

# Baptist

## Mississippi

JOURNAL OF THE BAPTIST MISSIONARY ASSOCIATION OF MISSISSIPPI

March 1, 2017

www.msbbaptist.org

Vol. 71 No. 5

## Nominee for Lifeword Post

Lifeword's board of directors would like to announce Donny Parrish as the nominee for executive director of Lifeword. Dr. Steve Crawley announced his resignation on February 1 after serving six years as executive director.

Parrish has been serving BMA churches almost 40 years. His relationship with Lifeword began in 1990 when he was hired to create Lifeword's video ministry. Parrish also led the conference division of DiscipleGuide for over 25 years and the student missions division of BMA Missions for ten years, all the while continuing to provide creative content and serve as a radio personality for Lifeword.

In 2012 he returned to BMA America from Fellowship Church in Forney, Texas, as BMA Productions team leader. In September of 2016 he was reassigned to the Lifeword team full time to focus on broadcast outreach to the United States. Donny and his wife Datha have been married for 38 years. They have two daughters: Brittany, who moved to heaven in 1992, and Samantha, who lives in Queens, New York.

His nomination will be presented at the BMA National Meeting May 1-3.



Donny Parrish

## Mardi Gras Mission 2017

by **Brian Atwood, pastor  
Campground Church  
Gulfport, Mississippi**

The Mardi Gras season offers the Church a unique opportunity to put into practice what most Churches preach on a regular basis. We speak often of the need to reach the nations as well as neighborhoods with the gospel, but all too often that results in much rhetoric and little ac-

the gospel of Christ.

Thousands of people lined the streets of the Gulf Coast waiting for parades to begin in certain cities, at certain times, during the Mardi Gras season. This congregation represents the largest concentration of people in one place, at one time, in one location. I like to refer to this gathering as the largest group of lost people this side of hell. It

is the perfect time to meet people who will not enter the doors of the local church and it is the perfect time to meet and share the gospel with lots of people.

This year, churches of the BMA reached out to three cities along the Gulf Coast with a mission team of about 150. During the time

of outreach, we were able to meet hundreds of people, distribute approximately 2,000 Bibles and tracts, and see at least five people come to know Jesus as Savior. We also had the



Sharing bibles and witnessing to Mardi Gras Parade watchers

tion. This year churches from Arkansas, Texas, Louisiana, and Mississippi assembled as a united group of believers on mission to help reach the cities of the Mississippi Gulf Coast with

BMA Missions program operating. Those measures apply to the BMA of the Philippines also.

We have 46 first, second, and third year students that want to continue their education and graduate from the Bible College. Also, we have many prospective students in the Philippines and Asia that have expressed a desire to enroll.

While we are working to solve the future financial needs of the college, we are asking for immediate needs to keep the school operating for the next two years. Some have already made a commitment to help. The cost of

opportunity to pray with many about certain needs, feed families, and encourage residents with the love of Christ.

I would like to offer a special word of thanks to all who helped make the mission effort a huge success. Thanks to Josh Daniels,



Pastor Brian Atwood preparing volunteers on Friday evening

Wesley Martin, and Chad Cummins who helped plan and coordinate the event. Thanks to Donny Parrish, Angela Rice, and the good folks in Conway for helping with promotion and planning. Thanks to all the pastors who brought groups or graciously sent teams to help with the ministry. It was an honor to be on mission with such a great group of believers.

College that teaches and produces students that are grounded in the true teachings of God's Word.

### Internship program produces results

Another reason we need your support for our students is we believe we have the best educational and internship program in Asia. All of our students must complete a successful internship program to graduate. We have three degrees of studies. They are Bachelor of Theology

## Mission Budget Cuts Threaten Various Ministries

## BMA Philippine Bible College Seeks Alternative Funding

-from Doug & Diane Lee's Monthly Newsletter

We cannot imagine these students not having a place to continue their studies! Through no fault of our BMA Missions Of-

fice, funds for Bible Institutions such as the Baptist Missionary Association Bible College in the Philippines, have been cut. Because of the deficit, drastic measures must be taken to keep the



Editor posing with 2016 Philippine Bible College graduates

continued on page 2

# COMMISSION ON *Senior Adults*

4226 Highway 15 North, Laurel, Mississippi 39440



Kenneth Flynt  
Director

## Tell Someone Joyously!

The South Mississippi Senior Adult Conference is almost here and we have a spot saved just for you. This is our senior moment!

Big Creek Baptist Church is looking forward to once again hosting the conference. They, along with all host churches, do a fantastic job in hosting

## Philippine Bible College News

from page 1

with an emphasis in missions or pastoral and church planting. Also, we offer a Bachelor in Religious Education and Bachelor in Church Music. All students must complete one semester of internship. There were sixteen graduates in the 2015-2016 graduating class.

Theology graduates—four have been ordained and are pastoring and the other seven are continuing their studies and working in their church or mission outreach programs.

Religious Education graduates—One is working in a Christian School, one international student is teaching in China, and the other one is continuing her studies while working at the Bible College as Librarian.

Bachelor of Church Music Graduates - One is full-time music director and children's ministry worker at Fabrica Baptist Church and the other young

### Dates Available

The Lee's will home on furlough in April, May, and part of June. We have dates available and would love to visit your church and share our ministry. In May we will be at the National BMA meeting in Arlington, Texas. See you there!

**Editor's Note** - The BMA Bible College in the Philippines has very close ties to BMA Baptists in Mississippi. Founded and staffed by a number of Mississippians the college has a unique connection to the people and churches of our state.

Founders Doyle and Linda Moore are from Picayune, Mississippi. Doug and Diane Lee are serving at the college in administration and music and they are also from the Picayune, Mississippi area. A number of Mississippi natives are serving or have served in the Philippines.



