

# Mississippi Baptist

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## Lifeword Visionary Leaders around the World

### Part Three

As Lifeword begins year number 38 of fund-raising through walks, other events or Lifeword Sunday offerings, the ministry looks forward to exciting new innovations made possible through advancements in technology. Development of the Lifeword Cloud or Lifeword Network is in the brainstorming and discussion stage and will allow listeners, affiliates and producers to access a repository of programs and multi-language discipleship materials at [lifeword.org](http://lifeword.org).

Even as this endeavor is in the works, low power, low wattage (Lifeword Community Radio or LCR) stations are enabling highly populated, but difficult-to-access areas of the world to hear the gospel, sometimes for the first time. These local stations operated by indigenous leaders, pastors, and church planters are growing in number thanks to the relentless work of visionary leaders around the world.

Lifeword calls these men who are dedicated to searching (often in very rough terrain) for unreached people groups "visionary leaders," and we would like to highlight their efforts in three areas of the world: Central/South America, Europe/Africa and the Philippines.

The following men are visionary lead-

ers in Africa, and their job of establishing new LCR stations is further complicated because of restrictions and government interference in the licensing process. Living in an area where religious practices center on animism and superstition, they have a burden for sharing the gospel with their people:

### Hayford Jackson

Country/Region: Ghana, West Africa

Bio: Speaker on Lifeword's Twi broadcast and engineering producer for nine other African-language broadcasts, he was the first person outside Lifeword's home office to catch the vision of what a Lifeword Community Radio (LCR) station could mean to a local church. Hayford has worked diligently on the idea for the past few years and led his church to build studios and apply for a commercial license. He hopes to be LCR's very first licensed radio station.



Hayford Jackson  
Community Radio (LCR) station could mean to a local church. Hayford has worked diligently on the idea for the past few years and led his church to build studios and apply for a commercial license. He hopes to be LCR's very first licensed radio station.

### Abraham Cheyee'

Country/Region: Liberia

Bio: Speaker on the Western Krahn broadcast, when Ebola ravaged Liberia

it literally came to the entrance of his subdivision. Abraham saw firsthand how radio became the information lifeline for people trapped inside their homes, and it changed his pastoral values: He moved his family Abraham Cheyee' from the comfort of a big city church to live among his native people far away and win them to Christ. His church's LCR station will likely become the second licensed station.



Abraham Cheyee'

### Renatus Kanunu

Country/Region: Tanzania

Bio: Renatus is lead pastor and producer of the new Swahili broadcast. Only recently introduced to LCR, the first Tanzanian station is not on the air yet, but his transmitter is already being used to draw attention when evangelistic teams arrive in a new village. During set-up for the evening's open-air meeting and showing of the Jesus Film, announcements, interviews and invitations are broadcast to the entire village.



Renatus Kanunu

## Southeastern Sets Inauguration Service for Dr. Scott Carson

The Committee for the Inauguration of Dr. Scott Carson and the Faculty and Staff of Southeastern Baptist College in Laurel Mississippi, invite you to the Inauguration of Dr. Scott Carson in the office of President.

The ceremony will begin at 6:00 P.M. on Thursday, August 3, 2017 in the Multi-Purpose Building on campus, located at 4229 Highway 15 North, Laurel, Mississippi 39443. For more information, please call, 601-426-6346.

There will be a reception following.

Chris Floyd

Committee for the Inauguration of Dr. Scott Carson



Dr. Scott Carson  
President

## "He Came Riding Up on a Stick Horse"

A Shepherd Bag Story by Fonda Norris  
Evangelistic International Ministries Shepherd Bag Coordinator

Our van pulled into the rocky dirt drive of the small village school in Honduras as we had countless times before. It had been a long drive up the narrow mountain road to arrive here. The excited children in their blue and white school uniforms were already assembled and waiting for us under the beautiful shade trees on the school yard. As I got out of the van and began to walk through the iron gate to the entrance of the school, I noticed a small boy of about five years old come riding up to the school on his "stick horse." When he got to the school, he got off his horse and promptly leaned it against the fence and draped the string through the wire. I could not help but smile.

Hold onto this mental picture of a little boy with the big imagination while I share this thought that the Lord put into my mind later on that night.

With all of the diversions of technology in our culture now, we rarely see children playing with the old fashioned toys of yesteryear. This young Honduran boy's stick horse was a small, simple stick with a piece of string tied to it. It was not valuable to the world around

him, but to him it was a horse. His horse. And he was happy.

When thinking of the Great Commission to preach the Gospel of Jesus all over the world, I thought how easy it



is to get into a mind set of thinking in order to do that it must be complicated, fancy, expensive or digitally enhanced in order to be effective. In other words, with lots of bells and whistles. I think we can over complicate what it means to "go and preach the Gospel." Yet as

see EIM on page 6

## BAPTIST MISSIONARY ASSOCIATION OF MISSISSIPPI

## Missions Department &amp; Revolving Loan Fund

Larry Geraldson  
Director

www.bmams.org - 601.428.8616



**"And let fall also some of the handfuls of purpose for her, and leave them, that she may glean them, and rebuke her not."** Ruth 2:16

Boaz commanded the young men to leave handfuls of barley behind so that Ruth would be blessed as she gathered. I often feel that God is doing the same for the BMA of Mississippi in Missions. We continue to pray the Lord of the harvest that He will raise up more laborers to go out into the fields and gather.

## New Mission Project Scheduled To Begin

The Foundation Baptist Mission led by Missionary Dale Broom, will begin missionary activity in July, Lord willing. The mission will be located in South Hattiesburg. Please pray for Bro. Broom. Since his return from Africa, he has been, most of the time, in and out of ICU at Forrest General Hospital. He was home recovering, but as I was preparing this article, I received a text that he was back in the hospital. Please lift him up in your prayers.

