

# Baptist

## Mississippi

JOURNAL OF THE BAPTIST MISSIONARY ASSOCIATION OF MISSISSIPPI

JULY 15, 2011

VOL. 65 No. 14

## Spiritually Plateaued

1 Peter 4:10-11

by Larry Barker

Director of Operations for North America  
BMA of America Missions Department

Churches in America are struggling with 85% experiencing no growth. Of the 15% that are growing, only 1% is growing because of conversion growth. The others continue to grow by swapping members. The question must be asked, "Is that acceptable?" At our national meeting Ed Stetzer said this, "When people,

Magnolia Baptist Church, Hattiesburg, MS, August 11-13, 2011

## DiscipleWay Training Session for Mississippi

Here are a few details we want to give as a reminder and to encourage you to attend the Mississippi Session of DiscipleWay Training.

### EV2

Thursday will simply be a one day overview of "Share Your Faith." It is not the complete training for EV2. The EV2 training actually takes two and a half days to cover and is something you can do in your area or district as you get closer to covering the witnessing discipline with your disciple in DiscipleWay. That will probably be at least five months after you start.

If you are trained in EE or EV2 you do not need to be at the training until 6:00 P. M. Thursday night. If you are being trained in EV2, those sessions will begin at 9:00 A.M. Thursday morning.

### DRESS

We ask that you dress business casual for this event. Nice jeans would be appropriate but we ask that you not wear shorts.

### DEADLINES

Keep July 31 emblazoned on your mind! That is when the registration forms are due in to the Wallaces and it is also the last day you can reserve a room at the Hampton Inn at the DiscipleWay rate. Please use the code word 'WAY' when making reservations. That number is 601 268 8080. Any rooms we don't cancel by that date, we have to pay for so any not taken will be canceled at that time and reservations made after that date will pay full price.

### MEALS

Lunch is included in your registration fee. The Hampton provides a hot breakfast. Dinner will be on your own.

### MATERIALS

All training materials will be provided. Along with your Bible, bring a Strong's Concordance if you have one. This is not a necessary component.

If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to email or call Judy Wallace at wallace@discipleway.com or 501-724-3193 (H) 501-281-3886 (C).

churches, or organizations are satisfied with mediocrity, those who seek and require excellence seem unreasonable." He also said, "The 80/20 'rule' that says typically 20% of those attending support 80% of the ministry, should not be called a 'rule' but rather, a sin."

Every single person that has surrendered to God's grace is called to the ministry. Stetzer went on to say, "We should not abolish the clergy...we should abolish the laity, for everyone who follows Jesus is called to be a steward of His gifts." The priesthood of the believer is a doctrine that has always made Baptists distinctive and we must realize that all true movements have spread through the efforts of ordinary people who inspire and equip key leaders. One of the greatest

movements of God in America between 1750 and 1950 was made possible because of strategies that made it easy for gifted and committed laymen to get involved.

Mainline churches began to decline dramatically because they chose to educate people more than see them converted and transformed by God's re-

*typically 20% of  
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support 80% of  
the ministry*

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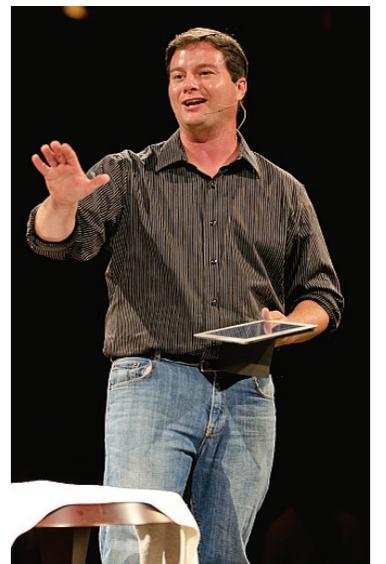
## BMA Students SOAR in San Antonio!

by Donny Parrish

DiscipleGuide Director/Conference Ministries

For the past 21 years people have asked me, "What makes SOAR so special?" To be honest with you, I really don't know. It could be that this one meeting has been the focus of much prayer for over a year. Maybe it's the hours of preparation that goes into all of event... the staging, the lighting, the registration, the music, the messages... everything that makes SOAR, soar! It could be the creativity of the way the message is presented. Maybe it's the standard of musical excellence that has been set for worship. I do know what each SOAR session has had in common from its inception. The Word of God is preached in power and is put into a context that students can relate to.

SOAR 2011 was truly a spectacular event. Almost 2500 students and sponsors enjoyed the city of San Antonio and felt the presence of God in each session of SOAR. The theme of SOAR 2011 was "iserve." Using the technology culture that students live in every day as a platform, all of the musicians, actors and speakers focused on challenging of students to let God use their spiritual gifts to bring glory to Himself. BMA Missionaries let the students in on what God was doing in their lives and in the lives of the people that they serve. Recording



continued on page 3

## Lawsuit: Prayer rally promotes 'rabid Christian agenda'

**OneNewsNow** - An atheist organization is suing Texas Governor Rick Perry, a possible presidential candidate, for initiating a private prayer event scheduled for August 6 in Houston.

The Freedom from Religion Foundation is suing in federal court over Perry's upcoming prayer event that is sponsored and promoted by the American Family Association (AFA). The press release states that the pro-family group "promotes a rabid evangelical Christian agenda that is hostile to nonbe-

lievers, non-Christians and other protected groups, such as gays and lesbians."

"It's amazing to me that they've never sued President Obama for ending any speeches with 'God bless you' or doing other things of a religious nature," notes Hiram Sasser, director of litigation for Liberty Institute. "It's as if these separationists don't understand that even our elected officials are still citizens of this country and enjoy the vast freedoms that are provided by the Constitution."

