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# Mississippi Baptist

JOURNAL OF THE BAPTIST MISSIONARY ASSOCIATION OF MISSISSIPPI

## Important Dates

### 2007 Pastor's Retreat

February 26 & 27, 2007  
Skyway Hills Church  
Pearl, Mississippi

### 2007 GMA Retreat

March 9th and 10th  
Camp Garaywa  
Clinton, Mississippi

### 2007 Galilean Retreat

March 16-17, 2007  
Lake Tiak O'Khata  
Louisville, Mississippi

### Missions & Evangelistic Conference

North - March 20, 2007  
South - March 22, 2007

### Senior Adult Conferences

South - March 29, 2007  
Picayune, Mississippi  
North - May 8, 2007  
Fulton, Mississippi

### Sunbeam Camp

May 4th and 5th  
Camp Garaywa  
Clinton, Mississippi

## Christian Law Firm Promotes Purity

(AgapePress) - For the fourth straight year, Liberty Counsel is helping public school students take a stand for purity this Valentine's Day. The "Day of Purity" is designed to help those students educate their peers on the value of remaining sexually pure - one benefit being the avoidance of contracting an incurable, sexually-transmitted disease.

For the annual "Day of Purity," Liberty Counsel provides flyers, shirts, and wristbands students can take to their public schools. The project began in response to the promotion of sexually charged movies, television shows, and music produced by the entertainment industry.

Liberty Counsel founder Mat Staver says the Day of Purity gives Christian students a chance to counter pop-culture messages that exalt promiscuous sexual behavior and attempt to convince teens that they should give up traditional values and explore their sexuality early and often. But as Staver points out, there is a devastating price for those who choose to go down that path.

"Sex outside of marriage or sexual promis-

cuity or [extra-marital] sexual activity... breaks up marriage [and] damages children," says Staver, noting that it also results in disease. "There's now thousands of young people every day who are infected with incurable, sexually-transmitted disease - 8,000 teens will be infected every day in America."

According to Rena Lindevaldsen, who is international coordinator for the Day of Purity, more than three million American teenagers are infected with sexually transmitted diseases each year. Combine that with the teen pregnancy rate (highest among developed countries) and the quarter-million abortions performed every year on American teens, she says, and one sees the consequences of sexual promiscuity among youth.

"These problems result directly from the failure of our society to offer clear moral guidance," Lindevaldsen says in a press release. In contrast, she explains, the Day of Purity encourages students to opt for sexual purity instead of giving in to what she calls the entertainment industry's "persistent message of sexual promiscuity."

## BMMI Mounts Relief Effort For Bolivia Flood Victims

By Phil Knott  
Director of Operations  
for Latin America

Heavy rains in almost all of the Bolivian territory have caused the overflowing of major rivers such as Rio Grande, Ichilo, Mamore and Bermejo, affecting many thousands of families in seven out of the nine departments of Bolivia. At higher elevations, landslides have destroyed roads isolating rural communities. In the eastern and northern lowland regions of Santa Cruz and Beni, the rivers are running many feet above flood stage turning the Bolivian Amazon into a vast lake. The rainy season has been exceptionally harsh due to the impact of the El Niño phenomenon. Flooding has surpassed historic levels. Furthermore, the National Meteorological Service in Bolivia predicts that heavy rains will continue over the next month.

"We're experiencing the worst crisis that I have ever seen," reports David Flores who coordinates BMA Mission efforts in Bolivia. He also added, "Pastor Eleuterio Guzman finally arrived today, desperately seeking help for people in villages along the Chapare and Mamore Rivers. Families have had to abandon



Bolivia in need of urgent flood relief.

homes, seeking higher ground or living on their small boats anchored to a tree. Entire crops of plantains and cacao have been lost. Foraging for food in the forest is almost impossible because there is hardly any dry land. There is no food left. Water is severely contaminated with debris, sewage and dead animals. The danger of widespread disease is eminent."

BMMI is mounting a relief effort to assist the Bolivian churches in helping with this need. The immediate goal is to provide a month's supply of food (staples such as rice, pasta, cooking oil) for 200 families. The esti-

mated cost is about \$50 per family. BMMI will also supply medicines - antibiotics, skin ointments, anti-diarrhea remedies and analgesics to help relieve some of the medical emergencies. A group of Bolivian medical volunteers will help administer these much needed medicines.

BMMI Director Dr. Ralph Izard said, "After consultation with Phil Knott and David Flores, it has been determined that this relief effort could be the means of saving many lives and spreading the Gospel to those in the jungles of Bolivia. BMMI needs your assistance in raising the necessary funds to meet this critical need." If you or your church would like to help, donations for this cause can be given through the Missions Department. Just mark your contribution "BMMI - Bolivia Relief" and send it to BMAA Missions, P.O. Box 30910, Little Rock, Ark 72260.

Much of this region is the focus of our Rivers of Blessings Ministry. The National Brotherhood and the National GMAs have taken this ministry as a project. The goal is to purchase a river boat to be used for ongoing church planting and medical ministries in this same area now affected by a natural disaster.

## Former Israeli U.N. Ambassador: We Must Protect Holy Sites

(AgapePress) - Author and former Israeli ambassador to the United Nations Dore Gold says it is absolutely essential that Israel be able to protect the priceless artifacts of Jerusalem that confirm both the Jewish and Christian connections to the Holy City. He believes those treasures would likely be destroyed if Muslims gain political control of the area.

Gold has written a new book called *The Fight for Jerusalem: Radical Islam, the West, and the Future of the Holy City*. In it he has included several illustrations of how Islamic terrorist groups like Al Qaeda have destroyed sacred shrines of various faiths, even those of other Muslims.

"We've heard stories of Byzantine churches

The Day of Purity is also for adults, says Staver. "Sexually purity is not just for youth, and it's not just for unmarried youth - it's for all of us," says the Christian attorney, noting that the increased availability of Internet pornography makes sexual purity "extremely important" for everyone.

that have been broken up there. We've heard stories of old Jewish artifacts from the time of the Maccabees that have been destroyed. We want to prevent that from occurring," the author notes. He says an arrangement must be found that "allows the Muslims to administer their holy sites, that allows Christians to administer their holy sites, and of course allows Jews to administer their holy sites, all under the umbrella of the sovereignty of Israel."

Gold hastens to say that he does not want to see troops sent onto the Temple Mount to force out some of the people who work there. However, he insists, "We have to make certain that the great archaeological treasures of all mankind are protected and not dug up by radical Muslims in the middle of the night who want to destroy evidence of a Jewish past, or of the traditional Christian past in Jerusalem."

Jerusalem is home to a number of holy sites and relics that must be protected, Gold asserts. The Holy City must remain under the control of a free and democratic Israel, he says, if the priceless religious antiquities there are to be protected.

Short Message Series by Rev. Grover Laird

## Signs Of His Coming

The Old Testament is filled with prophecy of our Lord's first coming to this earth. Amidst much of that prophecy is also a message that He would later return again. The fact that there would be a second coming of Christ to earth was even preached before the flood (Jude 14,15). During His first coming Jesus would often mention His second coming to earth (John 14:1-3). One of His lengthy messages was on that subject (Matthew 24). The day that He left the earth to return to the Father, angels announced that He would one day return (Acts 1:10,11). Paul and other writers often mentioned Christ's second coming. In each chapter of the first and second letter to the Thessalonians, Paul mentions it; often taking large parts of the chapter for it. There is nothing in the future that is more certain than the Second Coming of Christ.

When to expect this return of Jesus is surely the concern of many. While no one knows the day and hour, (Matthew 24:36) we can know when it is near—"But ye brethren, are not in darkness, that that day should overtake you as a thief" (I Thessalonians 5:4). The Lord has given us much information to help us to know when His return is near. He surely expects us to learn something from it. May we briefly consider some Scriptures that can help us to know when to expect Him.

