Mission Support Ministry Trips
by Danny Bullock, Barnabus Touch coordinator

Barnabus Touch trips for 2014 have been planned to go to four countries on five different occasions. We will go to the Philippines on April 19-26 to work with Bro. Don Newsom on the island of Panay to hold a pastor’s conference during the day and then to preach in the evenings at nearby churches. We plan to go to the island of Negros at the invitation of Pastor Pete Etabag to hold a pastor’s conference during October 2-11. We are returning to Ghana August 1-9 for a follow-up training after our 2013 trip there. This will be during the two week recess of the Bible School there.

Then September 5-13 we will go back to Nepal for the third consecutive year to work with the pastors there. We have a pending trip scheduled for December 4-13 to Tanzania to help teach pastors. This is due to a plea from a Baptist pastor in western Tanzania who is asking for help because of the different doctrines being taught by untrained pastors. We will make an exploratory trip there February 10-19 to assess the situation and then return in December if we believe we can be of assistance.

Cost for the trip is $2,750 which will include airfare, lodging, and meals while in the country. Anyone interested can contact me at 870-904-5032 or dbullock550@gmail.com for further information.

DiscipleGuide Editor Plans Retirement

In 1972, editor C. O. Strong invited Charles Reddin to join the editorial staff of Baptist Publishing House in Texarkana, Texas. In a forty-two year career Brother Reddin’s hand has touched such far-ranging projects as Girls’ Missionary Auxiliary publications to adult Sunday school curriculum. Since 2000 Brother Reddin has filled the position of adult editor, supervising the publication of all adult Sunday school curriculum projects.

Brother Reddin has made the decision to retire from the publishing role he has filled for the past four decades. The scheduled date for his retirement is July 15, 2014. The timing of his retirement is based partly on his own eligibility for retirement and partly on the changes that are occurring at DiscipleGuide. Brother Reddin stated, “When the Board announced the decision to recommend closing the office here, I felt that the best time for me to retire would be when the move takes place.”

DiscipleGuide Executive Director Scott Attebery expressed his appreciation for Brother Redding stating, “Brother Charles is leaving a legacy behind. His work has shaped the faith of countless members of the BMA. Without a doubt, his ministry has reached the corners of the globe as pastors and missionaries — influenced by his work — have influenced others for Christ.”

DiscipleGuide has prayerfully begun the process of choosing a successor to Brother Reddin. Attebery explains, “Although it will be impossible to find another Charles Reddin, we believe God will provide another man to carry on his legacy of faithfulness.

Online Church Letter deadline

Deadline is February 15, 2014

DiscipleGuide Information Services supports all BMAA churches’ departments: ministries; associations at the local, state, and national levels; and, all who serve God’s Kingdom through the BMAA. The work of Information Services is compiled annually in the BMAA Directory and Handbook. The 54th edition of the directory is now in production. The 2013-2014 Annual Church Letter form is essential to produce the directory and it keeps your church’s listings as current as possible. The statistics requested are used to evaluate the overall effectiveness and growth of the BMAA and its ministries.

Some state and local associations have chosen to use this form, enabling church clerks to complete one form one time and submit copies for those annual meetings. (Note: There is a different single-page BMAA Letter of Representation distributed before the annual meeting in April.) However, in order to update listings in the BMAA Directory and Handbook, the Annual Church Letter form must be submitted directly to Information Services. If you have already submitted your church letter to us, we thank you. If not, you may complete it online at www.BMALife.com/churchletter until February 15, or mail your completed form to DiscipleGuide Information Services, 4613 Parkway Drive, Texarkana, AR 71854 by February 15. The form also can be continued on page 3

Southeastern College President Search

Southeastern Baptist College, Laurel, Mississippi, is currently seeking applications for president. For more information please contact: Matt Hudson, Trustee Chairman, 662-260-0244 – cell or 662-862-2510 – home. You may also send an e-mail to: mihudson85@yahoo.com.

Applications for this position will be received through March 30, 2014.

WORLD MISSIONS SUNDAY

February 23, 2014

An Opportunity To Help Reach Around The World!

You should see our missionaries and their families! Cute kids, smiling faces, dedicated warriors for Christ! For example, go to bmamissions.org/missionaries, then <Middle East> and <Jordan>. There you’ll see the beautiful family of Sam Jordan and a list of prayer requests and praises from him. Start your day with a quick search of more families just like the Jordans serving all around the world.

On World Missions Sunday, we will make a special effort to emphasize the selfless work these missionaries and their families are doing. As you browse through the bmamissions.org website, please honor their requests for prayer and rejoice with them at the many decisions made to surrender and follow Christ. Help make Sunday February 23rd a special day of emphasis on BMA Missions in the following regions: Europe, Middle East, Central America, South America, North America, Africa, and Asia-Pacific.

continued on page 3
It Has Been a Good Month

“So being affectionately desirous of you, we were willing to have imparted unto you, not the gospel of God only, but also our own souls, because ye were dear unto us. For ye remember, brethren, our labour and travail: for labouring night and day, because we would not be chargeable unto any of you, we preached unto you the gospel of God.” 1 Thess 2:8-9 I love the transparency by which Paul communicated with the churches. It’s as if he is saying, “I love you, and desire to be with you, to share with you, to encourage you, to preach the gospel unto you.” What a heart! God grant me this heart!