The August 6 rally is a private event, and Sasser argues that the governor's decision is his personal business.

"This is tantamount to a lawsuit declaring Governor Perry is unable to attend church on Sundays," he decides. "It's the most outrageous thing I've ever seen."

The Liberty Institute litigation director adds that he cannot imagine a federal judge buying the idea that the Constitution upholds banning a governor from participating in a private prayer rally. But he points out that the atheist organization is known for filing lawsuits that "fail at the courthouse."

### Raising awareness about porn's painful impact

**OneNewsNow** - A four-week national awareness campaign called "Be Aware: Porn Harms" kicked off on Monday, July 11.

"This week, we're launching with pornography addiction as the focus," reports Dawn Hawkins, executive director of Morality in Media (MIM), which is coordinating the effort. "Next will be harms to children, followed by links to sex trafficking, and finally, violence against women."

Hawkins explains that different events are set up every day. "Most of them are online; others are phone conference calls that you can participate in," she shares. "They'll be led by experts in other groups who are working on efforts surrounding whichever topic we're focusing on."

The MIM executive director says her group is "just trying to flood the Internet with as much anti-pornography information as possible" because it is important to remind people how much porn affects its victims, including addicts and their families. The anti-indecency organization, which



## Preparing for Ghana Ministry

by Dale and Celia Broom  
Self Support Missionaries To Africa

We are very excited about our upcoming transition to Ghana, West Africa, and we have begun deputation. We will be leaving Rocky Branch Baptist Church in August and will be doing deputations full-time. We would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone that has sent money, called, and prayed for Rocky Branch due to the recent burning of the church. Our decision to leave Rocky Branch was not easy under the circumstances, but when the church burned everyone decided to continue God's work as before. So we are moving forward into deputation. Many of you may already know that we were elected in April as self-supporting missionaries. This includes salary, ministry funds, insurance, and travel expenses such as airline tickets, visas, and the expenses of purchasing household items.

Our budget for the first year will be approximately \$70,000. About half of this amount will be for salary and the rest will be for ministry expenses, traveling expenses, household furnishings, and moving expense. We know that we cannot do this alone and are asking churches, associations, and individuals to partner with us to help build God's Kingdom in Ghana.

We would like to thank those that have already become a partner with us. If you, your church, or association would like to become a partner, please contact us at 601-441-6789 or 601-402-8059. We would love to come to your church, GMA or WMA meeting, youth meeting, or association meeting to share God's vision for Ghana with you.

We realize that it will not be possible for us to visit every church, however if you would like to become a partner you can still become a partner by filling out the information provided with this article. Also please be in prayer for us as we travel and prepare for the ministry God has called us to do.

### BROOM MINISTRY - GHANA, WEST AFRICA

"REACHING GHANA FOR CHRIST SO GHANA CAN REACH THE WORLD"

*For the administration of this service not only supplieth the want of the saints, but is abundant also by many thanksgivings unto God: 2 Corinthians 9:12*

Check one of the following if you would like to become a monthly partner to help spread the gospel in Ghana.

\$25.00  \$50.00  \$100.00  \$250.00  \$500.00  other \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone # \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

Please return this card and make checks payable to BMAA Missions with Broom Ministry in the memo and send to: BMAA Mission Office, P.O. Box 30910, Little Rock, AR 72260.

Dale Broom  
2 Bay Lane  
Columbia, MS 39429  
601-441-6789 Email: brodale42@yahoo.com

## TAKE TIME TO PRAY

**Editor's Note:** My friend Dr. Tony Cleaver is a prolific writer and is gracious in his sharing his thoughts with us. For the next four issues we are highlighting excerpts from a project he is working on. As you read these prayers, let them be an inspiration to you to strengthen your own prayer life.

**Dear God,**

I hate to bring You another problem. I don't want to be repetitive in my prayers. However, I must talk to You about what I read in the paper yesterday. I read of the death of a 27 year old lady. She had a child three years old and a child 18 months old. She had a husband with whom she had celebrated their fifth anniversary just recently.

She was a Sunday School teacher in a local church. She had volunteered with the local scouting programs. She had worked in the community fund raisers for the needy. She was a graduate of one of the state universities. It seemed she was a beloved family member and good open-handed neighbor to all who lived near her.



Tony Cleaver

She died from complications of her breast cancer. Lord, help this family of husband and children she leaves behind. Christ, have mercy on her family. I did not know her. I had no interaction with her. Her death touches me from the perspective of so many die from that horrible word: cancer! I ask you to give wisdom to those who research for a cure. Guide them with Your wisdom to find that liberation that comes from Your mind.

I pray this in the name of Jesus. Amen.

leads a coalition of pro-family groups in the war against illegal pornography, is trying to convey that message to the Obama administration.

"The goal of that is to get the Department of Justice to prosecute illegal, hardcore adult pornography," Hawkins adds, noting that "there have been zero prosecutions under this administration."

However, she believes public and political pressure is getting through to Attorney General Eric Holder and the White House.

### AVAILABLE FOR SERVICE

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

#### Dale Wirick

Dale Wirick is available for pulpit supply. He can be reached at 228-474-8886 or 228-249-3731.

## Arrangements Committee Invites Suggestions

The arrangements committee of the BMA of America invites suggestions for a meeting location for 2015. Potential locations must have convention center or hotel facilities with a meeting room capacity of at least 1500, and have at least 500 hotel rooms that can be blocked for the meeting.

Suggestions should be sent to committee chairman Charles Attebery by e-mail (charles@lifeword.org) or by regular mail (606 Carol Ave., El Dorado, AR 71730). The deadline for submitting suggestions is July 31, 2011.

# Southeastern Baptist College

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



Dr. Medrick Savell  
President

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

We continue to be amazed at the blessings from the Lord. Each day there are evidences that He is answering prayers and showing us that He is in control of the college and our lives. Many friends in the churches and community are showing their interest in and support to the college.

