

Baptist

Mississippi

JOURNAL OF THE BAPTIST MISSIONARY ASSOCIATION OF MISSISSIPPI

August 15, 2014

www.bmaofmississippi.com

Vol. 68 No. 16

Dedication For The New BMA Headquarters Set

Dedication for the new BMA International Headquarters facility is scheduled for September 25th at 2:00 pm. Following the dedication, the public is invited to tour the new facility until 5:00 pm.

The Baptist Missionary Association of America (BMA), a group of 1,300 churches committed to sharing talents and resources in order to make disciples of all nations, has created a family of ministries. Three of those ministries will now be located in Conway. BMA Missions and DiscipleGuide



Church Resources have relocated to share facilities and a common vision with Lifeword Media Ministries, who has been a Conway resident for over 50 years. The BMA also supports the BMA Theological Seminary who has its main campus in Jacksonville, Texas and an extension

campus at Central Baptist College.

BMA Missions seeks to facilitate churches in fulfilling the Great Commission through assessment, training,

coaching and missionary care. BMA Missions helps churches mobilize missionaries by getting them to the field and sustaining them in their ministries. Presently, BMA Missions assists more than 1,000 missionary families in nearly 85 countries around the world.

DiscipleGuide Church Resources partners with local churches to help make disciples of Jesus Christ. Through print and internet-based products, DiscipleGuide creates discipleship materials that are used in hundreds of churches. Thousands attend the world-class conferences and workshops produced by DiscipleGuide. DiscipleGuide also operates Daniel Springs Baptist Camp, located in Gary, Texas, which hosts hundreds of campers each year.

Lifeword Media Ministries uses technology to take the Gospel of Jesus to the world. Through radio, television, the Internet and mobile devices, Lifeword brings the message of Christ to places and people that may be inaccessible any

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Photo Directory Planned for Annual Meeting

by the editor

At the BMA of Mississippi Annual Meeting in October, there will be a representative from Lifetouch Church Directories to take photos of pastors and church staff. Each individual will receive copies of their photo along with a copy of an Associational Directory. There will be no charge for this service. Lifetouch produces church directories for local churches. Their representative will be available to share information to those who need to update their church directory.

Each pastor and staff member of our churches are encouraged to be in attendance and take advantage of this service. We will have more information closer to the meeting.

Lifeword Sunday - Walk for the World Season Begins

This Fall Lifeword Media Ministries' flagship fundraiser will be held for the thirty-fifth time by BMA churches all over the United States. The first Walk was held in October of 1980 and was considerably longer (20 miles) than the current version (5K or 3.1 miles). One third of Lifeword's budget depends on Walk funds, but if having an actual Walk or other fundraiser is not possible, churches are encouraged to have an emphasis day, Lifeword Sunday on October 26, to learn about, pray for and give to this unique ministry.

There are two new additions to the 2014 Walk. Both church coordinators and pastors will receive free short-sleeved t-shirts just for registering their churches. T-shirts are available in long and short-sleeved. Just go to Lifeword's website (lifeword.org/walk), email Holly Meriweather at holly@lifeword.org or call 501-205-1127 to register and/or purchase T-shirts.

There are two area walks already scheduled. The Central Arkansas Area 5K Walk/Run will be on Wednesday night October 8th at the Conway High School football stadium. Bro. Paul Bearfield, son of former Harvest Gleaner Hour Executive Director Paul Bearfield and current pastor at Worden

Baptist Church in Bald Knob, will be the honored guest at that event.

Also, there will be a Northwest Arkansas Regional Walk for the World. Dan Carson, associate pastor at Temple Baptist Church in Rogers, is coordinating that

event, which is called Save the World Superhero 5K, at the Rogers Cross Country course on Lifeword Sunday October 26. Walkers will begin at 4:00 and runners at 4:30 that afternoon. There will also be a costume contest and other activities. Donny Parrish, Chief Creative Office of the BMA, will represent Lifeword and participate in that event.



Christmas in Summer

By Ralph Izard, M.D. - BMMI Director
(via Baptist Trumpet)

Today, as I look outside, it doesn't look like Christmas, but the children of Nicaragua and El Salvador are already looking forward to the arrival of the boxes that will create "Everlasting Smiles."

This is a great way to be a missionary to the children of both countries. Remember, there are thousands of children in Nicaragua and El Salvador that need to hear the message of Jesus Christ. This year all the boxes will need a Spanish Bible.

Shown below is a list of the churches that are serving as "drop off" points for the shoe boxes. If you don't have a drop off church near you, the boxes can be shipped or delivered to: BMA Building, 611 Locust Ave., Conway, AR 72034.

If you have any questions, please call Jamie at 501-455-4977

Drop Off Location

All shoe boxes must be at the BMA Building in Conway, Arkansas, by September 1. Please check with your local drop off location to find out their deadline to receive the boxes. The drop off location for Mississippi is the Brotherhood Warehouse located at the Missions office in Laurel. Call 601-428-8616 for more information.





Larry Geraldson
Director



Baptist Missionary Association of Mississippi

Department of Missions and Revolving Loan Fund



State Missionaries and Wives



Bob & Edie Burch



Kenneth & Carole
Pollock



Bobby & Lesa
Elliott



Danny & Brenda
Bartlett



Sidney & Becky
Farmer



Ray & JoAnn
Boone



Kelby & Jessie
Johnson



Phillip & Dawn
Burns



Estuardo &
Yasmine Marroquin



Elvis & Wendy
Garcia



Ed & Patricia
DuVall

601.428.8616

www.bmams.org

“For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved. How then shall they call on him in whom they have not believed? and how shall they believe in him of whom they have not heard? and how shall they hear without a preacher? And how shall they preach, except they be sent? as it is written, How beautiful are the feet of them that preach the gospel of peace, and bring glad tidings of good things!”