Visiting the Churches
I have had the privilege, this past month, to preach at Lebanon, Soso, Salem, Stringer, Temple, Laurel, Campground, Gulfport, and the Pastor’s Conference at Lake Tiak O’Kata. I am so grateful for these opportunities and welcome the opportunity to visit your church.

Visiting the Local Associations
I traveled to a number of our local association meetings this past month. Some meet on the same day and this precludes me from being able to attend all of them in a given month but I do my best. This month I was able to visit the Ten Mile; Hobolochitto; Harmony; Judson; Oak Grove; and Capitol Association meetings. The fellowship is tremendous and I always come away uplifted and encouraged.

When we arrived at Skyway Hills for the Capitol Association meeting, we realized that we were going to get to witness a special program by the Girl’s Missionary Auxiliary. Mrs. Chris Smith did a great job as Master of Ceremonies, a title she has well earned by her many years of labor with the WMA and GMA programs. As expected, it was top notch. It was really a blessing to watch those girls demonstrate their devotion to God’s Word and work. Brother Mark Jones would have been thrilled to see the Galileans, in full dress, present the flags and Bible to open the program.

Our local association meetings represent one of the greatest opportunities for our churches to work together and encourage each other. I pray that all of our churches will make a strong effort to participate in their local association.

Participation in Local Missions Rally
Temple Baptist Church in Laurel held their annual missions rally this past month and a number of our State missionaries and I were invited to speak. In addition to me, Bro. Ray Boone, Bro. Bob Burch, Bro. Estuardo Marroquin and Bro. Kelby Johnson shared at the meeting. Bro. Cliff Jenkins and the fine folks at Bethel Licensing Service gathered in the new location and began to visualize a new mission congregation meeting there.

God Continues to Call Men into the Ministry
Bradley Starling and Stuart Priest were both presented by Grace Mission in New Albany, Missionary Kelby Johnson, as candidates to be licensed into the gospel ministry by their mother church, Bethel Baptist Church at Fulton. These are exciting times and we praise God for what He is doing.

Mrs. Parker Receives her Degree
Mrs. Kim Parker, our Missionaries Department bookkeeper and administator, recently completed her course requirements, at Southeastern Baptist College, necessary to receive her Bachelor’s degree in Business Administration.

Praying for New Mission Projects
I continue to pray for the ongoing development of new mission projects. Our goal is to start 5 new projects this year. Please continue to pray, very specifically, that God will raise up the men to go. We have a number of opportunities that include both the location and a church interested in being a mother church but we are still praying that God will give us the men.

DiscipleGuide Seeking Editor

Do you have special skills in writing and project development? Have you ever wondered how your editing skills could be used for God’s kingdom? At DiscipleGuide, we believe that God does big things through small churches. Our mission is to provide effective resources to help churches make disciples.

Serving churches is serving Christ. That’s why we are committed to the highest standards of quality in our curriculum. Has God given you a skillset “for such a time as this”?

DiscipleGuide Church Resources is seeking a full-time managing editor who will be responsible for producing the Compass curriculum products as well as other publications. The responsibilities include:

- Managing a team of curriculum developers and writers in order to meet house production schedules.
- Experience in publishing is helpful, but not necessary.
- Business administration and marketing skills. Skills that would aid in the production, sales, and marketing of DiscipleGuide products would be valuable for this position.

The duties of DiscipleGuide’s adult editor include:

- Lead a committee of freelance writers in curriculum development.
- Edit manuscripts for publication with attention to grammar, doctrine, biblical content, readability, effectiveness, and length.
- Provide materials and guidance for typesetting and design. All publications are assembled.
- Read proofs and verify corrections.
- Communicate with DiscipleGuide staff, writers, customers, church leaders, teachers, and readers as needed.
- Participate in evaluating and planning products.
- Interested parties should send a resume to: DiscipleGuide: Attn. Jerome Cooper, 4613 Parkway Drive, Texarkana, AR 71854. Applications will be received until job is filled.

Expert Volunteers Needed

The maintenance and repair needs at the college are overwhelming. Because of the shortage of funds, many problem areas have been neglected. Some of these cannot be ignored any longer. The tightness of the budget, however, requires that the contributions to these needs must be above the regular giving for the operation of the college. Redirecting regular support for SBC to maintenance, repair, and renovations would be devastating to our yearly financial reports. As Interim President at Southeastern, I am trying to develop a database with the names and numbers of our people who would be willing to volunteer their expertise in their time off or after hours. Hopefully, we can raise the money to pay for supplies. The needs include plumbers, electricians, carpenters, tile layers, and roofers. We do want folks who can do a quality job in each field. Having a resource to contact during times of emergency would be very beneficial to us. We have some very gifted people in the BMA. Your gift can be used for the Lord. If you are willing to use your expertise, call the school and give your information or send an email to interimpres@gmail.com.