## Deficit

In the month of June we received several good contributions to help bring the deficit

down. These were from First Oak Grove Baptist Church, Hattiesburg; Helton Road Baptist Church, Theodore, AL; Hopewell Baptist Church, Laurel; Riverside Baptist Church, Ellisville; Rock Hill Baptist Church, Meridian; Springhill Baptist Church, Laurel; Big Creek Baptist Association; South Alabama Baptist Association; Tombigbee Baptist Association. We appreciate each church and association for this help. Some of the list above

was for special emphasis which they sent early.

## Special Emphasis

A good Special Emphasis is needed badly this year to repair the roof on the auditorium and the two dorms and to help us begin the new year on a good financial footing. The estimate just for the auditorium is \$8,000.00. We must raise this amount before the repairs can be done.

The desire of so many to help the college is encouraging. We are doing all we can to control expenses and to get more income.

## Business Degree Program

Adjoining this article is some information about the business program. We already have several students who plan to enroll in it this fall semester. The number of prospects for all the courses is encouraging.

## Southeastern Baptist College

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• This program is designed to meet the needs of students preparing for professional business vocations.

• Class sizes are usually less than fifteen students.

• Along with a solid foundation in general education studies, students receive a comprehensive knowledge of business principles including finance, economics, marketing, and multiple areas of management and accounting.

Go to [www.southeasternbaptist.edu](http://www.southeasternbaptist.edu) for an application.

For admissions, contact Ronnie Kitchens or Robyn Strickland at 601-426-6346 or [info@southeasternbaptist.edu](mailto:info@southeasternbaptist.edu)

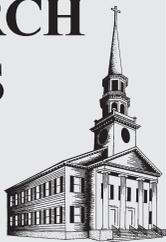
4229 Hwy 15 N. Laurel, Mississippi 39440

Southeastern Baptist College is accredited on the state level by the Mississippi Commission on Accreditation, and by the Association For Biblical Higher Education (ABHE) on the national level. As a Title IV institution, students at SBC may be eligible to receive Pell Grant and VA benefits.

Mississippi school teachers  
can also take courses at  
Southeastern for recertification.



## CHURCH NEWS



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

### Temple, Lucedale to hold revival

Revival services will be held at Temple Baptist, 88 Summer St., Lucedale, Mississippi, from August 7 - August 10. Services will be at 11:00 am and 6:00 pm on Sunday. We will have lunch after morning service on Sun-

## Positions Available

### Church seeks youth pastor

Pine Grove Church, Purvis, Mississippi, is seeking a youth director. For more information, call Dwyann Morrow at 601-549-7090 or Joyce Crowe at 601-794-8720.

### Arkansas church seeks music/youth worker

Fairview Baptist Church in Blytheville, Arkansas, is seeking a full time music and youth director. If interested please call Pastor Collin Jones at 870-838-9035.

day.

Bro. Ken Riley, Pastor of Lebanon Baptist in Laurel will be the Evangelist. Bro. Ken is married to Brandy Riley and they have 2 children, Brianna, and Kris. He is currently attending BMA Theological Seminary in Jacksonville, Texas.



Ken Riley

The congregation of Temple extends this invitation for all.

### Revival at Evergreen Baptist Church

Evergreen Baptist Church, Seminary, will begin revival services on Sunday July 24 and continue through Wednesday July 27th. Our speaker will be Bro. Joey Harris, pastor of Central Church, Ellisville and Vice-president of Southeastern Baptist College.

We will have our morning service, lunch at the church and an afternoon service. Weeknight services will begin at 7:00 each evening. The church address is 65 Evergreen Church Road, Seminary, MS 39479.

You are welcomed to come worship with us.

James Clark

### Red Creek Revival

Revival Services will be held at Red Creek Missionary Baptist Church in Agricola, Missis-

## SOAR Report

from page 1

Artists, 33 Miles, led us in a great time musically and also brought us to God's throne in worship. The result? Dozens of students came to know Christ as Savior. Dozens more made commitments to serve Christ with their lives. What is the best word that I could use to describe the week? Revival! God poured out His Spirit in power as students worshipped through music, drama and the preached Word. In my 34 years of ministry, I don't know that I have experienced any services that were more powerful.

Jason Aultman, Pastor of Antioch Baptist is Conway, Arkansas and Mark Livingston, Pastor of Keltys First Baptist in Lufkin, Texas, were our speakers for SOAR. Each one challenged students to give the best of their lives in service for God. Kent Wiles, Worship Pastor at Fellowship

Mississippi with Brother Grady Summerlin as guest speaker. Services begin July 17 at 11:00 am with fellowship dinner and singing following morning service. Nightly services will be July 18-20 at 7:00. Pastor Charles McClure and congregation invite everyone to attend. For more information call 601-947-2200.

Church in Forney, Texas led worship along with the SOAR Worship Band. He did an amazing job. Samantha Parrish taught God's Word through the use of drama. God used her talents to communicate, too. BMA Missionaries, highlighted by an appearance by a Creative Access Missionary, inspired us to give our lives more fully to Christ.

Here are just a few of the quotes left on the SOAR 2011 Fan Page on Facebook...