## Freedom Baptist Mission Set To Organize

Freedom Baptist Mission in Burnsville, Mississippi, will organize on July 29 at 1 o'clock. Missionary Bobby Elliott invites all who can, to attend. The address is 491 CR 313 Burnsville, Mississippi.

## Progress Being Made On New Constructions

Recently, I traveled to Southaven and Clinton, Mississippi to view the progress of the construction of these new church buildings. I spoke with the Contractors at both locations and they expressed confidence that their projected completion dates (August for Central at Southaven and September for Grace Baptist Mission at Clinton) are still good. The sites have been fully developed, the foundations have been laid, and, as I write this article, the framing should be underway. We are excited to see this progress in spite of the challenges of weather. Please keep these missions and these building projects in your prayers.

## VBS and Youth Camp

Like most churches, our missions typically schedule and/or participate in Vacation Bible Schools and Youth Encampments during the summer. The

## News Notes.....

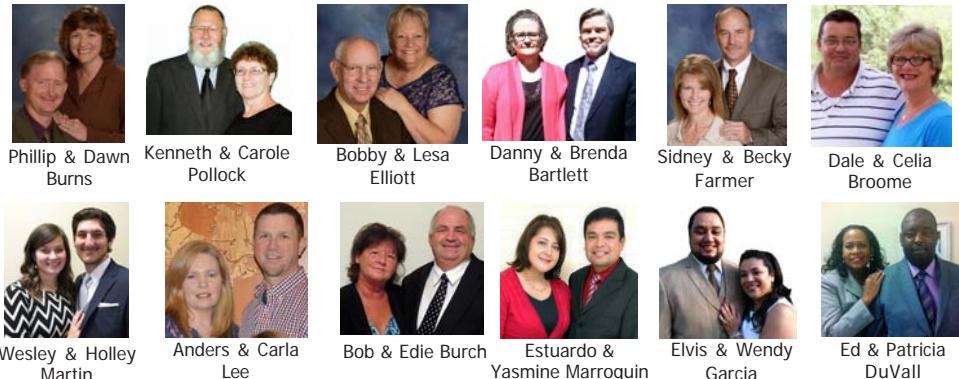
## Rocky Branch In Revival

Rocky Branch Baptist Church in Sumrall will hold revival services on July 9-14. Guest speakers will be Glen Pace on July 9, Greg Medenwald on July 10, Greg Bennett on July 11, Glen Shoemake on July 12, Brandon Wilson on July 13, and Johnny Williams on July 14. Jeffrey Coulter will be guest music minister. Please make plans to join us!

## Oak Grove Association to Meet

The Oak Grove Missionary Baptist Association will be meeting with Midway First Baptist Church on July 13. The meeting will begin at 7:00 after a time of food and

## State Missionaries and Wives



Hobolochitto Association invited a number of our State Missionaries to speak at their camp this year. Redemption Baptist Mission is yet to have their VBS which is scheduled for July 24-28, 6:00-8:00 each night. This is a great way for Redemption to reach out to the folks at Diamondhead.

## Close Out

In June we do budget planning and in July we close our books and prepare for the 4 or 5 member team of Auditors who will arrive in early August to spend the week going through our books. We feel good that we will close with another good year. Should you receive an inquiry from our Auditors, please respond in a timely fashion, so that the audit is not delayed.

## Revolving Loan Fund Continues To Grow

We have plenty of funds to meet the needs of your church's loan request or refinancing request. Please consider the Revolving Loan Fund, if you need a loan. The current rate of interest to BMA of Mississippi churches is 4.25%.

## Information Needed

We maintain a list of available preachers and churches without pastors, on our website. If you have information that would help us keep this data up to date, please give us a call or send us an email. We routinely receive calls from churches who are looking for recommendations.

## Visit Our Website and Facebook Page

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

fellowship which will begin in their Family Life Center a little after 6:00. Each church is encouraged to elect messengers to attend this meeting.

Ed Steele, Reporter

## Laurel Church Staff Openings

Parkview Baptist Church is currently accepting resumes for the position of part-time music director. Please send resumes to [pastor@pbclaurel.com](mailto:pastor@pbclaurel.com) or contact Bro. Shane Singleton at 601-319-0344.

Parkview Baptist Church is currently accepting resumes for the position of part-time church secretary. Must have bookkeeping experience and be familiar with Quicken. Please send resumes to [pastor@pbclaurel.com](mailto:pastor@pbclaurel.com) or contact Bro. Shane Singleton at 601-319-0344.

Reports for June 2017				
	High Attendance	Membership	Total Offerings	Mother Church
<b>BMA of Mississippi (Church Planting Coach)</b>				
Dr. Robert Burch (Caledonia)	104	100	\$7,150.00	
Sidney Farmer (S. Forrest)	55	51	\$6,028.00	
<b>BMA of Mississippi (Church Planters)</b>				
Bobby Elliott (Burnsville)	44	52	\$2,056.00	Forked Oak
Danny Bartlett (Clinton)	23	16	\$4,295.00	Wilderness
Phillip Burns (Sumrall)	21	15	\$3,461.00	First Bay Springs
Wesley Martin (Diamondhead)	62	27	\$7,686.00	Campground
Anders Lee (Southaven)	144	118	\$13,703.00	Charity
Dr. Kenneth Pollock (Batesville)	13	9	\$1,132.00	First Baptist Mantachie
<b>BMA of Mississippi Hispanic Missions (Estuardo Marroquin - Manager)</b>				
(Estuardo Marroquin is also the Co-Pastor of El Camino, which serves as the mother church for the church plants listed below.)				
El Camino Marciano Montalvo (Laurel)	135	124	\$3,767.00	
<b>Church Planters</b>				
Leo Adam (Hattiesburg)	39	12	\$1,579.00	El Camino
Jamie Galicia (Biloxi)	15	2	\$46.00	El Camino
Lucas Gomez (Canton)		2		El Camino
<b>(Elvis Garcia - Coordinator)</b>				
(Elvis Garcia is also the Co-Pastor of Way, Truth & Life, which serves as the mother church for the church plants listed below.)				
Way, Truth & Life Byron Morales (Ripley)	84	95	\$3,765.00	
<b>Church Planters</b>				
Humberto Regalado (Tupelo)	26	14	\$1,120.00	Way, Truth & Life
Luis Hutchin (Oxford)	35	7	\$1,487.00	Way, Truth & Life
Daniel Polanco (Horn Lake)		2		Way, Truth & Life
<b>BMA of Mississippi African American Missions (Ed DuVall - Coordinator)</b>				
(Ed DuVall is also the Sr. Pastor of Homestretch which serves as the mother church for the church plants listed below.)				
Homestretch (Cleveland)	36	50	\$2,312.00	
<b>Church Planters</b>				
James Cook (Olive Branch)	21	19	\$3,200.00	Homestretch
Collectively, our missionaries reported 343 new contacts, 266 opportunities to share the gospel, and witnessed 76 professions of faith 1 baptism and 1 joined by letter in June 2017.				

