



Mona's Musings

"Jesus knew his mission statement, and he did not deviate from it." - Jesus CEO: Using Ancient Wisdom for Visionary Leadership by Laurie Beth Jones

Oh, my dear friends! Easter has come and gone along with a horrible fight against Covid! I never feared for my life, but the headaches were awful. My husband was affected first, but kept on working, then I became sick, and little 9-month-old Margaret, and both of her parents. We missed all the Holy Week programs, but were feeling well enough to have everyone over for an outdoor picnic and egg hunt on Easter Sunday! I'm so glad I am back among the living!

Speaking of among the living, I had an opportunity to be one of the speakers at the Missouri River Spring Rally. Their welcoming and tasty brunch was so inviting and it was wonderful to be in the presence of Godly women. However, when it came time for me to speak, I was at a loss for words, saying things that were not correct and just not fulfilling my Presidential responsibilities of sharing the importance of AB Womens Ministries with those in attendance. My presentation was appropriate, but my words were scrambled. So, I am publicly apologizing to my dear friends at the Missouri River Rally for being in a "Covid Fog" state of mind! (It's really a real thing!)

However, yesterday I had the opportunity to be the speaker at the Crawford Grace Hill Spring Rally at the First Baptist Church in Chanute. Oh, what a beautiful ninety-minute drive from my home; trees blooming, green grass covering the rolling hills, and baby calves! It was a wonderful time to have a dialogue with the Holy Spirit. My mind drifted to each slide of my presentation, and the Holy Spirit put the words for each slide into my mind! What a blessing to walk into the church and feel that my mind was clear and I could be the best President I was capable of being!

I have to tell you that I was overwhelmed with the devotion presented by Marcia Klotzbach. Her family is in the midst of some health issues and I ask that you remember her in your prayers. Even though her heart was heavy, her devotion was WON-

DERFUL! The opening music was fun and followed the theme, "Oh, Happy Day!" I presented a program reviewing the mission, vision and core values of being an American Baptist Womens Ministries member. I also shared some of my personal struggles before I became your President.

When the morning session was complete, I went straight to Marcia to tell her how much her devotion had touched me. I shared with her some of my family's illnesses, and she reached out to two other ladies, and we prayed!! Wow! What a day I was having! Everything about the Rally made me happy. I sat with some amazing ladies who were interested in what I had to say and wanted more explanation. I was able to talk with a "newbie" about my love for the women in AB Womens Ministries. I had the privilege of meeting the husband of one of our scholarship applicants. What an amazing couple! I stayed for the business meeting and really listened to Magada Craven as she led with authority and confidence in following Roberts Rules of Order in a fun way! I was hugged and prayed over, fed well, and sent on my way with more hugs. I LOVE being your President, and I look forward to being with more of the Associations next year.

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Conference Mini-Project

Care Cupboard Hygiene Pantry

An outreach ministry of the First Baptist Church, Parsons. Members of the church support the pantry by donating products and/or making cash donations. Donations are tax deductible and may be mailed to FBC, 1621 Main, Parsons, KS 67357. **You may bring donations to the conference or place cash in the empty container at the display.**

Items needed are:

- Bars of soap
- Toothpaste & toothbrushes
- Shampoo
- Laundry detergent
- Toilet paper
- Diapers
- Baby lotion
- Diapers & wipes
- Baby wash
- Hand lotion
- Deodorant
- Shaving cream & razors
- Tampons
- Feminine pads
- Body wash
- Band aids
- Tissues
- Adult incontinence briefs/pad
- Pump hand soap



2023 Summer Conference

Theme: Let the Walls Fall Down

Date: June 2-3, 2023

Location: First Baptist Church, Parsons

Guest Speaker: Dr. Sunne Syse Smith

inspirationmattersco.com



It is not too soon to think about making hotel reservations.

Parsons has the following hotels:

Holiday Inn Express (844) 898-3258

Quality Inn (620) 421-6126

Best Western Parsons Inn (620) 423-0303

Claire Bolton
1 West 89th St, KC MO 64114-3104
816-589-4678
wveerclaire@hotmail.com

Personal Development & Love Gift

Time keeps flying by. It is good spring is coming soon. We had a mild winter here in Tulsa with maybe a few cold days like (Iowa). We have been having Conference meetings and it is so exciting to look forward to it.

Vicki Daney and I are busy planning our Personal Development table. We have decided to do another drawing for the Love Gift offering, so everyone get their dollars ready.

Also, another new exciting location for AB Women at Parsons, Kansas. So close for us Oklahoma people it is hard to believe. 2 hours instead of 4 hours. Hope to see you there, it will be full of surprises.

The Bible book for May is Lamentations. The title of the book means "funeral songs." The author was probably Jeremiah, and he was grieving about the destruction of Jerusalem.

The author reflects on the total destruction that has happened to Jerusalem and the temple. But, he recognizes that all of this is the judgment of a righteous God. Knowing that God is merciful he appeals for mercy in prayer to God in chapter 5.

