

# *Sowing for the Future*

**Manitoba  
Baptist  
Association**

**Annual General Meeting  
October 13-15, 2006**

**First Baptist Church  
Minitonas, MB**



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***Call to Order and Seating of Delegates***

	<b>Eligible</b>	<b>Eligible</b>	
Elim, Beausejour	3	1	
First, Minitonas	8	1	
Moosehorn, Moosehorn	3	1	
Emmanuel, Morris	7	2	
Oakbank, Oakbank	6	1	
Grace, Ochre River	5	2	
Whiteshell, Seven Sisters	5	2	
Temple, Swan River	7	2	
Whitemouth, Whitemouth	3	1	
Abundant Life	5	1	
Central	3	2	
Fort Richmond	5	2	
McDermot Avenue	8	1	
Mission	7	1	
New Life Ministries	3	2	
Rowandale	8	2	
Whyte Ridge	8	5	
Meadowood Manor	0	1	
Regional Minister	0	1	
Guests	0	0	
Executive	0	0	
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>94</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>0</b>

***Appointment of Special Committees***

<b>Balloting Committee</b>	<b>Scrutineer's Committee</b>	<b>Resolution of Thanks</b>

Many of us want a map, but what we get is a compass. We are not given a detailed outline of how we should live each day. We are given a due north, a direction we should move toward. On this journey one thing becomes certain: when you refuse to act on what you know, all that you do not know paralyzes you.

## ***Summary of Minutes of 2005 AGM***

October 15, 2005 at New Life Ministries – Mark Woods called the meeting to order with prayer.

***Seating of Delegates*** – 94 delegates

***Special Committees*** – Balloting Committee: Egan Ulrich, Manfred Woltman, Wally Kuenstler. Scrutineers: Berndt Rist, Myron Henschel. Resolution of thanks: Greg Gaensler, Allen Unger.

➔MSC to appoint the committees.

***Minutes*** – Summary of minutes of 2004 AGM

➔MSC to accept last year's minutes as presented.

***Financial Report*** – Garry Harland highlighted the financial report for the MBA.

➔MSC to accept the report as presented.

Garry also reviewed the proposed MBA budget for 2006.

There was a correction – the total expenditures should read: \$149,348 and this should amend the next line to \$31,085 as a deficit.

In almost every category we are looking at no real change or a decrease in spending.

There was a question regarding the impact of the shortfall on our operations. The response was that the impact is lessened by the fact that we don't have much going in the way of projects at present, but if something comes up, it would make it difficult to respond.

At present we \$239,000 - \$145,000 of this amount is designated to church planting. The balance is impacted by our present operating deficit of over \$60,000.

There was encouragement for all churches to understand that voting for the budget implied that each church is committed to meeting its goals in giving toward the budget.

It would be helpful if the report would come a bit sooner, so the churches could review the budget and other items and discuss them in their local setting prior to the AGM.

Ochre River wanted to clarify that they did make a contribution to the Association.

➔MSC to approve the budget as presented.

Reports – Several individuals elaborated on their written reports.

- Moderator's Report
- Regional Minister
- Statistical Secretary
- General Council Representative
- Church Planting
- Central Baptist Church
- Northern Manitoba Camp
- Women's Ministry

➔MSC to accept the 2005 reports of the above organizations.

***Nutimik Loan Request*** – Mark Woods introduced the request recently received from Camp Nutimik for a loan of up to \$45,000 to address the operating deficit to the end of 2005.

There was a question as to how the camp found itself in such a serious deficit situation.

The camp hadn't anticipated some of their expenses. The septic field was shut down leading to pumping the tanks twice a day, gas prices going up, subsidizing all campers, mistaken projections of revenues, a major cheque late in arriving from a major group.

Did this happen in one year?

This is actually the second year that the situation has gotten more serious.

Fundraising is much more difficult than it was in the past.

There will be a detailed review of the budget to make the changes necessary.

They have felt a real disconnect with some of the churches of the MBA. There was a feeling that they might not have had as close a relationship with churches, and one positive impact of this crisis is to bring them back to their relationship with the MBA churches.

The situation is very serious, impacting even the ability of the camp to continue after this point. Designated funds haven't been used for designated purposes and have been used for general operating funds. These funds will have to be restored.

Another concern is that the camp doesn't even have the ability to service its debt.

The camp is strong in physical assets which may help secure a loan from a financial institution, but any such help would be contingent on an ability to repay.

➔MSC that the MBA Executive be empowered to loan funds to Lake Nutimik Baptist Camp on an as-needed basis up to a limit of \$45,000 in order to address the operating deficit to the end of 2005. This would be done on the condition that one or more MBA executive members (at the discretion of the MBA executive) will sit on the Camp board in order to work with the Camp to formulate an ongoing financial plan. This condition will exist until funds are repaid in full to the MBA.

### ***Elections***

- Moderator – Mark Woods – 2004 – 2006
- Vice Moderator – Barry Thiessen – 2005-2007
- Statistical Secretary – Herbert Hoehne – 2004-2006
- Treasurer – Garry Harland – 2004-2006
- Recording Secretary – Harry Lehotsky – 2005-2007
- Church Planting Chair – vacant – 2005-2007
- General Council Rep – Del Bertsch – 2004-2007
- General Council Rep – 2006-2008
- Church Ministries – Herb Adam – 2005-2007
- MBA Youth – vacant – Appointed by MBYA
- Women's Coordinator – Daphne Keck – Appointed by Women's Ministry

***Divorce & Remarriage policy*** – Larry Gregan reviewed the report of the committee, along with the suggestions that have been incorporated into the document. There were thanks for the good work of the committee and the quality of the recommendations.

➔MSC to approve the policy as presented.

**Draft Funding Policy** – There was encouragement to consider the guidelines as good wisdom, but also still to make concerns or requests known to the Association.

There was a question as to when a request is granted, where do the funds come from?

The funds would come from church planting funds, following approval of the delegates at an Annual General Meeting.

There was a suggestion that we insert the word, “ongoing” into statement #2 regarding “funding for ongoing operating expenses and staffing will generally not be considered.”

➔MSC to amend the draft policy as suggested.

There was another suggestion that we also remove the word “generally” from the same statement.

➔MSC to amend the draft policy as suggested.

There was a motion to eliminate item #1 about deficit spending because there hasn’t been a time in recent history that we haven’t been in deficit spending.

➔MSC to amend the draft policy as presented.

Mark Woods called the question regarding the revised policy.

➔MSC to approve the policy as revised.

**Motion regarding marriage** – There was thanks to the Association for presenting the motion.

It was emphasized that this policy has the most effect if churches echo the document in their own situation.

➔MSC to accept the resolution as presented.

**Other Business** – Greg Gaensler encouraged churches to take seriously the notion of sabbaticals for their pastors. This was passed by our Association in 1997.

We received greetings from the North American Baptist Seminary and also the offer of any help they may be able to offer us in our situations.

There was a recommendation that the Camp reports include a financial statement. There is also an annual general meeting.

**Resolution of thanks** – Greg Gaensler and Alan Unger presented their motion.

**Next meeting** – We have an invitation from First Baptist in Minitonas for the next Association meetings – scheduled for October 13 – 15, 2006.

**Scrutineers Committee** – Bernd Rist and Myron Henschel presented their report that the report accurately reflected the discussion.

**Closing Prayer**

- Submitted by Dave Henkelman (Acting Recording Secretary)  
for Harry Lehotsky

## ***Northern Plains Regional Minister***

The regional ministry has continued to be both challenging and fulfilling. As in last year's report, I will comment on specific areas of ministry:

### ***Pastoral Placement***

As in past years, this area continues to be one of my more significant responsibilities. The departure of both Del & Evelyn Bertsch and Jay and Dallas Lafontaine from Morris leaves a large hole not only there, but also in the MBA. I am also working with Martin, ND, Turtle Lake, ND, New Leipzig, ND, Bismarck Baptist Church and Medina, ND who are searching for lead pastors. Helping pastors and churches connect becomes a more complex process every year. Churches willing to complete the Ministry Placement Network Church Profile make it easier to find pastors who are compatible with their ministry style and church culture. For those who cannot or will not do so, I will still supply a list of pastors willing to consider them.

### ***Pastor/Church Compatibility***

The ability of pastors and churches to operate on the "same page" continues to be a challenge. Good information and clear understandings before a call is extended are essential to a good working relationship. Once a pastor is on site, negotiation and adjustment become necessary. Recent developments indicate that poor matches produce great stress on both churches and pastors. Such stresses often result in ineffective ministries, short pastorates and even outright conflict. Often pastors as well as lay leaders view an invitation for me to help them as a last resort. Some tell me that if I come, it will give the message that things are really in bad shape. For some churches, this may be reality, but please consider asking for my counsel before a major crisis develops. I do not claim to be able to fix what is broken, but an outside perspective many times has a calming influence and I can often introduce helpful ideas and procedures. I am trained and experienced in working with pastoral staff as well as church leaders. My experience and training provide many resources and examples of how to deal with stressful situations. Ask for help before a situation becomes unmanageable.

### ***Pastor Clusters***

Pastors' clusters are an open avenue for education and enrichment. I am working to schedule at least one extended session per year to introduce each cluster to enrichment tools and to address current ministry issues.

### ***Church Enrichment***

First Baptist Church of Valley City completed a nine-month Church Enrichment process that began with the Natural Church Development assessment and followed with several seminars and workshops, including Core Values, Vision & Mission workshop; Holistic Small Groups workshop; Agenda Harmony workshop; Growing a Healthy Church Strategy Seminar; Prayer Mobilization workshop. The "minimum factor" indicated by the NCD assessment was "Holistic (ministering to the whole individual) Small Groups". Under the leadership of Pastor Allan Gerber, the development of small groups is in process. In addition, follow-up resources will be applied as needed. Other churches receiving the benefit of specific Church Enrichment tools were Dickinson (Core Values workshop) and introductory meetings with Bismarck Century & Jamestown. I am in conversation with Pastor Rod Poppinga in Beulah as we strategize for a

helpful application of enrichment tools there, and have met with the Temple Baptist Church, Jamestown, ND board to help them begin to address enrichment opportunities. In addition, I presented the Core Values concept to two pastor's clusters and am scheduling more for this year. In Manitoba, I am presently working with Ft. Richmond (NCD) and Rowandale (Core Values). Church Enrichment requires a high level of commitment from pastors and lay leaders, but promises to help them raise the level of ministry effectiveness. Please ask your pastor to contact me for further information. He is the gatekeeper of this process.