Rom 10:13-15

In addition to having the privilege of preaching at a number of our churches, helping in revival services, and attending a number of our local association meetings, I have had the privilege of being out on the field with a number of our missionaries and I can tell you, God has given us some really good missionaries. These men are working hard to plant churches across the State of Mississippi. Your State Missions program is ever growing and expanding. God is continually pouring out His richest blessings upon us.

Our missionaries reported 285 new contacts made in the month of July and 22 professions of faith, 9 baptisms and 15 that joined by letter. Since then, Bro. Elliott reported 14 baptized and 2 others that joined by letter.



Freedom Baptist Mission
Missionary Bobby Elliott

14 Baptized

Baptism service at Freedom Baptist Mission

Bro. Elliott is working hard to raise matching funds to apply to his Debt Reduction. He has already raised \$33,000.00 in receipts and commitments and is only \$17,000.00 away from his goal. This campaign will continue until September.

We recently located and received a verbal agreement to purchase 5 acres in Clinton, Mississippi, for Grace Baptist Mission, Missionary Danny Bartlett. We now have a contract in hand and our lawyers are going over it. Needless to say, I am excited. The Capitol Association recently voted to contribute an additional \$10,000.00 to this project, giving us enough to purchase the land and apply \$110,000.00 to the construction of the first unit building. The mission is engaged in a project to raise an additional \$50,000.00 on their

own. We are praying that the land purchase will be completed soon and we can proceed with the building of the first unit building.

Bro. Sidney Farmer and the folks at South Forrest are making good progress with the construction of



South Forest making good progress on new addition

their new sanctuary. As I write this article, they are pouring the slab. They have already begun building the walls which will begin to go up soon. I recently had the privilege of preaching for Bro. Sidney, who was recovering from hip surgery. We really enjoyed being with the folks at South Forrest and seeing Bro. Sidney. He is recovering well.

Bro. Burch continues to see growth in his attendance with high attendance in the 70's four out of the past six Sundays. He is reporting that they have 12 awaiting baptism.

Bro. Burch and Bro. Farmer have completed two years as State Missionaries. They have done an outstanding job developing their people while juggling the responsibilities of building facilities. Both have worked hard to disciple their people. Both have worked hard to train their people in the Biblical principles and precepts common to a New Testament church. Both missions have been faithful to give to missions from the start.

South Forrest and Caledonia missions are to be commended for assuming one third of the pastoral support as of August 1, 2014. Bro. Burch and Bro. Farmer are to be commended for leading their people in the right way. This follows the pattern of assuming responsibilities necessary for an eventual and successful transition from a mission to a church. It won't be long before we will hear that these two missions have matured and are ready to reproduce themselves in a new church plant.

Bro. Elvis Garcia has begun taking steps to open a third Hispanic mission. The new mission will be located in Olive Branch, Mississippi. He recently visited with the folks at New Beginnings, in Olive Branch, Pastor Alan Lunyou, and shared his vision. I visited recently with Bro. Kevin Marr, pastor of Lifepoint in Hernando who also expressed a desire to help. It won't be long before we start sharing reports

with you about the progress of the Hispanic work in Olive Branch.

Day Star Baptist Mission, in Sumrall, Missionary Phillip Burns is showing good progress. For some time now, Bro. Burns has labored hard to engage his community and build relationships. We are now beginning to see the results. The past 7 weeks straight he has had people from the community in his meetings with a high of 14 on some Sundays. We are excited that this has happened, even in the midst of low summer months. He continues to make new contacts and I believe this mission project is going to continue to grow.

Bro. Estuardo reported that they will be having their annual camp on August 30-31st. They have 7 presently awaiting baptism that will be baptized at the end of camp. He continues to train men in their Bible Institute and recently some of those men preached their first sermon to the Institute mem-

bers.

Much more could be said but let me close by saying we have scheduled the interview of a new missionary and I have hopes of opening another new mission project this year, Lord willing. I will be sharing more information about this in the days to come.

We have ended the year in the black and as I write this article, the auditors are in the office and their team of 4 will spend the entire week combing through our books. We welcome their inspection and look forward to their findings.

Revolving Loan Fund (as of August 11, 2014 and since August 1st, 2014)

Gross assets are now at \$19,082,422.00, an increase of \$486,601.00 since August 1st. Net assets



Rodolfo Galicia preaches his first sermon at El Camino Bible Institute



Hermelindo Méndez preaches his first sermon in homiletics class at El Camino's Bible Institute.

continued on page 3

Southeastern Baptist College

Danny Pitts - Interim President

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



Danny Pitts

Serving Christ With a Biblical World View In A Christian Atmosphere

Registration for the Fall Semester began August 11, 2014. The first classes start on Monday, August 18th. You still have plenty of time to be a part of your college in Laurel. We have room for you. The offices are open Monday through Wednesday. Everyone who desires to take some courses at Southeastern Baptist College, but wonders about the cost and details, is encouraged to contact Ronnie Kitchens at 601-426-6346 or at rkitchens@southeasternbaptist.edu.

Extension Class Offered

An extension class is scheduled this fall at Campground Baptist Church on the Mississippi Gulf Coast. "Biblical Manners and Customs" will be taught on Thursday nights beginning on August 21st. Anyone interested is encouraged to contact Pastor Brian Atwood at 228-224-6466.

Physical Improvements

Substantial work has been done on the Faculty House, the President's Home,

and a dorm during the past few months. Much more repair will be required. See Dennis Rankin if you would like to contribute financially or use special building skills for the Lord. He can be reached at 251-666-5618.