Philippine Bible College students receiving safety instructions from local fire department

lady teaches piano and violin in the music department at BMABC. How do I tell these students we will be closing the school?

Contributions for the BMA Bible College, Doug and Diane Lee Support, or Work Fund account can be sent to Mill Creek Baptist Church, 11 Old Kiln Road, Picayune, MS 39466 or BMA Missions Office, P. O. Box, 878, Conway, AR 72033. Please designate where funds are to be applied.

Former missionaries Rayborn and Faye Freeman hail from Mississippi as well as current missionaries Sam and Dawn Freeman and Danny and Rita Ballard. Alicia Ramshur Samson from Columbia, Mississippi, is a medical student and she and her husband Chris are serving in the Philippines.

Doyle and Linda Moore are returning to the states in a few months after a long and successful ministry among the Philippine people as well as a number of other cultures in Southeast Asia.

these special occasions for seniors.

Registration begins approximately at 9:00 am, Tuesday, March 21st. The registration fee is \$15 per person and covers the noon meal catered by Macs of Hattiesburg.

Call in the number you expect to attend and this will help in preparing the noon meal. Call 601-428-8616 or 601-763-8100. If someone from each church will assume this responsibility it will be helpful, beginning calling anytime.

### Door Prizes & Recognition

Lots of prizes to be given to those ticket holders whose tickets will be selected from the ticket basket. Special recognition to the oldest man and the oldest woman present and the church with the highest attendance will take the prized owl home with them. Shiloh Church, Mt. Olive has kept the owl for the past year and they expect to take it home again. This owl was the work of Daniel Hite, artist from Big Creek. Thank Bro. Daniel for your kindness.

50 year plaques will be given to ministers completing 50 years in the ministry in 2017. If you have not already done so call Mrs. Kim Parker at the mission's office and give your name and needed information. Do this immediately.

### Love offering

As usual we will be receiving a love offering as requested by our seniors.

This goes a long way in the support of the Commission, thank you for your help.

In the past during both the North and South Conferences, ladies have contributed hand-made items as door prizes and they usually disappear in a hurry. If you wish to do this again, all items are welcomed.

### Music

The Gaither style musical choir will once again bless our hearts and the preaching of God's Word will challenge us to tell someone who he is. It will be a great day of worship, praise, singing and the best of fellowship. Pastors, thank you for encouraging your seniors and coming with them.

### North Conference

The North Mississippi Senior Adult Conference is planned for Tuesday, May 9th, with Greenwood Baptist Church in Fulton as host. What a day that will be when we gather for the North Mississippi Senior Adult Conference. More about this conference in the near future.

We are looking forward to seeing you once again at Big Creek, Tuesday, March 21st, it will be another super senior day.

Reminder - call in the expected number to be attending and if you fail to do so, come on anyway, your spot is waiting!

## Bylaw Change Recommendations from Revolving Loan Fund

The following will be presented to the messengers of the BMA of Mississippi when we meet for our midyear meeting in May. They are being published to inform our churches of this recommendation.

Recommended Change to the BMA of Mississippi RLF By-Laws

Article V – Financial Retirement And Releasing Of Mission Church – Established Church Property

Section A. Mission Properties and Buildings

1. Debt Retirement: The capital indebtedness of the mission church may be discharged through either of or a combination of the following:

- a. Payments made by the local congregation.
- b. Unrestricted payments: Those made in behalf of the mission by a person/s, other church/es or an association/s which do not go through the Mission office.
- c. Restricted payments: Those made in behalf of the mission by person/s, other church/es, or an association/s made through the Mission office.
- d. Suspension payments: Monies/payments suspended by the Revolving Loan Fund.
- e. Forgiven payments: The forgiveness of debt by the Revolving Loan Fund.

2. Title Holding: The Revolving Loan Fund Trustees shall hold the title of any Mission Church property for any financial amount/s of indebtedness due under the following provisions:

- a. Any unpaid accounts with the missions office.
  - b. Any unpaid restricted or suspended payments made toward the retirement of the said church's indebtedness of properties, buildings or other capital improvements.
  - c. For security reasons.
3. Title Release: The Revolving Loan Fund Trustees of the BMA of Mississippi shall release any mission church property of which the Revolving Loan Fund Trustees of the BMA of Mississippi holds title or joint title providing:
- a. The indebtedness of the said mission church has been paid.
  - b. The said mission church from her organization date has contributed to the associational work of the BMA an amount equal to that which was contributed to her debt retirement through restricted and suspended payments. The responsibility of proof of for such contributions lies with the mission church.

BAPTIST MISSIONARY ASSOCIATION OF MISSISSIPPI

Missions Department & Revolving Loan Fund



Larry Geraldson  
Director



www.bmams.org - 601.428.8616



State Missionaries and Wives



Phillip & Dawn  
Burns



Kenneth & Carole  
Pollock



Bobby & Lesa  
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Danny & Brenda  
Bartlett



Sidney & Becky  
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Wesley & Holley  
Martin



Anders & Carla  
Lee



Bob & Edie Burch



Estuardo &  
Yasmine Marroquin



Elvis & Wendy  
Garcia



Ed & Patricia  
DuVall

"But as it is written, Eye hath not seen, nor ear heard, neither have entered into the heart of man, the things which God hath prepared for them that love him. But God hath revealed them unto us by his Spirit: for the Spirit searcheth all things, yea, the deep things of God...."- Eph 3:14-18

Every step along the journey of faith should be a deeper and deeper experience with our Heavenly Father. This passage reminds me of an old Puritan prayer:

"Lord Jesus, give me a deeper repentance, a horror of sin, a dread of its approach. Help me chastely to flee it and jealously to resolve that my heart shall be Yours alone.

