

# Baptist

## Mississippi

JOURNAL OF THE BAPTIST MISSIONARY ASSOCIATION OF MISSISSIPPI

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### BMA of Mississippi President ...

## Gary Smith Passes Away

Bro. Gary Smith, pastor of East Fulton Baptist Church, Fulton, Mississippi, passed away unexpectedly on Friday, June 26, 2015.

Due to the deadline for this issue his memorial service will have been completed before our readers receive this issue. It was held at East Fulton Baptist Church on Monday, June 29. Brethren Bill Adams, Grover Laird and Matt Hudson conducted the service.



Bro. Gary Smith

Bro. Gary was a loving pastor, husband, father and grandfather. He loved to preach and preached with a passion to see the lost come to Christ. He pastored a number of churches, preached countless revivals and previously served as a full-time evangelist. Many souls were brought to Christ under the preaching ministry of Bro. Smith.

Bro. Gary was a loving person who will be greatly missed. When God takes a saint home we rejoice in spirit for their journey is now complete, but we sorrow for the loss of a friend and a loved one's presence.

Our hearts go out to his wife Elaine and their two children, Danny and Stacy, and the entire Smith family along with the membership of East Fulton Baptist Church in Fulton, Mississippi.

The official Obituary is listed below.

He was born April 12, 1950 to the late McGeary Smith and Inez Parker Smith in Atlanta, Georgia. Bro. Gary graduated Ware County High school in 1968 and continued his education at Southeastern Baptist College where he obtained his Bachelors degree in Biblical studies. He was the current President of the Baptist Missionary Association of Mississippi, as well as serving on numerous committees within the BMA. He pastored churches in Georgia, Florida, and Mississippi where he has served as Pastor of East Fulton Baptist Church for the past 6 years. His will for spreading the Gospel continued during the times of not pastoring a church by being a traveling evangelist who preached revivals and crusades all over the country. He served 12 years in the United States Air Force where he was honorable discharged.

Survivors include his wife of 41 years, Elaine Smith of Fulton; Mother, Inez Smith of Waycross, Georgia; Daughter, Stacy Smith of Fulton, Mississippi; Son, Danny (Talissa) Smith of Greenbrier, Arkansas; Grandson, Lucas Smith, Grandson, Jackson Smith, Granddaughter, Emma Smith; Brother, Kenny (Betty) Smith of Waycross, Georgia, Brother, Steve (Lynn) Smith of Waycross, Georgia; Sister, Clemmie (Roderick) Mitchell of Waycross, Georgia; Sister, Sheree Lee of Blackshear, Georgia; and several nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by his Father, McGeary Smith and Brother, Stan Smith.

## Lessons Learned In Ghana

by Ben Temple - Water for Christ

**Editor's Note** - I met Tim Tyler and Ben Temple at our national meeting this past April in Springfield, Missouri. Ben agreed to report on their trips and provide us with information and photos of their ministry. This article was edited by the Baptist Trumpet and is a condensed version of Ben's report. Water For Christ is a ministry of love and greatly needed in many areas of the world. A report from Missionaries Dale and Celia Broom (in this issue) also echo the work of Water For Christ. It is worthy of our financial and prayerful support.

from Baptist Trumpet

I saw Ghana for the first time May 31-June 12 as part of the Water for Christ (W4C) team. We traveled to the Walewale area of Northern Ghana, and my primary responsibility was



Drilling for water for the thirsty

to document the trip. But in all honesty, no picture, video or article can tell the complete story of what I experienced. All I know is that I will forever be a changed man. W4C is a team effort. Tim Tyler is the director, and it exists because he saw the vision and need for it. But it is effective and brought to life through the hard work of the missionaries on the ground, Dale and Celia

Broom. The drilling team is led by Tim and Bro. Dale, but is comprised of Ghanaian citizens who are learning the trade so they can one day lead their own drilling excursions. During this visit, the team installed three working pumps for people who were in the middle of a drought.

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## The Lonely Side of Being a Pastor

by Todd West, Director of Church Solutions, DiscipleGuide

Being a pastor is something that can only be understood by those who have invested at least a portion of their lives being church pastors. I have tried in the past to "pour out my heart" to church leaders, family members, and other friends, and as much as they wanted to understand, they just couldn't. Where do pastors turn?

I have at times found comfort from other pastors who were like a pastor to me, but honestly, there are some issues that we are simply not comfortable sharing even with close pastor friends. Yes, our marriages



Todd West

choices and find ourselves dealing with the consequences. Pastors are no different from anyone else in the church when it comes to temptations and

struggle, our kids struggle, we battle with the same temptations other believers face, and often yield to poor

struggles. As a matter of fact, it makes sense that pastors would be Satan's favorite target, because we are the leaders of the local church.

Pastors today are not finding the support they need to finish well in the ministry. According to one study, "For every ten men who surrender to preach the gospel, only one will retire still in vocational ministry." Pastors are leaving the ministry at an alarming rate, and churches are struggling to find anyone to replace them. It has been my ob-

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Larry Geraldson  
Director



# Baptist Missionary Association of Mississippi

Department of Missions and Revolving Loan Fund



State Missionaries and Wives



Bob & Edie Burch



Kenneth & Carole  
Pollock



Bobby & Lesa  
Elliott



Danny & Brenda  
Bartlett



Sidney & Becky  
Farmer



Wesley & Holley  
Martin



Anders & Carla  
Lee



Phillip & Dawn  
Burns



Estuardo &  
Yasmine Marroquin



Elvis & Wendy  
Garcia



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“To everything there is a season, and a time to every purpose under the heaven:..” Ecc 3:1

### Season of Blessing

Every year, during the months of April and May, you, the churches of the BMA of Mississippi are asked to emphasize the needs of State Missions in a special way. You are asked to pray for our missionaries and the activity of church planting all across the state. You are asked to consider taking up a special offering to help offset unexpected and often unbudgeted expenditures.

