

Baptist

Mississippi

JOURNAL OF THE BAPTIST MISSIONARY ASSOCIATION OF MISSISSIPPI

June 1, 2014

www.bmaofmississippi.com

Vol. 68 No. 11

Midyear meeting held in Laurel

by the editor

The 2014 Midyear meeting of the Baptist Missionary Association of Mississippi was held on May 19 & 20, at Lebanon Baptist Church, Laurel. The State Brotherhood and WMA met on Monday evening.



President Ken Riley moderating midyear meeting.

President Ken Riley opened the meeting stating that "we should be a people who should want more" and continued the theme from the annual meeting in October 2013 of "Show Me Thy Glory" taken from Exodus 33.

The Brotherhood message was brought by Justin Rhodes, pastor of Big Creek Church, Soso. The WMA program included a testimony by Mrs. Glenda Vickers from Skyway Hills Church, Pearl. Kristen Welborn, daughter of BMA missionaries Dale and Celia Broom, gave a report on their work in Ghana, West Africa. She shared a presentation concerning the Women's Ministry being carried out by the Brooms.

The midyear message was brought by Bro. Donnie Logan, church planter in Indianola, Mississippi.

During the business session on Tuesday, reports were given

by Missions, Children's Home, Publications, Southeastern College, Youth Department and Senior Adult Commission. Moral Action was not represented due to Director John Adams attending a meeting in Washington, D.C. representing the department. (See MAC report in this issue.

No report was given from Commission



Bro. Donnie Logan brought the message

on History or Baptist Music Fellowship.

Enthusiastic reports were given by Missions Director Larry Geraldson, Children's Home Director Sidney Davis

and Mississippi Baptist Editor Don Brown. Geraldson's report is listed on page 2 of this issue.

Davis shared the work of the Home and the progress of the children in their school work and their personal development. He stressed the adjustments that new residents have had to make and requested prayer for the children and the Home's ministry. Davis shared the need for financial support to increase due to increased costs of operation.

Editor Brown stressed the need of each church of our Association to provide the Mississippi Baptist to each church family. He stated that since the object of the Association was "missions" and that each department, commission and auxiliary is involved in some aspect of mission work, each church should be fully informed about the overall work. He stated this could be accomplished by taking advantage of the information printed in the Mississippi Baptist.

SBC Interim President Danny Pitts

gave an update on the college. Progress is being made in a number of areas. He stressed an increase in cooperation with BMA Seminary. A course from the Seminary will be taught on campus in early June with in cooperation with the State Missions Department. Pitts emphasized the need to increase enrollment and for continued financial support. He also announced that Dr. Aaron Parker has submitted his resignation as Dean, but that he will continue to teach some classes. A search for an individual to fill the Dean's position is underway.

The Committee elected at the 2013 annual meeting to research the relationship between SBC and BMA Seminary has finished its work. The committee reported that after meeting on two separate occasions and reviewing the relationship between the two schools, that progress has been made in their cooperation. The Committee commended the administration of the college for pursuing the master-level Seminary course being taught on the campus of SBC. The Committee encouraged development of a

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SOAR 2014 @ the Omni in Dallas

Get Ready for The House!

The 24th edition of SOAR is set for July 1-3 at the Omni Hotel in Dallas, Texas. Thousands of students are gearing up for what could be the best line up of speakers and artists in the history of the conference. The theme for SOAR 2014 is The House and will focus on God's teaching on the important role God's Church plays in the life of a believer. DiscipleGuide Conference Director, Donny Parrish, says that it time to have an honest discussion about church with the students of the BMA. "It's really kind of cool today to say that church doesn't have to be an impor-

tant thing in the life of a believer. She was important enough to Jesus that He gave His life for her. The local church is God's plan to reach the world. Church isn't just another option of things to do in our week," said Parrish.

The conference will feature keynote speakers Andy Comer, Pastor of Davis Street Baptist in Sulpher Springs, Texas and P.J. Noland, one of the Pastors at Oasis Church in Maumelle, Arkansas. Both of these young men will challenge students to dig deep to see what God's

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SBC Trustee President Matt Hudson commending Dennis & Sylvia Rankin for their volunteer work on the facilities of the college





Larry Geraldson
Director



Baptist Missionary Association of Mississippi

Department of Missions and Revolving Loan Fund



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Missions Department Midyear Report

I Cor. 1:23 "But we preach Christ crucified,..."

