

# Mississippi Baptist

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Annual Special  
Emphasis Drive

Mississippi  
Baptist

Publications  
Department

Your Help Needed

Our Goal  
**\$10,000**

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## 68th Annual Meeting of the BMA of America



Arlington Texas Convention Center - Site of 2017 BMA of America meeting May 1-3, 2017

by Paul Whiten BMAA President  
Greetings to the churches of the BMA of America!

Well it is nearing that time of the year when we have the opportunity to gather and conduct the Lord's business as an Association. This note is to remind each one that this May 1-3 has been set aside as the time for our 2017 annual meeting to convene in Arlington, Texas. It is my prayer that God will continue to bless all of our departments,

agencies and churches. I hope you are already making plans for your church to be represented at this year's meeting.

Again this year you will be given the opportunity to choose between several great breakout sessions presented this year by our National departments and agencies. It is the desire of your officers and those involved in planning to provide you with materials and practical instruction that you will be able to use in your respective

## Help "Visioneer" SOAR

by Scott Attebery  
SOAR Student Conference has always belonged to the churches of the BMA. That's why DiscipleGuide is inviting student ministers, pastors, and volunteers to take part in regional "visioneering" sessions to help shape the SOAR Conference. During each visioneering event, participants will be asked for insight, feedback, ideas, and opinions on various issues regarding conference planning and content.

"We want to hear from the people who interact with students on a daily basis. They are the most informed about the world our youth are living in," explains DiscipleGuide's Scott Attebery. "Local church ministers and volunteers are in the best position to plan SOAR and make it effective. We want to serve our churches by listening to them and facilitating the

vision they have for the conference. That's why we are calling these meetings visioneering events."

Attendance is free, but you must reserve your spot online at [gosoar.com/visioneer](http://gosoar.com/visioneer) to allow hosts to prepare enough food.

Each event will begin at 11:00 a.m. and include a free lunch. Student ministers, pastors, and leaders are invited to attend whether or not your group regularly attends SOAR.

Your input and presence is requested at the Mississippi visioneering event:

The Mississippi event is scheduled for February 2- Big Creek Baptist Church, Soso, Mississippi

Go online to [gosoar.com/visioneer](http://gosoar.com/visioneer) to reserve your place. For more information, call DiscipleGuide at 800.333.1442.

fields of service. Of course, these are provided in addition to the times of conducting business and opportunities to gather for worship.

Remember, this year's theme "Brick by Brick" is built around teamwork with the emphasis on increasing our attendance for the purpose of strengthening every area of our ministry. Make plans now to join us and may God bless every aspect of our time together.

## Help Needed From Our Churches

by James Ray Raines, Recording Secretary  
Baptist Missionary Association of America

We need your help. Our roster shows that we have 1,260 churches who are affiliated with the BMAA. However, the representations in our Annual Meetings reflect the participation of only about half of them.

We recognize that the Association is the servant of the churches. Each church is autonomous and participation is voluntary.

However, there are many benefits offered to the member churches. Below is a list of some of those benefits.

1. Legal certification that the church is a registered member of a non-profit association, (the BMAA is a registered non-profit organization with the IRS.)
2. Certification to assist if the church chooses to incorporate for legal or tax purposes.
3. Gives the church a voice in the actions and decisions of the BMAA.
4. Encourages and strengthens the voice in their stand on moral, political and doctrinal issues.
5. Offers fellowship with other churches of, "Like Faith."
6. Opportunity for involvement in fulfilling the great commission on a world wide scale.

Please remit funds for meeting and minute expenses.

All expenses for facilities, equipment and supplies for the annual meeting plus travel

continued on page 2

## Mardi Gras Mission Update Personal Mission Opportunity

BMA Missions is teaming with Campground Baptist Church in Gulfport, Mississippi, to offer a special short-term mission trip that is close to home and affordable to BMA church members. Since 2004, Campground has done mission work in their area during Mardi Gras season. Campground Pastor Bryan Atwood says, "It is the greatest gathering of lost people in one place in our area all year. We want to invite you to come help us."

A mandatory training session will begin at 7 p.m. on Friday, February 24. On Saturday, teams will serve at the parades in the morning, and those who can will serve at the parade in the afternoon. (All Mardi Gras parades will be on Saturday, February 25.) The \$35



registration fee will provide everything for the trip including a snack Friday night, breakfast on Saturday, accommodations at the campground, a team shirt, and Bibles to hand out at the parade.

BMA Missions offers many short-term trips throughout the year through Baptist Medical Missions International and Volunteer Student Missions. This is another opportunity for BMA churches to introduce their people to evangelism and hands-on missions.

Spots are limited, so register now at [www.bmamissions.org/mardigrasmission](http://www.bmamissions.org/mardigrasmission). For more information contact Angela Rice at [angela@bmamissions.org](mailto:angela@bmamissions.org) or 501-455-4977.

## National Meeting Information

from page 1

expenses for several committees and the printing of the yearbooks are paid from this fund. The total cost is \$35,000-\$40,000 each year. It is imperative that we increase contributions to this fund. Thanks to your response last year, we made it. However, our balance is dangerously low. We still need extra help.

Brethren, you are our first line of communication with our churches. Your help will be deeply appreciated.

If you have suggestions for helping us communicate with the churches, we invite your input. Please know that we are praying for you, and stand ready to serve in any way possible.

Even when attendance is not possible, the letter of registration affirms their membership.

The registration letters need to be forwarded to: James Ray Raines: PO Box 17872, North Little Rock, AR 72117. 501-231-4204

### It's Time! To Make Your Reservations for the 2017 BMAA Meeting in Arlington, Texas

The 2017 session of the Baptist Missionary Association of America will meet May 1-3 at the Arlington Convention Center in Arlington, Texas.