The Bible tells us that when Jesus returns to earth,



Grover Laird

many of Israel would accept Him and be saved. The Lord will do a short work among the Jews at that time (Zechariah 12:10; 13:1; Romans 11:25,26). Ezekiel prophesied that this would take place in the same period of time that Israel would return to their land and rebuild it (Ezekiel 36:33-35). Since this has happened and is happening, we must be close to our Lord's return.

Jesus said that the last days would be like the days of Noah, (Matthew 24:37-39) and like the days of Lot. (Luke 17:20) Our world is looking more like those days every day. He must be close.

Paul spoke of that day and said that people would be turning from the faith, who once were true to it. (I Timothy 4:1) He described the last days as being perilous, with children being "disobedient to parents." He spoke of many being proud and highminded, and that it would be the good people who would be despised. He spoke of the people being so "pleasure-mad" until they would actually love pleasures more than they loved God. He spoke of incontinency, people following their sinful flesh wherever it carried them. He told how men's godliness would only be a form, and how they would have no judgment concerning the faith. Yet, in the midst of all of this men would be "ever learning," but never able to come to the knowledge of the truth. (II Timothy 3:1-8) Does this not sound like our day?

Dear friend, we must be in the end-time! Are you prepared to meet God? Jesus said, "Therefore be ye also ready: for in such an hour as ye think not the Son of man cometh." (Matthew 24:44) If you will receive Christ into your heart as your Saviour, He will receive you into God's family as a child (John 1:12).

## 'Chicken Feed' for Missions



Pictured above are Parkview Brotherhood officers, J.C. Harris, Vice-president (left) and Ellis Ryals, Secretary-Treasurer (right). The Brotherhood gave \$1,200.00 toward the National Brotherhood Project.

The Brotherhood of Parkview Baptist Church, Laurel, held a "Chicken Feed" (Bar-B-Q) fund-raiser to help with the National Brotherhood Project of raising funds to help purchase a boat to help with mission work in Bolivia. The boat is to be named after Bro. & Mrs. M.S. Arrington, former missionaries to Bolivia. The vessel will be used to travel the remote areas of Bolivia to help reach people who can be reached no other way. This mode of transportation is vital to a successful mission effort in this country.

## Former Mormon warns fellow Christians not to support Romney

**OneNewsNow.com** - A one-time Mormon says anyone thinking about supporting presidential hopeful Mitt Romney - a Mormon - in his White House campaign needs to be aware of what distinguishes that religious group's beliefs from Christianity.

### Hear This Report

A woman whose father was a bishop in the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints (LDS) and who is a former Mormon herself says Christians considering Mormon candidate Mitt Romney's bid for the U.S. presidency need to be reminded about the differences between Mormonism and biblical Christianity.

Writer, consultant, and business woman Tricia Erickson spent her childhood growing up in a Mormon home and knows a great deal about that religion, which she considers a cult. Now a born-again Christian, she wants to remind fellow believers that Mormons view Jesus differently than they do.

According to the LDS understanding of Jesus Christ, Erickson notes, "He was born as a mere man, and he worked his way through good works into godship." Furthermore, she says Mormons believe they are potential gods, capable of becoming divine by following the example of Christ.

So, according to the Mormons' beliefs about Christ, the Christian woman explains, "as he is now, they can and will be." They believe "that if they just do enough good works and are perfect, even as he is perfect, they will become gods themselves," she says.

Up until recently, Erickson contends, Mormons would never even describe themselves as born-again Christians. She believes many do so now because they want to gain access to mainstream Christianity, especially now that their church is facing difficulties.

"Their missionaries are not doing as well out in the field," the former Mormon woman notes, and "their numbers are going down as far as new recruits." For that reason, she says, LDS members "want to infiltrate regular Christian religions so they can bring those Christians into Mormonism under the [impression] that they're Christian, too. They're anything but."

Mitt Romney has said his Mormon faith will not be an issue as he campaigns to become president of the United States. But Erickson believes the former Massachusetts governor's presidential bid would help raise the profile of Mormonism and enhance its chances for winning new converts, so she says there is no way she can support him.

## How To Preach Without Results

by  
**Charles G. Finney**  
*Edited and paraphrased by  
Keith and Melody Green*

Let your supreme motive be to increase your own popularity - then, of course, your preaching will be suited for that purpose, and not to convert souls to Christ.

Avoid preaching doctrines that are offensive to the carnal mind, lest they should say to you, as they did of Christ, "This is a hard saying, who can hear it?" (John 6:60)

Make no distinct points, and do not disturb the consciences of your hearers, lest they become alarmed about their souls.

Avoid all illustrations, repetitions, and emphatic sentences that may compel your people to remember what you say.

Avoid all heat and earnestness in your delivery, lest you make the impression that you really believe what you say.

Address the emotions, and not the conscience, of your hearers.

Be careful not to testify from your own personal experience of the power of the Gospel, lest you should pro-

duce the conviction upon your hearers that you have something which they need.

Do not awaken uncomfortable memories by reminding your hearers of their past sins.

Denounce sin in general, but make no reference to the specific sins of your present audience.

Do not make the impression that God commands your listeners here and now to obey the truth. Do not let them think that you expect them to commit themselves right on the spot to give their hearts to God.

Leave the impression that they are expected to go away in their sins, and to consider the matter at their convenience.

Dwell much upon their inability to obey, and leave the impression that they must wait for God to change their natures.

Preach salvation by grace, but ignore the condemned and lost condition of the sinner, lest he should understand what you mean by grace, and feel his need of it.

Preach the Gospel as a remedy, but conceal or ignore the fatal disease of the sinner.

Do not speak of the spirituality of God's holy law (by which comes the knowledge of sin - Romans 3:20), lest the sinner should see his lost condition and flee from the wrath to come.

Make no appeals to the fears of sinners, but leave the impression that they have no reason to fear.

Preach Christ as an infinitely amiable and good-natured being, but ignore those scathing rebukes of sinners and hypocrites which so often made His hearers tremble.

Encourage lots of church socials, and attend them yourself.

Make it your great aim to be personally popular with all classes of your hearers.

Aim to make your hearers pleased with themselves and pleased with you, and be careful especially not to wound the feelings of anyone.

Especially avoid preaching to those who are present. Preach about sinners, but not to them. Say "they," and not "you," lest anyone should take your subject personally, and apply it to their own life, securing the salvation of their soul.

*Submitted by Anders L. Lee  
Calvary Baptist Church, Horn Lake*

## 2007 Pastor's Retreat February 26 & 27, 2007

Skyway Hills  
Baptist Church  
Pearl, Mississippi

Theme  
Standing Strong . . .  
...Pleasing Him  
II Timothy 2:1-4  
Cost \$25.00

