

# Baptist

## Mississippi

# Journal

JOURNAL OF THE BAPTIST MISSIONARY ASSOCIATION OF MISSISSIPPI

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www.bmaofmississippi.com

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National Meeting Sees Changes

## BMAA Holds Annual Meeting in Norman

by Don Brown, editor

The Baptist Missionary Association of America held its 2013 meeting at the Embassy Suites Hotel and Conference Center in Norman, Oklahoma.

The meeting got underway on Monday evening, April 22, with the President's message. The theme for the message and this year's meeting was "We Must". President Ed Stephenson introduced the



Oklahoma Congressman James Langford welcomed the BMA to Norman. The theme for the message and this year's meeting was "We Must". President Ed Stephenson introduced the

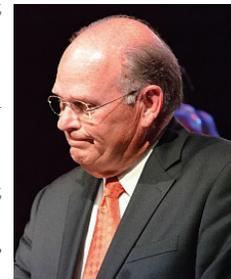
meeting's theme using Luke 2:43-49.

In verse 49 Jesus made this statement, "I must be about my Father's business." Stephenson used a number of scriptures with the statement "must" in them. A few of his points were "We Must be Great Commission committed", We must baptize, We must teach, We must be committed to discipleship, We must preach the Word, We must not give up, We must worship. He stressed the "musts" in scripture, which set the tone for the entire meeting. These "musts" are seen on a daily basis in the work of the various departments and commissions of the BMA of America. Each report reflected the "musts" of the scriptures and the need to "do" the work given to the church.

### Officers

The current officers were elected to

continue in their positions as follows: President Ed Stephenson, pastor of Springhill Baptist Church, Greenbrier, Arkansas; First Vice-president Jason Aultman, pastor of Antioch Church, Conway, Arkansas; and Second Vice-president Paul White, director of Missions for the BMA of Arkansas. Continuing as Recording Secretaries are James Ray Raines, pastor of Lynch View Baptist Church, North Little Rock, Arkansas; Jerome Cooper, Publishing Ministry Director of DiscipleGuide Church Resources; and Greg Medenwald, pastor of Magnolia Baptist Church, Hattiesburg, Missis-



Ed Stephenson  
presiding

sippi.

The 2014 meeting will be held at the Statehouse Convention Center, Little Rock, Arkansas on April 28-30. The annual message will be brought by Missionary to Mexico Eric Johnson with Mark Livingston serving as the alternate. The 2015 meeting will be held in Springfield, Missouri. The messengers accepted the recommendation of the Committee on Arrangements to hold the 2016 meeting in Gatlinburg, Tennessee.

### Constitutional Change

A constitutional change adopted by the Association increases the size of the Committee on Arrangements to seven (7) members and changes the name of this committee to the Committee on Arrangements/Production. The members are the President, 1st VP, 2nd VP, Director of DiscipleGuide Conference Division (currently Donny Parish) and the 3 members of the Committee on Arrangements. This change prompted the Baptist Music Fellowship to disband. Article XIX Section 4 listed the BMF as having a part in scheduling and planning the various aspects of the annual meeting. With the adoption of the changes to the Committee on Arrangements, the BMF's participation was superceded.

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East Fulton Baptist Church, Fulton

## State Midyear Meeting set for May 20-21

by President Ken Riley  
Baptist Missionary Association  
of Mississippi

Our Midyear meeting is just around the corner. Please mark the dates, May 20-21 2013. This meeting will be held at East Fulton Baptist Church in Fulton, Mississippi. The State Brotherhood and the State WMA will both meet on Monday evening at 7:00 p.m. Individual rooms will be provided for these auxiliaries. The business session of the Association will get underway at 9:30 a.m. on Tuesday,



Ken Riley

May 21.

I want to encourage you to make plans to attend. I believe that this will be a great meeting and I am really looking forward to the worship, fellowship, and hearing all the great things that are happening in each of our departments and agencies. Our attendance has been somewhat down in our previous meetings so I want to encourage you to make every effort in making sure your church is represented. There is always important business discussed and taken care of in each of our sessions and your presence is of utmost importance to us having the most productive meeting we can.

We will continue to use the method of ballot voting in our Midyear Meeting. This seems to have helped immensely. The Enrollment Committee will be set up as they were last year to

check you in and make sure you have the number of ballots you need. All you will have to do is let the Enrollment Committee know what church it is that you are representing (no registration or letter) and how many messengers you have. Each church is allowed up to three messengers.

After attending the National Meeting in Norman, Oklahoma, I was very encouraged and motivated about the work of The BMA of America. The overwhelmingly statements that I heard leaving the meeting was people saying, "The BMA of America is on the right track." My prayer is that we can let that excitement and energy flow into our Midyear meeting and once we are done we can say too, "The BMA of Mississippi is on the right track." God bless you and I look forward to seeing you all.

## CONSIDER THIS

When you are right,  
you can afford to  
keep your temper.  
When you are wrong,  
you can't afford  
to lose it!

# Commission on Senior Adults

4226 Highway 15 North  
Laurel, Mississippi 39440



Kenneth Flynt  
Director

## North Senior Adult Conference set for May 10 in Fulton

The work of the commission goes on and all seems to be well. The South Mississippi Adult Conference for Seniors is now history and it was a glorious time for those in attendance. Praising God and rejoicing in His presence was the experience enjoyed by all.