### ***Regional Leadership Team***

Thank you to Del Bertsch and Harry Lehotsky for serving as representatives on our team this year, and to Mark Woods who has been active in the alternate role since Harry's illness became evident. This team, which also includes Clyde Zimbelman (Baptist Home, Bismarck) and James Schnabel (Venturia, ND), provides invaluable insight, accountability and support for my ministry. The NCA alternate for this team is Dr. David Lake, pastor at Bethel Baptist, Harvey, ND.

### ***Northern Plains Leadership Movement***

I led an on-line class of pastors through the Emerging Phase, with another such class in process this fall. Last year's class included Del Bertsch and Mark de Kluyver. The NPLM is working to extend this great leadership endeavor into Manitoba. I thank the NPLM Advisory Team for their hard and effective work. The expertise they have developed has become useful not only in our region, but throughout the NAB Conference.

### ***Church/Ministry Planting***

Both the MBA and the NCA have begun the process of appointing a Church/Ministry Planting task force. Those task forces will be trained for expertise in the development of new ministries. The Church/Ministry hyphen indicates that varied needs for ministry exist from the smallest rural community to the inner city. Such ministries should always be local church based, but some churches will not be able to foster resources great enough to get the job done. Further, most of our church leaders do not know how to establish outpost ministries in adjacent communities or even next door. Such a task force will be able to provide direction, and the Associations will be then positioned to supply financial and other material resources to make them work. I strongly encourage this kind of focus so that we can more effectively reach a region with so many lost people.

### ***Regional Minister Meetings***

Each year NAB Regional Ministers meets early in the year for training and then in September for a retreat with wives present. In January, we are going to Kansas City, MO to be trained and certified with Growing a Healthy Church materials. Most of us have already been trained in this area, but a new company has purchased the material from SonLife Ministries and is creating online modules that can be used by RMs to teach the GHC modules in shorter segments. Following the training I will bring all of our pastors up to date and offer these newly packaged resources, which will follow the GHC model.

### ***North American Baptist Conference***

While the resignation of Ron Berg, NAB Executive Director, could result in setbacks for our conference, it appears that we are on the move toward even greater achievements for the cause of Christ. Dr. Gordon Harris, Interim Executive Director is already providing good stability for our ministries. The appointment of Dr. Tim Blackburn as the head of the Discipleship Department will provide more adequate resourcing, especially for Regional Ministers. Tim comes from years of experience as RM for the Great Lakes Region, and carries a substantial toolkit of training and expertise. As our General Council Rep. should report, the conference has fully retired the indebtedness acquired during the major organizational transition two years ago. Financial management is now fully operational and administrative adjustments have largely been made. It is a pleasure to work with the NAB staff members who have given so much of themselves to improve the organization.

### ***MBA Conditions***

I am thankful for the bright spots in the Northern Plains Region, but I carry continued concern regarding discipleship trends. Many issues illuminate the need to move away from status quo approaches to ministries and begin asking the question: What form should our ministries take so that we are most able to reach our communities for Christ? Ministry form is important, but equally important are the hearts of our people. Unless we give ourselves fully to reach people for Christ and help them grow to maturity, ministry form changes will not have the desired effect. Yet, to cling to old forms will cripple even the most dedicated believer. Transformation of both ministry form and congregational commitment are essential. Please be in prayer, asking God to help you keep your minds open and flexible so that you can see what form your ministries should take to reach your communities for Christ.

This has been a faith-building year for us all. The illness of our brother, Harry Lehotsky, has caused us to both examine our priorities and wonder how we will respond if called to such a trial. Whatever the circumstances at the reading of this report, I want to go on record to thank Harry for demonstrating courage, faith and creativity in dealing with his illness. He has set a high mark for us all. Should God choose to heal him or take him home, we will have his example to urge us toward a godly response to trouble of all kinds. His family has endured great challenge through this time, too. We thank you, Virginia, Matthew, Brandon and Jared, for your faithfulness, too. You are all precious to us. We will not forget the sacrifice you have made to show the face of Christ in the West End and beyond.

In year number four as Regional Minister, I am aware of the huge responsibility and magnitude of the task at hand. Please pray that I will always be a resource and never a hindrance to the Gospel. Ask God to give me insight beyond myself so that I can help pastors and leaders more effectively lead their churches toward healthy and effective ministry. Thank you for your prayers, encouragement, and financial generosity, which even with higher travel expenses, has proven to be sufficient. I also thank my wife, Jo, for her tremendous support. Most of all I praise the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ because he is the source of all strength and wisdom.

- Submitted by Phyl Putz

## ***Moderator's Report***

My vision of the Manitoba Baptist Association is of churches working together to advance the kingdom of God in Manitoba. Each church is like a sail on the MBA ship. The pastors, with their crews of workers, pull on the ropes. They let out the sail or pull it in depending on the circumstances and wind conditions. As we all work together, the MBA ship moves forward on the ocean of the kingdom of God. The sails need to be connected to the ship in order to do their work, and the ship needs the sails in order to make progress.

Over the past year, the Executive has discussed the possibility of adding another sail to the MBA ship in the form of a church plant. This is something that we need to be always seeking to do. We want to establish a Church Planting Task Force of a few individuals who would receive training in church planting in order to provide impetus in this area. These people would work with the Church Planting Chair and become a permanent resource in the MBA to provide guidance and encouragement to any church plants that we may initiate in the future.

Some of the things that happened in our Association in the past year are as follows:

- The revitalization of Whitemouth Fellowship through the ministry of George Debarr and his wife, Val. The Association has provided financial support and volunteers to help them out.
- The hundred year anniversary of Whiteshell Baptist Church as they celebrated God's faithfulness over many years of ministry in Seven Sisters.
- Moosehorn Baptist's facility expansion to meet the needs of more people in their community
- Pastors' and Pastors' Wives' Retreats that have fostered fellowship and unity among our MBA pastors and wives.

On a sadder note, we have all been shocked by the diagnosis of Harry Lehotsky's cancer. This has sent shock waves through not just the MBA, but also the city of Winnipeg and the whole North American Baptist Conference. Twenty-five years ago the sail of New Life Ministries was added to the MBA ship under Harry's leadership and it has been gratifying to see how God has used this to touch lives. We know that this work will continue in spite of the challenges at hand, and we continue to pray for Harry and his family during this time of difficulty.

One of the areas in which we will need to work together as an Association is in the planning of the next NAB Triennial. This past February the MBA was asked to consider hosting the 2009 Triennial in Winnipeg. In discussion with the Executive and the MBA pastors, it was agreed that we would take this project on and at this year's Triennial in Estes Park, CO, it was formally announced that the next Triennial would be in Winnipeg. I believe that we can do a good job of this and through all of our efforts together, we can welcome our NAB family to Manitoba for this important event.

I praise God for what He has done in our MBA and look forward to what He will accomplish in the days ahead.

- Submitted by Mark Woods

## ***Treasurer's Report***

### ***Operating Deficit***

Another loss year. Expenses exceeded revenue by an amount of \$44,327.00. Giving up ground was not surprising but we did not expect an operating loss of this magnitude. We forecast a loss of \$31,085.00 and exceeded this amount by approximately 43%. Over the course of the last 5 years, ignoring proceeds from the sale of Southdale assets (\$139,500.00 in 2003 and \$1,284.00 in 2004) operating losses have totaled almost \$175,000.00.

The increased deficit of \$13,242.00 (\$44,327.00 - \$31,085.00) was not spending related. We simply failed to achieve our revenue goals. As you are aware we rely almost entirely on Member Church contributions to fund our activities. This year we budgeted for contributions amounting to \$109,763.00 but received only \$88,859.00 leaving a shortfall of \$20,904.00.

A schedule of contributions by Churches is provided with comparative contributions for the previous year reported for your consideration.

Interest and miscellaneous earnings for the year amounted to \$8,201.00 slightly over budget (\$8,000.00). There were no General Purpose Offerings (budget \$500.00).

### ***Notes on Offerings for Designated Purposes***

Except as noted below, strictly a cash transfer or flow through function. Money collected is dispersed in this case to Women's Ministry Fellowship (\$4,381.00), Taylor University Endowment Fund (\$918.00), Fellowship of Baptist Seniors (\$1,271.00), and Other (\$320.00). No portion of this income was available to meet the operating expenses of the Association.

Offerings for designated purposes also include contributions and donations totaling \$3,935.00 from multiple sources including member Churches to support the South Asian Church Plant. As you are aware this project was discontinued effective June 30th, 2005.

### ***Significant Financial Activity***

An amount of \$39,000.00 advanced to Lake Nutimik Baptist Camp – Approved at 2005 AGM in response to a request for financial assistance.

### ***Variances - Budget versus actual Expenses***

Expenses for the year were more than anticipated (actual excluding expenses directly related to flow through income \$145,322.00 versus budget \$149,348.00). Noteworthy variances (budget versus actual):

<b>Category</b>	<b>Budget</b>	<b>Actual</b>
Church Ministries	\$2,000.00	\$0
Program Committee	\$2,000.00	\$906.00
Executive and Council Meetings	\$3,000.00	\$3,344.00
Donations	\$500.00	1,377.00
Pastoral Support	\$1,500.00	\$1,787.00
Church Planting (committee operating)	\$2,500.00	\$153.00
Church Plant Projects	\$23,550.00	\$27,779.00*
Office & General Expense	\$3,000.00	\$3,629.00
Youth Ministries	\$5,000.00	\$6,176.00
Young Adults Ministries	\$1,000.00	\$0

\* Relates entirely to South Asian Church Plant. \$3,935.00 of this amount offset by designated offerings referred to above contributed specifically to support this undertaking.

### ***Year to Date 2006***

#### ***Church Planting Fund***

Current value \$150,795.00 the result of interest earnings on the original amount of this fund. Because this money has been earmarked it is not available to meet Association operating expenses. This year accumulated interest to date was used to purchase an additional Bond and CEIF were instructed to amend interest payment terms so that interest earned on all investments is reinvested to each Bond involved on an ongoing basis. Previously interest payments were considered general revenue and not utilized to grow the value of investments.

#### ***Revenue and Expenses***

As at August 31st, 2006 expenses exceed income by an amount of \$90,822.00. Traditionally income levels are low at this point in time. Contributions from supporting Churches year to date have amounted to \$31,271.00 (annual budget \$104,650.00) however as in prior years it is expected that we'll see significant contribution activity during the course of the next four months particularly in the final quarter.

Other contributing factors to this result are expense related. As you are aware on June 28th our Association sponsored a Benefit Concert for New Life Ministries that raised an amount of \$25,947.00. This very successful endeavor resulted in certain administration costs considered extraordinary.