Submitted for Rita Siglin
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Registration Forms for
Summer Conference
can be found on our
web page at

abwmcr.org

Register Early!



Easy Peasy!
Save your \$1.00
bills where the
serial number
begins with a L
or a G for your
Love Gift
offerings.

Bible Book for May Lamentations



THINGS TO REMEMBER TO DO

1. Send in the information for your Association's new board members ASAP to Linda Everhart for the new directory ever-eady5775@gmail.com
1. Get your White Cross quota information to your Association Rep ASAP
2. Check the Central Connection information in the back of your directory for info regarding Association articles, and be timely with your report
3. Register for the Summer Conference.
4. Registration forms may be found at www.abwmcr.org Online or print available
5. Invite a friend to share a room with you and attend Summer Conference together
6. Make your lodging accommodation soon; Parsons is not too big

Missions & Service, Special Interest Missionary, White Cross

Mission and Service

One Great Hour of Sharing offering will be coming up in June. That offering does much more than disaster relief. One project was monies to begin the Antioch school in Liberia. Share this important info and offering opportunities with your church.

Global Servant Specials and Special Interest Missionaries

The list of "Specials" will be available at the Summer Conference, so Association Associates need to be sure to secure one. It will be time to divide all the "Specials" among the locals to be ready for the new year which begins Sept. 1.

"Thank you so much for the cards sent through the head office. We'd hope that you are receiving our email updates. If not, we'd love to send them to you.

"We just returned from a 6 week home assignment-we're planning to be in the US next year for a 2 month home assignment. We hope to visit the Midwest. We'd love to meet you all! Our MPT will be contacting you when we find out the time frame our church here will let us leave." - Blessings! Gordon and Lee Ann Hwang"

This is an opportunity!

White Cross

Association representatives will be able to pick up the White Cross requests at the Summer Conference (be sure someone gets the packet). This will give you time to divide the requests among your local churches. I have not received enough reports yet to be able to share with you.

Looking forward to seeing you at Summer Conference!

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2022-2023 Project

Hope everyone is doing well, and you all are looking forward to Summer Conference! It will be here before we know it. As I write this a lot of ideas have crossed my mind as it seems that we are faced with something challenging almost daily. I must remind myself that He takes care of us way more than we know and when those challenges occur, we just need to lean on Him even more. I find myself not doing that as often as I should.

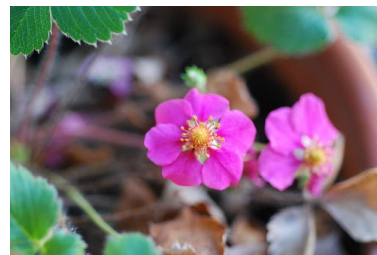
For me, it has been the need for moisture not only in our area but for the entire state. So, this morning when I woke up and it was raining, I was once again reminded of how good God is all the time and that He does give us what we need when we need it- not always when we ask though.

Patience has never been a strong quality for me, but I'm working on it. I patiently await the donations for project and for the past two years, I've been humbled when the ladies of the region come through and meet the project goal. We are just over a third of the way there and I will continue to work on my patience.

I'm reminded of a quote I read earlier this year that said the "windshield is bigger for a reason"- may we always look forward and be happy with what we have accomplished in the past. He has great plans for each of us and the monies we raise for project will do just that.

At conference we are fortunate to have Ivan and Jessa Greuter give us firsthand knowledge of how the project monies will help the Antioch Baptist Church and School in Liberia. I will leave you with 2 Corinthians 9:7- Each of you should give what you have decided in your heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver. May you each be richly blessed.

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Association Announcements and Reports

Ark Valley/Judson Association

The Ark Valley/Judson Association met on Saturday, April 22, 2023 at the Gypsum FBC. The Gypsum ladies provided morning coffee treats and lunch.

Two of our Scholarship students, Jessamine and Macy Greuter, were our speakers. Macy shared some of the activities they are involved in at Ottawa University. Jessamine shared her pictures and stories of her mission trip to Liberia. The pictures gave us an up to date view of our project, the Antioch Baptist School. We learned more about the school and their need for more class rooms. Our mini project was an offering for the Antioch Baptist school project.

Linda Wallace, President and proud grandma!!

Tri-River Association

Tri-River held the Spring Rally on April 24 at First Baptist Church in Manhattan—what a great time of fellowship, food, and fun!! Thank you to the ladies of Manhattan for hosting a great rally and for letting us share the joy of your new church renovations. About 35 fantastic women gathered to praise God and enjoy each other!

Our program was presented by Becky Nevergold from First Baptist Topeka. Becky encouraged us to tear down the walls we all have created within our own lives and find the sparkle inside us that God sees.