## Former Pastor and Missionary Dies

Rev. Henry Horton passed away on Saturday, June 17, 2017 in Waco, Texas, at the age of 73. He was born January 22, 1944. He and his wife Vannette celebrated 54 years of marriage together. Rev. Horton graduated from Jacksonville Baptist College and Baylor University. Rev. Horton pastored Lost Prairie Baptist Church in Groesbeck then served as a missionary to France from 1966 to 1970. He pastored Calvary Baptist Church in Mesquite for 10 years and Round Prairie Baptist Church in Fairfield for 7½ years. He pastored Antioch Baptist Church of Conway, Arkansas for 20 years, retiring in 2008 for health reasons and returned home to Fairfield.

He is survived by his wife Vannette Horton of Fairfield; a daughter, ReNae Eyre and husband Shawn of Jacksonville, Texas; a grandson Bradley Eyre and wife Alayna of Keller, Texas; a granddaughter, Lauren Crawley and husband Caleb of Conway, Arkansas; a sister, Charlene Allbright of Cypress, Texas; a sister, Allene and C.W. "Carol" Stubbs of Houston, Texas.

## Meet our new Church Planter - John Rey Navarte

by Stan Scroggins  
Missionary to the Philippines

J.R. graduated from the BMA Bible College back in March. He is an honor graduate and considered to be one of our most outstanding students ever. Every student seeking a ministry degree is required to spend a semester in the field as an intern. J.R. spent his intern semester in Honda Bay on the island of Palawan.

J.R. worked with the Honda Bay Baptist Church under pastor Rex, another BMABC graduate. Pastor Rex



John Rey Navarte

and the congregation loved him so much they wanted him to come and work with them after graduation. Knowing God's will for him to return to Palawan, J.R. could see the doors opening for church planting.

Along with our supporters in the U.S. and support from the church in Honda Bay, we knew God was giving us a special opportunity to collaborate together reaching people and planting a church on this island.

Donna and I have traveled there twice now and will work closing with Missionary Navarte with salary support and training. He has already selected a



Stan & Donna Scroggins

Barangay (like a sub-division in the Philippines) and begun a home Bible study with 12 attenders. Danny Ballard, our BMA Missionary in Manila, took a Filipino Volunteer Student Mission team to Honda Bay in May. The team provided funds to build a "parsonage" for J.R. The Honda Bay Baptist Church gave him a spot for it next to the church. It's simple, but J.R. is very proud of it.

### Ministry Opportunity

J.R. needs transportation. We've located a used motorcycle for \$500.00. Anyone who could help with this let me know. You can connect with J.R. on FaceBook to encourage him.

**Editor's Note:** To contact Missionary Stan Scroggins you may go to their website at [thescroggins.com](http://thescroggins.com) or email him at [stan@fbcmagnolia.com](mailto:stan@fbcmagnolia.com).

## How Old Did You Say You Are?

From the Mississippi Baptist Archives

Having been on both ends of the pastoral spectrum as far as age is concerned, I have lately formulated some opinions about the advancing age of a prospective pastor. Few churches call pastors who are above "fiftyish" years old. This is an observation on my part, not scientifically collected, accurate, irrefutable data. I know there are exceptions to what I have observed. There are some older men called to a pulpit who experience great success. The church wonders why they did not call an older man before. The opposite is also true. That older pastor "just did not work out, so we had to let him go. We'll never do this again."

### Leave It To Cleaver



Dr. Tony Cleaver is a retired U.S. Army Chaplain and Director of Distance Learning for BMA Seminary. You may contact him at [jstmcleaver@embarqmail.com](mailto:jstmcleaver@embarqmail.com)

If you plot on the X axis (the up and down of a graph) the age of the pastor and plot on the Y axis (the left to right of a graph) the ability, knowledge, and experience of the pastor it would be a line going up (to the right). As the pastor ages, he gets more experience. As the pastor matures, he gains insight from events with people. As the pastor spends time alone with God, he becomes more spiritually acute. These things do not happen overnight.

If you were to plot on the X axis the age of the pastor and plot on the Y axis the incidence of the local church calling, you would see a line going down (to the right). The older the man, the less likely the church is to call him. He has too much experience! He is not malleable or congregation fit. This might be true.

My guess is that if these two lines were plotted on the same graph, they would intersect somewhere about fiftyish something of pastor age. As the pastor experience goes up - somewhere about/above 50 years old - this line intersects with the age going down of the churches in their call of the pastor - about/above 50.

I do not see any age qualifications mentioned in Titus and Timothy. Paul does say to Timothy to be careful regarding his behavior so that his youth does not sully the work of his ministry. He does not prohibit him from his work because of his age. He simply cautions him to take care regarding youthful behavior.

