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Director of International Missions to Step Down at BMA Missions

After serving for the past four years as Director of International Missions, Bro. Phil Knott shared with BMA staff and missionaries his decision to retire from his position in May 2017. He will continue to serve in his current role through the BMA national meeting (May 1-3) and beyond as the transition takes

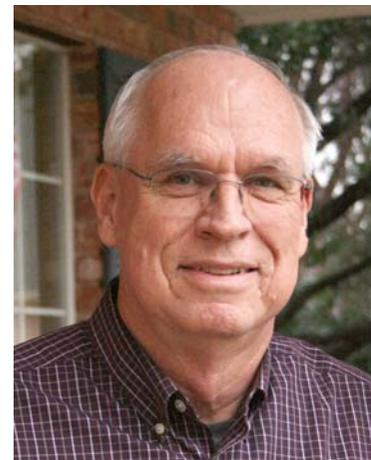
place.

Bro. Phil said, "As we all know, in leadership you never work alone. Time and space fails me in order to mention all those who have had key roles in shaping and nurturing our global mission effort in recent years. I would, though, like to mention particularly David Dickson in

Latin America, Charles Costa in the Middle East, Doyle Moore in Southeast Asia, Jeff Franks in Eastern Europe, and Buddy Johnson, our training coordinator. Going far beyond their own unique missionary experience, they have all have taken on larger roles of coordinating, equipping, encouraging and mobilizing many others. Their ongoing contribution to BMA Missions is invaluable, and it is my great joy to serve alongside them.

"Obviously we owe a lot to Dr. John David Smith. Leading change in an organization is one of the most challenging aspects of leadership, and I think he has done it remarkably well. Personally I also owe a great deal to Jerry Kidd, who first gave me the opportunity to help lead this great global endeavor. I am

humbled by the trust that I have been given," said Knott.



Bro. Phil Knott

Bro. Phil began his career in ministry at the age of nineteen, serving churches and doing pastoral work in Texas throughout the 1970s. He was commissioned as a BMA missionary to Costa Rica, a ministry lasting eigh-

teen years. After phasing out of this ministry in 2000, he began working for BMA Missions as an assistant to International Director Jerry Kidd, then as Coordinator for Latin America and the Caribbean, and four years ago he took on the leadership role of International Director.

"My plans are to continue in missions 'post-retirement,' taking on some field assignments for which I have developed an affinity and calling. If the Lord continues to lead in that direction, LaJuana and I will be joining the ranks of all of you who go out there and raise support funds. I'll have an opportunity to 'practice what I preach.' Whatever our future ministry may be, I look forward to the new and exciting challenges ahead. We desire your prayers," said Knott.

Caledonia Baptist Church Lives



By Pastor Bob Burch

We started Caledonia Mission in March of 2013 and organized into a New Testament Church on March 18, 2017. We have 85 members at this time. We are waiting on our baptistery to be ready to baptize 13 more people. Our people are excited about doing the work of the Lord. After having been a mission for the past 5 years we are thankful for the opportunity to serve with the BMA churches of Mississippi. There is nothing more gratifying than to serve our Lord and Savior. We will be hosting the annual BMA of Mississippi Missions and Evangelism Conference on April 22, 2017, at Caledonia Baptist Church. We look forward to seeing you there.

DiscipleGuide Requests Separation From Camp Ministry

Coordinating Council Annual Report

If you have ever watched geese flying overhead in a V-formation, you have witnessed the power of synergy. The dictionary defines synergy as "The interaction of elements that when combined produce a total effect that is greater than the sum of the individual elements, contributions, etc." For the simple minded such as myself, it might be understood like this: Synergy is when $2 + 2 =$ more than 4. (Now if you're a math teacher, don't get a nervous twitch. I know $2 + 2$ equals 4, but stay with me). God created something in the geese that instinctively understands that by flying in a V-formation a lift is created that enables them to go

much farther than they could alone. Working together they achieve much more.

If Nehemiah had been responsible for building the wall single-handedly he might still be stacking bricks! But through the synergistic effect of multiple people playing their part, much more was accomplished together. As we hear the reports of our departments and agencies, may it ignite and excite us to hear of things that are being collectively accomplished for God's glory that are far beyond the scope of what any of us could do alone.

It is the responsibility given to the Coordinating Council by this association to work with the various departments and

agencies "to cast a unified vision and promote cooperation between the departments and / or agencies of the Baptist Missionary Association of America" (Principles of Cooperation Article VIII, Section 2). The council commends our directors and their teams for the outstanding job they continue to do in working together in unity and efforts to maximize the resources at their disposal. Our association has likely never known a time when our departments and agencies were marked by a greater commitment to work together. We applaud their work and encourage them to continue striving

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Coordinating Council from page 1

forward in these efforts.

One obvious challenge that some of our departments face is in regard to finances. For a lengthy period of time the amount of money given has remained basically unchanged. The ability to tackle new initiatives and make new strides, along with simply keeping pace with rising costs, is a difficult task to accomplish when giving remains static. The council would like to urge our churches and association to designate a month of stewardship emphasis in which we offer a focused time of teaching on the biblical principle of stewardship. We also challenge our directors, departments and their respective boards to continue to work diligently to keep expenses within the scope of income.

A Request For Change

The council recently received a request that will be considered in the coming days. The DiscipleGuide Board has asked the council to study the ramifications of removing Daniel Springs Camp from under the DiscipleGuide

umbrella. It was reported that the camp has experienced financial challenges which, if not reversed, would call into question its future sustainability. There are both benefits and costs to the camp (as well as DiscipleGuide) as a result of the current relationship. This request to consider whether it is in the best interest of both to maintain the current structure is in keeping with the duties assigned to the council in the Principles of Cooperation. Article VIII, Section 3 C states that “the council is to recommend organizational changes in the departmental structure of the association....” No action is recommended at this time, but the request will be given attention in coming days.

