

NEWS & NOTES: CHRISTMAS EVENTS

Plymouth - Fourth Baptist Church

The Annual Christmas at Fourth musical presentation will take place December 17 and 18. Each performance will start at 6:00 p.m. The theme this year is "The Humble King." The choir, orchestra, handbells, and various ensembles will present some of the favorite carols of the season.

Minneapolis - Bryant Avenue Baptist Church

Our BABC Christmas Program will be held on Sunday, December 18, during the morning service. Our annual New Year's Eve Chili Supper will be held on Saturday, December 31st.

Future Articles for North Star Updates



Have News & Notes from Your Church? Submit them now on the MBA Website. We would love to highlight Articles, Book Reviews, Historical Memories, Upcoming Events, and News & Notes as we pursue our goal of Exalting Christ Among the Churches!

FROM THE OFFICERS OF THE MINNESOTA BAPTIST ASSOCIATION

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*Exalting Christ
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MBA Men's Fall Fellowship at Pine Island

by Robert Allen

Cornerstone Baptist Church of Pine Island hosted the annual MBA Men's Fall Fellowship on Nov 11 & 12. More than 150 men enjoyed the outstanding meals provided by the church as



well as the tremendous spiritual blessings. Pastor Ben Gunderson of Chisago Lakes Baptist challenged the men to bear burdens of responsibility willingly, using the example of David. Pastor Steve Brower of First Baptist, St. Francis spoke of Daniel, reminding us that we live as resident aliens and need to embrace the roles God has given to us in a godly manner. Pastor Tim Graham and the Pine Island church provided abundantly for the comfort and needs of all those in attendance.

Session Audio & Video Available at mbaoc.org





NEWS & NOTES:

Exalting Christ Among the Churches

Adrian - First Baptist Church

On November 13, our congregation at Adrian First Baptist Church celebrated Harvest Sunday. It is an annual service we look forward to which affords us the opportunity to express our thankfulness to God for His blessings and provisions on His people and our church. During our service it is a tradition to collect "thankful" testimonials from the congregation and read them out loud. There are two that are worth noting; one of our men shared,

"I am thankful for the church He sustains in Adrian. Also, for Pastor Bruce and his wife Janet, for their desire to continue here as health issues and age would make it easy to not want to keep on serving, a true blessing and inspiration for me."

And from one of our most recent youth members, she shared, "God has given us things we do not deserve, like Heaven."

We are also blessed in joining and assisting our missionary families. This year we were blessed to have 3 of our supported missionaries visit this year and share what the Lord is doing in the mission field; The Harmon Family in Uruguay, Joe and Bonnie Valentin with Bibles International and Larry and Jane Parks service in Spain. We are grateful for them and their endeavors to serve the Lord in some of the most challenging situations. In recognizing their needs, the church has decided to dedicate the Harvest Sunday offering to them that we pray God will multiply in assisting them in the Great Commission in making Christ known to people we can never reach.

- Anthony Almodovar

Willmar - Cornerstone Baptist Church

Cornerstone invited the National Representative of the New Testament Association, Garry Thompson, to give us an update on the Association's ministry and to speak at our annual Christmas dinner on December 4. Almost 70 enjoyed a ham dinner, games and a very good time.

- Dave Rogers

GOD'S REFLECTIONS:

Biblical Insight from America's Story

Book Review by Robert Allen

Two of my great loves are American history and Biblical history. The book **God's Reflections** satisfies both of those in a timely and fascinating manner. Ronald Phillips has provided fifty-two vignettes from American history which remind the reader of the heritage and exceptionalism of the United States.

The book does not try to suggest that America is somehow fulfilling Scripture. Instead, the themes identified in the historical accounts suggest topics which call for Biblical insight. For example, the flaws of founding father

Alexander Hamilton initiates a discussion on how anger can destroy a life and a man's influence on others. Biblical insights prompted by these brief historical accounts have been written by Ernest Schmidt, David Grotzke, and Seth Grotzke, as well as Phillips. Schmidt pastored for many years and also taught, serving as past president of Faith Baptist Bible College and Seminary. David Grotzke has been a pastor for forty-five years. Seth Grotzke serves on the mission field in Spain.

God's Reflections would be a great addition to a church library, a school library, or your personal library. I highly recommend it.

R. I. Phillips, E. Schmidt, & D. Grotzke, (Eugene, OR: Wipf & Stock, April 2022), 280 pages.

