





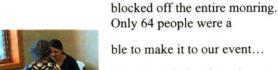


ARE LOST PEOPLE

LINING UP OUTSIDE YOUR CHURCH?

At our first event over 10 years ago, we saw the crowd lined up outside our church. This was exciting because we didn't know if anyone was going come get our clothes and because our advertising worked. This was exciting because it meant the "event" was a success. It wasn't until later when I was looking at that picture again that I realized its importance. Lost people were lining up outside the church! At that first event in 2012 we saw 14 people make their peace with God and come to Christ. Countless more Gospel seeds were planted. That is what makes an event successful - sharing the message of the Cross!

At an event we did earlier this year, there was a shooting within 300 yards of the church the morning of the event. The main



ble to make it to our event...

roads to the church were

Because of the fact that we shared the Gospel 45 times to those 64 perople, that day we saw 7 pepole give their lives to Christ!



I am saddened to think of the number of times we neglect to share the Gospel with the lost.

Not often do the lost actually line up outside your church, but there are all around your

BE INTENTIONAL IN TELLING OTHERS ABOUT CHRIST

Creativity at the Event

Over the past 10 years it has been great to watch people's creativity in how to serve the various workers and guests that come to their events. Bible lessons, car washes, oil changes, haircuts, health screenings, and meals have all be added to an event.



Oil Changes Haircuts were also part of the weekend that we gave clothing out in Archie, MO this past year.



MISSOURI BAPTIST PATHWAY ARTICLE

from Nov. 2022

Garments of Praise takes gospel to the needy, lost

VICKI STAMPS/contributing writer

BRANSON – Garments of Praise is a ministry serving the needy and lost, but at the same time, is giving to the church as well.

"We are celebrating our 11th year in

this ministry," Mark Scribner of Garments of Praise, a member of the Fellowship of Missouri Baptist Evangelists, said. "When we first started, I would say it is an evangelistic clothes ministry, but now, I know that it is a church empowering, gospel inspiring ministry that

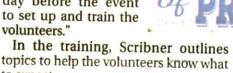


Scribne

encourages the church to be the church."

Garments of Praise partners with churches to offer free, new clothes to the lost and needy in their community.

"We have a packet to help them plan, and the church needs to plan on at least 50 volunteers to serve," Scribner said. "Then, we come in the day before the event to set up and train the volunteers."



"If you invite the lost into your church, it is going to be different," he said. "It will smell different; these are people in need. They will be here for the clothes, but we want to minister to their spiritual need."

During the training, the volunteers learn to weave the gospel in their lives, and they learn how to talk with those coming for the clothes.

"Many of the volunteers have never shared the gospel, and we want them to share with words," Scribner said. "In our current era, people are not looking to the church for hope. We need to point them to hope and share our relationship with Christ."

"People don't care how much you know until they know how much you care," he said. "We encourage our volunteers to talk with the lost and invite them to church. Just saying come back to church at 10:15 is much different than saying come and meet me at 10 for coffee and then we'll sit together in church."

"I live in Branson," Scribner explained, "and there is nothing worse than shopping at an outlet mall on a holiday. We want to create an experience that is not frustrating for the people attending our event. We divide all the clothes by type, size and gender and then give the shoppers numbers. After they shop, we ask if we can pray for them. Only about 10 percent turn us down. We also have counselors available to witness and have deeper conversations."

Since beginning the ministry, when

Scribner pulled his truck up to meet the man offering free clothes and discovered pallets instead of boxes, he has used it to point to Jesus.

"When I discovered my truck wasn't large enough and I would

need to fill two semi-trailers, I just said, 'Lord what are you doing?'"

In thirty plus events, more than 9,000 people have been ministered to, and the gospel has been shared more than 3,000 times with 260 plus decisions for Christ. Scribner has seen the seeds planted, watered, and harvested.

"We want to see lives changed," he said. "Those coming for the free clothes and the volunteers serving with us. We offer churches a one-day mission trip in their own town."

More information about Garments of Praise is available by contacting Mark Scribner at 913-579-3709; email:



This entire load of clothes was given to 1 family with 15 kids at our event in Sedalia, MO this year.