They say revenge is a dish best served in secret. Or maybe it is best served cold? Or...well, exactly what “venge” means and why you would want to “re-venge” it. Anyway, as I age, I find that it is just too much trouble to exact revenge on someone or something for indiscretions inflicted toward me or my family. Actually, it has been many years since the thought has even entered the vast tundra that is my mind. After I found Jesus (He wasn’t hard to find, I had just been looking in the wrong places) my ideology changed. There was a time, however, that devious thoughts clouded my brain and caused evil storms to brew upon the helpless souls who had the audacity to infringe upon my world of happiness. Take, for instance, my eighth grade year of school. Being incredibly intelligent, I had to work overtime to get bad grades. I wanted to fit in with everyone else, so I had to go the extra mile. I buckled down, and with some late nights of cramming and library time, I was able to get my grades down to a peer acceptable level of average. It was hard work and very labor intensive, but it was a sacrifice that had to be made to keep me from getting beat up for being a nerd. I figured that I could fake being average and not standing out with the intellectually elite until I finished high school, and then I would go back to being brilliant. This plan worked for perfection, except the part about going back to being brilliant.

Anyway, back to revenge. I had a sweet, innocent, cute, adorable little female dog of mixed origin named Bear. All of six inches tall, she was a lean, mean, squirrel treeing machine. She was my companion every day after school when I would hit the woods with my .22 rifle looking for bushy tails. Sometimes we found one. One day, returning from the asymptomatic Junior High, I noticed an ugly male beagle hanging around. For some reason, I had bought a box of rat shot for the gun, so I stealthily stalked steadily still...um, well, I walked outside and shot the ill-intentioned hound in the hind quarters. I must say, I felt extremely satisfied that I had protected my little girl’s integrity.

Someone must have ratted me out (no pun intended), because later on that evening, my parents expressed their displeasure for my valiant deed. The owner of the dog said I shot its eyes out. Sheesh! It was just a little rat shot to the behoinkus and they turned it into international security violations. I can’t even remember what my punishment was, but my brother and I made it our personal agenda to dump every bit of trash we could in their yard and mailbox for years to come. Even after I had moved out, when I would return to visit my parents, I would save up bottles and fast food bags so I could throw them in their yard as I passed. Yeah, I was a rebel.

Thankfully, God has given me a better reason for living than revenge. And it’s a good thing too. Otherwise, there could possibly be a serial trash thrower lurking in your neighborhood... And nobody would be safe. (Side note for all young gentlemen coming around to court my daughters...I still have some of that rat shot)
Vernon Phillips
Passes Away

Brother Vernon Lee Phillips died Wednesday, January 22, 2014, in his home on the Sunflower River near Anguilla, Mississippi. He was 88.

He was born on June 24, 1925 in Moorehead, Mississippi, to Melvin Lee and Ethel Lela Phillips.

Brother Phillips was self-employed as a farmer before surrendering to the Gospel ministry on July 19, 1952. During his ministry he pastored churches in Mississippi, Georgia, and Alabama. He served as a recruiting officer for Southeastern Baptist College. He was a member of Zion Baptist Church, Anguilla.

He served his country in the U.S. Air Force during World War II. He received commendations for his efforts in the “Rooster Movement”.

In addition to his mother and father, he was preceded in death by his wife, Lela Couch Phillips; a brother and a sister; and his daughter-in-love, Kay Bradley Phillips.

He is survived by two sons, David Lee Phillips and Donald Ray Phillips, both of Anguilla; five grandchildren; ten great grandchildren; one brother; and many nieces and nephews.

Services were held Saturday, January 25, 2014 at Zion Baptist Church in Anguilla, with Brother Bobby Conrad officiating. Burial followed at Golden Link Cemetery. Pallbearers were Donavan Phillips, Dave Albert, Sam Freeman, Dwight Lindsay, J.J. Hearn, Gary Barnett, and Mike Couch.

Editor’s Note: Bro. Vernon Phillips loved the Lord and the Lord’s churches and served faithfully in a number of areas for the Baptist Missionary Association. He was on the Board of Trustees when I was elected editor in 1978. I suspect that the fact that I was married to one of his former church members continued on page 5

Church of the Covered Dish by Thomas Tapp

IT’S REALLY NICE TO SETTLE DOWN WITH YOU AFTER A LONG SUNDAY ELI.

MARSHA, DO YOU EVER REGRET MARRYING A PASTOR?

DAD, IT’S FOR YOU... MRS. BOREGARD WANTS YOU TO EXPLAIN THIS MORNING’S SERMON...
Cookies For Abortion?