The Committee on Arrangements has made its review and plans for the 2017 annual Association meeting. The facilities and hotels are looking forward to our meeting there. There is plenty of space for all of our meetings and lodging. We hope that you will make your

reservations early. Most of the hotels can make your reservations either by phone or online, but you must identify that you are with the Baptist Missionary Association of America.

- Sheraton, Arlington (Headquarters Hotel) \$135 per night (Single & Double) 800-325-3535
- Hilton, Arlington \$135 per night (King & Double) 817-640-3322
- Crown Plaza \$109 per night 817-394-5200

Bro. Pastor, we need your help. When the BMAA Committee on Arrangements contracts with a convention center to host our annual meeting, the rental fee is normally tied to the number of hotel rooms we expect our attendees to use during the meeting. The rental fee in Arlington is contingent upon our use of rooms blocked at the designated hotels. The rental fee will increase by the daily cost of each room not used.

The Committee on Arrangements has negotiated terms in Arlington that will allow the conference center space to be greatly reduced if we use the total number of rooms blocked at the designated hotels/motels. Please help us fill these first to cap the cost of the rental space.

Our association has had to pay extra in the past years because many of the blocked hotel rooms were not used. Please help us avoid a situation like that this year.

We appreciate your help.  
BMAA Committee on Arrangements  
Jerome Cooper  
Charles Attebery  
Jackie Manasco

## COMMISSION ON *Senior Adults*

4226 Highway 15 North, Laurel, Mississippi 39440



Kenneth Flynt  
Director

**Look what's coming!!**  
2017 Senior Adult conferences won't be long now!

### South Meeting

South Mississippi Senior Adult Conference will be held Tuesday, March 21 at Big Creek Baptist Church, Soso, Mississippi, beginning at 9:30 a.m.. Registration will begin at 9:00 a.m.. The registration fee remains \$15.00 per person and covers the noon meal catered by Mac's Fish House.

50 years in the ministry plaques will also be presented to ministers completing 50 years in ministry in 2017. Please call 601-428-8616 and give the information to Mrs. Kim Parker at the missions office. Call in soon so the plaques can be made.

Save the date - Tuesday, March 21, 2017.

### North Meeting

North Mississippi Senior Adult Conference will be held Tuesday, May 9, 2017 at Greenwood Baptist Church, Fulton, Mississippi. The registration fee remains at \$15.00 per person and covers the noon meal catered by Dorsey

Volunteer Fire Department.

50 years in the ministry plaques will also be presented to ministers completing 50 years in ministry in 2017, please call 601-428-8616 and give the information to Mrs. Kim Parker at the missions office, call in soon so the plaques can be made.

### Making Plans

People are already getting anxious and looking forward with great anticipation to be in attendance at the Senior Adult Conferences.

This once-a-year day is very special for our Seniors who are deserving of a special day just for them. Many churches pay the \$15 registration fee to show appreciation to their senior members.

Attendance at these conferences in the past has been above the 400 mark - let's do it again! Both the South and North Conferences have proven to be exactly what our seniors enjoy being a part of.

We look forward to seeing you at Big Creek and Greenwood Baptist Churches.

Encourage your members and invite friends to come together for a great time in the Lord.

## BMAA Chaplain promotion

by Dr. Scott Carson, Chaplaincy Director  
Baptist Missionary Association of America

On January 5th, 2017, Chaplain Tim Gresham (former pastor of First Baptist, Crandall, Texas) was promoted to the rank of Major. Chaplain Gresham entered the Army Chaplain Corps February 2008 to minister to the soldiers who were engaged in the war against terrorism. His first assignment was at Fort Hood, Texas from where he deployed with his unit twice; once to Iraq and once to Afghanistan.

Since then he has served as the Battalion Chaplain for the largest battalion in the Army at Fort Rucker, Alabama, then moved on to the Army's only space brigade, serving in the Space and Missile Defense Command, located at Peterson Air Force Base, Colorado Springs, Colorado.

After almost 9 years of service as a Battalion Chaplain, he was selected for promotion to the rank of Major. Chaplain Gresham said, "I count myself fortunate to have not only been selected to the next rank, but now have the much-coveted opportunity to continue



Chaplain Gresham's wife Sher and son Paul 'pinning' his new rank on after his promotion to Major

to serve our Savior by serving soldiers as the 75th Field Artillery Brigade Chaplain, at Fort Sill, Oklahoma."

In his new promotion and assignment, Chaplain Gresham will work directly for the Brigade Commander, who is responsible for six battalions concerning matters of Morale, Spiritual Resiliency, and Religious Support. In addition to this he has the pleasure to mentor six chaplains in their duties and career progression.




# 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



Wesley & Holley Martin



Anders & Carla Lee



Phillip & Dawn Burns



Estuardo & Yasmine Marroquin



Elvis & Wendy Garcia



Ed & Patricia DuVall

**601.428.8616** [www.bmams.org](http://www.bmams.org)

## Welcome Our Newest State Missionary

Bro. Jimmy Daugherty, former pastor of Ballardville, Tupelo, Mississippi, was unanimously approved by the Missionary Committee on January 9th to



Jimmy and Suzie Daugherty

serve as a Church Planter in the Northeast part of Mississippi. He and his wife, Suzie, have 4 children, Shelbbie, Brandon, Ashleigh, and Nate. Jimmy grew up under the ministry of Bro. E. J. Pitts at Woodlawn Baptist Church in

Pascagoula, Mississippi, where he was saved, baptized and surrendered to the ministry. Suzie grew up at Trinity in Florence and was saved under the ministry of Bro. Harold Floyd. Jimmy is a former student of Southeastern Baptist College in Laurel and has served in BMA churches in Texas, Arkansas, Missouri, and Mississippi. Bro. Jimmy and Ms. Suzie have become members of Caledonia Baptist Mission who, once organized, will serve as the Mother Church for this new mission project.

