

# Baptist

## Mississippi

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## Some Important Things we All Should Know

Southeastern Baptist College Commencement Address 2012  
by Dr. Medrick Savell  
SBC President

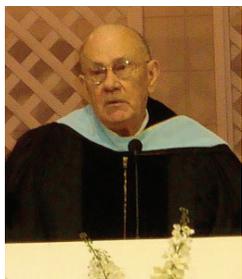
### Introduction

Proverbs 1:7, "The fear of the LORD is the beginning of knowledge." Proverbs 9:10, "The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom."

The term "fear of the LORD" means, "reverential trust, with hatred of evil."

These two verses tell us that, if you do not have the fear of the Lord, you have not started to learn things that are most important. It is wise to have that fear.

Congratulations to the graduates are in order. I congratulate you for staying with your goals and completing the requirements. You have gained much knowledge in the process. You have learned many things that will be helpful in life, if followed. I challenge you to continue to study, learn, and put it into practice. Make a Difference in This World!



Dr. Medrick Savell

Some may think that the things I speak about here are trivial, simple, or unimportant. I think they are most important.

### I. Know That You Are Saved

Salvation is something God does. "Whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved" (Romans 10:13). It comes by repentance and faith. Have you come to that point in your life? We can "know" it. Do you?

My testimony: I was saved 65 years ago this summer, when I was twelve years old. The church where my family were members was having revival services. The Spirit convicted me of my sin one night, but I did not tell anyone. My mother must

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## BMAA Arrangements Committee Invites Suggestions

The arrangements committee of the BMA of America invites suggestions for a meeting location for 2016. Potential locations must have convention center or hotel facilities with a meeting room capacity of at least 1300 for general sessions, nine break out rooms, and at least 400 hotel rooms that can be blocked for the meeting.

Suggestions should be sent to committee chairman Charles Attebery by e-mail (charles@lifeword.org) or by regular mail (2205 Pathway, El Dorado, AR 71730). The deadline for submitting suggestions is July 31, 2012.

## SOAR Serves Mission Arlington

SOAR is the BMA's annual conference that gathers students from all across America for three days of worship, fellowship and fun and when possible spends the first day serving the community where the conference meets. This year is no exception! SOAR 2012 participants will have the opportunity to minister to the Dallas Metroplex through the ministry of Mission Arlington.

Mission Arlington has been faithfully serving the Lord and the people of Arlington, Texas 364 days a year for more than

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## Making Everlasting Smiles

Ralph Izard, MD

It's the season again! Watch your mail for instructions and information on preparing the Christmas shoeboxes that will be sent to our missionaries and used to present the greatest gift of all, Jesus Christ.

The boxes will be sent this year to Micronesia and Cambodia. The children of both countries study English in their schools, so be sure to place an English Bible in each box.

Remember, Please... no candy of any type because it melts from the heat in the containers as they are shipped across the ocean. Since the boxes go to small children, we also ask that no ink pens be included because the children will chew on these pens.



In order to allow plenty of time for the boxes to arrive by Christmas, the due date for them to arrive at the BMAA warehouse in Little Rock is SEPTEMBER 1!

## "White Fields"

### SOAR 2012 – Youth Conference Registration Underway

The 2012 edition of SOAR is just weeks away! This youth conference is designed to minister to our future leaders. On July 4 - 6, thousands of students will converge on the Gaylord Texan Hotel in Grapevine, Texas, to enjoy three days of worship, friends and fun. This year's SOAR theme is titled, "White Fields" and will focus on Jesus' challenge in John 4:35, "I say unto you, Lift up your eyes, and look on the fields; for they are white already to harvest." The conference will urge students to pri-

oritize their lives around Jesus' mission.

SOAR 2012 will feature the dynamic teaching of Todd West, Pastor of Oasis Church in Maumelle, Arkansas; The inspiring worship music of Aaron Williams (formally of Solace Found), Worship Pastor at Fellowship Bible Church in Little Rock, Arkansas; The concert artistry of Lincoln Brewster; and the hilarious improv comedy of Panic Squad; The amazing and inspiring Joe Castillo's SandArt; SOAR Village, a "come hang out with

friends" arena filled with lots of food and fun; All at the incredible Gaylord Texan. Special SOAR rates for Six Flags over Texas and Hurricane Harbor opportunities have been secured. And finally, a service opportunity for your group to minister to Mission Arlington.

One of the new additions to SOAR 2012 is Aftermath. Aftermath is a time for students to gather following sessions to talk, share and pray about what they have just heard and experienced. Student pastors from across the BMA will be leading each Aftermath group.

Registration information for SOAR and the Gaylord Texan can be found at the DiscipleGuide website at [www.discipleguide.org/soar](http://www.discipleguide.org/soar).

## Commission on Senior Adults

Kenneth Flynt, Interim Director  
4226 Highway 15 North  
Laurel, Mississippi 39440

I am happy to report that our Senior Adult Conferences held in March and May were outstanding in every way. The host churches did an excellent job in providing everything that was needed for a wonderful day in the Lord. Everyone left rejoicing and looking forward to the next ones. Your senior members are deserving and appreciative of your support. Churches, you can be glad that your members are being thought of as you support them and stand behind them.

Special thanks to Big Creek Church, Soso, and Mt. Pleasant Church, Fulton, for hosting these conferences. 551 senior adults were ministered to in these meetings. Thought is being given as to other ministries that might be available for our Senior Citizens and programs that might prove a real

blessing to all. Pray for the ministry of the Commission and continue sending your financial support to Mrs. Dot Holifield, 658 Joe Perrett Rd., Laurel, MS 39440.

If your church is not supporting the Commission, you would be blessed by doing so. Just a little each month or a special offering would be appreciated and it would encourage your senior members to know of your interest in supporting their ministry.

Plans are already in the making for the next conferences. Pray for the trustees, interim director and others who are involved in this planning. We want to honor our Lord and to have meetings that are beneficial to the spiritual lives of all concerned.

Kenneth Flynt  
Interim Director

## Blaylocks Celebrate 50th Wedding Anniversary

Bro. & Mrs. James Blaylock celebrated their 50th Wedding Anniversary on May 3rd. James and Jo Ann met at Itawamba County High School, Fulton, Mississippi, in 1953. James was from Centerville Community and Jo Ann from the Hopewell Community in Itawamba County, Mississippi. They were married May 3, 1962, at Emmanuel Baptist Church in Tupelo, Mississippi, by their pastor, Bro. Milton Wright. They have lived their entire married life in Jacksonville, Texas, except for the three months in Tupelo.

