

# Baptist

## Mississippi

JOURNAL OF THE BAPTIST MISSIONARY ASSOCIATION OF MISSISSIPPI

APRIL 1, 2012

VOL. 66 No. 7

## South Senior Adult Conference A Blessing



A large crowd of 381 Seniors at the 2012 South Mississippi Senior Adult Conference at Big Creek Church, Soso

The 2012 South Mississippi Senior Adult Conference was enjoyed by a capacity crowd with Big Creek Baptist Church serving as host. A total of 381 senior citizens had a glorious time together. Preaching, singing and fellowship was at its best and people went away rejoicing in the Lord.

At the suggestion of some of the pastors present, an offering for the Senior Adult Commission was received and a total of \$929.91 was given. Thank you so much for your generosity, this offering will be used to provide other conferences, etc., for the senior citizens of the BMA of Mississippi.

The North Mississippi Senior Adult Conference is just around the corner and will be held on Tuesday, May 1, 2012 with Mt. Pleasant Baptist Church, Fulton. We are expecting a capacity crowd and a full day of blessings. Make plans now to be in attendance at this conference.

Pastor Jackie Gray is doing a tremendous job in preparing for and promoting the North Mississippi conference. It promises to be a great day for the gathering of our senior citizens for this conference.

We look forward to being with you on May 1, 2012 at Mt. Pleasant Baptist Church.

Kenneth W. Flynt  
Interim Director

**North Mississippi Senior Adult Conference  
May 1, 2012  
Mt. Pleasant Baptist Church  
Fulton, Mississippi**

## National Meeting In Jackson

The 2012 Annual meeting of the Baptist Missionary Association of America will meet April 16-18 at the Jackson Convention Center in downtown Jackson, Mississippi. The opening session will be held Monday evening at 7:00 p.m. WMA, Brotherhood, and Pastor's and Laymen's conference will be held on Tuesday Morning beginning at 8:30.

Tuesday afternoon, evening and all day Wednesday will be devoted to Association business. The closing session will be Wednesday night with the Missions Report and Commissioning Service.

What a great opportunity for the churches of Mississippi and her members to attend and enjoy the blessings of our work. You will be blessed by being a part of this meeting.

## Holy Easter Home Celebration

Easter is just around the corner. I am writing this article early so that families can sit down and plan what and how they want to celebrate this wonderful holiday. If you have been reading my articles for the past few years, then you will know that I always think this is the single greatest holiday to celebrate all year long. We should make it a big deal to celebrate Easter because He is risen! Our society makes a big deal out of Christmas and a lesser deal out of Easter. However, we wouldn't celebrate that baby born in the manger if it hadn't been for His resurrection on Easter. Your family needs to develop traditions, or add on to already existing ones. Sharing our faith through traditions is what helps a family bond together. It helps us pass on our faith to the next generation. These holiday traditions add meaning and memories



### Family Ark Ministries

Travis Plumlee

that last a life time. Some of the suggestions I make will even have the potential to bring lost family members to a saving faith in Christ! Here are some suggestions to consider.

At some point during your Easter home celebration, be sure and host a Passover Meal. No one single thing will add meaning to your family Easter celebration more than this. You can find many different ways to conduct this meal. It is listed on the Internet with all details needed. It may also be listed under "Messianic

**continued on page 7**

## “White Fields” SOAR 2012 – Youth Conference

### Registration Underway

The 2012 edition of SOAR is just weeks away! This youth conference is designed to minister to our future leaders. On July 4 - 6, thousands of students will converge on the Gaylord Texan Hotel in Grapevine, Texas to enjoy three days of worship, friends and fun. This year's SOAR theme is titled, "White Fields" and will focus on Jesus' challenge in John 4:35, "I say unto you, Lift up your eyes, and look on the fields; for they are white already to harvest." The conference will urge students to prioritize their lives around Jesus'

mission.

SOAR 2012 will feature the dynamic teaching of Todd West, Pastor of Oasis Church in Maumelle, Arkansas... The inspiring worship music of Aaron Williams (formally of Solace Found), Worship Pastor at Fellowship Bible Church in Little Rock, Arkansas... The concert artistry of Lincoln Brewster... and the hilarious improv comedy of Panic Squad... The amazing and inspiring Joe Castillo's SandArt... SOAR Village, a "come hang out with friends" arena filled with lots of food and fun... All at the incredible Gaylord Texan. Special SOAR

rates for Six Flags over Texas and Hurricane Harbor opportunities have been secured. And finally, a service opportunity for your group to minister to Mission Arlington.

One of the new additions to SOAR 2012 is Aftermath. Aftermath is a time for students to gather following sessions to talk, share and pray about what they have just heard and experienced. Student pastors from across the BMA will be leading each Aftermath group.

Registration information for SOAR and the Gaylord Texan can be found at the DiscipleGuide website at [www.discipleguide.org/soar](http://www.discipleguide.org/soar).

# Mississippi Baptist Opinion Page

Journal of the Baptist Missionary Association of Mississippi

## Special Issue & Special Needs

You will note that included in this issue is the BMA Seminary publication "The Challenge". The Seminary published its campus newsletter in each of our national publications on a rotating basis. We are pleased to include this information to our readers and urge each reader and church to be a faithful supporter of our Seminary. Please read the information provided to learn much about the opportunities and ministry of the BMA Seminary.

retirement or life insurance. His main concern is that he still owes on his house and is afraid the bank may take it.

Bro. Wilson was president of Southeastern Baptist College on two occasions and has taught many students over the years, even into this last fall semester.

He has spent his life helping others and giving. Now is a time for those who have been



Don Brown  
Editor

blessed by his ministry to help him.

He has a lot of friends who would, no doubt, like to help him if they know of his need. Those who would like to send a gift to Bro. Wilson may send it to:

Union Baptist Church  
% Jimmie Knotts  
672 CR 9

Bay Springs, MS 39442

or

Union Baptist Church  
% John Wilson  
534 CR 102

Bay Springs, MS 39442

Please pray for Bro. Wilson and his family. Thanks for what you can do.