Missions involves the clear presentation of the gospel. In the 1959, State Handbook, Article 2 of the former "Statement of Principles" of the Mississippi Baptist Association stated, "The object of the Association shall be to aid in giving the gospel to all men on the New Testament plan as exemplified by the example of apostolic churches." I like this statement!

The New Testament plan is clearly outlined in Luke 24:46-48, "...Thus it is written, and thus it behooved Christ to suffer, and to rise from the dead the third day: And that repentance and remission of sins should be preached in his name among all nations, beginning at Jerusalem. And ye are witnesses of these things." Also, in Acts 1:8, "...ye shall be witnesses unto me both in

Jerusalem, and in all Judaea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth."

As I have studied the history of Missions in Mississippi, I have concluded that there has never been a time when so many people in Mississippi are starving for a clear presentation of the gospel. Never before has there been such a famine for the preached Word of God so close to all of us. Never before has there been so many who deliberately avoid preaching the message of "Christ Crucified." Never has there been so great a mixed multitude of believers and non-believers in our towns and communities across the State.

Never has the enemy's voice so loudly and blatantly promoted immorality and ungodliness such as homosexuality,

abortion, and theological liberalism. Never have we been so ill equipped, unprepared to defend the gospel and contend for the faith. Never have our voices been so few, our cadence so inconsistent and our volume so weak.

Never has holiness been so thinly veiled and reverence for God so shallow. Never has the challenge been any greater than it is at this very moment.

Never have so many confined themselves to a circle of influence of just family and church, and family and church and not strayed beyond the protective zone of those they know. Never before have so many, resented any talk of rocking the boat or stirring things up.

The truth is that the need for Missions is predicated upon our commission in God's Word, not the report of a director. But the urgency for missions is often diminished when we fail to see the state of things around us or under-

stand our own responsibility in the larger economy of God.

But I need to tell you... Though the foe seems mighty and his ranks ever swelling in number and his entrenchments creeping closer and closer to the door steps of all that we hold sacred, we are not defeated and this fight is not over.

The New Testament example called the churches to fight the good fight of faith. With one hand we build the kingdom, with the other we fight the enemy. We must preach the gospel in every community across this state, we must win souls, we must equip the believers, and we must plant new churches. Our authority is the letter from the King and regardless of those who may try to dissuade us from accomplishing our goal, we must pursue our objective.

continued on next page

DiscipleGuide

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Scott Attebery

Gooder Discipleship

I overanalyze things. So, when my son told me the other day that nap time at school is "badder" than recess, I laughed - for a second. That is, until my mind raced twenty years into the future as Bryce is interviewing for a job and says, "Thank you for considering me for this position. I'll do a gooder job than you could ever imagine." So I quickly corrected him to use the word, "worse" as a comparative adjective instead of "badder." I'm fairly certain he will use the incorrect word again.

So, I wondered, what is the best way to teach him? Should I quickly put together a chart on irregular comparative and superlative adjectives? Or, should we practice using "worse" in sentences for about ten minutes? Maybe

I should just trust that in time, he will hear me use "worse" enough times in natural conversation that he will catch on. So, which way is the best way for my son to learn? I actually think it is all three.

There is a place for charts and chalkboard teaching (Classroom/Lecture). There is also much to be said for practicing scenarios (Practice/Mentor). And, there is great merit to real life observation (Modeling). In my opinion, all three types of teaching/learning are necessary for the average person. Of course, there are some who naturally soak up a lecture in the classroom, just as there are some who can only learn by doing. However, for most of us, we need a mixture of all three. The problem is

that we typically get the order of importance backwards.

Many of us believe that lecture is where all learning starts. However, unless the student is already familiar with the subject, they are not likely to understand or pay attention. For instance, kindergarten teachers don't write "1+1" on the chalkboard on the first day of school. Instead, they expose their students to a couple of apples. They ask them how many apples Johnny has, etc. The idea of counting apples is familiar to the students because by this point in their life, they have seen adults buy apple at the store or they have fought over the last apple in the house with little brother. The concept has already been modeled to them in real life. The teacher, then, is building upon that model with practice. The students will spend several days practicing addition (unbeknownst to them) with apples. Finally, when the time is right, they will go to the chalkboard and capture what they have learned in abstract terms.

I'm not sure why we abandon this method later in school. For instance, I think biology would have made more sense to me if we had tried the lab before the lecture. And, in Spanish class, I'm certain that spending time in conversation before unpacking grammar would have helped me tremendously. For my

son's usage of "worse," I am trying to make sure he observes me modeling correct grammar, and that I am giving him plenty of times to practice under my mentorship. And, when he uses incorrect grammar, I may take a moment to explain the correct usage.

