

Baptist

Mississippi

JOURNAL OF THE BAPTIST MISSIONARY ASSOCIATION OF MISSISSIPPI

APRIL 1, 2008

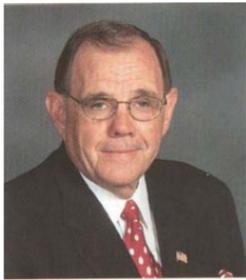
Vol. 62 No. 7

James Schoenrock to receive BMATS Kellar Award

The 2008 Kellar Award will be presented to Bro. James Schoenrock. He is currently pastor of Sheppard Drive Church in Euless, Texas. He is respected in the BMA work, and has served faithfully in many denominational positions including Assistant Director of Missions, Director of Missions, Vice President and President of the BMA of America. He also has served as pastor of eleven churches in Arkansas, Louisiana and Texas.

The Kellar award was created in 2004 to honor BMA Seminary graduates whose ministries reflect the example of Dr. Gerald D. Kellar, founding president of BMA Seminary. Dr. Kellar served as the seminary's first president from 1956-1967. He was instrumen-

tal in the organization of the BMA of America and served as president of each BMA institution of higher learning. In 1964, the BMA Seminary library was named Kellar Library in his honor. He passed away in May 2001.



James Schoenrock

Bro. Schoenrock will be presented the Kellar Award at the BMA of America National Meeting in Waco at the 2008 Seminary Friends Dinner. The dinner will

be held April 22 starting at 5:30 p.m. in the Waco Convention Center (Brazos Room - South).

If you are a friend of Bro. Schoenrock or have been blessed through his ministry, take advantage of this opportunity to honor him. Please fill out the reservation form below and send it, with your payment, to BMA Seminary, 1530 E. Pine St., Jacksonville, TX 75766 in time to reach us by April 16, 2008. This year the meal will reflect the culture of Waco (all you can eat BBQ Buffet) so be sure to mark your calendars and bring a Texas-size appetite. Total cost will be \$20 per person, including gratuity.

Bro Schoenrock joins former Kellar Award honorees: Brethren Eugene Murphy, Grady Higgs, Ronald Morgan, and Ronnie Chesser.

BMA Seminary Friends Dinner

Tickets ___ (\$20 each) Enclosed \$ _____

Names _____

South Mississippi Senior Adult Conference Senior Adults enjoy day of Singing, Worship, Food and Fellowship



Pictured above are nine ministers present at the South Mississippi Senior Adult Conference who were recognized for over 50 years of personal ministry. Left to right - Brethren Ray Thornton, Harold Holifield, Vern D. Holifield, A. W. Kirkland, Eugene Murphy, John Riles, Medrick Savell, Arthur Smith and Charles Thompson. Several others were recognized who were not able to be present. The Commission on Senior Adults presented each of these men with a plaque to commemorate their years of service.

Over 350 Senior Saints gathered at Big Creek Baptist Church, Soso, Mississippi on Thursday, March 27 for the annual South Mississippi Senior Adult Conference.

Churches from Jackson to the Coast were represented and a grand program was enjoyed by each one. The conference, sponsored by the

Commission on Senior Adults and led by Director Vern D. Holifield, is held each year.

Special music was presented in the morning session by talent from Big Creek

Baptist Church. Bro. Bob Barger, the church's music minister, led a program consisting of the Big Creek Joy Singers (senior adults) and individuals from Big Creek. The Mississippi Five Bluegrass group led by Bro. Harold Floyd also performed.

The featured speaker for the day was Bro. Grady Higgs, executive director of missions for the Baptist Missionary Association of America. He challenged those attending to never give up - urging them to work, pray, teach, witness, etc. "until you drop". He stressed the need to continue to served the Lord throughout our entire lives.

Lunch was provided with Macks Fish House of Hattiesburg catering the event.

The afternoon session included a concert by the group *New Wine*.

Door prizes were awarded throughout the day. A great time of fellowship and encouragement was enjoyed. The North Mississippi Conference is scheduled for East Amory Church on May 13.



Bro. Grady Higgs

Upcoming Events

Galilean Camp
Lake Tiak-O-Khata
Louisville, Mississippi
April 11-12, 2008

2008 BMA of Mississippi Senior Adult Conferences
North Conference
May 13, 2008
East Amory Baptist Church
Amory, Mississippi
9:30 AM

BMA of America Annual Meeting
April 21-23, 2008
Waco, Texas

BMA of Mississippi Midyear Meeting
May 19-20, 2008
Big Creek Baptist Church
Soso, Mississippi

Introducing . . . d-mail! from DiscipleGuide

By Bobby Hudgens

The BMAA has charged DiscipleGuide Church Resources with the responsibility of providing cutting-edge resources for our churches through publishing, conferences, camps, and information services. An absolutely critical factor in doing that effectively is to maintain an open line of communication with our churches.

To help foster an open exchange of information DiscipleGuide has created a monthly electronic newsletter called d-mail!. The "d" represents DiscipleGuide and "mail" is to be associated with e-mail. This newsletter will carry the latest news about new and improved resources, upcoming conferences and events, camps, associational information, and more. It will be delivered by e-mail directly to your mailbox each month. At this time there is no print version.

When you receive d-mail! you'll notice at the top there are tabs and buttons. The tabs are labeled

children, students, adults, pastors/leaders, and personal/family. The buttons are conferences, camps, information services, and MLM. These are all entry points into our Web site. All you have to do is click on one of these tabs or buttons



to access more information on our current Web site. Our brand new Web site is scheduled to go live by April 21.

Try d-mail! out! To subscribe please send an e-mail to bhudgens@discpleguide.org. You may unsubscribe at any time. We believe you'll find d-mail informative and inspiring.

CHURCH NEWS

News articles should contain information that will be of interest to the general public who are not members of the church that is reporting.