On behalf of each member of the Coordinating Council I extend to you our appreciation for the trust you have granted in allowing us to serve in this capacity. We are thankful for the tremendous things God has done through the Baptist Missionary Association and we look forward to still greater things as we serve Him together.

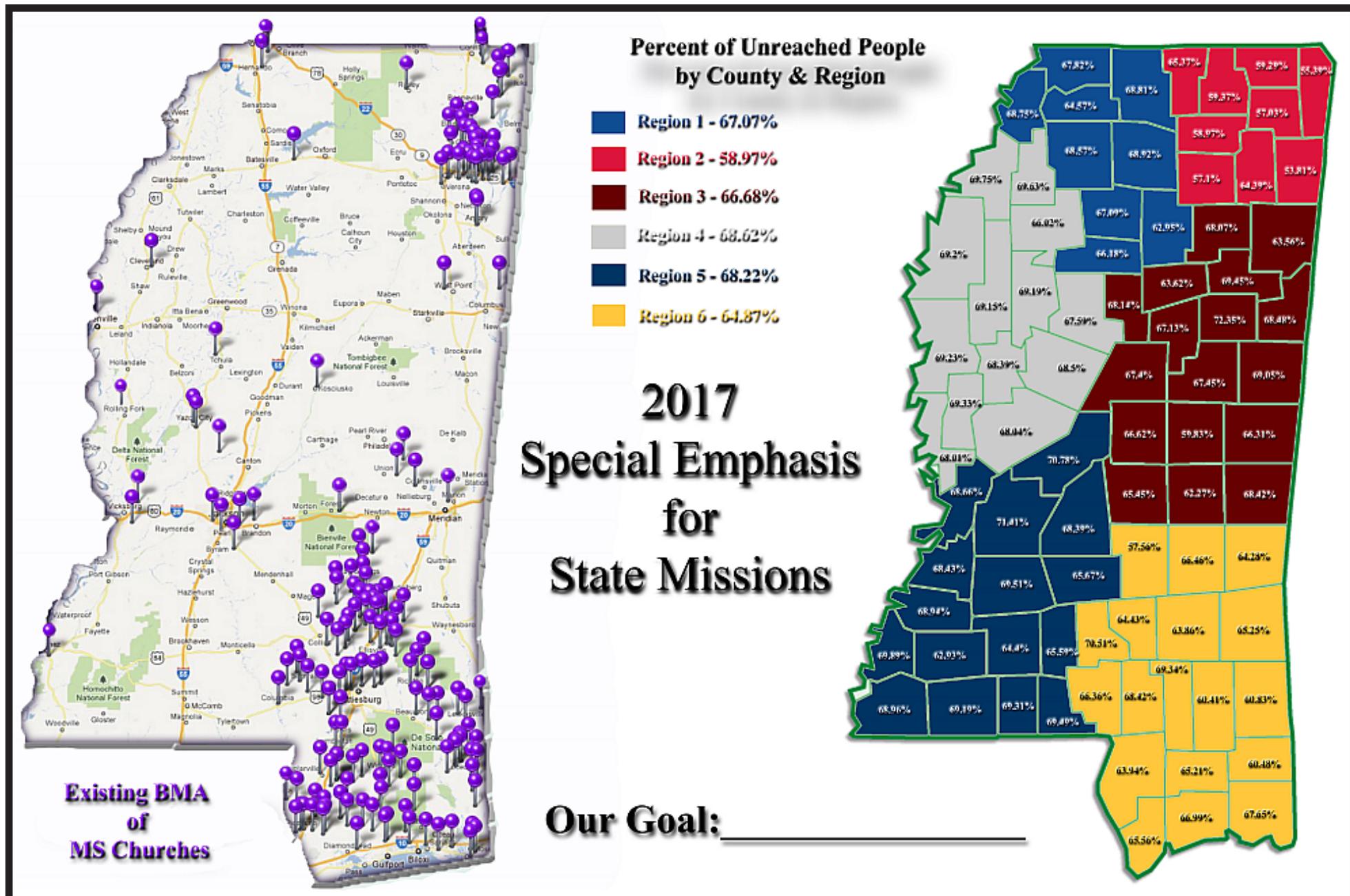
59th Annual Missions & Evangelism Conference Theme: “Contending For The Faith”

Sponsored by: BMA of Mississippi Missions Department
Hosted by: Caledonia Baptist, Caledonia, Mississippi

Music by: Bro. & Mrs. Jeff Dixon

April 22, 2017- 10:00 AM

- 10:00-10:10 Music
- 10:10-10:30 Introduction of Theme – Bro. Larry Geraldson – Jude 1-3
- 10:30-10:40 Music
- 10:40-11:15 Contending For The Faith: Rejoicing In Our Woes
Dr. Robert Burch– 1 Pet 1:1-9 (vs 7)
- 11:15-11:30 Break
- 11:30-Noon Contending For The Faith: Relying On God’s Wisdom
Josh Daniels – 1 Cor 2:1-5
- Noon – 1:30 – Lunch (Provided by the Host Church)
- 1:30-2:00 – Missionary Reports
- 2:00-2:15 – Music
- 2:15-2:45 – Contending For The Faith: Redeeming Our Weakness
Gary O’Neal – 2 Cor 4:1-11
- 2:45-3:00 – Break
- 3:00-3:15 – Music
- 3:15-3:45 – Contending For The Faith: Recalling the Wickedness
Leon Carmical – 2 Tim 3:1-17
- 3:45-4:00 – Music
- 4:00-4:30 – Contending For The Faith: Praying While We Work –
G rover Laird – Eph 6:18
- 4:30 – Dismissal