When it comes to discipleship, I'm afraid we've bought into the backward order of teaching as well. Typically, we think discipleship starts in a sanctuary, progresses to a classroom, and maybe, just maybe, will one day make it into real life. Perhaps, however, Jesus's example should change our thinking. He didn't start out by telling men to "come to the Synagogue" (although He did teach there), instead He just told them to "follow me." In the midst of his modeling, He took advantage of opportunities to give the Twelve "hands on experience" and mentoring. And, occasionally, when their heads were full of questions from everything they had witnessed and experienced, he even pulled them aside for a lecture. Seems a little backwards to most of us, doesn't it? Here's a few ideas to consider when trying to make disciples:

1. Avoid lecturing on ideas that are foreign to your disciples. Give them concrete experience - even if it means trying something and failing - before

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Missions Report

from page 2

Never before has our mandate been so clear, so necessary, and so immediate. The churches of the BMA of Mississippi are the head waters from which the gospel flows from our Jerusalem, and into our Judaea, and into our Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth. At our National Meeting, we were blessed to hear about the MS Arrington, a boat which navigates the rivers of Bolivia carrying the gospel to people who have never heard. What a worthy and needed effort! But if the head waters dry up or diminish, soon the long winding river of missions which flows from here will become a trickle and then a dry river bed.

So, today, as I report to you what your missionaries are doing, please know that I am trying to strike a chord of warning in your heart, to tell you that we are not doing enough. I need to encourage you, inspire you, and motivate you to do more. We must do more! One of my biggest fears is that we become complacent with what we are doing and settle into a cozy confidence of assuming it is enough.

We need to put more men on the field. Our churches must reproduce themselves. They must become burdened for those around them and just beyond them. To do this, our people must become deeply spiritual and walk in holiness and live righteous lives. We must rise up and take our place on the front line of hope. We must arm ourselves with the everlasting Word of God and prioritize the work of God above all other pleasures. We must invest our heart and soul in this campaign.

If you do not invest all of yourself in this campaign, you will lose all of yourself to the slow but constant constriction of passivity and complacency that will disable you and leave you devoid of influence. You will become a byword and a forgotten dream.

There is a story of an English village whose chapel had an arch on which was written: "We Preach Christ Crucified." For years men preached there and they presented a crucified Savior as the only means of salvation. But as the generation of godly preachers passed, a generation arose that considered the cross and its message antiquated and repulsive. They began to preach salvation by Christ's example rather than by His blood. They did not see the necessity of His sacrifice. After a while, ivy crept up the side of

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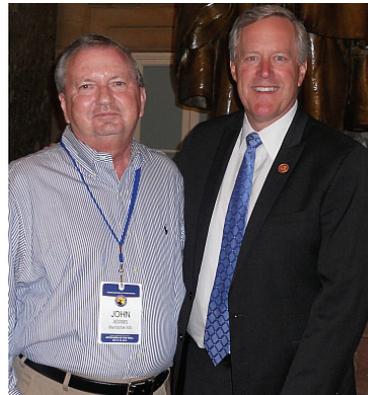
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John Adams

Watchman On The Wall

Mrs. Adams and I just returned from our 6th visit to the Watchman On The Wall conference in Washington D.C., which



Dr Adams and Congressman Mark Meadows, North Carolina

is sponsored by the Family Research Council and Director Tony Perkins. It was a delight-

ful and spiritual experience.

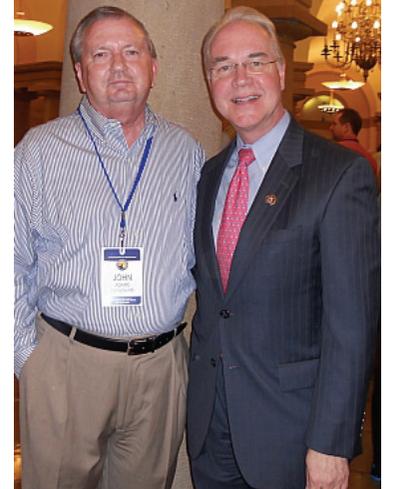
I had the opportunity to meet and talk with Dr. Tom Price, 7th District U.S. Congressman of South Carolina and U.S. Congressman Mark Meadows of the 11th District North Carolina. Historian David Barton provided valuable insights of our Christian heritage as a nation. Among the speakers at the conference was Franklin Graham. Some of the topics presented were: abortion, gay rights, Muslim Influence in America, and the anti-Christian prevalence in America.