### Multiplication Begins

Caledonia Baptist Mission is scheduled to organize on March 18, 2017 and with the blessing of their Mother Church, East Fulton, Fulton, Mississippi, have made the decision to start a new church plant by serving as the Mother Church for Bro. Daugherty. Caledonia Baptist Mission, under the leadership of Missionary Pastor, Dr. Robert Burch, is already gearing up to help this family make a smooth transition to missionary work. Together, Bro. Burch and Bro. Daugherty will explore the field,

cultivate prospects and discover opportunities while Bro. Burch shares his experience as a veteran State Missionary. Bro. Burch will continue to coach Bro. Daugherty during the church planting process.

### Appointments Needed

During the first three months of Bro. Daugherty's time as a State Missionary, we encourage him to accept appointments to visit our churches and share his heart concerning missions. Please consider inviting him to come to your church. He can be contacted through the Missions Office at 601-428-8616.

### Mission and Mother Church Work Together to Host Evangelism Event

Campground Baptist Church and Pastor Bryan Atwood will host an outreach event during Mardi Gras along the Mississippi Gulf Coast. Missionary Wesley Martin and members of Redemption Baptist Mission will be participating in this event. If you have a group from your church that would like

to participate, call Pastor Bryan Atwood at 228-224-6466 to register.

### Three Missions Scheduled to Organize in 2017

Caledonia Baptist Mission will organize on March 18th, South Forrest Baptist Mission will organize on June 3rd, and Freedom Baptist Mission will organize on July 21st. Please mark your calendar with these events.

### Revolving Loan Fund Update

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

### Contact Us

You can email us at [missions@bmams.org](mailto:missions@bmams.org), or call us at 601-428-8616. Visit our website at [www.bmams.org](http://www.bmams.org). Like our Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/bmamsmissions>.

## From The Mind of Chuck Lee

# WOODSHOP

It's been my dream ever since I was a young forty year old man, to one day own an up to date woodworking shop with all the finest tools available. I could imagine myself admiring the grain of a four hundred year old Brazilian rainforest tree, unknown to anyone except by the recently discovered Bwambi tribesmen as they would travel the trail hidden under the lush vegetation unspoiled by modern technology. Thanks to an adventurous archaeologist with land stripping machinery seeking lost Incan gold, the tree mercifully found its true calling as a fine dining table in my immaculate, dust-free, technology spoiled wood shop in south Mississippi-



Bro. Chuck Lee

right where it belonged all the time. Unfortunately, the Bwambi tribesmen were introduced to video games and now simply sit around trying to get to the next level of Find the Hidden Pudding Pop. Sure, it doesn't seem great to us, but then again, we haven't been living in grass huts for the last four hundred years.

Woodworker magazines would be clamoring for me to grace the covers of their recent publications, but of course, I would be too busy meeting with Presidents and Heads of State and the guy who played Napoleon Dynamite. Wearing my Vote for Pedro T-shirt and sporting a nail apron, I would do interviews on all the national syndicates. Naturally, I would take time out during the hunting season to visit my chalet along the Milk River in Montana, but come Spring,

right after turkey season, I would be right back in the shop creating masterpieces that would grace the palaces of England.

As woodworking aficionados from across the globe seek my wisdom on my technique of constructing dovetails, I would..."CHUCK! It's time for supper.

Besides that, it looks like rain, so you better get that table saw up

under the porch. It's about rusted in two anyway, so it may not even matter".

"Yes, dear". It did look like rain. I don't think my mind was up to fooling with sharp saw blades anyway. Perhaps I dream too much. There's no telling what would happen if someone didn't bring me back to reality every once in a while.

*Lee serves as pastor of Pine Grove Baptist Church, Purvis. He may be reached by email at [leecharles47@yahoo.com](mailto:leecharles47@yahoo.com)*

Reports for Dec 2016				
	High Attendance	Membership	Total Offerings	Mother Church
Church Planters				
Bob Burch (Caledonia)	83	76	\$3,935.00	East Fulton
Bobby Elliott (Burnsville)	45	51	\$1,893.00	Forked Oak
Sidney Farmer (S. Forrest County)	70	51	\$4,921.00	Paramount
Danny Bartlett (Clinton)	28	11	\$3,841.00	Wilderness
Phillip Burns (Sumrall)	27	11	\$2,680.00	First Bay Springs
Wesley Martin (Diamondhead)	36	27	\$3,758.00	Campground
Anders Lee (Southaven)	173	118	\$11,109.00	Charity
Kenneth Pollock (Batesville)	11	8	\$9,941.00	First Baptist Mantachie
BMA of Mississippi Hispanic Missions (Estuardo Marroquin - Manager) <small>(Estuardo Marroquin is also the Co-Pastor of El Camino, which serves as the mother church for the church plants listed below.)</small>				
El Camino Marciano Montalvo (Laurel)	121	123	\$5,779.00	
Church Planters				
Leo Adan (Hattiesburg)	35	14	\$1,474.00	El Camino
Jamie Galicia (Bluff)	23	4	\$85.00	El Camino
Lucas Gomez (Canton)	0	1		El Camino
(Elvis Garcia - Coordinator) <small>(Elvis Garcia is also the Co-Pastor of Way, Truth &amp; Life, which serves as the mother church for the church plants listed below.)</small>				
Way, Truth & Life Byron Morales (Ripley)	69	95	\$4,444.00	
Church Planters				
Humberto Regalado (Tupelo)	23	13	\$1,051.00	Way, Truth & Life
Luis Huchin (Oxford)	51	7	\$749.00	Way, Truth & Life
Daniel Polanco (Horn Lake)		2		Way, Truth & Life
BMA of Mississippi African American Missions (Ed DuVall - Coordinator) <small>(Ed DuVall is also the Sr. Pastor of Homestretch which serves as the mother church for the church plants listed below.)</small>				
Homestretch (Cleveland)	42	50	\$3,678.00	
Church Planters				
James Cook (Olive Branch)	20	19	\$1,650.00	Homestretch
Collectively, our missionaries reported 216 new contacts, 128 opportunities to share the gospel, and witnessed 12 professions of faiths, 2 baptisms and 13 joined by letter in Dec.				