## Church, denominational loyalty reflects longevity, participation

**NASHVILLE, Tenn. (BP)**--Research conducted for Facts & Trends magazine shows two-thirds of all American Protestant churchgoers feel they will continue attending the same church in the near future. Facts & Trends is published bimonthly by LifeWay Christian Resources of the Southern Baptist Convention. The findings are from a study conducted for Facts & Trends by Ellison Research of Phoenix among a representative sample of 1,184 adults who

attend a Protestant church in the United States at least once a month. The study examined loyalty to denominations and specific churches, as well as length and frequency of attendance. The average length of time adults have been attending the same church is 13.7 years. However, averages can be skewed by a relatively small number of people who cite very high numbers, with some churchgoers having attended the same congregation for decades. Probably a more accurate reflection of churchgoers in general is the median figure of 6.6 years, which means half of all churchgoers have been attending the same church for less time than this, and half for a greater length of time. Out of all churchgoers, 13 percent have been attending their current congregation for less than a year. Another 16 percent have been at their current church for one to two years, 11 percent for three to four years, 18 percent for five to nine years, 16 percent for 10 to 19 years and 26 percent for two decades or longer. People who are 55 or older are particularly likely to be longtime participants in the same church, with a median length of attendance of 15 years. Lutheran and Presbyterian denominations are particularly likely to have people attending the same church for years and years; the median length of attendance among Lutherans is 12.5 years, while it is 10.6 years for Presbyterian congregations. Nondenominational churches (median of 3.9 years) and Pentecostal/charismatic denominations (median of 5.0 years) are among those with the shortest time of attendance. **FREQUENCY OF INVOLVEMENT** The denominational groups most likely to show frequent attendance or participation in church (i.e. more than once a week) are Pentecostals and Baptists. In general, people attending evangelical churches are more likely to be involved more than four times per month than those attending mainline Protestant churches (46 percent to 36 percent). People under the age of 35, meanwhile, are less likely than others to be involved more than four times per month. Among all Protestant churchgoers, 30 percent typically attend services or activities at the church less than every week, 29 percent go weekly, and 41 percent attend more than once a week (which may entail one worship service and one Bible study per week, for instance). Among Lutherans, however, 46 percent attend less than weekly, while just 15 percent participate in worship or activities more than once a week. While two-thirds of all churchgoers said they definitely will continue to attend the same church in the near future, 25 percent said they "probably" will continue attending the same church, while 7 percent said they may or may not do so and 1 percent were already making plans to leave their current church. Loyalty to a specific church does not

## Southeastern Baptist College

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



Dr. Medrick Savell  
President

*Serving Christ With a Biblical World View In A Christian Atmosphere*

### Blessings from the Lord

Once again I want to thank the Lord and all His people whom He is using to supply the needs of the college. He is opening doors and blessing the college in different areas. Two recent projects have been completed. They are the new sign and organization of a choir. Some funds are still needed on each of these.

I do appreciate the interest of churches, associations, and people who are contributing financially to the college. Some are contributing to scholarship funds to assist students who need financial aid. Others contribute to the special reserve fund, the library and foundation, which supports the college in long-term needs. Still others give voluntarily of their time and equipment to assist in some work on campus.

Most of the contributions are given to the general fund to pay the many expenses, such as salaries, utilities, insurance, etc. I want to express my appreciation to so many who show

their love to the college and other areas of God's work on earth. Pray that God will use us in these last days to win the lost and bring glory to Him.

New areas for recruiting are opening up which will result in a higher enrollment. More effort in contacting prospects is being made in Christian high schools and academies. More and more of them are being invited to the campus for our college days, and we are getting better results from them. This is an area that has changed in the past few years. They are now good prospects for Southeastern. Bro. Ronnie Kitchens is our recruiter.

### Special Project

Another blessing has opened up to the college recently. A family who lives near the college is building a new home and has given their old house to the college if we will pay to move it. It is a nice, small house in fairly good condition, and it will need some repairs after it is moved. It can be used as a faculty house or for a

vary much among different types of churchgoers; there are no substantial differences by age, for example, or by gender, income levels, race or other factors. Methodists are slightly more likely than average to express loyalty to their current church, but denominational differences are few. What does vary is loyalty by length and frequency of attendance. Seventy-four percent of those who attend weekly or more definitely plan to continue attending the same congregation, compared to 48 percent of those who attend less than once a week. Similarly, 72 percent of adults who have attended the same church for four or

more years definitely plan to continue doing so, versus 62 percent among those who have attended for one to three years and 49 percent for those who have attended their current church for less than a year. **DENOMINATIONAL LOYALTY** Although most people are not planning to change churches, the study looked at denominational loyalty by asking what they would do if they had to change (for instance, if they moved to a different area). Twenty-eight percent of all churchgoers said they would only consider attending a church of the exact same denomination they attend right now, while another 41 percent

student with a family who needs a place to live.

It will cost \$8,500.00 to move it and set it up. We do not have that much available to spend on this project, so I must raise it. Therefore, I am asking people, churches, and associations who can to help us reach this goal. Some money has already been given on it. More than one person has said if this house was on an acre of land, it would be worth \$50,000.00.

We feel that this is another blessing from the Lord to provide for a need in the near future of the college.

### Summer Classes Offered

**APOL-431 - Introduction to Apologetics** - June 4-8 - Monday thru Friday, 8 a.m. - 5 p.m.

This course deals with the Biblical basis for apologetics, the logic of faith and reason, and the relationship of apologetics with theology and evangelism. Three hours credit.

This course qualifies for advanced standing at many seminaries. Call the dean's office for details.

**MA-132 - College Algebra** - June 4-28, Monday, Tuesday, Thursday - 8 a.m. - 12 p.m.

Topics covered in this course include a review of algebraic operations, functions, systems of equations, determinants, progressions, binomial theorem, permutations, combinations, induction, and theory of equations. Three hours credit.



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

### First Baptist Church, Bay Springs plans revival

Bro. Travis Plumlee will be with us in revival at First Baptist, Bay Springs from Sunday February 25th through Wednesday the 29th. Sunday services will be at 11:00 AM and 6:00 PM with the services Monday through Wednesday at 7:00 PM. We invite all that can to come and worship with us. If you can not attend please pray for this revival effort that God would truly revive his people.

Bro. James Sprayberry, Pastor

### Church to host guest speaker

Bro. Les Garrett will be at Red Creek Baptist Church February 27 - March 2 at 7:00 p.m. Learn why the KING JAMES VERSION of the Bible is the inspired, infallible, inerrant and authoritative Word of God. Our church is located at 630 Smithtown Rd./Red Creek Church Rd., Wiggins, MS. For more information contact Bro. Scotty Rayburn at 601-928-5260 or 601-928-9886. Everyone is invited! Bring your church, family and friends.

### Missouri Church seeks pastor

Grandview Missionary Baptist Church of Springfield, Missouri, is currently seeking a bi-vocational pastor. If you believe that you are lead to come in view of a call, please call Bro. Marvin McMullin at 417-833-2239 or e-mail him at donnajoyce1201@aol.com.

### Church seeks staff member

Calvary Baptist Church, Fayetteville, Arkansas, is seeking a full time Minister of Students and Outreach. Resumes may be mailed to the church at 1410 Porter Road, Fayetteville, AR 72703.

## Summer Camp Schedule 2007

**Tombigbee, Judson**  
June 4,5,6, 2007  
Tombigbee State Park

**Harmony**  
Tishomingo State Park  
June 18, 19, 20, 2007

**South Central Junior Camp**  
Gulf Coast Community College  
June 27, 28, 29, 2007

**State Junior High, Senior**  
Gulf Coast Community College  
July 11,12,13, 2007



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# Mississippi Baptist

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## Editorial



Don Brown  
Editor

### Emphasis Funds Coming In

Listed below are the totals for our 2007 Special Emphasis Drive as of February 12. Offerings that you have given are greatly appreciated and will be used wisely by this ministry. If you gave and your church is not listed, it is because we have not received your offering. We do anticipate additional offerings to be arriving over the next few weeks. Thank you for your concern and giving.

### Mississippi Senate Action

The Mississippi Senate has passed a ban on abortion (see related article on this page). This is a good thing, but it appears it will not be taken up by the House. Call your representatives and urge them to pass this much needed legislation and urge our governor to sign it. It may not stand in the federal courts, but the battle can eventually be won if we continue to fight. This is part of the fight. May God give us strength to continue to fight for the innocent.

