

Mississippi Baptist

JOURNAL OF THE BAPTIST MISSIONARY ASSOCIATION OF MISSISSIPPI

June 15, 2015

www.bmaofmississippi.com

Vol. 69 No. 12

DiscipleGuide - The Church is Our Focus

by Scott Attebery
Executive Director

Someone recently asked me to describe DiscipleGuide's ministry. My first instinct was to share our four Cs: camps, conferences, curriculum, and church solutions. Before the familiar words could leave my mouth, something else came to mind - DiscipleGuide invests in

churches.

We believe that the key to fulfilling the Great Commission lies in the local church. No other institution has been given the responsibility. Therefore, we



Scott Attebery

work hard to help churches maximize their potential for kingdom work. Here's how:

Our camps focus on winning the church of tomorrow to Christ. Every year hundreds of campers trust Christ as their Savior and thousands more hear the Gospel.

Our conferences inspire church members with relevant teaching and new ideas to take

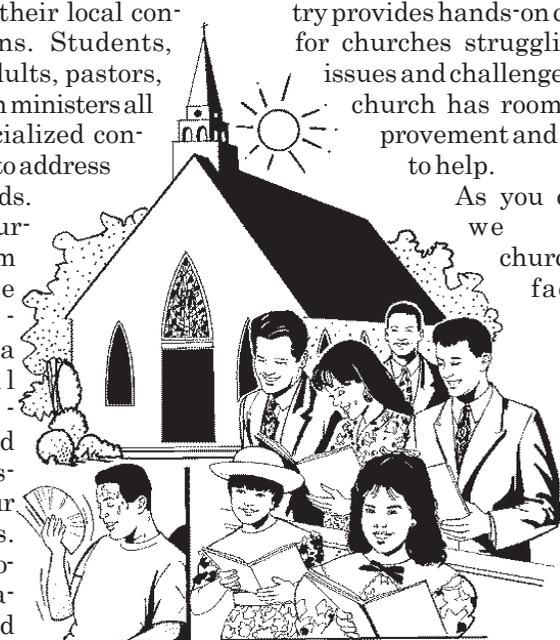
home to their local congregations. Students, senior adults, pastors, and youth ministers all find specialized conferences to address their needs.

Our curriculum sets the framework of a biblical worldview and belief system for our churches. Age-appropriate materials aid churches in training their members biblically throughout every stage of life.

Our church solutions minis-

try provides hands-on coaching for churches struggling with issues and challenges. Every church has room for improvement and we want to help.

As you can see, we love churches! In fact, we want to be known as your best friend. Please let us know how we can help your congregation. Contact DiscipleGuide at info@discipleguide.org or 800-777-1442.



Busy Summer for National Camp

It is getting very busy around Daniel Springs in anticipation for the exciting 2015 camp season.



We have been so blessed to have volunteer groups work on

major projects and are excited about the progress they've made around the campgrounds. The summer staff is putting a lot of time and energy into getting the facilities ready for the summer campers to get here.

We are so blessed to have a great group of students on staff this summer and we're

looking forward to the impact they are going to have in the lives of our campers. It is amazing to see their excitement and willingness to work as they cleaned cabins, mowed, weeded, picked up limbs and helped with some of the repairs.

We are very excited and look forward to see how the Lord is going to work in lives this summer. Register your group at DanielSpringsCamp.com today.

Living Up To Father's Day

by the editor

The word father and variations of it are found in at least 514 verses of scripture. God is our 'Father in Heaven'. The importance of the office of father cannot be emphasized enough. There is no doubt that the office and position of father has been neglected and ridiculed by much of society today.



Don Brown
Editor

The absence of a father in the life of a child proves to be disastrous to the child and to society as a whole. Many of the ills that face our nation can be laid at the feet of fathers who fail in their responsibility and duty.

Just as the absence of an earthly father and his positive influence in a child's life is detrimental, the absence of the Heavenly Father in the life of an individual proves deadly. Life comes from the Creator Father of mankind. As we approach Father's Day on June 21, let us not forget to honor our Father in Heaven.

As we honor Him, let us honor our earthly fathers. God commands us in Exodus 20:12, and others scriptures, to honor our parents. Let us who are fathers remember our responsibility to fulfill that honored position with reverence and determination in a manner that pleases our Father in Heaven.

Happy Father's Day!

BMA Theological Seminary offers FREE online course

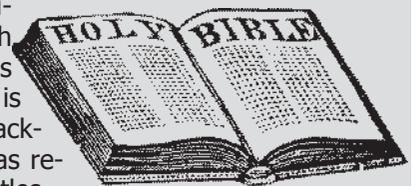
BMA Seminary will offer a FREE eight week course on the Life of Paul from September 9, 2015 until October 28, 2015. Registration for this FREE online course opens August 1, 2015.