Now, the North Mississippi Senior Adult Conference is almost here, meeting once again with Mt. Pleasant Baptist Church, Fulton, and pastor Jackie Gray and the good people of Mt. Pleasant. They did such a wonderful job one year ago hosting this same meeting.

On Friday, May 10, 2013, registration begins at 9:00 a.m. and the program begins at 9:30 a.m. and continues to approximately 3:00 p.m. "Don't miss this time of blessing and sweet fellowship" of seniors serving the Lord. Registration fee is \$15.00 per person. This covers the noon meal and blessings all day long.

We encourage all seniors in the northern part of the state to make plans to attend this Senior Adult Conference. This is your day, that once a year gathering that brings all together just for a time of sharing and relaxing for the day, so load up and make your way to Mt. Pleasant Baptist Church, Friday, May 10. You'll be glad you did.

It is the joy of my heart just to see our seniors in such a good spirit rejoicing in the Lord.

## 2013 Kellar Award Recipient Honored



BMA Seminary Dean Philip Attebery (left) and Dr. Charley Holmes (right) pose with Kellar Award recipient Buddy Johnson.

The 2013 recipient of the Gerald D. Kellar Award presented by BMA Seminary is Bro. Buddy Johnson. Johnson is a graduate of BMA Seminary and served a number of years as missionary to Mexico.

During his time on the field in Mexico a great ministry developed. Churches were established and missions begun mainly among the Aztec Indian people of Mexico.

The Marth Johnson School was also begun and named af-

ter Bro. Johnson's wife who was instrumental in establishing the school. Mrs. passed away a number of years ago.

Bro. Buddy and his wife Taffy continue to minister to Hispanics and coordinates the BMA of America Hispanic ministry.

The Kellar Award, named in honor of the Seminaries first president, Dr. Gerald Kellar, is given annually to an outstanding alumni who exhibits excellence in ministry.

# National Association Report

from page 1

## Integration

On Monday evening, Executive Director of Missions, Dr. John David Smith, spoke on behalf of Missions, LifeWord, DiscipleGuide and BMA Seminary concerning the integration of certain areas of these departments. He explained "Integration is all about things that we are determined, compelled, to do and that are absolutely necessary - Things we must do."

He further stated that the BMA exists to help the local church to fulfil its great commission mission. Smith stated that the Unified Vision of bringing glory to God and doing the

DiscipleGuide, discussed recent changes and difficult decisions taken by this department.

A reduction in staff, many long term employees, was a difficult decision, but has resulted in better financial stability. ESL (English as a Second Language)

helps other departments in ministering around the world. He spoke of a number of changes in the literature available and upcoming special pub-



Attebery



**2013-14 Officers** - Left to Right - clerks James Ray Raines, Jerome Cooper, Greg Medenwald. President Ed Stephenson, 1st VP Jason Aultman, 2nd VP Paul White.

work of God should save the Association approximately \$320,000 per year in operating expense by not duplicating services. A video was presented with explanations and visions by department workers and endorsements by others.

## Pastor's Conference

Todd West, pastor of Oasis Church in Arkansas, and Kevin Marsico, pastor of Northstar Church in the Washington, D.C. area and a Regional Mobilizer for the North American Mission Board (SBC), challenged those attending to take courage and step out into the unknown and multiply. Larry Barker, Director of Operations - North America, spoke concerning "Multiplication Centers" and helping local churches develop the attitude of sending members out to establish new churches.

## Department Reports

### DiscipleGuide

Scott Attebery, director of

ist Award was presented to the late Dr. Roy McLaughlin and his wife, Neva, for their contributions to the Moral Action ministry.

Adams encouraged the people of the BMA to be supporters of the moral imperatives in God's Word. He stressed that we must be bound by God's Word to live right, do right, speak right, give right, and to be fighters against the immoral climate that permeates our modern day society.

Bro. Adams shared the blessing of being able to purchase a new van for the ministry and encouraged the churches to take a Moral Action Freedom offering for this ministry in July.

## Coordinating Council

Coordinating Council Chairman Paul Bullock gave the council's report. He voiced support for the departments "doing what we have asked them to do" in reference to the ongoing integration and cooperation. Bullock referenced the current organization of DiscipleGuide (the combining of others works into one) and the ongoing integration efforts as evidence of the Coordinating Council's effectiveness.

Bro. Bullock requested input from our churches saying, "If God has laid something on your heart, please share it." He stated he was asking for positive input in the direction of our overall work. He requested those with such input to contact him by phone or email. His email address is bro.paul@yahoo.com and his phone number is 870-845-3414.

## Joint Recommendation Passed

The Joint Recommendation by the LifeWord Board and Missions Advisory Council was passed overwhelmingly. Information shared before the vote discussed 'lifecycles' of various organizations. Statistics presented showed that the BMA is in a decline. Baptisms are down over 70% from 1990 and 41% of new mission churches have disbanded. It was stressed that there were no guarantees, but that this move was believed to be a move in the right direction.