#### 2007 Special Emphasis

Antioch Baptist Church, Taylorsville	\$150.00
Berean Baptist Church, Ellisville	\$143.15
Big Creek Baptist Church, Soso	\$100.00
Big Creek Baptist Church WMA, Soso	\$100.00
Collins, Don & Linda, Carthage	\$100.00
Community Baptist Church, Poplarville	\$128.00
Corinth Baptist Church, Lucedale	\$100.00
Corinth Baptist Church, Petal	\$100.00
Cypress Creek Baptist Church, Brooklyn	\$75.00
Ellis Ryals, Soso	\$40.00
First Baptist Church, Bay Springs	\$542.86
First Baptist Church Of Calhoun, Laurel	\$500.00
Forked Oak Baptist Church, Booneville	\$117.00
Good Hope Baptist Church, Columbia	\$64.08
Grace Baptist Church, Pass Christian	\$28.00
Harmony Baptist Church, Hurley	\$83.00
Hopewell Baptist Church, Fulton	\$100.00
Lebanon Baptist Church, Laurel	\$205.00
Lone Oak Baptist Church, West Point	\$56.00
Movella Baptist Church, Lucedale	\$65.00
New Bethany Baptist Church, Seminary	\$67.00
O'neal Road Baptist Church, Gulfport	\$168.00
Palestine Baptist Church, Bay Springs	\$100.00
Parkview Baptist Church, Laurel	\$225.00
Riverside Baptist Church, Ellisville	\$75.00
Sharon Baptist Church, Laurel	\$100.00
Shiloh Baptist Church, Ethel	\$198.20
Spencer Memorial Baptist Church, Pascagoula	\$50.00
Spring Hill Baptist Church, Laurel	\$64.00
Sycamore Baptist Church, Picayune	\$42.00
Temple Baptist Church, Biloxi	\$4.00
Ten Mile Baptist Church, Perkinston	\$27.00
Walter Johnson, Wiggins	\$30.00
Washington Baptist Church, Neely	\$28.00
Westover Baptist Church, Hattiesburg	\$90.00
Zion Baptist Church, Anguilla	\$400.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$4,465.29</b>

## Mississippi Senate passes ban on abortion

**JACKSON, Miss. (BP)--** Mississippi's Senate easily passed a bill February 7 banning most abortions, becoming the first legislative body this year to adopt a measure challenging Roe v. Wade.

Other states, including South Dakota and Utah, also are considering abortion bans.

Mississippi's bill, which would ban abortion except in cases of rape, incest and to save the mother's life, passed with a bipartisan vote of 35-4. It now goes to the state House, which passed an abortion ban last year, but may not view the bill so favorably this year. According to The Jackson Clarion-Ledger, House Public Health and Human Services Chairman Steve Holland said he had no intention of considering the bill.

But Tanya Britton, president of Pro-Life Mississippi, applauded the bill's passage.

"Mississippi needs to go on record about its position on abortion so that there is no question that people in the state, No. 1, are pro-life and No. 2, do object vehemently to the taking of the life of any child," Britton told Baptist Press. "We know the harm that abortion does to women."

Pro-lifers are split over the strategy behind the bans, which supporters acknowledge will be challenged and struck down in lower federal courts as unconstitutional. The goal, though, is to have the Supreme Court reconsider its infamous 1973 Roe decision that legalized abortion nationwide. Five of the nine Supreme Court justices are on record as supporting Roe, and some pro-lifers fear the abortion bans will lead to rulings setting bad legal precedent.

The Mississippi bill says "every human being, including those in utero, possesses a natural intrinsic right to live and has an interest in life." It also says the abortion procedure is "inherently dangerous to the psychological

and physical health of the woman."

"[A]n abortion places a woman at greater risk for psychological distress, depression, suicidal ideation and suicide than carrying her child to full term and giving birth," the bill, known as SB 2795, states.

The Senate is split 26-26 between Democrats and Republicans, although the GOP has working control because the lieutenant governor is Republican. Democrats control the House.

Last year the abortion ban failed to make it out of a House-Senate conference. With Holland's opposition, the bill may die again.

"I have no intention of taking up any pro-choice or pro-life bill," Holland said, according to The Clarion-Ledger. "I'm not going to put the

House through that again. I just don't think it's the right time. It's just the same-old, same-old that we go through. Nothing's changed with Roe v. Wade."

The Senate also passed a bill, SB 2801, that would require abortion doctors to offer the mother a view of her unborn via sonogram and a chance to hear the unborn's heartbeat. Britton said the bill is aimed at those mothers who say to themselves, "It's not really a child. It's not really alive."

"If you find yourself in that state, you're not going to hear anything that's being told to you, but maybe that heartbeat - hearing that child's heart - will make this child more real to you and will cut through all of the crisis and the panic that a woman may be experiencing at the time," she said.

### Church of the Covered Dish BY THOMAS TAPP



You must be doing SOMETHING right pastor.. the A.C.L.U. has filed suit against you.

## Letters From Our Readers

### Operation New Generation

Dear Editor,

Most of us may never have the chance to be pioneers and trailblazers in the cause of Jesus Christ in this world. However, God has presented an awesome opportunity to some young BMA missionaries to break new ground and lay a foundation for the future of missions. This program has been featured in The GLEANER, as well as in the 50 Days of Prayer and Giving Calendar.

Right now, these students are preparing for an exciting journey to one of the Creative Access Nations. They will study the language and culture of the country, learn how to relate heart-to-heart with the people, and form relationships that will lead to evange-

lism, discipleship, and church planting. Only the Lord knows how their work will prepare the way for future workers in His harvest. For security reasons, neither the missionaries nor their destination can be mentioned here.

It is my privilege to help one of these young people raise the funds necessary for this great, year-long endeavor. The total cost for his transportation, travel documents, training, tuition, and living expenses is \$12,500. Surely, for such a marvelous opportunity to carry out our Lord's commission, and win precious souls, we can provide these needs. Our church has already committed to receive a special offering on February 4. Won't you join us?

My request is that you and your church ask the Lord if He would have you give a substantial offering soon. The funds have to be raised in a timely manner to keep the program on schedule. Please send your offer-

ing made payable to:  
BMAA Missions Office  
P.O.Box 30910  
Little Rock, AR 72260-0016  
Designated: Operation New Generation/Mark  
Thank You,  
DennisMurr  
Pastor, Pilgrim Rest No.2  
Baptist Church  
Golden, Texas

### 2007 Pastor's Retreat February 26 & 27, 2007

Skyway Hills  
Baptist Church  
Pearl, Mississippi

Theme  
Standing Strong . . .  
...Pleasing Him  
II Timothy 2:1-4  
Cost \$25.00

# The Great Omission?

by Bro. Ritechus N. Dignation

I'm fired up! I just read a most disturbin' thing. It got me as depressed as a skunk who's just run out of stink juice. It seems there's this fellow preacher who don't believe lost people need savin'. And he's pastor of a Baptist Church over in Alabama. He claims his mission is not to get people ready for eternity, but help folks in the here and now. He is a part of the Cooperative Baptist Fellowship, a bunch of liberal Southern Baptist churches. He's at odds with the conservative SBC leaders, since they're tryin' to reach the Jews. He said it was con-dee-sending to Jewish people to try and convert them. Land sakes alive, I thought it was compassionate. His church has even held joint services with a local Jewish synagogue. And this guy's a Baptist preacher.

Let me begin to straighten out this mess by quoting a Jewish rabbi I've read after a whole lot. Rabbi Shaoul said, "This is a faithful saying, and

worthy of all acceptation, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners; of whom I am chief." I Timothy 1:15.

You might know this rabbi as Saul whose name was later changed to Paul. Now folks, I'm not picking on Jewish people, but if you don't have Jesus, whether Jewish or non Jewish, you don't have forgiveness of sins and a relationship with the Father. Period. Another Jewish authority said, "Neither is there salvation in any other: for there is none other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved." Acts 4:12 (Jesus is that name; verse 10).