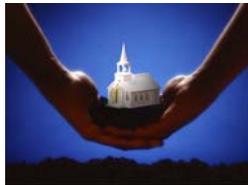


BAPTIST MISSIONARY ASSOCIATION OF MISSISSIPPI

Missions Department & Revolving Loan Fund



Larry Geraldson
Director



www.bmams.org - 601.428.8616



State Missionaries and Wives



Phillip & Dawn Burns



Kenneth & Carole Pollock



Bobby & Lesa Elliott



Danny & Brenda Bartlett



Sidney & Becky Farmer



Wesley & Holley Martin



Anders & Carla Lee



Bob & Edie Burch



Estuardo & Yasmine Marroquin



Elvis & Wendy Garcia



Ed & Patricia DuVall

Special Emphasis State Missions- (April-May)

We have 21 men devoted to missions' activity throughout the State. Three missions are organizing in 2017. One new mission project is scheduled to begin in July. Two construction projects are scheduled to begin in 2017. Promotional material was mailed to every church. If you did not receive your information, please contact us at the Missions office at 601-428-8616. Our prayer is that we will have the best Special Emphasis, yet. I want to encourage our churches to make plans to emphasize State Missions during this time. Our State Missionaries and I, are available to attend your church and share what God is doing through our missions' efforts. Feel free to contact us at 601-426-8616 to schedule a date.

Caledonia Baptist Mission Organizes as Caledonia Baptist Church

On March 18th charter members of the Caledonia Baptist Mission, led by Missionary Pastor, Dr. Robert Burch, requested and received permission from their mother church, East Fulton Baptist Church, to organize as a New Testament Church. Bro. Matt Hudson, President of the BMA of Mississippi, moderated the meeting of the presbytery and the organization service. The presbytery members included, Bro. Matt Hudson, Moderator; Bro. Bobby Elliott, Clerk; Bro. John Lewis, Pastor of East Fulton; Bro. Chad Cummins, Pastor of Evergreen Baptist; Bro. Phillip Burns, Missionary Pastor at Day Star; Bro. Kenneth Pollock, Missionary Pastor at Midway Baptist; Bro. Dennis Knight, Pastor at Paramount Baptist; Bro. Keith Kirkland, Deacon at Paramount; Bro. David Lawrence, Deacon at Caledonia; and Bro. Larry Geraldson, Director of Missions.



Pastor Robert Burch speaks to the new church...

Grace Baptist Mission in Clinton To Begin Construction

Missionary Pastor Danny Bartlett and Trustees John Pierce and Matt Martin, met with myself and Bro. John Prickett, Deacon at Paramount Baptist and Owner and Engineer of Advanced Engineering, and local Contractor Tim Prevost, at the property in Clinton to finalize our planning for the construction of a permanent church facility for Grace Baptist Mission. The process is now underway and as soon as permits are drawn, site preparation and construction will begin. Please keep this project in your prayers. We hope to have the building completed by September or October of this year.

Day Star Baptist Mission Holds Special Service

On March 19th, Day Star Baptist Mission, led by Missionary Pastor Phillip Burns, and members of their mother church, First Baptist, Bay Springs, met on their newly acquired property for a special service.



Bro. James Sprayberry, Pastor of First Baptist Church of Bay Springs, also the Mother Church of Day Star, presents Missionary Phillip Burns with a check for \$4,000

Bro. James Sprayberry, Pastor of First Baptist, Bay Springs, brought an encouraging devotional and presented Bro. Burns with a check for \$4,000.00 to apply to the principle on their land loan. Afterwards, a new

sign was unveiled that prominently announces the "Future Home" of Day Star Baptist Church.

Important Events

April 22, 59th Annual Missions & Evangelism Conference at Caledonia Baptist Church

June 3, South Forrest Baptist Mission Organization Service

July 29, Freedom Baptist Mission Organization Service

Revolving Loan Fund Update

Our RLF Fund continues to be sound with plenty of money available to loan. Our current rate of interest on loans is 4.25%. We can also loan money to refinance and pay off a loan which your church may have taken with a commercial bank.

Missions Report Continues on Page 6 (RLF bylaw change also listed)

Reports for March 2017				
	High Attendance	Membership	Total Offerings	Mother Church
BMA of Mississippi (Church Planting Coach)				
Dr. Robert Burch (Caledonia)	94	91	\$7,100.00	
BMA of Mississippi (Church Planters)				
Sidney Farmer (S. Forrest County)	50	51	\$6,656.00	Paramount
Bobby Elliott (Burnsville)	38	51	\$1,677.00	Forked Oak
Danny Bartlett (Clinton)	23	16	\$4,412.00	Wilderness
Phillip Burns (Sumrall)	19	15	\$2,354.00	First Bay Springs
Wesley Martin (Diamondhead)	26	27	\$2,429.00	Campground
Anders Lee (Southaven)	142	119	\$15,604.00	Charity
Dr. Kenneth Pollock (Batesville)	11	9	\$1,110.00	First Baptist Mantachie
BMA of Mississippi Hispanic Missions (Estuardo Marroquin - Manager)				
<i>(Estuardo Marroquin is also the Co-Pastor of El Camino, which serves as the mother church for the church plants listed below.)</i>				
El Camino Marciano Montalvo (Laurel)	134	124	\$4,095.00	
Church Planters				
Leo Adan (Hattiesburg)	32	14	\$1,579.00	El Camino
Jamie Galicia (Biloxi)	17	4	\$15.00	El Camino
Lucas Gomez (Canton)		2		El Camino
<i>(Elvis Garcia - Coordinator)</i>				
<i>(Elvis Garcia is also the Co-Pastor of Way, Truth & Life, which serves as the mother church for the church plants listed below.)</i>				
Way, Truth & Life Byron Morales (Ripley)	84	95	\$4,810.00	
Church Planters				
Humberto Regalado (Tupelo)	33	14	\$1,460.00	Way, Truth & Life
Luis Huchin (Oxford)	42	7	\$1,010.00	Way, Truth & Life
Daniel Polanco (Horn Lake)		2		Way, Truth & Life
BMA of Mississippi African American Missions (Ed DuVall - Coordinator)				
<i>(Ed DuVall is also the Sr. Pastor of Homestretch which serves as the mother church for the church plants listed below.)</i>				
Homestretch (Cleveland)	33	50	\$2,637.00	
Church Planters				
James Cook (Olive Branch)	25	19	\$2,700.00	Homestretch

Collectively, our missionaries reported 210 new contacts, 121 opportunities to share the gospel, and witnessed 11 professions of faiths, 1 baptism and 4 joined by letter in March 2017.