Classes to Teach

Beginning on August 18, I will be teaching Old Testament Survey and Christian Doctrine I on Monday and Tuesday mornings. Having taught Old Testament Survey for SBC and the BMA Seminary in the past, I am excited about the opportunity to give some students a bird's eye view of the Old Testament. The introduction to each of the 39 books will include Background Information, Basic Divisions (Simply Put and a Survey Presentation outline), and Beautiful Truths (Principles of Magnitude and Pictures of the Messiah).

I was more alliterative back when I planned the arrangement of those thoughts. Christian Doctrine will deal with the Bible, God, Christ, and the Holy

Spirit. Experienced pastors, Sunday School teachers, and laypeople who want a better understanding of Scripture will profit from these courses. You can sign-up at 8:00 AM on August 18.

Visitor From Our Past

Another example showing Southeastern's history of having connection with quality people appeared a few weeks ago. Dr. Joe Nesom came by the college. He had grown up with membership at North Laurel and Parkview Baptist Churches. While serving in a staff position at Big Creek, he taught at Southeastern for three years during the 1960s. He went on to attend New Orleans Theological Seminary. After receiving his doctorate there, he taught at that seminary for five years. He has been pastor of First Baptist Church of Jackson, Louisiana for over thirty years.

He wrote a book entitled *Be Sure What You Believe: The Christian Faith Simply Explained* which can still be found on Amazon. After a time of reminiscing, he gave \$100 to the 10X10 program in memory of Dr. D.N. Jackson. Dr. Jackson was pastor at Parkview for several years and the first President of Southeastern Baptist College.

Thanks to everyone for your support.

Special Emphasis Continues
Through August
Please Help With Our Needs

Missions

from page 2

are now at \$2,988,145.00, an increase of \$42,517.00 since August 1st. We have 0 new loans totaling \$0 since August 1st. Our current loan rate is 4.25%. If your church is in need of a loan to expand or build new facilities, we encourage you to give us a call.

Visit Our Website and Facebook Page

Our website is www.bmams.org. Like our Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/bmamsmissions>.

Missionary Statistics

Reports for July 2014			
	High Attendance	Membership	Total Offerings
Church Planters			
Bob Burch	76	27	\$4,390.00
Bobby Elliott	70	45	\$2,205.00
Sidney Farmer	55	31	\$5,991.00
Kelby Johnson	12	14	\$510.00
Danny Bartlett	15	6	\$1,508.00
Phillip Burns	13	4	\$563.00
Ray Boone	New Heart Baptist Church organized as a New Testament Church in March.		
Hispanic Missions - South (Estuardo Marroquin - Coordinator)			
Hattiesburg	26	11	\$871.00
Biloxi	12	3	n/a
Laurel	120	98	\$4,703.00
Hispanic Missions - North (Elvis Garcia - Coordinator)			
Tupelo	25	16	\$196.00
Oxford	40	3	\$230.00
Ripley	89	75	\$3,126.00
African American Missions - (Ed DuVall - Coordinator)			
Indianola	All Nations Baptist Church organized as a New Testament Church in June.		
Olive Branch	19	13	\$1,640.00
Cleveland	26	50	\$2,410.00
Collectively, our missionaries reported 285 new contacts, shared the gospel 209 times, and had 22 professions of faith, 9 baptisms and had 15 join by letter.			

Work at Southeastern College Continues

Workers and Funds Still Needed

by Dennis Rankin, SBC Trustee & Volunteer Worker

Most everyone in our work is familiar with Kimberly Parker who works at the Missions Office in Laurel. She and her husband Adam are recent graduates of Southeastern and are newlyweds. They are staying in the top floor of Hilbun



Rankin points out repairs to apartment deck

Hall, the old girls dorm, in the apartment Dr. & Mrs. Gerald Kellar used to live in.

My wife and I have been preparing the bottom floor for the students to move into, with only 2 weeks to finish and get out before school starts.

One morning while spraying wasps, I was in the back, below Kimberly's deck. It was shocking to see the deplorable condition of the deck. I told Bro. Pitts that there was an emergency situation that could wait no longer to be addressed. Surely a guardian angel must have been watching over these young people. They had to put chairs over the holes in the boards to keep from falling through.

When pulling one of the rails trying to fasten it in place, it broke in my hands. I was glad I wasn't pushing it.

I thought about Kimberly walking on that deck (she is about the same age as my oldest granddaughter). Picture your granddaughter in such a precarious position.

Like I said, it was Dr. Kellar's place and built for him. Mrs. Bond estimates the



Deck Needing Repair

deck is about 25 years old.

Roger Jefcoat and I, along with Bobby Lowe and Denny Johnson, got out and worked to make it safe, but more needs to be done. Will you help by sending an offering to the Missions Office College Maintenance Fund? Their address is 4226 Highway 15 North, Laurel, MS 39440.

This is different than sprucing up to make a good impression - this is a matter of safety.

We would like to thank each one who has contributed to the maintenance fund and also the ones who have come to the college to physically help with the projects that have been worked on so far.

Dedication For Headquarters Set

continued from page 1

other way. Presently broadcasting 48 unique programs in 35 languages, Lifeword has a potential listening audience of tens of millions.

Also housed in the new BMA International Headquarters is the BMA Foundation, an endowment ministry that seeks to fund missionary endeavors around the world. In addition, a professional production team of web, print, video and audio engineers complete with audio and video studios are located in the facility.