What kind of Baptist songs do they sing in this church, if they don't believe in bringing folks to Christ? "We have heard the joyful sound, Jesus ?????, Jesus ?????." "Pass me not, Oh gentle ??????" "I love to



tell the Story." OF WHAT? How do you sing traditional hymns in a church like that? Might as well just switch to those non-offensive praise choruses.

Folks, when we cease to preach Jesus and Him crucified and risen for man's sins, all Bible teachin', spiritual work, and religious activities that follow, miss the mark. By the way, in the article I read, he never did say what his mission was. I can tell you what his mission is without the Great Commission: Nuthin'. Zip. Nada. When you throw out the Great Commission, you don't have a mission.

## Mississippi Abortion Bill Has Exceptions

A pro-life activist in Mississippi says even though the State Senate's ban on abortion contains exceptions, it's still better than no ban at all. The Mississippi Senate passed a bill this week that bans most abortions but contains three exceptions that would allow a woman to get an abortion -- rape, incest, or in cases where the mother's life is in danger. But Tonya Britton of Pro-Life Mississippi believes that in situations where a mother's life is in danger, the woman is going to seek out emergency medical attention -- not an abortionist. Britton says she would rather see a law banning all abortions. "So my personal preference is ... forget those exceptions," she says. "Just outright, let's not have any abortions, period." Britton maintains that is the preference of people who are, as she describes it, "truly pro-life" and who know that a good physician can keep a mother healthy until the baby she is carrying reaches an age where its survivability is maximized. "We know that that happens," she emphasizes. "You see it happen every day." Currently, there is only one operating abortion clinic in the State of Mississippi.

## Activist Says Wal-Mart Still Promoting Homosexuality Online

(AgapePress) - The spokesman for a conservative media watchdog group says his group is continuing its boycott of Wal-Mart, despite the corporation's announcement late last year that their support of the homosexual cultural and business agenda would cease. The American Decency Association (ADA) says there's little evidence of that from the retail giant's continued online book sales.

In November, Wal-Mart released a statement saying it would "not make corporate contributions to support or oppose highly controversial issues" not directly related to its customer service. That announcement came after the retailer faced boycotts for joining the National Gay and Lesbian



ABS \* Camp Ministry



LATRELLE WINDHAM  
DIRECTOR

P.O. Box 4247, Laurel, Mississippi 39441 • (601) 649-0502  
Email - bmayouth@comcast.net

## Summer Camp Schedule 2007

**Tombigbee, Judson**  
June 4,5,6, 2007  
Tombigbee State Park

**Harmony**  
Tishomingo State Park  
June 18, 19, 20, 2007

**South Central Junior Camp**  
Gulf Coast Community College  
June 27, 28, 29, 2007

**State Junior High, Senior**  
Gulf Coast Community College  
July 11,12,13, 2007



## "Rite Good Recipes From Sister Ritechus N Dignation"

by Shirley Harris

Well, it's finally happened. Sister Ritechus N Dignation has spoken. She is tired of being outdone by her famous husband and now has outdone him. Her first book, "Rite Good Recipes From Sister Ritechus N Dignation" has now appeared. It is a real, honest to goodness book of recipes dedicated to the memory of the mothers of both Brother and Sister RND, with old recipes from the 30's and 40's through the 80's. The recipes have an old south sound with characters and riteisms from Brother RND. The book has over 60 recipes found in over 80 pages, with the plan of salvation, and growin' instructions for new Christians. It also contains Sister Ritechus N Dignation's "Fixer Elixer fer what's Ailin' Ya."

Just take a gander at the chapters.

### Chapter 1

Main Vittles Fer the Brood  
(Main Dishes)

### Chapter 2

Oodles N Oodles of Mixin's for  
Ma's Delight (Casseroles)

### Chapter 3

"Maters, Taters & Greens That Hit  
Yore Garden Spot (Vegetable  
Dishes)

### Chapter 4

Cornpone Delights Fer yore  
Bread Basket

### Chapter 5

Quick Fixin's Fer the Young'uns  
Chapter 6 Sweet Stuff Fer Yore  
Honeybunch

You Ain't never seen such eatin' as  
this. Feast your eyes on some of the  
following bodacious dishes:

Cowlick's Favorite Swiss Steak  
Opalikus County Pork Chops  
and Rice

Company's Comin' Chicken Pot Pie  
Uncle Calemine's Catfish Parmesan  
Brother Ritechus N Dignation's  
Ravioli Casserole

Clodhopper's Chicken in a Garden  
Taters (even the tots will love)  
Ima Jean's Ice Box Biskits

Jethro's Vittles in a pan  
Fluenza's Fancy Cheese Rolls  
Uncle Joe Dan Bob's  
Cheeseburger Pie

Uncle Jelly Belly Belly's Jelly Roll

And more.

Brother Ritechus N Dignation has been set back a notch because it's already outselling both his books since coming out last week.

They're goin' faster than hot biscuits, so if you want one, email your order and I will send it immediately. You can send the money when you get it. \$12.00 covers the book and the postage.

Joseph Harris  
77 Neil Road  
Ellisville, MS 39437

## GMA Girls

GMA Promoter Beth Caldwell  
166 Twin Creek Rd,  
Lucedale, MS 39452  
601-947-6011

Sunbeam Prom. Linda Dertinger  
132 Howard Hill Road  
Soso, MS 39480  
601-729-2908

## Mississippi GMA State Camp is Nearing!

**When: March 9, 10**  
**Where: Camp Garaywa, Clinton, MS**

The Mississippi State GMA camp is almost here! The officers and ladies have been working hard to plan a fantastic camp and we are going to have a GREAT time. Our theme this year is "Walk and Work" Ephesians 2:10. Here are a few of the things we have to look forward to at camp.

**Camp Pastor.** We are excited to have Bro. Josh Spiers as our camp pastor this year. Bro. Josh is currently serving as the Associate and Youth Pastor at Mt. Carmel Baptist Church in Carriere, MS.

**Scrapbook DVDs.** Our officers are working on putting together a digital scrapbook. Copies will be available for purchase at camp. However, they need your help. Please e-mail pictures from your district or local GMA to savannah\_8890@msn.com. Be sure to include which district you are from in your e-mail!

**Snack Shop.** We always enjoy the fantastic snack shop that our ladies work so hard at each year. It is a lot of food to supply and they would greatly appreciate our help with donating the food.

They still need the following items:

Drinks (please have these already iced down)  
1 gal. Chicken Salad    1 gal. Potato Soup    1 gal. Chili  
24 Cornbread muffins    100 Hot Dogs    100 Hot Dog Buns  
2 gal. Nacho Cheese    3 gal. Dill Pickles  
2 boxes Nacho Chips    4 Lg bags Fritos

If you have any questions, please contact Mrs. Donna Lawrence at (662) 328-4645.

**Crafts.** We will be selling hand-made crafts again this year. We always have so many beautiful things. We do ask that each church would help us with this and bring crafts that you have made. You will also have the chance to make your own craft during craft time.

**Fun Stuff.** We will also be selling Candy-grams again this year along with having the officer competition. Don't forget your money so you can participate in these fun events. Remember, all of the proceeds from Candy-grams, Officer Competition, Snack Shop, Crafts, and Scrapbook DVD go toward our project! We will also have our Queen's Coronation, House Party, and much, much more! We look forward to seeing you there!

# Guidelines for Grandparents

I have talked with families before who want me to settle disputes between parents and grandparents. I can see both sides of the story. The parents feel like the grandparents have over stepped their boundaries, and the grandparents really do believe they were just trying to be helpful or nice to their grandkids. This type of disagreement is the most common. In these types of incidents clear, honest

communication will solve the problem.