Jo Ann, a registered nurse, completed a three-year program in 1961 at Sylacauga (Alabama) School of Nursing. She worked two years at North Mississippi Medical Center in Tupelo, and thirty-seven years as a charge nurse at Nan Travis Memorial Hospital/East Texas Medical Center in Jacksonville, retiring in 1998.

James is a graduate of Southeastern Baptist College, Laurel, Mississippi (A.A.), University of Texas at Tyler (B.A.), Texas A&M at Commerce (MSLS) and Baptist Missionary Association Theological Seminary, Jacksonville (Th.B., MRE, and D.D.). Licensed by



James & Jo Ann Blaylock

First Baptist Shady Grove, Laurel, Mississippi (1960) and ordained by First Baptist, Jacksonville (1962), he has been a Texas bi-vocational pastor for 50 years: Mt. Pleasant Baptist Church, Bedias (1962-64), Buena Vista Baptist Church, Timpson (1964-70), First Baptist Church, Maydelle (1970-86), and Corinth Baptist Church, Jacksonville (1968 - present). He has been with the BMA Seminary library 46 years (director since 1972). He was also with Baptist News Service for 30 years (1969-99).

The Blaylocks have two children: Jacquelyn Ann Bryan and

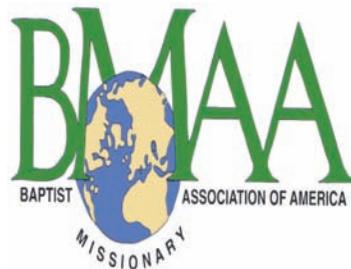
## SOAR Serves Mission Arlington

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two decades. The Mission Arlington staff is part of a wonderful community of caring people who give sacrificially so that people in need can receive the physical, spiritual and emotional support they need. Students who attend SOAR will be able to share in the joy of ministering to children and adults in the Dallas area and be the hands and feet of Jesus.

SOAR Serves Mission Arlington will take place on July 3rd from 10:00am-3:00pm at the Mission Arlington headquarters. Visit the website for more information on the opportunity to be a part of SOAR Serves.

SOAR 2012 is scheduled for July 4-6 at the Gaylord Texan in Grapevine, Texas. Hotel rooms are going fast. Secure your rooms now by calling the Gaylord at 1-866-782-7897 by June 1. SOAR group rate is \$114 per room with up to four to a room. You can register for SOAR on-line or by downloading a registration form at [www.discipleguide.org/soar](http://www.discipleguide.org/soar) and mailing it along with your check to the DCM office. Please note the DCM fax number was inadvertently listed as the office number on the SOAR postcard mail out. Please excuse any confusion or delay in attention due to this oversight. Please call the DCM office at 501-513-3726 with any questions.



husband Jeffrey of Pfeffalbach, Germany, and John Thomas Blaylock and wife Holly of Longview, Texas. Their five grandchildren are: David Austin Bryan and wife Amber of Yakima, Washington, Laura Abigail Bryan and fiancé David Hall of State College, Pennsylvania, Wende Suzanne Bryan of Hannibal, Missouri, Harrison James Blaylock of Longview, Texas, and Jackson Thomas Blaylock of Longview, Texas

## SBC Graduation Address

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have noticed something, for the next day she encouraged me to let the Lord have His way with me. I decided that I wanted to follow Jesus and He saved me. It is still real - more real now than ever. There have been no regrets! I know that I am saved.

Don't just think you are saved or hope you are. Know it! That is the most important thing you can know in life. "For what shall it profit a man, if he shall gain the whole world, and lose his own soul? Or what shall a man give in exchange for his soul?" (Mark 8:36-37).

### II. Know That the Bible is God's Word and It Is True

You should know that after going through a Bible college, where the Bible is primary and each class is taught from the Biblical world view.

The Bible is our rule of faith and practice. It is the source of what we believe and do. What we believe and do is not to be determined by majority rule or what is most popular at the time. It must be "Thus saith the Lord . . ."



2012 Graduating Class of Southeastern Baptist College

The Bible tells us what God wants us to know. He wants us to know that He loves us and wants to bless us. He also wants us to know that He is also a God of wrath. "The wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord" (Romans 6:23). He means what He says. He is in control. We don't have to worry about how we are going to make it, if we put Him first as He told us (Matthew 6:25-33).

We can trust Him. He will supply what we need. He keeps all His promises. I have found that to be true in my life and here at Southeastern Baptist College. I can't think of ONE thing He has failed to do.

### III. Know You Have a Great Future With Him

Know that you are in His will, not just doing what is popular. Then you can know that He will be with you here on earth. He can and will use you.

He has prepared a place for us. He will get us through here and carry us there. Loved ones are already there.

Living for Jesus will not be in vain! (I Corinthians 15:58; Hebrews 6:10).

I pray that God's blessings will be on you as you go from this place, or continue here.

## Gospel Sing

### Southeastern Baptist College

The Southmen Quartet

Calvary's Harmony Quartet

Friday June 22, 7:00 pm

Come hear old time traditional quartet singing

Tickets: \$10.00 in advance

\$12.00 at the door

Tickets can be purchased at Southeastern Baptist College  
Listen to a sample at [www.southmenquartet.com](http://www.southmenquartet.com)

# Galileans Celebrate 50 Years

Toward the end of 1961, a year in which associational membership had dropped to its lowest point since the year it began, Bro. D. O. Silvey had the foresight to realize that the N.A.B.A (now the B.M.A.) needed a ministry to young men that would help in leading them to salvation and aid in growing them into strong Christian men. Today we have changed a noun to a verb and coined the term "discipling" to describe what he had in mind. He contacted two men that he knew would have a passion for such a ministry to put together such a ministry for presentation at the national associational meeting coming up in the spring of 1962. These two men were Paul Bearfield in Ashdown, Arkansas, and Jim Courtney in Magnolia, Arkansas. These two commenced their effort in early 1962, meeting together in Ashdown and by phone and working individually on the portions that they agreed to take on.

Paul composed most of the steps and work areas and Jim assembled most of the rest of what is now found in the Galilean manual such as the theme song (at that time Footsteps of Jesus). Bro. Silvey reviewed their work, made suggestions and cleared it for presentation to the association. When the association met in Joplin, Missouri, in 1962 this work was presented and wholeheartedly approved. The publications department proceeded to print the manuals and local churches began to pursue this

ministry shortly thereafter. The manual has been revised and updated twice since then



and a companion work book has been added as well.