In Christ's Name,  
Medrick Savell

## Special Needs

Bro. A. M. Wilson has served the churches of the BMA of Mississippi faithfully. He has given over 40 years of his life to the ministry of education with his service to Southeastern Baptist College as both an instructor and as college president. Bro. Wilson's health is failing and his financial situation is critical. Below is information that has been shared about Bro. Wilson and his current needs provided by Dr. Medrick Savell, president of Southeastern College.

We are trying to get the word around that Bro. A. M. Wilson needs our help. He has had a heart attack and has cancer.

He has taken some treatments and is doing better right now, but long range doesn't look good. I am told that he has no

## Remodeling, repairs and updates at Daniel Springs

Spring Break was a busy time at Daniel Springs with lots of activities. Three youth groups were on the grounds to do some work that will enhance the program and facilities at Daniel Springs.

Davis Street Youth from Sulphur Springs, Texas, came on Monday the 12th and spent a couple of days building a Lazr Tag course for the campers and then another day doing other jobs at the camp. Then we also had 2 groups working to remodel one of the cabins on the boy's side of the camp. They replaced the old roof with a new metal one, painted the interior and built new beds. New mattresses will be ordered in the next week or so for the new bed frames. These 2 groups were from Beacon, Bryan, Texas, and Magnolia, Hattiesburg, Mississippi, and they worked hard from sunup until sundown to complete their project. These 3 groups were led by Dustin Barrett, Clinton Everitt and Brandon Wilson.

At least 12 of the old cabins have been completely remodeled and 2 more are in the process of being remodeled. Several churches have taken these cabins as their own project and have really enhanced the camp experience for the campers as well as giving them a sense of accomplishment and ownership. We are getting close to having all the old cabins either completely or partially remodeled with the exception of about 6 that will need to be replaced because of structural issues.

Our greatest physical need at the camp is our road system. The original work was done by Panola County, in the early 60's when this was permissible, and so our roads are over 50 years old and have been patched as much as they can be. We are going to have to do a lot of extensive road work in the next year so we can have decent roads to drive on at the camp. It is going to be an expensive project that may entail us borrowing money, for the first time in over 10 years, to complete this project unless we have some help from churches, auxiliary groups or individuals. Since we have several new dorms and many remodeled cabins, a new road system would really be a tremendous asset to the overall appearance of the campgrounds.

If you have a church group of any kind that wants to help out with any of the projects, just call us so we can schedule a date and time. Our number is 800-332-2309.

## Ministers Resource Services

Retirement Agency of the BMA of America  
Ron Chesser, Executive Director

### BMA Retirement Returns

The Long Term Growth accounts have averaged a growth of 7.14% each year for the past nine years. In the past nine years we have posted a total of 64.27% to each LT Growth account. During January and February of 2012 our Long Term Growth accounts experienced a growth of 6.65% posted to each account net of fees.

The Fixed Income accounts have averaged a growth of 2.67% each year for the past nine years. For the year 2011 we posted a 3.03% return to each Fixed Income account. Although it is subject to change, we are currently paying 3.25% on our Fixed Income for 2012.

The BMA Retirement portfolio assets totaled \$12,363,973.58 on December 31, 2011. In 2011 the BMA Retirement portfolio grew \$1,453,183.65. This past year new retirement money deposited by participants totaled \$2,289,786.73. The BMA Retirement portfolio over the past nine years has had a growth in assets of \$8,481,906.71.

### Market Performance

The Dow has averaged 5.20% each year for the past nine years. The Nasdaq has averaged 9.99% each year for the past nine years. The S & P 500 has averaged 2.98% each year for the past nine years.

You may contact Ministers Resource Services, the retirement agency of the BMA of America, at P. O. Box 2866, Texarkana, AR 75504, by phone at 870-774-2654 or email Executive Director, Ron Chesser, at RChesser6365@aol.com to request a retirement packet or to open an account.



Ron Chesser

## Church honors pastor on anniversary

Sunday March 25, 2012 marked my husband's, Jr Strickland, 10th year as pastor of Westhaven Baptist Church in Jackson. We received a surprise of a lifetime when he and I entered the sanctuary and found it filled with family, friends, and church members. During these past ten years the people of Westhaven have become family and we have shared sorrows and joys together. We are grateful for their continued love and support.

Mrs. Tracy Strickland  
Pastor's Wife



Pastor Junior Strickland

**AVAILABLE FOR SERVICE**

### Virgil Ainsworth

Bro. Virgil T. Ainsworth is available for preaching appointments as the Lord may lead. He may be reached at 601-729-8059, 601-577-0924 or at vta@bayspringstel.net.

### Larry Pierce

Bro. Larry M. Pierce is available for pulpit supply, revivals, interim pastor, fill-in or wherever the Lord leads. He may be reached at 601-947-3531.

### Dale Wirick

Bro. Dale Wirick is available for pulpit supply wherever the Lord leads. He can be reached by calling 228-249-3731 or 228-623-5466.

Mississippi Baptist

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# THE CHALLENGE

News of the Baptist Missionary Association Theological Seminary - Spring 2012

## Bro. Gaylan Henry to receive Kellar Award

The 2012 Seminary Friends Dinner will be held Tuesday, April 17, 2012 during the sixty-third BMA of America Annual Meeting. At this year's dinner the 2012 Kellar Award will be presented to Brother Gaylan Henry. Henry is the long-time pastor of South Park Baptist Church in Fort Worth, Texas. After pastoring First Baptist Church at Freestone, Texas, for a year and a half, Brother Henry accepted the call to become the pastor of South Park Baptist Church in Ft. Worth, Texas in 1957, and is in his 54th year as their pastor. Henry graduated from BMA Seminary with an M.Div degree in 1972.