Members of Day Star Baptist Mission and First Baptist Bay Spring gather to raise the Future Home of sign



Don Brown
Editor

Mississippi Baptist

Journal of the Baptist Missionary Association of Mississippi

Special Offerings Vital

Each department of the BMA relies on offerings to survive. Among those offerings are regular monthly budgeted support from our churches. In addition to this regular support, special emphasis periods are assigned to each department and commission of our state work.

April and May of each year are Emphasis months for State Missions. Churches and individuals are encouraged to consider the needs of each area of our work during their assigned emphasis periods. We encourage each church to give a good offering to State Missions and help spread the Word to those who do not know Christ. Our commission from the Lord is to Go and Tell! To Go, funds are needed. Be a part of sharing the Gospel to the state of Mississippi.

Publications Emphasis Grows

The Special Emphasis time for you Publications Department was in January. We have received additional gifts since our last report. Below is a complete list as of March 29. If you gave and your gift is not listed please let us know. Words fail us to express our appreciation for your support of this ministry. God bless you and thank you!

2017 Publications Emphasis Receipts

Antioch Baptist Church	\$150.00
Ballardsville Baptist Church	\$50.00
Bethel Baptist Church	\$100.00
Buffalo Baptist Church	\$100.00
Calvary Baptist Church	\$100.00
Centerville Baptist Church	\$347.00
Community Baptist Church	\$77.00
Cypress Creek Baptist Church	\$100.00
Evergreen Baptist Church	\$100.00
First Baptist Church	\$561.00
First Baptist Church Of Calhoun	\$500.00
First Baptist Church Of Shady Grove	\$550.00
Forked Oak Baptist Church	\$63.00
Good Hope Baptist Church	\$100.00
Hopewell Baptist Church	\$56.00
Liberty Baptist Church	\$100.00
Little Creek Baptist Church	\$103.00
Magnolia Baptist Church	\$100.00
Mantachie First Baptist Church	\$100.00
Mt. Olive Baptist Church	\$100.00
New Bethany Baptist Church	\$14.00
Palestine Baptist Church	\$100.00
Parkview Baptist Church	\$150.00
Plainview Baptist Church	\$200.00
Pleasant Hill Baptist Church	\$58.00
Riverside Baptist Church	\$130.00
Rock Creek Baptist Church	\$1,000.00
Spring Hill Baptist Church	\$53.80
Union Baptist Church	\$1023.21
Washington Baptist Church	\$110.40
Westover Baptist Church	\$25.00
Wilderness Baptist Church	\$25.00
Individuals	\$4,310.00
Total	\$10,656.41

Ministering To Young People

by Anders Lee

TEENS AREN'T STUPID!

I knew that title would grab your attention. Did your forehead wrinkle up when you saw that? I wouldn't doubt it if it did. Let's face it, teenagers are the goofiest and craziest humans on the planet! You especially know that if you are on Snapchat with them! They post hilarious pics with all the new filters that are out there.

The other day I pulled up my Snapchat and one of the teens I know had spilled cheese dip on his floor. He posted a picture of himself dipping chips in it because he was "too poor to waste it." The picture was titled "God made dirt and dirt don't hurt!" I bet his Mom didn't see that!

When you see stuff like that, you could no doubt say the title of my article should be TEENS ARE STUPID! I could go on and on about stuff like that, but that's not what this article is about. We can deal with social media another time.

The reality is, since teens are known to be that way, the church just doesn't often believe they need to be taught the deep things of the Word. So, what happens when it comes time for the "youth group" meeting? We print out the latest download from some student ministry resource web page, break them off into groups, and let them discuss what they think about a trending topic. I even hear some people say, "we get our teens together on Wednesday night and play Bible trivia with them, they love that!"

Before someone thinks I'm being too harsh, let me say I do understand that some youth groups are being led by volunteers who are busier than ever. Praise God for people like that. They are doing their best for their kids. Pastor's should help them in every way possible for the sake of the teens in the church.

However, young men who are

called into ministry and are on staff, and who perhaps are going to Bible College or seminary, shouldn't be leading their kids like their



Anders Lee

stupid. Why? Because teens really aren't stupid! At school these kids are in AP English, Trigonometry, Chemistry, World Literature, French & Spanish, and the list goes on. Educators put those kinds of classes in the required curriculum for High School because teens are fully capable of comprehending it all. They are in their prime! To top that off, as believers they have the Holy Spirit within them who enables them to have a spiritual understanding of what He wrote.

So why then do we bring them to church and give them sippy cups to drink on when it comes to the Word? We dumb down the message as if they can't understand. There could be a number of reasons for that, none of which we have time to delve into.

My point is, if you really care for their spiritual development,

while they are in the prime of their life, you should be going to great lengths to train them to plunge deep into the Word. A true shepherd will lead their sheep to eat from green pastures and drink from deep cold waters! A hireling will be more concerned with the fun and the relationships.

Now I didn't say that you don't need to make youth group fun. No, not at all. I believe you can do both!!! I think you need to hook them with all the fun things, but then book them with truths from the Word! Yes, create an environment of energy and craziness, but lead them by exegetical and Christ centered teaching & preaching! They need both!