Each year, in the month of June, the Special Emphasis offerings will begin to come in to the office and we have the great privilege of enjoying a season of blessing. I am deeply moved by the gracious and sacrificial giving of our churches. I realize that you have many things that compete for your support and attention. I realize that some of you give until it hurts. I am not negligent to give God praise and express my thanksgiving to Him for you and what you do.

Because of your kindness and generosity, we are having the best Special Emphasis offering since I became your Director. More importantly, according to our forecast, your help will likely result in us ending the year in the black again for the 4th year in a row. Praise The Lord! I want to thank each church and individual who gave. We have provided a list of those who have given. This table represents what we have received in the office at the time of this article. If we have not received your offering, we will include it in a future list. Again, thank you for all that you do.

“Then they that gladly received his word were baptized...”

Bro. Estuardo Marroquin baptized 12 recently, 10



Estuardo Marroquin baptizing



from El Camino in Laurel, and 2 from El Camino in Hattiesburg. The missions from Hattiesburg and Biloxi came together with the mother church, El Camino, Laurel, to enjoy a joint baptismal service. It is exciting to see our missionaries baptizing folks.

Other missionaries have reported that they have people who are waiting to be baptized: Bob Burch – 4; Elvis Garcia – 7; Bobby Elliott-6; Wesley Martin – 1; Anders Lee- 12; Sidney Farmer – 2. Praise The Lord!

### Building Nears Completion

South Forrest is getting very close to completion of their building project. South Forrest Mission has been involved in the construction of their new sanctuary since last year. They have again and again reached 80% capacity of their first unit building which is approximately 2500 square feet. This new sanctuary should provide them with the space needed to grow.

Below - Work on New South Forrest Building



Insulation and sheetrock going up



Brick ready to go up on outside at South Forest

**BMA of Mississippi Revolving Loan Fund Report**  
(As of June 24, 2015 and since August 1, 2014)

Gross Assets	\$19,730,769.00
New Loans Made in 2015	9
Total of New Loans Made in 2015	\$763,611.00
New Loans In Process (not yet closed)	6
Total of Funds Obligated for Loans in Process	\$1,258,451.00
Cash Reserve (percent of shareholder deposits)	20%

Reports for May 2015				
	High Attendance	Membership	Total Offerings	Mother Church
Church Planters				
Bob Burch (Caledonia)	94	33	\$4,909.00	East Fulton
Bobby Elliott (Burnsville)	46	43	\$2,970.00	Forked Oak
Sidney Farmer (S. Forrest County)	50	30	\$6,299.00	Paramount
Danny Bartlett (Clinton)	16	10	\$3,396.00	Wilderness
Phillip Burns (Sumral)	18	9	\$2,839.00	First Bay Springs
Wesley Martin (Diamondhead)	53	19	\$6,907.00	Campground
Anders Lee (Southaven)	142	69	\$7,420.00	Charity
Hispanic Missions – South (Estuardo Marroquin – Coordinator) <small>(Estuardo Marroquin is also the Sr. Pastor of El Camino, which serves as the mother church for the church plants listed below.)</small>				
El Camino (Laurel)	149	117	\$4,763.00	
Church Planters				
Marciano Montalvo (Hattiesburg)	31	14	\$1,108.00	El Camino
Rodolfo Galicia (Biloxi)	9	2	n/a	El Camino
Hispanic Missions – North (Elvis Garcia – Coordinator) <small>(Elvis Garcia is also the Sr. Pastor of Way, Truth &amp; Life, which serves as the mother church for the church plants listed below.)</small>				
Way, Truth & Life (Ripley)	93	77	\$5,026.00	
Church Planters				
Humberto Navarro (Tupelo)	25	17	\$863.00	Way, Truth & Life
Erlin Pech (Oxford)	26	5	\$1,604.00	Way, Truth & Life
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)	21	50	\$3,317.00	
Church Planters				
James Cook (Olive Branch)	19	13	\$1,860.00	Homestretch
Collectively, our missionaries reported 297 new contacts, shared the gospel 184 times, and witnessed 16 professions of faiths, and 10 baptisms in May.				

### Visit on Website & Facebook Page

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

### Received, to date, as Special Emphasis offering for State Missions

Good Hope, Columbia	\$5,000.00
Lebanon, Laurel	\$2,245.00
Paramount, Perkinston	\$2,025.85
East Fulton, Fulton	\$1,584.00
Mill Creek, Picayune	\$993.00
Fairhope, Beaumont	\$874.73
Evergreen, Seminary	\$845.00
Big Creek, Soso	\$826.77
Washington Baptist, Neely	\$514.40
Big Creek District WMA	\$500.00
Caledonia Mission, Caledonia	\$500.00

continued on next page

# Supreme Court Rules In Favor of Homosexual "Marriage"

by the editor

No doubt by the time you read this you are well aware of the recent ruling of the United States Supreme court concerning so-called "same sex marriage". The court's definition of marriage clashes with God's definition and with human tradition and practice and



The U.S. Supreme Court

with natural law. Only God knows where this will eventually lead, but we as God's people should be proactive in preparing for the days ahead.

We are repulsed at the display in front of the Supreme Court this past week. We are shocked and repulsed that the White House was lit up with the "rainbow colors" to seemingly shove this life-style and direction in the face of the American people. We cannot change what has taken place, but we can stand for what is right and what is godly. With God's help this can be challenged in the political arena and eventually overturned. I pray for this end.

In a side-bar you will see a recommendation from MAC Director John Adams concerning steps churches

should and can take to protect themselves from those who desire to cause havoc with the Christian church and her values. Below are some additional suggestions and commentary from the American Family Association in Tupelo, Mississippi.