This course is designed to enlighten the student in Pauline chronology and to survey pertinent historical incidents which affected or coincided with his ministry. Special emphasis is given to the environmental background of early Christianity as recorded in the Acts of the Apostles.

Two Textbooks are required: The Holy Bible - student selected English translation and "Paul His Life and Teaching" - John McRay, Baker Academic, ISBN 080102403.

To enroll contact the seminary at: <http://bmats.edu/other-educational-opportunities/free-courses/> or bmats@bmats.edu or Toll free 800-259-5673.

THIS IS A NON-CREDIT COURSE-YOU WILL RECEIVE A CERTIFICATE ONLY





Larry Geraldson
Director



Baptist Missionary Association of Mississippi

Department of Missions and Revolving Loan Fund





State Missionaries and Wives



Bob & Edie Burch



Kenneth & Carole Pollock



Bobby & Lesa Elliott



Danny & Brenda Bartlett



Sidney & Becky Farmer



Wesley & Holley Martin



Anders & Carla Lee



Phillip & Dawn Burns



Estuardo & Yasmine Marroquin



Elvis & Wendy Garcia



Ed & Patricia DuVall

601.428.8616 www.bmams.org

"And Jabez called on the God of Israel, saying, Oh that thou wouldest bless me indeed, and enlarge my coast, and that thine hand might be with me, and that thou wouldest keep me from evil, that it may not grieve me! And God granted him that which he requested." 1 Chronicles 4:10

God continues to answer our prayers and enlarge the area of missions activity through out the State. At the Midyear meeting in May, the messengers of the churches of the BMA of Mississippi approved a recommendation by the Missionary Committee to partner together with the BMAA Missions Department to support Bro. Anders Lee and the missions work at Southaven, Mississippi. The following is more information about Bro. Anders and the Mission.

Introducing Central in Southaven, Mississippi

In 2012, Anders Lee attended the BMAA National Meeting in Jackson, Mississippi. At that meeting Dr. John David Smith, Executive Director of Missions, spoke of needing church planters. In his presentation



Central's Pastor Anders Lee Teaching

he challenged men to step forward and be creative in starting new works. It was in that setting Lee began to feel the call to start a new plant in Southaven.

After a team of pastors and laymen prayed with him over time, it became apparent that it was indeed God's will to move forward with a church plant. It would begin with no associational support and Lee would be bi-vocational in the ministry that would begin.

Charity Baptist Church in Ward, Arkansas, voted to become their mother church in May of 2013. The church immediately began helping financially. In September 2013, the Mt. Calvary Association also began supporting the work. The two raised over \$17,000.00 to help begin purchasing needed tools to get the work started in 2014.

After a period of four months, a core group of 6 families came into existence. They began to meet in Lee's home in September 2013 for Core Group Church Planting training. The group bonded, grew in the Lord and became determined to work together to begin a new church in Desoto County.

The group began outreach and worship at the beginning of 2014. They met in the Lee's home and

continued meeting there for over a year. They held an Easter Service in April of 2014, the first public worship service, with 153 attending. The Lord blessed and expanded the plant to 15 families by May 2014. They averaged over 60 in worship in the Lee's home and one time had 103 attend a worship service there.

In the Summer and Fall of 2014, the plant held three major connection events. From those events, 8 additional families were added by the end of 2014. It was an incredible blessing to see the plant grow by 17 families throughout 2014. God also opened the door for the plant to rent a facility to worship in, located in the heart of Southaven, Mississippi.

They launched public worship in the new rental building in October, 2014. Since being in the building they have averaged 105 in worship.



Worship at Central



Easter Sunday at Central, Desoto County outside current meeting location

Presently, Central has nearly 40 families in the church plant. The mission is primarily young families and the kids and teens abound.

In 2015, the need for more financial help became apparent. Although the plant had grown in numbers, the financial base did not match the numerical growth. God opened the door for help from the National BMA Missions Department in April, and recently from the BMA of Mississippi Missions Department. This partnership of financial support will greatly enable the plant in 2015 and going forward.

Pastor Anders Lee and the members of Central, wish to thank Bro. Larry Geraldson for his leadership in this matter and the churches of the BMA of Mississippi for being financial partners to the plant in Southaven. Larry Geraldson, Director of Missions in Mississippi, will be with Central on June 28, 2015.

The future is bright for the plant, but there is still much work to be done before organization of the group

can take place. With the Lord's blessing they hope to organize in late 2016 or early 2017. The greater vision is not only to plant Central, but to plant more churches in the county and region. After organization as a church, they plan to begin a new church plant on the east side of Desoto County. It is their sincere desire to continue their relationship with the BMA of Mississippi in church planting efforts. Already they have begun discussion with two other men who could help lead in other plants in the area.