In a smaller percentage of the cases there are actually inappropriate things being done by one or both parties.



**Family Ark Ministries**

Travis Plumlee

[www.travisplumlee.com](http://www.travisplumlee.com)

## Stage GMA

### President reports

Dear GMA's,

This is Savannah your State GMA President. It's almost time for camp! Just a few weeks! All of the State GMA officers have finalized the plans for camp this year. I am so excited about what God has in store! The theme this year is "Walk and Work" and the scripture is taken from Ephesians 2:10. The dates for camp are March 9th and 10th at Camp Garaywa. Brother Josh Spiers will be the Camp Pastor. I would like to encourage each one of you to begin praying for camp and Bro. Josh. We are going to have a blast! Get your scrapbooks and posters ready it will be here before you know it. I can't wait to see all of you at camp. May God Bless each of you.

Your sister in Christ,  
Savannah Smith  
State GMA President

## Sunbeam VP reports

Hey Sunbeams,

I'm Seth Mitchell your second-vice President. I'm 9 years old. I go to Mt. Carmel Baptist Church. We are having Sunbeam Camp May 4th and 5th at Camp Garaywa. The theme is "Flying High With Christ". The theme verse is Isaiah 40:31 "But they that wait upon the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles." Come to Sunbeam Camp so you can "Fly High With Christ". I hope you can come because it's gonna be really fun.

Seth Mitchell

Sometimes it is the young parents who are being unreasonable, possessive or jealous. These young parents may actually be raising their kids in an unhealthy or unholy manner. Other times, the grandparents are being manipulative, over-bearing or unfair. It would be helpful for the sake of family harmony if we set up some guidelines for grandparent behavior.

### Ask in advance before giving major gifts

I think it would help considerably if you all sit down and talk about gift-giving. The parents need to be clear on what they do not want their children to have as gifts. As an example, when our children were real young, we told the grandparents that we did not want them to receive any type of video game system for a gift. This type of gift would be a possibility when they were older, but we would let them know when we were ready for our kids to start into that whole scene. It was never an issue because we had all set down the boundaries ahead of time. Little things can be given as gifts. But if it is a major purchase, you need to ask first. Even if it is something nice, perhaps the parents don't want their child to have it just now. Grandparents can spoil grandchildren, but even this has limits. Certain types of clothing, music, movies, pets etc., should be cleared by the parents first before given.

### Activities

If your grandchild is coming for a

visit, then it would be respectful to the parents to let them know some of the activities you have planned during the stay. Perhaps the parents are uncomfortable with their child who can't swim being around the lake. Maybe you are taking the grandkid over to your friends house for a fellowship evening and the parents don't know these people. It is reasonable sometimes for them to request you not taking their kids into a home they don't know about. Maybe the parents don't want their child to see certain movies at this time. You can't possible guess all the reasons why something needs to wait, so it is better to just ask in advance and go over the schedule for the stay.

### Food

Older people grew up in a different time period. Perhaps you see nothing wrong with giving the kid a big box of candy or cokes. However, you must respect the parents if they are not wishing to expose their kids at this age to the high fat or high sugar food items. It doesn't have to make sense to you. It may not hurt the kid to give them this treat. But it shows disrespect to the parents for you to ignore the dietary desires they have for their child. Be sure you ask about food allergies as well.

### Medicine

This is a major no-no. Your grandmother may have given you a home remedy that included honey, lemon and a shot of Baptist whiskey for a cold, but for you to assume it is okay to give to your grandchild when they stay with you is out of line. I know you don't want to cause any harm to your precious grandchild and you may not be aware of all the medicines the grandchild is currently taking. When some kids take certain meds, they are not to be out in the direct sunlight. Some kids take medicines that milk products can give an adverse reaction to. Let the parents give you the medicine. You can always ask what they give their child for colds or stomach

continued on page 7

**MILITARY SERVICE PRAYER LIST** - Please remember the following as they are serving in our military. You may add names to the list by mailing them to: Mississippi Baptist, P.O. Box 8181, Laurel, MS 39441 or by email at editor@msbaptist.org.

CPT Lawson "Sonny" Brannan, *Stringer, MS*  
George Rogers, *Wiggins, MS*  
Scott Clanton, *Pineview, Lucedale*  
Miles Farragut, *FBC of Shady Grove, Laurel*  
Kenneth Smith, *Hattiesburg, MS*  
Wayne Mack, *Seminary, MS*  
Anthony Hodge, *Purvis, MS*  
Thomas Temple, *Laurel, MS*  
David Cunningham, *Forked Oak, Booneville*  
Jacob Blakeney, *Mineral Springs, Taylorsville*  
Lance Holifield, *Mineral Springs, Taylorsville*  
Phillip Holifield, *Mineral Springs, Taylorsville*  
Robert Shavers, *Pleasant Hill Baptist Church*  
Jeff Necaise, *Pleasant Hill Baptist Church*  
Michael Wright, *Pleasant Hill Baptist Church*  
Harold (Scooter) Bond, Jr., *Laurel*

Harold (Tink) Compton, *Faithview Church*  
Jeff Schonewitz, *Saucier*  
Michael Casey, *Gulfport*  
Larry "Dean" Welborn Jr., *Carnes, MS*  
Ronnie Spiers, *Westlawn, Picayune*  
Patrick Garrett, *Poplarville, MS*  
Ken Bullock, *Skyway Hills, Pearl, MS*  
Albert C. White, *Mclaurin, MS*  
Craig Landry, *Benville Church, Picayune.*  
Janet Hilbun, *Sand Hill, Lucedale, MS*  
Barron Horn, *First Baptist, Bay Springs, MS*  
Jessie David Loague, *Bethel, Fulton, MS*  
Dustin Wills, *First Windsor Park, Ocean Springs,*  
CPT. William "Lee" Henry, *Richton, MS*  
Justin Johnston, *Summerland Baptist*  
Dusty Gray

James Riley  
Joshua S. Pierce, *Corinth Church, Lucedale*  
Russell S. Taylor, *Paramount, Perkinston*  
Craig Fillingane, *Cypress Creek Baptist Church*  
Michael Patrick Boyd, *First Baptist, Bay Springs*  
Johnny R. Hunt  
Jason Rivers, *Ellisville*  
Tommy Mitchell, *Purvis*  
Jake Driskell, *Lebanon, Laurel*  
Will Norris, *First, Henleyfield*  
Russell Robertson, *Temple, Lucedale*  
Tim Cooper, *Ozark, Mantachie*  
Wesley Grissom, *Hopewell, Fulton*  
Derick Mallette, *Ramsey Creek, Saucier*  
Mary Muffler, *Ramsey Creek, Saucier*  
Jonathan Morgan, *Ramsey Creek, Saucier*

Neal Garrett, *First Baptist, Tremont, MS*  
David Palmer, *First Baptist, Tremont, MS*  
Bradly Sharp, *Bethel, Lucedale's 150th*  
Johnny Ray Hunt, *Unity, Unity, MS*  
Chuck Williams, *Sharon Baptist, Laurel*  
Cory Williams, *Sharon Baptist, Laurel*  
Jason Cotton Hillman, *Washington, Neely*  
Richard Rylee, *Richton, MS*  
Jennifer Norris, *Pleasant Hill, Mooreville*  
Thomas James Reich, *Bethel, Fulton, MS*  
Adam Martin, *Clearview, Mendenhall*  
Robert S. Burch, *Pine Ridge, Laurel*  
Adam Spiers, *Westlawn, Picayune*  
Paul Tyler, *Westlawn, Picayune*  
Jory Babin, *Westlawn, Picayune*

## "GREAT MOTHERS in Judah"

Matt. 1:1-6, 16, 21  
by Paul E. Lee, Director  
Prisoners Bible Crusade

Purpose: To show that the lives of four women outside the family of Judah (Jesus' tribe) are exact pictures of the steps of salvation for the lost sinner! Applications are made within context of given Scriptures.

