

SINGLE-AGAIN MINISTRY RESOURCES

Compiled by Bobby Gilstrap, Director of Missions
Huron & Southeastern Baptist Associations, Michigan
December 2, 2009

Referral from **Eric W. Ramsey** on November 29 at 3:52pm, via Facebook

John Mark Clifton (816.260.3332) <http://WornallRoad.org>;
johnmarkclifton@yahoo.com.

He is not a "singles pastor" -- he is first and foremost a church planter. But, has a high level of expertise in ministry to single-again adults. He actually started a church in Topeka, Kansas aimed at the single-again crowd. He has served as a pastor, church planter, state director of missions, executive with HMB (prior to NAMB). He is one of the most brilliant minds in SBC life. Tell him I suggested you contact him. He will be slow and modest at first, but will prove to be a great resource.

Conversation Notes:

- He worked primarily with blended families. Focused on kids. They are worried about their kids. Loaded with guilt over what they have done to their kids.
- Did KidCare – for Kids of Divorced parents.
- Started doing something every Saturday night. Lots of social interaction. Live music. Had great childcare.
- Started with no one. Rented a school on Sat's and within a year were running over 100 weekly. Started doing Experiencing God on Tuesday night's for men, etc.
- Encouraged other churches to start groups for single parents. Car repair stuff, sewing, etc.
- Did DivorceCare for adults – did lots of advertizing (esp. radio).
- Several conferences each year. Used as a Springboard into Sat's services. Had great music, speakers and entertainment at conferences.

Referral from **Cindy Lewis Dake** on November 29 at 4:05pm, via Facebook

Mark Carson from New Braunfels. Mark, meet my long-time friend from SWBTS, Bobby Gilstrap. Bobby's looking for someone who is doing single-again ministry for advice, conference info, etc.

Mark has spearheaded this kind of work in two churches--FBC Arlington, TX, and Trinity BC in Lake Charles, LA. Mark led his LA church to host a dynamic conf a year or two ago that really reached out to the community via advertising, etc. Brought in a number of speakers, etc.

I just wanted to introduce you two and if there is something Mark can offer you in the way if info/suggestions, then maybe it'll help you (Bobby) along the way.

Response from Robert Ashby December 1 at 8:17pm, via Facebook (*No additional contact info, will forward if received*)

Hi Bobby,

The program at Central has proven to be extremely valuable both emotionally and spiritually for participants. We do two 10-week sessions and 2 weekend sessions per year. It consists of a teaching time (biblical principles for recovery and growth) and small group discussion of the teaching as applicable to each person's situation. The small groups are NOT support or therapy groups. Teachers and group shepherds are all individuals who have themselves been through divorce and are now healed.

If this sounds like something you are looking for, just let me know.

Bob

Referral from David Kimberly - Mon 11/30/2009 10:50 AM, via e-mail

Bobby, not sure...but if they haven't they have been around long enough they may know of someone who does.

- Jeff Fitzhugh at FBC, Corsicana, 903-872-7473
 - Mike Green at Northside Baptist Church, Corsicana, 903-872-5601
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Referral from CHARLES L. COLE via e-mail (DIRECTOR OF MISSIONS, FIRM BAPTIST AREA, PO BOX 192, CAMERON, TX. 76520, 254-697-6505) via e-mail

Tommy's wife left him while he was serving at FBC Georgetown about 25 years ago and he began to be very active in creating and working with divorce recovery ministry. He continues to work in this area. He is very talented and gifted as a teacher and leader. His contact information is below. I know Tommy has been instrumental in starting several group ministries in the greater Austin, Texas metro area. Hope he can be a resource for you.