Please pray for Central as they move forward in kingdom work in Desoto County. You may contact Anders Lee by cell at 901-343-3293 or by email at Anders.Lee571@gmail.com. Central can be followed on Facebook and their website is

www.centraldesoto.com.



What Happens To Your Gift to the BMA Foundation?

All gifts to the Foundation, except those designated for operating expenses, are placed in an endowment fund and invested for one or more of the BMA departments or agencies as specified by the donor. Income from the investments provides supplemental funding for those ministries until the Lord returns. Gifts of cash should be mailed to P.O. Box 1188, Conway, Arkansas 72033. Call the Foundation office at 501-329-6891 for more information on other ways to give.

Disasters - Diseases - Deaths

I cannot remember a time in my life when the whole State of Texas has flooded like it has this past month. Top to bottom was a flood and it is a pretty big state. My sister called at almost midnight to tell me that their home in Houston was flooding. Since my family had experienced flooding years ago, she was calling to get ideas on how to keep the water out of her house. As the waters receded we talked over all that had happened. We both put it into perspective that it was nothing compared to those who had their entire family swept away, along with their homes, across the state. Moving your

furniture and stacking it up as high off the floor as you can and mopping up water in your home is all a huge ordeal. But it is really just an inconvenience when you think of the families who went on a weekend getaway to the Hill Country of Texas and were all swept to their deaths from raging flood waters.

Our little 4 year old great niece is battling leukemia. She is a real warrior princess. Her mom has quit her job and takes care of her full-time now. She does home chemotherapy each day through ports in her arms. Then once a week, she has to go for the big tuff stuff at the hospital several miles away. Her two little brothers adapt well as mom and dad have to spend so much time with their sick little girl. Yet through it all, my niece has never been closer to God. She is growing exponentially in her faith and relationship with God. For the first time ever she called last week and we discussed scripture over the phone. When all the blond curly hair that flowed halfway down her back

fell out everyone cut off their hair in support. While my niece and her family grow in strength and courage from the Lord, the little girl just keeps on playing, and singing and being like a 4 year-old when she feels good. She doesn't even know to have a bad outlook on life. When she is not sick, she is happy and playing and enjoying life. Her mom told me that on the way to get chemotherapy last week at the hospital a man cut them off in traffic on the freeway. She said, "I would have honked and got so mad in the past. But it didn't even bother me. I thought that maybe he was battling some big problem and just wasn't paying attention or had to hurry home for an emergency." She just prayed for him.

Our neighbor lady just around the corner from us is terminally ill. She

told us recently that she is just about gone. We have been going over and praying over her. She is so appreciative and goes on and on about how wonderful it is. It is really nothing. I get kind of sad thinking of all the people who are hurting and no one comes to help them

or visit them or pray for them. It makes me think that there are a lot of Christians out there who are too busy with their own pursuit of happiness to minister

to the needs of others.

Our neighbor is building this huge deck onto the back of her house. I thought it was strange that she would just be starting this major building project at this point in her life. But I learned years ago that people deal with disease and death in their own unique way and it is never a good thing to judge others on how they choose to respond to their life situations. She said, "I have to do something. I want to enjoy coming

continued on page 5

Family Ark Ministries

Dr. Travis Plumlee is a full-time professional speaker and leads Family Ark Ministries. For more information or to contact him, visit www.travisplumlee.com.



Southeastern Baptist College

Serving Christ

With A

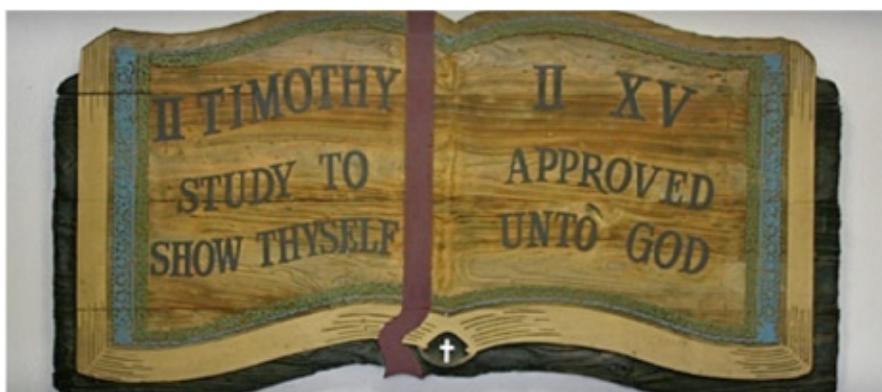
Biblical World View

In A

Christian Atmosphere

Special Emphasis 2015

Goal: \$15,000



Southeastern Baptist College

4229 Highway 15 North

Laurel, MS. 39440

(601)426-6346

www.southeasternbaptist.edu

Baptist Missionary Association of Mississippi
www.bmaofmississippi.com

DEPARTMENTS & COMMISSIONS

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

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

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

Baptist Children's Home
118 Lowe Rd., Laurel, MS 39443
601-426-3928

Missions & Revolving Loan Fund
4226 Highway 15 North
Laurel, MS 39440
601-428-8616