To conclude her program, Becky asked each of us to take a rock from the boxes being passed around. This wasn't a normal rock; it was a geode. She invited each of us to break that geode and find the sparkle inside—representing what God sees in each of us! Some geodes were harder to break, much like the walls we build within our hearts and lives.

Approximately 35 ladies with hammers may have been a little concerning—but we had fun breaking the geodes to reveal the beauty within! Thank you, Becky, for a program we'll remember!

We ended our rally with singing "If You're Happy and You Know It" then enjoyed a wonderful salad luncheon with luscious desserts. Our Fall Rally is scheduled for October 2, a week later than usual. The women of Lebo will be hosting again this fall. We look forward to being together again and praising our Heavenly Father with our hearts and voices.

Gayle Smith, President



Tri
River
Pics



This page is for announcements and reports of the Associations. Please send me your rally announcements, pictures and happenings of your different associations. It will be good to give ideas to other associations.

Luther Rice Association

At the Luther Rice Rally on October 25, 2022, we were reminded that the national branch of American Baptist Women's Ministries is predominantly a self-funded organization. National receives a small percentage of the Love Gift offering. In recent years many women have become a Vital Partner or a member of the Violet Circle committing to regular giving directly to the national budget.



At that October rally we felt God stir up our hearts to take care of our organization so in the future women and girls will be encouraged and empowered to serve God. So, we will have an optional offering at future association rallies and board meetings.

We're calling it the "Household" Offering. My family adopted a budget plan to live within our means. The household funds were stored in our cookie jar. We called it "the bunny" because the cookie jar was a stylish white rabbit. Each month, on payday, the designated cash for the month's worth of groceries, lunch money and petty cash went into and out of "the bunny."

The "household" cookie jar will be available at our board meetings and rallies for any of us to give as led. Our first offering was \$100. All funds in the cookie jar will go directly to National Support. If you would like more information on giving, go to

<https://abwomensministries.org//page.aspx/contentId/12/GIVE/>.

Jan Sipe, President

"Hello, May!
M = Make this month count.
A = Accomplish your goals.
Y = You've got this!"

Historian Notes

On a personal note, let me say how important keeping history can be. I have a history of our family complete with pictures both printed and on a flash drive. My husband of over 70 years, Roy, died April 11th. When my husband transitioned to heaven, I already had written up highlights of his life and had a power point of pictures of his life, so that was two tasks that I didn't have to do in the midst of all other arrangements. My girls will tell you what a blessing that was as they didn't have to search for pictures, etc. So, history is not just for organizations, it's good on a personal basis as well.

Thank you to all my dear friends who have supported us in prayer this year. It was felt and greatly appreciated. The last few months have been difficult but we were able to celebrate our 70th wedding anniversary the last of January and Roy was very alert. We were able to keep Roy at home, but it has been a steady decline. We were so thankful for hospice care. Thank you all for your expressions of sympathy and encouragement and attendance at the memorial service. 138 signed the guest book at Roy's memorial service, so it was a tremendous outpouring of loving support and we are so grateful.

History updates will be upcoming in the future.

Wilma Engle, historian



**For information
about all of the
happenings go
to our web page**

abwmcr.org



AB GIRLS PRAISE WEEKEND at White Memorial Camp
Speakers: Janaya and Jayla McIntosh, college students at Muskogee College
Registration and permission forms are on abwmcr.org

*It's Almost Time for the annual
ABW Silent Auction!!*

The AB GIRLS Silent Auction at the ABWCR Summer Conference helps fund the All Girls Praise Weekend sponsored by the AB GIRLS of the Central Region. And we need your help!

Much of our budget to hold the weekend comes from money raised from the silent auction held during the ABW Summer Conference.

We have been blessed by the talent and creativity of the women of the Central Region in the past. We hope we can rely on your support again this year!

We would like to ask for donations for the auction. Do you sew or knit or crochet or paint or have a favorite book? Or would you want to put a gift basket together? We also accept regifted items!

We would especially appreciate themed gift baskets! Use those wonderful imaginations and surprise us. We can tell you that the following baskets brought in the best bids: game basket, gardening baskets, coffee/tea baskets, coloring baskets, and chocolate baskets.

Thank you again for your previous support and we look forward to this year's Silent Auction! Please bring your donations to Conference or contact one of the AB GIRLS co-coordinators if you need help getting your donation to Conference.

Sincerely,

Cindy Fritz – 1-785-820-1640

Kami Minor- 816-916-5264

Jordan Fritz – 1-785-342-0539



AB GIRLS

BAKE SALE

Proceeds will benefit

Janaya & Jayla McIntosh travel expenses and stay at
White Memorial

Friday, June 2nd - Saturday, June 3rd

All day! If you would like to share a recipe please
contact one of the coordinators, so they can make it! If
you are wanting to donate a baked good please let one
of the coordinators know if it needs to be refrigerated or

not. Please contact: Jordan Fritz at
jordyfritz5@gmail.com if you have any questions!

ABWM Conference in Parsons Ks