For more than 54 years Henry has been married to the former Linda Sue Webb. The Henrys have three children: David, Dennis and Karen, seven grandchildren, and one great grandchild, with three more "greats" on the way.

This 9th annual award, named in honor of the late Dr. Gerald Kellar, the founding president of BMA Seminary, recognizes a BMA Seminary alumnus for outstanding contributions in ministry typifying the legacy of Dr. Kellar.



Gaylan Henry

The Kellar Award will be presented to Bro. Henry during the BMA Seminary Friends Dinner in conjunction with the sixty-third annual National Meeting of the BMA of America in Jackson, MS.

Reminder to alumni: There will be an election of officers at the Seminary Friends Dinner.

## Seminary Professor publishes book

BMA Seminary professor Dr. Ronnie Johnson is the contributing editor on a new book, scheduled for release in April, 2012. *DiscipleWay: Following the Model of Christ by Making Disciple Makers*, is the latest feature of the ongoing DiscipleWay project. It is co-authored by Dr. Philip Attebery, Steve Crawley, and Dr. Ronnie Johnson. The book outlines the biblical foundations, philosophy, project genesis and development, and educational principles essential to DiscipleWay.

The book is divided into four parts, with each part focusing on a different aspect of the evolution of DiscipleWay's method.

Part 1 – A Biblical Way was authored by Philip Attebery and describes biblical principles for making disciple makers.

Part 2 – A Progressive Way, authored by Steve Crawley, chronicles the DiscipleWay project's genesis and project development.

Part 3 – A Learned Way, authored by Ronnie Johnson, describes educational principles and curriculum development.

Part 4 – A Disciplined Way, authored by Johnson and Attebery,



Dr. Johnson and 'Jo' Siripong Yaebeang looking at edit copy of new book

introduces the 7 Disciplines of DiscipleWay.

Numerous other individuals involved in the DiscipleWay project contributed articles, testimonies, and sidebar content throughout the book.

The book also includes the entire *DiscipleWay Research Synthesis on Discipleship in the Baptist Missionary Association (BMA)* conducted by Rainer Research in 2010. Sam S. Rainer III, president of Rainer Research, wrote the forward to the book.

The following is a brief excerpt from the forward written by Sam Rainer:

*This book is not an endpoint for all your discipleship needs. It is, however, a starting point to help you discover how to create a process of discipleship in your church. You will not find all the answers to your questions in here. But you will find a critically important answer to the looming question, "Now what?"*

*DiscipleWay: Following the Model of Christ by Making Disciple Makers* is scheduled to be released at the sixty-third annual meeting of the BMA of America in Jackson, Mississippi.

## Seminary's Accreditation Reaffirmed

In January, 2012, BMA Theological Seminary received a letter from the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools reaffirming its accreditation for the next ten years. Not only is the reaffirmation of accreditation an answer to many prayers, it is also the culmination of more than two years of dedicated work by the seminary faculty, administration, and staff.

The Southern Association of Colleges and Schools (SACS) is the premier accrediting agency for all colleges and universities in the Southern United States. Accreditation by SACS demonstrates that BMA Seminary

has the resources, programs, and services sufficient to accomplish and sustain its purpose of training future generations for leadership and service in the Lord's churches.

This action by SACS, along with the reaffirmation of accreditation recently received from the Association of Theological Schools in the United States and Canada, is a sign of the high quality of education available at BMA Seminary.

### Photo at Right

Dr. Charley Holmes and Dr. James Blaylock view letter from SACS affirming Seminary's Accreditation



## Dr. Holmes on Sermon Preparation and Christ Centered Preaching

Sermon preparation is a fundamental part of the education of anyone who desires to present the gospel message in a clear, concise and Biblically-correct manner.

In the sermon preparation classes at BMA Seminary there is a distinct emphasis on Christ-centered expositional sermons. In the past, a class has been offered entitled *Sermon Preparation and Delivery* that attempted to cover every aspect of preaching—from the history of preaching to various aspects of oral communication. Through observation and experience, I saw that not only were the actual skills of sermon preparation slighted, but students had a limited opportunity to actually preach in class, perhaps

one or two times each semester. It was very evident that one fifteen-week semester was not enough. Therefore, changes were made in the curriculum to allow better preparation of the students for ministry. Starting last September, the beginning preaching course focused on sermon preparation, with a second course developed to focus on sermon delivery, with each student preaching multiple times.

The Seminary has had a long tradition of teaching expositional preaching. Expositional preaching means that the topic and the main supporting arguments of the sermon come directly from Scripture. A test that we use can be attributed to Dr. Attebery, “A preaching goal should



Dr. Charley Holmes

be for the listener to be able to see the major points of the sermon on the pages of his Bible when he opens his Bible the next day.” However, we should not be satisfied at this point; the sermon must also be Christ centered.

Christ centered does not mean looking for types of Christ in each tent peg of the tabernacle or other such analogies. Paul wrote to the Corinthians that he always preached Christ and Him crucified. How could he do that when his letters covered everything from ministerial qualifications to stewardship? Any Bible text can be Christ centered if the preacher asks these questions: (1) How is the Holy Spirit, here, revealing the nature of God that provides redemption? and (2) How is the Holy Spirit, here, revealing the nature of humanity that requires redemption?

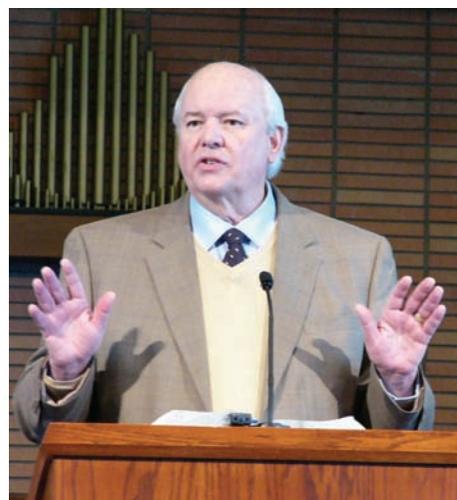
During seminary chapel services this semester, Dr. Holmes is preaching through the book of Malachi. Malachi is a picture of a disappointed, discouraged people needing revival, waiting for the Messiah. In our day and time, many in the church need the same encouragement and revival as God’s people wait for the return of the Lord.