Benefit to be held

A benefit will be held for cancer patient Regina Mallett Smith on April 19, 2008, at Timmy Garrison Sawmill located on Cable Bridge Road, Perkinston, Mississippi.

Bar-B-Que Chicken Plates will be sold. There will be live music and an auction. Lunch is at 12:00 and the auction is at 2:00 pm.

Items to be donated for the auction (no clothes please) are to be taken to Vardaman Street Baptist Church, Wiggins. The phone numbers are 601-928-3943 and 601-928-4787.

Cash donations may be made at The First Bank, Wiggins, Mississippi. Please notify any bank employee to make deposit as Regina Mallett Smith Benefit.

For more information call Louis Smith at 601-716-6209 and Brent Cockrell at 601-528-1550.

Revival at First Baptist Calhoun.

First Baptist Calhoun will have revival services beginning April 20 thru April 23 with Bro. Gary Smith as Evangelist. We

continued on page 3

ORDINARY PEOPLE. EXTRAORDINARY RESULTS. SOAR: TWO THOUSAND EIGHT JULY 3-5 - GRAND HYATT SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS

SOAR Registration- \$60 Per Person by June 11

First Session Begins @ 2:00 pm, July 3

Final Session Ends @ 12:00 pm, July 5

You may register online at www.discpleguide.org and follow the links for "conferences."

To use snail-mail, download a registration form and mail along with your check to the DiscipleGuide Conference Ministry office.

Make your hotel reservations by calling the Grand Hyatt by June 11 @ 800-233-1234 or direct at 210-224-1234 or follow the online link at our website. (No rooms available for July 1.) Special SOAR Grand Hyatt Room Rate is \$105/night.

Call the DCM office with any questions @ 501-513-3726 or triciak@conwaycorp.net.

Be sure to check out the all new SOAR SERVES at our website! We want your group to SERVE! All service projects are July 3 @ 9:00 am.



HEROES

ORDINARY PEOPLE. EXTRAORDINARY RESULTS.

SOAR: TWO THOUSAND EIGHT



Daren Neely
Keynote Speaker



Mike Lewis
The Jesus Painter



KJ-52
Christian Artist



Jason Eskridge
Soul/Acoustic/Folk



Britt Nicole
Christian Artist



Lendell Black
Composer/Musician



SOAR Band



Jerry Jolly



Donny Parrish



Steven Carroll



DiscipleGuide
CHURCH RESOURCES

You Want Me to be in Charge of What?

David's kingdom had lots of moving parts. Many people worked to keep the kingdom going on a day to day basis. Beginning in 1 Chronicles 22 there are many lists of peoples who did specific jobs. Some were singers, priests, gatekeepers, military leaders, tribal officers, and other kinds of overseers. Together these people kept the kingdom going as it gave glory to God.

Jehdeiah the Meronothite (1 Ch 27:30) was in charge of the donkeys! "David, you want me to be in charge of what? Let me be in charge of

anything but the donkeys! Donkeys are stubborn and have a loud bray. (Don't personify this too much here.) Let me be in charge of some-



Leave It To Cleaver

Tony Cleaver

thing important. Let me be a singer, a gatekeeper, even a tribal officer. Give me a break! Donkeys are nasty

beasts with no sense of cooperation."

With all the moving parts of David's kingdom, someone had to be responsible for the donkeys. I believe Jehdeiah took great pride in his work. I think he maintained the best donkey stables the world had ever seen. He was the donkey keeper for the glory of the king!

Christians tend to want the "important" jobs. They want to be recognized as a "leader" in the congregation. They might say, "I am too important to be an assistant teacher. I am too educated to be an usher. I am of too high a social order to belong to that youth group. I am not willing to be in charge of donkeys for I have too much pride. Give me an important job."

Jesus told his followers to go to the donkey keeper to get a donkey. He rode the donkey into Jerusalem. According to the Gospels, Jesus received great adulation as he entered to begin his final days. He began that trip on a donkey. That donkey was of great importance to the salvation of humankind. The truth of the matter is someone had to be responsible for that donkey!

Lord, please let me keep the donkeys, if that is what is necessary to keep all the many moving parts of your church and its mission together in my day and in my time. Let me be the best donkey keeper the world has ever seen for the glory of the King!

Southeastern Baptist College

4229 Highway 15 North
Laurel, Mississippi 39440, (601) 426-6346



Dr. Medrick Savell
President

Serving Christ With a Biblical World View In A Christian Atmosphere

We are encouraged by the way the Lord is providing the needs of the college. More than 130 churches send regular financial support. Six more churches have begun to support the college in recent months. They are Canaan, Richton; First Hispanic, Ripley; Good Hope, Stringer; Hillcrest, Yazoo City; South Prentiss, Baldwin; and Tombigbee, Mantachie. We appreciate these churches for their action. It seems that some others have increased their support. If I have missed any church, please bring it to my attention. This added support will mean much to the ministry of the college.

Alumni

We are continuing our efforts to collect updated addresses on all former students so we can correspond better with them. If you have not done so recently, please send your information to us at: Southeastern Baptist College, 4229 Highway 15 North, Laurel, MS 39440, 601-426-6346, or email us at bbrown@southeasternbaptist.edu.

Thanks to all who have given us the information.

Memorials

Several contributions have been sent to the library or Foundation recently in memory of Mr. John Anderson, Mrs. Julia Cauley, Mrs. Mary Howell Cumberland, Mrs. Lorene Wallace Hales, Mr. Bobby Lynn Harman, Mr. Billy Ray Phifer, Bro. Merle D. Bradley, and in honor of Mrs. Bobby Bradley. We appreciate those who remember loved ones in this manner, and our prayers are with these families.

College Day

Southeastern Baptist College will be hosting its annual Spring Festival on April 8. Anyone interested in attending should contact Bro. Ronnie Kitchens in the Admissions office at 426-6346. The College Day has been very successful in the past with several Christian schools and prospects attending. The event will begin at 9:30 with chapel, then lunch at 11:30.