I feel we are in this situation today because of the lack of activism by God's people. This will not go away. As bad as it seems today, the expectation is that it will only get worse. Pray for those who have made these decisions that their hearts may be changed. Pray for the homosexual that they might come to know Christ. Pray for our civil authorities as they have been put

in the position of obeying man's law or paying a heavy price. Pray for our nation that God will have mercy. Pray for a nationwide revival and a return to the traditional Judeo-Christian values upon which our nation is based

Only God knows the future, but He never fails His people. Fervently ask our God to intervene in a mighty way to turn the hearts of our nation back to Him.

### ...from The American Family Association

As Christians, we know God, in His great wisdom, established the institution of marriage as only between one man and one woman. Not even the Supreme Court can change that.

Because of judicial activism, Chris-

### Example of a Marriage/Church Motion

from Dr. John Adams  
Moral Action Executive Director

Motion and second that \_\_\_\_\_ Church, its Pastors, preachers, staff, and members adopt the Doctrinal Statement Article III D "Marriage-God created marriage" (Gen. 1:27-28, 2:23-24). Jesus Christ declared the Creator's intention for marriage to be the inseparable and exclusive union between a man and a woman (natural man and natural woman) (Matt. 19:4-6; Mark 10:6-9). Marriage testifies of the union between Christ and the church (Eph. 5:31-32; Rom. 1:25-27).

We declare that our pastors, ministers (licensed and ordained) not marry gay or lesbian couples while being a member of \_\_\_\_\_ Church of \_\_\_\_\_, and that our building and grounds not be used in gay marriages.

Footnote – this is an example that our B.M.A. churches can use to adopt in their church.

tian ministries can and should take steps to protect their religious freedoms. No longer can even churches believe they are immune to the compulsive and aggressive nature of the homosexual agenda.

AFA strongly urges your church and other Christian ministries to consider three recommendations immediately:

Adopt a clear statement of faith regarding human sexuality and marriage.

Clarify that weddings in your church are Christian worship services.



Celebrating the recent Supreme Court decision

Adopt a policy that clearly restricts the use of ministry facilities to the ministry's religious purposes.

AFA makes several resources available to aid your church pastor, leadership and ministry in protecting itself against the coming storm of homosexual activism.

American Family Studios has produced a short documentary that provides legal analysis of the dangers posed to religious liberty by the ruling. It is available on line at afa.net.

Read and print the article written by AFA General Counsel Pat Vaughn. (Go to afa.net) It will help your church understand the dangers of doing nothing. Will a gay marriage storm crush your church?

Alliance Defending Freedom has produced a handbook that will walk your church through every step of adopting strong marriage policies, including sample resolutions and statements. A Legal Guide for Churches, Christian Schools, and Christian Ministries can be found at this web address: [www.alliancedefendingfreedom.org](http://www.alliancedefendingfreedom.org)

As Christians, we can and must guard our religious freedoms while showing Christ's mercy to people in bondage to homosexuality. Avoiding problems in the future depends on what we do today.

## Missions Giving

from previous page

First Baptist, Calhoun	\$500.00
Shiloh, Perkinston	\$500.00
Old Antioch, Soso	\$400.00
Little Creek, Perkinston	\$286.19
First Baptist, Bay Springs	\$247.00
Riverside, Ellisville	\$200.00
Forked Oak, Booneville	\$185.00
Cypress Creek, Brooklyn	\$150.00
Hopewell, Fulton	\$126.00
Lee's Chapel #2, Picayune	\$116.25
New Bethany, Ellisville	\$101.00
Parkview, Laurel	
(Crusaders SS Class)	\$100.00
Danny & Brenda Bartlett	\$100.00
Ken & Judy Blackwell	\$100.00
Raymond & Rebecca Holmes-memory of Mr. Bennie Holmes	\$100.00
Berean, Soso	\$85.00
Centerville, Mantachie	\$64.00
Spring Hill, Ocean Springs	\$58.96
First of Shady Grove, Laurel	\$50.00
Grace Mission, Clinton	\$50.00
Parkview, Laurel	
(Faith SS Class) –in memory of Betty Sandford	\$500.00

## COMMISSION ON Senior Adults

4226 Highway 15 North, Laurel, Mississippi 39440



Kenneth Flynt  
Director

### Well done, thou good and faithful servant

One of my favorite things about the Commission on Senior Adults is reuniting with old friends and saints of God through the printed page. These are what I call my heroes; people who have faithfully served the Lord with their lives. Their faithfulness serves as an encouragement to us all. Our annual Senior Conferences enable us to come together in person to fellowship in the Lord and to honor Him in a special way. The Conferences for 2016 are dated and plans are being formulated to assure you of a special blessing at "Heavens Jubilee".

The South Mississippi Senior Conference is at Big Creek Baptist Church, Soso, Mississippi, on March 22nd. The North Mississippi Senior Conference is at East Fulton Baptist Church, Fulton, Mississippi, on May 10th. Save these Dates and put them on your calendar now!

Thank you for your continued support. Send all funds to the missions office address and Mrs. Kimberly Parker will handle all bookkeeping work from there.

Have a good Summer, serve the Lord with gladness and be a blessing to someone today. It will come back to you.

May God richly bless our seniors who continue to stand for him in these troublesome times. His strength is sufficient.

**Baptist Missionary Association of Mississippi**  
www.bmaofmississippi.com

**DEPARTMENTS & COMMISSIONS**

**Mississippi Baptist Paper**  
P.O. Box 8181, Laurel, MS 39441  
601-426-3293

**Southeastern Baptist College**  
4229 Highway 15 North  
Laurel, MS 39440  
601-426-6346

**State Youth Department**  
4226 Highway 15 North  
Laurel, MS 39440  
662-397-6832

**Baptist Children's Home**  
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601-426-3928

**Missions & Revolving Loan Fund**  
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601-428-8616

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Laurel, MS 39440

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Laurel, MS 39440  
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Don Brown

**Mississippi Baptist**

**Opinion Page**

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*Journal of the Baptist Missionary Association of Mississippi*

Don Brown - Editor

**Personal Thoughts About My Friend Gary Smith**

by Editor Don Brown

Our hearts are saddened by the sudden passing of Bro. Gary Smith, pastor of East Fulton Baptist Church, Fulton, Mississippi, and current president of the BMA of Mississippi.

