



For many years Missouri Baptists have sought to have a positive presence at the Missouri State Fair. We have endeavored to reach fair goers with the message of Christ through the “cup of cold water” concept of evangelism. In past years we have given away water and lemonade. We have had various types of entertainment. We have used evange-beads, face painting, and several other efforts to share the gospel with folks who visit the tent.

In the past, we have had combined financial input from the Missouri DOM group and the Missouri Baptist Convention.....with the bulk of dollars coming from the MBC. Due to budget changes/constraints a large part of the money we had been receiving from MBC is no longer available.

At the DOM retreat in October 2010, the group asked the State Fair Committee to bring a recommendation to the February Mid-Winter Retreat. As we met during the time since then, the committee made the decision to recommend following the pattern used by the Dakota Baptist Convention at the Sturgis evangelism tent and the Dakota State Fair. Through the use of a “Three Minute Testimony” thousands of people have had the chance to hear the gospel message in a very positive way....and several thousand have responded by accepting Christ. At this week’s DOM meeting, the response to the recommendation was to adopt the recommendation and to continue the state fair ministry.

The practical application of this decision follows is that we DOMs have committed to provided approximately \$5000.00 more to the state fair fund. Further, we have committed to providing 200-240 trained volunteers to work at the tent. So.....to donate to the cause....please send your contributions to Marlin Brown at Harmony Association (please make checks payable to State Fair Ministry).

If you are ready to commit to a four-hour block of volunteer time, please let Robert Collins at West Central Association know. The dates of the Missouri State Fair are August 11-21. We will need 10-12 TRAINED volunteers 10:00-2:00 or 2:00-6:00 each day from the 11<sup>th</sup> through the 20<sup>th</sup>. Volunteers will need to be individuals who are able to share their personal testimony in a positive three-minute gospel presentation. As we put together opportunities for training, we will make known when/where.