We look forward to having you come and join us for a great day of food, fun, and fellowship.

Free CDL training course for church members

Bus Group Commercial Bus Sales, the south's largest commercial bus dealership, is offering a FREE Commercial Driver's License (CDL) Training Course for all church members on Saturday, April 12th. CDL training courses are typically upwards of \$2,000 and require months of commitment and time. Bus Group, wanting to save you time, money and energy, created this one-day-only course to focus on the key aspects of this notoriously difficult test and prepare driver's for the road in a commercial vehicle.

The class lasts from 9:00 am to 2:30 pm, breaking for a complimentary BBQ lunch complete with door prizes. The course will be taught by a transportation industry veteran with decades of experience preparing people for the CDL exam. The class is filling up quickly, so reserve space for your group today by calling Michelle Herrington at 1-800-423-9826 or emailing her at mherrington@busgroup.com. Just mention you heard about it here in the Mississippi Baptist Paper.

The course will be held at Bus Group Slidell Office/ 56396 Frank Pichon Dr., Slidell, LA 70458 on Saturday, April 12th, 2008 from 9:00 am to 2:30 pm.

Church News

from page 2

will have regular Sunday morning services with lunch in the fellowship hall and an afternoon service beginning at 1:30. Evening services will be dismissed. Services Monday through Wednesday will begin at 7:00 PM each night. Mark your calendar and make plans to join us for these services.

Woodlawn to celebrate 50th anniversary

On September 7, 2008, Woodlawn Baptist Church of Pascagoula will celebrate fifty years of service to our Lord. To help us we are asking anyone who has pictures/stories and/or memorabilia to e-mail the church at www.woodlawnbaptist@bellsouth.net. The church will be presenting 'Fifty Years of Service' with the information we gather. An invitation is extended to all former pastors, former members and friends to join with us in this celebration.

The Youth of Woodlawn enjoyed a day of fun and games on Saturday,

March 15 at the Easter Egg Hunt. Golden eggs were found by Kyle McDonald and Abigail Williams; Pin Tail on Bunny - Rian Black and a four way tie for the Bean Bag toss - Cayden Albin, Chloe Gilland, Noah Wieniewitz and Rachel. Refreshments and goodie bags were given to all those attending.

We welcome Steven and Donna Holifield who joined by letter. Please continue to remember us in your prayer as we strive to work for our Lord and Savior.

Vardaman Street sets revival

Vardaman Street Baptist Church has scheduled a series of services for the purpose of seeking revival. The guest evangelist will be Brother Ed Stephenson of Springhill Baptist Church in Greenbriar, Arkansas. Our music will be under the direction of Bro. Lanny McCann of Vicksburg. Vardaman Street invites all believers who earnestly desire to draw closer to the Lord to join them in their pursuit of revival and spiritual renewal. Revival services begin Sunday, April 6th and continue through Wednesday, April 9th. Sunday service times are 10:30 a.m. and 1:00 p.m.

with dinner on the grounds between the two services. Service times Monday through Wednesday will be noon and 7:00 p.m.

Tombigbee Association

South Green Baptist Church, Tupelo, hosted 85 members of the Tombigbee Association on March 6, 2008. Bro. Lavon Haden opened with a devotional.

Bro. Joseph Oyeleye gave an encouraging update on the Maple Street Mission. Their average attendance is 30-40 and they are working to be self-supporting.

Bro. Wexford Parmer discussed the negative feedback being sent to Dr. John Adams concerning the letter to the Gaming Commission. The Tombigbee voted to send a letter of appreciation and support to Dr. Adams for his stand on this issue.

Missionary Paul Heuermann reported on the African work from 1997 until today which has exceeded all expectations. There are now 283 churches and missions in 10 countries. It was clear that the Heuermann's hearts are in the African work.

Mark your calendars for the next

meeting on April 10 at South Prentiss.

A meal will be served at 6:00 P.M.

Bro. Roger Akers, president

Beth Haden, assistant reporter

Creek, Lucedale.

Wanda Holland, reporter

Bethel, Fulton

The Senior Youth held a Super Bowl Bash on the 3rd of February. Everyone had a great time. On the 8th the Harmony Association met at the Hispanic Mission in Ripley, also on the 8th and 9th the GMA's attended the state meeting. The Senior Youth attended the Winter Jam Concert held in Tupelo. On the 15th the Junior Youth had a Valentine Banquet. Thanks to all who made this possible. On the 23rd there was a "Wild Beast Feast" held, Gary Claxton, from Atlanta, Georgia, entertained and also The Landmarks from Tupelo sang, everyone had a great time.

Friend Day was held on the 2nd of March and was well attended. The Ladies Bible Study continues to meet every Tuesday at 6:30 pm, Cross Ties meets on Thursday and a Weight Watchers meeting is on Thursday in the Fellowship Hall.

continued on page 5

Opinion Page

Journal of the Baptist Missionary Association of Mississippi

Asking the Tough Questions

Our nation is currently in the political season, and I must admit it is the goofiest, most convoluted presidential race that I have ever experienced. One of the problems that I see our nation facing is the fact that most voters do not seem to be asking the "tough questions."

Many in the news media do ask relevant questions and try to get to the bottom of the candidate's core beliefs and examine their qualifications. Our society has become so 'politically correct' in its thinking that it seems we are timid about asking the tough questions. We do not want to offend anyone and are possibly afraid to know all that we really need to know in order to select our leaders. Our country needs to wake up and realize that the future of our nation and the very lives of its citizens are now in the balance. The leader of our nation and the commander-in-chief needs to be an individual with basic core beliefs based on God's Word and what many call 'plain common sense thinking.' It appears to this writer that we are currently falling short with the current list of candidates. Truth is truth and should not be sugar coated or overlooked in order to not embarrass the candidate. We live in a 'feel good' time in history, but a candidate who only makes us 'feel good' is probably not the one to lead our nation.