## SOUTHEASTERN BAPTIST COLLEGE

### Special Emphasis 2017



\* SILVER AWARD MILITARY FRIENDLY SCHOOL FOR 2017

\* #7 MOST AFFORDABLE SMALL PRIVATE COLLEGE FOR 2017

Our Needed Goal - \$20,000

continued on page 7

## Ministering To Young People

by Anders Lee

### A TOOL OR A TRAGEDY?

If you read my last article, you know already that this is a continuation of last month's topic. To briefly recap, I proposed that when social media is used as a tool, it could be an incredible asset to ministry and a tool for the Kingdom!

The flip side of that coin is that it can be a tragedy. I drive a bus in our school district. It picks up teens who have been put into the DCAC system. DCAC stands for Desoto County Alternative School. DCAC is a school where teens who have made mistakes go for a short period of time so they learn more discipline about their choices in life and in school. It's a good system that helps 95% of the kids to do better.

On my bus they call me "THA PASTOR!" They really do respect me. I'm glad to have a great relationship with the majority of the kids. This past year a super nice senior in High School got on my bus. When he found out I was a pastor he was relieved to be on my bus because he was "afraid" to go to DCAC with all the "bad kids." He was the last kid I dropped off in the afternoon. So, one day he asked me; "Pastor, do you know why I'm on this bus?" I'm never told why teens come on, my job is simply to get them to and from school. I replied; "I have no clue."

He volunteered that he had taken a picture on Snapchat that was published accidentally. He was remorseful that many saw the picture before it was removed. One of the people who saw the picture was a teacher's daughter. That teacher reported it to school officials.

The young man was immediately removed from school and sent to DCAC.

I really got to know him over the course of time that he was on



Anders Lee

board. He is a solid young man, a believer, who is very active in a youth group of a huge Baptist church here in our county. He made one foolish mistake that got him into a world of trouble.

Teens are going to make mistakes! Social media is just the kind of thing that can get really good teens in bad trouble. Technology is literally everywhere in our homes and the pace of technological change has outstripped



our ability to develop enough wisdom to handle it. We are stuffing our lives with technology's new promises, with no clear sense of whether technology will help or harm us and our children.

For that reason, Barna Research Group has recently polled Christian parents in our nation. Their finding was that 77% of parents say that because of the technology available it is more difficult to raise kids than when

their parents raised them. They have nowhere to turn. Normally they would ask their parents about what they did to handle different areas of parenting. This, however, is uncharted territory. This is the first generation of parents that have ever had to deal with advanced technology.

I want to challenge youth pastors to obtain a full under-

standing of the capabilities of the apps these teens are using. Why? Parents that you serve are busy. They are working long hours, taking kids to various practices, running their homes, paying bills, and bringing their kids to all your youth group activities. They really do not have time to research the apps that their kids are using. I know youth pastors are busy too! BUT...in the world that you are living in, you need to take the time to know what's out there and share it with your parents. They will love you for it, trust and listen to you when you take the time to do the research.

If you don't warn them about it now, more than likely they will end up in front of your desk needing help later. It's a preventative step in ministry. So READ, RESEARCH, and SHARE what you find! Teens today are tech-savvy! Most parents have to ask their own kids to show them how to use it. Before this age hit, kids depended on parents for information. My parents bought us encyclopedias. Now in this age of technology parents are buying iPhones. What a difference!

As parents and youth pastors we are called to stay on top of this thing! Titus 2:11 states that we are to "live self-controlled,



Don Brown  
Editor



*Journal of the Baptist Missionary Association of Mississippi*

## Special Emphasis, Money, Blessings, Opportunities

July and August are Special Emphasis months for South-eastern Baptist College. Each department and area of ministry of our work has designated times for raising additional special and operating funds. I find that most of our churches and members respond well to these special drive times. They are essential to the fiscal health of the many ministries of the BMA of Mississippi and America. There is certainly no limit on times people give or departments raise operating funds.

In this issue there is information about the needs of the college as well as other ministries. An article from Evangelistic International Ministries (EIM) shares the need for funds for expenses and Shepherds Bags. A story about a recent graduate of the Philippine Bible College by Bro. Stan Scroggins includes a note about the need for \$500.00 to purchase a motorbike for his church planting ministry. The needs and opportunities are endless. The blessings to the giver and the recipient are overflowing. Bro. Michael Poirier shares the need for funds to continue to minister to the people of Haiti.

It is truly a joy to give and to see the fruits provided by God by the gifts and efforts of those on the mission field. Let us be 'cheerful givers' and support the ministry opportunities are so abundant!

upright, and godly lives in this present age." Since a youth pastor's calling is to help teens do that, put researching this and sharing it with your parents on your top priority list!

There is much information available for you online. Let me recommend a book to you. "The Tech Wise Family" by Andy Crouch. Crouch shares many things that will help parents and families "reclaim real life in a world of devices."

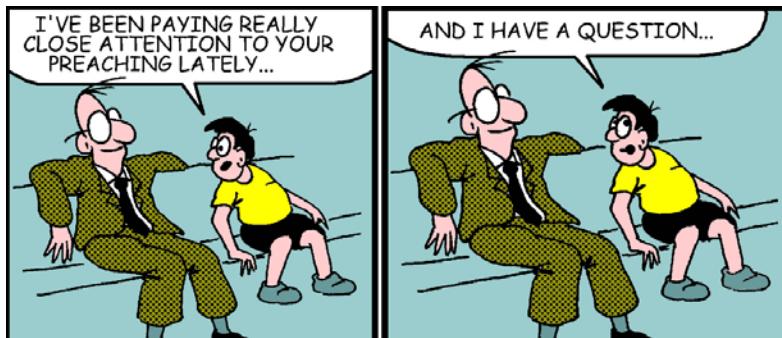
As I write this article, our

church is in 40 Days of Prayer. I will end the article by asking you to stop and pray for your parents and teens in this matter. I am praying that you will take the time to address it in your local church. Friend, we

have always been in a fight for our teens. Welcome to the new battle scene! Put your armor on and jump in!!!

