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*Researching, Teaching,  
Mobilizing, for the Name—  
Serving Primarily African-  
Americans*

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[www.RMNI.org](http://www.RMNI.org)

This Report will move to a bi-monthly format (to free time for ministry), but receipting will be monthly.

#### WebWatch:

- Find/interpret airport 3-letter abbreviations:  
[www.zetnet.co.uk/signs/search/aircodes.html#top](http://www.zetnet.co.uk/signs/search/aircodes.html#top)
- Belong to Sam's Club?:  
<http://auctions.samsclub.com/>

Read *Bruchko*? Great mission story: ISBN: 088-4191338

Most “missionary Baptist” churches aren’t “missionary”—they don’t pursue global or cross-cultural ministry, and often aren’t involved in evangelizing outside their building. So while compiling figures for an IRS report, I was completely surprised when Greater Friendship Missionary Baptist Church of Chattanooga emerged as the largest single contributor in 2001. They gave almost \$8,000 to support two of their members’ ministry to Uganda—Bertha Lloyd and Aubrey Fritz.

Greater Friendship has underwritten such trips for six years. Now led by her new pastor Reginald Poindexter, Friendship has set a course to be even more missionary. Aubrey teaches the *Contagious Christian* evangelism course, by Bill Hybels, and asked me to lead the first session. About thirty people came. At the end, without warning I asked Aubrey to be the lost person in an evangelism role-play. He was to be “moderately” lost, not belligerent. At 11 PM that night a young lady who had attended called her aunt, realizing that she herself was lost. She was “found”.

Aubrey is the chief co-worker at the Westside housing project, leading when I’m away. He knows many of the folks there, and has recruited a childhood friend, James Hawthorne, who

actually grew up in this neighborhood. Both are brawny and street wise.

Over the past 30 years we have

## GFMBC

had occasional gifts from African American churches—generous honoraria for teaching or preaching. But the white community has underwritten this ministry to the black community, by God’s grace. Though not large in membership, in May Greater Friendship sent the first regular support check from a black church we’ve ever received.

Pastor Poindexter’s next goal af-



ter the evangelism class (we hope to work with some of them) is to establish a global missions program, in conjunction with local evangelism, and I plan to work with the church to see it happen. For Pastor Poindexter this is normal Christianity—taking ministry outside the church walls. Such churches are developing around the country.



**Uganda Team 2002!** From left: Joe Huebscher (2nd trip); Earnestine Hollimon (Memphis), Aubrey Fritz (2nd trip), Bertha Lloyd (7th trip), Dale [going?] and Peggy Stephens (Memphis), Hattie Riley (3rd trip), Heather Williamson (Knoxville), and not pictured Dr. Yolanda Spraggins (2nd trip) Yolanda, Earnestin and Heather form a doctor/nurse medical unit. Please pray for them as they raise prayer and financial support and for protection on the field.



**Our excellent Board** members (from left): Pep Grimes, Chairman; Clarence Hawthorne, Vice-chairman; Pastor Kevin Smith, Treasurer; Judge Ralph Hill; Doug Dalrymple (not pictured), Secretary. Bertha Lloyd is RMN Representative, Prayer Coordinator and, in fact, chief volunteer recruiter.

↑ Culminating many years of painful indecision, Jim left the denomination of his childhood and his credentials and was re-ordained to the Gospel ministry on June 23rd, after examination by Living Word Church, of New Port Richey, FL. Living Word has supported us for many years.

**Gladly we forfeit** our ministry of justifying SUV's. Signal Mountain Bible Church has valiantly helped us maintain our driveway, which gradually was driven down 57th Street. Don Rogers (right), a great friend, did the job. Thanks to God and to Judi's Mom for the funding.



## Prayer and Praise

↑ Please pray for God's grace to overflow as Judi and Jim teach at Northwest Baptist Church in Milwaukee on August 10-11.

↑ Judi still needs prayer against migraines.

↑ At Westside project we need the "heavy artillery" of prayer—for wisdom, the binding of Satan, openness to the

Gospel and discipleship. The fam-

ily where we had a Bible study moved out of the project.

↑ Thanks for praying for the Uganda Team! We now have 9-10 preparing to go. Please pray for much enduring fruit both in Uganda and in US churches as a consequence.

↑ Susanna still needs a fulltime job in September and please pray

that Ethan will be able to complete his flight and airplane mechanic course at LeTourneau.

↑ Finally, please pray for progress in 3 ministry proposals being negotiated: for street children in Mbale, Uganda, a grant for theological education in Uganda and 2 Christian elementary schools in southern Sudan.