Within a couple of years the first national Galilean camp was held at Daniel Springs. It was both a time of great fun and fellowship and a time of deep spiritual commitment. The boys were split into teams to compete in a variety of activities during a gathering early in the week out on the camp field north of the tabernacle. But there was a distraction. Every time the leaders thought they had the boys' attention to organize into teams and explain the plans for the activities, an armadillo would run across the field. The armadillo was much more entertaining than any of the leaders.

Finally, the leaders sensed their defeat at the hands of the armadillo and challenged the boys to catch that armadillo. The great chase ensued and continued for a time but, in the end, no armadillo was in the possession of the pursuers. Having exerted themselves and still panting and sweating, the boys reassembled and the objective, previously abandoned, to organize for the week's activities was accomplished. At the time of registration, seven of the boys were listed as not having accepted Christ as their savior. Attendance was small

enough that meeting assemblies were held in the area behind the canteen. At the end of the worship service there in that area, all seven of those boys had come to know Christ as their savior.

Since 1962 many young men have come to know Christ and been aided in their Christian growth through the ministry of the Galileans. Many of these are now Galilean leaders themselves. These men are pastors, missionaries, associational leaders, engineers, school teachers, insurance agents, mechanics, photographers, factory workers, carpenters, etc. There have been 62 young men complete the requirements to be awarded the rank of Ambassador. These men are Followers of Christ and Leaders of Others and they have a special bond with each other because of their time spent together in Galileans.

At national Galilean camp this summer, June 5-8, a year long celebration of the 50th year of the Galileans will kick off. We will look back at the past with special guests from then, consider the present by looking at our strengths and weaknesses and look toward to the future as we march forth as Followers of Christ and Leaders of Others. As part of the celebration, we are inviting Galileans and Galilean leaders, current and former, to communicate to us some of the specifics with regard to how their lives have been blessed by the

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# "In My Day"

## From The Mind of



Chuck Lee

It's hard to imagine leaving this world in the hands of the generation coming up behind me. Maybe it wouldn't be so hard if there had been some warning of their approach, but they just crept up silently like a cat about to pounce on an unsuspecting

bird. It kind of gave me a shock to look over my shoulder to see them crouched down with their steely, glaring gaze peering upon me. Having a hungry stare and licking their lips was sort of unnerving. I suppose our older generation looks like the weaker gazelle in the herd that is having a hard time keeping up in the flight across the tundra. Sooner or later, the younger crowd will overtake us and we will have to give way.

Pondering this revelation has me thinking that perhaps it is time to start imparting my vast wisdom upon these upstarts. It has also given me a migraine. I mean... we will have to leave the fate of the human race in the hands of the younger generation! I need to lie down, but there is no time for rest with the problem at hand.

In my day, there was respect for older people. A man could steal hogs, start a fight, and be a Democrat and we would still have to call him "Mister". "There goes Mr. Thompson. Wave to him as the nice policemen handcuffs him and hauls him off to jail, children". We would all dutifully wave. "Byeee, Mr. Thompson! See you in a few years!"

In my day, I don't remember people being so sensitive and politically correct, either. It was not uncommon to have a child yanked up from the pew and dragged down the aisle during a church service for the flimsy reason of throwing spit balls across the aisle at

his best friend Harold, the whole time pleading for the congregation to "PRAY FOR ME THAT I WOULD BE DELIVERED FROM THIS EVIL"! I personally researched this technique on several occasions and never once was I delivered from this evil. It made me wonder if these churchgoers ever really prayed for me and if they did I sure wasn't going to call on them in a real emergency. Nobody even blinked an eye at this disturbance. Well, one time Deacon Horace woke up from his nap cause he thought the service was over, but that was only the one time. Nowadays, everybody in church would give the daddy the evil eye because he was "mistreating little Johnny" and would probably bring him before the church for disciplinary action. They might even give him a "timeout".

In my day, we had to listen as an older person told the same story over and over because he had forgotten that he had already told it five hundred times previously. If I have a dazed look, a fake smile, and nod my head while you are talking to me, it is because I had to listen to the same story over and over

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## Piano CDs for Churches to Sing By!

If your church doesn't have a pianist or needs an option for when your pianist isn't available, Christian piano CDs can be a wonderful solution for your congregational singing or small group gatherings. The challenge is finding accompaniment CDs with instrumentation appropriate for your congregation or small group - and one that is easy to use. Worship Service Resources provides a solution! At DiscipleGuide we are partnering with them to make these worship resources available to you. Log onto [www.DiscipleGuide.org/PianoCDs](http://www.DiscipleGuide.org/PianoCDs) or call 1-800-333-1442.



**DiscipleGuide**  
CHURCH RESOURCES  
1-800-333-1442, [www.DiscipleGuide.org](http://www.DiscipleGuide.org)

## Religious Book Sale at Southeastern College Library

After extensive "weeding" of the SBC Library book collection, there is a huge selection of religious books available for purchase. These books would be an excellent addition to any church library or to any minister's personal library, as subjects available include: - Church History - Christian Life - Old Testament & New Testament Studies - Sermon Outlines - Bible Commentaries - Biblical/Christian Doctrine - Baptist History - Pastoral Work & Counseling - Church Administration/Government.

All books are only \$1.00! Funds raised from this book sale will be used to purchase business books to support SBC's new Bachelor's Degree in Business Administration.

Feel free to drop by the library during our regular operating hours to browse through the sale items. We are open Mondays & Tuesdays 8:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. and 1:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m. and on Wednesdays & Thursdays 8:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

# Mississippi Baptist Opinion Page

Journal of the Baptist Missionary Association of Mississippi

## Spitting In God's Face

In reading many reports and following the recent news that the President of the United States has **endorsed** so-called 'same sex marriage', I read one report that stated the decision (and surely it was not a recent revelation by President Obama) was literally "spitting in the face of God".

I have to agree with this description. I must also say that it comes as no surprise to me to hear the President make this statement.

It appears on the surface to be a political move to help his standing with certain of his supporting groups. Politics is one of those areas that causes people to say things and take positions that they normally would not do, in order to gain political favor from those who can help them keep their jobs. Statesmanship seems to be a rare trait in most of our current public servants.

Another disturbing revelation is the number of so-called religious leaders that are siding with the president and urging others to 'evolve' in their position on this issue. If there is anything that a believer in Christ cannot do, it is to allow their beliefs and acceptance of those things that God calls an abomination, to evolve to the level of those who would change the very words of God.

I fully expect many liberal leaders of religious groups to support the President's view. Some already have. I expect those who are true believers in Christ to stand their theological ground and stand on God's Word. It will come as no surprise to this writer if God's churches and faithful pastors are soon pressured by our government to not only recognize such mandated unions, but be pressured to perform them.

