

# The Mississippi Baptist

JOURNAL OF THE BAPTIST MISSIONARY ASSOCIATION OF MISSISSIPPI

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www.bmaofmississippi.com

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## Moving Day for the BMA

On Monday June 2nd, Lifeword, Disciple Guide and BMA Productions welcomed their colleagues, associates and friends to the new BMA Headquarters building in Conway, Arkansas. While the outside is not quite complete and there are still several details to finish inside, the offices are ready to be occupied by the men and women of the BMA Missions Department, additional Disciple Guide staff members, Baptist Medical Missions supplies and the BMA Foundation.

Flowers and goody bag greeted the women of the Missions Department on Monday, and Nick Jacobsen and Jared Eakin, BMA Productions Team mem-

bers, served doughnuts to everyone Thursday, which was National Doughnut Day.

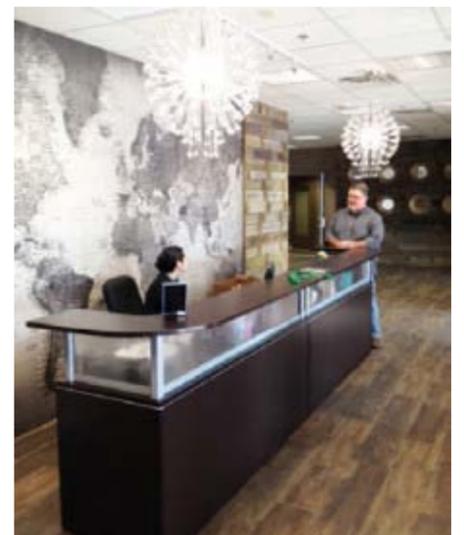
Karen Keathley, Missions Department bookkeeper, said of the move, "It was raining off and on Monday and Tuesday as the men worked at unloading all our furniture and supplies. They occasionally had to take a break when the rain intensified. But they kept going, even when we asked them to rearrange our offices to get things to fit, although they did groan when moving the fully loaded fireproof filing cabinets.

"Everyone was very welcoming, tried to make us feel at home, and have been

very helpful. They seem like a great group of people who will be easy to work with. We have almost gotten our offices set up, organized and are able to get out work done."

Because the move occurred a month sooner than expected, Scott Atteberry, John David Smith and Steve Crawley were not able to officially welcome everyone. Their schedules did not allow them to be present for all or part of move-in week. Mike Jones, BMA maintenance supervisor, and Luis Ortega, BMA Information Technology Coordinator and Lifeword Director or Pro-

continued on page 3



Tasha McGee and Phillip Rice in the newly remodeled reception/lobby area

## Answering the Call

by Danny Bullock

In February Mike Goodwin and I traveled to the eastern African nation of Tanzania to assess an appeal from a young Baptist pastor there who had found the EIM website and discovered that part of the ministry's work was in training and teaching pastors. He sent out what I termed "The Tanzanian Call" in an article that was written on our way back home from that trip. This

young pastor, Renatus Kanunu, was the son of another pastor who had gone to the Tabora region in western Tanzania over 20 years ago to plant a church and then send out men to plant other churches. He had been successful in doing that because at one time there were about 42 different Baptist churches begun in that region.

Over the years, however, that number had dwindled down to 22 because those sent out had not been adequately taught and trained how to study the Bible, prepare a sermon, and lead a congregation. Renatus pled with Mike to come over into Tanzania and help them. He was not asking for money, just someone who would come and teach them to be better prepared pastors. It

Help  
send  
the  
Gospel  
to  
Tanzania

see Opportunities on page 6



## Missionary, Student, Ministry

by Alicia Ramshur  
BMA Missionary To The Philippines

Alicia is a native Mississippian who is ministering in the Philippines for the BMA of America. A registered nurse, Alicia is currently enrolled in medical school in the Philippines.

It has been a long time since I have reported on our work in the Philippines. I often think about it, but have failed to take the time to actually put a message into words that can be distributed to you. I love to share what is going on and I apologize for not doing so more often. This is something I will try to work at.

Last year was an eventful year for many reasons. First of all, our medical ministry, BMMP or Baptist Medical Mission Philippines, received NGO status in June 2013. This gives us the authority to a credible non-government organization with volunteers and outreach programs. This, in itself, will open doors for us to minister and evangelize through medical means.

Secondly, I learned how to be a student again. While planning medical missions, it became evident to me that



the Lord was leading me to go back to school. It is often difficult to find doctors who are interested or have the time to join us in our medical missions. The Lord opened the door for me to attend medical school in the Philippines. I have completed my first year and have three more years to complete before becoming a licensed physician. I believe that the Lord has many reasons for sending me back to school. Having a doctor's degree will give us access to having a doctor present during all of

see Philippine Missions on page 3




## Baptist Missionary Association of Mississippi

Department of Missions and Revolving Loan Fund

State Missionaries and Wives






Bob & Edie Burch



Kenneth & Carole Pollock



Bobby & Lesa Elliott



Danny & Brenda Bartlett



Sidney & Becky Farmer



Ray & JoAnn Boone



Kelby & Jessie Johnson



Phillip & Dawn Burns



Estuardo & Yasmine Marroquin



Elvis & Wendy Garcia



Ed & Patricia DuVall

601.428.8616 www.bmams.org

**Thank You!**

I want to begin by thanking all of you who sent in special/additional offerings during our Special Emphasis. We sincerely appreciate all that you do and I commit to you that we will be good stewards of what you have entrusted to us.

**Another Mission to Organize into a New Testament Church**

All Nations Baptist Mission in Indianola, Missionary Pastor Donnie Loggins, is schedule to have an organization service on Saturday, June 28, 2014 at 2:00 pm. Bro. Ed DuVall, Pastor of Homestretch Baptist Church, which is the sending church for this mission, asked me to extend to all of you an invitation to attend this service. After organizing we anticipate that All Nations Baptist Church will take her place among the churches of the BMA of Mississippi and the Great River Association (local association recently organized).