A question was asked and concern stated that this 'move'

**continued on page 3**

# DiscipleGuide

Scott Attebery, Executive Director  
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 Twitter: @scottattebery



Scott Attebery

## Lincoln's Email

Travel back in time to 1861. You are a dinner guest of President Abraham Lincoln. After the main course, President Lincoln asks you to describe how people communicate in the future. You decide to tell him about email, but how? He has never seen a computer, clicked a mouse, or opened a web browser. Email is a completely abstract idea to him.

You decide to compare email to something with which he is familiar. You begin by saying, "Email is similar to receiving a letter." That's a good start. Now, how do you explain the fact that it is delivered via computer? Once again, you reach for the familiar: "Email is delivered through an information box. Almost everyone in the future has an information box, and they are able to send mes-

sages back and forth on them." While President Lincoln may not completely understand, this information should at least give him a vague picture of electronic media in the future.

In contrast, imagine if you said, "Email is accessible on mobile devices, laptops and PCs. Messages are received through web browsers or software applications." Although everything stated would be true, it wouldn't communicate your message effectively.

Now, consider telling a new believer with no church background, "Christ's substitutionary atonement propitiates the wrath incurred by your transgressions and secures your sanctification." You might as well be explaining spam filters to President Lincoln!

Sharing new information with someone who does not share your foundation of knowl-

edge is difficult, if not impossible. Even God demonstrates this principle in his revelation to humans.

When our Heavenly Father first communicated with man, He referenced familiar objects of his creation that surrounded Adam and Eve in the garden.

God placed Adam in the context of fruit-bearing trees and then told Adam to "Be fruitful and multiply." He set him in the middle of a blossoming garden and said, "Fill the earth." He surrounded him with living animals and said, "Have dominion" over them. Everything He said to them was based upon the familiar (Genesis 1:28).

Further, the first pronouncement of the gospel does not use the term Messiah, because that concept had not entered human understanding at that time, nor had the ideas of a prophet, priest or king. However, in Genesis 3, God once again used what was familiar

to announce something new: "...I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your offspring and her offspring; he shall bruise your head, and you shall bruise his heel" (Genesis 3:15). The concepts of offspring, heads and heels were familiar to Adam and Eve. That is why God used them to communicate.

Throughout the chronological history of Scripture, God

began with what was known in order to communicate what was unknown. As the amount of known information increased, man's capacity to learn unknowns also increased. Later in Scripture, through visions, dreams, talking donkeys and other means, God continued to use familiar imagery and information to introduce new ideas.

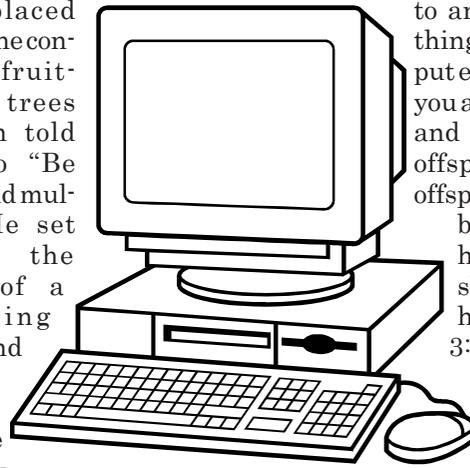
The next time we are trying to pour spiritual concepts into a new believer, attempting to share the gospel with our children, or counseling the hurting, we should take a cue from Scripture and utilize the known to communicate the unknown. Here's a few ideas to help:

Use concrete illustrations from real life like Jesus did.

Start with basic Bible truths and build on them.

Spend time with people allowing them to see truth lived out in your life.

Define new terms using familiar terms.



## Association Report

from page 2

was the 2nd phase of changing the BMA to an organization more like the Southern Baptist Convention in the future. Missions Director John David Smith assured the messenger that was not the case. He emphasized that no change in local church authority, dispersing of funds, etc., will not change. The only change was a unified vision of ministry and operating out of one physical location.

### LifeWord

Director Steve Crawley reported on the work of LifeWord.

Various new avenues of ministry were presented along with the cooperation with Missions. He stressed the importance of being good stewards of



Crawley

the assets that God has given us to work with. Crawley also pointed out that LifeWord was always seeking new innovative

ways to present and share the Gospel. He encouraged churches and messengers to support the annual Walk of Faith. This year's walk is set for October 16.

Crawley stressed that LifeWord was a broadcast ministry, but also a media house for all of the BMA. LifeWord continues to work with Missions and DiscipleGuide and other departments to spread the Gospel and support the BMA work around the world. He was reelected as LifeWord Director.

### Seminary

Seminary President Dr. Charley Holmes reported that the seminary enrolled 177 individuals for credit during the fall 2011 through fall 2012 semesters. The Seminary also provides training to Latin America through its videoconferencing technology. He shared that the Seminary now offers two degrees online for those who can not complete a program on the Jacksonville, Texas campus. An Associate of

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**Mississippi Baptist** | **Opinion Page**

Journal of the Baptist Missionary Association of Mississippi

**Change Has Come**



Don Brown  
Editor

Change is often hard and is not always seen for the overall good. I can think of a number of 'changes' I have made in the past. Some were good and for the best, while others, although thought to be the right move at the time, turned out to not be the best move. I am sure many of the readers of this have had similar experiences.