The entertainment industry as a whole is fully behind this movement and as such we are soon to see more TV shows and movies promoting this point of view. Let us be firm in our resolve to be faithful to God and His word and to elect godly individuals to represent us. It will behoove us to speak up loudly to proclaim as sin and against human nature that which these are promoting.

Our forefathers were correct when they stated that the government they gave us would only work for a God fearing people. We have passed the point in history when our nation was as a whole considered such. May God help us to turn the tide and restore our country to its founding principles.

The Prophet Isaiah gave this warning, "Woe unto them that call evil good, and good evil; that put darkness for light, and light for darkness; that put bitter for sweet, and sweet for bitter!"

Spitting in the face of God is a dangerous action for any people.



Don Brown  
Editor

## Chuck Lee

from page 3

a thousand times when I was younger. But because we were raised to respect our elders, we listened and pretended that it was the first time we had heard the story. If I ever tell the same story over and over, just nod and smile. Hmm. Maybe that is why my congregation nods and smiles while I am preaching. Most of them come from the age of respecting the minister. By the way, remind me to tell you of the story of a man in our town named Mr. Thompson who stole hogs, started fights, and was a Democrat. It's a good story.

Speaking of respecting ministers, calling one by his first name was just short of blasphemy according to my parents. In my day, you never said "Hey, Joe, or See you later, Bob" when speaking to a minister. It was always, "Hey Brother Joe, or See you later, Brother Bob". Minister's wives were always referred to as "Sister". I always hated to see the preacher coming up the driveway. Mom always made us behave in front of the minister. It cramped my style.

Anyway, it's time I started instructing this younger generation on how to take over when I get too weak to run with the herd. Nothing speaks louder than experience, and that is something you have a lot of when you get older. It reminds me of the time before school buses and I had to walk to school barefooted in two foot snow up hill both ways while evading ravenous packs of rabid wolves. I always avoided Mr. Thompson's house because I didn't like the smell of hogs. Speaking of Mr. Thompson, did I ever tell you about him stealing hogs, starting fights, and being a Democrat? It's a great story.

Church of the Covered Dish BY THOMAS TAPP



"So, using the ORIGINAL meaning of the word 'gay' I support 'gay' marriage."

## EVANGELISM EXPLOSION CLASS

Offered by the BMA Theological Seminary

At First Baptist Church of Mantachie  
July 23-27, 2012

May be taken for Masters Credit or audited

### REGISTER EARLY

(Some work needs to be done before coming to class)

Call the seminary to see about details.

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Jacksonville, TX 75766

903-586-2501 or 1-800-259-5673

Email: bmatsem@bmatsem.edu

Web site: <http://www.bmatsem.edu>

Biblical Evangelism/Discipleship

EV 511/512/521

Dr. Charley Holmes & Dr. Philip Attebery

## Positions open at FBC Shady Grove

Positions for Youth Minister and Children's Director are open at First Baptist Church of Shady Grove in Laurel, Mississippi. If interested, please send resume to First Baptist Church of Shady Grove, 4514 Hwy 15 North, Laurel, MS 39443. Send to the attention of Bro. Danny Pitts or phone 601-426-6098.

## AVAILABLE FOR SERVICE

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

### Phillip Hunt

Bro. Phillip Hunt, a member of Movella Baptist Church, Lucedale, is available for pulpit supply as the Lord leads. He may be reached at 601-947-0826.

### Dale Wirick

Dale Wirick is available for pulpit supply. He may be reached by calling 228-623-5466 or 228-934-6465.

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# I'm So Lonesome I Could Cry

A few years ago, Billy Graham called "loneliness" one of the greatest problems facing America. We have evolved into a society that is fast-paced, constantly moving around and disconnected. For most families, it is only ancient history to have one's entire family living in the same close-knit community just a few minutes apart. Everyone goes to the same family church and the same schools. While that still exists, it is rare these days.

Jobs often times require people to move off. College studies have children move away, and often times, never move back to the same neighborhood where they grew up. With the high rate of divorce, many families move to start over, leaving a trail of children

along the way. Finally, we have become a society that basically is preoccupied with self. We pay people to keep our children. We pay people to keep care of our parents when they grow older. In times gone by, there was no question where aging parents would live when they became less mobile or dependent. They simply moved in with their adult children.

Families took care of one another. You didn't drop your kids off at daycare. If you worked outside the home, you would leave your kids with a relative. You might take your kids with you while you worked on the farm. Kids had their own chores on the farm to perform. That is not the norm for American society today. You might

think that married people would never be lonely either. However, according to some recent sociological studies, some of the loneliest people were actually wives whose husband was gone to work all the time, or who simply was not there for her mentally and emotionally.

You can be involved in a marriage, and even have children and still be lonely. If everyone is so busy going about their own pursuits, you can find yourself living in the midst of a people without intimacy. No connection. These problems are only exacerbated by the destructive forces known as the cell phone and Facebook.

People are increasingly isolating themselves from one-on-one relationships. It is easier just to communicate via a text message. No emotions. No eye contact. You can also just about order anything on line. You don't even have to interact with the store merchant anymore. The end result is that people live several years of their life separated from loved ones. This can result in extreme loneliness. Loneliness gives rise to other emotions. Depression, discouragement, bitterness, anger and isolation are all common feelings associated with someone who spends so much time by themselves. And there is no neat answer for this one.

People have to work. People have busy schedules. But what kind of people have we become if we are too busy to take care of our loved ones and interact with them? What kind of parents are we, if we are so busy pursuing making money that we ignore spending a lot of time interacting with our children? Time and intimacy and interaction can't be bought. It can't be

experienced with the child out on the soccer field and the parents in the bleachers. Intimacy occurs by people interacting face to face in close proximity to one another. Touching, hugging, smiling, talking, sharing etc. are all a part of relationships that are healthy.

We need to reevaluate our priorities in our homes. We need to mark things off the calendar. We need to shut off our phones. Shut off our computers. Get our family and go out on the back porch and just visit with one another. We need to do devotions with the Bible. We need to eat meals together as a family and not on the go at a restaurant.

We need to see a real ministry opportunity to spend 15 minutes per month visiting an elderly person. That is all it takes to change a life. You don't have to bake cookies. You don't have to have constant, witty conversation. Just drop by on your way home from work or school and give a smile and a little conversation. It could be to a relative, but there are millions of senior adults whose families are far away

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## Happy Birthday To Me! But Give My Gifts to Jesus!

by Rocky Goodwin, EIM Director

On May 5, we experienced something we had not experienced before here at Evangelistic International Ministries. We've had children and youth to be here at the warehouse and work in our Shepherd Bags Ministry but never in a way that we had on this day. The following article was written by Elaina Reddin's mother Recca about this very special day in Elaina's life. Elaina and her family are members of Calvary Baptist Church in Warren, AR.