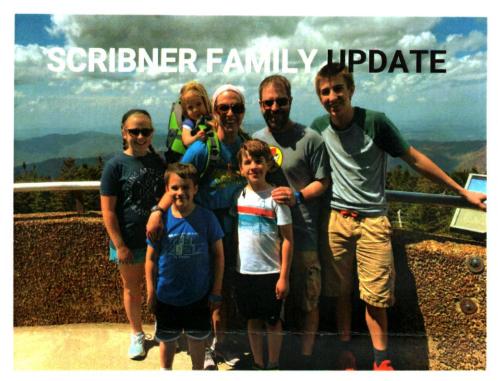
Sedalia has a very large immigrant farming polulation.



Fellowship Church has an amazing model of breathing life into a dying church. The event in Archie, MO loved on their community.



We did 2 events this year at Lake Hills Church in Ozark. 13 people were saved at these 2 events!



Jaime is still faithfully home-schooling the kids and managing our house. I, (Mark) wrote a book this year about running a medical practice.

Again, thank you all for supporting us and this ministry with your prayers and your financial gifts. We are so grateful for God and His faithfulness in our lives and in this ministry!

WHAT'S NEXT?

Will you join us in prayer for something? We are realizing that post-Covid, churches do not seem as open to having events like they used to. When we do an event, it is always well-received by the community and people are hearing the Gospel and accepting Christ. However, we are noticing that this doesn't seem to be something that many churches are interested in. Included in this newsletter is a well-written article that would have been distributed to the pastor of the 1800 Missouri Southern Baptist Churches. We did not hear a single response from that article.

What does this mean? We don't know, but we want to ALWAYS have an open heart, mind, and ear to what the Lord is saying. We want to make sure we are being good stewards of the resources the Lord has given us.

Join us in prayer as we ask God, "what's next?".

As part of stepping out in faith to test the waters of what could be next for this ministry, as a test case we were fortunate to have partnered with Affinity Missions in England for international outreaches in Macedonia and Armenia. A donor provided Garments of Praise with the funds to enable us to provide significant technical assistance and grant funds to both outreaches, with great results! Please see the information we have attached published by Affinity Missions that summarizes these exciting events in Armenia and Macedonia. We give our great God all the praise for over 302 acknowledging that they invited Christ into their lives to be Lord and Savior.

When I was making our support postcard this year I started reading some of the prayer requests we have put on the previous years cards and I was just BLOWN AWAY by God and his faithfulness! Thanks for praying for us. It's amazing to see how God continues to work in our personal lives!

Some of you have not known us for very long, but for others, you have been on this journey with us for all 10 years (and more). It is hard to believe that Jaime is old enough to have kids this age!

Andy is a Senior in High School this year and is headed to Missouri S&T in Rolla to pursue a degree in Engineering. Sophie is a Sophomore and has her driver's learning permit. Samuel is in 6th grade and is our social child who is learning the art of debate. Toby is our athlete who loves working hard playing soccer. Winnie is such a personality with an amazing vocabulary who keeps us all on our toes.



CELEBRATING 10 YEARS!

In the past 10 years, we have been able to serve at 32 different events. I have such great memory of them all.

Tonganoxie, KS (West Haven Baptist) Harrison, AR (Eagle Heights Baptist) Clinton, MO (FBC Clinton)

Kansas City, MO (Midwestern Seminary)

Oskaloosa, KS (Living Water EV Free)

Montgomery City, MO (Reach Community)

Overland Park, KS (FSBC Overland Park)

Kimberling City, MO (FBC Kimberling)

Ozark, MO (FBC Ozark)

Perryville, MO (FBC Perryville)

Leavenworth, KS (Wallula Christian)

Bonner Springs, KS (Fellowship West)

Shawnee, KS (Fellowship International)

Dexter, MO (FBC Dexter)

Greenwood, MO (Fellowship Greenwood)

Lenexa, KS (Lenexa Baptist)

Mountain Grove, MO (Mountain Grove Baptist)

Louisiana, MO (FBC Louisiana)

Bonner Springs, KS (Fellowship West)

Lenexa, KS (Lenexa Baptist)

Mountain Grove, MO (Mountain Grove Baptist)

Bonner Springs, KS (Fellowship West)

Kansas City, MO (Northland Baptist)

Bonner Springs, KS (Fellowship West)

Kansas City, MO (United Believers Community)

Overland Park, KS (Emmanuel Baptist)

Jefferson City, MO (Concord Baptist)

Archie, MO (Fellowship Archie)

Sedalia, MO (Bethany Baptist)

Ozark, MO (Lake Hills Church)

Ozark, MO (Lake Hills Church)