Here are a few pointers:

Make discipleship your priority! If you don't already, begin to set up an intentional engine in your ministry that makes learning and serving possible for your teens!

Plan ahead! What you teach or preach to them shouldn't be decided on Tuesday night before your Wednesday meeting. Plan out what you feel led to teach your group for a quarter, half of a year, or even a year! Equip your small group leaders or Sunday School teachers so that they aren't dumbing down what the teens are getting!

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Sofilthy's Attic by Barbara White

Senior Adult Conference



If you want to have some real fine entertainment, you oughta, attend a Mississippi Senior Adult Conference! Folks come from all around on canes, walkers, rolators, wheel chairs, or whatever it takes to get there! It is so good to see everybody! As the preacher said, "It's better to be seen than 'viewed'."

The Big Creek Church folks all seem to have the gift of hospitality because from the time you drive up 'til the time you drive off, they do everything possible to make sure you are comfortable!

There's good visiting, good singing, good preaching, and lots of good door prizes in the morning session then a GOOD dinner.

After dinner there's a lot of good singing. There are some who sit up on the "stage" to sing. I was asked to sit up there even though I knew there were many others who were better singers. Well, we all had folders with the music in it that was to be sung. They got to one song and were singing it, but the music was not in my folder. So I was just singing "watermelon, watermelon, watermelon". (You can do that if you don't know the words) when director said to me, "Sing the next verse." You can imagine the calamity that caused! Oh, well, the Lord has ways of keeping us humble.

It was a most enjoyable day!!!



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Serving Christ With a Biblical World View In A Christian Atmosphere

Interim Presidents Perspective

A few years ago, ah, okay, many years ago, I was sitting in my Bible college systematic theology class when the professor stated this profound observation regarding Matthew 10:16, "Jesus said, Behold, I send you forth as sheep in the midst of wolves: be ye therefore wise as serpents, and harmless as doves. Jesus did not say, Be as harmful as wolves and as dumb as doves!"



Dr. Scott Carson
Interim President

Many Christians have done just that, hindering the advancement of the Gospel through thoughtless words and deeds. Now I'll be the first to admit that I am not perfect, though my wife often says I am (smiley face). But the truth be told, I'm pretty much as flawed as everyone else. Admit it, we all do some unwise things from time to time. However, because we can be self aware of this trait, we can allow the Word of God to speak into our hearts, thereby allowing the Spirit to transform our actions. Through this process we can become much more conformed to Christ's character.

Living in a world of skeptical non-believers can certainly be a challenge where the very landscape of American

tradition of religious tolerance is viciously turning against conservative Christians. For a disciple of Jesus, maintaining a meek and gentle spirit can be quite challenging at times.

While serving on active duty as a military chaplain, I was often asked by civilians how I was able to maintain my Christian bearing in such a tough ministry environment. My answer often included the fact that there are many, many dedicated Christians serving in uniform and we did quite well spiritually supporting one another. But also, when I was tempted to speak my mind, I was reminded of the old professor's words of wisdom. I asked myself if what I was about to say or do was beneficial or was it harmful to the reputation of Christ. Was I representing Jesus in a wise way, or was I coming across, so to speak, as a dumb disciple and thus misrepresenting our Lord? I pray we all would seek to lift the name of Jesus high in righteousness and holiness wherever we live and work!

Proverbs 2:6 states, For the Lord giveth wisdom: out of his mouth cometh knowledge and understanding. If you desire to practice better wisdom in your life, then you must be knowledgeable of the words of the Lord. Southeastern Baptist College is first and foremost a Bible college. In fact, we have been designated the best of the best among online Bible colleges in our nation two years in a row. One of the premier places to increase your knowledge of God's Holy Word and expand your capacity for godly wisdom is right here in your very own BMA of Mississippi's Southeastern Baptist College.

Television Commercial

We are excited that Southeastern Baptist College will soon have its first television commercial to be aired throughout the month of April. See the picture for more information.

Available Scholarships

No joke! \$1000 scholarships! The Arnold Knight Memorial RLF Scholarship is available every semester to Baptist Missionary Association ministers who take classes at Southeastern Baptist College. These funds are administered by the BMA of Mississippi Revolving Loan Fund. Our recruiter, Ronnie Kitchens, has all the information you need to sign up for classes and financial

aid. Contact Brother Ronnie at 601-426-6346 or

rkitchens@southeasternbaptist.edu

SBC has been awarded the Silver Award for 2017 as a military friendly college! Have you served in America's armed forces? Then you probably have Veterans Administration tuition benefits that you can use toward a free education right here at SBC. There is a time limit to your VA benefits, so I urge you to contact your local VA representative for an evaluation of your benefits. You earned them. Use them before it's too late! And remember, the Post 9-11 GI Bill is fully transferable to family members. SBC has numerous students receiving VA assistance for both online and in-classroom tuition.

An Idea

I encourage every reader of the Mississippi Baptist to seriously consider contributing toward the BMA of Mississippi's premiere school of Biblical knowledge. We were awarded the distinguished Best Online Bible College in the nation for 2016 for a reason! SBC is the best of the best when it comes to educating people in theology and the scriptures! Will you consider setting up a scholarship in your church to help educate and advance leaders in the BMA of Mississippi ministries? Pastors, youth workers, ministers of music, potential missionaries, deacons, Sunday school teachers and more will all benefit greatly in their personal walk with the Lord and be more effective in their callings. I believe every church in our work should have someone on their church staff taking classes online or in our classrooms. I encourage you to seriously consider what an education in the Bible or in Christian leadership can do to advance the Gospel in your "neck of the woods."