**Courtney White** - God did amazing things in soar can't wait to go next year!! :)

**Grysel Hernandez** - SOAR was epic(: amazing how God speaks through everything!

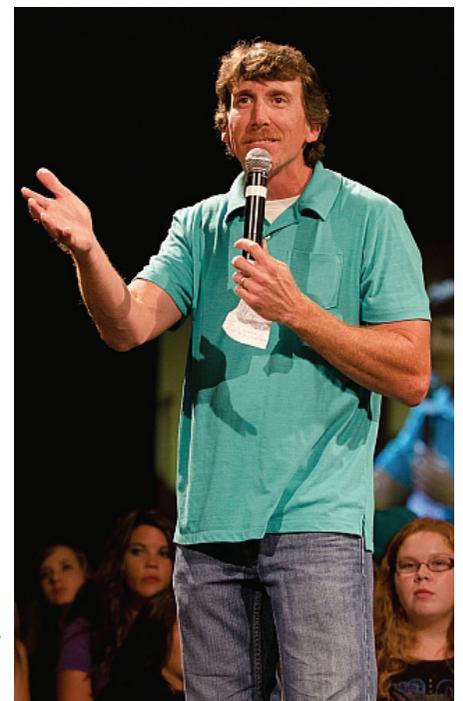
**Leanna Morrow** - Soar was awesome!! already pumped for next year!!

**Alexis Rae Warren** - SOAR this year was amazing ?

**Delaney Campfield Lombardo** - Bethel Baptist from Bassfield made it home safe. God definitely moved with our youth!! We had 4 get saved!!! Praise GOD!!!

**Tristan Cochran** - Soar was great wish it didn't have to end :)

**Joe Bluit** - soar opened my eyes im not alone .



**Mikey Moss** - THIS WAS AWESOME...it was the biggest and greatest worship service i have ever been a part of

**Hannah Grace Harrington** - AMAZING!!!! :) tons of lives were changed this week! i know mine was enriched!!

**Devin DiGuilio** - if you want to know the epitome of awesomeness.....go to SOAR!!!!!! Soar is awesomeness!!!

**SOAR 2012** will be July 4-6 at Gaylord Hotel in Grapevine, Texas. Speaker for 2012 will be Todd West, Pastor at Oasis Church in Maumelle, Arkansas. Worship Leader will be Kent Wiles and the SOAR Band.

# Mississippi Baptist Opinion Page

Journal of the Baptist Missionary Association of Mississippi

## A Good Opportunity...and an obligation

DiscipleWay! It's a new name with a different approach to helping grow stronger Christians. Our national departments and other leaders throughout our denomination have worked long and hard to develop this new and unique process of discipling people for Christ. Both new and older believers will benefit from this effort to produce stronger and more dedicated followers of Christ.



Don Brown  
Editor

Think what your church would be like - how it would benefit you and the growth of individuals and your church, if members were growing and becoming more proficient in the seven (7) areas of emphasis that DiscipleWay covers.

August 11-13 are the dates for the session scheduled for Mississippi. Magnolia Church, Hattiesburg, will host this meeting. Yes, there is a cost. Yes, it is a long 3 days. Yes, it will take some personal time and dedication. And Yes, it will well worth the money, effort and time.

Each reader of this article (pastor and church staff included) needs to consider attending this training session. Let us go forth with knowledge gained in this effort to lead others to the great potential that God has for them.

## Cleaver publishes second book - "Your Life on the Campus"

BMA minister Tony Cleaver has published his second book. It is an E-book and available on line at [http://www.amazon.com/Your-Life-Campus-ebook/dp/B0055DZTR6/ref=sr\\_1\\_5?s=books](http://www.amazon.com/Your-Life-Campus-ebook/dp/B0055DZTR6/ref=sr_1_5?s=books)

**Editor's Note:** *Cleaver, a regular contributor to this paper and other publications, is a talented writer. You will find his works enlightening, informative, and always leading to a spiritually centered topic and conclusion. He says the following about the content and origin of this book.*

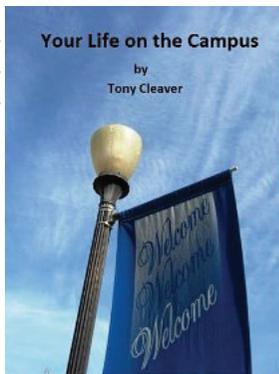
"This book is a great gift for family members, relatives, neighbors, and friends who are going to their college campus for the first time. Many young men and women tell me they lost their faith while in college. This book is an attempt to keep the fire of the Holy Spirit alive in young lives rather than letting it go out. The pursuit of holiness is not something to be put off until after college graduation. This weekly "Your Life on the Campus" is a simple guide to positive Christian lifestyle on any college campus.



Tony Cleaver

The last page tells the "how this book came about" while I was recalled to active duty in 2003 while on the campus of Jacksonville College. Dean Spurgeon asked me to write a few notes for the school newsletter. The book is a result of that beginning.

I hope you will give it a read. Give it to a friend, family member, or neighbor who is going off to college."



## Spiritually Plateaued

from page 1

deeming power. Multiplication was at an all time high, and Baptist church planting flourished because of the mobilization of common people to preach the gospel and plant churches wherever there was a need. Methodist church planting was also seeing unprecedented growth until they changed their approach and began replacing their "amateur" preachers with seminary-educated professionals who claimed hierarchical authority over their congregations.

Please realize that the real problem was not education, but the hierarchy and the desire to only credential the paid professionals. True doctrine must come out of the power of Christ in an individual's life more than just mere intellectual instruction. Roland Allen believed that the great things of God are beyond human control, "Control produces sterility. Controlled converts may not go astray, but they produce nothing." In *Movements That Change the World* Steve Addison puts it this way, "In the New Testament there is no distinction between 'clergy' and 'laity.' Every disciple of Christ is ordained for ministry."

The need for leadership is as great today as ever in our churches. While all of us are called God does gift certain individuals uniquely to lead. They should not be selected as

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## Church of the Covered Dish BY THOMAS TAPP



"If we could harness the power of apathy our church would have a chance!"