**Freedom Baptist Mission to Receive Matching Funds**

Up to \$50,000.00 has been made available to help Freedom reduce their debt. Bro. Bobby Elliott has

Reports for May 2014			
	High Attendance	Membership	Total Offerings
<b>Church Planters</b>			
Bob Burch	73	25	\$2,510.00
Bobby Elliott	67	44	\$2,070.00
Danny Bartlett	16	6	\$1,367.00
Kelby Johnson	15	14	\$570.00
Ray Boone	Not reported	32	Not reported
Sidney Farmer	52	31	\$4,974.00
Phillip Burns	10	4	\$564.00
<b>Hispanic Missions – South (Estuardo Marroquin – Coordinator)</b>			
Hattiesburg	21	6	\$678.00
Biloxi	7	3	n/a
Laurel	117	96	\$4,971.00
<b>Hispanic Missions – North (Elvis Garcia – Coordinator)</b>			
Tupelo	26	16	\$197.00
Oxford	48	2	\$553.00
Ripley	90	78	\$4,319.00
<b>African American Missions – (Ed DuVall – Coordinator)</b>			
Indianola	60	45	\$1,370.00
Olive Branch	17	12	\$1,675.00
Cleveland	26	50	\$2,652.00
Collectively, our missionaries reported 307 new contacts, shared the gospel 168 times, and had 4 professions of faith 5 join by letter. Awaiting baptism – Bro. Burch 4, Bro. Elliott 7, Bro. Farmer 1			

labored diligently over the past year to construct a new 6000 sq ft facility in Burnsville, Mississippi, which will house the Freedom Baptist Mission. He has organized your generous outpouring of volunteer labor which resulted in people coming from all over Mississippi, and with the participation of the Master Builders, even beyond Mississippi, to Burnsville to work on this project. The project ended up costing \$167,709.38. That translates into \$27.95 per sq ft, and in construction terms, that is wonderful.

Now that the project is finished, and with the approval of the Revolving Loan Fund Trustees, \$50,000.00 had been made available to match money raised by Bro. Elliott during this campaign which runs from June thru September. For every dollar he raises we will match it up to \$50,000.00. He has the potential of reducing what the mission owes by \$100,000.00. Already, his own local association, the Harmony Association, has donated \$10,000.00.

Together with other money given and commitments, he has raised \$12,500.00. This will be matched by the same for a total of \$25,000.00 in reduction. Praise the Lord for such a good beginning to what we know will be a successful campaign. Bro Elliott has had 16 profession of faith since they began meeting in their new facility. Please prayerfully consider helping Bro. Elliott and the Freedom Baptist Mission. Send your gift marked, "Freedom Baptist Mission Matching Fund."

**South Forrest is Building Again**

Bro. Sidney Farmer reported that they are in the process of putting in sewer, water, and underground electrical lines as they prepare the site for their new sanctuary. Just two years into this mission project South Forrest has already experienced the ups and downs of limited space in their initial building.

With their land and initial building paid for, South Forrest requested and received approval of a loan to begin this new building project. This new sanctuary is estimated to seat approximately 230 and will be approximately 7000 sq ft. Please pray for South Forrest and if you are able to help on this project please contact Bro. Sidney Farmer.

**Land Found for Grace Baptist Mission at Clinton**

We have been praying and searching for a piece of land in Clinton, Mississippi. Praise the Lord - He has directed us to a piece of land. With the approval of the Revolving Loan Fund Trustees, we have made an offer on 5 acres in a very good location. Please pray with me that all will go well with this opportunity. There is much to be done yet, but I am hopeful that we will see ground broken on a new facility this year.

**Revolving Loan Fund (as of June 13, 2014 and since August 1st, 2013)**

Gross assets are now at \$18,392,378.00, an increase of \$928,457.00 since August 1st. Net assets are now at \$3,093,079.00, an increase of \$143,839.00

Missions Special Emphasis Giving To Date (We will receive special emphasis offerings throughout June.)	
Lee's Chapel #2, Picayune	35.00
Magnolia, Hattiesburg	1,420.60
Emmanuel, Tupelo	228.00
Calvary, Taylorsville	1,000.00
Mineral Springs, Taylorsville	300.00
First, Calhoun	500.00
Magnolia, Hattiesburg	156.24
Ten Mile Association	1,000.00
Spring Hill, Ocean Springs	63.88
First, Bay Springs	108.00
Paramount, Perkinston	203.00
Bethel, Seminary	166.00
New Bethany, Ellisville	124.00
Oak Grove, Lucedale	55.00
Spring Hill, Ocean Springs	71.24
Old Antioch, Soso	400.00
Movella, Lucedale	100.00
Grace, Clinton	75.00
Parkview, Laurel (Crusaders/Fellowship)	100.00
First, Bay Springs	300.00
Forked Oak, Booneville	143.00
Hopewell, Fulton	105.00
Westlawn, Picayune	41.00
Westlawn, Picayune	23.00
Homestretch, Cleveland	200.00
Little Creek, Perkinston	239.75
Washington, Neely	605.70
Evergreen, Seminary	200.00
Paramount, Perkinston	797.00
Lebanon, Laurel	1,500.00
Spring Hill, Ocean Springs	55.50
It's not too late to send a Special Emphasis offering.	

since August 1st. We have 9 new loans totaling \$1,097,172.00 since August 1st. Our current loan rate is 4.25%. If your church is in need of a loan to expand or build new facilities, we encourage you to give us a call.

**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>.



## Moving Day from page 1

gramming, were very busy all week making sure everyone was moved in and connected so work could continue without interruption.