In addition a commitment was made to Moosehorn Baptist Church to provide limited financial assistance (\$10,000.00) in connection with a building project and an amount of \$2,314.00 was provided voluntarily in the way of assistance to Whitemouth Fellowship Church.

Ownership of 646 Ellice Avenue with a book value of \$40,412.00 as at December 31st, 2005 was transferred to New Life Ministries for \$1.00. From time to time since 2001 the transfer of this property has been the subject of discussion at an executive level. In the absence of any urgency to resolve the matter and in part because New Life Ministries was MBA dependent no action was taken. In view of current circumstances and because New Life Ministries will be self-sustaining within a year this action was deemed appropriate.

#### ***Church Growth Developments***

New Life Ministries support in 2007 will reduce from an amount of \$26,000.00 for this year to an amount of \$10,000.00. MBA support will cease at the end of 2007.

Central Baptist Church confirmed continued support (\$6,000.00 this year 2006) is no longer needed and expressed sincere appreciation and thanks for the generosity of the MBA over the past several years.

Whiteshell Baptist Church support in 2007 will reduce from an amount of \$5,232.00 (2006) to an amount of \$2,616.00. MBA support will cease at the end of 2007.

#### ***Lake Nutimik Baptist Camp***

As previously indicated, an amount of \$39,000.00 was loaned to Lake Nutimik Baptist Camp for operating purposes. At the beginning of this year terms for repayment of this loan within a five year period (December 31st, 2010 maturity) were established and payments are being made as agreed.

### **Statement of Income & Expenses – Year Ended 12/31/05**

	<b>2005 Budget</b>	<b>2005 Actual</b>	<b>2004 Actual</b>
<b>INCOME</b>			
Contributions by churches	109,763	88,859	89,551
Offerings for General Purposes	500	0	818
Interest & Miscellaneous	8,000	8,201	7,865
Special Projects	0	0	0
Offerings for Designated Ministries			
Women's Ministries	0	4,381	2,754
Taylor University College Endowment Fund	0	918	938
Fellowship of Baptist Seniors	0	1,271	5,012
South Asian Church Plant	0	3,935	23,108
Other	0	320	0
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>\$118,263</b>	<b>\$107,885</b>	<b>\$130,046</b>
<b>EXPENSES</b>			
Regional Minister & Expenses	46,850	47,623	45,000
Church Ministries	2,000	0	813
Donations	500	1,377	5,825
Program Committee	2,000	906	1,380
Executive & Council Meetings	3,000	3,344	4,031
Office & General Expenses	3,000	3,629	3,094
Pastoral Support	1,500	1,787	0
Church Planting (operating)	2,500	153	150
Church Plant Projects	23,550	27,779	43,676
Church Growth	49,648	49,648	58,064
NAB Triennial Conference Fund	1,700	1,700	1,700
Special Projects	0	0	0
Youth Ministries	5,000	6,176	3,964
Young Adults Ministries	1,000	0	0
South Asian Church Library	0	0	687
Women's Ministries	600	200	0
CEIF Interest to Church Planting	5,500	0	0
Expended for Designated Ministries			
Women's Ministries	0	4,381	2,753
Taylor University College Endowment Fund	0	918	938
MBYA	1,000	1,000	1,000
Fellowship of Baptist Seniors	0	1,271	5,012
Other	0	320	0
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$149,348</b>	<b>\$152,212</b>	<b>\$178,087</b>
Other Revenue	0	0	1,284
<b>Net Income (Expenses)</b>	<b>(\$31,085)</b>	<b>(\$44,327)</b>	<b>(\$46,757)</b>

**Funds Retained for Continuation of Activities**

	Unrestricted Assets	Invested in Cap. Assets	2005 Total	2004 Total
Balance, Beginning of Year	295,297	92,357	387,654	434,411
Excess of Revenues over Expenses	(44,327)	0	(44,327)	(46,757)
<b>Balance, End of Year</b>	<b>\$250,970</b>	<b>\$92,357</b>	<b>\$343,327</b>	<b>\$387,654</b>

**Balance Sheet on December 31, 2005**

Assets	2005	2004
Cash & Short Term Deposits	218,728	301,592
Accounts Receivable	243	381
Loan Receivable	39,000	0
Land & Buildings at Cost: New Life Ministries	92,357	92,257
Total Assets	\$350,328	\$394,230
Liabilities		
Accounts Payable	5,000	5,676
MBYA Travel Subsidy	2,000	1,000
Total Liabilities	\$7,000	\$6,676
NET ASSETS		
Net Assets Invested in Capital Assets	92,357	92,357
Unrestricted Net Assets	250,971	295,297
Total Net Assets	\$343,328	\$387,654

**Notes to Financial Statements**

1. Incorporation and Registration – Manitoba Baptist Association, Inc. (“the Association”) is a not-for-profit organization that was formed as a corporation without share capital under the Corporations Act Of Manitoba on May 24, 1972. The members of the Association are North American Baptist Conference Churches duly organized and situated in Manitoba. The Association is a registered charity with Canada Revenue Agency – No. 890462047RR0001.

2. Significant Accounting Policies – These financial statements reflect the following policies:

Revenue Recognition: Manitoba Baptist Association, Inc. fund follows the deferral method of accounting for contributions. Restricted contributions are recognized as revenue in the year in which the related expenses are incurred. Unrestricted contributions are recognized as revenue when received or receivable if the amount to be received can be reasonably estimated and collection is reasonably assured.

Property, Plant And Equipment: The land and buildings are reflected in the accounts at cost. No amortization is recorded.

Use of Estimates: The preparation of the financial statements in conformity with Canadian generally accepted accounting principles requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements and the reported amounts of revenues and expenses during the reporting period. By their nature, these estimates are subject to measurement uncertainty and the effect on the financial statements of changes in such estimates in future periods could be significant.

**3. Cash** – Cash consists of the following:

	2005	2004	2003
Cash in the Bank	62,551	110,677	159,080
GIC maturing December 2006 (Interest 2%)	16,177	50,915	75,000
Bonds with varying maturity dates & interest	140,000	140,000	103,330
<b>Total Cash</b>	<b>\$218,728</b>	<b>\$301,592</b>	<b>\$337,410</b>

**4. Loan Receivable** – Balance represents funds advanced to Lake Nutimik Camp in October 2005.

	2005	2004
5 year term – varying payments and 0% interest	39,000	-
Current portion	3,600	-
<b>Balance</b>	<b>\$35,400</b>	<b>-</b>

Principle repayments are as follows:

2006 –	\$3,600
2007 –	\$7,200
2008 –	\$9,000
2009 –	\$9,000
2010 –	\$10,200

**5. Property, Plant & Equipment** – Real properties have been acquired by the Association for use by New Life Ministries in carrying on its activities. A summary of relevant properties is as follows:

Properties	2005	2004
NLM – Parsonage (646 Ellice Avenue)	40,412	40,412
NLM – Church (514 Maryland Street)	51,945	51,945
<b>Total Properties</b>	<b>\$92,357</b>	<b>\$92,357</b>

Subsequent to purchase of the above property by the Association, the member church made significant improvements to the church building. The cost of the improvements was borne by the church. Accordingly, no part of the cost of the improvements is shown above.

6. MBYA Travel Subsidy – MBYA travel subsidy represents funds designated to cover youth travel expense for the 2006 Triennial Conference.

**7. Contingencies** – The Association is contingently liable for a \$100,000 line of credit for New Life Ministries in that it has guaranteed such indebtedness.

**8. Cash Flows** – The statement of cash flows has not been prepared because it would not provide any additional useful information in understanding the cash flows for the year.

• Submitted by Garry Harland

### **Contributions to the Association by Church**

Church	Total 2005	2007	Given by	2006	2005	2005	2004
Abundant Life	130,229	<b>3,581</b>	2,000	4,950	2,000	4,992	2,000
Beausejour	59,597	<b>1,639</b>	0	1,600	1,300	1,664	1,400
Central	103,252	<b>2,839</b>	0	1,850	1,600	1,924	1,600
Fort Richmond	193,436	<b>5,319</b>	1,800	3,800	675	3,484	0
McDermot Ave.	351,375	<b>9,663</b>	3,094	12,800	12,375	13,572	14,464
Minitonas	235,698	<b>6,482</b>	0	11,150	9,000	11,492	9,000
Mission	198,166	<b>5,450</b>	5,460	12,700	7,800	13,988	9,642
Moosehorn	64,316	<b>1,769</b>	650	2,050	875	1,976	500
Morris	284,110	<b>7,813</b>	4,342	8,400	8,684	8,684	8,800
New Life Min.*	60,000	<b>1,650</b>	1,000	1,400	1,000	1,352	0
Oakbank	206,820	<b>5,688</b>	3,750	4,950	4,000	6,240	3,000
Ochre River	154,237	<b>4,242</b>	0	5,000	4,850	5,200	4,500
Rowandale	245,247	<b>6,744</b>	0	11,400	12,200	11,908	12,200
Swan River	166,802	<b>4,587</b>	3,300	8,250	6,500	8,580	6,500
Whitemouth	11,398	<b>313</b>	0	500	0	520	0
Whiteshell	143,633	<b>3,950</b>	875	3,150	3,500	3,380	3,445
Whyte Ridge	548,558	<b>15,085</b>	9,375	10,700	12,500	10,868	12,500
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$3,156,874</b>	<b>\$86,814</b>	<b>\$35,646</b>	<b>\$104,650</b>	<b>\$88,859</b>	<b>\$109,824</b>	<b>\$89,551</b>

For 2007 the Executive recommends that churches determine their contribution to the MBA based on 2.75% of their total church budget/giving in the previous year. (Since the most recent figures available to the Association at this time are from 2005, the recommended 2007 goal in the table above is based on 2.75% of those contributions.) The 2006 & 2005 goals above reflect \$50 & \$52 per member guidelines respectively.

The change from a per member recommendation to a percentage of total budget/giving is due in part to the changing nature of church membership. Membership no longer accurately reflects a church's ability to contribute whereas a church's total budget/giving more accurately reflects its ability to contribute to the ministry of the Association.

The above 2007 goal is a recommendation for contribution to the Association. If a church is able to contribute more than the recommended 2.75% of total budget/giving, it is encouraged to do so. If a church is currently giving below the recommended 2.75%, it is encouraged to increase giving to as closely reflect that level of support as is possible. Please consider making your contributions in quarterly installments.

\*The total budget/giving listed for New Life Ministries reflects an estimated number, rather than total revenues, due to the nature of its diverse ministry.