Commission on Senior Adults
4226 Highway 15 North
Laurel, MS 39440

History & Archives Commission
4229 Highway 15 North
Laurel, MS 39440
601-729-8098

Moral Action
P.O. Box 88, Mantachie, MS 38855



Don Brown

Mississippi Baptist

Opinion Page

www.ms baptist.org

Journal of the Baptist Missionary Association of Mississippi

Don Brown - Editor

In Brief

by the editor

We continue to receive reports from churches and auxiliaries concerning meetings, revivals, special services, meetings and projects. We are pleased to print these types of items and find them interesting and informative. Those who attended or are involved in various activities already are aware of what has taken place and know the intimate details. Most readers are interested in the activities and blessings of others. If

every church, group, and auxiliary sent in a full report, we would not have room to print them all.

We are instituting a new section for various reports called "In Brief". We will take reports and condense them to the main points that would be of interest to the majority of our readers. For example: If a local association sends in a report, the focal activities of the meeting will be printed. Those who led in prayer, made a motion, sang or led special music would not be the main points of the meeting. A synopsis of the meeting would be listed, such as who

reported, decisions made, plans for future, date and place of next meeting or similar information. In other words, the report would be "In Brief". This will allow for more reports and for important information to be more quickly shared.

We solicit church announcements concerning revivals, VBS, and other events. Those will also be listed with the basic information needed by the average reader. We hope more of our churches and groups will report on their ministries and share the good things that God is doing.

Mississippi Baptist

USPS 353-960
P.O. Box 8181
Laurel, Mississippi 39441-8000

Phone 601-426-3293

PRICE
\$20.00 Per Year by Mail
\$15.00 Per Year by Email
CHURCH PLAN
\$ 1.30 Per Month per Family

Don J. Brown, Editor

E-Mail - editor@msbaptist.org
Web site www.ms baptist.org

Published on the 1st and 15th of each month by the Baptist Missionary Association of Mississippi. Periodical postage paid at Hattiesburg, Mississippi 39402.

Postmaster: Send address changes to the *Mississippi Baptist Paper*, P.O. Box 8181, Laurel, MS 39441-8000.

GLORIOUS
SOAR 2015

AARON WILLIAMS
WORSHIP

STEPHEN CASTLEBERRY
SPEAKER

STEVEN CARROLL
SPEAKER

BOBBY TUCKER
SPEAKER

DUSTIN WISELY
SPEAKER

FOR KING & COUNTRY
CONCERT

WWW.GOSOAR.COM

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

An Encouragement To Help Your Pastor

While serving in my first year as pastor in 1977, I took three BMA Seminary extension classes at Southeastern Baptist College. During the late fall and early winter my wife and I sold a house, paid off our bills from early marriage,

and moved our two kids with the furniture into a one bedroom apartment at our BMA Seminary in Jacksonville, Texas. Three weeks later Parkview Baptist Church in Malakoff, Texas, called me as pastor. The salary was not sufficient to meet the needs of a family of four plus the 50 mile commutes to the seminary. I often offset some of the costs

by rotating times car pooling with Aaron Parker, an area pastor and student.

Parkview Baptist Church voted to pay for the tuition and book expenses for their pastor. Without that help I would have not been able to have completed the Master of Divinity degree (90 hours) in three years. Whatever the Lord has been able to accomplish through His ministry in me during the years, He enhanced it through the opportunity to sit at the feet of the teachers at our seminary.

The purpose of this personal account is to encourage you to help your pastor and the other ministers in your church with the financial needs of an education. The rewards to churches and individuals who make such investments are truly out of this world (only completely revealed in heaven). By the way,

Parkview Baptist Church grew from the 30's to near 90 in Sunday School in a few months of the third year of my pastorate there. God is good!

Available To Visit & Promote

My last Sunday as pastor of First Baptist Church of Shady Grove was May 31st. I appreciate their goodness to me during the 7 ½ years as pastor and pray for God's direction as they seek a new leader. Anyone who desires to contact me about representing the college or other ministries can reach me at my cell at 601-323-6900 or email at interimpres@gmail.com.