I first met Gary Smith when he enrolled at Southeastern Baptist College many years ago. He had surrendered to preach at Temple Church in Biloxi and made his way to SBC to study God's word and prepare himself for ministry. The first thing I noticed about him was his friendliness, his humor, and his love for preaching. For many years he had an evangelistic ministry, preached many, many revivals and blessed the hearts of all with whom he came in contact.

His friends and church members know of his love for the Lord and his dedication to preaching. He loved to sing and blessed many hearts with his music. The last time I saw him and heard him preach was at the North Mississippi Senior Adult conference in May 2015. A mighty message on salvation was delivered that day.

One of my fondest memories of Gary was his telling of an incident when he was in revival at Broadmoor Baptist Church in Meridian, Mississippi. R.D. Cline was the pastor at this time and Gary was staying in the Cline home during the week. You have to know of a TV show from many years ago called "ALF" to understand this story. Alf was an "alien life form" from the planet



Bro. Gary Smith

Melmack. It was kind of silly, but entertaining and of course filled with 'slapstick' comedy. The character ALF from the planet Melmack loved cats - that is for a good meal. They were considered a delicacy on Melmack. The family ALF was staying with had a cat for a pet and it was all they could do to keep ALF away from the cat. He was constantly calling their cat by saying, "Here kitty, kitty, kitty."

Bro. Gary's sense of humor came out one day at the Clines home. To hear Gary tell it (and I got this from his very mouth) the Clines had a pet cat. Being the person he was, Gary got down on all fours and crawled behind the couch in search of the Clines pet feline calling out "Here kitty, kitty, kitty". The joke however was on Bro. Gary. He said the Clines did not watch that show and did not know about ALF and his desire to munch on the family cat. Observing Bro. Gary's antics, the Clines all thought he was a little off his rocker. Each time I would see or talk to Bro. Gary I would often ease up to him and whisper in his ear, "Here kitty, kitty, kitty."

What sweet memories of a dear sweet man. He was dearly loved and respected and will be greatly missed. We extend our sympathy and prayers to Gary's wife Elaine and his children Danny and Stacy, his grandchildren and the entire Smith family and the membership of East Fulton Baptist Church, Fulton, Mississippi.

**Gary Smith's Last Facebook Post**

We're having a great revival at East Fulton Baptist Church. There was 1 saved this morning and others in the altar. Weeping and praying was the way the service went. Bro. Terry Paul Graham is preaching powerful sermons from Gods Word! Join us each Night at 7 and each morning at 10:30 for great singing and preaching.

**A Facebook post from someone about Bro. Gary's ministry**

The first time we met Bro. Gary Smith, we had just become a new parents, 5 days to be exact. He was with us in revival at New Hope Missionary Baptist Church. Bro. Gary Smith loved God so much you could see it pouring off of him as he preached. He wanted everyone he met to know the savior that loved him and would love us too. Bro. Gary sang from his heart, and I think that's what I'm gonna miss most. Our new baby is 16 now, and I'm sad that I won't get to see Bro. Gary here on earth again, but I wouldn't wish him back here for anything and I have no doubt that he is rejoicing in heaven next to his Heavenly Father! I will see him again.

**Another post about Bro. Gary**

In the summer of 2000, Bro. Gary preached the revival at Springhill. On Friday night, the final night of revival, I gave my life to Christ. I didn't know until afterward that he and a few other people had prayed specifically for me the night before. I'll forever have memories of him and his determination in sharing God's word. Please join me in praying for peace for his family as we all celebrate his Home-going.

**The Lonely Side**

from page 1

servation that most BMA churches are going without pastors for two to three years before finding replacements, because the pool of pastors has decreased in the past decade. This is not a problem unique to the BMA, but rather common to all denominations in our nation.

Our director at DiscipleGuide (Scott Attebery) shared a burden with me some time back to establish a "Pastors Help Line" to minister to our BMA pastors at critical moments in their lives and ministries. I recently traveled

to Colorado Springs to see what Focus on the Family is doing with their new Pastors Hotline. I watched that day as phones were being answered by people in the "call center" who have spent years in vocational ministry. These trained coaches/counselors can listen with an understanding ear and provide coaching/counseling to move pastors forward. Pastors are calling Focus on the Family about issues ranging from dealing with a difficult church member, struggles with pornography, anxiety/depression, personal marriage issues, parenting a pastor's kid, etc. Association ministry in its best form is all about helping churches and their pastors to be healthy. At DiscipleGuide,

we are excited to offer the BMA Pastors Help Line to our pastors in the very near future. This partnership with Focus on the Family is just another tool that will help the BMA pastor and his family stay healthy. There will be no cost to you or your church. Pastors, this is a gift to you from those supporting DiscipleGuide. Use it!

Within the next few weeks, you will see promotions for the BMA Pastors Help Line. Please don't be afraid to reach out and get help. Pastors, we love you and want to help be a solution to the challenges you are facing.

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# Southeastern Baptist College

Danny Pitts - Interim President

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



Danny Pitts

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

## We Will Miss Gary Smith

The recent report that Gary Smith had suddenly gone to be with the Lord was shocking. The saying, "the gain is his, the loss is ours" rings true with him and all believers who have lived for the Lord. Bro. Gary was a graduate of Southeastern Baptist College and loved her ministry. He had served at least two terms on the Board of Trustees. Our brother was a great preacher and had been used in many churches as an evangelist. Several mentioned his musical talents saying, "he sang like a bird." We will miss him greatly and pray for his family.