The Girl Scouts is set to launch its annual cookie sale, but a prominent pro-family/pro-life organization is suggesting the public not purchase them.

Over the past several years, Girl Scouts of the USA has lost a large slice of its membership largely due to its left-leaning policies and associations, including its honoring of strongly pro-abortion people and political office holders. Since the Girl Scouts makes millions of dollars in revenue from cookie sales, American Family Association is recommending people who disagree with those liberal practices not support the cookie campaign.

“If a Girl Scout asks you to buy Girl Scout Cookies, just simply say No, thank you,” advises Randy Sharp, director of special projects for AFA. “There’s no need to explain to this little girl what the social agenda of the organization is. There’s no need for us as adults to embarrass the little girls.”

Full explanations of objections to the Girl Scouts’ pro-abortion views and activities are available online at MyGirlScoutCouncil.com and SpeakNowGirlScouts.com. Christie Volanski, who created SpeakNowGirlScouts.com, last month penned a column titled “What every pro-lifer needs to know about the Girl Scouts’ link to Planned Parenthood.”

Vernon Phillips from page 4

bers was a plus in my favor. Bro. Vernon served as the pastor of Liberty Baptist Church on two different occasions. Liberty was my wife’s home church and she grew up under his ministry and as dear friends with his family.

Bonnie and I were able to visit Bro. Phillips and his son David in their home this past August. What a great time we had. Bro. Phillips was an individual who loved conversation and we had our afternoon full of it. We talked about his health, church work and even his time serving America during WWII. He was loved and he will surely be missed.

“Sharpen”

A night of training and encouragement for churches

Sponsored by the Youth Department of the BMA of Mississippi

We ask every church to consider sending at least one person or small group to “Sharpen.” If you have a youth pastor, send him. If you have someone who leads your youth or children, send them. We invite pastors and parents to “Sharpen.” Any church member will benefit from this night of teaching. We don’t have all the answers but we believe we can help strengthen the church by offering some encouragement and training. We are offering this conference in the South at Springhill Baptist Church on March 28, 2014 and in the North at South Green Baptist Church on April 4, 2014. This year we will meet on Friday night for just a few hours. There is no cost for this event.

Theme: The Importance of Family

March 28, 2014 @Springhill Baptist Church (Laurel, MS) 5:30 pm Dinner

6:30 pm Session 1 “The Bible & Family” by Bro. Larry Geralson Director of Missions & RLF, BMA of MS

7:30 pm Session 2 “The Church & Family” by Bro. Cliff Jenkin s Pastor, Temple Baptist, Laurel

8:15 pm Discussion Bro. Kelby Johnson

9:00 pm Dismiss

April 4, 2014 @South Green Baptist Church, Tupelo, MS 5:30 pm Dinner

6:30 pm Session 1 “The Bible & Family” by Bro. Gary O’Neal Pastor, Greenwood Baptist, Laurel

7:30 pm Session 2 “The Church & Family” by Bro. Blake McCain Pastor, South Green Baptist, Tupelo

8:15 pm Discussion Bro. Kelby Johnson

9:00 pm Dismiss

The Billboard from page 8

never show the possibilities of the backside. God’s word acknowledges there is pleasure in sin, but also that it is short lived. In Hebrew 11:25, “Choosing rather to suffer affliction with the people of God, than to enjoy the pleasures of sin for a season”. The Bible and statistics reveal that through the consumption of alcoholic drink highway fatalities have increased. It also destroys individual lives, homes, churches, and governments.

That which is destroyed due to the consumption of alcoholic drink is of more value than the short lived joy, or the lack of revenue it generates. History reveals the revenue generated from the sale of alcoholic drink will not solve our school’s financial needs, nor build a surplus in our governmental coffers as promised. The abuse of alcohol as a drink turns pleasure to sorrow, and sweet to bitter. Proverbs 23:32, “At the last it biteth like a serpent, and stingeth like an adder”. Christians have made a covenant to Christ through the New Testament Church that we will not abuse alcohol by using it as a beverage. Proverbs 20:1, “Wine is a mocker, strong drink is raging: and whosoever is deceived thereby is not wise”.

Passersby, before surrendering to any such form of enticement, billboard or otherwise may I flag a caution sign? For consequential information please consider the instructions of the Bible, and also view and evaluate the backside of the Billboard as well as that beautiful enticing front side. It is better to know Jesus as Savior, than to know him as Judge! And remember, Satan is not now, nor ever will be your friend!
Mississippi W.M.A.

President - Jessica Hayden
3208 Hwy 27 North
Soso, MS 39480
662-251-0455
Email: blhaden@gmail.com

Corresponding Secretary
Mrs. Shirene Smith
730 Hwy 533, Laurel, MS 39443
601-729-5638

National WMA News
Right Here At Home

Often when the average person thinks of missionaries, he thinks of someone who travels across the world to witness to someone of a different culture. Some missionaries do that. Sometimes the hardest thing is to witness to the people who are living right around us in a busy world that we know all too well. God calls all of us to witness to anyone we meet who may need to know more about Him. He does, however, call some to go specifically to areas where, for whatever reason, the Word is not reaching the average United States citizen. That's exactly what happened when God called Matthew Prather to be a BMAA missionary.