BMA International Headquarters is located at 611 Locust Street in Conway, Arkansas. For future information about the dedication call 501.329.6891 ext. 3833. For more information concerning the ministries of the BMA of America visit the following sites:

www.bmamsmissions.org
www.discipleguide.org
www.lifeword.org
www.bmats.edu

**Baptist Missionary Association
of Mississippi**

www.bmaofmississippi.com

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Mississippi Baptist Paper

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601-426-3293

Southeastern Baptist College

4229 Highway 15 North
Laurel, MS 39440
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State Youth Department

4226 Highway 15 North
Laurel, MS 39440
662-397-6832

Baptist Children's Home

118 Lowe Rd., Laurel, MS 39443
601-426-3928

Missions & Revolving Loan Fund

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

Commission on Senior Adults

4226 Highway 15 North
Laurel, MS 39440
601-729-3198

History & Archives Commission

4229 Highway 15 North
Laurel, MS 39440
601-729-8098

Moral Action

P.O. Box 88, Mantachie, MS 38855



Don Brown

**Mississippi
Baptist**

Journal of the Baptist Missionary Association of Mississippi

Don Brown - Editor

Opinion Page

Against Christ Around The World

There is no shortage of news that can be had concerning Christian missions and the efforts of Christians around the world.

The recent outbreak of Ebola in Africa and the workers who have returned home to receive treatment seems to personalize this disease. Let us not forget the untold hundreds (and possibly thousands) who have contracted the disease and who have died. To date there is no cure or effective treatment.

News is fresh from the Middle East and from other parts of the world about the

horrible persecution of Christians. Moslems are systematically killing Christians in such a savage frenzy that it is almost unbelievable to us who are so far away and in such seemingly comfortable situations.

Around the world God's true followers are being martyred on a daily basis. In many western countries believers are being discriminated against on the job, in schools, in the military and in society in general. Reports regularly are coming from news sources of people losing their

jobs, being told they cannot have a Bible at work, and that their religious jewelry offends others.

Truly, Satan is alive and at work in the world today. He has untold millions doing his work and blindly following his lead. As we see these things happening, and believing in our hearts that God's time table is being fulfilled, let us take heart and boldly proclaim Christ to the world. He is our hope and the only hope for mankind.

Do not be disheartened by the condition of the world, but be encouraged because we have a Savior who saves and who is the ultimate victor!

Missionary Offers Thanks

**by Prashant Prakash
Missionary to India**

With a grateful heart I write to you and thank you for your faithful support and prayers to missions. Every time there has been a need you have provided with a joyful heart. My family and I returned back to India after being on the furlough for 4 months. The trip has been extremely fruitful in many ways. We had the opportunity to meet many old friends and at the same time made



Prashant Prakash Family

new friends. We thank the Lord for this wonderful blessing.

Reviving the children's home by raising new partners was the primary focus. Over the years as the ministry grew it had become difficult to provide and manage the home with the limited resources. Children's home in India is much of a need today. Thousands die everyday because of malnutrition and common diseases. Difficult condition of large number of people have forced many children to the streets. Street children are a common sight in India. The problem is the country is not investing in its children and hence there is no hope for the leadership for the future. Secondly, the most important factor is these beautiful children are left without an opportunity to have an encounter with Jesus. In the midst of this, God has a plan and a future for them through us. Various ministries carried out through the

BMAA through the years have been instrumental in helping thousands of deprived children in the past. Our efforts will continue.

Isaiah 58:7-8 - Is it not to deal thy bread to the hungry, and that thou bring the poor that are cast out to thy house? when thou seest the naked, that thou cover him; and that thou hide not thyself from thine own flesh?

Various ministers play a very important role in developing leaders in the region. Leadership training for a ministry is much needed today. A large number have never had any formal training in the ministry. A few of them might have had some training that was not well equipped to train. A reason for the limitation of church growth is the problem with no adequate Christian education material for spiritual growth and nurture of new believers. One of our present challenges is to focus on the ministry of teaching and training tomorrow's leaders and developing Christian education material for rural believers.

An opportunity to share Jesus with 1600 children everyday is just an amazing! The Christian schools established in the region over the years have educated thousands of underprivileged who had no hope for the future. Not only has this ministry given them a solid foundation through education, but also has shared Jesus with them. All this was possible because of partners like you who stood by, prayed, gave and most important, believed in us to do the work in India.

These are exciting times. I invite you to pray with us and support us in our efforts to train tomorrow's leaders. Nothing should hold us back as God opens doors and opportunity to make an impact.

NOTE: Offerings should be sent to the BMA of America Missions Office in Conway, Arkansas.

**Mississippi
Baptist**

USPS 353-960
P.O. Box 8181
Laurel, Mississippi 39441-8000

Phone 601-426-3293

PRICE

\$20.00 Per Year by Mail
\$15.00 Per Year by Email
CHURCH PLAN
\$ 1.30 Per Month per Family

Don J. Brown, Editor

E-Mail - editor@msbaptist.org
Web site www.msbaptist.org

Published on the 1st and 15th of each month by the Baptist Missionary Association of Mississippi. Periodical postage paid at Hattiesburg, Mississippi 39402.

Postmaster: Send address changes to the *Mississippi Baptist Paper*, P.O. Box 8181, Laurel, MS 39441-8000.



**Sofilthy's
Attic**

by Barbara White

It Is What It Is

I read a sign the other day that said, "It is what it is, but it will become what you make of it."

I studied that a while and then came to the conclusion that acceptance is a big part of that. We all have things that come into our life that the only way we can handle it is to just accept it, then get on with life as it has become. Just knowing and accepting the fact that God is in control helps a heap!!!