Elaina Reddin's Mission Themed Birthday

Local girl Elaina Reddin celebrated her ninth birthday on Saturday, May 5th in a very unusual way. Elaina is a very imaginative and giving little girl, who decided that she would rather give than to receive on her special day. She asked to have a missionary themed birthday day, and that's exactly what she got! The party was hosted by Rocky Goodwin, a local EIM missionary, at EIM headquarters in Warren. EIM is a nonprofit organization that reaches out to children around the world through the Shepherd Bags Ministry. A Shepherd Bag is a one gallon zip-loc bag containing soap, toothpaste, a toothbrush, smarties candy, pencils, colors, small toys and most importantly, the message of God's love. The party was attended by sixteen children who had the opportunity to learn about the wonderful work that missionaries do.

They played missionary themed games, whacked a globe shaped piñata, and best of all, they got to assemble Shepherd Bags that will be sent to Honduras, Africa, Nicaragua, and the Philippines. Many of the children were very excited to know that the bag they were assembling would soon be in the hands of a child so very far away. Elaina requested that in lieu of birthday gifts, donations could be made to the Shepherd Bags Ministry.

During her party 400 Shepherd Bags were assembled and \$244 was collected to purchase more supplies. When asked how she felt about her party she responded, "It was AWESOME!!!" When Elaina grows up she plans to be a dentist. She wants to establish a dental ministry that spreads healthy smiles and God's love all over the world. I think she's off to a great start! For more information about EIM contact [www.eimworldwide.org](http://www.eimworldwide.org)

## Galileans Celebrate 50

from page 3

Galilean ministry.

For more details of what we are looking for and options on how to communicate it, see our web site at [www.Galileans.com](http://www.Galileans.com). We would love to hear from you in this regard and would like to invite you to participate in our celebration in whatever way that you can including joining us at national Galilean camp, even if it is only for a single service.

For those whose church is without a Galilean group, we invite you to attend national Galilean camp as well. During our class time on Wednesday and Thursday morning, we are planning a special class for boys and another for potential leaders without a Galilean group in their church.

To contact our national promoter or assistant national promoter with questions about starting a group, see the instructions on the web site cited above. We will be happy to assist in such an effort in any way that we can including visits to your church.

### Pine Ridge Revival

Pine Ridge Baptist Church, Laurel, will hold revival services June 3rd - 8th. Sunday services will be starting at 10:00 with dinner on grounds to follow and Monday-Friday services will be at 7:00 p.m. On Sunday - Tuesday Bro. Randy Clark will bring the messages and Wednesday - Friday Bro. Johnny Williams will bring the messages. Bro. Michael McKnight will be leading music.



## Sofilthy's Attic

by Barbara White

### The Choice To Rejoice

I read a little sayin' the other day that said: "it's not that life has been easy, perfect, or exactly as expected. I just choose to be HAPPY and GRATEFUL no matter how it turns out."

We DO have that choice, you know. When someone tells me to have a good day, I usually respond: "I'm planning to and you know, that's half the battle!" It's fun to watch for the response to that.

David planned to have a good day when he wrote, "This is the day which the LORD hath made; we will rejoice and be glad in it." I would say he made a choice, would you?

## GMA Girls

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

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

### National GMA Retreat Set for June 12-15

The 2012 National GMA Retreat will be held June 12-15 at Daniel Springs Camp in Gary, Texas. The theme is “Be Right Back,” and the theme verse is “Behold, I am coming soon...” (Rev. 22:12)

The cost is \$115 for cabins and \$125 for dorms. To register, go to [www.discipleguide.org](http://www.discipleguide.org) and click on Camps, where you'll find the registration information as well as the mandatory background check information and medical release forms. Director of Youth Auxiliaries:

This year's camp pastor is Donny Parrish, chief creative officer at Lifeword Media Ministries, VSM director and conference ministry director for DiscipleGuide. The 2012 project is 50% Daniel Springs Encampment, 45% Joplin Tornado Relief Fund and 5% GMA General Fund. The goal for this year is \$25,000. Please send project money by May 1 or as soon as possible to our National GMA Treasurer: Ruby Poteet, 8303 Middle Warren Rd., Pine Bluff, AR 71603. For more information, contact her at (870) 879-1378 or [rwp8303@aol.com](mailto:rwp8303@aol.com).

• Talent — “GMAs Got Talent” will be held in place of Afterglow this year on Wednesday night. If you have girls who would like to participate with a song or skit, please contact National GMA Song Leader Haven Townsend at [xoxo\\_haven\\_xoxo@yahoo.com](mailto:xoxo_haven_xoxo@yahoo.com) as soon as possible.

• Special Time — Shining Stars, a special time for all girls in the Maiden through Princess Steps, is planned for Wednesday morning of our retreat.

• Queens' Day — Mrs. Carol Taylor has planned a very exciting event for Queens Day on Wednesday. Girls should wear comfortable clothes and shoes.

• Coronation — The theme for the 2012 National GMA Coronation is “LOL: Live Out Loud,” based on James 1:19-27. If your girls want to participate in the Coronation Wednesday night, you must send names, church, state and step completed of the girls partici-

pating in the Coronation by May 1 to: Mrs. Teel Witt, P.O. Box 503, Palmer, TX 75152. For more information, contact her at (972) 935-2473 or [twitt98@yahoo.com](mailto:twitt98@yahoo.com)

• Miss/Jr. Miss — State Promoters are asked to send their state's Miss and Jr. Miss GMA participant's folders as soon as possible to our National GMA Promoter: Jayna Williams, P.O. Box 321, Mineola, TX 75773. For more information, contact her at (903) 258-0284 or [jaynaw@gmail.com](mailto:jaynaw@gmail.com).

• Fundraising — Fundraising projects at camp this year will include Silent Auction, Officer Competition, Candy Grams, Grab Bags and Buttons. First Vice-President Addie Bender has challenged each girl or each GMA group to decorate an electronic device (computer, phone, I-pad, I-pod, etc.) and fill it with money. Be creative! Enlist your church to help fill it with loose change for the National Project. The electronic devices will be judged at retreat. We will also have a special GMA T-shirt Quilt in the silent auction this year! Bids will start high for this item, so bring your check-books!