"I think it's a wonderful testimony to everyone who has adjusted so well to change, the construction mess and noise, multiple office changes, inevitable disruptions, and moves. It has been a long process and it's great to see everyone coming together!" said Tina Cummins, Missions Department accountant.

Dedication of the building is planned for later on this summer, but an official date has not been set.

## Philippine Missions from page 1

ing all of our medical outreach programs. Being in school will also expose us to the Philippine healthcare system and build relationships with other practitioners that we might



not otherwise have the opportunity to build. To be honest, being a student is a great challenge. I am having to learn how to manage many different things at one time in order to benefit both the ministry and my current studies. Please continue to pray for God's guidance and direction as we seek to serve Him both faithfully and obediently.

BMMP has continued to function even as I dedicate a great deal of my time to being a student. We have a small team of volunteers who have been a blessing and great help to this ministry. One of the programs that we have developed this past year is a partnership program between BMMP and our partnership with our pastors as they reach out to people in their communities. If a pastor has a vision for evangelizing a family in his neighborhood, but needs assistance in order to gain access to their home and family, this is where BMMP comes in. If one member of the family has a healthcare problem or illness, such as diabetes, hypertension, tuberculosis, etc., BMMP has agreed to help with the medical needs for the duration of one year. In order to avail this assistance, the family must first agree to allow the pastor to hold a Bible study in their home for the duration of the same year.

Knowing that all people are different and that different disease processes will be encountered, BMMP has developed

categories in order to easily determine how BMMP can best assist the family with these needs. The goal of this program is not to alleviate 100% of the financial burden of the family, but to aid in alleviating a portion the burden with the main focus on evangelizing the family with the Gospel message of Christ. We are excited about this program and pray that the Lord will greatly bless as we work together to reach the lost. For our first year, we will limit the number of those whom we assist to 10 patients, which will equal 10 pastors and families. This will give us opportunity to assess the budget that will be needed and expand in the years to come as the Lord allows.

Healthcare in the Philippines is very different from healthcare in the U.S. Insurance policies and payment plans make it easy for Americans to access healthcare. For the Filipino needing treatments, 100% payment is required before services can be rendered making it impossible for many to receive proper treatment. If BMMP can relieve some of this burden while making a way for the Gospel to be introduced, then our purpose is being fulfilled.

I am also continuing to work with our students at the BMA Bible College. In May 2012, the Lord blessed us with a beautiful clinic that has served as such a blessing in many ways. One of the greatest joys of my job is working with these stu-

# Southeastern Baptist College

Danny Pitts - Interim President

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



Danny Pitts

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

The Fall Schedule is listed below. Everyone who is interested in taking classes is encouraged to preregister. This will expedite the process during the week of registration. First time students have a number of simple, but required forms for admission.

The procedure is more involved for the new student who is seeking a degree at Southeastern Baptist College. You will need to briefly see the Director of Admissions, Financial Aid, the

Registrar, the Bookkeeper, and maybe the Academic Dean. Those who audit a class do not get credit, but they can learn as much as the other students.

The cost per course is about one third of that of those receiving credit. Former graduates and those with degrees in other fields may just want the knowledge. Call the school at 601-426-6346 and ask to speak to Dr. Aaron Parker or Ronnie Kitchens for more information.

FALL 2014 CLASS SCHEDULE				SOUTHEASTERN BAPTIST COLLEGE			
Registration - August 11-13, 2014				Classes Begin - August 18, 2014			
Day Classes				Evening Classes			
Period	Monday - Tuesday		Instructor	Room	Monday (6:00-8:45p.m.)	Instructor	Room
I 8:30-9:45	HI-131	Western Civilization I	Coats	7	NT-231 Historical Books BU-332 Elementary Greek BU-431 Business Statistics	Staff Farker Burns	7 1 6
	SP-231	Oral Communication	Estes	5			
	TH-431	Christian Doctrines I	Pitts	1			
II 9:50-10:15	Monday	New Student Orientation	Coats	7	Tuesday (6:00-8:45p.m.)	Instructor	Room
	Tuesday	Chapel	TBA	Chapel			
III 10:30-11:45	OT-131	Old Testament Survey	Pitts	7	MA-130 Basic Math SC-241 Biology I	Clark Headrick	1 3
	EN-231	World Literature I	Coats	6			
	CM-431	Principles of Counseling	Parker	1			
12:00-1:00 Lunch				ONLINE COURSES			
IV 1:00-2:15	BU-131	Intro. to Computer Applications	Dyess	2	BU-233	Business Law - Hinton	
	MU-131	Music Appreciation	Padgett	6	BU-433	Princ. of Management - Hinton	
	HI-231	U.S. History I	Coats	7	BU-437	Business Ethics - Hinton	
	BU-231	Accounting I	Burns	5	OT-334	Historical Books II - O'Neal	
	RI-231	Bible Interpretation	Parker	1	NT-435	Doctrinal Books III - O'Neal	
V 2:20-3:10	Monday	Student Organizations	Coats	5	PY-131	Intro. to Psychology - Johnson	
	Tuesday	Ministerial Alliance		7			
VI 3:15-4:30	EN-131	English Composition I	Coats	7	Southeastern Baptist College reserves the right to cancel classes based on class size or to make any other necessary changes to the "Class Schedule" without prior notice. This document is not to be construed as part of the enrollment contract. It is the student's responsibility to see that all requirements for degrees are met.		
	BU-435	Intermediate Accounting I	Burns	5			
	HI-431	History of Christianity	Parker	1			

dents. I enjoy being someone in whom they can confide and loving them as if they were my own. I feel a sense of pride and joy as I watch them grow from teenagers into young adults who love the Lord and discover God's purpose for their lives.