The recent changes in our national association and the operation of the various departments are indeed major changes. For many years we have been familiar with a particular method of operation. Change has come in the past and has been seen as successful. The merging of a number of ministries into what is today DiscipleGuide Church Resources, was a good move and produced a more focused and coordinated ministry.

The "Integration" move that is underway and approved for LifeWord and Missions at our recent annual

meeting in Norman, Oklahoma, is indeed a major shift in the overall operation. Some will look on these changes with suspicion. Some with skepticism and others with hope and optimism.

It is encouraging to this writer to see leadership looking to the future and making leadership decisions to direct the focus of the BMA on the ultimate goal of winning people to Christ.

As the 'integration' plans have been explained, the goal is focusing on being good stewards. God has given us the stewardship of His Word and the means of stewardship (assets and funding) to 'go and tell'.

God has blessed our leaders and given them wisdom and direction. They are working together with a united vision and purpose. It is early, but so far the decisions seem to be based on common sense and a desire to do the work in the most productive and efficient manner possible.

An automobile commercial that was popular a few years ago simply stated, "This is not your father's Oldsmobile". We knew what they meant. The Oldsmobile was differ-

ent - it was new and improved.

We can say now that "This is not our forefather's BMA way". While our message is the same, our methods are changing. We pray for our work, our leaders and for God's direction and blessings. God's Word is forever and we ask God to bless our methods while we share His grace and love with the world.

**A Point of Instruction**

During meetings that include a great number of people (national and even state meetings) there always seems to be a nominee that is known only by a few individuals attending. A particular nominee may be well qualified and may actually be the best person for the position, but inevitably the person is not elected due to his anonymity.

I actually dislike voting for an individual whom I do not know. When an individual who is known by the great majority is nominated, his election is almost a given. Not necessarily because of qualifications, but because of exposure.

In the future (and at our state midyear meeting in a few weeks) it would be advantageous to the person nominated, the messengers attending and to the benefit of each department for the person nominated someone to give some background and personal information about their choice.

At the recent annual meeting in Oklahoma, there were several people nominated who were known by only a minority of messengers. We would do well to remedy this in the future.



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# National Report

from page 3

Divinity and a Master of Arts in Religion can be achieved online.

Dr. Holmes also reported in the “Norman Invasion” prior to the beginning of the annual meeting. Each department leader along with others, totaling a group of 52, were able to contact 175 individuals in about 2 hours. There were 41 presentations of the Gospel and 8 who received Christ due to this effort. Plans are to continue this effort during future annual meetings.



Holmes

The Seminary recommendations were adopted, including reaffirming the appointment of Dr. Charley Holmes as president.

## Ministers Resource

Director Ron Chesser reported on the retirement plans offered by the Ministers Resource Services. Growth over the past 10 years has averaged 7.58% in the Long Term Growth Funds while the Fixed Income Portfolio averaged 3.25%. The deposits by members of the BMA have grown over 11% in the past year. He encouraged each church to enroll their pastor and other employees in MRS. He also urged participation in the various funds that provide benefits to members who pass away. Chesser was reelected as director.



Chesser

## Missions Commissioning Service

The closing service of each annual meeting on Wednesday evening is the presentation and commissioning service of new missionary families. This year’s meeting was highlighted by eleven (11) new missionary families being elected. Director Smith stated this was the largest group sent out in one year and this now puts the most American missionaries on the field in the history of our work. Smith credited the new 65/35 plan with making this possible. Missionaries are charged with raising 65% of their support from churches and individuals. These missionary families are listed in this issue. Dr. Smith was reelected Executive Director.



Smith

# Newly Elected Missionary Families



Sam Batarese Family to Jordan



John Herring Family to Nixa, Missouri



Brandon Lingle Family to Thailand



Ali Chambers Family to Memphis, Tennessee



Chris Huson Family to Ecuador



Tommy Rose Family to Mexico



Eli Semedo Family to Thailand



Jessie Hales Family to Dominican Republic



Johnathan Stone Family to Salina, Texas



Jeremie Hambrice Family to New Guinea



Michael Hite Family Hispanic Missions in Arkansas

## Rev. L. R. Lewis, Jr. Dies

Former BMA pastor and missionary L. R. Lewis, Jr., 77, of Iuka, Mississippi, died Sunday, April 21, 2013, at the North Mississippi Medical Center in Iuka. He was born December 28, 1935. Rev. Lewis was a member of Mynot Missionary Baptist Church, and was a lifelong minister and missionary, having founded several churches in Washington, Arizona, and Mississippi. He had served as a state missionary for the BMA of Mississippi.



Bro. L.R. Lewis

Funeral services were held April 25, in Iuka. Interment was in Campground Cemetery.

Bro. Lewis is survived by his wife, Bertha Jean Johnson Lewis of Iuka, MS; two sons, L. R. “Sonny” Lewis, III, of Covington, LA, and John David Lewis of Poplarville, MS; two daughters, Debra Jean Lewis of Iuka, MS, and Mary Lewis Miller of Covington, LA; one sister, six grandchildren, and one great-grandchild.