## Plumlee

from page 6

aches and keep that on hand at your house. But if you don't know, don't give! Wait until you hear from the parents.

### Money

What could be wrong with giving your grandkids money? Generally nothing. Any of you who want to be a grandparent to my kids and send them money, just feel free! Ha! But the parents may want to teach their child some ways to spend, tithe and save money. If it is a large amount, it would be best to ask in advance.

Bottom line, it is simple communication. It doesn't matter if you understand what the parents are doing. It doesn't matter if you like it. It doesn't matter if you think their rules are silly. You should never undermine the way your children are trying to raise their children. It is the quickest road to burning a bridge in the family. If it is something major like letting their kids drink alcohol, or something that is spiritually damaging, then I think you can talk to the parents in private, and let them know your concern. I think you can offer Godly advice once. Beyond that, you have to pray a lot, release the outcome to God and try and influence your grandkids when you have them in your care with the most positive light you can; by showing God to your grandkids in the way you act and speak.

This is a major topic to deal with in such a short article and is not intended to present a total picture of the problems that can be associated with this area. I am hoping it can serve as a talking point to get the family praying, thinking and dialoguing about family rules. Let the Lord teach your tongue what to say and pray hard.

## AVAILABLE FOR SERVICE

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

### Alan Smith

Bro. Alan Smith's phone number was incorrect in an earlier issue. The correct number is 601-422-9641. He is a member of Fairview Baptist Church, Laurel, where Bro. Harry Burge is pastor.

Step 1, v.3 - THAMAR (Tamar) in Genesis 38:26 is a picture of RIGHTEOUS and Judah is a picture of a sinner. A lost sinner must repent and believe that Jesus is righteous. Tamar lived under different customs that are hard to understand in our day. In Deuteronomy 25:5-10 God made one of those customs into the Levirate Law. We see Tamar's righteousness in Genesis 38 when Judah failed the Law & Tamar acted to fulfill the Law that kept the blood line of Jesus pure through Judah. As Judah said of Tamar, "She hath been more righteous than I", v.26; v. 24-26, so must the lost sinner say of Jesus, He alone is righteous and I am a sinner.

Step 2, v.5 - RAHAB in Joshua 2:13 is a picture of SAVING FAITH and she exercise faith that God can and will save. By faith she recognized the true God, v.11-13 and Accepted His way of salvation, Heb. 11:31. "By faith the harlot Rahab perished not with them that believed not, when she had received the spies with peace." By faith she remained in her house a TYPE OF CHRIST!

All the walls of Jericho fell, but the wall under her house stood firm because she exercised faith that God would save her. Rahab is a great picture of Ephesians 2:8-10. There are many lost sinners who believe that Jesus was a "good man", or a "great teacher", some even believe that Jesus is "righteous," and can save them, but will not exercise faith in Him for their soul's salvation. Lost sinner you will miss heaven and go to hell if you do not exercise faith in Jesus, the only righteous one, to become a child of God!

Step 3. v.5 - RUTH in Ruth 1:16 is a picture of ONE WHO WANTED SALVATION. A lost sinner may believe that Jesus is righteous and even believe that salvation is by faith alone but, he must want Salvation. In Ruth 1:15-17 Ruth wanted salvation from her gods and old life (v.15), so we hear her say, "The Lord do so to me, and more also..." Lost sinner, you may believe that Jesus and Jesus alone is righteous, and that salvation is by faith and faith alone in His precious shed blood, but you must want to leave your old sinful life style. That means you must want repent and turn from your sins and follow Jesus in saving faith. If you don't want to be saved, you will never take step number 4.

Step 4. v.6 - BATHSHEBA In I Kings 1:17 Bathsheba is a picture of ONE ASKING FOR SALVATION. A lost sinner may believe that Jesus is righteous and even believe that salvation comes by faith alone and he may want Salvation but, a lost sinner must ask Jesus to save him or he will die and go to hell and be forever lost. Most

# CHILDREN'S HOME

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

### Food and Miscellaneous Rallies

The Oak Grove Association had their annual rally for the Home on January 18. The meeting was held with the First Baptist Church of Oak Grove near Hattiesburg and Pastor Greg Bennett. It was a joy to have an opportunity to report on the ministry of the Home and also to preach a message from God's Word.



SIDNEY DAVIS  
DIRECTOR

I was with the Capitol Association on January 19 for their annual rally for the Home. This meeting was held with the Oakland Baptist Church in Vicksburg and Interim Pastor Bud Dixon. I was delighted to be able to report on the ministry of the Home and also share a message from the Word of God to those present.

On February 5 the Ten Mile Association had their annual rally for the Home. The meeting was held with the First Baptist Church of Orange Grove in Gulfport and Pastor Warren Theriot. After reporting on the ministry of the Home I preached a message to those in attendance.

Then on February 8 the East Central Association had their annual rally for the Home. The meeting was held

with the Calvary Baptist Church near Leakesville and Pastor Greg Hillman. The meeting began with Bro. Johnny Stonecypher presenting a challenging message to the entire congregation. Afterwards I reported on the ministry of the Home.

We would like to express our appreciation to each association, church and individual who gave food and miscellaneous items as well as monetary gifts to the Home at these rallies.

### Praise God For His Blessings

Indeed it is good to give praise to the Lord! As we reflect upon the goodness of the Lord toward this ministry we are grateful and thankful for His faithfulness. It is our desire to allow the Lord to use this ministry to be a blessing to others as we labor together in service to our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. May the Lord of Heaven continue to shower His richest of blessings on the churches and ministries of the BMA of Mississippi as we serve the Lord. Praise God from whom all blessings flow.

### Special Offerings

Special offerings received since our last listing are as follow: Berean, Soso, \$451; Bethel Adult Ladies S. S. Class, Seminary, \$100; Westlawn, Picayune, \$999; Washington, Neely,

\$21; Wolf Creek, Pass Christian, \$24.16; F. B. Mantachie, \$20; Magnolia Heights, Forest, \$126.80; Mr. & Mrs. Lynwood Davis, Picayune, \$200; Good Hope, Columbia, \$500; F. B. Shady Grove, Laurel, \$200; Hopewell, Laurel, \$155; Hillcrest, Yazoo City, \$450; Karen Holifield, Laurel, \$165; Gladys Bounds, Picayune, \$100; Bethel, Bassfield, \$100; Westover, Hattiesburg, \$500; Robert & Ann Davis, Hattiesburg, \$50; Wayne & Victoria Smith, Purvis, \$50; Pine Grove, Purvis, \$200; Magnolia WMA, Hattiesburg, \$100; Oakland, Vicksburg, \$500; Skyway Hills, Pearl, \$500; Main Street, Petal, \$200; Scotland, Benton, \$200; Rodney & Vicky Crawley, Columbia, \$1,500; Lee's Chapel #2, Picayune, \$25; Community Sunbeams, Poplarville, \$25; Good Hope, Yazoo City, \$125; Patricia Cranston, Yazoo City, \$25; Spring Hill, Laurel, \$250; Evelyn B. Grantham, Purvis, \$25; Little Creek, Perkinston, \$700; James & Karen Cowart, Wiggins, \$15; Sadie & Jack Morris, Saucier, \$15; Grace, Saucier, \$100; Unity, Perkinston, \$100; Paramount, Perkinston, \$300; Temple, Biloxi, \$570; Divine Grace Mission, Long Beach, \$200; Arnold & Mary Frances Hickman, Perkinston, \$20; Plainview, Poplarville, \$245; F. B. Orange Grove, Gulfport, \$400; Ramsey Creek, Saucier, \$300; Fairhope, Beaumont, \$486; Mulberry, Richton, \$500; New Bethany Brotherhood, Ellisville, \$30; New Bethany, Ellisville, \$200.00. We deeply appreciate each of these special gifts as well as regular monthly support.

people remember Bathsheba's earlier life and miss the greater picture of her life. The real story of Bathsheba is that she was an outsider (Hittite). She was warned she would die, I Kings 1:11-12. She was told to ask for her life & Solomon's by asking David to make Solomon king, I Kings 1:13. If King David would have allowed Adonijah (picture of Satan) to continue to reign (v.11), then Bathsheba and Solomon would die (v.21).