## Emphasis Update

I want to thank the churches which have sent in at least part of their Special Emphasis early. At the Midyear meeting, I encouraged you to consider sending in at least a portion of your empha-

sis before our financial year ended at the close of June. Several churches have sent substantial contributions during the month. At least one church has contacted us with plans to make funds available to help their pastor and other church members with the expenses at Southeastern.

## Information Available on Website

Go on our website at [www.southeasternbaptist.edu](http://www.southeasternbaptist.edu) and check out what is happening at our school. Be sure that you watch some chapel services that will bless your heart with the messages and music. You can see the schedule for Fall classes which are available on campus as well as online. Begin the process of registering by filling out the short or long form. Remember to use the website as a source for praying intelligently for the ministry at your state college.

## News From Ghana, West Africa

Missionaries Dale and Celia Broom

[brodale50@hushmail.com](mailto:brodale50@hushmail.com) - [celia\\_broom@yahoo.com](mailto:celia_broom@yahoo.com)

## Happy Father's Day from Ghana, West Africa!

We pray that everyone is blessed and well. Celia and I are doing fine. We have been real busy lately, but everything is going well. The Water for Christ team was here from May 31st



Dale & Celia Broom Relaxing

through June 11th. We worked with them in the North at the Wale Wale area and were able to drill three wells and repair some others. There were crusades every night and Bro. Rodney Castleberry shared the Gospel each evening. There were a total of 1,081 professions of faith during the crusades. Praise the Lord!

It is very dry in the North and the people were starving for water. If they got a hint that water would be coming, people would begin to bring their pans to be filled. There were some complications with the drilling due to the lack of a compressor that is powerful enough to

drill a deep well. Tim Tyler, the director of Water for Christ, is currently in search of a compressor and some hammer bits to send here to have more successful drilling. It was a blessing to be able to work with Tim Tyler and the Water for Christ team! If you would like to see pictures and things of their trip, you can follow them on the Water for Christ Facebook page.

In May, before the Water for Christ team came, the BMA of Africa had their delegates conference. Bro. Phil Knott and Bro. Rick Russell came for this event. The meeting progressed well and the business of the BMA of Africa was taken care of in a Godly manner. After the meeting Bro. Rick and Bro. Hayford Jackson traveled to Liberia to accomplish work for Lifeword concerning the Low Power FM radios. They had a very productive trip as well.

The auditorium for the Bible Institute has been in progress for several months now and at the present the trusses have been completed by the welders and delivered. Work will begin soon to put them up. We are praying that the building will be ready in order to conduct the graduation services in September of this year. We are very excited about the graduation of our students. This year we will have gradu-

## Ramble On

I think my earliest training in rambling on was initiated by my older brother Mike when we were just boys. I confess, some thirty or forty years later, I still haven't perfected the art of the ramble on. But in my pursuit of successfully talking nonsense, I feel it is my responsibility to make no sense whatsoever at least twice a day. I feel the more practice I can fit in, one day I will be able to talk nonstop all day long without saying anything of substance.

Mike could take most any subject that he had no knowledge of and talk about it for hours on end. When I was younger, I thought he was probably the smartest person that walked the face of the earth. As I matured, I deduced that he was just as dumb as the rest of us. But he was interesting, and even to this day we can sit around a campfire and talk about the ozone layer, metaphysics, geometry, and the culinary aspects of the 'possum without being cumbered down by having even a basic knowledge of any of those subjects.

With the invention of the internet, with nearly unlimited access to information on any subject, our ability to convince others of our genius has become extremely difficult. My wife says that is not the reason people think we are not geniuses, but she hasn't been training all her life in the art of rambling on. If it hadn't been for my extensive knowledge of the ramble on, I

may not have had the ability to convince her to marry me. So, genius or not, I came out pretty good on that deal.

As with most things, appearance is everything. If you can simply appear to know something, you don't have to actually know anything. Those are words to live by right there. In fact, many in the religious world have made their living by being able to convince others that what they are saying is actually true. Dazzling with Italian suits and bleached teeth, shouting loudly or whispering soothingly, blending in with a tee shirt and designer jeans, or simply declaring, "I am an old timey preacher, so follow me because anything new is heretical", have all led multitudes down a broad road to destruction.

Now before you accusers hold court and find me guilty of being skeptically intolerant, consider a few things first. The truth shall make you free, and if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature. Since these are the words of scripture, we know them to be true. And since they are true, if the truth was being proclaimed and believed, there would be a lot of free, new creatures walking around. And if there were as many free, new creatures walking around as proclaimed, a Christian society with Christian morals would be prevalent.

But don't mind me. I'm just ramblin'.

## From The Mind of Chuck Lee

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



ation for our degree students as well as our certificate students! They have worked extremely hard in order to re-



Fresh water at last

ceive their education. We have five degree students and they are looking forward to their graduation.

The Women's Fellowship Center has been completed and the ladies are now making bread. Getting started has been a little slow, but they are progressing with it and have plans to continue making bread as well as other projects in order to help the women train others to provide income for their families. They will also begin to provide daycare for their children as they teach others a skill. We would like to say "Thank You" to the following people:

1. Teresa Senn for sharing this project information that led to churches in Texas giving to support this project and the churches that gave to the project
2. Carolyn Meade for giving funds for this project when she was unable to visit Ghana with her daughter Valarie Fish and Valarie also for giving funds as well
3. Cathy Tyler and Tim Tyler for giving funds for this project for whatever was needed and also to buy sewing machines to train women to sew
4. The Mississippi WMA for raising funds for this project as their state WMA project
5. Anyone else that has helped with this project.

The Women's Fellowship and we all appreciate everything that was done on behalf of this project.