• The 2006 MBA Executive

## 2007 Proposed Budget

INCOME	2007 Budget	2006 Budget	8/31/06 Actual	2005 Budget	2005 Actual
Church Contributions	86,814	104,650	31,271	109,763	88,859
General Fund Offerings	250	250	0	500	0
Designated Offerings	0	0	25,947	0	10,825
Interest & Miscellaneous	6,500	8,000	3,437	8,000	8,201
<b>Total Receipts</b>	<b>\$93,564</b>	<b>\$112,900</b>	<b>\$60,655</b>	<b>\$118,263</b>	<b>\$107,885</b>

### EXPENDITURES

Regional Minister	49,173	47,740	35,805	46,350	47,499
RM General Expenses	500	500	0	500	124
Church Ministries	2,000	2,000	0	2,000	0
Donations/Evangelical Fellowship	500	500	(217)	500	1,377
Program Committee	1,500	2,000	0	2,000	906
Executive/General Council	3,300	2,500	2,783	3,000	3,344
Office & General	5,075	4,000	3,052	3,000	3,629
NAB Triennial Fund	1,700	1,700	0	1,700	1,700
Church Planting Operating	2,500	2,500	0	2,500	153
Church Plant Projects	0	0	0	23,550	27,779
Church Growth					
New Life Ministries	10,000	26,000	17,333	34,000	34,000
Central Baptist	0	6,000	4,000	7,800	7,800
Whiteshell	2,616	5,232	3,488	7,848	7,848
Whitemouth Fellowship	0	0	2,314	0	0
Moosehorn Baptist	0	0	10,000	0	0
Designated Contributions	0	0	25,947	0	6,890
Pastoral Support	1,500	1,500	0	1,500	1,787
Women's Ministries	600	600	0	600	200
MBYA Triennial Subsidy	0	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000
MBA Youth Ministries	3,000	4,000	2,250	5,000	6,176
MBA Young Adult Ministry	0	1,000	0	1,000	0
CEIF Interest to Church Planting	5,616	5,400	3,311	5,500	5,409
Extraordinary Expense	0	0	40,412	0	0
<b>Total Expenditures</b>	<b>\$89,580</b>	<b>\$114,172</b>	<b>\$151,478</b>	<b>\$149,348</b>	<b>\$157,621</b>
<b>Net Income (Expense)</b>	<b>\$3,984</b>	<b>(\$1,272)</b>	<b>(\$90,823)</b>	<b>(\$31,085)</b>	<b>(\$49,736)</b>

### **Proposed Budget Notes**

The proposed budget for 2007 is submitted for your consideration and approval. Compared to the budget for this year (2006), anticipated spending be reduced for the following reasons:

Church Growth – The amount of support each of the Churches involved currently receive will again be reduced. By agreement, Whiteshell Baptist Church will receive an amount of \$2,616.00 compared to an amount of \$5,232.00 in 2006. New Life Ministries' support will be reduced to \$10,000.00 from \$26,000.00 in 2006. Central Baptist Church, with gratitude for past considerations, has confirmed that continued support is no longer needed.

Church	2007	2006
New Life Ministries	\$10,000	\$26,000
Central Baptist Church	\$0	\$6,000
Whiteshell Baptist Church	\$2,616	\$5,232
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$12,616</b>	<b>\$37,232</b>

Total reduction in 2007 compared to 2006 amounts to \$24,616.00.

Church Planting - \$2,500.00 for committee operating purposes again proposed notwithstanding the fact expenses in 2005 and year to date were nil due to inactivity. It is an objective to correct this situation as soon as possible and to facilitate development a committee. Operating funds will be required.

Youth Ministries – Reduced by an amount of \$1,000.00. Activities temporarily curtailed.

Executive/General Council – Increased by an amount of \$800.00 due primarily to increased travel costs.

Program Committee – Reduced by an amount of \$500.00. Historically, costs seldom exceed \$1,500.00.

Office & General – Increased by an amount of \$1,075.00, due primarily to increased insurance costs.

MBYA Triennial Subsidy – Reduced to zero from \$1,000.00. The result of an existing \$3,000.00 reserve established for Youth travel purposes.

MBA Young Adult Ministry – Reduced to zero from \$1,000.00. This proposed endeavour has been shelved temporarily.

General – Because Designated Offerings involve cash transfers or a flow through of funds, any activity in this regard has been omitted from the budget.

### **Projected Church Contributions**

	2007	2006	2005	2004
Total Giving 2007/Membership 2004-2006	\$3,156,874	2,093	2,112	2,172
% of Giving/Per Member Recommendation*	2.75%	\$50	\$52	\$53
Potential Contributions	<b>\$86,814</b>	\$104,650	\$109,824	\$115,116
Actual Contributions (2006 figure as of 09/07/06)	–	\$36,646	\$88,859	\$89,551
<b>Contributions Over (Short)</b>		<b>(\$68,004)</b>	<b>(\$20,965)</b>	<b>(\$25,565)</b>

\*For a detailed explanation of projected/recommended contributions please see pg. 15.

## Statistical Secretary's Report

### Church Membership Statistics

Church	Year Organized	Mem. Dec 04	Mem. Gained	Mem. Lost	Mem. Dec 05	Conv. / Bapt.	05 Avg. Worship	04 Avg. Worship
Beausejour, Elim	1958	32	9	4	37	0 / 0	69	69
Minitonas, First	1928	223	2	7	218	0 / 2	124	100
Moosehorn, Moosehorn	1918	41	5	0	46	0 / 4	75	70
Morris, Emmanuel	1896	168	7	7	168	0 / 4	167	177
Oakbank, Oakbank	1895	99	8	3	104	0 / 0	145	147
Ochre River, Grace	1927	100	0	1	99	1 / 0	120	120
Seven Sisters, Whiteshell	1906	63	10	1	72	15 / 3	101	95
Swan River, Temple	1947	165	0	3	162	12 / 5	143	154
Whitemouth, Whitemouth	1960	10	0	0	10	0 / 0	10	10

Winnipeg:									
Church	Year Organized	Mem. Dec 04	Mem. Gained	Mem. Lost	Mem. Dec 05	Conv. / Bapt.	05 Avg. Worship	04 Avg. Worship	
Abundant Life	1994	99	0	0	99	0 / 0	123	123	
Central	1980	37	0	0	37	0 / 0	65	65	
Forth Richmond	1972	76	5	1	80	0 / 2	110	90	
McDermot Avenue	1889	256	8	30	234	0 / 4	167	168	
Mission	1949	254	0	17	237	0 / 0	125	150	
New Life Ministries	1993	24	3	1	26	3 / 2	80	75	
Rowandale	1953	228	9	18	219	6 / 5	216	246	
Whyte Ridge	1961	214	9	12	211	3 / 6	410	403	
<b>TOTALS</b>		<b>2089</b>	<b>75</b>	<b>105</b>	<b>2059</b>	<b>40 / 37</b>	<b>2250</b>	<b>2262</b>	

### Local Church 2005 Financial Statistics

Church	Local Ch. Ministry	NAB Ministry	MBA Ministry	NAB Schools	Camps, Homes	Non NAB Ministry	Total	Avg. Per Member	Avg. Per Attendee
Beausejour	55,505	792	1,300	0	0	2,000	59,597	1,628	873
Minitonas	109,367	16,901	9,000	5,000	37,826	57,604	235,698	1,081	1,901
Moosehorn	56,394	2,522	875	300	0	4,225	64,316	1,401	859
Morris	178,422	42,786	8,684	1,000	8,840	44,378	284,110	1,691	1,701
Oakbank	165,796	14,773	4,000	3,000	17,656	1,595	206,820	1,998	1,433
Ochre River	128,717	12,604	4,850	1,347	2,857	3,862	154,237	1,561	1,288
Whiteshell	123,191	2,847	3,500	1,897	2,645	9,553	143,633	1,986	1,415
Swan River	122,842	19,985	6,500	6,975	3,500	7,000	166,802	1,030	1,166
Whitemouth	11,398	0	0	0	0	0	11,398	1,140	1,140

Winnipeg:									
Church	Local Ch. Ministry	NAB Ministry	MBA Ministry	NAB Schools	Camps, Homes	Non NAB Ministry	Total	Avg. Per Member	Avg. Per Attendee
Abundant Life	126,165	2,064	2,000	0	0	0	130,229	1,295	1,043
Central	101,652	0	1,600	0	0	0	103,252	2,747	1,564
Fort Richmond	173,850	8,539	675	300	0	10,072	193,436	2,464	1,792
McDermot Ave	284,812	45,188	12,375	9,000	0	0	351,375	1,449	2,030
Mission	131,651	14,500	7,800	1,150	3,675	39,390	198,166	836	1,585
New Life Min.	530,233	413	1,000	0	0	20,097	551,743	21,220	6,897
Rowandale	176,957	32,451	12,200	6,200	12,263	5,176	245,247	1,150	1,166
Whyte Ridge	414,047	43,149	12,500	9,000	22,609	47,253	548,558	2,600	1,338
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>2,890,999</b>	<b>259,514</b>	<b>88,859</b>	<b>45,169</b>	<b>111,871</b>	<b>252,205</b>	<b>3,648,617</b>	<b>1,772</b>	<b>1,622</b>

Source: NAB Conference Statistics (Exception: "MBA Ministry" from MBA Financial Records)

## ***General Council Representative***

The General Council of the North American Baptist Conference met June 1-3, receiving several reports that showed a strong state of the Conference, including a report that the Conference had paid down a debt of \$820,000 from two years ago.

Members also learned that Executive Director Dr. Ron Berg – who informed the executive committee months ago that he would not seek re-election when his term ended at the 2006 Triennial in Estes Park, Colo. – thought it best not to extend his service as interim executive director.

“Ron is considering options for ministry opportunities. We agreed that in the circumstances, moving forward during the interim period under new leadership would be advisable,” says Gordon Unger, Conference Moderator.

As provided by the NAB Constitution, the executive recommended Dr. Gordon Harris as the interim executive director to take over from Dr. Berg when his term ends at the Triennial. Dr. Harris, who just retired after serving for 31 years at the North American Baptist Seminary (NABS), will serve as the Conference’s interim executive director. (A biography on Dr. Harris is available on the NAB website [www.nabconference.org](http://www.nabconference.org)) Most recently Dr. Harris served as Director of Doctorial Studies at NABS.

Meanwhile, a search committee met during the General Council meetings and began the search process for a long-term executive director. General Council Member Lois Uptigrove, Calgary, AB, is chairing the search committee. General Council members also spent time in focus groups discussing characteristics, capabilities needed by the executive director. Those ideas will be shared with the search committee.