Moving on from politics to real life issues, we as God's people need



Don Brown
Editor

to make sure that in our daily Christian life and in our efforts to minister the Gospel to those we come in contact with that we "ask the tough questions." Too often we just ask people if they 'go to church', if they 'live a good life.' We invite them to fellowship with us, to visit our church, to come to our special services, etc.

We need to be diplomatic, but we need to boldly ask about their relationship with Christ! People don't need to just 'go to church' - they need to know Christ personally in

the free pardon of sin.

When we speak to others let us 'ask the tough questions' and help people to know that they need Christ in their lives and they need to know Him as their personal savior. Too many in our churches are there because it makes them 'feel good' and it soothes their conscience. A soothed conscience will not get a person into Heaven.

Better to ask the 'tough questions' now than to hear "depart from me, I never knew you" when facing the Lord in eternity.

Special Emphasis Results

I am deeply appreciative to all who have given to this year's Special Emphasis for your Publications Department. Additional funds have come in since our last report and the complete list of current receipts is listed below. God bless all who gave.

Anonymous	\$500.00
Berean Baptist Church, Ellisville	\$137.00
Bethel Baptist Church, Seminary	\$40.43
Big Creek Baptist Church, Soso	\$500.00
Big Creek Baptist Church WMA, Soso	\$100.00
Centerville Baptist Church, Mantachie	\$74.00
Collins, Don & Linda, Carthage	\$100.00
Community Baptist Church, Poplarville	\$109.94
Cypress Creek Baptist Church, Brooklyn	\$50.00
First Baptist Church, Bay Springs	\$634.48
First Baptist Church Calhoun, Laurel	\$500.00
Forked Oak Baptist Church, Booneville	\$99.00
Grace Baptist Church, Pass Christian	\$19.11
Harmony Baptist Church, Hurley	\$125.00

Hopewell Baptist Church, Fulton	\$72.00
Hopewell Baptist Church, Laurel	\$200.00
Lebanon Baptist Church, Ellisville	\$55.00
Lee's Chapel #2 Baptist Church, Picayune	\$43.05
Liberty Baptist Church, Isola	\$150.00
Little Creek Baptist Church, Perkinston	\$103.53
Lone Oak Baptist Church, West Point	\$62.00
Milford Magers, Lucedale	\$25.00
Movella Baptist Church, Lucedale	\$65.00
New Bethany Baptist Church, Seminary	\$45.00
O'neal Road Baptist Church, Gulfport	\$104.00
Oak Grove Baptist Church, Mantachie	\$150.00
Palestine Baptist Church, Bay Springs	\$100.00
Paramount Baptist Church, Wiggins	\$300.00
Parkview Baptist Church, Laurel	\$1,020.00
Parkview Brotherhood, Laurel	\$100.00
Pine Grove Baptist Church, Purvis	\$100.00
Riverside Baptist Church, Ellisville	\$100.00
Shady Grove Baptist Church, Tishomingo	\$100.00
Sharon Baptist Church, Laurel	\$100.00
Shiloh Baptist Church, Kosciusko	\$117.45
Spring Hill Baptist Church, Laurel	\$71.00
Temple Baptist Church, Biloxi	\$20.00
Ten Mile Baptist Church, Perkinston	\$22.00
Union Baptist Church, Bay Springs	\$803.36
Walter Johnson, Wiggins	\$30.00
Washington Baptist Church, Neely	\$26.82
Westover Baptist Church, Hattiesburg	\$100.00
Wilderness Baptist Church, Vicksburg	\$200.00
Wolf Creek Baptist Church, Pass Christian	\$121.37
Zion Baptist Church, Anguilla	\$1000.00
Total	\$8,495.54

Church of the Covered Dish BY THOMAS TAPP

I DON'T KNOW ABOUT YOU RALPH, BUT SOMETIMES I FEEL LIKE A "BLUEGRASS" PASTOR IN A "MOZART" CHURCH!



Letters From Our Readers

Letters reflect the opinion of the writer and not necessarily this publication or the BMA of Mississippi

Gary Smith reports on ministry

Dear Bro. Don,

Things are off to a great start this year in our evangelistic efforts. We've had meetings in Mississippi and Texas. There have been souls saved and others added by membership. Our April calendar is filled with meetings in Meridian, Picayune, Laurel and Bay Springs. I still have dates open in May and August and I am also booking meetings for the Fall

If any church would like to schedule a revival or week-end meeting, you can call me at 662-322-6974. My e-mail address is garysmithministries@yahoo.com.

I love the churches of the BMA of Mississippi and am very thankful for their willingness to use me in a revival or fill-in capacity. God bless each of you is my prayer!

Gary Smith
Full time evangelist

Church requests financial help

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ, Northwest Baptist Church would like to share with you a burden that we have. We are currently experiencing financial struggles. We presently owe about \$303,000.00 on our property and building. Our monthly mortgage payment is \$1,700.00. We also have a few outstanding bills that need to be paid.

The Mississippi Baptist Revolving Loan Fund in Laurel, Missis-

sippi, holds the mortgage on our property and building. The folks involved with oversight of our loan have been very gracious with us, and we continue to work with them to make payments and discuss with them various options that may be conducive for all.

We presently pay our pastor a full-time salary plus his housing allowance. He has been searching for a job since last September to help ease the financial burden on the church, however he has not yet been able to secure a job.

We are asking that you consider helping us with any or all of the following. Pray for us that the Lord would provide for our needs so that we can continue the work here in Port Orchard, Washington. Will you also consider helping us financially at this crucial time as the Lord may lead you? We would greatly appreciate a one-time offering or monthly assistance until we get through this critical time. Lastly, please pray that the Lord will send new families to join Northwest Baptist Church. We have several families that have been visiting regularly, but have not committed to joining the church.