Give me a deeper trust, that I may lose myself to find myself in You, the ground of my rest, the spring of my being. Give me a deeper knowledge of Yourself as saviour, master, lord, and king. Give me deeper power in private prayer, more sweetness in Your Word, more steadfast grip on its truth. Give me deeper holiness in speech, thought, action, and let me not seek moral virtue apart from You.

Plough deep in me, great Lord, heavenly husbandman, that my being may be a tilled field, the roots of grace spreading far and wide, until You alone are seen in me, Your beauty golden like summer harvest, Your fruitfulness as autumn plenty.

I have no master but You, no law but Your will, no delight but Yourself, no wealth but that You give, no good but that You bless, no peace but that You bestow. I am nothing but that You make me. I have nothing but that I receive from You. I can be nothing but that grace adorns me. Quarry me deep, dear Lord, and then fill me to overflowing with living water." - Puritan Prayer

**More Than Just Planting Seeds**

Missions work is more than just sowing seed. The missionary realizes that he must work the ground, labor in the field and exhaust himself in the joy of putting down roots, if he is ever to reap the harvest. Missionary Bob Burch has done just that with his group in Caledonia, Mississippi. On March 18, 2017, at 1:00 PM, Lord willing, Caledonia Baptist Mission will become Caledonia Baptist Church. You are invited to attend this service and witness the joy of the journey.

**Newest Missionary Resigns**

Our newest State Missionary Jimmy Daugherty has resigned. Bro. Daugherty shared his verbal resignation expressing he felt he had made a mistake. The Missionary Committee unanimously accepted his resignation. It takes a lot of courage to admit one has made a mistake. We encourage you to pray for Bro. Daugherty and for our State Missions efforts and the 20 other families who continue to labor on the field.

**Land Purchased**

On March 19th, during a special afternoon service, Day Star Mission will raise a sign on their new property, announcing the, "Future Home Of Day Star Baptist Church." With the support of the Revolving

Loan Fund, Day Star was able to acquire land on Hwy 42 East, less than a half mile from where they now meet.

**Diamondhead Mission Participates in Mardi Gras Outreach Activity**

Missionary Wesley Martin reported that they handed out over 300 Bibles and made a number of new contacts as they canvassed the route just prior to the Mardi



Folks gathered to share Christ with Mardi Gras crowd. Together with their Mother Church, Campground Baptist Church, Pastor Bryan Atwood, and with other churches helping, the outreach continued and extended to Gulfport and Biloxi.

**Important Events**

- March 18**, Caledonia Organization Service
- March 19**, Day Star Special Service
- April 22**, 59th Annual Missions & Evangelism Conference at Caledonia Baptist
- June 3**, South Forrest Baptist Mission Organization Service
- July 29**, Freedom Baptist Mission Organization Service

**Special Emphasis - (April-May)**

Special Emphasis for State Missions is just around the corner (April-May). Our prayer is that we will have the best Special Emphasis yet. I want to encourage our churches to make plans to emphasize State Missions during this time. Our State Missionaries and myself, are available to attend your church and share what God is doing through our missions' efforts. Feel free to contact us at 601-426-8616 to schedule a date.

**Revolving Loan Fund Update**

Our RLF Fund continues to be sound with plenty of money available to loan. Our current rate of interest on loans is 4.25%. We can also loan money to refinance and pay off a loan which your church may have taken with a commercial bank.

**59th Annual Missions & Evangelism Conference**  
Theme: Contending For The Faith

Sponsored by  
BMA of Mississippi Missions Department  
Hosted by  
Caledonia Baptist, Caledonia, Mississippi  
Music by  
Bro. & Mrs. Jeff Dixon

**April 22, 2017 - 10:00 AM**

- 10:00-10:10 Music
- 10:10-10:30 Introduction of Theme  
Bro. Larry Geraldson – Jude 1-3
- 10:30-10:40 Music
- 10:40-11:15 Contending For The Faith:  
Rejoicing In Our Woes - Dr. Robert Burch  
1 Pet 1:1-9 (vs 7)
- 11:15-11:30 Break
- 11:30-Noon Contending For The Faith:  
Relying On God's Wisdom – Josh Daniels  
1 Cor 2:1-5
- Noon – 1:30 Lunch (Provided by the Host Church)
- 1:30-2:00 Missionary Reports
- 2:00-2:15 Music
- 2:15-2:45 Contending For The Faith:  
Redeeming Our Weakness – Gary O'Neal  
2 Cor 4:1-11
- 2:45-3:00 Break
- 3:00-3:15 Music
- 3:15-3:45 Contending For The Faith:  
Recalling the Wickedness – Leon Carmical  
2 Tim 3:1-17
- 3:45-4:00 Music
- 4:00-4:30 Contending For The Faith:  
Praying While We Work – Grover Laird  
Eph 6:18
- 4:30 Dismissal

**Contact Us**

You can email us at [missions@bmams.org](mailto:missions@bmams.org), or call us at 601-428-8616. Visit our website at [www.bmams.org](http://www.bmams.org). Like our Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/bmamsmissions>.

**Notice** - Revolving Loan Fund Bylaw Changes to be presented at the midyear meeting are listed on page 2 for informational purposes. Please review and be prepared to discuss these during the Midyear meeting in May.