Mobile Home For Sale

Also Southeastern has a mobile home for sale. A link to pictures can be found at www.southeasternbaptist.edu.

Disasters - Diseases - Deaths

from page 3

out here on my deck. I have to do something that keeps me going. I need projects to cause me to get up in the morning. It helps me still feel alive."

I admire her resiliency while I think of how many of us complain about having to do chores around the house on a day off. Should we be thankful that we even have a day off to do our chores? Should we be thankful that we have good enough health to get outside and work around the yard?

The reason for these 3 stories—disaster, disease, death—is to shake us back into the realization of how thankful we should be for all that God has blessed us with. We should live every day to its fullest and not worry about the little things. With God in charge of all that happens we shouldn't even worry about the big things. You see, all people who go through disasters and tribulations gain a new perspective on life. They learn to appreciate life more. They live each day in the present and grab hold of all the beauty they can find. It is there each day if we look for it.

People who go through fiery trials learn that all of this other stuff we get so hung up on is not really important at all. Homes, clothes, cars, money, jobs, what to do with your leisure time, worrying about losing a few pounds, etc., is not important. People are important. Life is important. Jesus is important. Your relationship with Christ and to others is really all that matters. My advice to you all is to not wait for a disease or a disaster to strike to learn what is really important in life. Live each day to its fullest and focus on what is truly important that day. Get an attitude adjustment. If a four year old with leukemia can sing Jesus Loves Me, then I think we can have a better attitude as well.

Life is too short, too frail, too unknown to spend any day worrying, fretting or fighting with a loved one. Get busy focusing on what really matters and living each day as if it were your last. Readjust your priorities. Loving Jesus, Loving Others and loving the life God has blessed you with. That's all that truly matters.

NEWS OF INTEREST

Southern Baptists see another year of decline

NASHVILLE, Tenn. — The Southern Baptist Convention lost more than 200,000 members in 2014 and saw the lowest number of baptisms since 1947.

Total membership in the nation's largest Protestant denomination was just under 15.5 million last year, according to an annual report by Lifeway Christian Resources, the denomination's publishing arm. That's down from 15.7 million in 2013. It also marks the eighth straight year of declining membership.

The number of baptisms has declined in eight of the past 10 years, according to the denomination. In 2014, baptisms declined by more than 5,000 to just over 305,000.

Baptisms are an important measure for the denomination because of its strong commitment to evangelism.

The statistics were released on Wednesday just ahead of the group's annual meeting next week in Columbus, Ohio.

Editor's Note: *This is not a trend that*

is unique to the Southern Baptists. Regular reports from many denominations show similar numbers. BMA churches also seem to be declining and not reaching people as in decades past.

Honor guard nixed for church, OK for 'gay

(OneNewsNow.com) - Author and Fox News reporter Todd Starnes is shedding light on the U.S. Army refusing to provide an honor guard for an upcoming "Faith, Family, and Freedom" celebration at a Baptist church in Georgia.

On Tuesday's broadcast of "Washington Watch" with host Tony Perkins, Starnes — who was invited to be the keynote speaker at the church's July 5



event — explained what his investigation has revealed thus far.

"The Army has been rather forthcoming with their information. They say that it is against military policy to allow any of their troops to participate in a religious service; and therefore, they decided to turn down this church," he shared.

"What's interesting about Abilene Baptist Church [is] it's one of the oldest churches in the nation. The first pastor happened to be a Revolutionary War chaplain."

Perkins, president of Family Research Council, participated in color guards numerous times while serving in the U.S. Marine Corps. "And we would do them at churches, we would do them at

continued on page 8

CHURCH NEWS IN BRIEF

Gospel Concert Set

Broadmoor Baptist Church, 5426 Highway 39 North (just north of Hardee's) in Meridian, will host The Steele's in concert on Monday, July 6, 2015 at 7:00 p.m. It will be a great night of Southern Gospel music. Admission is free and everyone is invited to attend. A love offering will be taken. For more information, please call 601-323-4400.

Oak Grove Association

by Ed Steele, Reporter

The Oak Grove Missionary Baptist Association met with Midway First Baptist Church near Hattiesburg on May 14. The service was opened with a

devotional by Bro. Robert Arinder, Pastor of Rocky Branch Baptist Church.

Bro. Paul Lee gave a report on his work in providing Bibles for many prisons. Due to his health issues, he is praying the Lord will lead someone else to help him represent and promote this ministry.

The evening message was brought by Bro. Blake McCain, Pastor of Midway First Baptist. A wonderful time of food and fellowship was provided by the church at the conclusion of the service. The next meeting will be with Mount Gilead Baptist Church near Columbia on July 16.