National Day of Prayer Breakfast

Southeastern Baptist College is partnering with local churches in the Laurel, Mississippi area to provide a community wide National Day of Prayer Breakfast at the College. The event will feature Mississippi State Senator Chris McDaniel as our special keynote speaker

with several local dignities and pastors of various local participating congregations. Breakfast will be provided free of charge by Bethlehem Baptist Church and Bethlehem Community Church. Reservations are required to ensure there is enough food and seating for those attending. The breakfast begins at 7:30 am on May 4, 2017 and will be located in the school's gymnasium. Later, there will be the annual prayer

TV Commercial Set To Run



Pictured are Jonathan McGowan of WDAM TV and Dr. Scott Carson, Interim President of Southeastern College. The college will broadcast its first local commercial to be aired during the month of April. WDAM was on campus recording on March 28. The commercial will feature many of our students, our facilities, and our programs. This will promote the school and recruit students within our local communities.

event on the City of Laurel's courthouse steps at 12 noon. Preferably, text 601-498-8832 to secure your free reservation for the prayer breakfast or call 601-426-6346.

In Memoriam Donations

I wish to thank all who have given to SBC in the memory of Brother Danny Pitts. Mrs. Helen Pitts asks for donations in memory of Brother Danny Pitts be sent to Southeastern Baptist College. You can bless your memory of him by supporting the institution and students that Brother Pitts so loved and for whom he dedicated his life. You can make a donation by mailing your check to the college at: Southeastern Baptist College, 4229 Highway 15 North, Laurel MS 39440, or using a credit card online at our website: <http://southeasternbaptist.edu/web/99/SpecialEmphasisDonationPage.aspx>

Available to Preach

Dr. Carson is available to fill the pulpit for preaching or to make a presentation about the great work and vision of Southeastern Baptist College. You can reach him at 601-433-4736 or at scarson@southeasternbaptist.edu

Anders Lee

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Meet with your parents and let them know how important youth meetings are. Tell them up front that you plan to take their kids deep into the Word. Chances are they will make getting their kids to youth much more a priority when they know that.

Bottom line, you are handling the next generation of leaders! How much will they know and how well will they be equipped when they leave your youth group? Now that's a sobering thought! So remember, TEENS AREN'T STUPID!!!

Lee is a church planter for the BMA of America and Mississippi. He is a pastor and former youth minister.

Lee may be contacted at anders.lee571@gmail.com

**State Missions Special Emphasis
April & May 2017**

From The Mind of Chuck Lee

Turkey Season Is Upon Us

I love turkey season. This is the time of new growth, fresh green leaves, and dogwood blooms. Cool mornings heat up quickly to allow a quick nap by your favorite tree as the sun rises higher in the sky. The sound of a far off gobble excites the ears and carries hope that today, today, just might be the day that you leave the woods with ole Tom hanging over your shoulder as you head to the truck.

It is also the time for ticks, spiders, and snakes. I hate ticks, spiders, and

snakes. A gobble from a love-sick turkey pales in comparison to the excitement one feels when hearing the buzz of an aggravated rattlesnake, or having the leaves suddenly transform into a coiled up copperhead at your feet. Sometimes a limb smacking you on the back of your leg can produce high pitch shrills that can cause a shock

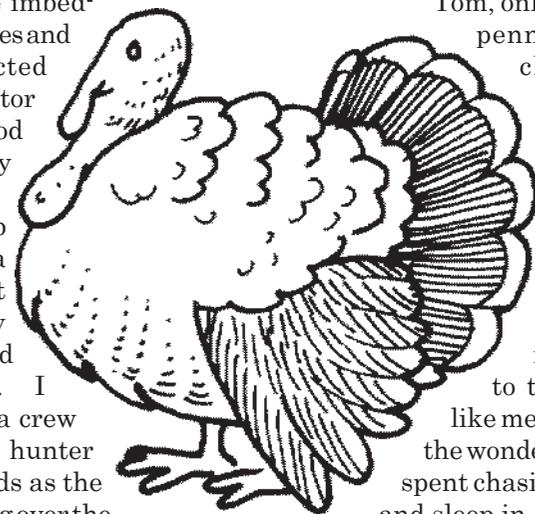


Bro. Chuck Lee

gobble, but I recommend that technique for only the most experienced woodsman.

Ticks are the silent assassin. They jump from the limbs or crawl up your legs and find the most inconvenient places to take up residence. Oftentimes they can become imbedded in hidden places and remain undetected until an ER doctor finds them. Good times, turkey hunting.

A spider web can produce a cardio workout that rivals any P90X or Richard Simmons video. I suggest a camera crew follow a turkey hunter through the woods as the sun is just peeking over the horizon and catch the footage of Grandpa, who can barely walk because of arthritis, as he walks into a spider web. They could sell millions of videos. And it wouldn't be limited to aerobics videos either. They could sell it to America's Funniest Videos, the Reclaim your Youth Society, and any Religious channel (I would suggest Charismatic TV, but that is just me). So You Think



You Can Dance might be an option as well.

Despite all of these obstacles, waking up at an unreasonable hour, walking miles upon miles, jumping at every lizard that stirs the leaves, and spending half the day sneaking up on a hot

Tom, only to find that he is penned up with the chickens in someone's backyard that borders your property, turkey hunting has an addictive effect on many a person. So tune up those slates, adjust your reeds, and head out to the woods. Or do like me, and simply recall the wonderful times already spent chasing Mr. Longbeard and sleep in, kind of like many church members on Sunday morning. Did I mention the mosquitos, red bugs, poison ivy...?

Lee serves as pastor of Pine Grove Baptist Church, Purvis. He may be reached by email at leecharles47@yahoo.com

Missions Report

Continued from page 3

Photos from Caledonia Organization



Bro. David Lawrence nominates Dr. Robert Burch to be the Pastor of Caledonia Baptist Church



Charter Members Sign the Charter Statement of Caledonia Baptist Church



Bro. John Lewis, Pastor of East Fulton Baptist Church, also the Mother Church of Caledonia, preaches the charge.