Don Brown  
Editor

# Mississippi Baptist

*Journal of the Baptist Missionary Association of Mississippi*

**MORAL ACTION**  
Baptist Missionary Association of America  
Dr. John M. Adams, Director  
P.O. Box 305, Mantachie, MS 38855 - 662-231-3863  
On The Web at [www.macbma.net/](http://www.macbma.net/)  
Email - [fbcdjmaj@yahoo.com](mailto:fbcdjmaj@yahoo.com)



John Adams

## A Pleasant Surprise

As editor I was pleasantly surprised to the following in our church newsletter at First Baptist Church of Shady Grove. I am not 'blowing my own horn' here, but using this as a great example of how each local church can get involved in our Special Emphasis effort during January.

By the time you read this article our month will be half over. Would you help out your Mississippi Baptist by supporting this ministry with a special offering during January? It is certainly needed and will be greatly appreciated.

**-From weekly newsletter of FBC of Shady Grove, Laurel-**  
*by Mrs. Nell Lowe, Church Secretary*

January is the month set aside to encourage everyone to support our BMA newspaper, the Mississippi Baptist.

One of the ways to support the newspaper is by **READING IT!**

You will be able to stay up with what is going on all over the place, including foreign countries. The paper comes out twice each month and the editor of the paper just happens to be our own Bro. Don Brown.

Now, that's no reason to read it, but with it you will be able to learn what our missionaries are doing, what the Master's Builders are up to, coming events and things that happened since the last edition. There are interesting articles that will amuse you, maybe make you laugh. Others may help you in relationships of all kinds. If you don't at least scan it when it comes you are missing out on a lot of your Baptist experience. Bro. Don does an excellent job on the paper. Read it and don't forget to let Bro. Don know you enjoy it. It means a lot to know others think you're OK.

January is Special Emphasis Month for the Mississippi Baptist Paper!

I really appreciate Mrs. Lowe's words and hope they will encourage the people of FBC of Shady Grove to give to our emphasis drive.

Above that, I hope that her efforts (without any knowledge of this editor) will encourage other churches to go the extra step and urge their members to give a special offering in January to support this department.

The fee we charge for each subscription does not cover our operating costs. The monthly support and annual emphasis gifts allow us to continue to operate in the black. Thank you for your help!

### The Threat to Religious Liberty

There is now a large threat to religious liberty that exists in America's armed services. Military life has always had strong ties to God's churches and chapels down through the years of American life. From George Washington until modern day God has had a great presence. But now in recent years there has been a satanic effort to remove any religious/Christian expression in military life.

From the book, "A Clear and Present Danger", we present in behalf of Moral Action and the Family Research Council a list of events against religious liberty. We must pray for our military and leaders.

### 2011 - Walter Reed Medical Center bans Bibles and religious material

Walter Reed National Military Medical Center, the leading medical institution for the U.S. armed forces, issued an official patient and visitor policy banning Bibles. It stated, "No religious items (i.e. Bibles, reading material, and/or artifacts) are allowed to be given away or used during a visit." In December 2011, the policy was rescinded after a political firestorm erupted in the House of Representatives.

### Feb. 7, 2012 - Air Force removes "God" from unit's logo

The Military Association of Atheists and Free-thinkers complained to the Air Force about a logo from the Rapid Capabilities Office. It read in Latin "Doing God's Work with Other People's Money" and was changed to "Doing Miracles with Other People's Money." Rep. Randy Forbes (R-Virginia) and 35 other lawmakers sent a letter to Air Force Secretary Michael Donley and Air Force Chief of Staff Norton Schwartz demanding an explanation for the removal of a non-religious reference to God. The Air Force said they would investigate.

### June 15, 2013 - A soldier is punished for serving Chick-fil-A

Army Master Sergeant, Nathan Sommers, was punished for serving Chick-fil-A sandwiches at his own promotion party in honor of the Defense of Marriage Act (DOMA). Sommers was investigated, reprimanded, threatened with judicial action, and given a bad efficiency report. The invitation said, "In honor of my promotion and in honor of the Defense of Marriage Act, I'm serving Chick-fil-A sandwiches at my promotion party." Sommers was told that "he was no longer a team player and was not performing up to standards." Chick-fil-A and DOMA were frowned upon.

### June 19, 2014 - Navy decides to remove Gideon Bibles from hotel rooms on its bases

Prompted by a March 2014 letter from the Freedom from Religion Foundation, the Navy Exchange Service Command (NEXCOM) issued an order to remove Gideon Bibles from Navy Lodge rooms and take them to donation centers.

After public backlash, the Navy announced on August 14, 2014 that the Bibles in the rooms would remain while the policy was reviewed.

### 2015-16

Sgt. 1st Class Charles Martland never guessed he'd lose his job for defending a young boy who was sexually abused. And yet, the heroic Green Beret was discharged from the Army for confronting an Afghan policeman who tied the boy to a post and raped him repeatedly. The nauseating story raised all kinds of questions about President Obama's military.

