MONARCH CHURCH, OTHERS, LAUNCH SERVICES IN BCNM BUILDING

By Daniel Porter

ALBUQUERQUE (BNM) - Securing an affordable and functional meeting space is arguably one of the more challenging aspects of church planting. The Baptist Convention of New Mexico aims to make that challenge more surmountable by offering its building to congregations in need of a physical location.

Several Albuquerque-area church plants have met at the BCNM's resource center and offices over the years, including Anchor Church and Monarch Church.

Anchor held services at the BCNM building between September and December 2012. Monarch, which launched last fall, currently holds its Sunday morning service and children's ministry in the building.

According to Bobby Erickson, lead pastor of Monarch, BCNM Executive Director Joseph Bunce offered the space to the church when Erickson first began the church planting process. Erickson said he kept the offer in mind as he moved forward in the process, but didn't fully consider it until Gerald Farley, the BCNM's business administrator, brought it up during a separate conversation.

In a phone interview with the Baptist New Mexican, Erickson said the building is "a good space, and to

BNM Photo: Monarch Baptist Church

Monarch Baptist Church pauses to pray during a worship service. The church meets in the Boardroom of the BCNM's offices and resource center in Albuquerque. Albuquerque's Anchor Church also launched its first services in the building in 2012.

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CHRIST CHURCH, ALBUQUERQUE, TRAINS PASTORS IN GUATEMALA

By Drew Stevens

ALBUQUERQUE (BNM) – Christ Church, Albuquerque, held a discipleship training for nearly 100 pastors in Guatemala July 1-7.

Since 2004, Christ Church's parent church, Desert Springs Church, Albuquerque, has maintained a strong partnership with Rabinal Achi Christians, a people group in the mountains of Guatemala. Since 2009, Desert Springs has taught Mark Dever's "The 9 Marks of a Healthy Church" to Guatemalan pastors and leaders. The church also uses Scriptures from 2 Timothy 2 during the training. Currently, Christ Church teaches the 9Marks curriculum in the summer to Guatemalan pastors. And, Desert Springs holds a training in the winter on expositional preaching for various biblical genres.

This year, Christ Church focused on discipleship during the pastors' training, equipping pastors to help each member of their congregations "personally understand, believe, know, and follow Jesus," according to Christ Church pastor Clint Moore.

Midway Ministry
at the New Mexico State Fair

Each year, Baptist volunteers build two booths at the New Mexico State Fair. The booths have become an expected feature for the fair and for fairgoers. The booths cater to the needs of families with small children. The ministry uses practical needs to start Gospel conversations.

Years Later
alumni recall college days

A group of Christian Challenge alumni gathered for worship using an overhead projector and transparencies with lyrics, just like in the old days. The service was one of several activities planned for a reunion of Christian Challenge graduates from the University of New Mexico.

ANNUAL ISSUE
TOTALLY FREE

This year's Annual Issue is dedicated to the Mission New Mexico State Missions Offering. Churches can receive the issue free of charge by contacting the Baptist New Mexican. See page 4 for details.

The Baptist New Mexican strives to inspire and mobilize New Mexico Baptists into ministry through their local church.

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