## Brand Lectures with Dr. Billie Hanks, Jr., founder of Operation Multiplication

The 2012 Brand Lectures and Spiritual Emphasis Week were held March 20-22, 2012. The lectures, named in honor of the late Dr. and Mrs. Ralph A. Brand of Hattiesburg, Mississippi, featured Dr. Billie Hanks, Jr., founder of Operation Multiplication, as guest lecturer.

Dr. Hanks presented three lectures that focused on pursuing wisdom in disciple-making, following the example of Jesus’ earthly ministry, and carrying out the greater work of discipleship. The first lecture, entitled “Investing Your Life Wisely” emphasized the importance of the biblical mandate to invest one’s time and resources in the lives of others. The second lecture, “Jesus’ Private and Public Ministry” focused on the value of one-on-one discipleship and training. Using real life examples, Dr. Hanks offered practical ideas for embracing a life of disciple-making. The final lecture, “Carrying Out His Greater Work” focused on the importance of Christ-centered discipleship both within the church, and outside the church. Dr. Hanks admonished Christians to embrace their call to discipleship.

In conjunction with the Brand Lectures, BMA Seminary offered the class *Spiritual Disciplines and Disciple-Making Within the Church*, which focused on using spiritual disciplines as a means of maturing disciples within the ministry of the local church. Dr. Hanks addressed



Dr. Billie Hanks, Jr.

students, offering practical advice and biblical encouragement. Describing Dr. Hanks’ vision, student Nick Kerry said, “It was so encouraging to hear from someone who has made disciple making a way of life. It was a great challenge to simply follow the example of Christ. With the encouragement to have both a public and private ministry, Dr. Hanks inspired me with such practical advice.”

Many students voiced their appreciation for Dr. Hanks’ commitment to biblical discipleship, and his practical approach to making discipleship a way of life. Student Tim Bastress said, “Dr. Hanks’ lectures were scripturally sound and very thought provoking. He offered clear insight from the perspective of a seasoned disciple-maker of the faith.”

Early in his life, Dr. Hanks was influenced greatly by the books *Born to Reproduce* by Dawson Trotman and *The Master Plan of Evangelism*, by Robert Coleman. During his college years, Hanks realized the importance of what he calls “life-to-life training” and began discipling men who had a passion for carrying out the Great Commission. Together, they developed disciple-making materials for churches to use throughout the world.

Dr. Hanks has been blessed with a long legacy of disciple-making. He has personally discipled a number of godly leaders throughout his life including some outstanding Christian educators and businessmen, dedicated pastors, and missionaries. Among that number is well-known pastor and speaker Rick Warren, author of *The Purpose Driven Life*. In Warren’s biography, *A Life with Purpose*, author George Mair mentions the impact of disciple-making on Warren’s life:

“During Rick’s time in California, he was influenced greatly by two people: Dr. Billie Hanks, Jr. and W.A. Criswell. Meeting these two individuals would play a large role in determining the direction Rick Warren took, and would lay the groundwork for what would one day become Saddleback Valley Community Church.” (pp. 51-52) The 2012 Brand Lectures are available for online listening at [sermonaudio.com/bmats](http://sermonaudio.com/bmats).

### DEAN’S LIST – Fall 2011

#### Associate of Divinity

John Cook  
Vasquez Granberry  
Oscar Jernecons  
Benji Morrison  
Nina Smith

#### Bachelor of Arts in Religion

Joseph Davis  
Kelsey Fenner  
Donnie Fenton  
Robert Lee  
Brittney Lingle  
Mary Parsons  
Dalton Tew  
Jordan Tew  
Phillip Waddell  
Ansel Ware

#### Master of Arts (Religion)

Milan Bulak

#### Master of Divinity

Clint Covington  
John Smith  
Mango Yin



## Darby/Beal Lectureship to Feature Dr. R. Albert Mohler, Jr.

Dr. R. Albert Mohler, Jr., president of The Southern Baptist Theological Seminary in Louisville, Kentucky, was the guest lecturer for the 2012 Darby/Beal Lectureship. The lectureship, named in honor of Armen and Dorthy Darby, took place April 3-5 in Jacksonville, Texas.

Wayne and Elaine Beal of Jacksonville, Texas, endowed the lectureship to provide a lecture series that emphasized traditional Baptist doctrine, while also honoring the faithful ministry work of Mrs. Beal's parents, Armen and Dorthy Darby. Dr. Thomas Nettles, professor of Historical Theology at Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, presented the lecture during its inaugural year.

Dr. Mohler, a recognized leader among American evangelicals, lectured on the New Hampshire Confession of Faith: Item III: the



Dr. R. Albert Mohler, Jr

Fall of Man; Item VIII: Repentance and Faith; and Item IX: God's Purpose in Grace. The New Hampshire Confession was drawn up by the Rev. John Newton Brown, D. D., around 1833, and was adopted by the New Hampshire Convention. It was later widely disseminated among Baptists through the church manuals written by J.N. Brown and early Landmarker James M. Pendleton. This led to its acceptance by many Baptists throughout the United States as a clear and concise statement of their faith.

Dr. R. Albert Mohler, Jr., is a theologian and an ordained minister, having served as pastor and staff minister of several Southern Baptist churches. He came to the presidency of Southern Baptist Theological Seminary from service as editor of *The Christian Index*, the oldest of the state newspapers serving the Southern Baptist Convention.