## Speak to the Wall

by Chuck Lee, pastor  
Pine Grove Baptist Church, Purvis, Mississippi

Fifteen is a really great age to be, unless you are a dog or a cat. Being neither dog nor cat, I can look fondly back into the recesses of my mind and recall with vivid imagination how intelligent I was at this time in my life. However, it is still under consideration whether this was the age in which I topped out with brilliance or if I was just reaching genius altitude. Either way, this period of my life also coincided with my mother going around muttering to herself about how she might as well be speaking to a brick wall. Why would anyone talk to a brick wall?

Anyway, considering that I had peaked so early, you can imagine my chagrin upon discovering that my own teenagers lacked the genius gene that usually kicks in with most Lee's at the age of fifteen. Oh, I am not saying that they are not smart; it just seems that when they have an asset such as me at their disposal, they would take advantage of every opportunity to mine the ore of brilliance from a ready resource within their own home. Perhaps this illustration will articulate the dilemma in which I find myself.

Me (age 30): "Want me to show you how to burn ants with a magnifying glass?"

Son (age 10): "Wow! You know how to do everything, daddy!"

Me (age 32): "Need help with your math, sweetie? I took Trichoron...Trigerom....that class twice."

Daughter (age 13): "You are so smart, daddy!"

Me (age 35): "Girl problems? I'm quite the expert on . . . where you going, son? Come back, I'm a wealth of information on that subject."

It doesn't help when your wife will not support you. She apparently thought of a good joke, because she left the room bent over laughing. She is about the same age as my mother when she began to start acting weird. Must be something to do with women.

Suddenly I have gone from the greatest, smartest, handsomest dad in the whole wide world, to being inconsequential. I go to mom for advice. Somewhere along the line she must have taken some smart classes because her intelligence has improved mightily over the years.

"Mom? You sure were lucky to have me as a son. I don't think you could handle a modern day teenager. They think they know everything and won't listen to a word I say!"

After an uncharacteristic show of mirth, by which I mean she rolled on the floor holding her sides while squealing very unladylike, she simply pointed at an object behind my back. I looked, but all I saw was a brick wall.

Mothers are strange.

Mississippi Baptist

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# When Your Adult Child Does Wrong

There are so many Christian parents walking around bearing tremendous wounds from their adult children. When they ask me what they can do, I always answer with one word: PUNT. While this one word answer seems inadequate to answer the complex issues of adult children living away from God; it is actually summing up scripture found in I Peter 5:7 "Casting all your care upon him, for he careth for you." We have to give this problem to God in prayer. Punting means I have to take this care I have for my child, and kick it up to heaven for God to deal with. If you need another visual imagery, write your child's name on a helium balloon like you can get at the store. Go outside and let the balloon go. Watch it as it sails up to heaven. That is what you have to do. Mention them before the throne, and fully give

it to God. Release the outcome to the Father.

Stop beating yourself up. When your kids are at home, you can have total control over them and what is done. And even if they do wrong, when they are still living at home, you can discipline them and take action to correct the wrong behavior, bad habit or sin. However, when they are adults themselves, and have moved off; then you are no longer responsible for their actions. They are!

While the way you raised your kids does impact how they live their adult life, it is also true that each person makes their own choices in life. You can have kids raised in a Godly home grow up and make horrible decisions and live a life of sin. You can have kids raised in a messed up, ungodly home and they make decisions to live for Jesus and have a solid Chris-

tian life. This proves we have a mind and choices and we are not puppets on a string. Parenting affects kids for good or bad all of their life. But when your kids leave home, never underestimate the power of Satan to corrupt them or for



## Family Ark Ministries

Travis Plumlee

them to make sinful choices. You, as the parent, have to move past your guilt, so that you can still have a positive influence on their present and future life.

You can't control this situation if they don't live under your roof. You can role-model positive behavior. You can in-

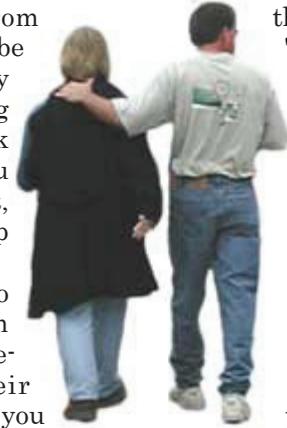
fluence grandchildren when they come to visit in your home. But you can't change your adult child. The more you try and preach to them, the more they will withdraw from you, and you may be the last hope they have for turning around. If they ask for your advice, you can give it. If not, then you have to zip it.

You will also have to allow them to suffer the consequences of their wrong choices. If you try and bail them out every time, they will never learn. There is a consequence for sin. God may be trying to allow a trial so they will repent and turn from their ways. Every time God is trying to do a work in them, you step in and bail them out. You actually could

be undermining God's work in your child's life. People don't stop destructive behavior if they can always count on parents to bail them out of the trouble.

"Growing up" is learning that I am responsible for all my actions, words and emotions. Maybe you need to allow your child to experience some pain so they will grow up. I know it is hard. That is why we have to trust God for His plan in their life.

Become a prayer warrior if you have adult kids not living like you think they should. God can change any heart. He can take a heart that hates him, and turn it into one who loves



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# Southeastern Baptist College



**S**erving Christ  
*With A*  
**B**iblical Worldview  
*In A*  
**C**hristian Atmosphere



**Special Emphasis  
Offering  
July - August 2011**

**Southeastern Baptist College**  
4229 Highway 15 North, Laurel, MS 39440  
601-426-6346 [www.southeasternbaptist.edu](http://www.southeasternbaptist.edu)



# GMA Girls

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

**Sunbeam Promoter** - Linda Dertinger  
132 Howard Hill Road, Soso, MS 39480  
601-729-2908

## National GMA Camp Celebrates The Great Physician

by Susan Campbell, National Corresponding Secretary

National GMA camp was held June 14-17 at Daniel Springs Baptist Encampment in Gary, Texas. 330 girls and counselors attended this year and raised approximately \$19,000 for the National Project supporting two of our former GMA girls on the mission field. Bro. Tony Crocker, the camp pastor, challenged our hearts using the national theme, The Great Physician. He also shared with us information on ISHELP International which he is now directing.