There are other projects that are still in progress, like the aquaponics projects but they have been put on hold for a little while because of a lack of time to build them. However the one at the Bible Institute is progressing and we will be eating Tilapia very soon! We

**continued on page 8**

## Women's Missionary Auxiliary

### President

Linda Smith  
2816 Old Bay Springs Rd.  
Laurel, MS 39440  
601-470-1398



### Corresponding Secretary

Mrs. Shirlene Smith  
730 Hwy 533, Laurel, MS 39443  
601-729-5638

## Happy Birthday, America!

By Linda Smith, State WMA President

As we prepare to celebrate the 239th anniversary of America's independence, my thoughts turn to how much so many have sacrificed to insure our freedoms. Liberty always comes with a price. Each generation in our history has had their own battles: American Revolution, War of 1812, Civil War, World Wars I & II, Korean War, Vietnam, Persian Gulf, Desert Storm, and the War on Terrorism to name a few.

Our generation is no different. We are in a spiritual battle for the very moral fiber of our country. Freedoms and beliefs we have long taken for granted are now being stripped away. WE MUST STAND AND FIGHT BACK!

What can we do? Prayer is first and foremost. God will only bless our land as His people pray, repent, and turn to Him. Secondly, choose to stand for God every chance we get. We should also hold our elected officials responsible to uphold the morality of our land. Moral Action of Mississippi and the BMAA, led by Dr. John Adams, is a good way to do this.

Many of you know that Moral Action is the Mississippi State WMA project for this year. As we see our flag during the holiday celebrations I would like to challenge you to (1) pray for America and her leaders, and (2) as many as can and will, give a \$13 donation to the WMA project.... \$1 for each stripe of our flag. I know God will bless our efforts!

If your church has a WMA group, please give through your auxiliary and send one check. Please also send a list of all names who contributed so their names can go on our Chain for the state meeting in October. If you are not a member of a local auxiliary just send in your donation.

Offerings for State Project should be sent as soon as possible to: Shirlene Smith, 730 Hwy 533, Laurel, MS 39443

Thank you so much for whatever you feel led to do!

## Auxiliaries Acquire New Videos

New videos developed to enhance the work of BMA auxiliaries include:

### WOMEN'S MISSIONARY AUXILIARY

**Best Day Ever** – is the keynote address given by Pat Quesbury at the National Women's Missionary Auxiliary meeting in Springfield, MO in April, 2015. It provides the viewer an opportunity to enjoy the national WMA worship service. More importantly, it is a vivid reminder that struggles in daily living can be invaluable lessons in faith. To access Best Day Ever, go to: [nationalwmaofbmaa.net](http://nationalwmaofbmaa.net) national keynote address click on link.

## National Galilean Camp Report

by Mark Jones  
Mississippi Galilean Director

The 2015 National Galilean Camp was held in Gary, Texas. Our theme this year was "OVERFLOW" Luke 6:45. Camp pastor was Bro. Jimmy Decker from Bethlehem Baptist Church in Greenbrier, Arkansas. This years camp was attended by 120 boys and men which is around 20 more than last year.



12 of the 17 young men who made decisions at Camp

Mississippi was well represented at the camp. The 2015 National Mr. Senior Galilean is Keaton Walley from Temple Baptist Church in Lucedale. Keaton also received a scholarship to Central Baptist College in Conway, Arkansas, valued at \$36,000. Our National Junior Mr. Galilean is Matthew Wheeler from Bethel Baptist Church in Fulton. National Officers from Mississippi include President Philip Christian, Secretary Logan Wilburn, Historian Bredon Martin.



National Galilean Officers

**Making a Joyful Noise in the Philippines** – is the National WMA project for 2015-2016. The video is an overview of academic programs offered by the Baptist Missionary Association Bible College (BMABC) in the Philippines, enrollment data and composition of student body. Since the project goal is to raise money for practice studios/instruments, electrical wiring updates, water system and bathroom updates, and replacing windows, a justification for each need is presented. The intent is to motivate WMA's to meet or exceed this year's financial goals.

### SUNBEAMS

**Missions in Cambodia** – is designed to teach young children (ages 3 – 8) about Missionaries John and Louella Page and the Cambodian culture. While the video was designed for the Sunbeam Program, younger GMAs and Galileans would probably enjoy it as well. It would be too juvenile for teens. During the video, the viewer takes an imaginary tour into the village where the Pages work. While the tour is "make believe", pictures are actual photos from the field. The trip culminates with a typical Cambodian meal. To access



On Left - Mr. Galilean Senior Keaton Walley from Temple Baptist Church in Lucedale. On Right - Mr. Galilean Junior is

The most important thing from the week is that 7 young men received Jesus Christ as their savior, 5 young men rededicated their lives, and 5 young men surrendered to the ministry. We had a very exciting week.

If your church does not have Galileans and would like to start please contact me, Mark Jones at 662-231-1435, email is [stonwall@yahoo.com](mailto:stonwall@yahoo.com). All it takes to start a Galilean ministry is 1 MAN and 1 BOY. Please pray for this ministry as we try to disciple young men.

## Galileans Need Help

Dear Editor:

This week, I received the following appeal from National Galilean Director Kenneth Colvert: "Our contributions are very low this year, and we are asking all churches that are willing to support the Galileans to pray and meet this need."

Galileans is a Godly, life-changing event in a young man's life. Recently, National Galilean Camp at Daniel Springs Camp in Gary, Texas, had an increase in attendance (see report on page 5 of this week's Trumpet), which calls for extra funding through the National Galilean Fund.

Please do what you can to help. Offerings may be sent to Treasurer Dan Williams, 619 Mitchell St., Conway, Ark. 72632.

National Brotherhood Editor Pat Sprigg  
16827 Spring Club Dr  
Hensley, AR 72065; [dspriggs1107@comcast.net](mailto:dspriggs1107@comcast.net)

the video, go to: [sunbeams-bmaa.net](http://sunbeams-bmaa.net) Mission Videos Cambodia link.