Philippians 4:19 "But my God shall supply all your need according to his riches in glory by Christ Jesus."

If you have any questions, please feel free to call our pastor at 360-769-4147.

Until He comes,
Northwest Baptist Church
Stan Adams, Pastor

**BMA of America
Annual Meeting
April 21-23, 2008
Waco, Texas**

Mississippi Baptist

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CHRISTIAN ACTION COMMISSION

Baptist Missionary Association of Mississippi
 Dr. John M. Adams, Director
 P.O. Box 88, Mantachie, MS 38855 - 662-231-3863
 Email - fbcdjmaj@yahoo.com



John Adams

Participate in the National Day of Prayer.

As your CAC Director, I encourage each church and pastor to be a part of the National Day of Prayer, Thursday, May 1. Open up your church doors, encourage a layperson to lead out in gathering God's people to pray for our nation. We know America is in trouble and prayer is the only answer.

There are brochures, posters, etc. available at www.NationalDayofPrayer.org

We should not complain, if we fail to join thousands of other Christians as they pray on May 1. A mailing address and telephone number for this event is listed here.:

National Day of Prayer Task Force

P.O. Box 15440
 Colorado Springs, CO 80935
 1-800-444-8828

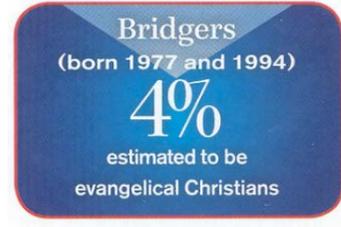
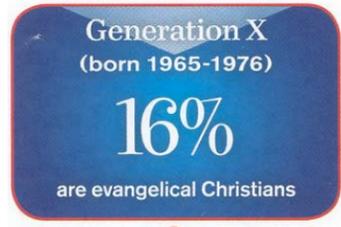
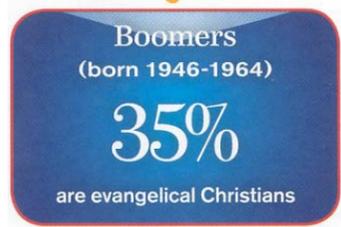
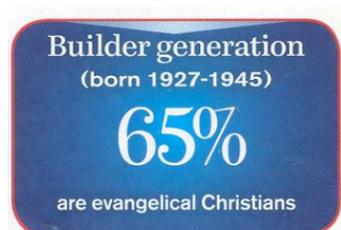


The Spiritual Course of Church Families

Chris Abeyta, director of Church Outreach at Focus on the Family, had an eye-opening chart that startled me and made me get busy at my church. I quote from Mr. Abeyta "We're in a situation like Israel's in Judges 2:10...." and there arose another generation after them which knew not the Lord...."

We may be facing a similar danger today if churches are not able to engage parents in the spiritual training of their children. Consider the following decline of evangelical Christianity among each successive generation, noted by Thom Rainer in his book *The Bridger Generation*.

The Bridger Generation



CAC Trustee Meeting

Trustees will meet May 20, 2008 at 9:00 AM at the Midyear Association meeting at Big Creek Church, Soso. This is an open meeting for anyone to attend as a messenger from their church.

CAC Trustees are:

- Dr. Eugene Anderson, Wiggins
- Rev. Ed Duvall, Cleveland
- Rev. Bobby Jarrell, Fulton
- Rev. Kevin Marr, Hernando
- Rev. Greg Medenwald, Hattiesburg
- Rev. Wexford Parmer, Tupelo
- Rev. Shane Singleton, Laurel
- Rev. Johnny Williams, Sumrall

Churches that support the CAC:
 Bethel, Seminary
 Big Oak, Fulton
 Hopewell, Laurel

Primary & Junior Youth held an Easter Egg Hunt and they had a great time. Easter Sunday was a great day in the Lord! We had a record attendance of 554. There have been 9 additions since last report.

If you are in our area stop and say "Howdy" you will always find a friendly smile and see a God loving and friendly church. Come see us when you can.

Dr. Martin Jameson, pastor
 Joyce Cooley, reporter

Church to host Gospel Sing

Corinth Missionary Baptist Church, Lucedale, will host a Gospel Sing on Friday April 25 at 7:00 pm. Featured singers will be the down East Boys of Reidsville, North Carolina, The Revelations from Florence, Mississippi and the Railroad Creek Bluegrass group from Perkinston. A \$5.00 donation will be collected at the door and a love offering will be taken.

For more information call Dave Whatley or Jason Runnels at 985-515-6335 or 336-263-8266.

King James Bible Conference

Bro. Les Garrett will be at Red Creek Baptist Church, Wiggins, Mississippi, Sunday through Wednesday, April 20-23. Sunday services are at 10:45 a.m. with lunch to follow and at 6:00 p.m. Monday-Wednesday services will be at 7:00 p.m. Garrett will be teaching on the King James Version of the Bible. For more information contact Pastor Scotty Rayburn at 601-928-9886. Our church is located at 630 Smithtown Road, Wiggins, Mississippi.

Holifields to celebrate Anniversary

Rev. Harold and Mrs. Ann Holifield of Laurel, Mississippi, plan to celebrate their 60th wedding anniversary on April 12, 2008 at First Baptist Church of Calhoun, Laurel. A reception will take place in their honor from 2:00 to 4:00 p.m. in the church fellowship hall.



Harold & Ann Holifield

In August 2008, Bro. Holifield and Mrs. Ann will have been in the ministry 59 years. He has pastored eight churches and was interim at another. He was also Interim Director at the Mississippi Baptist Children's Home. Two of these churches he pastored twice. Presently he is pastoring First Baptist Church of Calhoun, Laurel, and is in his 10th year. His longest pastorate was at Antioch Baptist Church, Soso, Mississippi, for 24 years. Mrs. Ann has followed him every step and was and is the greatest pastor's wife one could ask for.