1,000's of petitions called for Sgt. Martland's record to be cleared and an investigation into U.S. military policy in cases of child abuse and exploitation. In April 2016, Army officials decided to reinstate the decorated Green Beret.

As BMA Baptist, we are one of many influential groups that can contact our new President, his staff, our congressmen and senators with a voice for Godly, biblical decisions to be made. We must hold our leaders in Washington and in the military accountable to God.

### 2017 Moral Action Goals

Dr. John M. Adams, Executive Director

It is the Moral Action ministry goals:

- 1) To be in the center of God's will with this Agency,
- 2) To present Jesus Christ as the Savior of all who will call upon Him,
- 3) To encourage the B.M.A. family to daily intercede for the President **of the U.S.A. and his cabinet that they may live for God,**
- 4) To contact (at least) 4 new U.S. Senators and 4 new U.S. Congressmen **in D.C. in 2017,**
- 5) To continue visiting and acquainting myself with our B.M.A. State works and Capitols (Jackson, Little Rock, Austin, Oklahoma City, Baton Rouge, Jefferson City, Tallahassee, etc.)
- 6) To have Godly boldness in speaking up for moral values that are so needed today, and that it may encourage Godly and biblical legislation,
- 7) To continue the "God and Country" rallies upon invitation,
- 8) And to be an encourager for our B.M.A. churches, pastors, associational **workers, and staff workers to stand in this sinful and diverse world.**

We humbly ask for your prayers and financial support for Moral Action in 2017. We take the scriptures of II Chronicles 7:14 as our guide.



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**Don J. Brown, Editor**  
E-Mail - [editor@msbaptist.org](mailto:editor@msbaptist.org)  
Web site [www.msbaptist.org](http://www.msbaptist.org)

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Special Emphasis 2017

# Southeastern Baptist College

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

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

## Interim President Perspectives

Greetings from the Number One Online Bible College in the United States for 2016!

*"Precious in the sight of the Lord is the death of his saints."* (Psalms 116:15).

As I contemplate the passing of our College President, Brother Danny Pitts, I must admit that I and the entire staff continue to be in shock. Brother Pitts' vibrant and bold leadership will be greatly missed. Our losing his keen insights, professional teaching abilities, and his visionary planning are a major adjustment for our academic team and this institution. But we are comforted in the completed work that Jesus accomplished upon the Cross for His children. We grieve at Brother Danny's absence from us, but we collectively rejoice in his culminating experience as a believer being in the presence of his Savior!

Not long ago, as we discussed the way forward for the college, Brother Pitts stated that he was, "all in". He was indeed fully dedicated to, not only the survival our school, but to its robust future. Brother Danny often worked many long hours late into the night to ensure his students received the best scholastic support. His planning never ceased toward expanding the influence of the college in the Laurel and greater Mississippi areas. The very night he became ill, he was up until midnight



Dr. Scott Carson  
Interim President

grading papers and closing out his semester's courses to ensure his student's grades were posted before the deadline.

I encourage you to continue to keep in your prayers his wife Helen, their children Jeff and Nancy, as well as all their loved ones. Helen will continue living at the college President's residence for the next few months.

## In Memoriam Donations

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

## Board of Directors

The Board of Directors met in emergency session on January 5 to discuss numerous issues arising from the death of Brother Pitts. The Board approved Dr. Scott Carson as the Interim President while he continues as the Academic Dean. The Board will soon announce when their search for a new President will begin and the procedure for submitting an application.

Also, during this session, Erma Sue Hensarling was welcomed as a new board member. Erma Sue is a member of Magnolia Baptist in Hattiesburg. She is a graduate of William Carey College and worked for 26 years in the accounting

field for Mississippi Power Company.

## Spring Semester and Scholarships

Registration for the Spring Semester is currently open through January 18 for online and in classroom courses. At the time of the writing of this article it is projected that the college will experience an increase in student enrollment for this semester. If you are thinking about taking college level courses, I encourage you to contact our recruiter, Brother Ronnie Kitchens at 601-426-6346. Ronnie has all the information you need to sign up for classes and information on financial aid. There are \$1,000 scholarships available to Baptist Missionary Association ministers who takes classes here at Southeastern Baptist College. Contact Brother Kitchens for more information!

## Silver Award

We are proud to announce that Southeastern Baptist College has been awarded the Silver Level Award by Military Friendly Schools for 2017! Military veterans are welcome here at SBC and we cherish your service to our country. The school is fully recognized for Veterans Administration educational assistance programs.

## Immediate Needs

Your support to our day to day finan-

cial requirements remains critical to the operation of our school. We give praise to the Lord and we deeply appreciate each church and individual that gives regularly. The college is in need of additional support specifically in two areas:

1. Our advertising needs have been severely limited in the last few years and the results are clear in the number of enrolled students. An effective and robust advertising campaign is essential to bringing additional students to our campus. This campaign would require a minimum of \$10,000 for use in numerous advertising venues.

2. We have infrastructure needs that support student housing. There are currently two apartments and a house shuttered that require fixing up, re-engineering of duct work, plumbing repair, and two new HVAC units.

If you can assist with physical or financial support towards these projects, please contact Dr. Carson here at the school.

## Blessings

I have received many words of encouragement from numerous college supporters over the last couple of weeks. Thank you and God bless you! Please continue to pray for our students, staff, faculty, and its future leadership. I am available for church pulpit supply and representing the school or the BMAA Chaplaincy Department in local associational meetings.

*"I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me."* Philippians 4:13

## SBC College Trustee Update

The trustee board of Southeastern Baptist College met recently for the purpose of obtaining information on the day to day operation of the college, and determine the next steps forward.