So! we see the complete steps of salvation in the lives of the four women listed in the genealogy of Jesus. THAMAR, a picture of righteousness, Sinner, yours want do. Jesus has the only true righteousness for salvation. RAHAB, a picture of saving faith, must have faith in the righteousness of Jesus to save you, Eph. 2:8-10. RUTH, a picture of one wanting to be saved.

Must want to repent and turn from your gods, your sins and go with Jesus, Romans 10:8-10. BATHSHEBA, a picture of one asking to be saved. Sinner, God has warned you that you will die in your sins without Jesus. You must ask God for salvation by accepting His Son, Jesus Christ as King and Saviour of your life, Romans 10:13.

Step 5. v.16 - MARY in Luke 1:38 is a picture of SUBMISSION to God's will for the Christian's life.

## Denominational Loyalty

from page 3

church, and the same is true for non-denominational churches. Denominational loyalty, like church loyalty, is strongly connected with the length of time people have spent in their current congregation. The longer they have been attending the same church, the more likely they are to say they strongly prefer or would only consider a church in that same denomination. Ron Sellers, president of Ellison Research, noted that the study may help pastors think about and understand their own congregation a bit more. "In the typical Protes-

tant church, about one out of every eight people in the congregation has been attending that church for less than a year," Sellers said. "What should this mean for the typical church? Does the church have a strategic plan for involving newcomers in the life of the congregation? Does the church leadership make the assumption that everyone in the church knows how the church works and what it believes? These things are very important when so many relatively new people are in the typical congregation." Sellers also noted that it would be a mistake for individual churches or denominations to assume a level of loyalty among attendees that may not exist. "In the typical Protestant congregation, one-third of the people in the pews are not definite in their plans to continue attending that church," Sellers said. "If they were to leave, three out of 10 would not consider it a big deal to switch denominations. It's important that pastors or denominational leaders don't automatically assume the people in the pews are 'our people,' because the data suggests a significant minority don't hold a level of loyalty that would make that an accurate assumption."

## BMA of Mississippi 2007 Pastor's Retreat February 26 & 27, 2007

Skyway Hills  
Baptist Church  
Pearl, Mississippi

Theme  
Standing Strong . . .  
...Pleasing Him  
II Timothy 2:1-4

Cost \$25.00

## Commission on Senior Adults

Vern D. Holifield, Director  
4226 Highway 15 North  
Laurel, Mississippi 39440



### Greetings

It is good to greet our readers in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ. We are told to "Salute one another with an holy kiss..." (Rom. 16: 16). I feel that many of our dear people in the BMA Churches are praying for me and the Commission. I believe there is a band of Christians praying for all the work and workers, and for one another. In these trying days it is important that we hold one another up to the throne of Grace.

### Association visits

I had the privilege of visiting the Ten Mile Association's monthly meeting. It was a good meeting. We met with the First Baptist Church, Orange Grove, Gulfport. This was a special blessing to me because in November, 1959 a goodly number met under a tent and organized the Church. It was a cold November evening. I was honored to preach the organizational message. The Church building suffered great

damage in the hurricane. They have built a beautiful and spacious. Brother Warren Theriot is the faithful pastor.

My wife and I attended the East Central Association which met with the Calvary Baptist Church, Leaksville. Brother Greg Hillman serves this good church as pastor. The East Central Association supports the Commission on a monthly basis. This Association of Churches are very liberal supporters of missions and other Departments of the work.

### Correction

In my last article to the paper I said that the New Wine Quartet would be singing at the South Conference. After that article went to the paper I was informed that New Wine would not be able to sing. I contacted brother Gary Smith in Tupelo and he agreed to fill that gap. I am pleased to announce that Brother Smith will be in Picayune to sing in the Morning session.

### A Reminder

I remind our people that the Commission is now responsible for all the expenses incurred at these Conferences. We must continue to have quality programs. To have quality programs we must have quality people to help us. To have quality people to help, we must be able to pay.

The \$15.00 fee won't off set all the expenses. I appeal to the churches to place the Commission in their budget giving, and assure that we can continue this ministry to our seniors.



## Sofilthy's Attic

by Barbara White

### Adorning Miss Bessie

The name of the vehicle that takes me to places I want to go (and so far, has brought me back) is Miss Bessie. Bessie has been around a while and has been faithful, so to show my appreciation, I wanted to dress her up so I went looking for fender skirts - none to be found. So I thought some curb feelers would look good on her - none to be found. So I think a running board would be cool - none to be found.

She does have a foot feed and an emergency brake so I guess that's all that's necessary. The other things are just for adornment and sometimes I get the feeling that too much time and energy is spent on adornment. Read Colossians 3:1, "If ye than be risen with Christ, seek those things which are above, where Christ sitteth on the right hand of God."

### Former BMA pastor dies

Robert L. Tucker, 60, of Pasco, Washington, who pastored churches in the Northwest Association of the BMAA since 1970, passed to glory Saturday, February 3, 2007, of a sudden massive heart attack in his home.

He is survived by his wife, Jane Elizabeth Tucker (previously Holcombe) and 5 children and 7 grandchildren, all of Richland, Kennewick and Pasco, Washington. Bro. Tucker also has 4 sisters and a brother, all of Missouri.

His legacy of love for his Savior Jesus Christ lives on, as his family and friends remember his faithfulness in the Lord's service. He tried to do the best he could for the Lord, his family and friends and reached out to help others as he could.

He pastored the Grace Missionary Baptist Church of Tacoma, Washington, and the Richland Missionary Baptist Church of Richland, Washington. He graduated from Central Baptist College, in Conway, Arkansas.

Bro. Tucker's wife, Jane, may be reached through the Richland Missionary Baptist Church, 909 Abbott, Richland, WA 99352.

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## Conservatives more generous than liberals

**OneNewsNow.com** - A regular contributor to the Wall Street Journal says there is a huge divide between those who give to charity and those who don't. In his new book "Who Really Cares," Arthur Brooks documents what he calls the "Right-Left charity gap" between conservatives and liberals when it comes to donating to charities.

A public policy expert and regular contributor to the Wall Street Journal says the stereotype that liberals are more compassionate than conservatives is false.

For his new book *Who Really Cares: The Surprising Truth About Compassionate Conservatism*, Arthur Brooks spent years researching data on the giving habits of conservatives and liberals. Brooks says when he began his research, he expected to find proof that liberals are the more generous group in America. But his findings show that conservatives are more generous in every way - from volunteering, to donating blood, to giving money.

For example, homes headed by a conservative gave 30 percent more money to charity in 2000 than liberal families. Religious upbringing, he says, played a key role in the findings.

"Conservative households are disproportionately religiously observant," he says. "They take their faith more seriously, typically." But he is quick to clarify that does not mean a person cannot be both a liberal and religious.

"Now there are lots of religious liberals out there," Brooks says, "but there are three times more religious conservatives than there are religious liberals in America today - and that's driving the biggest part of the Right-Left char-

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