The newly elected officers are as follows: President, Jessica Glasscock of Texas; 1st vice-president, Addie Bender of Arkansas; 2nd vice-president, Emily Luck of Arkansas; Secretary, Cindy Meriweather of Arkansas; Corresponding Secretary, Susan Campbell of Arkansas; Song Leader, Haven Townsend of Arkansas; and Historian, Olivia Fairley of Mississippi.



Rikki Alec Burch—Texas Junior Miss GMA; Alternate Junior Miss GMA—Karlie Crisp, AR; Lakelan Flynt—Junior Miss GMA, MS; Addie Bender—Miss GMA, AR; Alternate Miss GMA—Jessica Glasscock, TX; Miranda Francis, Miss GMA of Mississippi

The Miss and Jr. Miss were chosen on Thursday night: Miss GMA, Addie Bender of Arkansas; Alternate Miss GMA, Jessica Glasscock of Texas; Junior Miss GMA, Lakelan Flynt of Mississippi; and Alternate Junior Miss GMA, Karlie Crisp of Arkansas.

The 2011-2012 Project is 50% Daniel Springs, 45% Joplin Tornado Relief, and 5% General Fund with \$25,000 being the goal amount. We want to encourage everyone to raise money all year for the project. The theme for next year will be BRB—Be Right Back with Revelation 22:12-13 as the scripture. Everyone had a great time and we can't wait to see everyone again next year.

## Mississippi W.M.A.

**Blinda Lee, President**  
77 Morrow Rd., Purvis, MS 39475  
601-596-3417  
blinda.lee@lamarcountyschools.org

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

### Attention WMA Ladies State 2010-2011 Project

25% General Funds  
75% Homestretch Church, Columbus, Mississippi

We encourage each lady to pray diligently about our state WMA project and let the Lord guide you in whatever you give.

Please send project money to:

Mrs. Shirlene Smith  
730 Hwy 533, Laurel, MS 39443

May God Bless You as you serve him through WMA.

**Project Promoters,**  
Dianne Rainey  
Lynn McCoy

## Veteran honored with trip to Washington

On May 11, 2011, Bro. Wallace Ray, a member of Woodlawn Baptist Church, Pascagoula, was an honored WWII Veteran to participate in the first Mississippi Gulf Coast Honor Flight. He along with approximately 80 other WWII Veterans and 50 guardians were flown to Washington, D.C. to see the WWII Memorial.

After a time at the WWII Memorial they viewed the Vietnam Memorial, the Iwo Jima Memorial and Koren War Memorial. After lunch, they went to Arlington for the solemn ceremony of the Changing of the Guard at the Tomb of the Unknown. They returned to Gulfport after a day of sightseeing and reflecting on their military service, where they were greeted by an estimated 3000 people who cheered, waved flags and carried signs welcoming the return of these much appreciated Veterans.

The Mississippi Gulf Coast Honor Flight is a nonprofit program that honors the service and sacrifices of America's "Greatest Generation, WWII Veterans" by sponsoring a one-day free trip to Washington. The Guardians who accompanied the veterans volunteered their time and paid their way for the trip. Bro. Ray was accompanied by his grandson, Keith Clark, a Marine Corp Iraqi War Veteran, and member of Woodlawn Baptist Church, as his guardian for the day. We thank Bro. Ray for his service to our country.



Wallace Ray on his recent trip to Washington, D.C. Ray is a member of Woodlawn Church, Pascagoula.

Ray is a member of Woodlawn Church, Pascagoula. Keith Clark, a Marine Corp Iraqi War Veteran, and member of Woodlawn Baptist Church, as his guardian for the day. We thank Bro. Ray for his service to our country.

Another Honor Flight is planned for late September. For information on the Honor flight you can visit their website: <http://www.mgchonorflight.org>.



## Adult Children

from page 5

him. God changed the heart of Pharaoh. He can change your child's heart. He can cause people running from him to stop running and turn. It may not be instant. It may take years. But as parents of a prodigal child, you must never give up. Keep praying. There is always hope in Jesus Christ. Just don't badger God in your prayers.

I know why you pray like you do. It is out of love. But God knows what things you have need of before you ask Him. Matthew 6:8. Some of you may be praying over and over to the point you make yourself sick about something in your child's life. You need to punt. You need to release the outcome of your child's life to God. God loves them more than you do. God has a plan for them. Make your request known to God. Phil.4:6. But then, after several times, you might consider that God has heard this. You can't manipu-

late God in prayer to do what you think he should or what you want. After you let your request be made known to God, then mention them all the time by name in prayer and say "God, thy will be done. Help my child. I leave the results to you. Thank you." But stop telling God what he needs to do. Punt. Cast your cares on Him and don't take them back.

Stop worrying about what other people will think. God loves and accepts you just as you are. Isn't that enough? Family, friends and fellow church members should pray for you and encourage you if you have a kid living wrong. They shouldn't look down on you, judge you or gossip about you. If they do, that is their problem, not yours. Quit caring so much what others think and care more about what God thinks. Never stop loving your kids. Never give up hope. Always forgive. Set boundaries. Allow consequences. And when you don't know what to do - PUNT! Give it to God and trust him for the outcome.