Darla and I count it an honor to represent the Baptist Missionary Association in this conference. We must all enter a "Spiritual Boldness" in standing for Jesus. The apostle Paul states in Romans 1:16, "For I am not ashamed of the gospel of

Christ...."

2014 Freedom Offering

The dates of June 29 and July 6, 2014 have been designated as Moral Action "Freedom Offering" Sundays. Every offering,



Dr Adams and Congressman Dr. Tom Price, South Carolina

large or small, is truly needed as we keep this Agency healthy. I joy in serving as your Missionary to Washington, D.C. and at our state capitols. Please help in this ministry, we need it.

the arch and covered the word "Crucified," and only "We Preach Christ" was visible. Then, the church decided that its message need not even be confined to Christ and the Bible. So the preachers began to give dis-

courses on social issues, politics, philosophy, moral rearmament, and whatever else happened to spark interest. Their sermons became more commen-

continued on page 6

The House

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Don Brown

Mississippi Baptist

Opinion Page

Journal of the Baptist Missionary Association of Mississippi

Don Brown - Editor

BMA Seminary's Fifty-seventh Commencement

Nineteen individuals received a degree from the Baptist Missionary Association Theological Seminary of Jacksonville, Texas, during commencement

Jacksonville, Texas; Phillip Waddell of Fruitvale, Texas; Ancel Ware of Nikiski, Alaska; and Sandra Williams of Tyler, Texas received the Bachelor of Arts in



exercises conducted Saturday, May 17, 2014. The seminary hosted the event in its Dorman Memorial Chapel on the main campus in Jacksonville, Texas.

Curtis Durham, Sr. of Tyler, Texas and Nina Smith of Atlanta, Texas received the Associate of Divinity degree. John Cook of Jacksonville, Texas; Matthew Dean of Ft. Worth, Texas; Dalton Tew of Karnack, Texas; Mary Tew of

Religion degree.

The Master of Arts (Religion) degree was awarded to Aaron Barnes, Sr. of Pine Bluff, Arkansas; Darian Jones of Ben Wheeler, Texas; and Philip Parks of Carson City, Nevada.

Recipients of the Master of Arts in Church Ministries degree included Fuzhen Li of Xi'an, China; Christopher Proctor of Whitney, Texas; and Siripong Yaebeang of Chiangrai, Thailand.

The Master of Divinity degree was awarded to Patrick Anderson of Conway, Arkansas; Douglas Durham of Wells, Texas; Thomas Kwabena of Gambaga, West Africa; and Odette Woods of Little Rock, Arkansas.

Dr. Scott Attebery, Executive Director of DiscipleGuide Church Resources for the Baptist Missionary Association of America, delivered the commencement address. Attebery, originally from Jacksonville, Texas, earned a Bachelor of Science in Bible from Central Baptist College of Conway, Arkansas; a Master of Divinity from the Baptist Missionary Association Theological Seminary of Jacksonville, Texas; and a Doctor of Ministry from Gordon-Conwell Theological Seminary of Roxbury, Massachusetts. He completed a doctoral project entitled, Disciples for Life: Maximizing explicit discipleship training to create life-long learners of Christ.

BMA Seminary provides accredited theological education to qualified individuals by seeking to equip them for Christian service and leadership roles. The seminary supports the educational needs of the Baptist Missionary Association of America and other groups who share a like commitment to the authority of Scripture by offering certificates, associate, bachelor, and masters degrees.

Letters From Our Readers

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

Trustee offers thanks and solicits help

Editor's Note: Bro. Dennis & Mrs. Sylvia Rankin has been working hard to repair and renovate much of the Southeastern Baptist College campus. They have donated their time, talents and money to improve the facilities of the college. More help is needed, both physical and monetary. If you have a skill that can be useful, we urge you to consider helping.

Dear Editor,

The maintenance at Southeastern Baptist College is going well. In our trips north from Alabama (Alerbamer), we have discovered some of God's choicest people are in Laurel, Mississippi. Everyone has treated my wife and I very nicely. We have been sung to, invited to a meal with the Senior Adults of First Baptist Church of Shady Grove, and encouraged with praise - for which we are most thankful. We have been truly blessed and wish to thank everyone. We have been treated as family.

Many have offered to come help with the painting, sheetrock work, roofing work, clean up work, etc. We could use more, especially plumbers, electricians and masons.

We would like to thank our church (Helton Road Baptist Church), and the churches of BMA of Alabama for their donations for the work.