The Darby/Beal Lectureship is available for online listening at [sermonaudio.com/bmats](http://sermonaudio.com/bmats).

## Asher Scholarship Awarded

The Louis F. and Jean Asher Scholarship was awarded to Bro. Donnie Fenton of Gilmer, Texas, during chapel service on February 28, 2012.

Bro. Fenton was born in Dexter, Missouri. He is the Senior Pastor of Calvary Baptist Church in Gilmer, Texas. He and his wife, Stacie, have two children.

The Asher Scholarship is given in memory and honor of Louis F. Asher and Jean Asher. Bro. Asher was a longtime professor of church history at BMA Seminary and served for many years as pastor of Glenfawn Baptist Church in Cushing, Texas, where his wife is still a member.

The scholarship is awarded annually to a first-year student who has demonstrated academic excellence. It is funded by Glenfawn Baptist Church in Cushing, Texas.



Bro. Gerald Pepper, pastor of Glenfawn and Donnie Fenton, Asher Award recipient

## Beauty from Ashes

Last fall two seminary families experienced a literal "trial by fire." Just days before the fall semester started, one of the campus duplexes caught on fire, causing damage to both units. Thankfully, no one was injured. Tammy and Chris Proctor's home experienced severe smoke damage. Craig and Dwanita Robinson's home suffered fire damage, primarily located in the kitchen, as well as smoke damage throughout the unit.

For the Robinsons, this was a testing of their faith right on the heels of another trial. Just prior to moving to Jacksonville, the Robinson's home in Omaha, Texas was completely destroyed by a house fire. In addition to losing their home, the Robinsons also lost a car in that fire. Just three days later their duplex, on the campus of BMA Seminary, was burned.

Mrs. Robinson recounted: "With this experience God has taught us that material things come and go. Family and friends come and go but God never leaves us. I have these Bible verses that have brought us much peace, Psalms 33:20-21. 'Our soul waiteth for the Lord: He is our help and our shield. For our heart shall rejoice in Him, because we have trusted in His holy name.' Our family has learned that we, who trust, cannot but be of a glad heart, our inmost nature must triumph in our faithful God."

The Proctors and Robinsons know firsthand that the Lord really does bring beauty from ashes.

Upon hearing of the fires and the devastating loss that both families experienced, numerous churches and individuals joined together to help the Robinsons and Proctors rebuild their lives. Not only were monetary donations made, but the families were also blessed with clothes, furniture, and other household items. In just a few short months the duplex has been remodeled and both families have experienced abundant blessings through the generous support of fellow believers.

BMA Seminary, along with the Proctor and Robinson families, wishes to say "thank you" to the many men and women who have helped bring these two families through a difficult time. The financial support, as well as continued prayers for both families, is greatly appreciated.



John Cook renovating apartment



### Administration

Dr. Charley Holmes, President  
Dr. Philip W. Attebery, Dean  
James Blaylock, Library Director  
Van Widger, Business Manager  
Dr. Thom South, Extension Site

### Faculty

Dr. Tony Cleaver, Biblical Studies & Director of Distance Learning  
Dr. David Erickson, Theological-Historical  
Dr. David Hellwig, Biblical Studies  
Dr. Ronnie Johnson, Christian Education  
Dr. Elton B. McCann, Church Ministries  
Dr. Greg W. Parsons, Biblical Studies  
Dr. James D. Shine, Biblical Studies

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"Earnestly Contending for the Faith"

## Free Publications

Would like to receive the Seminary monthly E-newsletter, "The Disciple" or the Seminary printed newspaper "The Challenge" for FREE?

Contact Carol Shine at [cshine@bmats.edu](mailto:cshine@bmats.edu)