Bro. Matt Hudson, President of the BMA of Mississippi, moderates the organization service of Caledonia Baptist Church

Bylaw Change Recommendations from Revolving Loan Fund

The only proposed change is the words "of Mississippi". The entire section is being printed to allow for context.

The following will be presented to the messengers of the BMA of Mississippi when we meet for our midyear meeting in May. They are being published to inform our churches of this recommendation.

Article V – Financial Retirement And Releasing Of Mission Church – Established Church Property

Section A. Mission Properties and Buildings

1. Debt Retirement: The capital indebtedness of the mission church may be discharged through either of or a combination of the following:
 - a. Payments made by the local congregation.
 - b. Unrestricted payments: Those made in behalf of the mission by a person/s, other church/es or an association/s which do not go through the Mission office.
 - c. Restricted payments: Those made in behalf of the mission by person/s, other church/es, or an association/s made through the Mission office.
 - d. Suspension payments: Monies/payments suspended by the Revolving Loan Fund.
 - e. Forgiven payments: The forgiveness of debt by the Revolving Loan Fund.
2. Title Holding: The Revolving Loan Fund Trustees shall hold the title of any Mission Church property for any financial amount/s of indebtedness due under the following provisions:
 - a. Any unpaid accounts with the missions office.
 - b. Any unpaid restricted or suspended payments made toward the retirement of the said church's indebtedness of properties, buildings or other capital improvements.
 - c. For security reasons.
3. Title Release: The Revolving Loan Fund Trustees of the BMA of Mississippi shall release any mission church property of which the Revolving Loan Fund Trustees of the BMA of Mississippi holds title or joint title providing:
 - a. The indebtedness of the said mission church has been paid.
 - b. The said mission church from her organization date has contributed to the associational work of the BMA of Mississippi an amount equal to that which was contributed to her debt retirement through restricted and suspended payments. The responsibility of proof of for such contributions lies with the mission church.

Do Something - A Daniel Springs Story

What do you think Jesus' life was like growing up? We know from Scripture that as an adult, service and ministry characterized Christ's life, and he was known by his love and compassion toward those he came to save. Because of these clues in the Bible, we can guess that Jesus' life growing up was also characterized by service and compassion since he is the same yesterday, today and forever!

Jesus' whole life, from the time he was teaching Jewish leaders in the temple at twelve years old to his ascension into heaven when he promised to be with us always, exemplified servant leadership. He did not come to be served but to serve others. He came to Do Something.

As followers of Jesus, he has called us to mimic his lifestyle. Rather than going through the monotony of life with indifference, we have been called to serve others both physically and spiri-

tually. We are called to humbly serve the sick, crippled, hungry and outcast just as our Savior did. Instead of allowing the world to happen to us, we must be on the offensive, doing things to turn people's migrant hearts to Christ.

Daniel Springs Camp's theme for the summer of 2017 is Do Something. We hope to encourage students from fourth grade through college to follow their Creator in serving others with a heavenly-grade passion, humbly working to lead hearts to God. Jesus lived a life devoted to God at a young age and we desire to encourage our campers to follow that model.

For more information about Daniel Springs Camp and to register for summer 2017, go to danielspringscamp.com/register. We can't wait to see how God is going to spur students to Christ-likeness this summer and we hope you'll join us!

National Committee

Recommends Waxahachie for 2020

Your Committee on Arrangements visited the following prospective sites for the 2020 annual meeting of the BMAA.

- Branson Convention Center/Hilton Hotel, Branson, Missouri;
- Farley Street Baptist Church, Waxahachie, Texas.

Our recommendation to our churches is that the 2020 meeting be held at the Farley Street Baptist Church, Waxahachie, Texas, April 27-29, 2020. The Fairfield Inn & Suites/Marriott will serve as the lead hotel.

Jackie Manasco
Charles Attebery
Jerome Cooper

State WMA Project - Water for Christ

Hopefully all of our Church WMAs are busy raising funds for our State Project. Remember that along with the desperately needed water wells being drilled, the precious word of God is being shared with the lost. What a blessing - physical water and spiritual water!

Raising money for Water for Christ can be as simple as presenting the project before your church and taking a special offering on a set Sunday. Other ways could be bake sales, rummage sales, craft sales, meals where donations are taken (including spaghetti supper, soup/sandwiches, baked potato and fixings). Flowers for Mother's Day and Father's Day can also be ways to raise money. A combination of these ideas could help your WMA reach its goal.

For more ideas or clarification of the ideas listed, contact Linda Smith 601-470-1398 lsmith_55@yahoo.com or Marilyn Welborn 601-433-6859 mbwelborn49@comcast.net. Let's get busy and set a new record this year.

Money can be turned in until our state WMA meeting in October. To be included in the yearly report, money is due September 25th. Send money to Shirlene Smith, 730 Highway 533, Laurel, MS 39443.

Linda Smith
Marilyn Welborn
Project Promoters

CHURCH NEWS IN BRIEF

Temple Church, Laurel hosts revival

Temple Baptist of Laurel hosts their Spring Revival April 2-5. Lunch will follow Sunday morning services. Monday through Wednesday services will start at 6:30 P.M. Bro. David Watkins from Arkansas will be the evangelist. Come join us for a blessing!

Hopewell, Laurel sets revival

Hopewell Baptist Church near Laurel will hold revival services April 9-12. Sunday services are at 10:30 am and 5 :00 pm. Monday - Wednesday services begin at

MISSISSIPPI BAPTIST CHILDREN'S HOME

18 LOWE ROAD, LAUREL, MISSISSIPPI 39443 - (601) 426-3928
SIDNEY DAVIS - DIRECTOR



SIDNEY DAVIS

The Power of His Resurrection

In Philippians 3:10, Paul writes, "That I may know Him, and the power of His resurrection." The resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead has the power to change lives. I trust that you have allowed that power to change your life.