The search committee also will be conducting focus groups throughout the Conference to solicit ideas from membership. For ideas or to submit names for consideration, please contact Mrs. Uptigrove at [Lois.Uptigrove@shaw.ca](mailto:Lois.Uptigrove@shaw.ca). Members of the committee are Lois Uptigrove, Fred Jantz, Gordon Stork, Diane Boleyn and Del Bertsch. There is a survey you can participate in at [www.nabconference.org](http://www.nabconference.org).

Other encouraging reports from the Council meetings included:

- Balanced budget along with the debt repayment
- Conversion growth rate was 5 percent Conference-wide.
- Restructuring started 2 years ago is complete.
- NAB’s 2005 audit returned with an unqualified rating – with minimal concerns expressed by the auditors for issues that need to be fixed by management.

A second Challenge Grant of \$52,500 (USD) has been given to the Conference to triple by the end of this fiscal year, August 31, 2006. All proceeds from the grant go the General Fund, where gifts can be used where needed most. Conference Leaders were encouraged to provide \$52,500 toward part of that tripling process. (Some \$32,000 was raised at Triennial.)

An invitation was received and accepted to hold the 2009 Triennial in Winnipeg, MB.

The General Council and the Triennial passed a Christian Affirmation of Marriage statement. Further information for churches will be coming shortly.

- Submitted by Del Bertsch

## **Church Planting Committee**

- No report submitted – no committee chair.

## **Church Ministries Committee**

This has been a learning year for myself, and I am assuming the next will be the same. There has not been a Church Ministries Committee for a number of years. As a result the mandate appears to be fairly open. While struggling with what this should be, there have been two activities that seemed to need the support or direction of Church Ministries. A Men's Retreat in June connected with the Camp Workday. Though small in turnout, it was a good time of connecting with others and building new relationships. Another one is planned for September with hopes of a greater attendance. Also initiated was an all-church prayer support at New life Ministries to pray for Pastor Harry's healing, and to pray for the neighbourhood, our city, and country, as well as our churches.

In discussions with Phyl Putz it seems clear that Church Ministries should support building healthy churches. Over time my vision is that there will be activities that support individual growth, challenges, and health, as well as the same for our churches. I would encourage anyone who has a passion for these to let me know so that I can develop a true committee. I am currently working on a Listening Prayer Seminar for 2007. I believe this would both build and encourage individual and church health. I am looking forward to meeting those that God is calling to work as part of this committee.

- Submitted by Herb Adam, Chairperson

## **Nominating Committee**

Moderator.....	Mark Woods	.....2007–2008
Vice Moderator.....	Barry Thiessen	.....2006–2007
Statistical Secretary.....		.....2007–2008
Treasurer.....	Garry Harland	.....2007–2008
Recording Secretary.....	Dave Henkelman	.....2007
Church Planting Chair.....		.....2006–2007
General Council Rep.....	Harry Pohl	..... 2007
General Council Rep.....	Mark Woods	.....2006–2008
Church Ministries Chair .....	Herb Adam	.....2006–2007
MBYA Rep.....	Mike Jakiwchuk	.....Appointed by MBYA
Women's Ministry Coordinator.....	Daphne Keck	.....Appointed by WM

Relationships are more important than accomplishments.

– Rick Warren

## ***Manitoba Baptist Youth Association (MBYA)***

The MBYA is one of the things I value most as a leader & youth pastor. Sure, we meet regularly to plan association youth events, work with a budget and delegate responsibilities, but it so much more. The MBYA is a special group of people – caring men and woman (yeah Danita!) who not only have a heart for God and our youth, but a heart for each other. The MBYA is a personal resource of mutual encouragement and support. It's where we come together to laugh, to cry, to share and pray for one another as youth pastors. In fact, the very heart of the MBYA is relationships.

This discovery is not new. After spending several hours revising our purpose statement and goals for the upcoming year at our annual Planning Retreat at Camp Nutimik, we realized again the importance of relationships – our relationship with God, our relationships with each other and the relationships that have been shaped amongst our youth over the past several years. Below is our purpose statement, goals and theme.

### ***Purpose Statement***

The MBYA exists to cultivate a Christ-centered community by networking leaders and youth in our MBA churches.

### ***Goals***

Encourage and equip our youth leaders and students

Help our students connect with others in God honouring ways

Provide our students with the opportunity to expand their understanding of worship

### ***Theme***

Our theme for the year 2006-07 is “CONNECTED” based on Hebrews 10:25. This theme is very fitting as it encompasses both the heart and vision of the MBYA.

### ***Some Highlights In 2006***

- Driving to Youth Quake with our Sr. High students in February where we were challenged spiritually to be “open” to what God wants for each of us.
- We moved our annual Jr. High Retreat from November to April and enjoyed a great weekend at Camp Nutimik.
- About 40 youth and leaders cheered on the Winnipeg Goldeyes in May.
- The youth pastors attended the wedding of fellow colleague Jonathan and celebrated as he married Jen, his beautiful bride (May 27).
- We had an Appreciation Dinner in June for our youth leaders at Ellice Café as a way to say “thank you” for all that they’ve done.

Once again, I would like to thank the MBA for their continued support and prayers. It has been a privilege to be a part of the MBYA. God has blessed us with wonderful leaders. The team consists of Doug Friesen, Jay Lafontaine, Danita deJong, Kelvin Kehler and Jonathan Kroeker. I also want to welcome new comers Lowell Friesen, Rob TerHorst, and Keith Friesen to the MBYA family. It has been a blessing to serve along side them and a joy to call them friends!

•Submitted by Michael Jakiwchuk – MBYA Chair

## ***Whiteshell Baptist Church***

Like most of us, there are times when we question God's calling upon our lives – Why me? Is this truly where you want me to serve? Is it time to move on? Am I being effective? My ministry doesn't compare with the church down the street! Do I really have what it takes to be a good pastor, a leader and shepherd?

I'll be honest, those very questions have echoed through my mind & some days I find it hard to believe that I have been at Whiteshell Baptist for three years now. Youth ministry hasn't always been easy, most times it's tough dealing with other people, especially teenagers. Yet through it all God has shown me His never ending love & faithfulness. I continue to marvel at the things He has not only done in my life, but here at Whiteshell Baptist Church as well!

Over the course of the year, we have had 58 youth attend at least one youth event. It amazes me just how many youth there are in this small community. God has opened a door for me in Whitemouth School. The principal has been very encouraging in allowing me to visit the youth every week. I even had the opportunity to be part of a committee where we brought in speakers like Teen Challenge to talk to the Jr. & Sr. High youth about the effects of drugs – in particular crystal-meth. Whitemouth School has definitely become my mission field.

My prayers were answered as 6 youth leaders came forward to help carry the load in leading our youth. They are absolutely wonderful & have been a huge blessing not only to me, but the youth as well.

One of our focuses in the youth program was service. The youth enjoyed themselves as they reached out and helped others in such places as Union Gospel Mission, Camp Nutimik, Whitemouth Personal Care Home, and Rent-A-Youth. We held our annual "To Doo or To Dye" Christmas Challenge for the fourth year where the youth competed against the rest of the congregation to collect the most non-perishable food items for the Lac du Bonnet and Area Food Bank. The youth won after a two-year slump and enjoyed watching the church's representative, church treasurer Hermann Saxler have his head shaved – all for a good cause! The youth were very busy as we continued our ever-popular "Valentine's Candlelight Dinner" – a romantic evening of food, fun, & fellowship for the church & the community.

One of our highlights was a mission trip with GROUP Workcamps this summer. Seven youth, as well as Carmen & I, travelled to Muskegon, Michigan for the week where we joined 300 other youth to help repair 55 homes. We all grew closer to each other and experienced God in such incredible ways. Together, we provided about 10,830 hours of community service – praise God!

In closing, it has been a joy to be part of a kind & caring church family, shepherd a great & energetic bunch of youth, (that always keeps me on my toes) and have an amazing mentor & dear friend to share life with & work along side - Greg, you rock bro! I have certainly been challenged, stretched, gained more ministry experience & grown both as a man, husband, (I like the sound of that) and youth pastor. Once again, I thank the MBA for your continued support, friendship, & prayers in helping us reach young people for Jesus Christ!

•Submitted by Michael Jakiwchuk – Youth Pastor

## ***New Life Ministries***

- No written report submitted this year.

## ***Lake Nutimik Baptist Camp***

Let me first say thank you to each of you, for your faithful support and encouragement over the past several years to the ministry of Camp Nutimik. It is without a doubt, that the Lord uses each and every one of us to proclaim His good news. Your support over the past several years has helped in the development of these facilities, which has given us the wonderful opportunity to spread the Gospel to young and old over the past 51 years.

As a number of you are aware, 2005 was a year of many challenges. With a financial short fall, the Board of Directors were faced with a number of difficult decisions and proceeded to set in place stringent financial guidelines to direct us into 2006. Our plan was to continue with a full camping season, with a reduced complement of staff and a slimmed down summer program and financial budget. With the support of the MBA, a loan of \$39,000.00 was extended to assist the camp.

As we began 2006, the Board of Directors evaluated the basic essentials of operating and began putting in place a number of changes. As we began the Lord laid on my heart Proverbs 3:5 – 6 “Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and do not rely on your own insight. In all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make straight your path.” This verse has been a guiding light as we moved through these times.

Today we rejoice that the Lord has provided financially and is strengthening our ministry. Our budgeted goal is for a \$16,600.00 surplus and today we are still on target. With our current cash flow we are paying all of our bills on a timely basis.

If you open the pages to the Nutimik Times, you would see the following headlines of our 2006 Camping season . . .

- **Excitement Fills The Air** – At the beginning of each of our 7 camp weeks, you could feel and see the excitement of anticipation on the faces of the 465 campers who stood in line to register this summer. For some this was their first time and for others a return to welcoming memories from last year.
- **“Zero In”** – Our theme this year was based on Colossians 3:2 “Set your minds on things that are above, not on things that are on earth.” Each Camp Speaker (Mark Woods – Staff Training; Doug Friesen – Senior Camp; Anita Pedde – Girls Only; Jonathan Kroeker – Junior 1; Bev Olfert – Junior Mini; Jeff Kilmartin – Intermediate 2; Kelvin Kehler & Michael Jakiwchuk – PLT) challenged our campers in a different way to ZERO IN.
- **Staff Energy On The Rise** – The Lord truly blessed us this year with 42 fantastic and gifted young people who provided our total staffing needs. From 7:00 AM to 11:00 PM these young people shared their walk and talk of their Christian faith and provided a great summer camping experience for all.
- **Outpost Adventure Camps Expanded** – With interest to explore and the challenge to push one self - today’s youth are rediscovering the thrill that Adventure Camp has to offer. This year we added 3 new canoe and backcountry experiences (Malloy Lake, Crowduck Lake and Bird River) to our program, along with our Manigatogan River Adventure and our Boys/Girls Challenge Camps.