Matthew grew up as a Baptist preacher's kid. While at Jacksonville College, he met Amy Taylor, a Baptist deacon's daughter. They married in May, 1996. Matthew had surrendered to preach when he was 18, and he became a youth minister at Calvary, Fairfield, Texas, in 1998. The Prather's now have two sons: Ethan, 9, and Jonas, 6. At the present time, Amy works as a substitute teacher in the Celina schools where her boys attend. In that manner, she is available to assist Matthew at times when she is needed.

When Matthew and Amy Prather knew that God was calling them to the mission field, they began to pray about where He wanted them to serve. As they prayed, they realized that God was leading them to continue working in their own home state of Texas because it is the fastest growing state in the United States. After much prayer and checking out various areas around the state, God brought the Prathers to Celina, a relatively small but rapidly growing town north of the Dallas metroplex. Amy says that they have neighbors from many different states who have chosen to make this town their home.

After moving to Celina in September of 2012, Matthew and Amy started the first small group in their home in January 2013. Throughout the year, they reached out to the community at every available opportunity. Some of their activities included diaper changing during city carnivals, Easter egg hunts, movie nights, monthly worship services, Kids Camp, passing out water, cooking hot dogs, trick or treat, and Christmas on the Square. They also utilized about 100 students from SOAR in a SOAR Serves campaign. Through all of these activities, they have reached many people and started three new small groups, which they call community groups.

The Bridge mission members involved in community events

At first, they had trouble finding somewhere to meet as a church. As in many areas, they looked into using the school, but were told firmly that it would not be possible. However, after all of their service in the community, God opened the door to rent the school cafeteria. They now show up early on Sunday to transform the usual lunch area into a worship center and the gym into a worship center for the kids. When they finish, they again pack it all back into the trailer.

Prior to the Prather’s arrival in Celina, the town had only one Baptist church, among other denominations. The town welcomed them with open arms. In January, 2014, The Bridge, as the mission is called, launched weekly worship services, averaging 40-50, and they are currently planning their first baptismal service. They would like to thank everyone for all their support and prayers.

God may not be calling you to be a missionary across the ocean or even somewhere else in the United States. However, He does command you to witness whenever you can. Then He also expects you to support others who are called to go elsewhere—sometimes with your time, money, and always with your prayers. Further prayer needs for the Prathers are:

Pray that they see more people come to know Christ as their Savior.

Pray for them to build new relationships with people in North Texas.

Pray for them as they continue the work of establishing a new church that will make a difference in the lives of people in North Texas.

Remember the Prathers and all of our missionaries, wherever they are serving.

The Bridge mission members involved in community events

GMA Girls

State Youth Auxiliary Director
Beth Caldwell
166 Twin Creek Rd,
Lucedale, MS 35942
601-947-6011

State GMA Promoter
Becky Farmer
464 Churchwell Road
Hattiesburg, MS 39401
601-596-1005
becky@southforrest.org

GMA Promoter Urges Attendance at Camp

Girls and counselors it is time to pack our bags and head to GMA camp! Camp will be March 14-15 at Camp Garaway in Clinton. Our theme is “In God We Trust” with Dr. John Adams as our camp pastor.

Attention Counselors: If you have a GMA participating in Junior Miss GMA of Miss GMA the deadline to have their pack sent to the camp is March 1.

I do want all of the girls and ladies to realize that you do not have to be a GMA to attend camp. If any church that has a group of girls and they want to go to camp, please send them to camp.

If anyone has any questions please call or email me.
Becky Farmer, State GMA Promoter
464 Churchwell Road
Hattiesburg, MS 39401
601-596-1005
becky@southforrest.org

State Sunbeam Report

The State Sunbeam officers met December 28th at Hopewell Baptist Church, Soso, titled Living in the Last Days.

After the message the meeting was called to order with 10 churches represented and a total of 56 present, with 4 visitors. The February meeting will be at First Hispanic in Ripley with Dr. John David Smith as speaker, with Bro Elvis Garcia the alternate.

Reports were given by Bro. Bobby Elliott, Bro. Elvis Garcia, Bro. Kenneth Pollock and Bro. Larry Geraldson, State Missions Director.

Bro. Mark Johnson spoke on his work with the Galileans, and Dr John Adams presented a short film of him opening with prayer the U.S. House of Representatives in November.

Bro. Danny Pitts, interim president of Southeastern Baptist College, presented the outlook of the college and future plans.

Bro. Mike Smith, Moderator Tony Marotl, Reporter

Harmony Meeting Report

Our January meeting was held at First Baptist Church in Mantachie. Pastor Dr. John Adams introduced the special music and the speaker, Bro. Grover Laird. Brother Laird’s message was from Matthew 24:1-13 entitled Living in the Last Days.