• Project — Please pray about nominations for our 2012 – 2013 National GMA Project. If you have a nomination, please submit it by 1:30 Wednesday afternoon to Mrs. Robin Clark. Each nomination should be signed by a counselor and should include the name of the church and the cabin number.

• T-Shirts — Retreat T-shirts will be sold for \$12. They will be charcoal gray with the theme in neon yellow on the front left chest area. The back of the t-shirt will have a smart phone and the theme verse in neon yellow. Orders are due May 15 and should be sent to Ruby Poteet at the address shown above.

• Officer Nominations — Girls should prayerfully consider serving as a National GMA Officer. Those who want to be nominated must have the approval of their family, counselor and pastor before coming

to retreat. Nomination Forms should be turned in by 7 p.m. Tuesday to Mrs. Robin Clark.

Forms for National Officer Nominees, T-Shirt orders and Coronation Participants may be found on the National GMA website: [www.nationalgma.com](http://www.nationalgma.com) under Retreat Information. You may also contact Mrs. Clark via e-mail to receive a copy of the National GMA Newsletter 2012 which contains specific camp information as well as all forms.

Looking forward to seeing you at National GMA Retreat in June!

— Robin Clark, national director of youth auxiliaries, 191 Hwy 285 N, Greenbrier, AR 72058; (501) 679-4867; [robinclark@windstream.net](mailto:robinclark@windstream.net)

### Hobolochitto District WMA

The Hobolochitto District WMA met at Mt. Calvary Baptist Church, Picayune, on Saturday, April 28. After opening prayer Chris Evans brought a devotion entitled “Tim”. It was taken from Ecclesiastes 3:1-8.

Diane Lee was our speaker for the day. She gave a report on the work she and her husband Doug will be doing in the Philippines. Bro. Wayne Rice brought the sermon from Mark 14 on ‘Denying Jesus’. We heard a report by Gretchen Lee on the National WMA meeting in Jackson.

Our next meeting will be at Mt. Carmel Church on July 28. Debbie Lott, reporter

## Mississippi W.M.A.

**Blinda Lee, President**  
77 Morrow Rd., Purvis, MS 39475  
601-596-3417  
[blinda.lee@lamarcountyschools.org](mailto:blinda.lee@lamarcountyschools.org)

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

### Meet The New National WMA President

- Carolyn Colvert

Carolyn Colvert is eminently qualified to serve the National WMA as President because of her spiritual training, her leadership, her education, and her service through WMA.

Carolyn grew up in Springdale, Arkansas; the daughter of a BMA pastor, Bro. Lee Norman and his wife, Irene. She is married to Bro. Kenneth Colvert, former pastor and youth director. He now serves as Galilean director on all levels from the local church to the National BMA work. She was saved at the age of fifteen at New Hope Baptist Church, Springdale, Arkansas. She has served the local church in the following positions: Sunday School teacher, Bible study teacher, GMA counselor, church clerk, and church pianist.

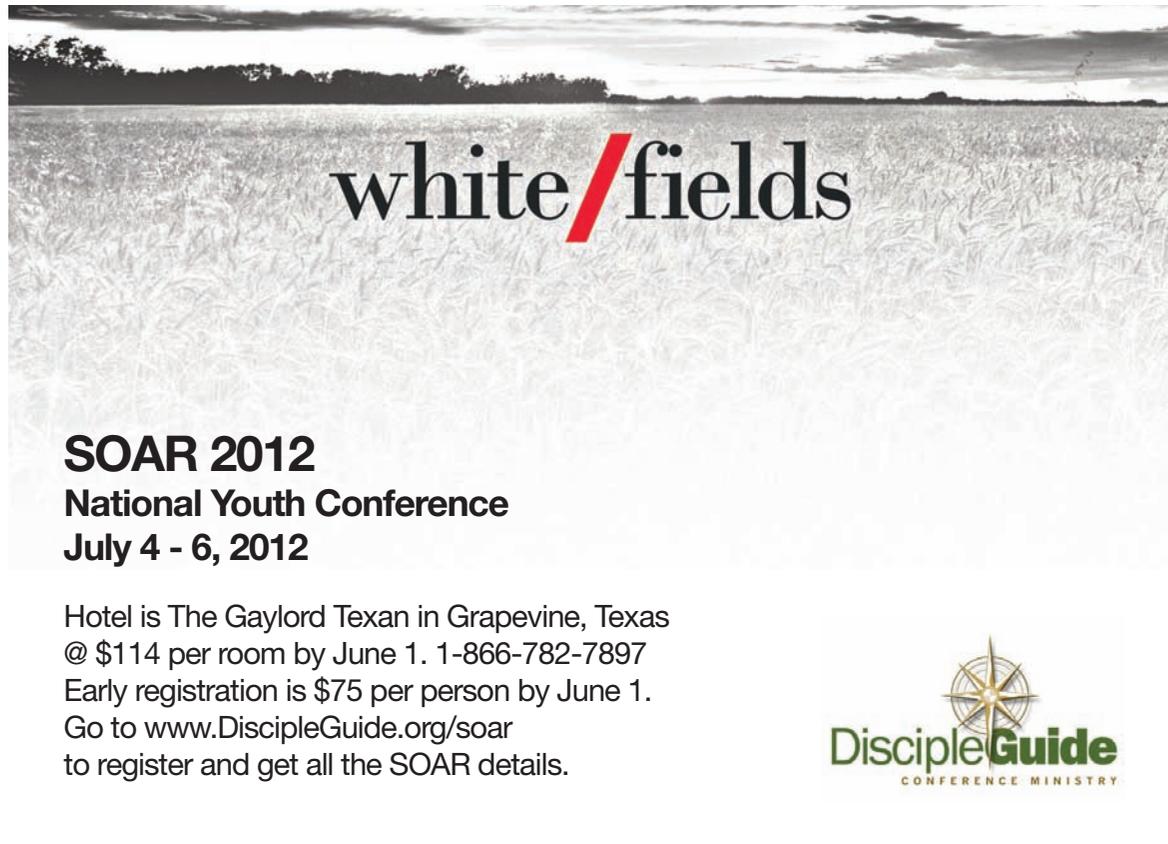
She is a member of Denver Street Baptist Church in Greenwood, Arkansas, where she serves as Administrative Assistant, treasurer, and Sunday school coordinator. Carolyn has earned the following educational degrees from institutions of higher learning in Arkansas: Associate of Arts (A.A.) from Central Baptist College, Conway; B.S.E., English, from UCA, Conway; M.S.E., Elementary Education, Arkansas State University; and Ed. S., Curriculum and Instruction, Arkansas State University.