- Record number attend Parent/Child Canoe Camp – A growing number of parents are rediscovering the joy of quality time spent with their children on these 2 exciting weekends.
- Program Director Hired – On May 1 a call was extended to Mark Weiderick and his family to join our staff. Mark has served at a number of camps and has a deep passion for young people.
- Steps of Faith – We rejoice that 24 young people made first-time decisions and that 17 rededicated their lives this summer. Each year our Mail Box follow-up program has been growing and encouraging young people to read God's Word.
- Volunteers – The strength of summer camp falls on the shoulders of our volunteers and this year was no different – from those who worked in the kitchen, helped with maintenance, served as nurses and camp speakers, and prayed daily for the ministry and encouraged us. These individuals accepted the call and filled valuable positions and we Praise the Lord for each one – thank you!

Camp Nutimik has continued to be a first class rental facility for church groups, clubs, schools and family reunions. It has been a busy winter and spring season and we look forward to hosting our fall groups. Keeping our facilities open year round requires a team of dedicated staff – thank you to each and every one of you.

Again on behalf of the Lake Nutimik Baptist Camp Board, we wish to say thank you for your continued support, encouragement and prayers. Remember it is through you that a child here in Manitoba has the opportunity to hear the message of salvation and to experience the beauty of God's creation upfront.

- Submitted by Dave Robinson – Camp Board President

## ***Wellman Lake Bible Camp***

What's new? Well to start with our name!

Over the past couple of years we have been considering the location of our camp, who is involved and where are we going as a camp. One of the items that came up is the name. We went to the supporting churches and this is the name that came forward with the most support. Same place, same people, and the same message, just a new title.

Let me introduce this year's director. Tracy Schroeder is well know to our camp as she has been a Sr. councilor, Jr. Councilor, a camper, and a toddler by her parents side while they worked at camp. It is great to see that the camp continues to develop its own staff from previous campers. Who knows better what needs to be done than someone who has been there? Once again the Lord provided a full staff of Sr. & Jr. councilors to support Tracy. She did a great job of leading and developing them for future responsibilities. We also had some youth step up and help out this year that put in long hours, long weeks, and showed a depth of maturity that was very much appreciated.

We can also be very thankful for the full complement of volunteers that came to help out this summer. Volunteers were available for cooking, nursing, and camp maintenance, etc., each week. I need to tell you the quality of board members we continue to have involved in camp is a blessing and we are so thankful for them. As we all know life has become busier and busier for all of us and this sacrifice of time does not go unnoticed.

Last year we mentioned the addition of two new programs: Red Cross Swimming Lessons, and a Weekend Wake Board & Ski Camp. This year we doubled the registration in the swimming lessons and were able to bring in a professional Wake Board instructor. This once again helped us reach into the community and bring others to camp that might not have come otherwise.

With 2006 Camping Season and all its good memories behind us we are most thankful for the life changing experience the campers shared. Each week we heard of many conversions and dedications. This makes it all worthwhile for everyone involved.

### ***Water & Sewer System Funding Request***

In the past, the MBA has partnered with the camp in a couple of projects. We would like to thank you for your participation.

As we continue to develop the camp for the future, we are looking once again to the MBA to partner with us in upgrading our water and sewer system. The proposed project will include more than pipes and pumps by the time it is completed over the next two years. The following budget outlines the main components of the project:

New Water Well	\$5,000
Pump & Filter System	3,000
Kitchen Sinks, Counter & Plumbing	8,000
Washroom Plumbing & Ventilation	4,000
Sewage Tank Repairs-Replacement	5,000
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$25,000</b>

As you can see from the list, our infrastructure needs a face-lift and mechanical overhaul. The reasons for these changes are:

- Staff members haul water for drinking and use lake water for cleaning – including showering.
- The current pumping system isn't reliable for the load placed on it. In addition we are having more problems with sand in the system.
- The washrooms need upgraded pipe, faucets, and ventilation system. Due to inadequate ventilation, humidity has become a problem.
- In keeping with current and proposed regulations, it is important for us to improve our septic system to keep current with Park requirements.

The camp board requests that the MBA consider assisting Wellman Lake Bible Camp with a grant of \$10,000 in 2007.

- Submitted by James Webb – Camp President

### ***Meadowood Manor Chaplaincy***

I greet you with the words in Deut. 7:9, “Know therefore that the Lord your God is God; He is the faithful God.” This is our testimony to you that our God is indeed faithful in all His dealings with us.

My wife Helga and I thank the Manitoba Baptist Home Society for the privilege of serving our Lord at the Manor. He has blest us so richly and has prospered the building of His Kingdom in

the hearts of many who worked at or were resident at Meadowood. As I retire from this time of ministry I give all praise and honor to God for His faithfulness.

I want to highlight some of the blessings we have received over the past 14 years. First of all I want to acknowledge the part that you, the churches have had in this ministry. We thank you for your prayers and support in so many areas of our journey at Meadowood. You have sent us musicians and singers who have lifted the hearts of our people in praise to God – for the Sunday morning worship services as well as for the Sing-Along services and the Birthday parties. Anne Kunze has coordinated much of this ministry and we thank her for that. You have sent us many valuable volunteers and they have made a difference for our staff and residents. Thank you volunteers!! You have also helped us financially with your donations for the Chapel. We now have an average attendance of over 125 at our Sunday morning services and this includes regular attendance from the community as well. In addition, the Sunday morning giving at the Manor has been maintained at over \$40,000 during the past year and we praise God for that! Although my visits to the churches has declined I want to encourage this relationship for the coming year since it is such a valuable and much needed contact for Meadowood Manor.

I also wish to highlight some of the blessings that have come our way as part of the ministry at the Manor. We have faced many challenges during the course of the year. There have been many changes in the Management team. We thank the Lord for the leadership that Charlie Kunze gave in the past. We now have a new CEO at Meadowood, Greg Kilbrai, whom the Lord has sent here for a special ministry of leading Meadowood into an ever-changing future. May we all be found faithful in supporting his leadership. I have been involved in the lives of many staff members who have faced personal illness and death in the family; others have requested my services in family events such as weddings, etc. I have been involved in the lives of residents/tenants and their families as they have experienced dying and death. It is truly a blessing to see the victory that the Lord gives even in death. The Lord gave us one particular resident, Mary Thiessen, who was such an inspiration to residents, staff, and many others who came to the Manor, through the gift of her poetry. Mary went to be with the Lord after living at Meadowood for 24 years. The Meadowood Manor Fellowship has grown to 44 members at present and still meets the need of providing a church home for those who desire to belong to a local congregation. I praise God for all who have come to the assurance of salvation during the years of ministry here. There are other ministries that are ongoing and made possible by our treasured volunteers – the German Bible Study led by Karl Eisbrenner, Inspiration for the Way by Emma Metzloff, visitation, portering, and feeding. These services are vital for the wellbeing of our tenants and residents. We also have numerous volunteers from within the Tower community, especially our Baptist members, who have been a great help.

I want to thank all of the leadership members who serve on the Board, the Foundation, the Auxiliary, and in particular the Chaplaincy Support Committee. Helga and I have been encouraged and sustained by your prayers, your love, and your support and we thank you. I thank Alfred Schmidt for his faithful support and continued interest in Meadowood as he joined me weekly for a time of prayer, and Werner Frers for his guidance and support over the years as chairman of the Support Committee. Most of all I thank the Lord for Helga who was my partner in planning programs, my pianist at the services, my encourager in the ministry. Truly, God has been faithful.

- Submitted by Edward Hamm, Chaplain

## ***Meadowood Manor (Manitoba Baptist Home Society Inc.)***

The 2005/06 fiscal year represented a year of leadership change for our tri-fold ministry: Personal Care Home, Seniors Housing, and Chaplaincy. Our year concluded with the retirement of our CEO, Charles Kunze who served faithfully here since 1995, and the welcome of a new CEO, Greg Kilbrai.

### ***Volunteer Appreciation***

We are so grateful for the many volunteers from our supporting constituency who faithfully support all aspects of our ministry.

### ***Gratitude For Donations From Our Supporting Constituency***

Meadowood Manor is blessed by her supporting constituency. Donations from churches and individuals in excess of \$57,000 were received to support our chaplaincy ministry. Over \$94,000 was received from individuals, churches, and from the Meadowood Manor Foundation to our building fund enabled us to significantly reduce the debt outstanding from our chapel expansion project. At March 31, 2006, \$50,000 is owing to the bank and \$90,000 is owing to the Meadowood Manor Foundation.

### ***Strategic Planning***

Two initiatives are a priorities: 1) Evaluating how a new WRHA Support for Seniors in Group Living Program can enhance the quality of life for our apartment tenants; and 2) Submission of a formal proposal for additional dining and activity space.

### ***Investment In New Equipment***

\$64,000 was invested for electric beds, a phone system with voicemail, two ice machines, a food processor, and a new washer.

### ***Collective Bargaining***

The management team negotiated a collective agreement with CAW for a four-year period for all employees working as Health Care Aides and in support services (housekeeping, laundry, maintenance, and recreation).

### ***Advocacy***

Meadowood Manor continues as an active participant of the Non Profit Long Term Care Association, which is working on the following projects:

- Greater collaboration with the Long-Term Care Association of Manitoba for advocacy in the long-term care sector.
- Response to the WRHA Business Process Outsourcing project (notice of intent to centralize accounting and payroll services within the WRHA).
- Response to the WRHA Aging in Place policy announcement.
- March 31, 2007 expiration of operating agreements with the WRHA
- Central Bargaining Funding Shortfalls (pre-retirement leave, wage standardization)

### ***Towards The Future***

We have received notice of retirement of Pastor Ed Hamm effective this fall. Pastor Hamm has served faithfully as our Chaplain for the last 14 years and has been instrumental in establishing the Meadowood Manor Fellowship, a non-denominational spiritual home for the Christian Community to gather together for worship and ordinances. This is a key leadership and ministry position and we covet your prayers as a Chaplaincy Search Committee carries out its mandate.

New communication newsletters will help us connect with our constituency to augment church visits and presentations to share our ministry.

The Board of Directors will begin using a Policy Governance format in September.

An investment of \$186,000 will modernize both elevators in our apartment tower this fall. Already implemented are a new scheduling/payroll system, and Pre-Authorized Payment for tenant rents and resident charges.

We are also focusing on Workplace Safety & Health. All our employees have been surveyed concerning safety equipment in our workplace, and a wealth of suggestions have been received for management to consider.