When someone dismisses me with a "Have a good day." I usually reply "I'm planning to and that's half the battle." That sometimes gets a funny look, but sometimes the person agrees with me. Do you agree? If so get up everyday planning to have a good day remembering "This is the day which the Lord has made, we will rejoice and be glad in it." Psalms 118:24

TOO MANY RULES

After the pre-kindergarten graduation exercise, I had lunch with one of the alumnae. She invited me to the diminutive table and chairs for a lunch of peanut butter and jelly sandwiches, carrot sticks, fruit salad, and of course milk and cookies for desert. As we were enjoying our bounteous repast I asked her a question.

“Now that you have completed pre-k, how do you think next year will be as you go to kindergarten?”



She quickly and firmly replied to me: “I’m not going to kindergarten next year.”

Astonished, I responded with another question: “Why are you not going to kindergarten next year?”

With full assurance of her little soul she told me why she was not going to kindergarten next year: “There are too many rules in kindergarten!”

“What sort of rules are there in kindergarten that would prevent you from going?” I asked.

“You can’t run to the lunch

room. You have to walk with the rest of the class. I like to run to the lunch room. I like lunch. So I don’t think I will go to kindergarten next year.”

And that was the full disclosure of the “too many rules” kind of situation this young girl saw herself grappling with, so she opted out of going to kindergarten next year.

This young lady faced too many rules to see her way clear to live life to the fullest. This is true of many of us today. When one moves from one place to another with a new job, friends, situations, locations, life conditions, or even a cultural shift, there are too many rules to follow. It makes life confusing.

Jesus was asked once what is the “greatest rule.” The questioner no doubt had reference to the over 600 Jewish rules that were in place for all to try to scrupulously keep each day—what a hard life!

Jesus gave a straightforward and simple response as to the “greatest rule” to keep: “Love

Leave It To Cleaver

Tony Cleaver

Seminary’s Need “Met and Exceeded”

by Dean Philip Attebery

On behalf of the BMA Seminary’s students, staff, faculty, administration and trustees, I would like to express a great deal of appreciation to those who have responded to our recent appeal for funds. At the end of July, President Charley Holmes informed seminary friends by letter and social media of the need to repair roofing

the Lord with all your heart, mind, and soul. And love your neighbor as yourself.”

That is not too many rules to keep. Jesus by His death, burial, and resurrection, has empowered all of us to keep the rules as we come to him by faith. We trust Him for keeping the rules as we turn from our struggling and bumbling self to being His kind of people.

I hope your day today does not have too many rules that boggle your mind. When you find yourself running to lunch, remember you are “supposed to walk” to get to the cafeteria. Remember too, the keeping of rules has been fulfilled by Jesus. He wants us to have life and have it abundantly through His grace.

on the seminary’s main building.

Your quick and thorough response has both met and ex-

ing, worship and disciple making.

We are grateful that the extra funds you provided will also



Crew at work on Seminary roof

ceeded the amount needed to pay for the repairs. Such support and promptness is very encouraging and will help us continue our task of training students to serve the Lord through Christ-centered preach-

allow us to address the roof’s collateral damage to our ceiling and other maintenance issues related to our building. Thanks again, and may the Lord bless our churches and ministries as we work together to please Him!



Pastors Oasis

September 29 - October 1, 2014
Hilton Convention Center, Branson, Missouri
To register go to discipleguide.org/pastorsoasis

 Jonathan Falwell	 Babbie Mason	 Acts of Renewal	 Sandi Patty	 Michael Jr.
 Scott Attebery	 Jason Aultman	 Henry Horton	 Travis Sellers	



Women's Missionary Auxiliary

President - Jessica Hayden
3208 Hwy 29 North
Soso, MS 39480
662-251-0455
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Corresponding Secretary
Mrs. Shirlene Smith
730 Hwy 533, Laurel, MS 39443
601-729-5638

Hobolochitto District WMA Report

The Hobolochitto District WMA met July 26 2014, at Westlawn Baptist Church. The opening song was entitled "Bring Them In" and prayer was led by Bro. Willie Tebo. There was a short devotion on the election of officers, with encouragement for the ladies to get involved in the work of the Lord.

We held the election of offic-

ers for the coming year. The new president is Beverly Lumkin and Vice-president is Jean Dunn. The attendance banner was awarded to Lee's Chapel #2. The next meeting place will be at Benville Baptist Church October 25 at 10:00 am. The closing prayer and blessing on the food was given by Bro. Greg Lott. A wonderful lunch was enjoyed by all.

Debbie Lott, Reporter

Mississippi was well represented at National GMA Camp



Congratulations to National Alternate Miss GMA Clara Williams from Paramount Baptist Church in Perkinston and National Junior Miss GMA Kayley Philips from Bethel Baptist Church in Fulton.

Mississippi State WMA Corresponding Secretary's Report

August 4, 2014
by Shirlene Smith

Total to Account for	\$ 14,496.97
General Fund	\$ 8,341.77
75% Project	1,665.32
Ladies' Retreat Fund	4,489.88
Total to Account fo	\$14,496.97

Project to Date:

75% Ladies' Ministry in Ghana, Africa	\$ 1,665.32
25% General Fund plus Designated Offering	691.43
Total to Date	\$ 2,356.75

Please mail all offerings for the Mississippi State Project to: Shirlene Smith; 730 Hwy 533, Laurel, MS 39443.

These funds should be mailed by September 25. Books close September 30. Thanks for your cooperation. God bless each one.

New Book From DiscipleGuide

DiscipleGuide Church Resources has released a new book entitled, *Navigate: Understanding & Pursuing God's Will*. The book, authored by DiscipleGuide Executive Director Scott Attebery, focuses on a biblical understanding of God's will and offers practical

advice for making life decisions.

Whether you are:

- Contemplating a career change
- Searching for "the one"
- Wrestling with relationships
- Agonizing over a life-changing decision
- Or rethinking your college major

This book will help you think biblically about your situation.