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### Tell Us About Your Local WMA

by **Bonnie Brown**  
**Mississippi State WMA**  
**Historian**

In the annual 2012 Mississippi State WMA meeting, I was elected as the State Historian. As your newly elected historian, I began to think what direction. The office is about our history as a WMA, and I would like to gather information on all the WMA's for the state of Mississippi.

I read Dr. Duggar's book "BMA Roots in Associations of the Past". Roots in families are very important to a family – where we began, who was our great, great, great...fathers, etc. We as Christians know who our Father is – God, and Who sent His Son to die for our sins so we can have eternal life with Him.

Well WMAs are important to our heritage. So I am asking each WMA across the state to

help me gather information concerning their WMA – when it was established, who were your first officers, and what you are doing now as an auxiliary.

I will begin a notebook collecting the information your send. The MISSISSIPPI BAPTIST has collected pictures over the years for WMA, YLA/GMA/Sunbeams and I will go through them to be put in this notebook.

It is important to know our roots and to preserve this information for future generations. I want our WMA to know who came before us so we will be able to tell the next generation about what we have done and then that generation can build upon what was done in the past.

Please send any information about your WMA to editor@msbaptist.org.

### Appeal for Support

## Barnabus Touch plans trip to India

by **Danny Bullock**  
**Trip Coordinator**

At the request of the BMA Missions Office we have scheduled a Barnabus Touch trip to India in October and November to help teach and encourage the national pastors who labor there along with those elected by the BMAA.

After meeting with Pradeep Borde a couple of months ago in Little Rock to discuss times, subject matters, and cost, I would like to make an appeal to our churches for assistance in carrying out their wishes. They want us to teach on the subjects of leadership, evangelism, discipleship, stewardship, and family life. I need two more men willing to make the trip with us and share the teaching load in the two areas we will visit. They said we should teach the same subjects both places. Will you be

willing to go? Will some church be willing to send their pastor and share him with this country for 1-2 weeks? If so, please contact me at 870-904-5032 or danbull0550@gmail.com. We need to finalize this team so that we can get our teaching material to them for translation before we leave October 25.

My other appeal is for some financial help to underwrite the cost for the national pastors. We want to pay for the costs for the approximately 25 men who will be attending these classes. Their travel, lodging and food costs for the four-day meetings will be nearly \$100 per man. If some could pay all or part of this \$2,500, it would save the Missions Office and EIM from using their present funds to cover this cost. Any donations may be sent to EIM, P.O. Box 297, Magnolia, AR 71754.

## Stop Signs and Yield Signs for the Mouth

Have you ever noticed how sometimes people talk bad about someone, and then, they end the put down by blessing that person. I hear it all the time. It goes something like this: "She's having a bad hair day, bless her heart." Or it might be: "He has some horrible looking teeth, bless his heart." "She's always been a dingbat bless her heart." I find human behavior fascinating. It kind of makes me laugh to hear the incongruent statements laid out in the same sentence. Do you add the phrase, "bless their heart" because you are a nice person? Do nice people make fun of other people?

Oh, I think most people don't even consider what they have just said. Or it is just a phrase that people say much like "good luck on your trip". That's another phrase that bothers me since Christians shouldn't believe in luck. There is no such thing as luck when there is a Sovereign God sitting on His throne. Maybe it is because sometimes we start our mouth before we engage our brain. We don't really pause to think about what we are going to say. We just say it out of habit, or to hurry the conversation up. I'm pretty sure most of us have had a conversation with someone and then reflected later on the content and wished we hadn't said something. Our communication with others can be a blessing or a curse.

Communication is the cornerstone of all healthy relationships. How we speak to

one another will draw people to us, or away from us. Words comfort and build up, or they



### Family Ark Ministries

Travis Plumlee

hurt and destroy. We know from scripture that all words spoken come from your heart. What comes out of your mouth is coming because of what is in your heart. And for every casual word you speak during your lifetime, you will give an account in the Day of Judgment. If you don't believe it, just read Matthew 12:34-37.

If you want to read up further on the mouth, read James 3:5-10. If you want to know what you should be saying with your mouth, read I Thessalonians 5:11 and Ephesians 4:29, 32.

Let me suggest that you erect stop signs and yield signs in your mind to help your conversation. What I mean is that we can establish new speech patterns and habits. Even if you grew up in a horribly dysfunctional family, you can learn new ways of responding. Slow your conversation down. Sometimes, you need to learn to think through your response before you speak. Picture a mental stop sign in your head. What are the conse-

quences of what I am about to say? How would I feel if someone I loved said this to me? Yes, it will slow the conversation down. People may get a little frustrated at times with you. But it sure beats blurting something out that you really regret later on. Half the time I don't think people really intend to hurt others feelings. It just doesn't come out right. That is why we have to have stop signs in our conversation.

Years ago, I used to work with children and adolescents who had an attention different issue. (Also known to others as ADD/ADHD – I don't say people have Attention Deficit Disorder because I don't think God creates kids with a "deficit". They are just a little different.) These kids are famous for what is called "blurting syndrome". They have a thought and they have to express it. They say it before they think about the consequences of what they just said. Most people would stop before they say some outlandish statement. These kids don't. Their mind is moving so fast, that they have run over every stop sign in their mind and have no brakes!

As a therapist, I would help them establish a pattern of stopping to think for a moment about the feelings and reactions of others before they would make statements.