She has used her educational training as a classroom teacher for twenty years, an elementary principal for one year, Instructional Specialist for thirteen years, and Sebastian County Supervisor, Children and Family Services, for seven years. She has served in the WMA as president of the local church auxiliary in three different churches; as President of the United District WMA; Arkansas state president, and I Vice President on the national level.

She holds these offices currently—II vice president, United District WMA, II vice president of the Arkansas state WMA, and missions' teacher at Denver Street Baptist Church WMA. Carolyn's hobbies are travel, photography, and music (piano).

Pray for Carolyn as she serves as President of the National WMA that God will use her to inspire the ladies in WMA across America to give of themselves to serve Christ and others this year through missions, benevolence, Bible study, evangelism, youth auxiliaries, and Christian education.

Shirlene Smith, National WMA Editor



**white / fields**

**SOAR 2012**  
**National Youth Conference**  
**July 4 - 6, 2012**

Hotel is The Gaylord Texan in Grapevine, Texas  
@ \$114 per room by June 1. 1-866-782-7897  
Early registration is \$75 per person by June 1.  
Go to [www.DiscipleGuide.org/soar](http://www.DiscipleGuide.org/soar)  
to register and get all the SOAR details.



## The Master's Builders work at Church Camps

by Nelda Malone, reporter

On March 19th, six of The Master's Builders and some of their wives traveled to Smithville, Arkansas, to work at Stoneridge Camp. They added a new bathroom for the girls dorm. Thanks to Scott Small, camp director, for all his help.

On May 2nd, thirteen of The Master's Builders and their wives traveled to Gary, Texas, to work at Daniel Springs Camp. The Builders worked in conjunction with Round Prairie Church of Fairfield, Texas.

Round Prairie had already remodeled one cabin and asked the Builders to help on another. Jeff Morgan, of Round Prairie, also worked with the Builders while they were there. While there, Bro.



Clinton Everitt of Beacon Church, Bryan, Texas, asked the Builders to help on work on the cabin their church had "adopted". Bro James Speer, camp ministry director, had a few extra projects that the Builders worked on.

Please remember, if your church has building needs and would like for The Master's Builder's to come and help, contact Bro John Mangum, office coordinator, at 318-205-5155 or his cell 318-607-4100 or Eddie Sikes, field coordinator, at 903-

725-6549 or his cell 479-462-1675.

If working with us sounds like something you would enjoy, contact one of these men for additional information. We love each other and really enjoy working together for the Lord.

## CHILDREN'S HOME

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

Those Who Have Gone Before

In a few days we will honor the many who have given their lives to preserve the liberties and freedoms that we hold dear as Americans. On this Memorial Day may we give thanks to God for the sacrifices they made on our behalf of which for many it was the ultimate sacrifice of dying for their country.

As we honor those patriots of America it is also fitting to show our heart-felt appreciation for the many soldiers of faith. The Apostle Paul was one such true patriot of faith. He gave his last words to Timothy to us in 2 Timothy 4:6-8. "For I am now ready to be offered, and the time of my departure is at hand. I have fought a good fight, I have finished my

course, I have kept the faith: Henceforth there is laid up for me a crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, shall give me at that day: and not to me only, but unto all them that love His appearing."

Paul was able to look back on his life and say, "I have fought a good fight." We can think of others who too have gone before us that have the same testimony and we thank the Lord for their faithfulness. Praise God for the memories of these patriots of faith!



SIDNEY DAVIS  
DIRECTOR

### Planting Time



I guess by now most have begun to plant their gardens? For the past few weeks there has been some planting done at the Home. The first thing that was high on the list to plant was tomatoes. Then the peppers, squash, watermelons, cantaloupes, okra, peas and etc. At this particular time of the year we notice the growth of new vegetation. That's when

we look to the Lord for His blessing to shower His rain and sunshine on our efforts. May this time of growth and growing of our gardens and crops be a loving reminder to us that we have a caring, loving, and faithful Heavenly Father that is constantly aware of our every need.

Continue to remember the Home in your prayers.

## VSM Basketball Team Travels to Ukraine

This year's VSM (Volunteer Student Missions) Basketball team will travel once again to Ukraine to work with missionaries Laura and Andrey

Kanaykina. This is the third year the team has ministered in Ukraine, specifically in the city of Uzhgorod where a team of Baptist have moved to estab-



**Back Row:** Stan Scroggins, FBC Magnolia, AR.; Garrett Russell, FBC Magnolia, AR.; Dillon Harper, Olhman Missionary Baptist Church, Buckner, MO.

**Middle Row:** Turner Harper, Farley Street Baptist Church Palmer, TX.; Martez Wells, Bethel Baptist Church Nettleton, MS.; Andrey & Laura Kanaykina, Webb Chapel Baptist Church, Irpin, Ukraine.

**Front Row:** Jimmy Walker, FBC Magnolia, AR.; Ty Gebauer, Oak Grove Baptist Church, Canton, TX.; Brandon Watson, FBC Magnolia, AR.

lish a new church. This year the team plans to promote the new church work with three man basketball tournaments around the city, exhibition games, television appearances, and witnessing. Each student will have opportunities to give a personal testimony, a Bible character study and a Bible object lesson during each game time. A highlight of this year's mission will be working with two Gypsy camps outside the city of Uzhgorod. Gypsies are basically "untouchables" in Ukraine. Churches have been established in each camp and he team will work with children singing, telling Bible stories and distributing Shepherd Bags. The team will travel June 30-July 10. Next year's trip is already being planned. New players are always being recruited. Any young men in high school or college interested can make application at the BMAA Missions web site [www.bmaamissions.org](http://www.bmaamissions.org). Students can also inquire while at the SOAR student conference.

*We are not going to heaven by the  
"rocket of reason" or the "ladder of logic",  
but by the "railroad of redemption" -  
the old T & O - trust and obey.*

*-Adrian Rogers*

# MISSISSIPPI MISSIONS

4226 HIGHWAY 15 NORTH, LAUREL, MISSISSIPPI 39440  
601-428-8616 - WWW.BMAMS.ORG

On Tuesday, May 22, the churches from all over Mississippi will gather at First Baptist Church of Mantachie, for the Midyear meeting of the BMA of Mississippi. I hope you are able to attend. I will share a complete report of the progress our Missions endeavors then.

God continues to do amazing things that can only be explained as His goodness and kindness toward us. The Missionary committee met on May 9th and approved/endorsed another church planting missionary.