*Lee is a church planter in Southhaven, Mississippi. He is a pastor and former youth minister and may be contacted at anders.lee571@gmail.com*

### Church of the Covered Dish BY THOMAS TAPP



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# Southeastern Baptist College

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

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

## President's Perspective

"First, I thank my God through Jesus Christ for you all, that your faith is spoken of throughout the whole world." Romans 1:8

Wow! And I mean a really big WOW! Do you remember the sound of ripping out a sheet of paper from a typewriter? Well, get that sound into your head (it's more of a "zip" sound)... I just changed the topic of this message. I had an article half written when the Lord suddenly changed my mind when a check was placed into my hand.

I am overwhelmed by the generosity of our folks in the BMA of Mississippi! I publicly asked for your help in raising an additional \$20,000 before the end of June to ensure that Southeastern Baptist College remains in the black as we closed our fiscal year. You have done it! Praise the Lord!

Meeting this goal means that we are on our way toward achieving the first requirement set by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools (SACS), that before a college can make application for their accreditation, a school must remain fiscally in the black for three consecutive years. When Southeastern Baptist College meets this three-year goal, we can, and only then, begin the long process of earning SACS accreditation. This is absolutely critical to the future of SBC. We have turned away scores of potential students over the years who would have otherwise attended SBC had we possessed SACS accreditation. SACS accreditation allows us to transfer our credits to nearly any state and secular college. Many students want to begin their academic experience at SBC, but not having the

ability to transfer to a state school, they decide to go elsewhere in order to protect their hard-earned credits.

Currently, SBC is accredited by the Association of Biblical Higher Education (ABHE). This is a good accreditation, and we will endeavor to maintain it. ABHE credits are transferable to numerous private and religious colleges throughout the nation. However, most state schools do not accept ABHE credits. They can, but the vast majority of secular colleges and universities have chosen otherwise. So, in order to overcome this serious obstacle to recruitment, and to support our students in their educational endeavors, I have decided that a major goal to accomplish while I am the president of SBC is to attain SACS accreditation.

I say, "Thank you!" to each church within the BMA of Mississippi and to every individual who has faithfully followed the Lord's leading in financially supporting Southeastern Baptist College! I envision a bright future for our school as we continue to pursue academic excellence in equipping the saints. God bless you, and.... Wow!

## Special Emphasis

Southeastern Baptist College's Special Emphasis Months are July and August for focused donations from churches and individuals. All BMA of Mississippi churches should have received materials to assist them in the



Dr. Scott Carson  
President

college's fund-raising campaign. If you did not receive your packet, give us a call and we will get it mailed to you immediately. As a reminder, Southeastern Baptist College is a 501(c)(3) certified tax deductible charity.

## President Installation Observance

You are invited to an Inauguration Ceremony for Dr. Scott R. Carson in recognition of him taking the reins of leadership for Southeastern Baptist College. The event will be held at Southeastern Baptist College on August 3, 2017, at 6 p.m. in the college gymnasium. If you plan to attend, please R.S.V.P. by calling the school at 601-426-6346.

## Fall Pre-registration

Register NOW for the Fall Semester! Classes begin August 15. Among the many courses offered is Greek I. Learn to study God's Word in the original Greek language! Contact Ronnie Kitchens or Mrs. Emma Bond at 601-426-6346.

## BMATS Course Offered

In conjunction with the BMA Theological Seminary, Dr. Carson will teach a course entitled, "Special Studies in Ministry - Current Pastoral Issues" this Fall at Southeastern Baptist College. Classes begin August 15, 2017. This course is BOTH at the Masters level and the Bachelors level with slightly different requirements for each level. The class will explore the pros and cons of contemporary worship movements. Contact the BMAT Seminary to register at toll free: 800-259-5673 or via email: bmats@bmats.edu The BMATS website is: <http://bmats.edu/> You may also contact Dr. Carson for additional information at 601-426-6346.

Revolving Loan Fund. Our recruiter, Ronnie Kitchens, has all the information you need to sign up for classes and financial aid. Contact Brother Ronnie at 601-426-6346 or [rkitchens@southeasternbaptist.edu](mailto:rkitchens@southeasternbaptist.edu)

## VA Benefits

SBC possesses the 2017 Silver Award as a military friendly college! Have you served in America's armed forces? Then you probably have Veterans Administration tuition benefits that you can use toward a free education right here at SBC. There is a time limit to your VA benefits, so I urge you to contact your local VA representative for an evalua-

## Recognizing Former Staff



Southeastern Baptist College recently said goodbye to three stellar faculty members. SBC is grateful for these who passionately invested their time and talents into the academic achievement of their students. Pictured left to right: Dawn Burns; Cera Thompson; Dr. Scott Carson; Corbey Jones

tion of your benefits. You earned them. Use them before it's too late! And remember, the Post 9-11 GI Bill is fully transferable to family members. SBC has numerous students receiving VA assistance for both online and in-classroom tuition.

## Vehicle

## Vehicle Needs

Southeastern Baptist College is in need of a late model four door pickup truck with low mileage. Our current mini-van is old with high mileage and in need of replacement. Contact us if you are interested in donating your truck. Southeastern Baptist College is a 501(c)(3) certified tax deductible charity.

## Available to Preach

Thank you for the many churches providing Dr. Carson an opportunity to preach the Word of God to your congregations! Dr. Carson is available to fill the pulpit for preaching or to make a presentation about the great work and vision of Southeastern Baptist College. You can reach him at 601-433-4736 or at [scarson@southeasternbaptist.edu](mailto:scarson@southeasternbaptist.edu)

## Big Creek Ladies Retreat

August 11-12, 2017

Big Creek Baptist Church, Soso, Mississippi

### Bearing Much Fruit

"But he fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, meekness, temperance: against such there is no law." Gal. 5:22-23

**Registration \$40.00** - Includes Friday Supper and Saturday Breakfast

For more information contact Big Creek Baptist Church at 601-763-8100 8:00 am - Noon or email [office@bigcreeksoso.com](mailto:office@bigcreeksoso.com)

### Guest Speaker



Jenae Polok, Galena, Kansas

## From The Mind of Chuck Lee

# Possum on the Run

In the early to mid 1980's, I experienced a nightmare that elicits such horrid memories that it is still hard to speak of to this day. I shudder even now as a wave of darkness suddenly envelops the room as my thoughts return to that... "Turn the light back on"! Sorry. My youngest child just came through and flipped the lights off. Anyway, I was speaking of a past memory evoking a moment of temporary dread in which no teenager should ever have to be exposed. My high school years.