If you want to:

- Gain clarity in the midst of a myriad of options
- Enjoy confidence in decision making
- And honor God by exercising wisdom and discernment

Consider purchasing a copy of *Navigate* from DiscipleGuide Church Resources by going to discipleguide.org or calling 800-333-1442.

For more information on *Navigate*, or to find links for ordering a copy for your kindle, iPad or other digital device, go to navigategodswill.com.

navigate
UNDERSTANDING & PURSUING GOD'S WILL



SCOTT ATTEBERY

Dominican Pastor Passes Away

by Jesse Hales
BMA Missionary to the Dominican Republic

Some of you may remember from newsletters in the past that Bro. William, the pastor of the Sánchez church in Dominican Republic, has been fighting



Bro. William

health problems for some time now, namely cancer. Sadly he lost that fight and passed away earlier this month. As you can imagine this is an extremely difficult time for his young family and the church.

Bro. William left behind a wife and four children ages 15-11. They are still only "surviv-

Big Creek District WMA Elects Officers



Big Creek WMA officers for the 2014-15 year are (left to right front row) Jeanell Burkes, Recording Secretary; Martha McLemore, Asst. Cor. Sec.; Ruby Bynum, Cor. Sec.; Shirlene Smith, II Vice-president; Jean Jefcoat, III Vice-president; Bonnie Brown, President. Second Row (left to right) Rene Blackwell, I Vice-president; Barbara White, Song Leader and Project Promoter; Glenda Keyes, Reporter. Not pictured - Linda Smith, Asst. Rec. Sec.; Pianist, Mary Wardell, Linda Faye Dertinger, Dir. of Youth Aux.; Lane Flynt, Asst. Youth Dir.; Alice Kitchens, Asst. Proj. Promoter; Judy Eavenson, Historian. The Advisory Council is Leon Carmical, Don Brown, and Bryson Haden.

Mississippi GMAs

State Youth Auxiliary Director
Beth Caldwell
166 Twin Creek Rd,
Lucedale, MS 39452
601-947-6011

State GMA Promoter
Becky Farmer
464 Churchwell Road
Hattiesburg, MS 39401
601-596-1005
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GMA Camp set for March 20 & 21, 2015

by Kimberly Mitchell
Mississippi State GMA President

We are very excited to be planning another GMA retreat for all of our girls. This year's theme is "As We Go", and our theme verses are Matthew 28:19-20 and 2 Corinthians 5:20. We want to focus on witnessing this year and making sure we all know how to lead others to the Lord. As our GMA theme verse says, "[...]we are ambassadors for Christ" (2 Corinthians 5:20).

Our reason for being here on earth is to tell others about Christ and about all the wonderful things He has done for us. We need to be able to tell others why God did what He did and how that amazing gift can change our lives forever. This camp will be focusing on making us greater ambassadors. We have just recently held our first

planning meeting at the end of July and I am happy to say we have some amazing things planned. We are ready to see God work through this camp. We also are having a luau themed house party. We will have fun games such as Twister, Limbo, Bible Trivia, and many other fun and exciting games! I hope to see everyone at Camp Garaway.

If you have never attended before, we would love to see you there. Please just email Mrs. Beth Caldwell or me for any information/registration packets.

Kimberly Mitchell
MS State GMA President
mitchellkimberly17@yahoo.com
Beth Caldwell - MS State GMA Promoter
roybethc4@att.net

ing" right now and could really use your prayers. The church in Sánchez that he helped start is just over a year old. They have not only lost their pastor, they have lost a dear friend and are hurting badly. Please keep all of these people in your prayers.

While you pray for them, I

also ask that you remember the Nagua church and Pastor Omar. William was originally from the Nagua church and very close to Bro. Omar and his family. I'm sure they would all appreciate your prayers. Thank you! You don't know what it means to us to know that you pray for this ministry.

DiscipleKids Fall Preview

Have you noticed how kids are becoming more socially conscious these days? It their rush to connect with friends, kids need to know that God desires a relationship with them. He loves kids and thinks they are so important that He has provided a perfect plan of salvation through Jesus Christ! This fall's quarter of DiscipleKids will teach the children in your church that through reading God's Word and spending time with Him in prayer, they can discover how He wants them to live.



disciple
KIDS

In addition, by studying the life of Joseph this quarter, kids will learn that even when things are tough, God still has a plan and is at work accomplishing it. Kids today experience hurt, temptation, loneliness, materialism, difficulties in relationships, and need. God Can Help will teach kids that God never hurts them, that He helps them run from temptations, and that He is with them and will never forget them. Kids also will talk about forgiving others, showing compassion, and using their material possessions wisely.

DiscipleKids is the children's line of Sunday school curriculum published for the Baptist Missionary Association by DiscipleGuide Church Resources. To order, or for more information, call 1-800-333-1442 or go to discipleguide.org.

Does Your Church Know What We Believe?

What comes to mind when you hear the word "doctrine?"

In 1 Timothy 1:3 and 11, Paul instructs Timothy to "command certain people not to teach false doctrines . . . and whatever else is contrary to sound doctrine that conforms to the gospel."

Today, many people today think that doctrine is a negative, outdated term. However, we must remember that it is a

biblical word! Doctrine simply describes what we believe. Thus, the title of DiscipleGuide's upcoming Compass quarterly series is called We Believe.

Some may say, "We don't need to teach doctrine. We just preach Jesus." But as soon as you begin unpacking questions such as "Who is Jesus and what did He do?" you have begun teaching doctrine.

In writing to Timothy, Paul describes the doctrine to be taught as "sound." Doctrine must come directly from Scripture, not man's imagination. Apparently, others in Ephesus had already been teaching "false doctrines." The problem is that "false doctrine" is not always obvious. Satan disguises false teaching with just enough truth to make it difficult to tell the difference. Like poison hidden in a cup of cold water, what you don't see can hurt you no matter how good it looks.