Each one is invited to come by and help us celebrate. Your presence will be our gift.

2008 Galilean Camp April 11 & 12, 2008 Lake Tiak O'Khata Louisville, Mississippi

Friday

Registration and Free Time:	12:30-1:45 p.m.
Footsteps of Jesus Galilean Challenge:	2:00-4:00
Welcome and Movie:	4:00-5:15 p.m.
Leader and Adult Meeting:	4:15-5:15 p.m.
Flag Ceremony and Blessing:	5:15 p.m.
Supper:	5:30 p.m.
Prepare for Candidate Interviews:	6:00 p.m.
Interviews for Sr/Jr Candidates:	6:15 p.m.
Worship Service:	7:30 p.m.
Team and Individual Bible Quiz:	8:30 p.m.
Bunkhouse Devotionals:	9:30 p.m.
VIG Recreation:	10:00 p.m.
Bunkhouse Lights Out:	11:00 p.m.

Saturday

Rise and Shine:	6:00 a.m.
Flag Ceremony and Blessing:	7:00 a.m.
Breakfast:	7:15 a.m.
Leader and Adult Meeting:	7:45 a.m.
Galilean Open Forum:	8:15 a.m.
Business Meeting:	8:30 a.m.
Make your own Fishing Lure:	9:30 a.m.
Fishing and Free Time:	10:30 a.m.
Blessing:	12:00 p.m.
Lunch:	12:15 p.m.
Get in Galilean Attire and Pack:	1:00 p.m.
Awards Ceremony:	1:30 p.m.
Worship Service:	2:00 p.m.
Dismissal:	3:00 p.m.



AVAILABLE FOR SERVICE

Listing of names does not indicate endorsement. This column is for information purposes only.

Freddy Mills

Bro. Freddy Mills, 58, is available for pastoral or pulpit supply. He has been preaching for 23 years and is a member of Bethel Baptist Church, Bassfield. He may be reached at 601-441-4057.

Alan Smith

Bro. Alan Smith is available for service. He may be reached at 601-422-9641. He is a member of Fairview Baptist Church, Laurel where Bro. Harry Burge is pastor.

Church News

from page 3

The Harmony Association met at First Baptist, Mantachie on the 7th. On the 10th "Mom's After God's Own Heart" met. The GMA's District Meeting was held in the Fellowship Hall on the 15th. Also the

Raising Visionary Sons and Daughters For God

Part Two

You must start getting your children into Baptist Catechisms. Catechize your children. What is a catechism? A catechism according to the dictionary is: A short book giving in question and answer form, a brief summary of the basic principles of a religion. To catechize means to: Teach orally the principles of a religious creed with questions and answers. Please don't mistake this as simply teaching religious traditions as some well-known denominations do. This is teaching solely scripture, so that your children understand why we believe the way we do according to God's inerrant Word. Most young people today are sorely missing in a basic grasp of biblical principles.

It is almost non-existent to find a young person who can give an intelligent response to why they are Baptist. It is the parent's job to teach their children doctrine. What do you believe? Why do you believe it? How do you live it out on a daily basis? Why do you go to a Baptist church? Aren't all Christian denominations the same? What does it mean to be a man of God? What does it mean to be a woman of God? If your children cannot answer quickly and with assurance what it means to be a man or woman of God, they will most likely perish. People without a vision perish, according to scripture. They will perish from their Christian walk. They will adopt the ways of the culture.

If I asked your child what does it mean to be a man/woman, could they give me the scripture that defines manhood and womanhood? It doesn't matter if you adopted the cultural ways when you were growing up. Now that you have children, it is incumbent upon you to be a good steward of these gifts God has given you - your children. You must turn this generation around for the glory of the Lord. You can do it. God will give you all you need to be successful for His glory in raising His children. The question is - do you want to?



www.travisplumlee.com

Family Ark Ministries

Travis Plumlee

Catechism is basic instruction in Christian doctrine using questions and answers. The goal of catechism is to impart biblical theology into the lives of our children to serve as their guiding principles for life. It becomes their foundation for life. They will learn what to believe and why. There are many good Baptist catechism books available. Be sure they are biblical. You can peruse the internet for listings of several. This teaching must occur before you can adequately disciple your children. If you do not teach catechisms, then your parenting is reduced to a list of do's and don'ts and moralisms that can be questioned by society.

If you tell your teen to not have pre-marital sex because it is wrong and it could result in a pregnancy, they probably have not gained understanding in their heart. The Bible tells us in Proverbs 4 to gain wisdom as the principle thing, but in all your getting of wisdom, be sure you also get understanding. This is where catechisms come in. It is scripture with understanding. Then, after the child has their biblical foundation imbedded in their heart, the parent moves on to disciple the child. You disciple them in how to live out this scripture that they have learned. You teach them how to impact their world around them for the glory of the Lord.

All children will learn a world view in their educational years. It is your job to give them a world view according to scripture. There is no such thing as amoral teaching. Some

people wrongly believe that public schools do not teach morals. However, all teaching guides morality. Your children will be taught every day through the educational process to love and obey God, or love and obey the world. If you think your children are not influenced by all teaching, and all interaction with others; then read these scriptures. Psalm 1:1-3. II Corinthians 6:14-18. I Corinthians 15:33.

If you send your children to public schools, how can they evangelize these schools if they don't know what they believe and why they believe it? If your children are not armed with scripture then they will go to school and they will not evangelize the world. It is the world that will evangelize them! They will be carried away by the strong wind of worldly doctrine that permeates our culture. Your children will be one or the other. They will be the evangelist for their friends, or they will be evangelized by those around them.