Over the past year, the clinic has seen and treated many things such as the common cold, sinus infections, tonsillitis, wounds, skin infections, and much more. One of our students was hospitalized for appendicitis and surgery the following morning. Several of our pastors have also had medical needs in which we have been able to assist.

I am grateful for the opportunity to serve our students and pastors and thankful for the support that helps make every aspect of this ministry

possible. I am also thankful for those who the Lord has provided on the field to help keep this ministry moving forward.

If you or your church have any questions that you would like to ask or any concerns you would like me to address, please feel free to contact me through email or Facebook. These are listed below.

Thank you for your continued love, prayers, and support. It is such a blessing and encouragement to me. I do not say thank you enough, but I am so grateful for each and

every one of you and the part that you play in God's Kingdom work.

**Email:** alicia.ramshur@gamil.com

**Personal Facebook:**

Alicia Ramshur

**Ministry Facebook:** Baptist Medical Missions Philippines

Editor's Note: To help Alicia with her medical school expenses you may send your offering to the National Missions Office at BMAA Department of Missions, P.O. Box 878, Conway, AR 72033-0878. Be

sure to include a note that your offering is for Alicia Ramshur's medical school costs.

*The fear of the LORD is the beginning of knowledge: but fools despise wisdom and instruction. My son, hear the instruction of thy father, and forsake not the law of thy mother: For they shall be an ornament of grace unto thy head, and chains about thy neck. Prov. 1:7-9*

**Baptist Missionary Association  
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www.bmaofmississippi.com

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Laurel, MS 39440  
601-426-6346

**State Youth Department**  
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Laurel, MS 39440  
662-397-6832

**Baptist Children's Home**  
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**Missions & Revolving Loan Fund**  
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**Commission on Senior Adults**  
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Laurel, MS 39440  
601-729-3198

**History & Archives Commission**  
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Laurel, MS 39440  
601-729-8098

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Don Brown

**Mississippi  
Baptist**

*Journal of the Baptist Missionary Association of Mississippi*

Don Brown - Editor

# Opinion Page

## "Hello Bro. Brown", "Hello Bro. Brown"

by the Editor

As repetitive as the above headline sounds, it is representative of words shared each time I was in the presence of Bro. James Brown. Sharing the name of Brown brought us to our unique greeting to each other. Although we are not related by birth, we were always connected by our last name and by our Savior. My dad's name also was James Brown. This probably had a small part in our relationship.

Rev. James Brown was a faithful preacher of God's word and will surely be missed. He was blessed by the Lord with a wonderful and long ministry. A stroke stopped him from pastoring, but it only enhanced his service to the Lord. He was a faithful witness for Christ.

He was a special man and will be missed.

## Deaths

### James Brown

Brother James Brown passed away on Saturday, May 31, 2014, at the age of 84

Funeral services were held Tuesday, June 3, at Antioch Baptist Church, Soso, Mississippi. The services were officiated by his pastor, Brother Robbie White, his sons, Brother James Brown and Brother Donald Brown and his grandsons, Brother Nathan Brown.

Brother Brown was a Baptist minister, and he served as a national and international missionary for the Baptist Missionary Association of America. During his 57-year ministry, he served on the mission fields of Brooklyn, New York, and Sicily, Italy. He also pastored the following churches: Scotland Baptist Church in Benton, Oak Grove Baptist Church in Lucedale, Ridgecrest Baptist Church in Columbus and Fellowship Baptist Church in Round Lake, N.Y.

Although retired from the ministry due to failing health from a stroke, Brown continued to spend his life serving the Lord - witnessing to everyone who crossed his path, taking every opportunity to praise Jesus' name (which was visible to all around him by his uplifted hand) and spending hours each day in prayer and wor-

ship. His beloved wife Agnes, who was married to him for 65 years, stayed always by his side throughout his ministry and then in retirement as they centered their daily routine at home around prayer and worship.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Will and Virgie Brown; four sisters; one brother; and a great-grandson, Austin.

Survivors include his wife, Agnes Brown; two sons, James (Kay) Brown and Donald (Lynn) Brown; one daughter, Diane Hinton; eight grandchildren, Mike (Amy) Hinton, Jason (Amy) Hinton, Patrick (Bethany) Hinton, Sabrina (Chad) Seals, Nathan (Dawn) Brown, Stephen (Tiffany) Brown, Jenniefer Brown and Janna Brown; eight great-grandchildren, Jonah and Isaac Hinton, Emily Seals, Isaiah Hinton, Emerson Hinton, Kara Ledbetter, Kyle and Leah Hemming; and a host of nieces and nephews.

### Wallace Ray

Wallace Ray, 88, of Pascagoula, passed away on June 12, 2014. He a WWII veteran, worked for Ingalls Shipbuilding for 39 years, retiring in February 1991, as a manager of Marine Engineering. After retirement, he and his wife spent 11 years as a part of The Master's Builders, a group of volunteers who traveled across the U. S. assisting missions and new churches in building construction programs.

He was a dedicated and faithful member of Woodlawn Baptist Church where he served 29 years as church treasurer, and deacon since 1971. He served 6 years as a Trustee of Southeastern Baptist College, Laurel, and 15 years



Rev. James Brown



Wallace Ray

## Letters From Our Readers

Letters reflect the opinion of the writer and not necessarily this publication or the BMA of Mississippi

### Smith Mission Update

Dear BMA of Mississippi Churches,  
Some time ago we told you of a need in the Larry Smith family. Through much prayer and love of others we are ready to move forward on this project. But, we still need some help. We plan to bulldoze the house and get the slab laid in the next 30 days. The building of the new home will begin August 4, 2014. We need the following to help us move forward.

The needs we still have: Prayers, Money, Lead contractor, Lead Plumber.