If you would like to donate to this work in any amount, you can send your donation to the Revolving Loan Fund Department at the Missions Office, 4226 Highway 15 N., Laurel, MS. 39440. Designate it to the Southeastern Baptist College Maintenance Fund.

Dennis Rankin
SBC Trustee

Pastor Urges Junior Camp Participation

Dear Editor,

A word about South Mississippi Junior Camp. As a BMA pastor I have been involved in this camp for 31 years. Many changes have occurred over the years, but the children are still enjoying

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Allens To Celebrate 50th Anniversary

Bro. Clell and Patricia Allen are celebrating 50 years together on June 20. Their children (3), Grandchildren (6), and great grand children (4) would love for you to join us as we celebrate this wonderful day at Temple Baptist Church 1860 Pops Ferry Road in Biloxi on Saturday June 21, at 2:00 P.M.

Bro. Clell is the Pastor of Temple Baptist Church in Biloxi. He surrendered to the ministry on December 10, 1972, attended Southeastern Baptist College in 1973, and was ordained January 10, 1975. He has pastored many churches along the way in Mississippi and Illinois. Patricia has been a huge supporter by his side the entire way. They have led their congregation by example and shown their love for the Lord.



Mississippi Baptist

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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

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

Sofilthy's Attic

by Barbara White



It Is
Not
Easy

To apologize,
To begin over,
To be unselfish,
To take advice,
To admit error,
To face a sneer,
To be charitable,
To keep on trying,
To be considerate,
To avoid mistakes,
To endure success,
To profit by mistakes,
To forgive and forget,
To think and then act,
To keep out of the rut,
To make the best of little,
To subdue an unruly temper,
To maintain a high standard,
To shoulder a deserved blame,
To recognize the silver lining,
But it always pays **-try it!**

Letters

from page 4

and growing through camp.

Recently we have had this camp at Waukaway Springs and the children from our church have loved it. The camp staff are wonderful with the children. The services have been great and we have had a great experience. The only problem that I see with our camp is that we only had two churches last year to participate.

I wanted to send this letter to ask that you consider bringing a group to camp this year. I am not on the Youth Committee and have no reason for this letter except I feel this is a ministry that our kids need and some are missing out.

So check out the dates and see if you could bring your children. I feel sure they will receive a blessing and have fun also.

Pastor James Sprayberry
First Baptist Church
Bay Springs, Mississippi

MORAL ACTION

2014 FREEDOM OFFERING

June 29th & July 6th



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WMA Project Information Available On Line

Brochures are in the process of being completed, but until we get the brochures and get more information on our website you can learn about the 2014-2015 National WMA Project on the Facebook page - National WMA. You can find information and pictures on this page to use in your groups and churches. Your contributions can make a difference in the future health of this precious young man. Mark contributions 'National WMA Project' and mail to Pat Duncan. You can find her ad-

dress on the website - www.nationalwmaofbmaa.net. Sticky Rice is a common food in Laos. You can see in the picture that it is served here from a section of bamboo. Basic hygiene and cleanliness in food preparation and service are not common in many places which can lead to many diseases. 'BMMI Laos: Hope for Health and Healing' is our National WMA project for 2014-15. Feel free to share photos and information with your church. We can make a difference"



In the Center of God's Will - The Safest Place

by Jackie Ricks
National WMA editor

In recent times, I've heard many people question whether Jeff and Coleen Franks were still in Ukraine or if they were coming "home" to the United States. I even wondered myself. As most of you know, the political situation in Ukraine and the surrounding areas is in a state of upheaval. However, after corresponding with Coleen, checking their website, and reading their blogs, I have to say that only God knows what their future plans may be.



Jeff and Coleen Franks

As with most of us, it took the Franks some time to realize what the center of God's will was for them. However, since that time, they have tried to follow Him completely. As such, they were elected as missionaries to Ukraine in 1994. God had already prepared Jeff by giving him the ability to speak Russian and go on mission trips to Ukraine and Moscow. God also uses Coleen's artistic abilities and love of children to help in the

work with Bible-related crafts. The Franks welcome your prayers and ask that you check their information either on their websites (<https://sites.google.com/site/jefffran/home>), Facebook page (Coleen Franks Ukraine), or blogs (www.franksukraine.blogspot.com or www.vintageterrace2.blogspot.com). In today's high-tech world, you do not have to wonder what's going on with many of our missionaries. Bro. Franks also updates about the political situations as well. You will find that sometimes not even our American media give the correct facts. Just as the Franks themselves mentioned a few months ago in one of the blogs, they are doing what God has for them to do until He changes and moves them. I'm sure they will let us know through technology if that time comes. Until then, continue to follow their ministry throughout the beautiful country of Ukraine as they remain in the center of God's will.