## Hobolochitto Association Has Good Camp

Awesome A work of God A making of new friendships These are just some of the phrases that describe the Hobolochitto Church Camp which was held at Campground Baptist Church in Gulfport on June 27-July 1st, 2011. Campers enjoyed activities such as softball, volleyball, Bible classes, Bible baseball, and a waterslide. Best of all, there were 16 professions of faith of campers during the evening worship services. There were also several who rededicated their lives to Christ. During the Thursday evening worship service, the youth had a testimony service that lasted over 2 hours. It was clear that the Holy Spirit of God was working.

The camp was made up of about sixty campers. There was a spirit of unity that could be felt from the start of the



Those making profession of faith at Hobolochitto Camp

camp. The camp is scheduled to be held again next year during the same week of 2012. If you don't want to miss a blessing, make plans to be there!

*Cristi Spencer*  
First Baptist Henleyfield

There were 5 churches from the Hobolochitto Association: Canaan in Franklinton, LA; Benville, Picayune; Mt Carmel, Carriere, First Baptist Church of Henleyfield, Carriere; and Hickory Grove, Lumberton. Spencer Memorial Church

from Pascagoula and a member of the Gulf Association also visited with us. Bro. Stan Adams was our Camp Director, Bro. Cedrick Lumpkin directed our Music, Bro. Vernon Watts taught the Teens, Sis. Roseanna Lee taught the younger Youth, Bro. Ray Lee



Spirit Award Recipients

led in the activities, and Bro. Wayne Rice designed our Camp brochures and schedules. The pastors and preachers present covered the 7 worship services.

*Bro. Vernon Watts*  
Moderator

## CHILDREN'S HOME

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

### Summer Activities

While the children are out of school for the summer a lot of activities have already taken place. The busy schedule of summer will soon be gone in a few weeks as the boys and girls will be back in the routine of school activities and the summer of 2011 will be history.

### The Lord Is Good

Well, as the summer moves along it seems as though that the hot temperatures have arrived in south Mississippi. There has been a good bit of activity in the garden and one needs to be up early in the morning to beat the heat of the day in gathering the vegetables. We've had peas, tomatoes, peppers, squash, and okra, to name a few items, that have survived the dry period for which we are grateful. We thank the Lord for His blessings on the garden this year. "Oh give thanks unto the Lord, for He is good." Psalm 107:1.

Continue to remember the Home in your prayers as you pray.



SIDNEY DAVIS  
DIRECTOR

## Churches prepare for 'Courageous' impact

**OneNewsNow** - The fourth film from Sherwood Pictures, a ministry of Albany, Georgia's Sherwood Baptist Church, is set to hit theaters this fall, and producers hope it will be more than just a movie.

Sherwood has shared sneak peeks of *Courageous* with churches and community leaders across America. Executive Producer Jim McBride already senses a movement is taking place.

"What we're hearing from people who've seen some of the early screenings is that this is a strong challenge that's very much needed in our culture," he accounts. "That's what we've been praying for -- not just a movie that people would walk out and say, 'Boy, that was a

cemetery, and now they call it a meeting room."

And the pro-family group says the VA knew Director Arleen Ocasio enforced the policies. But so far, no steps have been taken to countermand them.

"We're saying to the Veterans Administration leadership that this woman is unqualified to lead at a national cemetery," Sharp explains. "If they're not going to fire her, she needs to go through sensitivity training and learn that religious discrimination is against the law."

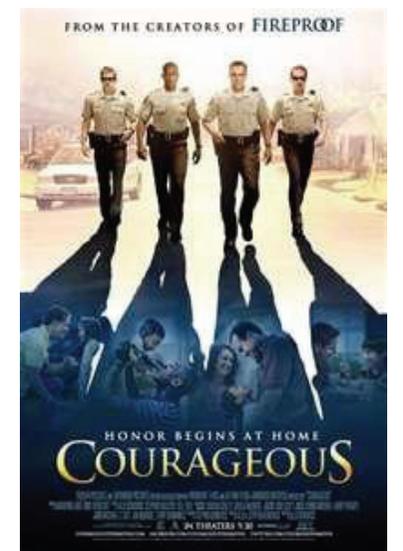
He goes on to point out that the federal government cannot practice religious discrimination.

great movie,' but a movie that would impact the culture, that would challenge men to step up and make a bold and courageous step toward being the godly leaders that they should be."

McBride hopes men will immediately get the encouragement they need to accomplish that goal when they walk out of the theater.

"We're finding a lot of men's ministries and churches are preparing now, using two curriculums we've prepared -- an eight-week and a four-week -- that are follow-ups for the movie to help men see how to implement what they've seen in the movie," the executive producer reports.

*Courageous*, which follows Sherwood Pictures' *Fireproof*, *Facing the Giants* and *Flywheel*, will hit theaters September 30.



## Explore BMMI and its ministries

*from BMA of America Missions Sources*

The Lord has opened many doors to the Baptist Missionary Association of America as a result of invitations received by the BMMI to work with the local medical establishment to help improve the health care of a particular village or town. The BMMI has been invited to work on five continents this year and without the faithful support of the churches of the BMAA it would be impossible.

The Mekong River is one of the great rivers of the world. The Mekong River basin has seen many civilizations appear and disappear over the centuries. The Mekong River basin, which includes all the tributaries of the Mekong River, contains countless villages that have never heard the name of Jesus Christ.

The work started in Banlung, Cambodia has now been extended to the village of Nakeo, Laos where there is now a medical clinic. Dedicated in February, this clinic is available to villages on both sides of the river and those who live in houseboats on the river.

Another BMMI team returned in May. They worked in the village of Huaipa, Thailand as a result of an invitation from the village officials and religious leaders of the Karen population to work with the local physician to improve their health care.

Another invitation has been received for a meeting with the Minister of Health of Vietnam and the Governor of the Yunnan Province for future opportunities to work with them.

Being a part of a BMMI team is a great opportunity to show the love of Christ to others and we ask you to continue to pray for the prosperity of our ministry all over the world.