Don Brown  
Editor

# Mississippi Baptist

Journal of the Baptist Missionary Association of Mississippi

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Phone 601-426-3293

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

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

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

## Old Movies & The Numbers Racket

by the Editor

I grew up in the 50's and 60's and learned to enjoy the old black and white movies from the 1930's and 40's. James Cagney, Edward G. Robinson and others made some of the best "bad guys" in the movies. That was a time when bad was bad, good was good, and bad lost and good won!

Old movies, especially the old black & white movies from that time period are still my favorite. The 'gangster' movies were nothing like movies today. There was no blood, cursing, sex, etc. There was the depiction of evil and mostly the evil lost and good and righteousness won out. There were even depictions of forgiveness and life-changing revelations in the lives of some of the 'bad guys'.

Crime of all types were presented and presented in the context that 'crime was bad'. There was gambling, murder, robbery, kidnaping, drug and alcohol running, and just about any crime you could think of. One that I did not understand as a young person was the 'numbers racket'. This vice was played up as being bad and against the law. The gangsters were gamblers, thieves, crooks, and all sorts of malcontents. They 'ran the numbers'. If this activity was bad then, why do our politicians think that it is something that the government should endorse today?

The lottery is a widely publicized as the answer to our current economic woes. Multi-million dollar prizes are now common place and entice citizens to 'play for the big prize'. The lottery is nothing more than a social tax on those who can least afford to pay it! The lure of big money pulls at the hearts and minds of individuals fantasizing about that one big pay day!

I pray that our governor, who claims to be a Christian and has promoted Christian values, will not continue to suggest that a Mississippi State Lottery would be the answer to the state budget woes. All that this type of 'extra income' seems to accomplish is to take money from the pockets of individuals that would be better used to support their families and to give the legislature more money to spend in ways that seemingly keep increasing as available funds increase.

Let us do what is necessary for schools, roads, law enforcement, and the necessary things of government and avoid the direction that government should never go.

The lust for more, more, more, is soon met with the lack of enough funds to satisfy the desires of both the individual and government.

A State Lottery is not the answer and will only lead to more problems in the same manner alcohol and casinos have. These were great promises of revenue to solve all our financial problems, but as the revenue grew it seems the problems kept getting bigger.

The Lottery is a vice that was previously called the "Numbers Racket" for a reason. It's full of promise, but empty - it's a racket!

## A Sure Road To Trouble

by Douglas L. Laird  
from 1999 issue of The Revivalist

"Only by pride cometh contention: but with the well advised is wisdom" (Proverbs 13:10).

Notwithstanding the absence of objective statistics, I submit to you that lawlessness and destruction increase in proportion to the comparative decrease in spiritual commitment.

The proper perspective for the Christian is the Lordship of Jesus Christ, and with the reign of Christ in one's heart, some inevitable results occur.

1. One is willing to confess before God and find forgiveness for all those things that are contrary to His will. Jesus becomes Lord, and no other lord can take His place. Egotism, selfish ambition, and personal gratification are all laid down before Him who is Lord in their stead.

2. One begins to see things as Jesus saw them. The poor cease to be areas of personal exploitation; they become people of merit worthy of one's help. Other races cease to be things and become, instead, beings of dignity and worth. The world about us ceases to be our private septic tank and becomes the present abode of the creations of God which depend upon it for life and breath, and it becomes for us a stewardship of concern for others. One sees his assets as blessings from the living God to whom he desires to dedicate it all in devoted service. He sees the human body as the choicest piece of God's creative work which he desires to protect from any promiscuity and prodigality which would dishonor it.

3. One finds a love and respect for self and others which we are a pattern of harmonious fabric in social conduct.

On the other side are those of whom the proverb speaks. "Only by pride cometh contention: but with the well advise is wisdom" (Prov-

erbs 13:10) Contrasted to those who allow the Lordship of Jesus to brush away the arrogance of self are those who are bent on gratification of self. And the proverb reminds us that only by this comes contention. Nations pursue international relations with selfish ends only to stir up war and contentions. Ranking members of government agencies who pursue a policy of selfish motives and who know no Christian restraint find that positions gained are only retained tenuously, or other parts of the organization are wrecked. Husbands and wives who determine to have their way even at any cost often find that the price was rather high. But the wise man is said to be one who will take advice.

A vacuum cleaner pulls in everything it can take up in its hose until it accumulates so much dirt that it must disgorge it. However, the pattern can be reversed by blowing out instead of pulling in. Maybe the proverb needs to reverse our lives before we are so full of dirt that we are destroyed. Instead of pulling from people all that would fatten our ego, maybe we should do for people and find their loyalty and our greatest strength in the unselfish pursuit of it. Peace, not contention, comes from love and love gives if it is genuine love.

### AVAILABLE FOR SERVICE

#### Zechariah Rogers

Zechariah Rogers is available for preaching opportunities or pastoral work as the Lord leads. He is currently attending Southeastern Baptist College working on a Bachelor in Christian Ministries. He may be reached by calling 769-301-5004 or 662-372-5730.

#### McLain Church Seeks Worship Leader

Midway Missionary Baptist Church, located off of Hwy 98 between McLain and Lucedale, is currently in search of a worship leader and is now accepting resumes and/or recommendations. Would like to have someone who

## Galilean & GMA Camp Near!

### Galilean Camp Approaching

A reminder that Mississippi Galilean Camp is coming up quickly, March 17-18, 2017, at Camp Garaywa in Clinton, Mississippi. We have mailed letters to the churches that normally attend. If your church wishes to attend and you did not receive a letter PLEASE call me at 662-231-1435 and we can get you registered for camp. Camp fees are \$60 per person and we ask that each boy bring a 12 pack of drinks for the snack shop. I need to hear from you by March 9 if you are coming to camp. See You There!