The Trustees were in agreement that we all expressed our appreciation for the fine job Bro. Danny Pitts accomplished in his term as President of Southeastern. His integrity and leadership skills were essential to our future. We also would like to express our sympathy to Mrs. Helen Pitts and their children Jeff and Nancy, during this time of grief, sorrow, and loss. Please keep them in your prayers.

The Trustees asked Dr. Scott Carson to administrate the day to day activities until a new President is found. Out of respect for the Pitts family and appreciation for Bro. Danny's leadership, the search will begin at a later date.

Please continue to remember the staff and students of Southeastern in your prayer. It looks like this semester will be better and we are looking forward to hearing more as the school year progresses.

Matt Hudson, Chairman  
Chris Floyd, Clerk

## Faculty Position Search

Southeastern Baptist College is looking for a professor to teach business classes both in the classroom and online. Applicants must possess an MBA or equivalent. Send resumes to [scarson@southeasternbaptist.edu](mailto:scarson@southeasternbaptist.edu) or mail your resume to the college.

Your church can experience a short-term mission trip close to home!



**MARDI GRAS**  
**MISSIONS**  
FEBRUARY 24-25 GULFPORT/BILOXI, MS

\$35 per person and includes lodging, training, evening snack, Saturday morning breakfast, Bibles to hand out and a Mardi Gras Missions T-Shirt.

**REGISTER ONLINE NOW!**

[www.bmamiissions.org/mardigrasmission](http://www.bmamiissions.org/mardigrasmission)

Training and lodging will be at:  
Campground Baptist Church  
20577 Highway 53  
Gulfport, MS 39503

## World Missions Day - Sharing Christ Around The World

**WORLD MISSIONS DAY**  
2/26/17

**YOUR CHURCH GOD'S MISSION**

**YOUR WORLD MISSIONS DAY OFFERING PROVIDES MINISTRY DOLLARS FOR OVER 500 BMA MISSIONARIES FAMILIES IN 70 COUNTRIES AROUND THE WORLD.**

**MISSIONS**  
baptist missionary association of america

by Dr. John David Smith - Executive Director  
February 26, 2017 is World Missions Day! This one-time-a-year special offering to our World Missions Fund is essential in allowing BMA Global Missions to continue to partner with 70 American missionaries/church planters and hundreds of national missionaries in 70 countries of the world. A great response on World Missions Day 2017 will also make it possible to send more of the numerous candidates who are ready now to go with the gospel.

The resources for World Missions Day 2017 have changed this year. There will be no printed prayer calendar. Simply stated, the demand for the calendars

is no longer sufficient to justify the expense. However, there is good news. We will offer more information and the normal resources, but in different formats. Here are the resources and links to access them:

1. In each of the six 2017 issues of mission:world magazine, you will find twelve different missionaries with their prayer requests and praises. A FREE subscription to mission:world magazine is available electronically or in print at [www.missionworldmag.com](http://www.missionworldmag.com).

2. A daily link to a missionary video and prayer requests and praises is available by phone or tablet by texting the word "missions" to 51555.

3. The same links are available on the BMAA Missions Facebook page.

4. You may access the information at the following website: [www.bmamissions.org](http://www.bmamissions.org)

5. It will be available on the Day by Day broadcast via Facebook page: Lifeword Media Ministries.

6. A downloadable World Missions Day video will be available on Feb. 1. You may request a DVD of the video and ask any other questions by emailing Paige West: [paige@bmamissions.org](mailto:paige@bmamissions.org)

Thank you for being part of the team that has such a significant role in God's kingdom! May God continue to bless BMA Global Missions!

## Maximum Impact 2017

by Michel Poirier  
BMA Missionary in Canada

As we enter a new year we are expecting the Lord to do great things with his people. We plan to have a maximum impact in Quebec, Canada, in two different locations this year. We begin a new work in a nearing town and the task is greater than before. Those that have come to one of our Maximum Impacts in the past know about the work involved with the distribution to invite people to hear the gospel (It's a blessed experience). If you are interested in a mission trip to the French speaking people and not being afraid to put your feet to work in the service of our Lord & Saviour, please let me know.

Our dates for Maximum Impact 2017 are JUNE 26-29.

Each day from Monday to Thursday we will be going out distributing invitations on foot from 9 am to 12. Have lunch and back to work at 12:30 in the streets till 4 pm. Then at 5 o'clock diner (supper) and 6 o'clock



Preparing for "maximum impact" singing and preaching. For Friday the 29th in the morning, we will visit the old part of Quebec City as a reward. If you are interested to know about French culture come and be a part of the work.

Our work is Église Baptiste Missionnaire de Lévis, 5129 Guillaume Couture, Lévis Qc Canada G6V4Z5  
You may contact BMAA 844-262-8637 or In Quebec Michel Poirier Cell 418-209-3710.

## Church of the Covered Dish

BY THOMAS TAPP



## Opportunities in the Philippines

**Editor's Note:** *It is always good to hear of news and opportunities from the mission field. Here is a recent note from BMA Missionary Sam Freeman from his new field in the Philippines.*

I was blessed with the privilege of preaching at a local business in Dumaguete this morning.

RUSI Motor Co. is a company that manufactures motorcycles here in the Philippines. Each morning the employees have a Bible Study in their office. It happened to be at the office yesterday morning to pay my motorcycle note and witnessed their meeting. When I inquired about the meeting, the sales associate I purchased my motorcycle from asked why I was curious? After reminding her that I was a missionary I left and went home. On the way home I received a call from the sales associate stating that she had asked the owner if I could lead the Bible Study the next morning, and he said yes.