Churches to volunteer to feed (60 + people) one or more days for the following dates - August 04, 2014 through August 16, 2014. Volunteers during the above time frame (free lodging available, but you must call to regis-

see Letters on page 5

## AVAILABLE FOR SERVICE

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

### Rick Clark

Bro. Rick Clark is available for pulpit supply, pastoral ministry, revivals, or however the Lord leads. Bro. Rick is a graduate of Southeastern Baptist College with a bachelors degree in church ministry and has a Master of Theology from Andersonville Theological Seminary. Bro. Rick has over 10 years of ministry experience and may be contacted by phone at 601-335-1886.

as Trustee of the Missions Committee of the Baptist Missionary Association of Mississippi.

Funeral services were held at Woodlawn Baptist Church, Pascagoula, on Tuesday, June 17. Memorial donations may be made to Woodlawn Baptist Church Memorial Fund, 2919 Old Mobile Hwy., Pascagoula, MS 39581, Hospice of Light, 11 Marks Rd., Ocean Springs, MS 39564, or to a charity of your choice .

## DiscipleGuide

Scott Attebery, Executive Director  
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Scott Attebery

What "We've always done it that way" Really Means

### "We've always done it that way."

There is a certain stereotype in the minds of pastors and church leaders when they hear that phrase. The stereotype I am referring to is of an out-of-touch, die-hard, traditional, older member who can't see the ridiculous nature of basing decisions mindlessly upon patterns of behavior in the past.

Well, if that's the case, I've become that out-of-touch stereotypical non-change agent.

For the past 20-something years, the Arkansas Razorbacks (my favorite team) has played LSU the day after thanksgiving. I have so many great memories of traveling with special friends to watch that game over the years. As silly as it sounds, that game -

on that day - has a special place in my heart.

The other day, I read in the newspaper that the game has been moved to another date and a new team has been placed on our schedule for Thanksgiving weekend. Before I could realize what was happening, the thought was echoing in my mind, "But we've always done it that way."

My next thought was, "I can't believe I just said that!"

I tried to process what happened inside of me. I wasn't necessarily clinging to tradition. And I wasn't so stuck in my ways that I thought changing was irreverent or wrong. No, what was happening inside of me was an acknowledgement that I had an emotional tie to something. It was actually a compliment

to my friends and all of the great memories we had made over the years at that game.

I cringed as my mind took me back to the years I pastored. Every time I heard "We've always done it that way," I respectfully listened, but behind my smiles and nods, my mind was grasping to the stereotype.

I interpreted the phrase as "Pastor, you better do a good sales job if you want me to change." It was a call to attack and force change.

However, those uttering the phrase, I believe, were really saying something more like, "Pastor, this has meant a lot to me in the past. I just want you to know this will be a difficult change for me."

What I always assumed was an attack was actually a compliment. Those members were actually trusting me with

their feelings! It was a sign that they honored me and wanted me to help them through the change - not go to war over it. Oh how I wish I would have realized it years ago.

After all, if I could get so emotional over memories from a football game, just imagine how emotional someone could be over tearing down a building where their children were baptized or ending a program their late spouse helped begin. These people are not anti-progress, they are simply in touch with the gravity of the situation.

If you are a pastor or church leader, the next time you hear "we've never done it that way before:"

Consider it an honor that they trust you with their feelings. Ask questions and show

them that you respect and honor their emotions.

Remember that they are complimenting the ministry.

Speak highly of the ministry in the past.

Love them before you attempt to lead them. Your ability to lead change is directly related to your genuine love for your members. They need to know they can trust your heart.

Continue asking for their input as you proceed.

If you decide change must take place, consider having a public recognition of the past ministry that is changing. Sometimes people just need to express themselves before they can move on.

Remain sensitive to their feelings as you introduce change (it helps me to picture them as my mother or grandmother when thinking through issues).

## Letters

from page 4

ter) Churches to adopt a room or half a room to help furnish.

We would love for Mississippi to come together and be a part of helping one of their own. If you are interested in being the Hands and Feet of Jesus, by reaching out and helping please contact us at 662-228-1240 or 662-228-1233. Mississippi this is our chance to serve - will you help?

If you want more details about the project please feel free to contact us. If you can't help please, pray.

Thank You,  
 Suzie Daugherty

### Reader Urges God and Country Back In Our Schools

Dear Editor,

Stopping gun sales, gun controls, etc. won't stop violence. We are all aware of this. The first murder was probably committed with a stone or stick. The weapons don't do the act, it's the spiritually ignorant,

heatless persons behind them. This concept is not new, but the solution alludes some people. We need to go back to the teachings in our schools of the past, especially the Ten Commandments and the Golden Rule. Yes, I'm speaking "Old school." I'm an old lady that was taught this Godly curriculum (Ten Commandments and the Golden Rule) and current generation doesn't know these concepts because many are unchurched. I'm so thankful that we had a devotional and prayer in the classroom every morning and chapel on Monday and Friday (an assembly of the whole student body).

For those who don't know the Golden Rule it's "Do unto others as you would have them do unto you." What a simple formula to stop bullying, wars, and conflicts. Jesus said it this way, "Whatsoever ye would that men should do unto you, do ye also unto them." As things worsen and they will, we need to lift up our heads our redemption draws near.

What a great injustice we are doing to our children. Just

put God back into our schools. We will be educating the conscience of the students, which is the most important. Many of you readers were taught God and country above all. We need to come out of the proverbial closet and make our voices heard loud and clear.

As our attention was directed to God and country every day, we learned patriotism and "God" and when God's time came for our wonderful salvation experience (it came) by the power of God's wonderful Holy Spirit.

The time is short, what worked in the past can work again. The Bible instructs us to seek the old paths and return to them. Simple, simple! Those who don't learn from the good part of their history will get horribly LOST. I'm a great grandmother and my granddaughter plans to put her two beautiful daughters in a Christian school curriculum.