Sure, time has taken the edge off of reality and at times (when I am reminiscing to my children), I recall a debonair young man about town with a biting wit and social fan club that clamored for just a few minutes of my presence. As more years pass, I am sure I will have been captain of the football team who had to turn down scholarships from all major Division I colleges with professional teams salivating for the time I would be eligible to offer me record breaking monetary deals to play starting quarterback. But, alas, I will just have to wait a few more years for that to happen. Perhaps the grandkids will get to be enthralled at my athletic abilities hindered only by the fact that I had a touch of arthritis that kept me from being a multimillionaire adored by millions of people across the world.

We only had one four way stop sign in



Bro. Chuck Lee

our little town that intersected with the main highway. There was a gas station, a barber shop, a family owned grocery, and a chicken hut. Needless to say, there wasn't much to do at night

*"Possum on the Run" was a game we came up with that employed the use of CB radios that every boy in our community had installed in their trucks.*

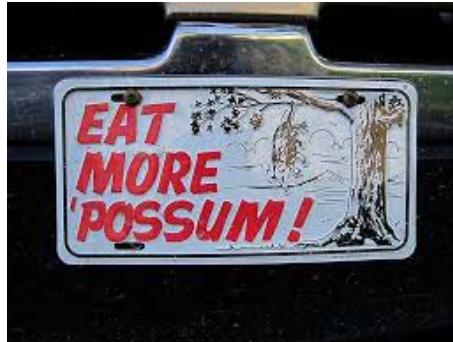
except coon hunt, and girls just didn't dig slopping through the swampy woods of south Louisiana after a poor coon. Well, most of them didn't, but those weren't the girls we were after. As a result, us boys had to find another means of enticing the ladies to ride



around with us at night. Thus, "Possum on the Run" was invented.

"Possum on the Run" was a game we came up with that employed the use of CB radios that every boy in our community had installed in their trucks. Someone, the "possum", would take their vehicle, and if lucky enough, their girl,

and hide somewhere. This could be off an abandoned roadway, behind the filling station, or even in someone's yard. Everyone else would meet up at the high school parking lot and sit on tailgates,



spit their cud, and talk to the local deputy that, oftentimes, would join in on the fun. When the possum was hid, he would start giving clues, and everyone would race to see who could find him first. You knew you were close when the power signal on the radio got strong. Whoever found the possum would then get to be the possum and we would repeat the process.

As all good things, too many people got involved that misused our privileges around the local citizenry and we had to move our game to the outskirts of town to some paper company land. It was even more fun there because we always wound up having to pull somebody out of the mud. This pastime helped to ease the forced enrollment in school and deliver us safely to the excitement of adulthood. I'm not sure what I thought adulthood would be like, but it had to be better than high school.

At least it got me through the Dark Ages... "Turn that light back on and quit turning it off"! You would think my wife wouldn't resort to such behavior.

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

## EIM

### from front page

Jesus went from place to place meeting people where they were, He carried nothing except a heart of love, the dust on his feet and the simplicity of the Gospel.

The Shepherd Bag Ministry is a very simple ministry. We designed it to be that way and never plan to change it. Why? Because it is so effective. Surely a small, simple unisex one gallon ziploc bag filled with the same items for all the children cannot change a child or adults eternal future can it? No it can't. It was never meant to.

We decided many years ago that it is not about the bag. The bag is only a tool that God uses to open the door for us to go into schools and villages. It is about the Savior and the Gospel that is preached before the Shepherd Bags are given out

that can and does change them for eternity. It costs seven dollars to put one Shepherd Bag together and ship it overseas to the waiting hands and heart of a child overseas. That's the price of a fast food meal. By keeping it simple and the costs low, it allows us to make many more bags which in turn allows us to reach more of the lost with the Gospel. And that's what it's all about. Very simple and effective.

So as the Lord continues to open the Unharvested Fields, EIM will carry Shepherd Bags and head up those narrow dusty roads into the mountains, across the rivers and through the creeks. There's a lost world of boys and girls like the little boy on the stick horse. Lost without the One who died for him. I'm so thankful to be involved in EIM's Shepherd Bag Ministry and for God allowing me to see multitudes come to know Jesus because of a small, one gallon bag that He uses to open hearts

and draw them to Himself.

At present we are working on a Honduras shipment. We currently have 11,000 unisex Shepherd Bags almost completed and will work to get 16-18,000 total before shipping our container. When we finish the Honduras shipment, we will begin working on a shipment of 16-18,000 bags for Tanzania as well as the Philippines. We are so excited that our EIM Gospel Story Coloring book and John 3:16 Frisbee that we place into our bags have been translated into Swahili for Tanzania. This is our newest translation. To date we have had both the Gospel books and Frisbees translated into seven different languages.

If you'd like to support this ministry or have questions, please feel free to contact me at fnorris@eimworldwide.org or go to our website at www.eimworldwide.org It's a very small investment with an eternal impact.

## The Poirier's Quebec and Haiti

Blessings from the Poirier's,

We have just finished our Maximum Impact and it has been a wet one this year. It rained periodically every day, the moment we started going door to door it would rain! When we stopped because it was so cold and wet, it would stop raining. Then a few minutes later we look and it was clear so we headed back to the street we were working on and then once again rain would come.

But through it all we have been able, with the help of our Lord Jesus Christ and our friends from Calvary B.C. Bloomington, Indiana, to pass approximately 7,500 gospel tracks and invitations to the people of Levis. Our goal is for them to know the Lord as their savior.