**Editor's Note:** *If you are interested in being a part of a BMMI Team contact the National Missions office at 501-455-4977.*

## AFA taking action in veteran cemetery case

**OneNewsNow** - A pro-family organization is calling on the Veterans Administration to end its policy of banning the mention of God from funerals at the Houston National Cemetery.

As previously reported on OneNewsNow, Liberty Institute has filed suit on behalf of the Veterans of Foreign Wars, The American Legion, and The National Memorial Ladies over allegations of religious hostility and unlawful censorship by the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs and its director of the Houston National Cemetery.

The American Family Association (AFA) has issued an Action Alert to call attention to the suit and the director's policy. In response, the Houston National Cemetery claims the accusations false and misleading. But Randy Sharp, director of special projects for the AFA, says there is plenty of evidence to prove his organization is not lying.

"The Liberty Institute has filed suit. The lawsuit contains the testimony of several individuals saying that they have been told they cannot mention God; they cannot mention Jesus," Sharp reports. "The Veterans Administration has shut down the chapel at the

BMA OF MISSISSIPPI

# MISSIONS DEPARTMENT

4226 HIGHWAY 15 NORTH, LAUREL, MISSISSIPPI 39440 - (601) 428-8616

Lavelle Lee, Interim Director

“...And the Lord added to the church daily such as should be saved.” (Acts 2:47)

It is a busy week here at the missions office. Workers are here from the Mississippi Classic Builders for Christ, and they have begun work on the remodel of El Camino Baptist Church. We would like to say a big “thank you” to these men and their wives for coming to make the expansion of El Camino a reality. Also, thank you to the workers who came and helped from Lebanon Baptist Church and Fifth Avenue Baptist Church, as well as any others who have helped in any way. And thank you to the ladies of El Camino Baptist Church and the ladies of Lebanon Baptist Church for providing meals



Mississippi Classic Builders help remodel El Camino Church, Laurel

the blacktop laid this week. At the time of this writing, plans are still to have their first service in their new building on Saturday, July 16, 2011 at 5:00 P.M. Please remember them in your prayers.

Bro. Elvis Garcia made it back safely from Guatemala and gave reports of having a great time of revival there. We will have a more in depth report from him in a future article.

Special Emphasis time this year for state missions was very encouraging. As of today, we have received a total of \$11,846.98 in special emphasis offerings for 2011. Thank you to each and every church, class, association and individual who contributed to this. The Lord continues to bless the Revolving Loan Fund, and we are seeing an increase in the requests from churches for loans. We currently have three new requests from churches who are expanding. Praise God for this because this means that souls are being

saved, and His churches are growing!

Please remember especially to pray daily for the search committee as they seek to know God’s will for the position of Director of Missions for Mississippi.

All praise, honor, and glory goes to God for His great blessings on all of us.



Volunteers help enlarge the worship area for El Camino Church



for the workers on two separate occasions. Your hospitality and generosity is greatly appreciated. Please continue to remember this project and this church in your prayers.

Bro. Ray Boone and New Heart Baptist Mission at Hattiesburg, also continue to make progress on their building program. Plans are to have

## Spiritually Plateaued

from page 4

leaders because of their credentials but because there is evidence of their gifts. What happens if the spiritual leader has plateaued? How do you know if you have plateaued? Terry Walling developed the following list of characteristics of a spiritually plateaued leader.

A spiritually plateaued leader.....

1. Avoids relationships of personal accountability.
2. Rarely applies the truths of God to themselves personally.
3. Has replaced their joy, peace, and love with envy and resentment.
4. Frequently looks for greener pastures in other places.
5. Finds faults in others more than in themselves.

6. Is burned-out from lots of busyness that has been substituted for simple intimacy with Christ.

7. Compromises on ethical principles once held dear.

8. Stays within safe areas of experience rather than branching out into new learning endeavors.

9. Is unable to acknowledge the wisdom of others.

10. Has reduced the Christian life to a routine.

Did any of one of those ten speak to your heart? Perhaps now it the time for confession which results in the recognition of where you are, repentance of being found there, and commitment to not remain there any longer. Begin the spiritual ascent once again so that others will follow!

## Worship the Creator . . . . . . Not the Creation

Are you green?” You had better be green, or you’ll be politically incorrect. Environmentalism is one of the big issues of our day. It’s one Christians should understand thoroughly enough to defend the biblical viewpoint.

Order the study guide and teacher’s book for Worship the Creator Not the Creation by logging on to [DiscipleGuide.org/undated](http://DiscipleGuide.org/undated) and clicking on Christian Living Series or by calling DiscipleGuide customer service at 800-333-1442.



## Sofilthy's Attic

by Barbara White

### I Feared A Fear

I was reading the book of Job the other day when I read a verse that stirred a memory.

MANY years ago when I was 10 or 11 years old, my neighbor girl friend was teaching me to ride her bicycle. (My family had not yet been given my cousin's outgrown bicycle.) It was a Sunday afternoon and her grandmother, who lived down the hill from my friend's house, had a yard full of elegant company. She also had a beautiful flower bed around the base of a big pine tree.

My friend put me on her bicycle and yelled to the yard full of company, "Ya'll look, I'm teaching Barbara to ride a bicycle." And she gave me a shove and here I went. I'm looking at that beautiful flower bed and I'm thinking, "I'm going to run into that tree and mess up that beautiful flower bed."

And so I did. I just wallowed that flower bed out as I struggled to get back up.

Several years later I was reading the book of Job when I came across the verse that recently stirred my memory. Job 3:25 "For the thing which I greatly feared is come upon me, and that which I was afraid of is come unto me."

If I could have overcome my fear and steered another direction, I could have averted that mess! Fear still messes me up at times.