Manitoba has recently adopted the slogan “Spirited Energy”. As I begin my term as CEO at Meadowood Manor, I am proud to say that I observe and feel spirited energy from all our employees, volunteers, board members, and our supporting churches as we carry out our care giving roles in support of our mission statement.

- Submitted by Greg Kilbrai (CEO) and Greg Schmidt (Board Chair)

### ***Meadowood Manor Foundation***

Meadowood Manor Foundation continues to be very pro-active, bringing all fund raising activity under the Foundation umbrella. Program, publicity, golf tournament and finance functions are all handled by committees reporting directly to the Board. Communications remain a challenge, despite the fact that the Foundation initiated a web site at [www.meadowood.ca](http://www.meadowood.ca) last year. We need to continue to improve communications with our supporting churches and other stakeholders as well as interested members of the general public. We have discovered just because we build a web site, doesn't mean people come to visit. That site includes our mission statement, an overview of Meadowood facilities, services and programs and an events calendar alongside appropriate contact information for Meadowood. The web site links to the NAB Conference, our supporting churches and other stakeholders.

Our First Annual Golf Tournament held August 29th, 2005 generated \$2,489.04, a commendable achievement for our fledgling Golf Tournament Committee comprised of Norm Piel, Al Donald, and Senno Rist. The Committee assures me that this year we will see an expanded tournament with even better results.

This event was followed by the Chaplaincy Support Concert on October 29th, 2005 at McDermot Avenue Baptist Church, which raised \$12,398.95. On November 19th, 2005 the Foundation board assisted the Meadowood Auxiliary with their annual Tea and Bazaar, the proceeds of which were shared between the Auxiliary and the Recreation Department.

In 2006, our first major fund raiser was a Family Hymn sing held on February 19th at Rowandale Baptist Church. The attendance at this event was somewhat larger than in the previous year and

the generosity of those at this event raised \$4,702.30. In February, the Foundation also received a memorial donation totalling \$1,430.00 from the Horst Mielke family.

On April 7th, 2006 the Foundation again sponsored a secular concert, this time with members of the Barbershop Chorus of Winnipeg. This event was held at the Bethel Community Church (formerly Southdale Baptist) with a smaller than expected audience. While we had hoped to draw in more non-NAB people, that didn't happen, so the Foundation only came away with a profit of \$609.00.

The Annual Fund Raising dinner held on June 15th, 2006 raised over \$9,000 for Meadowood. In addition to the donations raised, those of us attending enjoyed a splendid dinner, musical entertainment with Fred Liessens and Trisha Booy of the Winnipeg Symphony Orchestra, and inspiring words from Dr. John Foerster, our guest speaker for that evening. In total, the Foundation expects to have generated more than \$30,000.00 in revenues for Meadowood in 2005-2006. Also, this year the Foundation loaned an additional \$40,000.00 from its reserve to the Manitoba Baptist Home Society to help further reduce the amount owing to the TD Bank (on the Capital Expansion Project). The balance owing on the Capital Expansion project now stands at \$50,000.00 (not counting the \$90,000.00 payable to the Foundation). With your support, we are meeting our annual financial obligations and are well on the road to total debt retirement.

In an age when we are bombarded with mega projects and multi-million dollar health care operations like Meadowood at every turn, it becomes all too easy to abdicate our moral and social responsibilities to vulnerable persons in our midst. As ordinary individuals with ordinary incomes, we all too often succumb to thinking we cannot make a real difference. However, we have an example right here at Meadowood that flies in the face of that kind of thinking. Last fall, one of our weekly volunteers, Hildegard Dueck, noticed a grant program offered by the Bank of Montreal encouraging volunteer participation in the community. Hildegard approached the Foundation to help with the application, and as a result of her application, the Foundation received a \$900.00 grant. Not bad for a retired individual living on a fixed income! Pray that all of us adopt such a positive attitude.

- Submitted by John Giesbrecht, Chairperson

## ***Women's Ministries***

This past year we once again followed through on the Key Result Areas (KRA) we established in the summer of the previous year.

### ***KRA 1: Training leadership***

We strive to assist women in developing leadership skills to enable them to lead the work of women's ministry in all of its aspects. To enable women to hear about leadership opportunities, we try to maintain current e-mail addresses for all our women's leaders in our churches. This has helped improve communication greatly, but we realize we still have work to do in this area. We were able to participate in the S.H.A.P.E. Leadership seminar hosted by Whyte Ridge in March 2006, which addressed how each one of us has been uniquely shaped for ministry.

### ***KRA 2: Mobilizing volunteers***

We envision God raising up a new generation of women who are passionate about reaching and discipling others for Jesus Christ. We were blessed by the Missions Brunch held at Whyte Ridge in May 2006. Lyndell Campbell, Rhonda Keppler, and Ingrid Mitchell shared their Missions experiences.

### ***KRA 3: Fellowship within the association***

We had awesome opportunities through the Elkhorn Retreat in April and the Ministry Wives' Retreat at Nutimik Lake in September to fellowship and become Great Commission healthy. Judy Savoy, a Christian comedian, was the speaker at the Elkhorn Retreat and Joan van der Linde from Morris, was the Worship leader.

This past year WM leaders from each NAB association also had an opportunity for fellowship at "The Gathering" in Chicago in February. WM would like to thank the MBA for covering the travel costs for Daphne Keck, enabling her to attend The Gathering, participate in the discussion on future directions for Women's Ministries and become energized to further the development of Women's Ministries in Manitoba.

### ***KRA 4: Stewardship Awareness***

We were again able to complete our commitment to financially support our budgeted projects in 2005. Our proposed budget for 2007 includes:

Brenda Arndt – Central Baptist	\$1,200.00
Florinda Serafin – Brazil	500.00
Camp Nutimik – staff scholarships	500.00
Wellman Lake Bible Camp	500.00
NAB Conference WM	600.00
Taylor University Bursaries	500.00
MBA WM Retreat scholarships	200.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$4,000.00</b>

Thank you to the Women on the leadership team who struggle with me in optimizing our use of technology to enable us to meet regularly via "talking communities": Dorothy DeVries, Grace Elke, Shirley Wynne, Rhonda Keppler, Rose Winkler, Cynthia Amman, Lorraine Unger, Beth Gust and Evelyn Bredin. Thank you, also, to the women in each church who are reaching out to their communities and encouraging spiritual growth in the women of the MBA and beyond.

- Submitted by Daphne Keck, WM Coordinator

## ***Taylor University College & Seminary***

### ***Students benefit from tuition reduction***

Taylor University College reduced tuition by 7.3% for all students for the academic year starting in fall 2006. This is the result of Alberta's provincial government commitment to subsidize next year's tuition by \$566 for students taking full-time courses for two semesters (30 credit hours per year). Tuition for full-time students will be reduced or capped to \$3,374 per semester this year (down from \$3,660). Taylor's 2006-2007 per credit rate will also be reduced to \$241 for all university college students (reduced from \$260). This, alongside reductions in 2006-2007 student

residence fees, makes Taylor a great educational buy for students. See Taylor's web site for more information, [www.taylor-edu.ca](http://www.taylor-edu.ca).

### ***Program Development Planning***

Taylor University College faculty and Board of Trustees have spent significant effort on program development since gaining accreditation to offer full BA degrees. The university college faculty will recommend that we begin an AA program in commerce/business (first two years) in September 2007. We are also raising funds for a science lab and equipment to expand science offerings. Our timetable to have this ready is September 2007 as well.

### ***Entrance Scholarships***

As a reminder, Taylor University College has implemented three levels of entrance scholarships for new students. These scholarships range from \$1000 to \$3000 per year. For more information, go to the web site at: [www.taylor-edu.ca](http://www.taylor-edu.ca).

### ***NAB Grants for Seminary Students***

Full-time NAB students attending Taylor Seminary receive a \$1,000 grant. This grant requires that a student serve in an NAB context for three years following graduation. For information on applying for these funds, contact the financial coordinator.

### ***Immersion Study Program in Mexico***

From April 27 – May 17, 2006 Taylor University College and Seminary sponsored a study program in Guaymas, Mexico. The team consisted of two faculty members and five students. Dr. Joost Pikkert taught a course on language acquisition, working with a Spanish-speaking informant from the local church. Students lived with church families and had language-learning assignments to fulfill in the afternoons and evenings. Dr. Allan Effa taught a follow-up course in Intercultural communication. Local arrangements were made by Iglesia Bautista Adonay, with families providing opportunities to learn the language and culture, do some sightseeing and participate in day-to-day activities. From an educational point of view, this was a prime location for teaching these two courses. Students were able to put their course materials into practice or make immediate connections between the theory and what they were observing.

### ***Distributed Education***

At Taylor Seminary we understand that not everyone is able to study during the normal Monday through Friday time period. Not everyone is able to relocate their home and family in order to go to school. Not everyone can leave their place of ministry for the sake of continuing their education. That's why we have developed a Distributed Education model that combines on-line courses with modular courses, giving our students tremendous flexibility.

Distributed Education is a multiple method delivery system that employs: off-campus teaching and learning, on-campus schedule elasticity, and multiple delivery tools. Modular courses taken during January Intersession and Spring Session fulfill the residency requirement while online courses taken from a remote location enables students to work from locales outside the Taylor Seminary campus in Edmonton, Alberta, Canada. Taylor Seminary's Distributed Education program allows you to continue your education and training – from anywhere in the world. You

don't have to be on campus all day, every day. We have created a new tradition in learning – Distributed Education!

### ***Upcoming Courses On-Line***

Fall 2006 Small Group Ministry, Dr. Jon Grenz

Biblical Perspectives on Human Transition, Dr. Brian Craig

Theology of Pastoral Care, by Dr. Phil Zylla

Winter 2007 Theology of Mission, by Dr. Allan Effa

Preaching from the Pew, Dr. Shawn Radford

Spring 2007 History of Mission, Dr. Joost Pikkert

For more information call 780-421-5246 or go to our website at:

[www.taylor-edu.ca/taylorsem/academics/distributed/index.htm](http://www.taylor-edu.ca/taylorsem/academics/distributed/index.htm)

### ***New appointments***

- Dr. Gordon Munro will join the faculty as our new professor of Sociology in July 2006. Dr. Munro brings to Taylor University College over 15 years of work as a researcher with AADAC and a love for engaging the intersection between sociology and family issues. Dr. Munro has taught as an adjunct faculty in the past at the university college. We are excited about the contribution Dr. Munro will make to our students and faculty.
- Marg Daly, MA began as Music Department Co-Chair & Associate Professor of Music July 15, 2006. Prof. Daly served as a part-time instructor prior to 1992. She brings with her varied experience in music, arts administration and church work as well as promotions and marketing. Her principal instrument is the flute, but she also performs and teaches piano, organ, recorder, and has extensive choral ensemble experience. Prof. Daly has had several articles published and has served as a festival adjudicator, clinician and examiner.
- Karen Manzer has accepted the position as the Director of Admissions effective April 2006. She comes to us with nine years experience at Trinity Western University; first as an admissions counsellor and then as the assistant director of the department.