The group from Calvary B.C. encouraged us with music specials, encouraging messages on courage, along with



great fellowship. We praise God because we had one young man saved after our Father's day message and two baptisms Sunday June 25th. We have plans to have one of our missionaries from Haiti to be with us for approximately two months for continued ministerial training. During his stay we will be on working a little extra with the Haitians here in our region of Levis yet not neglecting our Quebec nationals. Please pray for us.

Also this summer we have a Maximum impact in Haiti scheduled in August. We ask your prayers for this. We will need bibles, food, transportation and lot more, but what we need most of all, is the blessing of the Lord on the work and the reaching of souls for His Kingdom.

Our pressing needs: French Ostervald Bibles, extra finances for plane tickets to Haiti, 60 chairs for the auditorium here in Levis, enough food to feed 300 people for 1 day during Maximum Impact in Haiti.

We know that Our Lord is able and we pray that His will be done in all matters.

For the cause of Christ

Michel Poirier  
ostervald@axion.ca  
418-209-3710

**Psst!** July and August are Special Emphasis months for Southeastern Baptist College!

# COMMISSION ON *Senior Adults*

4226 Highway 15 North, Laurel, Mississippi 39440



Kenneth Flynt  
Director

Thank you again for your support of the Commission on Senior Adults. Without your continued interest in this ministry it would not be possible to be reaching the number of our senior members each year.

Save these dates, for the 2018 conferences which are already planned with great appreciation to the program personnel. North Mississippi Senior Conference is Tuesday, May 9, 2018 with Hopewell Baptist Church and Pastor Matt Hudson of Dorsey hosting. The meeting begins at 9:30 a.m. The Dorsey Volunteer Fire Department will once

again be catering the noon meal, and what a good job they do. The South Mississippi Senior Conference is Tuesday, March 20, 2018 at 9:30 a.m. with Big Creek Baptist Church of Soso and Pastor Justin Rhodes hosting. Mac's Fish of Hattiesburg will cater the noon meal, enough said!

We have several associations, churches, and individuals giving monthly financial support. Others are encouraged to participate in this ministry, your seniors would be happy.

Thank you and God Bless!

## How Old Did You Say You Are?

**Leave It To Cleaver from page 3**

Paul, Simon, and others did not write in the New Testament to the "youngers." Multiple times they mentioned the elders. The word "elder" in the sense of leadership in the New Testament Church means an older person. These were the leaders who had some gravity attached to their ways. Paul and his contemporaries address the elders with use of wisdom involved in spiritual sharpness.

Now that I am on the other side - way past - of the plot line of about/above fiftyish potential call to a church, I would encourage our churches to look at

the positive benefits of older preachers. I believe we, in spite of everything associated with being beyond fiftyish, have some value to the ministry of Christ and His Church in this our day and time. In my personal view, the first graph (we plotted this one earlier) shows the insight, spiritual acumen, and gifts with people that the older man can offer a church.

How old did you say you are? Old enough to recognize God's bountiful hand on my life in the past and young enough to still marvel at what He has in store for the future.

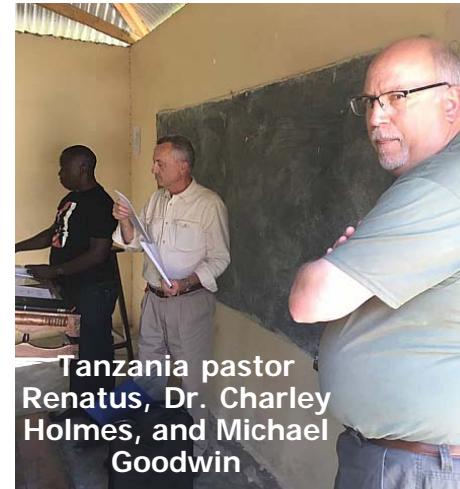
## BMA Seminary Partners In Teaching

EIM and BMA Seminary have partnered in teaching the pastors of Tanzania. Seminary President Dr. Charley Holmes and Bro. Michael Goodwin of EIM are currently in Tanzania. The current week of teaching will complete the three and a half year commitment they made in February 2014. At the request of the students they are being taught a class on what sets Baptists apart. Dr. Charley Holmes is teaching the class on Baptist distinctives.

BMA ministries teaching God's Word around the world.



Tanzanian Pastors Attending  
BMA Seminary Class



Tanzania pastor  
Renatus, Dr. Charley  
Holmes, and Michael  
Goodwin

# MISSISSIPPI BAPTIST CHILDREN'S HOME

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SIDNEY DAVIS - DIRECTOR



SIDNEY DAVIS

### Pray for America

Throughout history nations have given credit to their greatness in many different ways. Some nations have credited a strong and superior military force for putting them in a place of greatness. Other nations have attributed their greatness to such things like as gifted leaders, the abundance of natural resources, or their stance of the protection of individual rights and freedoms.

Our God looks upon greatness from a totally different perspective. He declares in His Word that it is righteousness which makes a nation great. Proverbs 14:34. If our nation is to remain great, it must seek God! Pray that our country will do just that.

### Washington Baptist Youth-In-Harvest

On Saturday, June 24th, we were privileged to be with the Midway Missionary Baptist Church near McLain as they hosted the Washington Baptist Youth-In-Harvest. It was good to see the youth participating in the Sword Drills and also the pastors. We were honored to present the program for the evening.



At the close of the meeting Pastor Johnny Williams of Midway presented the Home an offering their youth had collected during their recent VBS. Our appreciation goes out to each VBS student and worker for your efforts in support of the ministry of the Mississippi Baptist Children's Home.

### Prayerful Consideration

This time of the year many churches plan their budget for the coming fiscal year. In your consideration for this year's giving we would like for the churches to consider a small increase to the ministry of the Home. This year we are having a shortfall of \$2,000.00 per month in meeting our budget at the Home. Your prayerful consideration is deeply appreciated.