AVAILABLE FOR SERVICE

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

Bryson Haden

Bro. Bryson Haden has resigned from Berean Baptist Church and is available as the Lord may lead. He may be contacted at 662-251-0443.

Women's Missionary Auxiliary

President

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



Corresponding Secretary

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

Happy Birthday America!

by Linda Smith
State WMA President

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



Our generation is no different. We are in a spiritual battle for the very moral fiber of our country.

Freedoms and beliefs we have long taken for granted are now being stripped away.

WE MUST STAND AND FIGHT BACK!

What can we do? Prayer is first and

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

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

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

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

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

Ten Mile WMA

by Maria Ochoa, reporter

We met at Temple Church, Biloxi on April 13. Temple brought the program. Missionary to the Philippines Rita Ballard reported on the mission work. Six other ladies gave personal testimonies from the theme 'Legacy'. A \$200.00 love offering was given to Mrs.

NATIONAL SENIOR ADULT CONFERENCE

Hilton Convention Center, Branson, Missouri

October 28-30, 2015

Details & Registration - discipleguide.org/nsa - 501-205-8753



Richard Smith
Speaker



Antioch Vocal Band
Concert



Gordon Mote
Concert



SIX
Branson Show



Triumphant Quartet
Concert



Shelby Race
Worship

Sponsored by
CENTRAL
BAPTIST COLLEGE

Sofilthy's Attic

by Barbara White

Lord, Prop Us Up

Every time I am asked to pray, I think of the old deacon who always prayed, Lord, prop us up on our leanin' side.

After hearing him pray that prayer many times, someone asked him why he prayed that

Ballard. Our next meeting will be on July 13, at 7:00 pm at Vardaman Street Baptist Church in Wiggins.

Hobolochitto District WMA

The Hobolochitto WMA met January 31 at FBC, Henleyfield with 5 churches represented. Reports were given by various officers and visitors, including missionary Wesley Martin of Diamondhead. Bro. Vernon Watts brought the message. Our next meeting will be April 25 at Lee's Chapel #2, Picayune.

Gretchen Lee, Secretary

The April meeting was held at Lee's Chapel #2 with 6 churches present. Various reports were given, pictures were shown of the Senior Day. The project for the quarter is the Mississippi Baptist Children's Home. The speaker was Bro. Jared Lee. Mt. Calvary won the awards banner. Our next meeting will be with Mt. Calvary on July 25.

Jean Overton, reporter

prayer so fervently.



FW

He answered, "Well, sir, you see, it's like this...I got an old barn out back. It's been there a long time, it's withstood a lot of weather, it gone through a lot of storms, and it's stood for many years.

It's still standing. But one day I noticed it was leaning to one side a bit. So I went and got some pine poles and propped it up on its leaning side so it wouldn't fall.

Then I got to thinking about that and how much I was like that old barn. I've been around a long time.

I've withstood a lot of life's storms. I've withstood a lot of bad weather in life, withstood a lot of hard times, and I'm still standing too. But I find myself leaning to one side from time to time, so I like to ask the Lord to prop us up on our leaning side, cause I figure a lot of us get to leaning at times.

Sometimes we get to leaning toward anger, leaning toward bitterness, leaning toward loss of faith, leaning toward hatred, leaning toward discouragement, leaning toward a lot of things that we shouldn't. So we need to pray, "Lord, prop us up on our leaning side, so we will stand straight and tall again, to glorify the Lord."

MISSISSIPPI BAPTIST CHILDREN'S HOME

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



SIDNEY DAVIS

A Challenge to All Fathers

"And Enoch walked with God after he begat Methuselah three hundred years, and begat sons and daughters." Genesis 5:22. *"And Enoch walked with God: and he was not: for God took him."* Genesis 5:24.

In these verses concerning the life of Enoch it is mentioned two times, "Enoch walked with God." What does it mean to walk with God? Enoch walked with God in that he behaved himself in a holy and upright manner that pleased God. So, in return God was in fellowship with Enoch day by day.

The Bible says that Enoch walked with God three hundred years. Just think about that for a moment! No doubt Enoch experienced a lot of chal-

lenges and experienced many changes in life during this time span. But, through it all, he kept walking with God.

Thank God for fathers who are faithful to their commitments. Thank God for fathers who keep on walking with God through all the situations they face in life. That father will leave an influence for good to leave a heritage to his children and all who know him. Will you seek to be that kind of father, dad?