### ***Openings at Taylor University College and Seminary***

Presently taking applications for a Vice President of Development position. If interested please contact Dr. Marvin Dewey, President, Taylor University College and Seminary, 11525-23 Avenue, Edmonton, Alberta, T6J 4T3 or by email to [marvin.dewey@taylor-edu.ca](mailto:marvin.dewey@taylor-edu.ca).

## ***North American Baptist Seminary***

### ***Our Mission***

We equip servant leaders for the ministries of Christ in the church and in the world.

### ***Why We Exist***

We exist to meet the needs of the church.

We find ourselves in a wonderful position – equipping leaders called to serve the church and its greater community. Whether called to the pulpit, the practice of Christian counseling, the mission field, or other para-church ministries, those called to a life of service in ministry will be prepared while studying at North American Baptist Seminary.

There is a great need for servant leaders throughout the world. Seeing the struggles of the church--whether in a rural setting or a metropolitan area--we, at North American Baptist Seminary, are striving to meet those seeking a theological education in the ministry contexts where they serve.

Since we are physically located in Sioux Falls, people often wonder how we are able to bring a quality education to our students who are serving in a ministry context. Whether serving in Sioux Falls or many miles away, students find our philosophy of contextual learning makes quality "distance" education possible.

We thank you for your partnership in helping us identify, equip, and place servant leaders to carry out the ministries of Christ in the church and in the world.

G. Michael Hagan  
President

### ***Latest News***

#### **North American Baptist Seminary to relocate within Sioux Falls.**

The seminary moved to Sioux Falls, SD, from Rochester, NY, in 1949 to better meet the changing ministerial needs of its day.

Once again, to become more effective in our day we wish to announce the relocation of North American Baptist Seminary to new facilities. The vision of our Board of Trustees involves a new campus that will maximize new technologies, be energy efficient, integrate our staff and students in constructive ways, and show flexibility for whatever the future holds.

The new campus will be located adjacent to Augustana College and will allow sharing of services for mutual advantage while remaining independent institutions. We will explore many ways to better serve our students and constituencies.

Creating common space and areas that foster fellowship will become a priority. Since more students could be visiting campus for short periods of time due to increased opportunities for learning in ministry, new building plans will include more space for students to interact with one another and faculty on a personal level. It is the seminary's hope that the amount of community experienced by all students, whether on campus full time or just for intensive courses, will be maximized.

Plans are to break ground in March 2007 with occupancy in June 2008. This timeline will coincide with NABS' 150th anniversary celebration that summer.

### ***Faculty News***

- We are excited that Dr. Ronald Sisk, Professor of Homiletics and Christian Ministry, is now serving as the Academic Vice President and Dean. Ron and his wife, Sheryl, along with their son, Doug, moved from Louisville, Kentucky, to South Dakota during the summer of 2002 when Ron joined the seminary's faculty.
- We are delighted that Dr. Terence Mournet joined our faculty on August 1, 2006, as Assistant Professor of New Testament and Director of Educational Technology. Terence has experience not only in the field of computer technology but also as an NAB pastor.

- Dr. Paul Stevens joined the seminary community as the Interim Director of Doctoral Studies on July 1, 2006. Paul retired from Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary in Ft. Worth, TX, in 2003 after serving the school in a variety of capacities, including Associate Dean for the D. Min. program.

### **Academics**

#### **The Master of Arts in Christian Leadership (MACL):**

- Is our newest degree program.
- Provides advanced study in Bible and theology with a focus on practical skills.
- Has two tracks: on campus & in ministry.

#### **The On Campus MACL:**

- Offers seven different specializations: Congregational Ministries, Worship Leadership, Educational Leadership, Youth Ministries, Spiritual Direction, Leadership Studies, and Intercultural Studies.

#### **The In Ministry MACL:**

- Is flexible and well suited for those already serving in ministry.
- Allows students to take up to one half of their credits off campus through online courses and the remaining half through a cycle of intensive courses in Sioux Falls.
- Allows ample room for electives to meet an individual's specific ministry focus.

#### **Master of Divinity In Ministry Track — in the Planning Stages**

- There are plans to start offering a Master of Divinity In Ministry track soon.

### **Degree Programs at NABS**

- Master of Divinity
- Master of Arts
  - Christian Leadership
  - Counseling
  - Marriage & Family Therapy
  - Bible & Theology
- Doctor of Ministry
- 3 Graduate Certificates

### **Students**

#### **Enrollment Statistics – 2005-2006**

- Total enrollment – 247 (Includes full and part time, auditors, and seminary choir)  
Incoming Class Statistics - Fall 2005
- Number of new students – 28; 21 of which are enrolled full time
- 23.5% of the Fall 2005 entering class were North American Baptists

#### **Program Statistics - Fall 2005**

- Total number of students enrolled for credit at the Masters Level – 107
- Number of students in programs – 92

**YLP****The Young Leaders Project is**

- A ministry of North American Baptist Seminary.
- For US and Canadian students entering grade 10 through high school graduation.
- Designed to challenge youth through enriching their spiritual lives, deepening theological understanding, and sharpening leadership and ministry skills.
- Located on the web at [www.youngleadersproject.org](http://www.youngleadersproject.org).

**Alumni****Staying in Touch Newsletter**

- Created in May 2005 for the purpose of staying in touch with NABS' alumni
- Is an eNewsletter sent out three times a year
- To subscribe, e-mail your name and e-mail address to [alumni@nabs.edu](mailto:alumni@nabs.edu) or sign up by entering your e-mail address into the "NABS eNews" button on the bottom left-hand side of [www.nabs.edu](http://www.nabs.edu).

**Church Visits****We'll Come to Your Church**

Rev. Randy Tschetter, Director of Church Relations and Alumni for NABS spends a lot of his time on the road.

Randy is available to visit with you and your congregation, to preach, or to bring greetings and news on behalf of NABS. Now any Sunday can be a Seminary Sunday!

If you would like to speak with Randy or arrange a time for him or any seminary faculty member to visit your church, please call him toll free at 800.440.6227 (NABS) or e-mail [rtschetter@nabs.edu](mailto:rtschetter@nabs.edu).

**News and Events**

Get the latest seminary news and event information at our website – [www.nabs.edu](http://www.nabs.edu).

***A Christian Affirmation of Marriage • North American Baptist Conf.***

The following Christian Affirmation of Marriage was passed by the delegates at the 48th NAB Triennial Conference held at Estes Park, CO, in July, 2006.

The ministers of our North American Baptist Conference welcome the privilege that our respective civil governments give them to solemnize marriages as a part of their Christian ministry. Our convictions about the nature of marriage, however, are governed by the same biblical authority that informs all our teaching and ministry. Therefore, our ministers will in good conscience only perform weddings consistent with the view of marriage expressed in the following "Christian Affirmation of Marriage":

We believe . . .

That God's intention for marriage is established throughout the scriptures of the Old and New Testaments

This is expressed in creation and the creation story, the law of Moses, the wisdom literature, and in the prophetic tradition. The Divine establishment of marriage is confirmed by the words of Jesus and the New Testament authors. They provide guidance for perfecting marriage, and affirm its spiritual significance. Chaste singleness and marriage are both honored as faithful and holy lifestyles ordained by God.

That God ordained marriage as a voluntary union for life of one man and one woman

Our creation as man and woman, who are complementary to one another, has significance in revealing aspects of the image of God, and His relationship to humanity. The permanence of the marital bond mirrors God's faithfulness, just as its monogamy reflects God's singular devotion to his people and his people's singular devotion to him.

That sexual intimacy is legitimate only within the bounds of marriage

The commands of God are clear. Sexual activity profoundly affects people emotionally and spiritually. Sexual intercourse outside of marriage, promiscuity, common law relationships, adultery, homosexual acts, exploitation, incest and sexual perversion contradict God's purpose for human sexuality

That marriage is more than a contract between two persons: It is a covenant before God

God is committed to every marriage between a man and a woman. In the covenant of marriage, God joins a man and a woman together "in one flesh," and forbids anyone to break it. This covenant is unique, among human relationships, to marriage. God intends the married couple to reconcile and celebrate His call to an irrevocable commitment to love, to cherish and remain faithful, which transcends the quid pro quo of contracts.

That in Christian marriages, the Church acts as an agent of God's blessing, as a primary witness and as a supportive community

The church declares the blessing of God but does not create that benefit. Therefore the church cannot confer the spiritual blessing of marriage on other relationships.

That a healthy marriage is the best foundation for families and the raising of children

The practical benefits of marriage are inherent to its form. A healthy marriage is a unique source of benefits for children including the stability of the family and the access of children to a mother and a father. God intended that children should receive nurture from male and female parents, and in turn learn to honour both. Neither the church nor anyone else can confer the innate benefits of marriage on other forms of relationships or unions.

That the Bible teaches that marriage is between one man and one woman only, and to recognize other unions as legitimate marriages would be contrary to our understanding of scripture within the North American Baptist Conference.

We affirm, in accordance to the North American Baptist Conference Statement of Beliefs, that each person is unique, possesses dignity, and is worthy of respect.

We also affirm that we are called to introduce each person to the loving, reconciling ministry of Jesus Christ and the life changing transformation described in scripture.

As Christians we seek to demonstrate God's love to all people, but we will not compromise our convictions on marriage as defined by scripture.

Therefore, be it resolved that:

1. As a matter of belief, doctrine and religious practice, the North American Baptist Conference reserves the term "marriage" for the covenant relationship between one man and one woman to the exclusion of all others.
2. And that the North American Baptist Conference establishes the standard that all individuals, who are licensed to perform marriages, will not officiate at, or co-officiate at any marriage outside of the previously stated definition of marriage.
3. And that in the event that an individual licensed to perform marriages, officiates at or co-officiates as a pastor at a marriage that is outside of the previously stated definition of marriage, will be subject to disciplinary review and loss of license.
4. And we recommend that all North American Baptist Conference churches adopt the above as a policy of their individual, local church, and review their "church use policies" to reflect the resolution as stated.
5. And that the facilities of North American Baptist Conference churches will not be used for weddings or receptions where the marriage union is contrary to the provisions of this resolution.