SOAR from page 1

Word has to say about the priority God places on the local church.

Along with great worship through teaching, SOAR always provides incredible musical worship opportunities. Aaron Williams, Worship Pastor at Fellowship Church in Little Rock, will lead the SOAR Band again this year. A SOAR mainstay with history in the BMA, Aaron has a national reputation as a tremendous artist and worship leader.

Guest artists for SOAR include for KING & COUNTRY & Andy Mineo. These artists are among the most exciting and relevant impacting the youth today. They boldly communicate God's love through music with authenticity and a heart for people.

In addition, SOAR attendees will enjoy meeting new friends

during SOAR Village including games and cash sales food vendors. A new feature this year is a one-of-a-kind room experience called "The Great Commission Room." Students will be given the opportunity to experience first-hand God's great commandment for the local church... to make disciples and make His name known to the nations. Finally your group will have the privilege to participate in SOAR Serves. This is an opportunity to leave a mark in the community by serving Mission Arlington in a way that will bless them and bless you. All the details for SOAR 2014 can be found at www.gosoar.com. Register your group today at www.gosoar.com or download the form and mail to the DCM office. SOAR group rate reservations can be made with the Omni at 214-744-6664. Contact the DCM office with any questions at 501-513-3726 or triciak@conwaycorp.net.

Missions Report

from page 2

tary than correct exposition of God's word. The ivy on the arch continued to grow until it covered the third word. Then, it simply read, "We Preach."

Your missionaries have been sent to preach "Christ Crucified." They have not been sent to market the gospel or entertain the masses. They are not politicians or philosophers and they are not salesmen. They are common men sent to engage people with the greatest, most powerful life changing, life transforming message ever...the gospel of Jesus Christ.

They have collectively reported 4211 new contacts this year and they shared the gospel with 3034 of those people. The message "Christ Crucified" found its way into the hearts of 390 who professed faith in Jesus Christ as Lord so far this year.

When you think about their activity please consider how many people they shared the gospel with before one accepted Christ...and if these numbers are true then they give us insight to the required intensity necessary to reach people...we will have to share the gospel, on average, with 8 people to see one come to Christ. Should God give us 30 professions of faith at a mission point it could require engaging over 500 people and sharing the gospel one-on-one over 240 times.

Your missionaries reported 43 baptisms and another 43 people

joined by letter. The membership of all of our mission projects now stands at 459.

New Heart mission organized into a New Testament Church and Freedom Baptist mission finished her building project and has already witnessed 16 professions of faith. South Forrest has begun a new building project due to growth. Two of your missionaries, Bro. Bob Burch and Bro. Sidney Farmer, after just two years, have begun the journey toward self-support. I am praying and hopeful that by the time they reach their 5th year they will be ready to reproduce themselves. Some of your missions have grown while others have worked to get a footing and others to overcome challenges. But all of them are at that normal and natural place in the life cycle of a mission. In time, they will all grow and develop and eventually take their place among the churches of the BMA of MS.

We are working to develop 4 new mission projects and there is the possibility of another mission organizing soon. New fields are being explored and I am praying diligently that God will give us additional missionaries. Our finances remain consistent and we continue to operate within our means. I am projecting that we will again (for the third year in a row) close our year in the black. More importantly, we have improved our overall efficiency to 84/16 and we continue to work toward our goal of 90/10. We are working together with Southeastern Baptist College to sponsor classes, taught by the

continued on next page

Mississippi State Corresponding Secretary's Report

Midyear Meeting at Lebanon, Laurel
May 19, 2014
Shirlene Smith

Total to Account for	\$13,576.27
General Fund	\$ 8,007.58
Project (75%)	1,078.81
Ladies' Retreat Fund	4,489.88
Total	\$13,576.27

Project to date:

25% plus designated offerings to the General Fund	\$ 481.82
75% Women's Ministry in Ghana, Africa	1,078.81
Total	\$ 1,560.63



Kelby Johnson
Director

Phone 662-316-6233 www.facebook.com/bmamseyouth

YOUTH MISSION DAY - Saturday June 7, 2014

"We are connecting local church groups with mission churches for a day of ministry."

In an effort to involve our local BMA churches (especially our youth) with the different BMA church plants around the state, we have set up a day called, "Youth Mission Day." We are connecting local church groups with mission churches for a day of ministry.