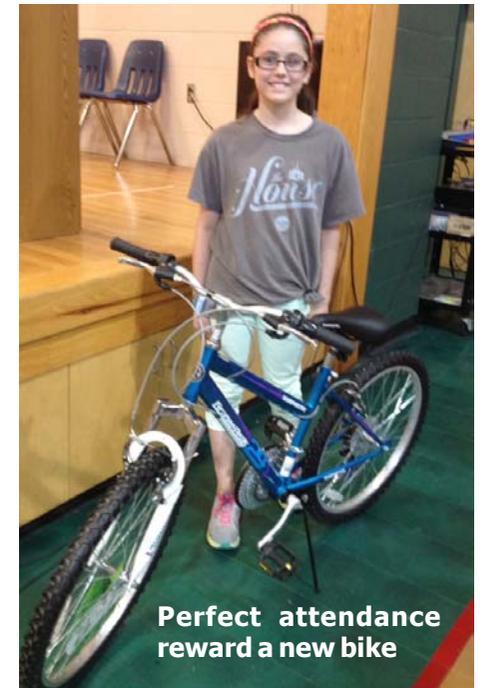
Students Recognized on Awards

Recently, we had a kindergarten boy who participated in graduating exercises promoting him to the first grade. We also had one of the students who had perfect attendance to be the winner of a



From Kindergarten to First Grade

bicycle. So, it does indeed pay off to go to school every day. You might be selected a winner of a new bicycle! Besides, those who do to school every day are put into a position to take advantage of staying on course as far as academics are concerned.

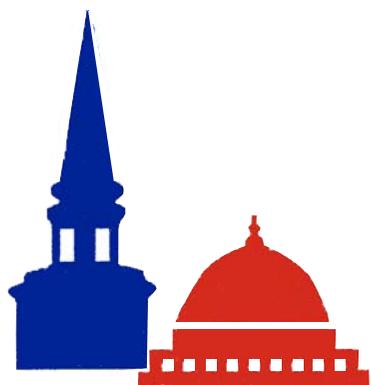


Perfect attendance reward a new bike

Continue to remember the girls and boys and the ministry of the Home in your prayers. "Let no man despise thy youth; but be thou an example of the believers, in word, in conversation, in charity, in spirit, in faith, in purity." 1 Timothy 4:12.

Remember in Prayer and Focus Verse

Maintaining Our Christian Freedoms



June 28th & July 5th
MORAL ACTION
2015 FREEDOM OFFERING

Helping:
Dr. John M. Adams
P.O. Box 305
Mantachie, MS 38855
www.macbma.net




PASTORS OASIS

HILTON CONVENTION CENTER, BRANSON, MISSOURI
OCTOBER 5-7, 2015

FOR DETAILS VISIT WWW.DISCIPLEGUIDE.ORG/PASTORSOASIS
OR CALL 501-205-8753



TRAVIS SELLERS
WORSHIP



SELAH
CONCERT



GORDON MOTE
CONCERT



BILL ELLIFF
SPEAKER



TODD WEST
SPEAKER

SPONSORED BY:
 **CENTRAL**
BAPTIST COLLEGE

Iowa couple fined for refusing gay wedding: 'We are still here'

(OneNewsNow.com) - A husband and wife are standing by their religious beliefs in spite of damage to their Iowa business for opposing same-gender "marriage."

In 2002, Betty and Richard Odgaard remodeled an old Lutheran church in Grimes, turning it into the Gortz Haus Gallery. Their troubles began in 2013, when the couple refused to host a homosexual wedding at the gallery.

"We were sued," Betty Odgaard recalls. "It was really ugly in the beginning, and it about took us out but we are still here, praise God."

The Odgaards were ordered to pay \$5,000 to the homosexuals and also stopped hosting weddings.

Their refusal also hurt business. Familiar faces aren't coming by anymore.

"We got a lot of phone calls in the beginning," Mrs. Odgaard recalls, "and they said, 'Heard what you did. We'll never be back again because you're haters and bigots. So, yes, we saw a decrease in our business immediately.'"

NEWS OF INTEREST

continued from page 5

all kinds of events when people requested them," he recalled.

Like Starnes, he found the Army very forthcoming with information.

"They said that this [honor guard] was determined to be inappropriate because they were in fact holding a religious service," he said during the broadcast. "It could be at a church and if there was nothing religious about it would be okay – but what would you expect in a church? Would you not expect it to be a religious service?"

According to Starnes, a military honor guard has actually been inside the church building during Sunday services in years past.

"I asked the military about that and they said, Well, we went back and analyzed the services and we determined that 80 percent of the service was music and 20 percent was spoken word – and therefore it did not constitute, in the military's determination, to be a church service."

The Fox News reporter added this "by the way" statement to demonstrate the irony of the Army's decision: "The military confirms to us that they will provide an honor guard for this year's 'gaypride' parade in Washington, DC."

That event – presented by Marriott – took place Saturday, June 13.

Public perception a problem for Jehovah's Witnesses

(OneNewsNow.com) - A Christian apologist says Christians should use discernment when dealing with Jehovah's Witnesses, who have recently

launched a massive worldwide proselytization campaign.

