaym.org](http://efcmaym.org). Remember that churches successfully plant churches (rather than yearly meetings planting churches)! This is adapted from an article recently published by the Evangelical Covenant Church of America. If you are interested in Church Planting or know someone who you think might make a good church planter, please contact the Ministry Center.*

## CHURCH LEADERSHIP INSTITUTE

Barbara Worden (Professor, Houston Graduate School of Theology) will teach the course, "Theology and Church History," for June 6 and July 11 sessions of the Church Leadership Institute for Ministry. The live video session will begin at 7:00 p.m. and conclude at 9:00 p.m. A time of fellowship and refreshments at the sites will begin at 6:30. Contact Dave Kingrey with questions.

## MATL PROGRAM AT BARCLAY COLLEGE

Barclay College is now offering a degree program called the Master of Arts in Transformational Leadership (MATL). To learn more about the MATL visit [barclaycollege.edu](http://barclaycollege.edu) or contact Dave Williams (620.862.5252, ext. 26), MATL Director. Enrollment is limited in order to ensure small, close-knit cohorts, so interested students are encouraged to apply as soon as possible to maximize their opportunities for acceptance.

## OTHER NEWS FROM MID AMERICA:

- Check out [friendsmission.com](http://friendsmission.com) for the latest updates and news on EFM missionaries and mission fields. You can find several great tools and resources there, including an excellent video on the Rwanda Orphan Scholarship fundraiser, the new Featured Missionary and Featured Country section, and information on the 2011 annual summer EFM offering (Rough Rock).
- Please pray for the team of students and adults from Crossroads, Fowler, Friendswood, and Northridge participating in Saltshaker 2011, headed to the EFM mission in Sinaloa, Mexico, June 23-July 7. Saltshaker is an advanced missions trip experience for high school and college students. A required orientation for all participants will be held June 7-10 at Camp Quaker Haven. See [friendseyouth.com](http://friendseyouth.com) for more info.

***Insights loves to celebrate the local church. Please submit news of special activities and reports from your local church to [efcmaym@efcmaym.org](mailto:efcmaym@efcmaym.org).***

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