



# chicago metro

BAPTIST ASSOCIATION

## *M-Pulse*

*The Missions Heartbeat of Chicagoland  
from Keith Draper, CMBA Executive Director*

*October 2011*



**Fast and pray for CMBA.** Remember **Friday, October 21** is a day of fasting and prayer for CMBA and our work. With so many changes coming in 2012, we need God's guidance. And join us for the Pancake Breakfast at the **CMBA Annual Meeting on Saturday, October 22**, starting at 8:30 AM at **Brainard Avenue Baptist** in Countryside. At the meeting, we will talk about a **new covenant of relationship** among the churches who make up our association. The CMBA Advocates have started meetings with pastors to talk about increased fellowship and financial support.

**New churches launch.** My family and I enjoyed a worship service and picnic on Labor Day Weekend at **Crossroads Church** in Carol Stream. What a great crowd of people with almost 400 attending! **Pastor Scott Nichols** is leading the church to launch its second new congregation in two years.



Crossroads' associate pastor **Grant Tillotson** (left) is

planting in New Lenox. The core group from Crossroads includes a couple from our family home group. Across town, **Qusai Mahmud** (above, right) led the first worship services for a new church in Pilsen neighborhood. **Pastor Nathan Carter** and **Immanuel Baptist Church**, in UIC/Medical District, are helping birth this new church.



**Getting started for my new work.** Starting next year, I will become a Church Planter Catalyst as part of the North American Mission Board's new focus in Chicagoland, while continuing work as Executive Director of CMBA. I attended two events in September to brush up my skills. The first, in Boston, was the Global Urban Strategists peer learning event. Our focus was on college work and church planting in collegiate communities. I especially enjoyed a panel discussion hosted by Baptist Ministries at the MIT campus (right).



And I attended worship services at **Hope Church in Cambridge**, a thriving SBC congregation of over 700 reaching many Harvard students and young professionals. It's exciting to see God using fellow Baptists to make high impact on campuses.

The second training I attended, in Indianapolis, was learning the expectations of the North American Mission Board for Church Planter Catalyst work (right). Since this will be the only field missionary role funded by NAMB starting in 2012, all IBSA staff receiving funding from NAMB also attended this event. Pictured right are **Van Kicklighter, John Mattingly, Charles Campbell, and Jim Smith** who will lead church planting for IBSA.



**No better time.** Now is the time for churches to engage enthusiastically in evangelism—while we can still save the next generation. That's the view of **Dennis Pethers** (top left) an evangelist from England, who spoke at a Churches of Strength training event led by IBSA. Pethers told how essential evangelism is in his country as church participation has plunged from 94% to 4% over the past century and how quickly our country is becoming similar to his own.

**Broadview Baptist Church** and **Pastor Marvin Parker** (center left) hosted the Super Saturday event to equip leaders for local ministry. Leaders from a dozen churches learned from state and national leaders who were invited to teach a dozen different seminars on ministry, education, and outreach. Super Saturday is held every September.



**Hail to the Chief.** Congratulations to **Pastor Jim Rahtjen** (bottom left) on his election as president of **Illinois Baptist Board of Directors**. Jim has served **Glenfield Baptist Church** in Glen Ellyn for over 20 years.



**Engaging the community.** The **Romanian Baptist Church** in Des Plaines is hosting its annual **Band Festival for brass bands** from across the city. Each band receives professional instruction and free new music commissioned by the Festival Board. Players can exchange ideas, share musical experiences, and set new goals and standards. A Combined Concert concludes the Festival by having all participating bands play together as one band. Info: **Sorin Cimpoes** at [scimpoes@gmail.com](mailto:scimpoes@gmail.com) or call him at 312-351-3237.