After the message the meeting was called to order with 10 churches represented and a total of 56 present, with 4 visitors. The February meeting will be at First Hispanic in Ripley with Dr. John David Smith as speaker, with Bro. Elvis Garcia the alternate.

Reports of Upcoming Events

The Bridge mission members involved in community events

The Bridge mission members involved in community events

Oak Grove Association

The Oak Grove Association met with Calvary Baptist Church, Purvis on January 16 with ten churches being represented. Several visitors were present.

Bro. Danny Pitts, Interim President at Southeastern Baptist College, spoke on behalf of the college. Bro. Sidney Davis presented the work of the Children’s Home and Bro. Kenneth Flynt shared information of upcoming events sponsored by the Commission on Senior Adults. Bro. Larry Geraldson represented the State Missions Department and introduced three of our State Missionaries who also gave reports concerning their respective fields: Bro. Phillip Burns (Sumrall), Bro. Estuardo Marroquin (Hispanic Ministry) and Bro. Sidney Farmer (South Forrest). Bro. Paul Lee gave a report from the Prisoner’s Bible Crusade. Bro. Ted Quinby shared a report on missions as the Association’s National Missions Ambassador.

Bro. Danny Pitts brought the message.

Continued on page 7
Anti-Semitism

The word “Holocaust” seemingly jumps off the page as one reads about or discusses anti-Semitism. This subject is described as a prejudice, a hatred, or a discrimination against Jewish people for reasons connected to their race or heritage. A person or a group who holds such positions is called an anti-semite.

God Keeps Israel Forever

In a Psalm that most of us have memorized, perhaps as children, Psalms 121 states: “I will lift up mine eyes unto the hills from whence cometh my help. My help cometh from the Lord, who made heaven and earth. He will not suffer thy foot to be moved: He that keepeth thee will neither slumber nor sleep.”

This is an unconditional promise that is verified in history. There are over 3500 years in history that verifies God’s promise that He will keep Israel and protect the Jewish people.

The prophets aver that Israel shall remain a nation before God forever. Jeremiah 31:35-36: “Thus saith the Lord which giveth the sun for a light by day, and the ordinances of the moon and by the stars for a light by night,...The Lord of hosts is His name: if those ordinances depart before Me, saith the Lord, then the seed of Israel shall cease from being a nation before Me for ever.” If you can blot out the sun and blot out the moon and change the eternal ordinances of God that one will shine in the day and the other will shine in the night: if you can do that, then there will come a time when the seed of Israel shall cease being a nation before God. But the same Lord God that made the sun shall shine in the day and the moon shall shine in the night— that same Lord God hath said: “That Israel will be a nation before Me forever.”

Historically, Satan desires to Destroy Israel

In about 1400 B.C., the Egyptian Pharaoh said “I shall destroy the Jews.” His plan was to destroy the seed and then the ordinance—that the sun would collapse. Pharaoh passed a decree that all male children born in every Hebrew family should be slain.

In 722 BC, Sargon, with his merciless and bitter Assyrians destroyed Samaria and the northern ten tribes. But God said: “Israel shall abide before me a nation forever.” 586 BC, Nebuchadnezzar came with his Chaldeans and destroyed Jerusalem and Judah. But God said, “Israel shall abide before me a nation forever.” In 70 AD, Titus came with his Roman legions and they leveled the holy city to the ground and destroyed the temple of the Lord. And they tried to destroy the nation utterly. But God said: “Israel shall abide before Me a people forever.”

In the eighteenth chapter of the book of Acts and the second verse it says that Aquila and Priscilla, who later became friends to the apostle Paul were in Corinth because Claudius, the Roman Caesar who had expelled all Jews from Rome. That has been the story of the Jewish heritage for centuries. Nation after nation has sought to destroy and to bury them. In the law that Christopher Columbus wrote, dating it the first of August, 1492, Columb observes that the port in which his ship is anchored and from which he leaves to find the New World, that the port is filled with Jews. Why? Because Queen Isabella and King Ferdinand had made a decree to destroy all the Jews in Spain and they were driven out and expelled.

For centuries there were no Jews in the British Isles. They were not allowed in England. In 1948, for the first time in nearly two thousand years, a nation of Israel was born. But Nasser and the Arab said: “It shall not exist.” But God said, “It will abide before Me forever.” And in 1956, Nasser the leader of Egypt declared war against the little Israel and he was ignominiously defeated. Then in June of 1967, Nasser, looking up and said “I have two billion dollars of Russian armament. I have one thousand Russian tanks. I have an army of airmen. And he inflamed the fifty million Arab people. In June, led by Nasser the Holy War of the Arab people attacked Israel from every side.

To the amazement and to the astonishment of the earth, in six days Israel cut the Arab legions to shred. Isaiah 31:3-5 says “now the Egyptians are men, and not God; and their horses are flesh, and not Spirit. When the Lord shall stretch out His hand, they shall fall all together.”