Tommy West

Minister of Education (and Single Adults)
Crestview Baptist Church
2300 Williams Dr.
Georgetown, TX 78628
tommy@peoplesharingjesus.com - Church E-mail
tcw78628@aol.com - Personal E-mail
(512) 863-9370 - Office Phone (I office in what we call SOLO House....an adjacent house that is home of our Single Adult Ministry)
(512) 863-0907 - Home
(512) 635-0670 - Cell

Referral from Marla Senter Morris via Facebook

Check out <http://www.ccbcfamily.org/ministries/singularity>
I'm not in it, but it looks great from this side. I've talked to several singles who really like the ministry. Let me know if you need more contact info.

Referral from Dr. Cruce, Tulsa Metro Baptist Network via e-mail

Jerry Jacobs of First Tulsa suggested that Terry Armstrong - 688-3477 might know something. He's the bi-vocational Singles Minister at First Tulsa.

Scott Blanchard (Church Planter at LakePointe Church, Clinton Twp, MI) 5:32 PM Nov 30th via Twitter

Formerly Associate Pastor (Singles, Adult Education, Discipleship, Assimilation), Marcus Pointe Baptist Church, Pensacola, FL (January 1999 - June 2009)

"If you're looking for consultation, then I have experiences in singles and singles again ministry." Contact at scott@lakepointechurch.tv (<http://www.LakePointeChurch.tv>)

Referral from David Gilley via Facebook Mon at 2:35pm, drgatiga@comcast.net, Mobile Number: 404 790 3879, Atlanta, GA

You need to contact **Dr. Bob Burns** at Covenant Theological Seminary in the St. Louis area. He was one of the founders of Fresh Start and is an excellent source on this topic.

Bob's administrative assistant's name is April Barber and her e-mail address is April.Barber@covenantseminary.edu and the phone number is 314-434-4044 ext.4203.

I was introduced to Bob through Fresh Start at Intown Community Church a part of Perimeter Church, where he served for several years. As both a participant and lay leader in Fresh Start, I think that the FreshStart perspective is one of the most effective.

DivorceCare is another excellent program and I have lead in that ministry as well. If you want a layman's perspective on either or both, don't hesitate to contact me.

Referral from Don Patterson (poba@accessatc.net) Wednesday, Dec. 2, 2009 10:25 AM, via e-mail.

Bobby. One our churches, Pleasant Valley, had a great singles again ministry and a general singles ministry. I am not sure if they are still as strong in that area as they were in the past. Let me give you an e-mail to contact them with. You will want to send it to Sam Stack who is the Ed./ Music Min. at the church. Contact sam@pvbcwaycross.org.

Hope this information will assist you in your search. Also thanks for the great website you have through the association. I have read a number of articles from it and appreciate the work and effort you put into that ministry.

Till We See HIM

Bro. Don

Referrals from Kim Bearden, Former Singles Minister in OK, now in CO working in area of Spiritual Formation. Well known in SBC for his work among singles. He said he'd love to visit with you sometime.

His Contact info:

perrykimbearden@yahoo.com

Mobile Number: 970-417-8166

P.O. Box 3340

Montrose, CO 81402

1. **Quail Springs Baptist Church**, Randy Davis
www.qsbc.org
14613 North May Avenue
Oklahoma City, OK 73134
(405) 755-9240
 2. **First Baptist Church** of Moore, Raymond Cox
www.fbcmoore.org
301 Northeast 27th Street
Moore, OK 73160-4105
(405) 793-2600
 3. **Church Initiative**, Inc., Joseph Northcutt or Linda Jacob
PO Box 1739 Wake Forest, NC 27588, Phone: 800-489-7778
Produce materials like DivorceCare, KidCare, etc. and provide many training resources.
 4. **First Baptist Church** of Orlando, David Lorenz,
davidlorenz@firstorlando.com, 407-514-4328
3000 South John Young Parkway
Orlando, Florida 32805
(407) 425-2555
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Freddy Cardoza, via Facebook

Bobby, Oklahoma Baptist Convention always had a strong ministry. I'd check that out, and I think FBC Moore, OK does or did. I have some background and quite a bit of experience up until a short while ago and built some pretty strong ministries. Check with BGCO.