Here is how it works: The church plants listed below have agreed to be a part of our Youth Mission Day. They are in the process of planning some type of outreach events for their area for June 7, 2014. This may include passing out Bibles, tracts, invitations to church, serving people in the local area, etc. We want each established church group to choose a mission to help for a day. This would be great for a group of adults and youth, but everyone is invited to attend!

Here is what each church should do:

1. Choose a church plant to help.
2. Contact Bro. Kelby and let him know what you have decided at kelby@gracechurchna.com or 662-316-6233
3. Choose a person in your church to lead the trip.
4. Begin signing people up at your church who will go help.
5. Bro. Kelby will put you in contact with the Missionary Pastor for further details.

Choose from one of the following church plants:

- DayStar with Bro. Phillip Burns (Sumrall)
- Crossway with Bro. Danny Bartlett (Clinton)
- Caledonia with Bro. Bob Burch (Caledonia)
- Grace with Bro. Kelby Johnson (New Albany)
- Freedom with Bro. Bobby Elliot (Burnsville)
- The Way, The Truth, The Life with Bro. Elvis Garcia (Ripley)

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

COMMISSION ON Senior Adults

4226 Highway 15 North, Laurel, Mississippi 39440



Kenneth Flynt
Director

A Good Year

The 2014 conferences of the Commission on Senior Adults were a great blessing to approximately 650 people. The South Mississippi Senior Adult Conference and the North Senior Adult Conference, plus the conference sponsored by the Hobolochitto Association, ministered to the hearts of people from all areas of the state. All three conferences blessed many people

I want to express my deepest

appreciation to the host churches who did a superb job hosting these events. Both Big Creek Baptist Church and East Fulton Baptist Church were excellent hosts. Mt. Calvary Baptist Church, Picayune hosted the Hobolochitto Conference and it was great.

The South Mississippi Adult Conference for 2015 will once again be held at Big Creek Church on Tuesday, March 24. The North Mississippi Senior Adult Conference will be held Tuesday, May 12, with the loca-

tion to be mentioned later.

This year has been a great time of ministry for the Commission and made possible by the supporters and participants. It is our prayer that the 2015 conferences will continue to minister to many people.

May the Lord's choice blessings rest upon all who have contributed to the success of this ministry.

The trustees have always been most cooperative when called upon. Have a great summer and keep serving the Lord.

Missions Report

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BMAA Theological Seminary. These classes are offered to our missionaries and our pastors for professional development. We are also working in concert with our State Youth Department to encourage summer mission's activity for our young people, at various State Mission points. We helped produce material for promotion of the Sr. Conferences this year and we have worked together with our State Newspaper, to keep people informed. When all of the departments are working well together we manifest the Christian character that is common in us and demonstrate our health as an organization; ready to work for our churches to glorify our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

This is a good work and you have some outstanding missionaries. We have some outstanding pastors and we have some wonderful churches.... God is blessing us.... and I am so grateful for the privilege that you have given me to serve as your Director.

I want to close by expressing my appreciation to our Missionary Committee, led by Chairman Dennis Knight for giving themselves to this work. All of them provide an important service to you and to me, 4 of them are pastoring mother churches, 4 of them are former missionaries, collectively there are 262 years of pastoral experience on this committee. I also want to express my appreciation to Ms Kim Parker, who just gradu-

ated from Southeastern Baptist College, for the fine job she does serving our churches and our missionaries.

God bless each of you....

Prayerfully and Respectfully Submitted,

Larry D. Geraldson

Director of Missions and RLF
BMA of Mississippi

Revolving Loan Fund Midyear Report

Our Revolving Loan Fund has grown 27% from 2011 to the present. The Fund has grown from 14.2 million in gross assets to 18.2 million in gross assets. We continue to maintain a 16% cash reserve as compared to total shareholder balance. Our overall operational expenses continue to go down as we improve efficiency. This helps to enable us to maintain low loan rates and high shareholder pay outs.

Gross assets stand at \$18,279,168.00 which is an increase of \$815,247.00 since August 1, 2013. Our net assets are up by \$131,372.00 over the same period giving us a net asset total of 3,080,612.00. We have made 9 new loans since August 1, 2013 totaling \$1,097,172.00.