**Missions in Mexico** – children spend an imaginary day playing with Bro. Eric Johnson's children. The day culminates with a traditional meal from Mexico. Viewers are introduced both the Eric and Grady Johnson families, the Ricky Williams family, and the Tommy Rose family. Viewers stop by Bro. Eric's church to share a video with the children's choir as well as an open air market to purchases a snack on their return trip to the airport. The video is age appropriate for older Sunbeams as well as younger GMAs and Galileans. To access the video, go to: [sunbeams-bmaa.net](http://sunbeams-bmaa.net) Mission Videos Mexico link.

### GALILEANS

**National Galilean Camp 2015** – is a pictorial overview of the 2015 camp. It is designed for two purposes: to recap memories from the 2015 camp and to motivate camp participation. To access the video, go to: [galileans.com](http://galileans.com). click on 2015 Camp Video underneath where it says here is the link to the national camp picture video, click on 2015 Camp Video.

# MISSISSIPPI BAPTIST CHILDREN'S HOME

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



SIDNEY DAVIS

## July 4th Celebration— Independence Day

Independence Day is the birth of the United States of America. The Declaration of Independence was adopted by the Continental Congress on July 4, 1776.

The founders of our nation considered Independence Day an important occasion for rejoicing. John Adams said, "I am apt to believe it will be celebrated by succeeding generations as the great anniversary festival. It ought to be solemnized with pomp and parade, with shows, games, sports, guns, bells, bonfires, and illuminations, from one end of this continent to the other, from this time forward for evermore." Independence Day was first observed in Philadelphia on July 8, 1776. The Declaration of Independence was read, bells were rung, bands played, and the

people rejoiced. Independence Day has been celebrated throughout the country since then. In 1941, Congress declared July 4th a national holiday.

As I think of our nation and the freedom that we enjoy in this great land, I am reminded of the words of Jesus in John 8:35, "If the Son therefore shall make you free, ye shall be free indeed." Yes, we have reason to celebrate the freedom that we have as Americans, and also the freedom that is ours as Christians. May we not only reflect on our national freedom, but also in the personal freedom that we have in Jesus Christ.

## More on Students Recognized At End of School Year

In my last article I mentioned that our kindergarten boy had been pro-



Our Second Grader



Our First Grader

motored to the first grade and did well during the school year, reached his Accelerated Reader Goal, and was recognized as an Outstanding Student. Our first grade boy was promoted to the second grade being an Honor Roll student and reaching his yearly Accelerated Reader Goal. Our second grade girl was promoted to the third grade while receiving Honor Roll Award and achieving her Accelerated Reading Goal. We praise the Lord for their progress in their studies at school. More will be shared.

## Remember in Prayer and Focus Verse

Continue to remember the Home in your prayers throughout the summer months. We are thankful that the Lord continues to shower His blessings on the ministry of the Home. "If my people, which are called by my name, shall humble themselves, and pray, and seek my face, and turn from their wicked ways; then will I hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin, and will heal their land." 2 Chronicles 7:14.



Phone 662-316-6233 [www.facebook.com/bmamouth](http://www.facebook.com/bmamouth)



Kelby Johnson  
Director

## Junior Camp 2015

On June 1-3, 2015, the State Junior Camp was held at Waukaway Springs Christian Retreat Center. We had more

ary because I have a missionary God. I am a missionary because of what Jesus did for me. I am a missionary, what do



than 80 participants representing nine different churches. It was our best attended camp in several years. Bro. John David Smith did an outstanding job of preaching on the topic of "I Am A Missionary!" The sessions were broken down into the following topics: I am a mission-

I do now? I am a missionary, will it always be easy?

Bro. John David spoke in a way that was applicable to the students and challenging to all. A pastor was asked about the messages and he responded, "The topic of missions has definitely been

## Brotherhood Project Information

The Brotherhood of the BMAA (national brotherhood) Project 2015-2016 (to April 2016) is "The Philippines Publications Ministry (Sam Freeman)" (50%), National Galileans (40%), and General Fund (10%). Designations may also be sent for the Bro. Arthur Smith Memorial Scholarship Fund - for the National Mr. Galilean to attend a BMA sponsored school. Send project money to the Secretary/Treasurer: Robert M. Bynum, 43 Bear Pen Creek Rd., Laurel, MS 39443.

The Brotherhood of the Mississippi BMA (state brotherhood) Project 2014-2015 (to October 2015) is "The Disaster Relief Fund" (60%) and Mississippi Galileans (40%). Send project money to the Secretary/Treasurer: Roy Caldwell, 166 Twin Creek Rd., Lucedale, MS 39452.

In June at Galilean Camp at Daniel Springs, Gary, Texas, Mississippi Galileans were selected as National Senior Mr. Galilean (Keaton Walley, Temple Baptist, Lucedale) and National Junior Mr. Galilean (Matthew Wheeler, Bethel Baptist, Fulton), plus 7 professions of faith, and several rededications and surrenders to ministry.

These projects, including sponsorship of Galilean ministries by the Brotherhoods, are very worthy. Your Project contributions help us support Galilean ministries. Why not give to both today?!

lacking in our youngest generation for a long time, was much needed, and well presented." It was truly a great time for engaging our young people with a theology of missions. We also read Scripture, sang Christ-centered songs, performed skits, and had church group time.

The campers also enjoyed the campground experience that Waukaway provides. They spent a lot of time swimming in the freezing cold water, playing with each other and the counselors, and eating the delicious food. Waukaway always does a great job.

One of our adult leaders was asked the question "What was your favorite thing about the camp?" She said, "The fellowship. Because of the great staff at the campground and so many things for

the kids to do it gave some time for the adults to visit and encourage one another as well while the Staff was doing activities with the kids. It offered a great mixture of sponsors being able to spend time with the kids, but also the Staff doing activities with them that allowed fellowship time. Again, because of the awesome campground and safety of it, it allowed the kids to go play and be safe while others had the chance to fellowship."