Romans 16:18 warns against such false teachers who, "by

good words and fair speeches deceive the hearts of the simple."

That's why it is crucial to study doctrine. We must keep ourselves apprised of Biblical

truth. Our discernment will rise and fall in proportion to the amount of time we study God's Word.

Are you "ready always to give an answer to every man that asketh you a reason of the hope that is in you" (1 Peter 3:15)? How else will you be prepared to defend and communicate truth unless you think on whatever is "true, whatsoever things are honest, whatsoever things are just, whatsoever things are pure, whatsoever things are lovely, whatsoever things are of good report; if there be any virtue, and if there be any praise, think on these things" (Philippians 4:8-9)

Studying doctrine will prepare you for:

- When your co-worker asks why you go to church,
- When your children ask why they can't go to the party with their friends,
- When you question why a loved one tragically passed away,
- When a trusted friend betrays

WE BELIEVE SERIES
BMA
AMERICA

MISSISSIPPI BAPTIST CHILDREN'S HOME

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



SIDNEY DAVIS

Revival Services

We had revival services the week of July 20-24 at our home church, the First Baptist Church of Shady Grove. Our evangelist for the week was Dr. Steve Crawley, the Executive Director of Lifeword Media Ministries.

Thank you, Dr. Crawley, for the inspiring and challenging messages that you faithfully delivered from the Word of God.

During these services one of the girls at the Home made her public profession of faith in Jesus Christ as her Lord and Savior. Praise the Lord for her salvation and remember her in your prayers as she grows in the grace and knowledge of the Lord.

VBS Offerings

There are a number of Vacation Bible Schools that chose the Children's Home to give their monies to that was collected and given by the boys and girls. We would like to express our appreciation to each VBS for selecting the Home as your VBS project this year.

Picking Peas

For the past few weeks a great deal of pea picking and shelling has been taking place at the Home with the involvement of



Picking Peas

everyone at the Home. We are grateful for the Lord's blessings on the garden and praise Him for His goodness. Psalm 107:8.

First Day of School

Well, school has started back. All the boys and girls at the Home were excited to go back to school. It was especially exciting for our kindergarten boy,



First Day of School

because it was his first day of school. He really seemed to have gotten off to a good start, because word was sent to us that he did real well.

Remember in Prayer and Focus Verse

Continue to remember the girls and boys and the ministry of the Home in your prayers. Pray that God's protective hand will be upon them each day. "Let no man despise thy youth; but be thou an example of the believers, in word, in conversation, in charity, in spirit, in faith, in purity." 1 Timothy 4:12.

Navy orders Bibles removed from base hotels

The U.S. Navy has instructed housekeepers to remove Gideon-placed Bibles from every hotel room on its military bases after it received a letter from the atheist group Freedom From Religion Foundation (FFRF).

"We were told today, June 23, 2014, that due to a new policy by the CEO of NEXCOM, Rear Admiral Robert J. Bianchi, we were to remove the Bibles from you.

The person who studies doctrine "shall be like a tree planted by the rivers of water, that bringeth forth his fruit in his season; his leaf also shall not wither; and whatsoever he doeth shall prosper". Psalm 1:3

So what are you waiting for? Join in the study of our BMA doctrine this fall in the Compass adult quarterly and help your church stand strong in what we believe!

For more information, or to order, call DiscipleGuide at 1-800-333-1442 or go to discipleguide.org.



the rooms," a housekeeper told AFA in an email. "They told us to put them in boxes, where they would be taken to a donation center somewhere."

NEXCOM (Navy Exchange Service Command) issued the directive to bases offering hotel accommodations, ordering them to impound Bibles from 34 Navy Lodge locations and 24,000 Navy Gateway Inns & Suites guest

rooms on Navy bases worldwide.

The directive orders lodge managers to contact base commanders and Chaplains and facilitate removing the Bibles and other "religious material currently in the guest rooms."

The Air Force tried unsuccessfully to remove Bibles from its lodgings in 2012, but after public outcry, the Air Force reversed itself.

Southeastern College Special Emphasis
Runs Through The Month Of August.
Your Gift Is Needed & Appreciated

Getting Old Isn't For Wimps

"Getting old isn't for wimps"! I have heard my dad say this many times. He is pushing eighty, so he ought to know. There might be a few century markers out there that would call him a youngster, but let's face it, eighty is getting on up there.

What he is getting at, is that with aging comes multiple health issues, along with unexplained snaps, crackles, and pops. Exercise is limited to get-

From The Mind of



Chuck Lee

ting out of beds, chairs, vehicles, etc., and the occasional 5K marathon. These all come with an obligatory grunt and a defibrillator when needed. But the fact of the matter is, that nobody gets to a ripe old age without feeling the wrath of years...and soreness in muscles and joints.

My dad's philosophy ranks right up there with all the bril-

liant thinkers down through time. "You are gonna hurt, so quit your gripin' and get on with what years you got left"! That is just genius. However, it does have its flaws. For one, if you choose to suck it up and carry on anyway, nobody feels sorry for you. Let's face it, we all like a little pampering every once in a while, so an ache is the perfect time to receive it.

Just don't overdo it. If you complain all the time, people will avoid you like the plague because what pill you take at what time of day is just bad conversation. As a bit of advice, simply slip your drug usage in the conversation in small doses.

Well, my glasses are fogging up and my carpal tunnel is affecting my typing, so if I can get this bum knee to cooperate, I am going to get up out of this chair, take my blood pressure medicine, and get on with what life I have left.