Support of missions by the Revolving Loan Fund Trustees has been outstanding. The trustees approved a write off of \$25,000.00 of New Heart Mission's loan, from discretionary funds, in an effort to help reduce their indebtedness. New Heart's indebtedness now stands at \$30,622.00. The trustees also approved a loan for South Forrest of \$375,000.00 to build the second building in their plan. The trustees also approved the allocation of \$50,000.00 in match-

ing funds to help Freedom Baptist Mission in their debt reduction campaign which will run from June to September of this year. The total cost of Freedom's building project is coming in around \$162,000.00. Our potential for growth remains very high. We have other loan requests that we know are forthcoming and we have received a number of inquiries from people interested in making significant deposits. I see no indication of a slowdown and all I can say is, "Praise the Lord!"

Our loan rate remains 4.25% for BMA of Mississippi Churches and our shareholder payout is 2.67%.

I want to express my appreciation to our Board of Trustees led by Chairman Kenneth Lott, for all their hard work. This trustee board is made up of gentlemen holding a variety of skills in a diversity of areas from banking to accounting, engineering, and some who are pastors and others who are deacons but all of whom serve in very important roles. I would be amiss if I failed to express my gratitude to Bro. Lee, who still serves as our resident expert and in house RLF historian, even though his official title is Manager. Also, I want to express my appreciation to Ms Brandy Riley whose role has quickly become a keystone to holding so many parts of the overall Missions and Revolving Loan Fund operation together.

We are all very grateful for the opportunity to serve you.

Prayerfully and Respectfully Submitted,

Larry D. Geraldson
Director of Missions and RLF
BMA of Mississippi

Midyear Meeting May 19-20 at Lebanon Baptist Church

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number of other areas. These include a continuing working relationship with the seminary, a dialog between the schools and the possibility of other courses taught by seminary professors or other qualified individuals to be offered on the Laurel cam-

pus. The possibility of video conferencing to expand course work was also encouraged.

Lebanon Church provided the noon meal and are to be commended for hosting the meeting.

The 2014 annual meeting will be held at Southeastern College in October.



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 staff is adjusting to the summer schedule at Southeastern. The absence of students makes the days less exciting. Of course, everything at a school centers around the needs of students. We are working to prepare for the summer online classes and the Baptist Missionary Association Theological Seminary class. Both will begin the first week of June. A list of Online Bible Classes are available. Most will be taught by Dr. Aaron Parker or Dr. Gary O'Neal. Because of the shorter time to complete a semester's work, those interested need to contact the school immediately.

Call the school at 601-426-6346 and ask to speak to Dr. Aaron Parker or Ronnie Kitchens for more information.

Concerning the seminary class in Pastoral Ministries, Dr. Mark Livingston will teach on campus on June 2nd from 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. and on June 3rd from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.. After a three week break, he will teach on campus on June 23rd and 24th. Although the date for late registering is past, you could sign up to audit the class. Sitting in for these lectures could inspire the seasoned pastor with fresh ideas to use in his ministry.

Recruiting remains of paramount importance to Southeastern. If you know of anyone who would be a prospective student, please send contact information by calling Ronnie Kitchens or sending email to me at interimpres@gmail.com. We must have new students to replace those who have graduated. We must have new students to replace those who are providentially hindered from returning during the Fall. We must have new students to grow. Come to be a part of an educational institution that has long been committed to teaching from a Biblical world view and in a Christian environment.

Honoring Graduates



Sunday morning, May 4, 2014, First Baptist Church of Bay Springs honored their Kindergarten graduates. High school & college graduates were honored in the evening service with a reception that followed. A Bible or gift book was presented to each graduate.



New Mailing Address for DiscipleGuide

In April, messengers from the BMA of America voted to relocate DiscipleGuide's Texarkana offices to the BMA Headquarters building in Conway, Arkansas. Please take note of the new mailing address:

DiscipleGuide, P.O. Box 1749, Conway, AR 72033

Gooder Discipleship

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trying to explain everything. Let experience pique your disciple's interest. Providing answers where there are no questions is typically a waste of time.

2. Don't miss "teachable moments." Look for opportunities to teach when a disciple shows genuine interest or intrigue. These are the most fertile opportunities for teaching.

3. Don't try to "lesson plan" everything. Undoubtedly, you should have some basic goals and objectives for what you want you disciple to learn. However, don't be fooled into thinking you can plan how they will learn it, when they will learn it, or in what order they will learn it. Much like in parenting, life situations dictate opportunities. Given enough time, ample opportunities will present themselves for the prepared disciple maker to invest in his/her disciple.

Please don't misunderstand. Didactic teaching and lecture are good. I fully believe that they have their place in Christian growth as long as they are not emphasized to the exclusion of modeling and mentoring. Lecture is good, but when you add hands on experience and observation, its gooder!