### GMA President Talks GMA Camp!

Hey, my name is Lakelan Flynt, and I am the President of your state GMA program. I want to encourage you to encourage your girls and churches to get involved in the GMA program. Our state camp, along with the Galilean's, is March 17th and 18th. We are very excited about it and hope to see you all there.

Even if your church does not have a program, we encourage you to attend camp or learn more about the GMAs. We will have an amazing time meeting new people, visiting with old friends, and learning more about Jesus. We would love for you and your church to come find out why we love the program. Please pray for our camp and Bro. Sidney Farmer as he brings our messages.

could play a lead musical instrument. We currently have a piano, keyboard, guitar, and drums. Songs include a mixture of traditional hymns and contemporary praise and worship music. If you are interested or know someone who is interested please notify Bro. Johnny Williams via phone or email. 228-234-3121. brojohnnywilliams@att.net.

## Church of the Covered Dish

BY THOMAS TAPP



# Southeastern Baptist College

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

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

## Interim President's Perspective

I recently attended an awards dinner where the former Secretary of Education under President George W. Bush, was the keynote speaker. Secretary Paige related in his brief remarks a personal story about a college reunion he attended. As he approached the parking lot where the festivities were being held, he noted numerous Ferraris, Porsches, and other high end luxury vehicles. When given an opportunity to speak he asked the



Dr. Scott Carson  
Interim President

audience to remember where they had come from. Nearly all of them, including him, came from very modest lower income families. He stated that he had surveyed all the different types of expensive vehicles he had seen as he was parking at the event. He then declared to all in the crowd that education was the most efficient means that can take a person from a lower income bracket to a greater one. There were none who disagreed with his observation. Higher education is truly a valuable asset in one's resume'.

The Bible tells us to "Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth." (II Timothy 2:15). Southeastern Baptist College exists to educate Christians in the Bible and in Christian oriented business degrees. We teach them the deeper elements of God's Holy Word so that each student can stand firm in their faith in the world we live in today and to do more than that! We know that each person who takes courses at our school enters either the ministry or the secular workplace prepared to share the good news of Jesus and to be active in expanding the Kingdom of God.

I encourage every reader of this message to seriously consider contributing toward the BMA of Mississippi's premiere school of Biblical knowledge. We were awarded the distinguished Best Online Bible College in the nation for 2016 for a reason! SBC is the best of the best when it comes to educating people in theology and the scriptures! Will you consider setting up a scholarship in your church to help educate and advance leaders in the BMA of Mississippi ministries? Pastors, youth workers,

### Lefevre Quartet Coming To Broadmoor Church

Broadmoor Baptist Church, 5426 Highway 39 North in Meridian (just north of Hardee's) will host The Lefevre Quartet, one of southern gospel's premier groups, on Thursday, March 16, 2017 at 7:00 p.m. Admission is free and everyone is invited to attend. A love offering will be taken. For more information call 601-323-4400 or 601-482-2229.

### East Central Association Report

We had a very good meeting recently at Central Baptist Church in Richton.

ministers of music, potential missionaries, deacons, Sunday school teachers and more will all benefit greatly in their personal walk with the Lord and be more effective in their callings. I believe every church in our work should have someone on their church staff taking classes online or in our classrooms. I encourage you to seriously consider what an education in the Bible or in Christian leadership can do to advance the Gospel in your "neck of the woods."

### HEADWAE

Dr. Carson and Matt Crumpton were honored February 21, 2017 in Jackson, Mississippi at the State of Mississippi Legislature's annual Higher Education Appreciation Day Working for Academic



Dr. Scott Carson and Matt Crumpton Excellence (HEADWAE). Both were nominated for this prestigious award by SBC's faculty and staff. Matt Crumpton is a second year honor student and is the Youth Minister at Big Creek Baptist Church in Soso, Mississippi. Dr. Carson joined the SBC faculty team in January 2016 as an online adjunct professor. He assumed the role as the Academic Dean in May 2016 and is currently also serving as the Interim President of the college.

HEADWAE was established by Mississippi Legislative Resolution to annually honor the academically talented students and faculty members of Mississippi's higher education institutions who have made outstanding contributions in promoting academic excellence. The Appreciation Day, hosted by

Our message was brought by Bro. Hunter Phillips. All of the churches were present but one. After business we were blessed with reports came from missionaries Bro. Phillip Burns, Bro. Bobby Elliott, Bro. Bob Burch, and Director Bro. Larry Geraldson. Bro. Jerry Overstreet gave a report on the Senior Adult ministry and encourage the senior adults to attend the South Conference on March 21 at Big Creek Baptist Church near Soso. Refreshments and fellowship was enjoyed after the meeting.

Jerry Overstreet, Reporter

the Legislature each February in Jackson, is the Legislature's way of saying "thank you" to these students and faculty for their commitment to the future of Mississippi.

### National Day of Prayer Breakfast

Southeastern Baptist College is partnering with local churches in the Laurel area to provide a National Day of Prayer Breakfast at the College. The event will have a special keynote speaker with several local dignitaries and pastors of various local participating congregations. Breakfast will be provided free of charge by Bethlehem Baptist Church. Reservations are required to ensure there is enough food and seating for those attending.

The breakfast begins at 7:30 am on May 4, 2017 and will be located in the school's gymnasium. Later, there will be the annual prayer event on the City of Laurel's courthouse steps at 12 noon. Call 601-426-6346 to secure your free reservation for the prayer breakfast.