or call

1-800-259-5673



## Memorials & Honorariums Fall 2011 - Spring 2012

### In Honor

**Chap. Col. Forrest 'Bo'Bankston**  
Charley & Dianne Holmes

**Reggie & Teresa Blake**  
Harley & Bettye Gordon

**Dr. Edwin Crank**  
Philip & Stephanie Attebery

**Dr. David Erickson**  
Kelvin & Fran Erickson

**Dr. Charley Holmes**  
Rev. Grover Laird

**Rev. Grover Laird**  
Charley & Dianne Holmes

### In Memory

**J.M. Adams**  
Dr. & Mrs. John Adams

**Dr. John Attebery**  
Peggy Attebery

**Jay Burnett**  
Tony & Jerrie Sue Cleaver

**Irene C. Caughron**  
Tony & Jerrie Sue Cleaver

**Mrs. Marie Darst**  
Philip & Stephanie Attebery  
Charley & Dianne Holmes

**Rev. Otis Chapmond Davis, PhD**  
Mrs. Jo Davis

**Dr. Bobbie Dietrich**  
Charley & Dianne Holmes

**Dr. Elton McCann**  
Benny R. Smith

**James McRight**  
Hal & Elaine Palmer

**Dr. Allen Tilley**  
Hal & Elaine Palmer

**Bro. David Watkins**  
Charley & Dianne Holmes

**David Yarbrough**  
Hal & Elaine Palmer

**Bro. Mart Edwards**  
Charley & Dianne Holmes

**Alex Fleming**  
Amy H. Fleming

**Harvey Hall, Jr.**  
Philip & Stephanie Attebery

**Mrs. Mary Hillis**  
Bro. M.O. Hillis

**Dr. Vern Holifield**  
Philip & Stephanie Attebery  
Charley & Dianne Holmes  
Danny Holifield

**Mrs. Mary Lou Kellar**  
Mr. & Mrs. Clifton Smart, Jr.

**Mrs. Willie Mae Kennedy**  
Sardis WMA, Jewett, TX

**Bro. Everett C. Kent**  
Charley & Dianne Holmes  
Dr. John W. Gregson

**Dr. Harold (Hal) McNeill, Jr.**  
Harley & Bettye Gordon

Grady & Norita Higgs

**Linda Newsome**  
Lance & Carol Hellwig  
Charley & Dianne Holmes

**Stanley Reed**  
Randy & Thelma Veach and family

**David Robertson**  
Philip & Stephanie Attebery  
James & JoAnn Blaylock

**James M. & Lola Beth Rogers**  
John & Carla Rogers

**Dr. James Ross**  
Don & Bonnie Brown

**Harold & Anita Small**  
Michael & Rose Bowen

**John L. & Edith McCann Smith**  
Benny R. Smith

**James M. Tankersley**  
Mrs. Margaret Tankersley

**J.W. Tanner**  
Mrs. Betty Tanner

**Dr. Raymond Venable**  
Kelvin & Fran Erickson

**Bro. Murphy Walker**  
Charley & Dianne Holmes

**James Wilson**  
Mrs. James Wilson

**Randolph Wilson**  
Charley & Dianne Holmes

## Summer 2012 Motion Classes

### June 11-15, 2012

New Testament Introduction & Survey I  
NT 511

Professor David Hellwig

### June 25-29, 2012

Systematic Theology I  
TH 611

Dr. David Erickson

### July 9-13, 2012

Creative Teaching/Principles  
of Christian Teaching

RE 317/514

Dr. Ronnie Johnson

### July 23-27, 2012

Biblical Evangelism/Discipleship\*\*  
EV 311/411/511/512/521

Dr. Charley Holmes & Dr. Philip Attebery  
(**Tentative** location: First Baptist,  
Mantachie, MS)

### "Receive DiscipleWay evangelism training through an EE motion class this summer"

\*\*Please check with the Dean's Office if you are a non-degree seeking student interested in 5.0 DiscipleWay training. You will need to fill out a short application form.

### August 6-10, 2012

Intermediate Greek  
GRK 415

Dr. James Shine

The deadline to register for summer classes is April 27, 2012. For more information contact the Dean's Office or visit [bmats.edu](http://bmats.edu).

## Seminary Offers Training in DiscipleWay 5.0 Witnessing

BMA Seminary enthusiastically supports the DiscipleWay process for making disciples and will provide the training necessary for DiscipleWay practitioners to learn the witnessing discipline (5.0) series this summer. Individuals interested in DiscipleWay training can benefit from the intensive week of study held July 23-26 and hosted by First Baptist Church of Mantachie, Mississippi.

DiscipleWay and Evangelism Explosion joined together to provide the DiscipleWay 5.0 series. The seminary invites any person interested in learning more about sharing their faith to contact the seminary dean's office for more information. The course is not limited to DiscipleWay participants or seminary students.

DiscipleWay training conferences have occurred in Arkansas, Idaho, Louisiana, Mississippi, Missouri, Oklahoma, and Texas during 2011-2012. The seminary's 2012 training in Mississippi provides the first opportunity for many of those certified in DiscipleWay disciplines of Bible study, praying, worshipping, giving, serving, and leading to complete the witnessing training.



# BMA SEMINARY

BAPTIST MISSIONARY ASSOCIATION THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY

## Are you a pastor and wish you could attend Seminary? Pastor, what if the Seminary came to you?

Many BMA of America pastors cannot attend the BMA Seminary campus for instruction and most lay leaders have commitments that prohibit further higher Christian education training.

### What can BMA Seminary online do for you?

- Provide improved leadership skills required in the ministry of a local church.
- Provide improved communication skills required to share essential Biblical truths in the context of Christian ministry.

**Plus, when you complete your online certificate (7 courses/21 credit hours), you can participate in the BMA Seminary graduation ceremony.**

Churches, encourage your pastor to enroll in this program; and underwrite his tuition and textbook costs. You will benefit as your pastor ministers at your church.

**Contact the BMA Seminary today for more details!**

**P.O. Box 670, Jacksonville, TX 75766-0670**

**[www.bmats.edu](http://www.bmats.edu) • (800) 259-5673**



# 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*

## Spring Festival

This special day to bring prospective students to the campus has been set for April 24th, beginning around 9:30 a.m. It will include a chapel service (9:50), activities, and lunch. Information about the college and applications to attend classes will be available. Pastors and parents who plan to bring prospects are asked to contact the admissions office to let us know how many are coming.

## Memorial Gifts

Recent contributions have been received to purchase books for the A.R. Reddin Memorial Library at Southeastern Baptist College in memory

of Mr. Hubert Carl Bullock, Mrs. June Fleming Baldwin, Mrs. Kay Phillips, and Dr. Jentry Bond. A contribution was sent to the 10 X 10 Project in memory of Dean Earl Knight.

We appreciate these contributions to a worthy cause and thank each one for honoring their loved ones in this manner. May God's blessings and comfort be with each family.

## 10 X 10 Fund Raiser Project

The goal for this project is \$100,000. The total received at this time is \$16,250.00. We appreciate those who have participated and request others to consider doing so. It is imperative that we end the fiscal year, June 30, 2012, with a surplus.

# Easter

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Haggadic" meals or the "Seder Meal". If you don't have the internet, Christian bookstores can direct you to books or pamphlets on how to host one of these meals. It is a re-enactment of the Last Supper. This is what Jesus did with his disciples when he made the new covenant in His blood with them. The Jews have been celebrating this meal for thousands of years and have been blinded to the truth. The entire meal is the story of Jesus Christ and His resurrection. This will add so much truth and holiness to your Easter. All members of the family can eat, participate, read the scriptures and enjoy learning about Jesus. The descriptions in the articles will tell you what foods to buy, drinks, scripture etc.

Take out the family Bible and read the Easter story. You will hear this most likely in church also, but there is a special joy in hearing it in the home. After the reading of the Easter story out of one of the Gospels, get in a family circle. Light candles and go around the circle telling everyone about what Jesus has done for you in the past year. Tell of his healing or his help. Tell everyone about the day you were saved. Give testimonies. Don't force people to share. If there is a family member who is not saved, this can be an unnerving time. They have the right to say "pass". But listening to the others give their testimonies about Jesus in their life can cause them to have a seed of truth planted that might bring forth a saving faith in Jesus Christ.