You need to get serious in your discipling your children in the ways of the Lord. Most Christian parents raise their children as though sports was the dominant thing for the future of their children. They will compromise their time, they will spend thousands of dollars on sports, they will forego church and run ragged every week for the god of sport. For me to mention it in a sermon in the typical Baptist church is blasphemy and I am thrown under the bus or labeled legalistic. But I shall not give up the truth that God wants your children to have Him as their main activity in life, not sports. We need fewer soccer moms and more Godly moms. We need fewer dads who coach sports, and more who coach their kids in kingdom building. It is okay for kids to be in sports, and for parents to support and coach teams. But you have to look around and see clearly that for many Christian homes, teaching scripture and home worship and giving our leisure time and money goes to sports more than it does to God.

This is one reason why our Christian homes are so messed up. What can you do about it is coming up in the next article.

Mississippi State WMA

Mrs. Jean Knight, President
27 Paramount Church Rd., Perkinston, MS 39573
601-928-3764

Corresponding Secretary
Mrs. Shirlene Smith
730 Hwy 533, Laurel, MS 39443

Northeast Ladies WMA Retreat

Providence Church will host the Northeast Ladies Retreat on May 17, 2008. Registration will begin at 9:00 a.m. with the meeting beginning at 9:30. Kay Fortenberry will be the featured speaker.

All WMA ladies are invited to attend
Beth Haden, reporter

Update on National WMA project

As of this morning, the newest updated total in the National WMA Project is \$82,054.30!! I am sure that you may be tired of hearing this from me, but this is exciting! What is more exciting is the fact that 40% of this money will allow the BMA Seminary to teach thousands of students all over the world about the reason we celebrate Easter. 40% of this money will enable BMMI to reach thousands in China through medical missions and then also tell them why we celebrate Easter. Remembering that Jesus paid the ultimate price on the cross should give us more incentive to support this project so others can learn about the love of God and His gift of salvation.

Janet Widger, President
National WMA



Sofilthy's Attic

by Barbara White

Entertainment

Now there's goat ropin's, rodeos, singings (or concerts), races, movies, plays, etc. - just all kinds of events called entertainment. But for real fine entertainment you just can't beat an association - whether it's local, state or national.

You get to hear what God is doing for the different phases of His work and that's a joy.

There's another aspect of a meeting like that when you get to thinking about the names of people who attend. Now that's some first-class entertainment. For instance at the Mississippi State meeting recently, there were Joneses, Smiths, Browns, Whites, Davises and the usual ___sons, ___mans, ___lands, ___berrys, etc., but we were led by a Knight and to cap it all off we had a visitor, Bro. Kakilala from Walla Walla who is going to Honolulu as a missionary.

Now that was a fun meetin'!

Overseas Bible School

Philippines	May 23-31
Romania	July 10-24
Romania	July 18-26
Great Britain	August 1-9

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National Meeting Information

Committee on Arrangements Recommends 2010 site

The Committee on Arrangements, after having looked at four possible sites for the 2010 meeting, presents the following recommendation for the Annual Meeting of the Baptist Missionary Association of America for April 19-21, 2010.

We recommend that the meeting be held at the Fort Smith Convention Center in Fort Smith, Arkansas. We also recommend that the Holiday Inn City Center be the headquarters hotel for this meeting.

Committee on Arrangements
Leon Carmical
James Ray Raines
Latrell Windham

Parental Nursery/Child Care for the BMAA Meeting in Waco

A room designated for nursery and child care will be available to parents during the 59th Annual BMA of America National meeting April 21-23 in Waco, Texas. The printed schedule for the meeting indicates that a nursery is "To Be Arranged." Regulations of the Waco Convention Center mandate a certified child care professional to care for children without their parents. Such a professional will be unavailable during the meeting, however parents are encouraged to use the designated room if needed.

Bro. Michael Vestal, Pastor Temple Baptist Church, Mexia, Texas, will serve as chairman of the host pastors committee.

North Mississippi Senior Adult Conference

The Commission On Senior Adult Ministry announces a day of Worship, Spiritual renewing, and fun for the Senior Adults of North Mississippi. This special day will be held Tuesday, May 13 at the East Amory Baptist Church, Amory.

The Conference will begin at 9:30 a.m. Brother Bryson Haden will direct the worship music. The **Phifer Trio** will be featured in the Morning service. Dr. Charlie Holmes, President of the BMA Theological Seminary, will be our guest speaker. Dr.

Dr. Holmes is a dedicated leader in the field of education and is a proven leader among our people.



Phifer Trio

A good meal will be

catered for our enjoyment. The Saving Grace Trio will be our afternoon guest artist. There will be door prizes throughout the day.

The cost for this 'all day event' is only \$15.00 per person, which includes the noon meal. The church is asked to pay the fee for their Senior Adults. Registration is required. Please register your Senior Adult Group by calling East Amory Baptist Church at 662-256-5650 or call the pastor at 662-257-9839 and register your Senior Adult Group no later than May 9 to secure your meal.

Dr. Charley Holmes, president of BMA Seminary, is a native of Mexia, Texas. He attended Baylor University and is a graduate of the Dallas Institute of Mortuary Science. He also holds a Masters degree from BMA Seminary and a Doctorate from Reformed Theological Seminary in Jackson, Mississippi. Dr. Holmes operated funeral homes for a number of years before entering the ministry in 1987. Dr. Holmes served the BMA as a pastor, evangelist, and seminary professor before being elected president of the seminary in 1999. In addition to being president, he still teaches at least two classes each year and keeps an active evangelistic ministry.



Dr. Charley Holmes

He and his wife, Dianne, have been married for 34 years. They have two daughters; Rachel, who is a public school teacher and Rebecca who is an registered nurse. The Holmes have and three grandsons.

Saving Grace

is a southern/country gospel group based in Amory, Mississippi. They have been singing and ministering together for the last 7 years. The group consists of Brian & Amanda Sugg and Danny Hathcock. Danny's wife, Jeannie, also travels with the group taking care of their product table. This is a group truly committed to the cause of Christ and His message of Love, Hope, Mercy and Grace.