### In Memoriam Donations

I wish to thank all who have given to SBC in the memory of Brother Danny Pitts. Mrs. Helen Pitts asks for donations in memory of Brother Danny Pitts be sent to Southeastern Baptist College. You can bless your memory of him by supporting the institution and students that Brother Pitts so loved and dedicated his life. You can make a donation by mailing your check to the college at: Southeastern Baptist College, 4229 Highway 15 North, Laurel MS 39440, or using a credit card online at our website:

<http://southeasternbaptist.edu/web/99/SpecialEmphasisDonationPage.aspx>

Your love and respect for his spiritual leadership is greatly appreciated by everyone associated with the school. I want to give a special "shout out" to the members of Big Creek Baptist Church, Soso, for their generous donation of over \$850. Donations given to this institution are always prayed over and wisely applied toward its greatest needs.

### Available to Preach

Dr. Carson is available to fill the pulpit for preaching or to make a presentation about the great work and vision of Southeastern Baptist College. You can reach him at 601-433-4736 or at [scarson@southeasternbaptist.edu](mailto:scarson@southeasternbaptist.edu)

### How to Sign Up for Courses

Our recruiter, Ronnie Kitchens, has all the information you need to sign up for classes and information on financial aid. There are \$1000 scholarships available to Baptist Missionary Association ministers who take classes at Southeastern Baptist College. Contact Brother Kitchens for more information! If you are thinking about taking college level courses, I encourage you to contact Brother Ronnie at 601-426-6346 or [rkitchens@southeasternbaptist.edu](mailto:rkitchens@southeasternbaptist.edu)

## Baptist Missionary Association of Mississippi [www.bmaofmississippi.com](http://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  
601-729-2613

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

**Moral Action**  
P.O. Box 88, Mantachie, MS 38855  
662-282-7425

## Ministering To Young People

by Anders Lee

# Do You Really Care?

What does success look like in youth ministry? That's been our focus in the last two articles. We know that a successful youth ministry isn't about numbers or perfect kids! What else does success mean in youth ministry? Someone has well said; "They don't care how much you know until they know how much you care!"

It was November of 1994 when I took my first youth position. One of my priorities was to meet with the parents to let them know some immediate plans and get to know them better. The meeting went great. I talked about an upcoming Christmas party, spring retreat, and going to SOAR in Kansas City that summer. I was pumped and the parents were too. Except for one...



Anders Lee

A lady came up to me afterwards. She said, "I have a question." She asked, "When are you graduating from seminary?" I thought, "What in the world?" It was well known I had come to Memphis to go to Mid-America. Why would this even matter? I wouldn't be done for three years or more. So I told her I didn't have

a clue.

She had a son in the youth group that was in the eighth grade. He really loved and had connected well with the former youth pastor. He thought he would get to spend his entire youth years with him. He was struggling! The Lord had lead John (my predecessor) away right after he completed seminary. This young man didn't want to come to youth because he said that I would just leave when I got done with seminary. He didn't want to grow closer to another guy that would "be leaving before he graduated High School. His idea was to go to First Baptist Horn Lake where the youth pastor had been for 15 years. "He won't leave his kids."

My point in sharing this isn't to say, "Wow!!! John vamped out on them and didn't care." I came to know all about John and knew that wasn't true at all. My point is simply that parents and kids want to know that your time at their church as a student pastor isn't just a stepping stone and a pay check during college or seminary. They want to know that you are there because God led you there and you REALLY CARE about them!

Let me repeat that quote in a different way. Students really "don't care how much you know until they

know how much you care!" That situation proved that to me. It motivated me to be more deeply involved in the lives of those kids! Even though I lacked many skill sets as a youth guy, we all saw God work as we surrendered to Him and by His grace cared for parents and students.

I've been reading and studying through the Gospel of John recently and came to the familiar truths of John 10. In that passage Jesus addresses the fact that He was the Good Shepherd! He contrasts Himself with a "hireling." The "hireling" is simply a paid work hand that tends to the sheep. He doesn't really care about them. A "hireling" leaves when the getting is good! A true shepherd cares deeply for the sheep and will love, lead, and protect them.

Do you really care for your kid's parents? Are you genuinely in the youth ministry for the spiritual well-being of students? Are you using the place where you are as a stepping stone to go to another location? Are you just there for a pay check so that your college days go well? Are you a true shepherd or simply another "hireling?"

Let me end this on these two thoughts: 1. I think you know (at heart) the answers to those questions. There is too much at stake for you to be in it for the wrong reasons! 2. You will have great success in youth ministry if you genuinely care! Parents and students will overlook a lot of insufficiencies in you and the ministry when they know YOU really care!!!

*Lee is a church planter for the BMA of America and Mississippi. He is a pastor and former youth minister. Lee may be contacted at anders.lee571@gmail.com*

## A Pictorial Look at Mardi Gras Missions on Mississippi Gulf Coast on Saturday February 25th



*From The Mind of Chuck Lee*

## Pop Awesome

"Isn't she the most precious girl that you have ever seen? Sure, I know she is only a couple of days old, but notice how bright her eyes are! That is a sure sign of intelligence. Awwwww, she just drooled. That is so adorable! Look at this picture of her sleeping with her hand in her mouth. Here is one of her sleeping with her other hand in her mouth. This is one of her and me at the hospital and this is one of us when she came home, and..."

"Sir! For the last time, would you like fries with your order? You are holding up the line"! As the young man in the chicken hat went off mumbling something about old people and needing to get a life, I couldn't help but consider the rudeness of the kids these days. I was scarcely there for ten minutes and had only shown him two hundred pictures of my new granddaughter. That was barely a portion of the pictures I had on my phone. Oh well, that is



Bro. Chuck Lee

this younger generation. The policeman that pulled me over for a mere fifteen miles over the speed limit was no better, but the time we had together on the way to the station provided me ample opportunity to delight him with more stories about the most beautiful baby on the planet; nay, the whole universe!