I advise young parents, who per chance may read this, to do the same. I believe the "rapture" is nearer than it's ever been.

Ms. Tiny Dyess  
 Columbia, Mississippi

tion at South Green. This will be considered our July meeting.

### Canaan Revival Set

Canaan Missionary Baptist Church in Lucedale, will hold revival services July 6-11, starting at 5:00 pm on Sunday the 6th & 7:00 pm the 7th-11th. Bro. Dewitt Bain will be the guest speaker. We invite all to attend.

Geraldson also spoke on behalf of the missions department.

Bro. Matt Hudson reminded every one about the God and Country Rally on June 29, 2014 at South Green Baptist Church in Tupelo starting at 6:00 p.m. Bro. John Adams will be our speaker and we will have a patriotic themed service. All churches are encouraged to dismiss and join the Associa-

### Tombigbee Association News

The Tombigbee Association met June 05 at Ballardville Baptist Church. Bro. Wexford Parmer brought the message entitled "Settle it Therefore", with scripture references from Luke 21:14. There were 8 churches represented with 6 visitors and 39 in attendance. We heard from two missionaries, Bro Bob Burk and Brother Bobby Elliot. Bro. Larry

**MORAL ACTION**  
**2014 FREEDOM OFFERING**  
**June 29th & July 6th**



**Promoting Morality**  
**Across America**

## Missionary Shares Efforts and Blessings

by Lynn Perkinson  
Manado, Indonesia

What a joy it is to be able to write you about the marvelous things our God is doing here in Indonesia! I returned to the field in mid-March and it has been busy here since the moment I stepped off of the plane. Let me share with you a few updates on our work.

One of our goals for 2014 is to train at least 3 Indonesian nationals in how to share the gospel and be leaders for Christ. I shared this as a prayer request with many of you while I was home. I want to thank you for your prayers and tell you that they were heard. At the beginning of April, we began training with three young men. Nando is part of our English center staff and has a heart for reaching young people who come from difficult circumstances. Beni works at a local hotel and has a burden for those caught in the stronghold of homosexuality. Sahrul is a former Muslim who found Christ and wants to reach other Muslims with the gospel. These three young men are learning to use Bible Storying as a method of sharing the gospel. They are excited about spreading the Good News throughout this city. Every week they go out telling others that Jesus



Indonesian Mission Workers

is Savior. Please pray for them as they serve God and continue to sharpen their skills as soldiers for God's kingdom.

The Bridge English Center has really been blessed. We held a grand re-opening on April 5 and had over 25 people in attendance. We thought this was a large crowd. One month later we held another English Community outing. Over 100 people attended!! Praise be to our God!! Every night we have an average of 25 people attending our English Community. If God continues to add to our numbers as He has been doing, we will have a new problem: our office is too small! What a terrific problem to have!! It is amazing to see how God can take something as simple as conversation practice and turn it for His glory. Our students have become like family.

Doors are opening for them to share their life with us and for us to share the gospel with them. They are opening their minds and hearts. Please pray for these young people. Many are lost and have never heard the gospel. The Bridge English Center is becoming their bridge to the gospel. Please pray for energy and strength for myself and our staff so that we can keep up with all that God is doing in such a short time.

I shared with many of you about the devastating flood that affected Manado in mid-January. I am happy to report that many areas have been restored and life is back to normal in many ways. However, many homes were destroyed and signs of the aftermath can still be found in some of the more damaged areas of town. Please continue to pray for the victims of this disaster.

I have a few prayer requests that I would like to share with you as well. My work visa expires in November. My current sponsor has decided to retire and can no longer sponsor me. This leaves me in a difficult situation because I cannot teach at the English Center without a work visa. Please pray that God will provide a new visa sponsor who understands our vision and has

a heart for Christ. I am also in the process of looking for a new house. My rent contract at my previous house is up. Please pray that God will provide this need. Please continue to pray for the lost souls in Manado. Pray that God would open their hearts to receive Christ as Savior. Pray for courage and strength for our staff and team. Thank you for faithfully partnering with us. May God

### State Junior Camp

August 1-2, 2014

Waukaway Springs (Vossburg, MS)



Theme: Follow Jesus

Mark your calendar, more details coming soon!

Grades: K-6th - Cost: \$65

\*The camp has many counselors that will help keep the kids busy enjoying their experience!

Contact Bro. Kelby for more information!

Email: kelby@gracechurchna.com

Phone: 662-316-6233

## Opportunities to Serve

### Answering the Call to Tanzania

from page 1

became obvious as we met and visited the pastors and villages that there was a real need. We saw that 90% of the church members had no Bibles and none of the pastors had ever read all the books of the Bible, with some of them only having a small Gideon New Testament. It just seemed that God was opening a door that we felt we needed to enter, even if it meant putting our teaching efforts "on the back burner" in Ghana, Nepal, and The Philippines while we concentrated on this country that has the potential to reach the eight bordering nations where their Swahili language has spread.

So the article was written and the appeal was sent out through our state papers to see if God would validate our feelings and touch the hearts of other pastors and churches.

Wow! Has God ever accomplished that! He has done exceedingly abundantly above all that we had hoped. People began to send money for Bibles even before we got home to Arkansas, and pastors began to get excited about going to teach men who were begging for someone to invest in their lives. The response has been great as many are answering the call.

On July 6 Mike will return with a team to teach How to Study the Bible, Preparation of Sermons, and Leadership. Joining him this summer will be Luis Ortega from LifeWord Broadcast Ministries, Larry Barker from the BMAA Missions Office, and Stan Scroggins from Magnolia, Arkansas. Then in November we will return with two teams to teach Old Testament and New Testament Survey courses. I

will lead the first team on November 3 to cover the Old Testament. Those going with me will be Dale Fish from Emerson, Arkansas, Randy Wilson from Taylor, Arkansas, and Robert Gunnels from Piggott, Arkansas. On November 10 Mike will leave with his team to come and cover the New Testament as we leave to head home. Going with him will be Jason Goodwin and Adam Thomas from El Dorado, Arkansas and Dustin Wisely from Magnolia.