Yielding the right of way in conversation means to be mature and not be so self-centered. Don't dominate the conversa-

## Prisoners Bible Crusade report

### Free Bibles to Chaplains for Inmates in the USA

On December 27, 2012 the Prisoners Bible Crusade took delivery of 6,000 Bilingual Spanish/English, Marked Edition of the Gospel of John and the Book of Romans. The Spanish text is the "Version Reina Valera Gomez" (RVG) Edicion 2010. The English text is the King James Version (KJV 1611). Both texts are on the same page and are marked with the plan of Salvation! These John/Romans Bilingual Scriptures was printed by the "Victory Baptist Press" in Milton FL. These 6,000 John/Romans Scripture portions are special to the Prisoners Bible Crusade because they are the VERY FIRST PRINTING of this type of the RVG 2010 Edition Spanish text with the KJV. We have placed 4,715 of them into Federal Prisons since Jan. 1, and we have ordered 6,000 more. Praise the Lord!! Your prayers and support makes this ministry possible under God's Blessing!

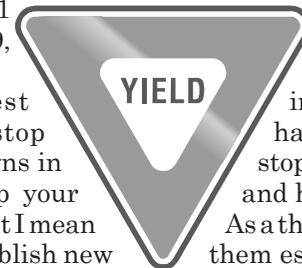
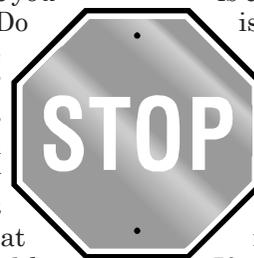
### Report YTD 3/31/13

1,448 KJV English Bibles;

100 Spanish Bibles; Bibles totals 1,548; 100 New Testaments; All Study Books 4,588; 1,013 Study helps, totals for all Bibles and materials to date in 2013 is 11,964. These were sent into 27 prisons. Chaplains report 329 people saved (21,899 since 1/1/2000). 10 new Chaplains requesting Bibles for the 1st time in 2013. PBC's Evangelistic Team has conducted 2 Worship services in prisons in 2013. (Since 1973, 216,005 Bibles; 59,249 New Testaments; Total bibles & materials: 645,327.) Personal:

I have traveled 2,066 miles, I have personally seen 2 confession of Faith in Jesus Christ in 2013 (351 since 1/1/2000), visited 4 churches, 8 associations meeting & 11 prisons visits, taught 8 bible study classes in prisons, taught Preached 2 sermons in prisons. Sent at total of 413 CD/DVD sermons (3,065 since 1/1/2000) into prisons.

Isaiah 55:11 inside prisons!  
Paul E. Lee, Director PBC  
Phone 601-798-1341  
Email pbc8paul@datasync.com



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# Father Knows Best

I am afraid that I'm letting all of you in the "Father's Club" down. This club is comprised of ...um...well, fathers. Any man that has a child belongs to this club. Unfortunately, the only requirement for being a member is being a man with a child, despite my best efforts at promoting a secret hand shake for the purpose of meeting members in public. Even if we did have secret handshakes to be anonymous from the people trying to infiltrate our club, our wild eyes, frazzled hair, and Hawaiian shirts would give us away, along with Bermuda shorts worn with black socks and sandals.

It's not a desire to be fashionably unique - we just don't care. As a bonus, it embarrasses our children when we attend their school functions. Oh sure, there are some fathers that will have matching clothes, but we diehards know that is only because they lost a fight with their wives.

Anyway, I feel that I'm letting all you club members down because it seems that I can no longer solve all the problems my children have or answer all of their questions. As fathers, it is assumed that we know everything. Your child asks you what kind of bird that is on the road and you immediately know the answer. I thought it was strange a turkey was eating a dead opossum too, but fathers are never wrong! The first time I took my son turkey hunting, he was wondering why we had to get 'camoed' up and go into the woods. "There's plenty of turkeys where farmer Bob's cow died, daddy!"

As dumb as all the news people are telling us our children are compared to those in other countries, it would seem to be a cinch to help our little dumbbells with their homework. This is not so. Being out of school for...well, some time now...has made it extremely difficult to remember all the rules of grammar and fractions. At least the history books don't bother to go back to our found-

ing fathers anymore. It is embarrassing when the little munchkins ask about a question in history and I find out that it was during a period of time when I was a child. The kids think that is funny and say that I'm ol..ol...well, mature.

It may be that my intelligence level is simply decreasing proportionally with my children getting older. It seems to

happen overnight, but out of the blue, one day they will question your brilliance as a father. They will be showing you how to do things, because they know best. I have gotten so dumb, that now my children have to show me how to mow, fix cars, plant gardens, and other assorted jobs (okay, it's not all bad). They know the difference between a turkey and a buzzard. They realize that Big Foot is not real.

In a lot of ways, they have taken the fun out of being a father. I no longer embarrass them in public because they have become hardened to all of my ways. What am I to do? Come on grandkids! Pappy will know best.