Just a few days ago, I was that younger generation. Now I go around referring to kids as whippersnappers and hollering at them to get off my lawn. I even said, "Pssshhaawww" the other evening. My joints have started aching before a rain, and I have an unreasonable desire to be in bed when the sun goes down. I'm not even sure what a prune is, but for some reason, I bought a gallon of it's juice while wondering



Pop Awesome's First Selfie

aimlessly along on my motorized shopping cart through the aisles of Biggy Mart. They weren't interested in my pictures either.

I noticed her fingers were just right for playing the mandolin. When I was boasting about this to my brother, he said she would probably wind up being a rapper. Nearly stopped my heart, but thankfully I had some nitroglycerin pills handy for just such an occasion. My brother and I aren't on speaking terms anymore. Rapper! Pshawww!

Her name is Ryleigh Layne Sanders. I tell you that because I am sure you want to know. You will be able to say, "I knew her before she was a famous mandolin player/nuclear scientist/brain surgeon/President!"

You can just call me, Pop Awesome.

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

## Register Your Group for Daniel Springs Camp!

Daniel Springs Camp has served BMA churches for over 50 years. In that time, the camp has witnessed more than 10,000 young souls make professions of faith in Christ. This Summer, bring your children and youth to experience the "Daniel Springs Difference." They will love the games, recreation, devotionals, and worship services led by our trained college staff.

The 2017 theme "Do Something" will focus on how we should show Jesus' love to others by how we live our lives. Jesus showed love to people not just by his words but by his ministry of service while on earth. Throughout Scripture, there are many examples of Jesus' servant leadership. To the crowds that followed him, he gave new life (physical and spiritual) to the sick, the crippled, the hungry and the outcast. To those closest to him (his disciples), he invested in them as individuals and as a group by humbly serving and teaching them. Jesus is the ultimate example of the "Do Something" theme: He showed his love through service to others.

For more information, or to register your group, visit [danielsprings.com/register](http://danielsprings.com/register) today!

## MISSISSIPPI BAPTIST CHILDREN'S HOME

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



SIDNEY DAVIS

### Love Never Fails

God's work of love never ends. "And now abideth faith, hope, charity, these three; but the greatest of these is charity." 1 Corinthians 13:13. God began the eternal work of His creation because of His great love. That love will continue for all eternity. We as believers have a continuing work to do in this world because of God's love for lost sinners. As long as this world remains there will be sinners in need of God's love. God in His love will seek the best for those who come to Him. That love will exist in all eternity. That love will never fail.

### Special Emphasis

We have received \$20,317.53 towards our 2016 Special Emphasis. Praise the Lord! We fell a little short of our \$25,000.00 goal. The Lord truly used his people once again to be a blessing to this ministry. Thank you for caring, sharing, and praying for the Home. We would like to express to each church, auxiliary, class, and individual our appreciation for your Special Emphasis

offerings during this Emphasis period.

### Student Recognition

We would like to congratulate our sixth grade girl at the Home for recent recognitions. She was elected as President of her class, selected as Most Likely to Succeed, and named to the Hall of Fame for her class. Congratulations, Cadence and may God continue His blessings upon you!



Cadence

### Remember in Prayer and Focus Verse

Continue to remember the girls and boys and the ministry of the Home in your prayers. "Greater love hath no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends." John 15:13.

## THE WORLD IN WHICH WE LIVE

### An Anglican report that pleased no one

**(OneNewsNow.com)** A recent report from the Church of England's House of Bishops – a report rejected by both sides in the clergy – evidently did little to clarify the church's stance on homosexuality.

After studying the issue for a couple of years, the bishops published a report last month which upheld traditional, biblical teaching that marriage is a lifelong union of a man and woman. But in a clear blow to the authority of those church leaders, clergy who gathered in London last week at the church's general assembly voted narrowly (100-93) to reject the report.

Liberals in the Church of England, obviously, weren't happy with the report because it maintained that marriage is between a man and a woman – but neither were conservatives, says Jeff Walton with The Institute on Religion & Democracy. He explains conservatives felt the report appeared to give a "back door affirmation of same-sex relationships and practices."

"This rejection of this report is a

result of muddying the waters and not giving a consistent teaching and practice to how marriage between a man and a woman is to be treated in the church," he argues.

According to Walton, conservatives in the Church of England believe pastors should respond biblically when confronted with homosexuality.

"The correct response is that people should be guided towards repentance," he tells OneNewsNow. "And that means a change of direction in life – and anything that sort of says this is okay, even though it's outside of what the Bible instructs, is not consistent with a loving, Christian response."

He believes the Church of England is headed down a road of compromising with the culture rather than providing a gospel critique of it.

South Mississippi Senior Adult Conference  
Big Creek Baptist Church  
9:00 am, Tuesday, March 21st

## SENIOR SOURCES

byBecky Ulmer- becky.ulmer@jghms.com

## Too Sweet For Our Own Good

The last statistics I read gave a figure of over 400 (four hundred) million people worldwide have been diagnosed with diabetes. If you add to this number the ones who have the condition and have not been diagnosed, as the famous movie line went, "Houston, we have a problem!" With the distinction of being the "obese" state - the percentage of Mississippians with pre-diabetes and diabetes is alarming.

Diabetes results from the pancreas not producing an adequate amount of insulin or the body cells not responding to the insulin produced. Insulin is needed to metabolize carbohydrates. If a person knows that he/she is diabetic and carbohydrates directly influence blood sugar levels, why continue consuming them in the diet? It is more complicated than that.

A diabetic and/or their care-taker

must understand the condition, maintain keen awareness of the body's need to balance between diet and exercise and communicate with their health care provider.