Bro. Bobby Elliott will serve as a church planting missionary to Burnsville. Forked Oak Baptist Church, Pastor Rickey Johnson, is the sponsoring church. Bro. Elliott is also supported by the Tombigbee and Harmony Associations. This brings our number of missionaries to 7, with 4 being added just since February. We still have other applications out and expect to add additional missionaries in the near future. You can find out more information and see more photos at our website [www.bmams.org](http://www.bmams.org).



Bobby Elliott

Our average total monthly outlay is approximately \$28,500.00. "Special Emphasis continues through May". We need to increase the number of churches giving to State Missions. Our hope is that churches which have previously stopped giving to State Missions, will start giving again. We need every church in the BMA of Mississippi to help.

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Larry Geraldson  
Director

**Revolving Loan Fund** - (as of April 30th and since August 1, 2011)

Gross assets are now at \$15,267,982.50, an increase of \$985,845.39. Net assets are now at \$2,709,277.66, an increase of \$196,876.97. We have opened 20 new investment accounts totaling \$749,727.27. We have 10 new loans totaling \$1,174,497.89.

## Missions & Evangelism Conference

We had a wonderful meeting with great preaching, missionary reports and music. Skyway Hills did a wonderful job hosting the meeting. All of our State departments were represented, pastors from every association attended, and people from up and down the state participated. I was really pleased with the turnout. During the banquet, I presented a list of 35-target locations and challenged our churches to take

the first step in a 5-year strategy which will lead to churches planted in these areas. We now have 10 churches that have agreed to take that first step. As I visit our local associations, I hope this number will go up. My goal is to sign up 35 churches to participate in this first step. Please mark your calendar now on May 3, 2013, as, Lord willing, the date of the 55th Annual Missions and Evangelism Conference.

## Evangelism Explosion Course Offered By the Seminary

Dr. David Erickson, from the BMAA Seminary, joined us at the conference and shared information about an upcoming Evangelism Explosion course offered by the seminary. All of our missionaries will be participating in this Evangelism Explosion course July 23-27 at First Baptist Church, Mantachie. More information, including registration and cost information, will be posted to our website under the menu tab "Events." We are encouraging our churches to send at least two people to this training. You do not have to be a student. The course can be audited.

## Missionary Reports for April

*El Camino (The Way)* - Bro. Estuardo reported 50 homes visited, 125 soul talks, 35 professions of faith and 0 baptisms. Their average attendance is 103. His offerings averaged \$799.00 weekly. El Camino's mission project in Petal is av-



Estuardo Marriquin

eraging 6 and they had 0 professions of faith.

*First Hispanic* - Bro. Elvis reports 35 homes visited, 89 soul talks, and 0 professions of faith and 1 baptism. Their average attendance is 80. His offerings averaged \$1,181.00 weekly. Bro. Elvis continues to work with a new mission group in Tupelo which meets in the fellowship hall of South Green Baptist Church. The Tupelo mission is averaging 15 each week.



Elvis Garcia

*New Heart Mission* - Bro. Ray Boone reports 175 homes visited, 78 soul talks, and 1 profession of faith and 0 baptisms. Their average attendance is 42 in AM attendance and 30 in the PM Service. New Heart's offerings averaged \$296.00 weekly.



Ray Boone

*Caledonia Mission* - Bro. Bob Burch reports 17 homes visited, 13 soul talks. Bro. Burch is planning an initial meeting for May 20th at the Chamber of Commerce building in Caledonia. A number of churches will be assisting in a canvassing effort the day before.



Bob Burch

*Clinton Mission* - Bro. Justin Rhodes reports 14 homes visited and 28 soul talks. He also had 1 profession of faith and an average offering of \$215.00 weekly. With two families committed to the work in Clinton, Bro. Justin is searching for a temporary meeting location. Please continue to pray for the work in Clinton.



Justin Rhodes

*South Forrest* - Bro. Sidney Farmer reports 12 homes visited, 25 soul talks, and an average attendance of 25. His offerings averaged \$562.00.



Sidney Farmer

*Freedom Baptist* - Bro. Bobby Elliott will begin serving as a church planter in Burnsville with Freedom Baptist on June 1, 2012. Please pray for this work.

## Plumlee from page 5

from them. They sit day after day in a loveless landslide of solitude. The TV is their only comfort. Please pray about allowing God to show you who to visit, who to call, who to drop in on and when. So many wonderful saints sit in a house or apartment, or assisted living or nursing home, and are miserably lonely. This should not be with brothers and sisters in Christ.

Where is our compassion? I John 3:17,18 "But whoso hath this world's good, and seeth his brother have need, and shutteth up his bowels of compassion from him, how dwelleth the love of God in him? My little children, let us not love in word, neither in tongue; but in deed and in truth." Make it a new habit, a new ministry for the Lord, to once a week or even once a month, go visit someone briefly just to share a smile and an ear. Loneliness is killing the heart of so many wonderful Christian people. Hey buddy - Can you spare a dime? That means can you give 10 minutes of your week to help alleviate loneliness?

Connect. Re-connect. Spend a precious gift called time with someone in need.

## BMA Seminary's Fifty-fifth Commencement

The Baptist Missionary Association Theological Seminary of Jacksonville, Texas will hold its 2012 commencement exercises on Saturday, May 19, 2012 at 2:00 p.m. First Baptist Church in Jacksonville will host the event. The church facility is located at 210 Philip Street in Jacksonville.

This year's graduating class will be the seminary's fifty-fifth. Graduates will receive Associate, Bachelor and Master's degrees during the ceremony.

Dr. Craig Blaising will deliver the commencement address. Blaising is the Executive Vice President and Pro-

vost and Professor of Theology at Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary of Fort Worth, Texas. Prior to his coming to Southwestern, Blaising served as the Joseph Emerson Brown Professor of Christian Theology at the Southern Baptist Theological Seminary and Professor of Systematic Theology at Dallas Theological Seminary.

Blaising earned a B. S. degree from the University of Texas at Austin, the Th.M. and Th.D. degrees from Dallas Theological Seminary, and the Ph.D. degree from the University of Aberdeen, Scotland.

Blaising also served as National President for the Evangelical Theological Society in 2005 and was named to Who's Who in America in 2002. Blaising's literary works include co-authoring Progressive Dispensationalism and co-editing Psalms 1-50: Ancient Christian Commentary on Scripture. The event is open to the public.

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

The difference between the Anti-Christ and Christ is that one gives you a number and the other gives you a name. When Jesus comes, will your name be called or will your number be up?

Missionary Association of America and other groups who share a like commitment to the authority of Scripture.