Sing some Easter hymns. We sing Christmas carols at home. We should also sing a song of Easter. My favorite Easter hymn is, "Jesus Christ has Risen Today - Alleluia". How much of the traditional cultural celebration you want to add to your family Easter celebration is up to you. If you have a problem with Easter eggs, then hold to your convictions. Do what you think is right. If you do like traditional Easter things, then have everyone color eggs. Whether you are young or old or even grumpy; the whole family colors eggs. You can keep some, and take a basket of brightly colored eggs to the nursing home, a senior adult who is alone, or even a shut-in from your church. It brightens

# CHILDREN'S HOME

118 LOWE ROAD, LAUREL, MISSISSIPPI 39443 - (601) 426-3928

## He Is Alive

Each year at the Easter season the world is reminded that Jesus Christ has conquered death. In the words of our Lord Himself to the Apostle John, "Fear not; I am the first and the last: I am He that liveth and was dead, and behold, I am alive for evermore." Revelation 1:17-18.

Because of the resurrection of Jesus Christ the future for the Christian is one of hope. Listen to Peter as he writes to Christians who are going through the fires of persecution. "Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, which according to His abundant mercy hath begotten us again unto a lively hope by the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead." 1 Peter 1:3.

For the Christian the grave and death are not a dead end street. Jesus said, "Because I live ye shall live also." John 14:9. He also said, "I am the resurrection, and the life: he that believeth in me, though he were dead, yet shall he live." John 11:25. This is the power that the world needs today. The power that can conquer death, and the power that makes it possible for Christians to shout,

their day.

Bake some sugar cookies together. Have a bonfire at night. Go on a walk or hike on Easter Sunday after your meal. It is also okay to give gifts to people on Easter. Just be sure you explain the purpose of the gifts. We give gifts to those we love on Easter as a symbolic token of the gift Jesus Christ gave us on Easter - eternal life. We give gifts to those we love remembering that it was Jesus who first loved us.

No Easter is complete without going to church. We get to rejoice with other believers who share our faith. He is Risen! He is Risen Indeed! What a joyous day to be in the house of the Lord. Invite neighbors, family and friends to go with you. Also, you might consider inviting over a military person if you have a military instillation close by. They have programs where military members who don't have family close by, and who are stationed miles from their home, can go with a fam-

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"O death, where is thy sting? O grave, where is thy victory?" 1 Corinthians 15:55.

## Expression of Sympathy

We would like to express our sympathy to the family of Mrs. Kay Phillips. I attended school with David and Kay at Southeastern Baptist College. Our prayers continue to be with David, the children and family during this time of bereavement.



SIDNEY DAVIS  
DIRECTOR

## Students Continue To Do Well In School

Our girls and boys continue to do well in their academics at school. Report cards were recently sent out for the first nine weeks of the second semester. It is good to see them doing well in their studies and we trust that they will continue to do well throughout the remainder of this school term.

Continue to remember the Home and its ministry in your prayers.

# CHURCH NEWS

## Harper Family at Lebanon

The Bluegrass Family, The Harpers, will be with Lebanon Baptist Church, Laurel, on Sunday April 15th during the evening service. The service begins at 6:00 pm. There is no charge, but a love offering will be taken.

## Youth Revival

Lebanon Baptist Church will be having their annual Youth Revival, April 22nd - 25th. Services are as follows: Sunday Morning worship 10:00 followed by lunch. Afternoon service at 12:30. No evening service. Monday & Tuesday services will be at 7:00 pm. Wednesday services will be at 6:45. Our speaker will be Bro. Tracy McMillan from Fulton, Mississippi. Music will be by the Lebanon Praise Team on Monday & Tuesday. "Beyond Religion", a gospel praise band, will lead the music on Wednesday. For more information call 601-729-2436 or 601-729-2123



## Sofilthy's Attic

by Barbara White

### "SPIT BATHS"

Of all the curses known to youth  
(I tell you this in somber truth).  
There's none that ever could be worse  
than having Mom reach in her purse,  
Take out her hanky, start her search,  
and give us spit baths on the way to church.

At home our Dad has guaranteed  
that all us boys are clean indeed.  
He's checked us all with manly skill,  
and we're all satisfied - until  
Our Mom begins her sputt-ring search  
and we get spit baths on the way to church!

Oh, would some pow'r us deliver  
when Dad starts up the family flivver,  
And we're all dressed in Sunday best  
and Mom begins her weekly quest,  
Attacking while we yelp and lurch,  
bestowing spit baths on the way to church!

I'll have you know, when I'm a Dad,  
and all my boys are Sunday clad,  
E'en tho' they're smeared with jam or hash  
and have a milky-way mustache,  
I'll make my wife just keep her perch,  
There'll be no spit baths on the way to church!