There is no cure for diabetes, however with proper care most people can lead normal lives with better prognosis than in early years. Diet, exercise, smoking cessation, taking medications (when prescribed) and monitoring are vital to controlling diabetes. Early detection is very important in preventing damage to other organs affected by elevated glucose levels.

The symptoms of hyperglycemia (high blood sugar) are increased thirst, increased urination, increased perspira-

tion and hunger. There may be unexplained weight loss also. Significant elevation in glucose level can result in a "fruity" sweet odor to breath. Symptoms of hypoglycemia (low blood sugar) may include drowsiness, confusion, sweating, slurred speech and unconsciousness. Hypoglycemia is always a medical emergency - seek qualified help immediately!

If told you are in a pre-diabetic state or have been diagnosed with diabetes, a consultation with a dietitian in conjunction with your health care provider will be beneficial in understanding the importance of dietary needs and restrictions. At least annually, a diabetic should have an eye exam, cardiac exam, foot exam and a comprehensive medical exam from a qualified health care provider. The frequency of blood tests will be scheduled by your provider.

The care and resources for diabetics continue to improve. The basic needs

remain the same as mentioned in this article. "Adherence" (sticking to it) is a word we need to have more of when it comes to the instructions given. I challenge you to set the example for family and friends. Face it with prayer. God

will direct you in the selection of providers. Pray for understanding and a cooperative spirit. You have diabetes - diabetes does not have you.

Proverbs 3:5-6 - Trust in the Lord with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding. In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths.

Psalms 32:8 - I will instruct thee and teach thee in the way which thou shalt go; I will guide thee with mine eye.

Becky Ulmer is Nursing Home Administrator of Jasper County Nursing Home, Bay Springs, Mississippi. She is a member of First Baptist, Bay Springs.



## Are Our Worship Services Leaning The Wrong Direction?

By Grover Laird  
from *The Revivalist*

The television may have done more damage to this generation than we had thought. It may have even affected our church services. Because of what television has trained people to expect, many people will not waste (?) their time with something that does not move fast and entertain. Some churches are striving to satisfy those who expect these things in a church service. The services are therefore attended by a congregation who spends a good part of the time laughing at funny things, looking at one another with smiles of surprise, and clapping their hands to express their approval.

It seems that some do not understand that a church service is to do more than make people feel good. A service de-

signed to entertain will no doubt bring many people back next Sunday, but it may hinder the dear Lord from being back.

Why did the Lord ordain that churches come together in His House, around His Word, on His Day? I feel that the following verses will answer that question:

"O come, let us sing unto the LORD: let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our salvation. Let us come before his presence with thanksgiving, and make a joyful noise unto him with psalms. For the LORD is a great God, and a great King above all gods." (Psalms 95:1-3)

"O come, let us worship and bow down: let us kneel before the LORD our maker." (Psalms:95:6) "Give unto the LORD the glory due unto his name: bring an offering, and come into his courts O worship the LORD in the beauty of holiness: fear before him, all the earth." (Psalms 96:8,9)

Do these verses not tell us that our church services are to point Heavenward rather than

to ourselves? They are to turn toward Him who fills heaven and earth, the One from whence cometh our help.

The Lord spoke to Israel concerning their sacrifices that were dedicated unto Him and eaten in worship. Though this was as He ordained, there was something that concerned Him - "And when ye did eat, and when ye did drink, did not ye eat for yourselves, and drink for yourselves?" (Zechariah 7:6) They seemed to be more concerned with the physical pleasure they got out of eating the sacrifice, than they were the Spiritual pleasure God got out of it. If this is ever true with our church services, we will need to make some changes.

While our concern in church services should be that the Lord gets something out of them, we can be sure when that is accomplished we will get something out of them also. You see, when we strive to make the service for God's glory and pleasure, He will make it to our profit and pleasure.

I guess what I am trying to say is: when a person leaves church disappointed that he didn't get anything out of the service, maybe he should be reminded that what he got out of it is not really what matters. Did the great God that

"inhabiteth eternity" get something out of it? But be sure, when our great God gets the glory due unto His Name, people will get the blessing they need out of it; and this blessing will bring them back next Sun-

day to get another one like it. "Thou art worthy, O Lord, to receive glory and honour and power: for thou hast created all things, and for thy pleasure they are and were created." (Revelation 4:11)



Grover Laird

## Oak Grove Report

The Oak Grove Missionary Baptist Association will meet with Magnolia Baptist Church in Hattiesburg on March 16. The time of food and fellowship will begin around 6:00 p.m. with the service beginning at 7:00. Each church of the Association is encouraged to be represented by messenger.

Ed Steele, Reporter



## Sofilthy's Attic

by Barbara White

## Dumb Bulls and Fear

Years ago grown men were known to take a hollow log, attach a rope that had been beeswaxed up real good and use it to scare folks. When a hand slid down that rope it made a noise that could be heard for miles. It was a fearsome sound. It set dogs to howling, cats running, chickens squawking and if a person was outside he made every effort to get themselves into a house or shelter of some sort.

I have a wooden screen door on my back door and it has a latch on it made of pretty sturdy steel that goes into an "eye" to latch the door. Well, I heard about this man who was out in the yard when he heard that horrible rumbling noise of the dumb bull. His wife was inside the house with the screen door latched. He took off running to the house, but when he got there and found the door latched, he straightened that latch straight out! That dumb bull had caused fear to take him over.

We all have fears in our lives. Job said in Job 3:25, "For the thing which I greatly feared is come upon me, and that which I was afraid of is come unto me." Now balance that out with I John 4:18, "There is no fear in love; but perfect love casteth out fear....."