Everyone had a great time at camp this year! We are already working to secure a date for 2016 and will publish that soon. We encourage you to consider our state junior camp for your 2016 camp experience.

# Lessons Learned In Ghana

from page 1

Rodney Castleberry (pastor of Calvary at White Hall) does a great job in leading the evangelism effort, and there were 1,081 professions of faith on this trip.

Without the support of BMAA churches and members, W4C couldn't do what it does. It is a team effort; and when everyone pulls together, the team provides clean water and brings Christ and salvation to people who have only known Islam and Voodoo.

It was definitely a learning experi-



ence for me. Some of the lessons I learned, in no particular order, were:

- You haven't lived until you have driven the streets of Ghana with Tim

world.

- In Ghana, gifts from visitors are given to the sub-chief, who then gives them to the chief. And you must have the permission of the local chief in order to do anything in Ghana.

- Caution should be taken when deal-



ing with fetish (voodoo) priests. It isn't wise to get too close to them and take photos while they are offering sacrifices.

- When helping with evangelistic crusades at night, watch out for vampire bats!

- Most villagers don't have any books of their own, so they will fight over a copy of the Bible.

- One man's trash is truly another



Tyler blaring Bon Jovi with the windows down in the W4C 3500 Dodge Diesel truck.

- The poorest person in America is still in the top 15% of richest people in the

child's treasure in Ghana. Children fought over a discarded water bottle because they wanted to use it to make a toy.

- It is a little (okay a lot) unnerving to



travel through military and police security checkpoints that are complete with machine guns.

- If you have a flat tire in Ghana, there is no AAA; and there are no mechanic shops to take broken equipment to for repairs — it's a "do-it-yourself" situation. Bro. Dale (with his mechanical background) and Tim (with his geolocal and engineering background) are very good at it! As Tim always says, you must "adapt and overcome."

- When electrical service isn't dependable, you appreciate it when you have it.

- A three-hour church service that includes dancing and singing is still too short.

- Soccer balls for the children and a bicycle for a pastor are gifts that are sincerely appreciated and will keep on giving for a long time.

## Most Important Lessons

- Water for Christ does much more than just provide drinking water for the thirsty. The water is used to grow crops, clean hands and bathe bodies which helps prevent disease; and the water is even being used to grow tilapia and other fish projects.

- The W4C team brings life to Ghanaian communities by showing them love,

sharing food, water and spiritual tracts that mean so much to the children who don't get papers with pictures and words on them.

- Water for Christ meets the needs of the communities we visit and boosts the local economy as buy cement, rock, water, fuel and more.

## Conclusion

People (including Editor Diane Spriggs) told me I would never be the same after a trip like this, and I can attest to the truth in that statement. Now, more than ever, I know we are truly blessed to live here in America with all of our luxurious items and materialistic wants. But I also know that the greatest joy any person can have is to give the gospel of Jesus Christ and a Bible to study to those who "are in darkness."

Water for Christ brings water to those who are physically thirsty, but it primarily brings Living Water to quench the dryness of a soul. To find out how you can help with the work of Water for Christ, visit [www.waterforchrist.com](http://www.waterforchrist.com) or email [info@waterforchrist.com](mailto:info@waterforchrist.com). Donations may be sent to BMAA Missions Dept., Attention: Water for Christ, P.O. Box 878, Conway, AR 72033.

## CHURCH NEWS IN BRIEF

### Hopewell Fulton sets Revival

Hopewell Baptist Church, Fulton, Mississippi, will begin revival services on July 26 and go through July 29. Our speakers include Bro. Bert Harper from American Family Association, Bro. Roger Akers, Pastor of East Amory Baptist Church and Dr. John Adams, Pastor of FBC, Mantachie. The Shiloh Trio will be singing on Tuesday night. The nightly service will begin at 7:00 pm. Everyone is invited to attend.

Matt Hudson, Pastor

### Oak Grove Association To Meet

by Ed Steele, Reporter

The Oak Grove Missionary Baptist

Association will meet with Mount Gilead Baptist Church near Columbia at 7:00 p. m. on July 16. All our churches are urged to be present for a great time of worship and taking care of the Lord's business.

### Texas Minister Dies

Bro. Pete Duggar, 80, a longtime BMA pastor, died Tuesday, June 23, in a Tyler hospital. He served as pastor of several churches in the Wood County and Liberty Associations. His funeral service was held June 25 at Croley Funeral Home in Gilmer. Burial was in Rosewood Cemetery. Bro. Duggar was a member of Rosewood Church, Gilmer.

## News From Ghana

From page 5

have also had a crop of corn and butterbeans that was watered and fertilized from the water in the tanks. Thank you to everyone that has helped with these projects as well.

Lastly, Celia and I will be going home on furlough during the months of November, 2015 through April, 2016. We are now beginning to book places to go and share about the work taking place in Ghana. If you would like to have us speak at your church, organization, or event you can contact us through email (addresses are located at the top of this report) or you can message us on Facebook. We would love to visit with you to share what is happening with the BMA of Africa and are looking forward to our visit in the states.

## Brooms Schedule Furlough

Dear Editor:

We will be coming home on furlough from November 2015 through April 2016, and are now beginning to schedule places to go and share about the work that is taking place in Ghana. If you would like to have us speak at your church, organization or event, please contact us [brodale50@hushmail.com](mailto:brodale50@hushmail.com), [celia\\_broom@yahoo.com](mailto:celia_broom@yahoo.com) or message us on Facebook.

We are looking forward to our visit in the States, and would love to visit with you to tell you what is happening with the BMA of Africa.

— Missionaries Dale and Celia Broom