Prisoners Bible Crusade Report

Free Bibles to Chaplains for Inmates in the USA
2,988 KJV English Bibles; 608 Spanish Bibles; Bibles totals 3,596; 300 New Testaments; 230 John/Romans; All Study Books 6,052; 1,124 Study helps, totals for all Bibles and materials to date in 2014 is 10,960. These were sent into 39 prisons. Chaplains report 427 people saved (24,077 since 1/1/2000). 12 new Chaplains requesting Bibles for the 1st time in 2014.

Two Blessings!

1. DiscipleGuide donated 6,000 "Guide to God" New Testaments to the Prisoners Bible Crusade. Our Thanks to Brethren Ronnie Green and Jerome Cooper for helping with us getting them.

2. Pastor Jerry Eastes and Heritage Baptist Church in Woolmarket, Mississippi, has donated 504 whole KJV Bibles to the Crusade for Prisoners, thank you pastor and Church!!!

Note! In practicing Matt. 22:9. I have sent letters to 40 chaplains in 5 different states prisons. I simple ask the Chaplains if we can help them with Bibles. 12 new Chaplain's requests came from this outreach.

Our Thanks for all the support and prayers for this ministry to Prisoners with God's Holy Word Serving His Servants

Paul E. Lee, Director
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CHURCH NEWS



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

Church Seeks Pastor

Greenwood Baptist Church, 1400 Greenwood Church Road, Fulton MS 38843, is seeking a full time pastor.

Resumes may be sent to greenwoodbma@gmail.com or for more information call Thomas Brown at 662-862-9375.

Mt. Moriah Celebrates 160 Years

Mt. Moriah Baptist Church in Ellisville will be celebrating their 160th Anniversary with a Celebration Sunday & Revival on August 24th - 29th, 2014. Bro. Dewitt Bain will be preaching. Please join us Sunday at 11:00 am, noon meal and afternoon service to follow. The services on Monday - Friday will begin at 7:00 each evening. We invite you to come celebrate with us! If you need directions, please contact the church at 601-428-8004.

East Central Report

The East Central Association met with Central Baptist Church and Pastor I.L. (Shot) Stenson. Bro. Bobby Elliott brought the evening message. Reports were head from Bro. Larry Geraldson, state missions; Bro. Phillip Burns, Bro. Jeff Hines, Bro. Danny Bartlett, Bro. Bobby Elliott, and Bro. Paul Lee of Prisoner's Bible Crusade.

We enjoyed a time of food and fellowship after the meeting.

Henry Lott, Reporter

Harmony Report

The Harmony Association met at Westview Baptist in Oxford. After a time of food and fellowship the meeting assembled with congregational singing, followed by special music. The evening message was given by Bro Tommy Shroads.

There were 6 churches present with 34 in attendance and 1 visitor. Next month's meeting will be held at Freedom Hills Baptist Church in Burnsville. Bethel Baptist ceded their turn when Bro Bobby Elliott invited the association to meet and showcase their new building next month. Bro Elvis Garcia will bring the message and Bro Kevin Clayton will be the alternate. Reports were given by Bro Bobby Elliott, who reported 14 souls baptized recently. Bro Elvis Garcia gave a report on Hispanic ministries in Oxford, New Albany and Tupelo. Bro Sidney Davis gave a report on the Children's Home.

Tony Marolt - Reporter

Seven Warnings for Church Leaders Who Use Social Media

by Thom Rainer

If you are a church and/or Christian leader on social media, please heed the following warnings. This information is pertinent whether you are paid or volunteer, serving in a church or some other Christian organization.

Those of you who read my blog or listen to my podcasts know I am a strong proponent of Christian leaders utilizing social media. I have seen so many good things take place on the various platforms available. I have seen the gospel clearly shared and embraced on social media.

But social media is a two-edged sword. It can be used for good or great harm. And it can harm the ministries of those in Christian leadership. So, whether your platform is a blog, Twitter, Facebook, YouTube, LinkedIn, Google Plus, or many others, please note these seven warnings. Indeed, it is my prayer that you will heed these seven warnings.

* Consider anything you say on social media to be permanent. Yes, you can delete or scrub regretful things you have said on social media but, more times than not, the information can still be retrieved. And countless people take screen shots the moment they see something unwisely posted.

* You can be misunderstood often on social media. The readers or viewers usually cannot see your body language. They don't know your humor or sarcasm. If you have any question about something you will post, don't post it.

* Emoticons are not sufficient to soften what you have posted. In fact, emoticons are so ubiquitous now that many readers ignore them.

* Attacks on other people's

character or positions are considered cowardly by many. The reader or the viewer typically sees the person writing the information as one who hides behind a keyboard or microphone. They wonder if the writer would have the courage to say the same things in person.

* Too many Christian leaders are posting on social media in the heat of emotional moments. If you are angry or otherwise agitated, take a 24-hour break from social media. If not, you may regret it later.

* Churches and other Christian organizations are checking social media of Christian leaders. It has become more commonplace for churches and Christian organizations to do a social media background check of potential candidates. And I recently conversed with a pastor who was fired from his church because of something he posted on Facebook. And remember, at the risk of being redundant, most of the words or photos or videos you have posted are permanently recorded.

* The non-Christian world is watching Christians attack each other on social media. Our Christian witness is compromised again and again by our social media actions. When we say or write scathing attacks on others, non-believers see us as hypocritical, inconsistent, and unworthy of emulating.

You might be surprised how many people are watching you on social media.

And you might be surprised how many people have been hurt and angered by Christian leaders on social media. You might also be surprised how many gospel-sharing opportunities have been forfeited by unwise things posted on social media.

Be wise. Be gracious. Be kind. And be Christ-like.