Adolf Hitler and his Nazi thugs tried desperately in World War II to eliminate the Semite/Jews but God halted this dastardly deed with the assistance of British and American allegiance to Israel.

The Future Anti-Christ Seeks to Destroy the Semite

Satan’s program through the ages, has been and will continue to be, the destruction of Israel. The ultimate and final dictator, the anti-Christ, will also fail. Front page newspaper articles and television news coverage still focus on the Jewish nation of Israel. The tribulation period in itself will be about the Jewish people.

God’s Covenant with Israel

In Genesis 12:1-3, God states his covenant with Israel. This promise seals forever that Israel belongs to Him. But Israel’s existence in the Promised Land is always under the threat of annihilation from her Arab neighbors and surrounding foes. Five recent wars have evidenced Divine providence and preservation of the Jews.

Israel as a nation occupies a peculiar place in God’s economy. Ford Ottman (1859-1929) wrote in his book The Coming Day, “The ability of the whale to swallow Jonah is no more wonderful than its inability to assimilate him. If God be not reckoned with, neither the one nor the other can be explained. Neither can Israel nor her preservation be explained without reckoning with God and His covenant promises.”

Zechariah 2:7-8, “deliver thyself, O Zion that dwellest with the daughter of Babylon. For thus saith the Lord of hosts: after the glory hath he sent me unto the nations which spoiled you: for he that toucheth you toucheth the apple of His eye.”

So individuals, politicians, and nations should consider carefully their opinions of the Jewish people. All should take heed of the warnings of Zechariah 2:7-8.

All Christians, churches, and governmental representatives should demonstrate support for the nation of Israel. Pray for Israel. Psalms 122:6, “pray for the peace of Jerusalem: they shall prosper that love thee.”

Anti-Semitism

God Keeps Israel Forever

Historically, Satan desires to Destroy Israel

The Future Anti-Christ Seeks to Destroy the Semite

God’s Covenant with Israel

Church News

Wisdom Has Two Parts

1. Having a lot to say.
2. Not saying it.

Our next meeting will be February 6, 2014, at Lone Oak Baptist Church. Area revival for the Dorsey area will be held February 16-19 at 7:00 pm. Total in attendance were 45 delegates and 6 visitors.

Cathy Johnson, reporter
Matt Hudson, moderator
Tilley demonstrates that life without God loses its meaning; everything will be pointless. The author continues by saying, “There is no greater satisfaction than knowing God has a purpose in all things, and He takes care of His children.” Devotion to God turns life into a fulfilling adventure.

**Students**

SOAR:lit continues the emphasis on discipleship with a focus on the task of being a disciple-maker. That task involves pointing people to Christ, getting personally involved in other believer’s lives, and seeking the eternal dividends of fulfilling Christ’s command to “make disciples.” Students will be challenged to identify a friend whose heart needs to be cultivated for Christ and opportunities to get involved in that friend’s life.

**Children**

DiscipleKids will present two acts of study during the spring. Unit 1 examines God’s plan for His people through lessons on Adam and Eve, Noah, Moses, and building the tabernacle. Unit 2 will focus on God’s power through lessons on Jesus’ resurrection, the Holy Spirit, the early church, and the lives of Peter, Philip, and Paul. A final lesson will give teachers the opportunity to present the gospel message to their children.

God’s word says about the abuse of alcohol. Proverbs 23:32, “At the last it biteth like a serpent, and stingeth like an adder.” Passersby should never underestimate the power of Satan and his enticing advertisements. Satan did not re-veal to Eve the backside of the tree of Knowledge!

With a sincere look at the backside of the billboard it is easy to see the devastating result of Satan’s deception. The welfare of the passerby or his family emotionally, socially, physically, financially or spiritually is never considered by the evil forces of sin. It is clear the ploy in pushing such advertisements is to gain financially from its victims regardless of their cost. Be aware, in 1 Peter 5:8, there is a warning, “Be sober, be vigilant: because your adversary the devil, as a roaring lion, walketh about, seeking whom he may devour.”

A view of the billboard’s back-side could introduce numerous scenarios. We will briefly consider only one of them. The accident came suddenly without warning and now lifeless bodies lay beside the busy expressway to be removed by the proper persons. A loving wife preparing dinner, for her family hears a knock on the door. Her young son inquisitively opens the door. There stands a policeman and family friend. Her son calls out, “Mom it’s our neighbor and a policeman!” Hurriedly reaching the door, she immediately realizes the news is not good.

She collapses in tears as she hears the words, “Ma’am, we’re sorry, but there has been a serious accident and your husband and daughter have been fatally injured. We don’t know any details except, the driver of the other automobile was drinking and failed to yield to the traffic signal. We’re sorry for your loss.”