After these 2014 trips we plan to return each February, July, and November through 2017. Already tentatively set to go with me in February 2015 are Dan Wisely from New Madrid, Missouri and Moses Adjecwei from Accra, Ghana, who can share with them how he has successfully built two churches in that west African

nation. Then in July 2015 the BMA Seminary plans to send a professor to share with the pastors there how to be more effective in personal evangelism. Also, Dr. Joel Slayton from Central Baptist College hopes to go while he is between semesters. We wish to use our Bible college and seminary professors each July so they will not have to miss any teaching time at their schools. Dr. Martin Jameson from CBC plans to go in July 2016. A number of other men have indicated strong interest in going on at least one of the 11 trips, but we have not gotten all of that arranged just now. We believe that what God has orchestrated so far is a good indication that He will continue to complete what He has begun. He always does!

One of our challenges right now is financing the trips. Even though they have not asked for money from us, there will be cost involved in housing and feeding the men while they are in Tabora to be taught each

time over the three and a half years. We also hope to rent a meeting room at the little hotel where we stay to have a classroom that will be more conducive to learning and teaching. We will have to print handouts to give to the men each time and pay for someone to interpret for us. All of this could easily cost \$20-25,000. If God has touched the hearts of so many to want to go, we trust that He will touch the hearts of others to give to cover the necessary expenses. Anything that you and/or your church can do will be greatly appreciated. One additional desire we have is to involve more men outside of Arkansas in this effort. Several from other states have expressed interest in getting involved, and we certainly want to make that a reality. We have also begun talks to hopefully have at least one conference for women during these years.

Donations should be marked "Tanzania" and sent to EIM, P.O. Box 297, Magnolia, AR 71754.

## Master's Builders Help at National Campground

by Nelda Malone- Reporter

On May 12, The Master's Builders arrived at Daniel Springs. Thirteen men were there to work on cabin thir-

This is our 130th job and the last before September. If you would like to visit and see what our men are doing, we would love it! Our prayer is for God to



teen! Work on the cabin included remodeling the bathroom. They also built bunkbeds, built forms for the steps to the bookstore, and replaced doors on some of the cabins. There is still a lot of work to be done at Daniel Springs. If a church or individual would like to donate funds for the materials, The Master's Builders are willing to do the work.

Thanks to Bro. James Speers for treating us to a wonderful meal before we were left.

The Builders are now in Jacksonville, Texas, working on a new dorm at the college.

### Ten Mile District WMA

On April 14, the Ten Mile District WMA meeting was held at the Ten Mile Missionary Baptist Church, Perkinston. The program was presented by Ten Mile Baptist Church. Marcie Wilson and Alexa Davis sang "He Knows My Name" and Ashley Bates sang "Blessed Redeemer".

Our third Quarter District Project for 2013-2014 is 75% Bro. Bobby & Lesa Elliot, 25% General Fund State Project

send men to help in this ministry. Watch, learn and assist, is how most of our men have developed their skills in carpentry. Most have had very little carpentry training, so don't think you have to be skilled to work along side us. You will find that the blessings in this ministry just keep on coming as we work for our Lord.

If your church has building needs or if you are interested in working with The Builders, please contact: Office Coordinator John Mangum at 318-202-5155 or (cell) 318-607-4100 or Field Coordinator Eddie Sikes at 903-725-6549 or (cell) 479-462-1675.

2013-2014. The National Project for 2013-2014 is 40% I Am Woman Center in Beirut, Lebanon, 15% Youth Fund, and 5% General Fund.

Our Project, a love offering for Bob and Edie Burch, as they start their new Mission Church.

Our next meeting will be on July 14, 2014, 7:00 PM at Pleasant Hill Baptist Church. We will be conducting our Election of Officers for the next year.

According to the findings of a Gallup poll released on June 4, 2014, only 28 percent of Americans believe that the Bible was "the actual word of God" and that it should be "taken literally, word for word."

## MISSISSIPPI BAPTIST CHILDREN'S HOME

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



SIDNEY DAVIS

### As For Me and My House

"And if it seem evil unto you to serve the LORD, choose you this day whom ye will serve; whether the gods which your fathers served that were on the other side of the flood, or the gods of the Amorites, in whose land ye dwell: but as for me and my house, we will serve the LORD." Joshua 24:15.

What a challenging verse to all of us who are fathers! May we give earnest heed to these words. Indeed it is a great responsibility that rests upon the shoulders of each and every dad to be the spiritual leader of his family. But with the grace of God we can live the life that brings glory to the Lord and be successful as a father. I came across this little poem a number of years ago that expresses the importance of dads being successful.

### I've Got To Be Successful As That Little Fellow's Dad

I may never be as clever as my neighbors down the street;

I may never be as wealthy as other men I meet; I may never have the glory that some other men have had,

But I've got to be successful as a little fellow's dad.

There are certain dreams I cherish that I'd like to see come true;

There are things I would accomplish ere my working time is through;

But the task my heart is set on is to guide a little lad.

And to make myself successful as that little fellow's dad.

I may never get earth's glory; I may never gather gold;

Men may count me a failure when my business life is told;

But if he who follows after is a Christian, I'll be glad,

For I'll know I've been successful as a little fellow's dad.

-Author Unknown

### Students Recognized on Awards Day

In my last article I mentioned that we had a sixth grade girl to graduate from elementary school this year. Also, we had a kindergarten

boy who participated in graduating exercises promoting him to the first grade. Since that time several students were recognized on Awards Day:

\*Kindergarten boy received a Perfect Attendance Award and reached his AR goals for the year.