### Prayer and Focus Verse

The boys and girls at the Home are enjoying time off from school this summer. Continue to remember them in your prayers and the ministry of the Home.

Pray for America! "Righteousness exalteth a nation: but sin is a reproach to any people." Proverbs 14:34.

### A Little Church Humor

Timmy didn't want to put his money in the offering plate Sunday morning, so his mother decided to use some hurried creative reasoning with him.

"You don't want that money, honey," she whispered in his ear. "Quick! Drop it in the plate. It's tainted!"

Horrified, the little boy obeyed.

After a few seconds he whispered, "But, mommy, why was the money tainted? Was it dirty?"

"Oh, no dear," she replied. "It's not really dirty. It just 'taint yours, and it 'taint mine," she replied. "It's God's."

# SOAR Village

Are you ready for hands-on ministry experiences that go hand-in-hand with the SOAR theme, Selfless? Not only will speakers be teaching and discipling students in the sessions, but groups will also have service opportunities in the community, workshop opportunities for students and student ministers, and much more.

Complimenting all of these activities will be the SOAR Village, where students can hang out with friends while enjoying snacks and participating in ministry experiences to help with discovering their unique gifting. They will also explore opportunities to selflessly serve their own communities when they leave SOAR.

Built to Build will be an area in the SOAR Village which will help students answer questions like: "Do I have a purpose in my family, church, or school?" The hope of Built to Build is to

provide initial affirmation for students who genuinely want to know how God has uniquely built them to plug in to their own church and community. So, through thought provoking and heart challenging scenarios, students will take affirming steps toward a firm understanding of their unique, God-given gift!

Another area of SOAR Village will be the VSM Experience. This is a new part of the Village, which will have six rooms full of interactive experiences for students to see why missions exists, what the mission field is like, and how to get involved in Volunteer Student Missions.

There will also be a Prayer Walk where students will join together and walk through five rooms, with a different prayer focus for each room. They will follow the acronym of P.R.A.Y. (Praise, Repent, Ask, Yield), and finally be led to a room where they can share their prayer requests on an index card

and leave it in the prayer room, while taking another student's prayer card to continue praying over.

In addition, there will be a SOAR Bookstore, where students and ministers will find a large selection of gospel-centered books that point them to Scripture to assist them in their personal walk with the Lord. There will also be an art wall where students will write their thoughts about SOAR 2017 and the Selfless theme on a large SOAR logo. This is a great way to get students connected with the theme for the conference!

Undoubtedly, God will be working on students' hearts during this week. Lives will be changed and hearts will need to be shared. Through the SOAR Blogging Center, there will be an opportunity for students to come by and share how God is working in their hearts and lives. There will be several Google

Chromebooks available for students to record their SOAR experiences in a few words or a few pages.

The Village Café will be in the center of the SOAR Village acting as a hub for hanging out, listening to music from the Village Stage, and spending time with students from other churches. It's the perfect spot to get all of your favorite snacks and drinks.

Village Stage will be centered in the middle of the Village near the Village Café. The stage will have a fun atmosphere, and will be a central place for students to hang out when the main sessions are closed. There will be many acts performing on the stage, from DJ Raquel, to Tyler Sellers, and even youth minister karaoke!

We can't wait to see you at SOAR 2017 and hang out with you in the SOAR Village! You can still register for the student conference at [gosoar.com](http://gosoar.com)!

## Christian bakers free to live out faith in Mississippi

**OneNewsNow** - A federal appeals court has ruled the State of Mississippi can enact a religious freedom law that protects people of faith in the Magnolia State.

The 5th Circuit Court of Appeals announced June 22 that it was overturning a lower court decision a year earlier that stopped the Protecting Freedom of Conscience from Government

Discrimination Act.

HB 1523 was signed into law April 2016 by Gov. Phil Bryant but was challenged in the courts by homosexual activists. Last week's ruling found that those activists lacked legal standing because the new law had not harmed them.

"The court determined," says attorney Kevin Theriot of Alliance Defending

Freedom, "that the plaintiffs in this situation weren't even harmed enough to be able even to get into court, much less to win on the merits of the case."



Both defenders and critics of the Government Discrimination Act agreed that it creates new legal rights for wedding-related services, such as bakeries and floral shops, that have been sued by homosexuals under the guise of anti-discrimination ordinances or state laws.

The U.S. Supreme Court, meanwhile, announced June 26 that it will hear the case of a Colorado baker, Jack Phillips, who refused to create a wedding cake for a same-sex couple who later sued him for discrimination.

Phillips has said he sells bakery products to homosexuals at his Masterpiece Cake Shop in Denver but refuses to use his artistic talents for a same-sex wedding ceremony.

"It was the event I'm being forced to celebrate," he said. "I also don't make cakes for bachelor parties. I don't make Halloween cakes or anything with witchcraft or demons."

Most of the lawsuits have favored the homosexual plaintiffs in the appeals process, making the Mississippi ruling a rare exception - and making the state an enemy of homosexual activists and their left-wing allies.

"This law is discriminatory," declared an attorney for the left-wing Mississippi Center for Justice, "and we will do everything we can to prevent it from causing any more harm."

)The Mississippi law also protects county clerks who refuse to sign same-sex marriage licenses; allows religious organizations to discriminate against homosexuals in job-hiring; and protects religious-based adoption agencies who refuse to place children in a same-sex household, The New York Times unhappily reported last week.

Citing a legal analysis from Columbia University sprinkled with "potential" effects of the Mississippi law, the story also claimed Christian universities can fire single mothers, among other questionable claims.

"This is what this entire law said from the very beginning," Gov. Bryant told American Family Radio last week. That a local or political subdivision could not say We're going to punish you if you don't follow the rules that we establish regarding your own business and ignoring your deeply held religious beliefs."

The plaintiffs in the case can request a hearing before the entire 5th Circuit or, like the Jack Phillips case, appeal to the U.S. Supreme Court.

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