Be interested in others. Jesus was the best at yielding to others in conversation in order to hear what they had to say. If you want people to be drawn to you - to be your friend - to have people want to spend time with you - then yield sometimes. If you are a talker, it doesn't mean you can't talk a lot. It just means pause sometimes and learn to listen. Listening is a skill that all people can learn to adopt. It is a habit to develop. In conversation, work at trying to listen to a statement that you can follow up with a question of interest. It shows you are thinking of

## From The Mind of



Chuck Lee



## CHURCH NEWS



News articles should contain information that will be of interest to the general public who are not members of the church that is reporting.

### Westover Church sets Revival

Westover Baptist Church of Hattiesburg will hold revival services May 5-8 with Bro. Steve Crawley as our guest speaker. Services on Sunday are at 10:30 a.m. and 1:00 p.m. with lunch at the church. Monday through Wednesday night services will be at 7:00 p.m. All are welcome!

### Washington Association meets

The Washington Baptist Association met on April 19, at Pilgrim Rest Baptist Church. Bro. Darnell Minyard welcomed the Association and Bro. Homer Bexley gave the response.

We had 12 churches represented with 40 members and 7 visitors.

Bro. Justin Rhodes gave a report for the Missions office. Bro. Donald Brown reported concerning the youth and the upcoming camp.

Bro. Frank Panzrino read the report concerning the investigation of a sister church and reported that all was well as far as the committee was concerned and the report was accepted by the body.

Bro. Minyard introduced the speaker as Bro. Fulton Lindsey. Bro. Lindsey brought a fine message from the Word.

Bro. A.W. Kirkland voiced the closing prayer and we joined together in the fellowship hall for a wonderful meal. Again, ladies, ya'll done good.

B.J. Hudson, Moderator

someone else besides yourself. If dealing with a quiet person, asking for their opinions or asking open-ended questions (meaning it requires more than a yes or no) are good ways of communicating with them. Encourage their response.

If we don't laugh or judge or chastise people for their comments, they are much more likely to trust you and learn to open up to you. The advertisement for you heart, soul and mind is your mouth!!

# CHILDREN'S HOME

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

## Godly Mothers—A Gift from God

In a few weeks Mother's Day will be observed by many. This event comes around once every year. I understand that for the greeting card companies it's their best time of the year excluding Christmas. The same goes for telephone companies and cell phone carriers. There will probably be more calls made to Mom on this day than any other day of the year.

There is one slogan by one communication carrier that is probably well known by most which is, "reach out and touch." Well, Mothers, you indeed have reached out and touched our lives and for this we give the Lord praise and thanks for giving us mothers like you! We are glad that we can honor you on this day that has been set aside for you. Read Proverbs 31:10-31, which gives to us a good description of a faithful wife and mother.

I am glad that over the years and up to the present time the boys and girls at the Home have been exposed to the good examples of Godly mothers. Many of the residents of the Home have in later years stated and expressed what a difference the ministry of the Mississippi Baptist Children's Home has made in their life. We thank the Lord for the positive influence the

Home has had and is having on the lives of boys and girls.

## Expression of Sympathy

We would like to express our sympathy to the family of Michael Scott "Scotty" Clark and the family of Barry Grice in the recent loss of their loved ones. Our prayers continue to be with each of these families during their time of sorrow and bereavement.



SIDNEY DAVIS  
DIRECTOR

## School Days Coming To A Close

In just a few weeks the end of the school year will be here. As I have reported in previous articles the girls and boys have had a good academic year with their studies and activities. They always look forward each year to the summer break and to take some time off from the daily routine of doing homework and studying for that next exam or test. As I said, they have had a good school year and I'm sure that I'll be reporting on some achievements that they have accomplished during this school year.

Continue to remember the Home and its ministry in your prayers.

## Holifields celebrate 65th anniversary

On April 17, 2013, Bro. and Mrs. Harold A. Holifield celebrated their sixty-fifth wedding anniversary with their children and grandson David. Their son, Charles Holifield and wife Kathy (Murray) Holifield of Tayorsville and daughter Pat (Holifield) Davis and husband Sidney Davis of Laurel, along with David Davis, took the Holifield's for a nice lunch.

Bro. Holifield pastored BMA Baptist churches for 60 years, but is now retired. He still fills in for his pastor and is Pastor Emeritus of First Baptist Calhoun, near Laurel. He is also retired from Jones Junior College as a Vocational Instructor of Automotive Machinery.

Mrs. Holifield has been supportive and an important part of their ministry and teaching career. The Holifield's have two children: Charles Holifield and wife Kathy and Pat Davis and husband Sidney Davis. They also have four grandchildren: Kristen Martin and husband Daryl Martin; Kelly Cantrell; Danny Davis and wife Jennifer; and David Davis. They also have five great-grandchildren: Audrey Martin, Sarah Lane and Levi Cantrell, and Connor and Anna Davis.

Our family is blessed by God to have them as parents, grandparents, and great grandparents.