\*First grade girl reached her AR goals, received the Most Improved Award, and the Student of the Month Award.

\*Third grade girl received the AR Award, Science Award, Student of the Month Award, and Perfect Attendance Award. She also received a trophy by the Jones County Soil & Conservation

District by placing as first place winner in the poster contest that they sponsored.

\*Seventh grade girl was exempt from final tests of the year because of her excellent grades.

We are indeed grateful and thankful for God's blessings on the lives of our girls and boys for this school year.

### Expression of Sympathy

We would like to express our sympathy to the family of Bro. James Brown, Sr. Bro. Brown was a faithful pastor, missionary and servant in the Lord's work. Our thoughts and prayers continue to be with the Brown family during this time of loss and sorrow.

### Remember in Prayer and Focus Verse

Continue to remember the girls and boys and the ministry of the Home in your prayers. "Pure religion and undefiled before God and the Father is this, to visit the fatherless and widows in their affliction, and to keep himself unspotted from the world." James 1:27



## Pastoral and Lay Leadership

What an honor it is for the pastor and church to be entrusted with the stewardship of the precious Word of God. It is awesome when we are reminded by Scripture of just what that means. Consider John 1:1 "In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God." The Word was God? Yes! That kind of trust from God deserves our all.

The pastor, the under shepherd of Christ to His church, is to be held in high esteem by the church laity as God's messenger and leader to them. The pastor is responsible to declare the whole counsel of God. He is to preach messages that uplift, encourage, inform, correct, and restore, while never taking advantage of the pulpit. In 2 Timothy 4:2 Paul's pastoral instruction is to: "Preach the word; be instant in season, out of season; reprove, rebuke, exhort with all long suffering and doctrine."

While declaring the whole counsel of God the compassionate pastor will develop his message free of any vendetta or even personalization. The true shepherd's heart always bleeds for the well being of his entire congregation. He is constantly reminded of his heavenly commission and responsibility. Hebrews 13:7, 17 "Remember them

which have the rule over you, who have spoken unto you the word of God: whose faith follow, considering the end of their conversation. 17 Obey them that have the rule over you, and submit yourselves: for they watch for your souls, as they that must give account, that they may do it with joy, and not with grief: for that is unprofitable for you." (See also Ezekiel 3:17-21; 33:1-9)

According to scripture, the pastor is responsible for preaching the Word, both sweet and bitter, and also for the administrative leadership of the church. The faithful pastor will surely feel the responsibility of the pulpit, the educational ministry "together with the overall leadership" which bears heavily upon him. He is aware that he together with the leadership of the laity will stand before the Lord to give an account of the overall church ministry. Paul emphasized a need for in depth studies, leaving the milk of the Word moving on into deeper things. 1 Corinthians 3:2, "I have fed you with milk, and not with meat: for hitherto ye were not able to bear it, neither yet now are ye able." Also Hebrews 5:12, "For when for the time ye ought to be teachers, ye have need that one teach you again which be the first principles of the oracles of God; and

are become such as have need of milk, and not of strong meat."

Educational advancement of the church requires dedication of the pastor and teaching laity to study the Scripture. The message presented in the Sunday

*As I See It*



by Rayburn Freeman  
rsfree39@gmail.com

school classroom should be one that strikes the reverberating cords of the heart. The Word of God in worship stirs the slumbering chords of people's heart, nudging them to a closer fellowship with Christ. A heart of deep contrition today is the joy and peace of tomorrow.

The emphasis of a worship service is to encourage God's people to leave the world behind while imploring the mind to think upon spiritual things. 2 Corinthians 2:10b "... but the sorrow of the world worketh death." John gives personal admonishment in 1 John 2:15 saying, "Love not the world, neither the things that are in the world. If any man love the world,

the love of the Father is not in him." Paul's message to the Corinthians is to always strive for a closer walk with the Lord. Teaching the Word is not only a responsibility, it is an elating and satisfying joy when realizing that God has entrusted unto the church, his people, the faithful stewardship of His precious Word. The responsibility of the Word to the church is to "teach, preach and to live it" joyfully.

Paul gave the church goal in Colossians 1:28, Whom we preach [that is referring to Christ] warning every man, and teaching every man in all wisdom; that we [the church] "may present every man perfect in Christ Jesus:" Pastors, church teachers and members are to be Bible students. Hebrews 5:12-14 addresses the need for prepared teachers by saying, "For when for the time ye ought to be teachers, ye have need that one teach you again which be the first principles of the oracles of God; and are become such as have need of milk, and not of strong meat. For every one that useth milk is unskilful in the word of righteousness: for he is a babe. But strong meat belongeth to them that are of full age, even those who by reason of use have their senses exercised to discern both good and evil."

In Acts 2:37 the people asked Peter and the rest of the apostles, "Men and Brethren what shall

we do?" Church leadership is responsible to answer such questions for those seeking to know the truth of His Word. 2 Timothy 2:15, "Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth." When Christ is in the spotlight individual and church maturity will flourish. Paul says in Act 17:28, "For in him we live, and move, and have our being; ..."

Christians must be aware, Satan plans well, and executes effectively. 1 Peter 5:8 gives warning, "Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil, as a roaring lion, walketh about, seeking whom he may devour." Satan's influence and pressure from his outside forces upon the churches continues to grow, pressuring members to surrender their faith and integrity. A good antidote against surrendering our living faith in Christ would be to set aside personal time each day for fellowship with the Lord in prayer and study of his Word.

When our children reach adulthood and move out into the world, what has been taught them in His Word, will be what keeps them from this world. The church is to reach the lost, and teach the saved. 3 John 1:4 says, "I have no greater joy than to hear that my children walk in truth." The Church being accountable has an awesome responsibility that merits eternal rewards.



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