Praise the Lord, we serve a living Savior! The message of the gospel makes this clear. "Christ died for our sins according to the scripture...and...was buried, and...rose again the third day." 1 Corinthians 15:3-4. Jesus died to save us from sin. He paid the penalty for sin. Because of that fact sinners can be saved through faith in Jesus Christ.

Paul's very own personal testimony was, "I am crucified with Christ: nevertheless I live: yet not I, but Christ liveth in me: and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by the faith of the Son of God, who loved me, and gave himself for me." Galatians 2:20. Paul allowed the living power of Jesus Christ to go to work in his life.

Have you ever experienced the saving power of the resurrected Christ? If not, trust Christ to save you, then you will know by experience the power of His resurrection!

Memorial Offerings

We would like to express our sincere thanks to those who have made memorial offerings in memory of those who have gone on before us to meet the Lord. Your interest in the Home and its ministry is deeply appreciated. Thank you for honoring the memory of those loved ones who have departed from us and are at home with the Lord and at the same time allowing the Lord to use you to be a blessing to this worthy cause.

Nine More Weeks of School

There remains just nine more weeks of school before summer break. The students at the Home continue to keep

up with their studies. The last report before the last nine weeks reveal that we had two in elementary school to make Principal's List and one make Honor Roll. We are thankful for the achievements in their academics.

I Caught One

During spring break we had a good day fishing. Well, the girls and boys did. I had a busy time baiting hooks, untangling lines, getting fish off the hook, etc., before I heard the words, "I got another one." Well, needless to say we had a time of making memories that



"I caught one"

we will not soon forget.

Remember in Prayer and Focus Verse

Continue to remember the Home in your prayers. We are thankful that the Lord continues to shower His blessings on the ministry of the Home. "That I may know Him, and the power of His resurrection, and the fellowship of His sufferings, being made conformable unto His death." Philippians 3:10.

7:00 pm. Bro. Josh Daniels will be the evangelist.

Bro. Kenneth Flynt, pastor

Oak Grove Association Report 'Meeting dates changed'

The Oak Grove Missionary Baptist Association met with Magnolia Baptist Church in Hattiesburg on March 16. Two of our pastors made their first meeting with us representing their churches. Bro. Skip Holland is Pastor of East Main Baptist Church in Lumberton and Bro. Justin Cameron is the new Pastor at Good Hope Baptist Church in Columbia. We are so thankful to have these brethren serving with us.

Bro. Estuardo Marroquin was present to

give a report on the Hispanic work in Mississippi. Bro. Philip Burns, State Missionary at the Day Star Mission in Sumrall, was chosen by Magnolia to deliver the evening message so he gave his missionary report prior to preaching a great message.

The places for our next two meetings were set. Midway First Baptist was next in order to host the May 18 meeting, but they will also be hosting the mid-year meeting of the BMA of Mississippi which will be held on May 23. Therefore, they switched places with Mount Gilead Baptist Church, near Columbia, who will host the Oak Grove Association on May 18 and Midway First Baptist Church will be host on July 13.

Ed Steele, Reporter

COMMISSION ON *Senior Adults*

4226 Highway 15 North, Laurel, Mississippi 39440



Kenneth Flynt
Director

Wow! What a day!

Just two days ago, at this writing, almost four hundred people filled the sanctuary of Big Creek Baptist Church for the South Mississippi Senior Adult Conference. It was a pleasant site to see extra chairs placed in the aisles. Surely it was a day of worship and praise to our Lord.

Our appreciation to everyone who was in attendance. If I am not mistaken there were about 25 pastors present and that is always an encouragement to the churches. Next year's South Conference will be held on Tuesday, March 20, at Big Creek Baptist Church. The Danny Hite owl will live at Skyway Hills Baptist Church in Pearl for the next year.

North Conference Next

Now it's on to Greenwood Baptist Church, Fulton, Tuesday May 9, for the North Mississippi Senior Adult Conference and it too will be a highlight time that you don't want to miss.

If there are ministers/pastors com-

pleting 50 years in the ministry, please call the Missions office at 601-428-8616 and give needed information for plaques to be presented to those who will or have completed 50 years in 2017. Door prizes will be presented throughout the day. The oldest woman present and the oldest man present will be recognized with a special door prize. Lunch will be catered by the Dorsey Voluntary Fire Department and a super job they do.

The registration fee is \$15 per person and that includes blessings all day long.

Bro. Jeff Dixon of Yazoo City and Hillcrest Baptist Church will be our worship hour speaker. We will once again have an afternoon of Gaither Style Music presented and that is always a blessed time of singing and using many of the old-timey songs. Make plans now to be in attendance at the North Senior Adult Conference at Greenwood Baptist Church, May 9. Registration will begin at 9:00 am with the program to begin at 9:30 am. You don't want to miss this special day for our seniors

Change For A Chance



The children and youth of First Baptist Church of Shady Grove, Laurel, get involved in Missions each January and February through their "Change For A Chance" ministry. Each Sunday morning before worship services begin the kids go through the congregation collecting everyone's pocket change. The funds are used each year to support a worthwhile foreign mission project. This annual effort coincides with the National Missions Department's emphasis period and concludes on World Missions Sunday. This year our goal of \$1,500.00 was reached and surpassed. These funds will go to provide a Community Radio Station in the country of Peru via Lifeword Broadcast Ministries.

Large Crowd & Great Times at Southern Senior Conference!



Danny Stevens bringing message



Director Kenneth Flynt (far right) presents plaques for 50 years of ministry to (left to right) Brethren Gerald Givens, Kent Grice and Edward Williams.



So long till next year!