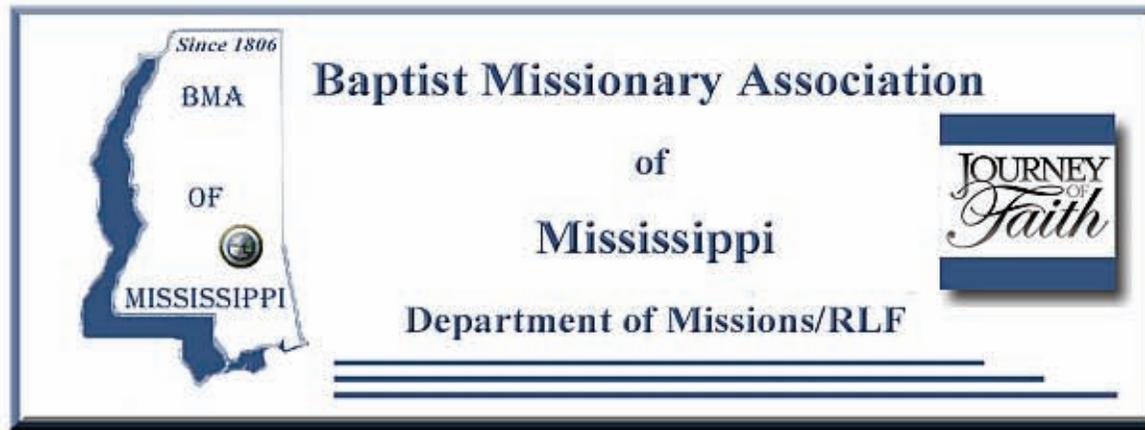
Bro. & Mrs. Harold Holifield

## Plumlee Column

from page 6



**Larry Geraldson**  
Director



**Missions**  
*Special Emphasis*  
**April - May 2013**

**Church Planters**



**Bob & Edie Burch**



**Bobby & Lesa Elliott**



**Justin & Christie Rhodes**



**Sidney & Becky Farmer**



**Ray & JoAnn Boone**



**Kelby & Jessie Johnson**

**Missions Coordinators**



**Estuardo & Yasmin**  
Marroquin



**Elvis & Wendy Garcia**



**Ed & Patricia DuVall**



[www.bmams.org](http://www.bmams.org)

# 55th Annual Missions and Evangelism Conference (May 3rd)

This year's conference is devoted to both the spiritual and practical aspects of needed mission's activity as an outflow of the life of every church. We will emphasize the importance of preaching as the biblical method for sharing the gospel with the world. We will cover this subject thoroughly by expounding on the biblical principles of preparation, presentation, passion, doctrine, devotion, distinction and responsibility. Each message will be inspirational and challenging. I will personally address, at the beginning of each segment, the answer to a practical question concerning how to organize for mission activity. The following are some of the questions we will address:

1. How to develop long term and short term vision and then turn it into an objective plan
2. How to develop an annual focus (ministry theme) around your vision
3. How to organize ministry for growth and expansion
4. How to develop ministry objectives
5. How to recruit leaders
6. How to train

We will provide material that you

can use to develop mission activity in your church.

We will hear Missionary and Mission Coordinator reports and we will be blessed with special music from Bro. Justin Cameron and The Cameron Trio throughout the day. First Baptist Bay Springs has graciously agreed to provide lunch and dinner meals and there is no cost to those attending.

We will have a giveaway of a Kindle Fire HD and an iPad2. To qualify for these drawings, you must register during the first hour and stay for the entire program.

I believe we are going to have a wonderful conference and provide some very good information. I trust that you will pray for the conference and attend.

**High Attendance and Total Offerings For The Month of March**

*Church Planters*

- Bob Burch 81 - \$1,387.00
- Bobby Elliott 38 - \$1,933.00
- Justin Rhodes 24 - \$1,548.00
- Kelby Johnson 31 - \$650.00

- Ray Boone 50 - \$1,570.00
- Sidney Farmer 31 - \$3,095.00

*Hispanic Missions - South*

- Hattiesburg 23 - \$1,296.00
- Biloxi 4 - N/A
- Laurel 125 - \$7,408.00 (Pastor Estuardo Marroquin, Coordinator)

*Hispanic Missions - North*

- Tupelo 40 - \$274.00
- Oxford 21 - N/A
- Ripley 130 - \$8045.00 (Pastor Elvis Garcia, Coordinator)

*African American Missions*

- Indianola 63 - \$1,875.00
- Olive Branch 15 - \$1,875.00
- Cleveland 31 - \$3,833.00 (Pastor Ed DuVall, Coordinator)

Collectively, our missionaries reported 523 new contacts made in March and 42 professions of faith and 3 baptisms.

**Revolving Loan Fund (as of April 27, 2013)**

Here is where we stood as of the end of March 2013: Gross Assets =

\$17,080,067.00, an increase of \$1,650,668.00 since August 1, 2012. We opened 34 new investment accounts this fiscal year totaling \$1,229,508.00. We have issued 10 new loans this fiscal year totaling \$2,975,149.00.

**Update On Matching Funds (This opportunity ended on April 30, 2013)**

At the time of this writing, South Forrest (Missionary Sidney Farmer) had received enough in contributions that when matched, their building and land will be paid for. Praise The Lord!!! Thank you, all of you for helping in this. Caledonia Baptist Mission (Missionary Bob Burch) has received contributions and commitments totaling \$37,144.00. This is just \$12,856.00 short of the goal of \$50,000.00. However, this will go a long way to reduce the debt on this property. Everyone who has helped in these projects is to be commended. Good job people!

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Our website is [www.bmams.org](http://www.bmams.org) and our Facebook page is <https://www.facebook.com/bmamsmissions>