It was truly an honor to share the gospel with the employees, knowing that there were some fellow believers there, as well as lost individuals as well.

Pray with me that the Word shared would go forth and accomplish God's will.



Missionary Sam Freeman taking a 'selfie' while leading Bible study at local business

## Special Need Request For India

**Editor's Note:** *Many of our churches have had Prashant & Golda Prakash visit and share their ministry in India. Good things are happening and progress is being made even as persecution continues. He shares their current need for building finances.*

Church planting is of utmost importance as the gospel is being shared around the world. Missionaries labor on the field with the goal in mind that the lost come to the saving knowledge of Christ. As churches are being planted in the remote areas of India, most are small groups and home churches that gather together to worship.

The church in India is experiencing amazing growth. There is growing per-

secution, and yet large numbers of people are turning to the Lord and churches are being planted throughout the country. Worship and fellowship with other believers are essential elements of the Christian life. When this need is not adequately met, newly planted churches disintegrate.

A church building is also important factors for growth, yet it is most often the missing ingredient in planning for



Missionary Prashant Prakash and men of church conduct a 'ground breaking'

## MISSISSIPPI BAPTIST CHILDREN'S HOME

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



SIDNEY DAVIS

### A New Year Before Us

The year 2017 is here and has begun. We are now looking to a new year that is before us. We are taking a journey that is yet not known to us. As with Joshua we can say, "we have not passed this way heretofore." Joshua 3:4. Without a doubt the Lord wants His people to be happy in their service to Him and prosper in the things of God. God promises us that we can have His joy if we will but follow Him. The secret to this joy comes by putting God first in our lives. Jesus says in Matthew 6:33, "Seek ye first the kingdom of God and His righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you." The Lord indeed will grant to us those things we stand in need of and will fill our hearts with joy if we will but give Him first place.

### Christmas Sharing

We are thankful and grateful for those who shared with the girls and boys during this Christmas season. We were with the Magnolia Baptist Church in Hattiesburg and Pastor Greg Medenwald recently for their annual "Christmas with the Children's Home".



Magnolia Church, Hattiesburg sharing Christmas with the Home for your thoughtfulness and love. The Lord certainly used you to bring gladness to each of the children and brighten their lives during this Christmas celebration.

### Thanks For Your Prayers

Pat and I would like to express our appreciation for your prayers and support in the home going of her father, Bro. Harold Holifield. Continue to remember Pat's mom, Mrs. Ann Holifield, and the family in your prayers.

### Expression of Sympathy

We would like to express our sympathy to the families of Bro. Pat Carmical and Bro. Danny Pitts. Our prayers continue to be with Bro. Leon and Mrs. Sandra Carmical (Pat's Dad and Mom), Mrs. Laurie Carmical (Pat's wife), Mrs. Helen Pitts (Bro. Danny's wife), Mrs. Betty Pitts (Bro. Danny's mom), and their families during this time of sorrow.

church planting and growth in India. Wherever a church building is provided, dramatic church growth has occurred. It is our conviction that church buildings are desperately needed in order to give a sense of permanence to the ministry in the villages. Newly planted churches must somehow at the earliest opportunity attain permanence geographically. Permanence is crucial for growth.

The congregation in the village of Kanapur has been faithful. The church was planted almost 10 years ago and has consistently grown through the years. Beginning with just one believer, the village now has close to 100 who have come to Christ. Through the years they have been gathering in the open to

worship. The congregation was able to come together and provide land for a church building. This is their contribution towards the project. The construction cost to build a church building here is \$12,000. This will give them a place to worship and also act as a life center for the community to be able to work with women and children during the week.

The groundbreaking was done in December during Christmas and now we pray that God will raise the needed funds of 12,000 US Dollars to build and complete this project.

In Christ,  
Prashant & Golda Prakash  
BMA Missions in India



## Sofilthy's Attic

by Barbara White

### New Year's Resolutions

Well, Christmas has come and gone AGAIN and here comes a New Year. Lots of folks make New Year's Resolutions which usually include living a more consecrated, dedicated life and that is an excellent desire and one that I feel is approved by God himself.

In the more physical realm, a lot of folks resolve to get their bodies in shape and losing some weight usually goes along with that.

I personally have fought a losing battle with weight all my life. When I entered this world, I weighed a whopping 10 pounds and I've just gone from the ridiculous to the sublime!

My main resolution at this point in my life is to try NOT to reach the point that when I die, my children will have to hire professional weight lifters for pall bearers.

So....HAPPY NEW YEAR!

## Widow of Curtis Carroll Dies

Mary Jeanne (Jane) Carroll, 86, passed away peacefully surrounded by her family on January 4, after a brief battle with cancer. Jane was born January 22, 1930. In 1960 the family moved to Jacksonville when her late husband Curtis Carroll began his 25 year tenure as president of Jacksonville College. Jane was an active member of First Baptist Church in Jacksonville for more than five decades. She taught Sunday School, played the piano for various Sunday School classes, and also served as the church librarian.

She is survived by daughters Debbie Foster (Glen) of Tucson Arizona, and Cheryl Gorham (Randy) of Jacksonville; four grandchildren, Rob Gorham (Erin) of Canfield Ohio, Brian Gorham (Brittany) of Jacksonville, Sara Gorham of Jacksonville, and Katelyn Foster McWilliams (Walker) of Lufkin, Texas; and seven great grandchildren Porter Gorham, Harrison Gorham, Bennett Gorham, Isabella Gore, Abby Gorham, Phoebe Cheryl Gorham, and Hazel Jane McWilliams.