All the while words were falling on ears too numb to hear their condolence. Not only has a family lost a husband, father and daughter, but the other automobile was not revealed from the beautiful side. Such advertisements continue on page 5

**Youth Revival**

**Magnolia Baptist Church**

**Hattiesburg, Mississippi**

**Donny Parrish, Evangelist**

**February 14-16, 2014**

Friday, February 14 - Revival Service, 7:00 p.m.
Saturday, February 15 - Revival Service, 7:00 p.m.
Sunday, February 16 - Revival Service, 11:00 a.m.
Sunday, February 16 - Revival Service, 6:00 p.m.
Sunday, February 16 - Youth Fellowship Following Service

**Visitors Welcome**

( Fourth Grade through College)

148 King Road * Hattiesburg, MS * 601-264-8087 * www.magnoliabaptistsms.com

**Spring DiscipleKids**

by Jerome Cooper

DiscipleGuide Director of Publishing

Hard work and hope are the major themes kids will explore in the Spring 2014 edition of DiscipleGuide Church Resources’ DiscipleKids Bible study curriculum.

The first unit of six lessons will focus on hard work. The examples of work preschoolers will examine include Adam and Eve as they took care of the Garden, Noah as he built the Ark, and Moses as he carried out God’s instructions to build the Tabernacle. Supplementing the theme of work, are lessons on giving (in order for the work to be done) and rest (as God’s solution to the need to recover from work). This unit will teach the divine blessing on the work ethic.

The second unit of six lessons examines the concept of hope. Lessons on David’s care of Mephibosheth, the prodigal son, Jesus’ miracles, Peter’s denial and restoration, and the healing of the lame man at the temple show the benefit and source of true hope. These lessons also challenge children to prepare to share the message of hope with others.

A final lesson to be used on Easter Sunday teaches children the great truth that Jesus is alive!

DisciplePoints coordinator Cindy Williams offers insight into these lessons and suggests methods that parents can use to incorporate what their children have studied into their home life.

For more information about the DiscipleKids curriculum call 1-800-333-1142 or go online at DiscipleGuide.org. To check out the DisciplePoints resource, go to disciplepoints.com.

**DiscipleGuide Publishing**

**Putting the Finishing Touches on Spring 2014 Curriculum**

January completes the production cycle for our Spring curriculum products. The final editorial, design, and production work is taking place to finish all of the curriculum lines that churches will use during March, April, and May 2014.

**Adult**

Compass curriculum will feature the theme, “A Life Worth Living.” Based on texts from Ecclesiastes, author Allen

**As I See It - by Rayburn Freeman - rsfre39@gmail.com**

**The Billboard, The Beautiful Side of Evil**

The beautiful side of evil is a portrait painted with the brush of deception promoted and encouraged by satanic forces. The devil reaches out into the world to promote alcoholic drink. This is not that billboards and alcohol in their proper use are evil in and of themselves. They are not! Rather, it is the abuse of them. Many billboards display information that is very good, helpful and uplifting. Some billboards display scenes that are beautiful to the eye, but very deceptive.

One example of many could be while driving home on a hot summer day after hours of hard work. A large roadside billboard appears displaying a beautiful countryside scene with a cool, sparkling stream. The scene is so perfectly designed with an attractive couple seated nearby expressing themselves in laughter and excitement. Beside them, within reach, is a cooler filled with cans of cold alcoholic beverages. To increase the intensity of thirst, from the cold cans, there are bursts of sparkling cool water bouncing off into space.

The scene is so appealing one could be mentally drawn into it. The unspoken message is, “This is the Life.” Maybe the passersby is so Ray Freeman emonished by the scene that he sees the couple pictured on the billboard as his spouse and himself. What a way to enjoy a hot summer afternoon! Maybe it cannot be beside a stream, but nevertheless the die is cast. The beautiful side of evil through a deceptive thought is working. No, it is not right, but just this one time won’t really hurt. So for a quick stop by what once was only an auto service station with a few family needs, is now an alcoholic beverage stop as well.

The front view of the highway billboard is the beautiful side of evil that is reaching out to passersby. Remember, there is the backside, the evil and ugly side that is never revealed! The Lord warns us, be not deceived. Ephesians 4:27, “Neither give place to the devil.” Many abusers of alcohol and other evils live defeated lives, while some have even lost their lives. They have become Satan’s victims rather than the Lord victors. Think of what happens to Christ, getting personally involved in other believer’s lives, and seeking the eternal dividends of fulfilling Christ’s command to “make disciples.” Students will be challenged to identify a friend whose heart needs to be cultivated for Christ and opportunities to get involved in that friend’s life.

**Children**

DiscipleKids will present two acts of study during the spring. Unit 1 examines God’s plan for His people through lessons on Adam and Eve, Noah, Moses, and building the tabernacle. Unit 2 will focus on God’s power through lessons on Jesus’ resurrection, the Holy Spirit, the early church, and the lives of Peter, Philip, and Paul. A final lesson will give teachers the opportunity to present the gospel message to their children.

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