Throughout this summer and continuing through January 2016, Jehovah's Witnesses are holding thousands of "Imitate Jesus!" conventions in 92 countries. The program, organized by the Governing Body of Jehovah's Witnesses, is being presented in nearly 350 languages. According to a release, the gatherings promise three days of "fascinating presentations of Jesus' dynamic teachings, designed to help people of all ages and circumstances."

Christian apologist Dr. Alex McFarland contends that faith group has an image problem.

McFarland, Alex "The Jehovah's Witnesses have a very negative perception in the minds of many people," he tells OneNewsNow. "And though they've been around since the 19th century, really their growth has been flat in recent years.

"So while they have been very aggressive to try and proselytize, they've really have not grown in recent years because they've got such a negative perception in the minds of so many people."

McFarland – co-host of the weekday program "Exploring the Word" on American Family Radio – says Jehovah's Witnesses don't have orthodox Christian beliefs when it comes to the authority of scripture.

"They certainly don't believe that Jesus is the incarnate Son of God, the second member of the Trinity," he explains. "Any time you try to help them see truth through scripture they will claim that the Bible is perverted, the New Testament has been changed, and only their New World Translation is the

definitive word of God."

In fact, the opposite is true. According to the North Carolina-based Christian Research Institute, Greek scholars "across the board" denounce the New World Translation, labeling it as a "shocking mistranslation" and the translators themselves as "intellectually dishonest."

Dying to make a difference - literally

(OneNewsNow.com) - Bible translators working underground in the Middle East and Central Asia are trying to reach millions of people despite severe persecution.

In the past year, in fact, 11 Bible translators living and working in the region have been reported dead or missing.

But the work will continue, vows Bruce Smith, Wycliffe Associates president and CEO.

"As the darkness increases, the demand for the light is increasing as well," Smith says of the dangers. "And so we're just really humbled and privileged to have great partners - local Christians in that arena - who are ready, willing and actually risking their lives to speed the translation of God's Word into their languages for their families and their communities."

Rather than withdrawing amid the danger there is an "increased boldness," says the Wycliffe leader.

In the Middle East and Central Asia, nearly 1,000 languages representing 280 million people are without the Scriptures. But through its "Scriptures for New Frontiers" initiative, Wycliffe Associates is providing local translators the technology, training, and resources needed.

"This is what's leading to the unprecedented progress of Bible translation in that arena despite the antagonism," Smith says.



Texas legislature circles wagons around pastors

(OneNewsNow.com) - A high turnout of pastors at the Texas state capitol was one key to protecting them in the Lone Star State.

The Texas legislature ended its session with bipartisan passage of the Pastor Protection Bill, which states that pastors are legally protected if they refuse to perform a same-gender "marriage" ceremony in the state.

Saenz, Jonathan (Texas Values) Jonathan Saenz of Texas Values says pastors showed up in larger numbers and faced down opponents that included the ACLU and Equality Texas, a homosexual advocacy group.

Texas media and liberal groups claimed there was bipartisan support for the measure after some wording was clarified.

On its website, Equality Texas lists the Pastor Protection Bill under "formerly opposed legislation."

Conservative groups and homosexual activists are awaiting a U.S. Supreme Court decision coming in late June that will decide if the justices find a constitutional right to same-sex "marriage."

While homosexual activists await what they call "marriage equality," pro-family groups are concerned that a decision making it legal in all 50 states will eventually trickle down to local churches and pastors that preach homosexuality is sinful.

During debate of the bill, The Star-Telegram quoted a gay House member, Rep. Celia Israel, who predicted on the House floor that homosexual "marriage" would one day become legal in Texas.

When that day comes, she said, she and her partner will not seek a conservative pastor to "bless our union."

"I will be going to someone who loves and respects us for who we are," she said, according to The Houston Chronicle.

Yet homosexual couples have sought to legally punish Christian cake bakers, photographers, florists and other business owners for refusing to be part of their wedding ceremony, using local non-discrimination ordinances or state laws to seek punishment.

Texas pastors in the Houston were infamously targeted by that city's lesbian mayor, who approved a court subpoena for copies of their sermons and even private communications such as emails. The mayor finally backed down after public pressure.

"There continues to be this message communicated that even people of faith are not protected when it comes to the issue of their decisions on marriage," Saenz observes.

Southeastern Baptist College

Serving Christ
With A

Biblical World View
In A

Christian Atmosphere

Special Emphasis 2015

Goal: \$15,000



Southeastern Baptist College
4229 Highway 15 North
Laurel, MS. 39440
(601)426-6346
www.southeasternbaptist.edu