## Kenneth Bobo Available

On Jan. 1, 2017 I resigned as pastor of Providence Baptist Church at Hope, Arkansas. I have pastored this church for three years. These three years have been some of the most wonderful and rewarding years of my ministry. I had the privilege of pastoring this church the first three years of my ministry. The church family have been so cooperative with me and the evangelistic ministry the Lord has called me into.



Kenneth Bobo

My wife, Shirley and I cannot overstate what a joy it has been to serve this church as a bi-vocational pastor.

One of the strong points of the ministry has been based upon what our Lord told His infant church in John 13:34-34: "A new commandment I give unto you, that ye love one another as I have loved you that ye also love one another. By this shall all men know that ye are my disciples if you have love one to another."

You may ask me, "What are your plans? Are you retiring?" The answer is "no!" I often say to those who ask me about retirement that I plan to plow until sundown."

The words of Paul to Timothy in II Tim. 4:5b ring loud and clear to me: "do the work of an evangelist, make full proof of thy ministry."

I have found when one is available, our Lord will use them. To Him I say, "I am available." That availability includes but is not limited to preaching appointments and evangelistic service.

Kenneth Bobo, 876 Hempstead 5, Hope, AR 71801; P.O. Box 1915, Hope, AR 71802; 870-777-2973 or (cell) 870-703-7806.

### WOMEN'S MISSIONARY AUXILIARY

<b>President</b> Beth Caldwell 166 Twin Creek Rd, Lucedale, MS 39452 601-947-60118	<b>Corresponding Sec.</b> Mrs. Shirlene Smith 730 Hwy 533, Laurel, MS 39443 601-729-5638
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### Big Creek District Brotherhood and WMA Meeting

The Big Creek District Brotherhood and WMA will meet at Lebanon Baptist Church, Laurel, on February 6, 2017 at 7:00 pm. Each Big Creek Association Brotherhood and WMA is encouraged to attend. We always come away blessed by the fellowship and by working together to share the gospel through missions. Mark your calendar for February 6. We look forward to seeing you there.

### Washington Association WMA Report

The ladies of the Washington Association were in for a treat when they met at Temple Church in October. The 25 ladies present were served a 3 course meal by Temples GMA. Mrs. Bea Hudson brought the devotion on The Measuring Stick. Biannual elections were held while we enjoyed desert. A sweet fellowship time was shared as each lady quoted or read a verse and shared why it was special to them. This was the best part of the night for me. Guests were given a colorful scarecrow as a parting gift.

If you are not a member of your church's WMA or ladies' group, please consider joining. It's an encouragement for you and a way to serve others in Christ.

## 68th Annual BMA of America National Meeting

May 1-3, 2017

Arlington Convention Center  
Arlington, Texas

### Program

#### Monday Morning, May 1

8:30 Display/Exhibit Set-up  
2:30 Registration Set-up (Enrollment and Finance Committee)

#### Monday Evening, May 1

7:00 **General Session — 1**  
President's Message Paul White

#### Tuesday Morning, May 2

8:00 Brotherhood Meeting Room: M7 & M5  
9:00 WMA Meeting Room: Grand Hall Salon A  
9:30 Committee Meetings  
DiscipleGuide Room: M1  
Lifeword Room: M2  
Missions Room: M4  
Moral Action Room: M9  
Seminary Room: M10  
Nominating Committee Room: M11

10:00 Women's Conference  
Topic: "When Life Gives You Lemons... Grace Wins"

11:00 Breakout Sessions  
1: Missions Spending in the Local Church Room: M1  
2: Disciple-Making Churches Room: M9  
3: Honoring God With Our Finances During Life & Beyond Room: M5  
4: BMA Retirement at Ministers Resources Services Room: M7

#### Tuesday Afternoon, May 2

2:00 Breakout Sessions  
1: Missions Spending in the Local Church Room: M1  
2: Disciple-Making Churches Room: M9  
3: Understanding the Times Room: M3-4  
4: So You Want to Go to School Room: M12-12

#### 3:00 General Session — 2

Reporting:  
BMA Foundation  
Master's Builders  
DiscipleGuide  
Brotherhood

5:30 Seminary Dinner Room M5-8

General Sessions	Grand hall Salon A
Registration	Outside of Grand Hall
Exhibits	Grand Hall Salon B

#### Tuesday Evening, May 2

7:00 **General Session — 3**  
Congregational Singing  
Special Music Samantha Parrish  
Introduction of Speaker Terry Kimbrow  
Annual Message Donny Parrish  
Hand of Appreciation Richard Smith

#### Wednesday Morning, May 3

8:30 **General Session — 4**  
Reporting  
Seminary  
Lifeword  
Ministers Resource Services  
11:00 Breakout Sessions  
1: Understanding the Times Room: M1-4  
2: Defending the Faith with Ancient Documents Room: M9-12  
3: How Individuals and Churches can Influence Their Legislators Room: M5  
4: The Future of Latin Ministry in the United States Room: M7  
12:00 Missionary Wives Lunch and Session  
Lunch Room: M6  
Meeting Room: M8

#### Wednesday Afternoon, May 3

2:00 **General Session — 5**  
Reporting  
Coordinating Council  
WMA  
Moral Action  
3:00 Guest Speaker  
Jack Graham, Pastor  
Prestonwood Baptist Church, Dallas, TX

#### Wednesday Evening, May 3

7:00 **General Session — 6**  
Missions Report  
Missions Commissioning Service

#### Enrollment Committee Schedule

Monday	2:00-4:00 p.m. 6:00-7:00 p.m. and 30 minutes after session
Tuesday	8:30-9:00 a.m., 2:00-3:00 p.m. 6:30-7:00 p.m. and 30 minutes after session
Wednesday	8:00-8:30 a.m.