Saving Grace

Attorney fears 'prayer police' could be reality in New York town

OneNewsNow - A liberal special-interest group based in Washington, DC, is asking the town of Greece, New York, to dictate to its citizens what is acceptable speech for starting prayers in the town council's monthly meetings.

Americans United for Separation of Church and State is suing the town of Greece, New York, on behalf of residents Susan Galloway, who is Jewish, and Linda Stephens, an atheist. The pair is offended because, for past decade, town council meetings have been preceded by a voluntary prayer -- typically offered by a local clergy member.

Barry Lynn, executive director of Americans United, argues that repeatedly offering Christian prayer at the meetings "sends a message to non-Christians that they are second-class citizens. That's not a message public officials should want to send" But Joel Oster, the Alliance Defense Fund senior counsel representing the town, disputes claims by Lynn's group that the council is promoting Christianity by allowing the prayers.

"[The town council does] not edit the contents of these prayers. They do not pre-review the prayers. They are not the prayer police," chides Oster. "They are just simply following a time-honored tradition established by our founding fathers"

Oster says he is somewhat baffled by the fact that Americans United would ask the government to censor the content of voluntary prayers. "We actually believe that what Americans United are (sic) asking us to do is to violate the Establishment Clause," he continues, "because the town should not be in the business of telling private citizens how they should pray."

The U.S. Supreme Court ruled in *Marsh v. Chambers* that beginning deliberative sessions of legislative bodies with prayer is constitutional. Oster says he believes the judge in this case will stick to the Supreme Court ruling.

Obama contends belief in Jesus Christ not necessary for salvation

GREENSBORO, N.C. - Senator Barack Obama has told an audience that although he believes Christ died for his sins, those who reject that teaching can also be children of God.

During a campaign stop (recently) in Greensboro, North Carolina, Senator Obama told the audience that he believes he "can have everlasting life" because Jesus Christ died for his sins. But he then told a questioner that he believes Jews and Muslims who live moral lives are just as much "children of God" as he is.

The Illinois Democrat added that his late mother didn't share his faith but was a kind and generous person, so he's "sure she's in heaven."

In his life and in his politics, Obama said he asks himself, "How can I apply Jesus's teachings in a very concrete way?"

Obama's religious beliefs have been put in the spotlight over recent revelations about his former pastor. Videotapes of some of Pastor Jeremiah Wright's sermons have been described as being racist and anti-America.

The frontrunner for the Democratic nomination for president referred to those sermon remarks as being "stupid," but he continues to reject suggestions that he should have left the church because of that kind of preaching from his pastor.

Pastor at Clinton's former church calls Jeremiah Wright an 'outstanding leader'

OneNewsNow - Dean Snyder, senior pastor of the liberal Washington church Hillary Clinton attended for eight years while her husband was president, is praising and defending Barack Obama's former pastor and controversial spiritual mentor Jeremiah Wright.

BMA of Mississippi Missions Department

4226 Highway 15 North,
Laurel, MS 39440
601-428-8616

Rayburn Freeman, Director



Freeman

50th Missions and Evangelistic Conference

A wonderful time in the Lord was experienced by all in attendance at the 50th Missions and Evangelistic Conference which was held at Skyway Hills Baptist Church, Pearl, on March 13. We want to thank Skyway Hills, as well as all the conference speakers, singers, music leaders, and everyone who had any part in making this conference a success and a blessing.

2008 Special Debt Reduction Emphasis

It's that time again! Special Emphasis is here! This year, because of the importance of reducing mission property indebtedness, we are focusing in April and May on debt reduction of our state mission churches, and we need your help. You are the 'Key' to help free our mission churches from their debt! Each church should have received a packet of posters and envelopes for this emphasis. We ask that you please designate on the envelopes how you wish your offering to be applied. If your church did not receive this packet or needs more envelopes, please let us know and we will be glad to provide them to you.

Revolving Loan Fund

We have had several inquiries recently concerning IRA accounts. At this time, the Revolving Loan Fund does not offer IRA accounts and is not able to accept rollovers or transfers from IRA accounts at other institutions. All accounts with the Revolving Loan Fund operate as regular savings accounts. We do not have any tax deferred accounts available at this time.

Interest Rates

In response to the unstable economy, the Revolving Loan Fund Trustees recently voted to reduce interest rates on loans from 6.75% to 6.5% effective April 1, 2008. Interest rates on savings accounts will be reduced from 5.0% to 4.75% effective April 1, 2008, and will drop to 4.5% effective May 1, 2008. We trust that you understand the necessity of these changes and that you will continue to support the Revolving Loan Fund with your prayers and contributions.

Pastor of Foundry United Methodist Church, Snyder calls Jeremiah Wright "an outstanding church leader" who "has served for decades as a profound voice for inclusion in our society" and "has been a vocal critic of the racism, sexism, and homophobia which still tarnish the American dream." He also deems Wright an "agent of racial reconciliation" who proclaims truths that make some white people uncomfortable. In comments posted on the website Democrats.org as well as his own church's website, Snyder contends white Americans should listen to Wright rather than use his words to "polarize" and exclude people.

Mark Tooley, with the Institute on Religion and Democracy (IRD), has written a column on Clinton's former church titled "Lost and Foundry." He is not surprised Snyder is lauding Wright because he believes Wright preaches the same anti-American, anti-Semitic views espoused by white mainline Protestant clergy on the "religious left."

"Foundry Church is openly in disagreement with Methodism's stance on same-sex unions. And in fact, earlier this year, [this church] announced that it would be publicly acknowledging same-sex couples in public worship ceremonies, despite the denomination's prohibitions against any celebration of same-sex unions," Tooley points out.

Scenes From South Mississippi Senior Adult Day at Big Creek Baptist Church



The Food, The Fellowship, The Preaching, The Music was enjoyed by all.