Larry Geraldson  
Director

**Baptist Missionary Association  
of Mississippi**  
*Department of Missions*



**2012 Special Emphasis**

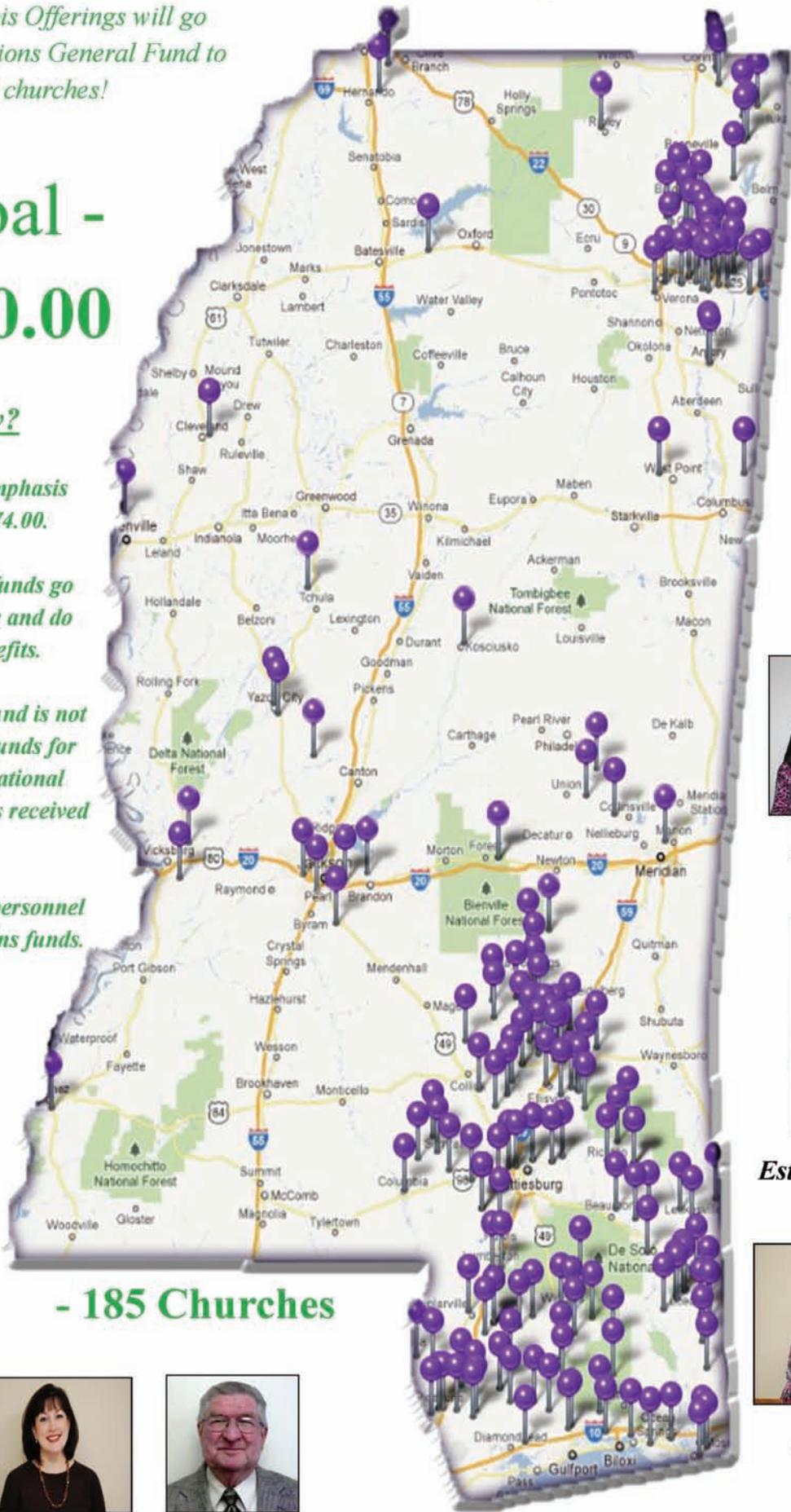
[www.bmams.org](http://www.bmams.org)

All Special Emphasis Offerings will go directly into the Missions General Fund to help plant churches!

**Our Goal -  
\$25,000.00**

Did you know?

- The average Special Emphasis Offering in 2010 was \$474.00.
- Contributions to work funds go directly to the missionary and do not offset salary and benefits.
- The Revolving Loan Fund is not a source of operational funds for Missions. Missions operational funds are 100% offerings received from our churches.
- Revolving Loan Fund personnel are not paid from Missions funds.



**- 185 Churches**



Sidney Farmer



Kim Parker  
Missions  
Bookkeeper



Lori Garrett  
Office Manager  
RLF Bookkeeper



Lavell Lee  
Manager  
RLF

*"... how shall they preach, except they be sent? As it is written, How beautiful are the feet of them that preach the Gospel..."*  
**Romans 10:15**



Elvis Garcia



Bob Burch



Justin Rhodes



Estuardo Marroquin



Ray Boone

**WOMEN'S MISSIONARY  
AUXILIARY**

BMA OF AMERICA

**2011 - 2012 PROJECT**

40% INTERACTIVE  
SELF-HELP ENGLISH  
LANGUAGE PROGRAM  
(ISHHELP)

40% HAITI RELIEF FUND

15% YOUTH FUND  
5% GENERAL FUND

SEND OFFERINGS FOR  
"PROJECT" TO

**NATIONAL WMA**

% PAT DUNCAN  
PO BOX 30  
HARDY, AR 72120

**Ten Mile District  
WMA Report**

The Ten Mile WMA met with Pleasant Hill Church on January 9. Nikki Pricket, our missionary to Indonesia gave a report on several prayers that were answered I during her trip and her ministry.

The Ten Mile District Sunbeam and Girls Missionary Auxiliary presentation and Coronations were held. The WMA approved that our records be stored in the Archives of Southeastern Bible College. A \$200 donation was approved for Nikki Pricket.

Sabrina Lawhon, honored us by singing a song she had written.

We enjoyed refreshments and a great fellowship with Pleasant Baptist Church. Our next meeting will be on April 9, 2012, 7:00 PM at Temple Baptist Church, Biloxi.

Reporter Maria Ochoa

**Easter**

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ily to eat and have a nice day. You can call the main number at your local base or post to find out more information about these programs. Bring a hero over for Easter dinner. Families should find ways to make this a special and great celebration. Turn off the TV. Play, interact and pray with your family. The family that prays together - stays together. Have a prolonged and spirit led prayer at your Easter celebration. Celebrate not only at church, but at home as well. Build some holy traditions in your home. Then, keep this wonderful feeling alive all year long. He is risen! He is risen indeed!