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How Important is a Candidate's Position on Abortion?

Editor's Note: This is the last issue many of our readers will receive before Election Day on November 3, 2020. The author drives home the responsibility of a Believer in Christ to make moral and biblical decisions.

When considering who to vote for, we must also consider what they stand for and what they plan to do after election.

by Chris Gonthier
BMA of Oklahoma Moral Action

Our society has shifted into an area of selfishness and self-centeredness. One of the clearest examples is the idea of abortion on demand, which has been mislabeled as a woman's reproductive rights.

Our country isn't like China, or perhaps other countries, where you need government permission to have a child. In America, there are no limits on the number of children that you may have. So, to call abortion a woman's reproductive right is very misleading.

Some will hold to the idea that a woman should not be made to have a child if she doesn't want one. That is fine, but the simple way to attain that goal is to not be a participant in unprotected relations.

I can almost hear some screaming, "I can do what I want!" and that is true. We are free to choose, but we are not free from the consequences of our choices. Next comes the argument, "My body, my choice!" However, the choice of abortion not only affects the mother, but also the unborn child.

A child that is developing in the mother's womb has a beating heart around week three and circulatory patterns by week four. Some will say life begins when there is a heart beat. Others, including me, believe life

begins at conception.

Exodus 20:13 tells us, "Thou shalt not kill." There are attempts to take away the humanity of the unborn by calling it a parasite or a fetus. Scientifically, that isn't true because, in third trimester abortions, many of the so-called fetuses are capable of survival outside of the mother's womb.

The Bible sheds some significant light on this issue in Jer. 1:5: "Before I formed thee in the belly I knew thee; and before thou camest forth out of the womb I sanctified thee, and I ordained thee a prophet unto the nations." According to this verse, God knew the baby before he started to grow in his mother's womb at conception, and He identified the baby as an individual.

It is very interesting how God identifies someone who is pregnant: "To be taxed with Mary his espoused wife, being great with child" (Luke 2:5). It did not say "great with fetus" or "the blob of cells that eventually became you." It is clear from Scripture that God considers the unborn a baby and an individual: "And it came to pass, that, when Elisabeth heard the salutation of Mary, the babe leaped in her

Celebrate Lifeword on Sunday October 18

Lifeword Sunday is (fast approaching) and we hope you and your church will join us in celebrating your media ministry.

Fifty-five years of Gospel broadcasting using the latest technological advancements has brought us to this moment: We are reaching more people groups in more countries through more languages than ever before!

Here are some of those incredible numbers:
- Content can now be heard in 90 languages! Cloud technology and our hard-working and dedicated global partners have enabled that.

- Since January 1, 2020 Lifeword.org has been visited by 261,023 new website visitors that have never seen Lifeword.org.

- Compared to the same timeframe in 2019, Lifeword.org saw a 253% increase from 73,849.

- Since January 1, 2020, Facebook users have

Lifeword

viewed over 8.9 million minutes of Lifeword's gospel teachings on Lifeword's pages. That is a 112% increase

over the previous 271 days.

As non-believers hear the good news of the gospel, please pray for understanding, salvation, and changed lives through their surrender to Jesus Christ. Also, as God continues to richly bless Lifeword.org, please pray for the following:

- God's guidance in our global efforts to make Jesus' name more famous

- the new media partners who are speaking the heart languages of various people groups

Partner with Lifeword by texting "lifeword20" to make a one-time \$20 investment or donate at lifeword.org/donate. (A one-time donation of \$20 will be added to your mobile phone bill. All donations must be authorized by you the account holder. Message & Data Rates May Apply.)

womb; and Elisabeth was filled with the Holy Ghost" (Luke 1:41). Notice that the baby had its own independent reaction and moved of its own accord. This clearly shows a distinct person, acting independently from the mother.

Now let's address the idea that a baby is a parasite and the mother should be able to kill or destroy the parasite. We have already biblically proven that the unborn is a baby and an independent life. Using the logic that it lives in my body and is a drain on it, would be like saying teenagers are

parasites — they live in my house, and they are a physical, emotional and financial drain on my resources. Using the "my body" rule, are we going to say we should be able to kill people living in our homes? Certainly not, or at least I would hope not!

I do not have the legal authority to just kill someone who is living in my house to make it more convenient for me. If I invite someone in, they are a guest until their time of tenancy expires. In the case of the unborn, that is nine months and, yes, their mother's actions invited them in.

I know the next point of contention — what about rape and incest? Whereas these are a minority of the cases, they do occur. Let's say someone brings a baby into my house without my permission, do I kill it? We shutter at the very thought of such an idea. The proper response would be to call the authorities, but take care of the baby until the authorities arrive. In the case of pregnancy due to rape and incest, the woman should carry the child and, after the baby is born, she has the option of keeping the child or putting the child up for adoption. No matter how the

State WMA Meeting Information Update

by Theresa Reus
WMA President

Ladies, we are very excited to meet again with you! We hope you will make plans to join us at the state meeting

Tuesday, October 20, 2020. Officers will meet at 9:00 am, everyone else is welcome to join us at 10:00. We will hear from Bro. Theresa Reus



Sam and Dawn Freeman. Marilyn and Shirlene will tell us how God has blessed our fundraising this year (it's not too late to get your offering in). And finally, Kathy will tell us about the ladies retreat that is back on for next year! If you can't attend you will be able to read all about it in the paper of course, but you will be missed!



continued on page 11

Mississippi Baptist

Journal of the Baptist Missionary Association of Mississippi



Don Brown
Editor

A Meeting You Need To Attend

The BMA of Mississippi Annual meeting will be held at Midway First Baptist Church, Sumrall, on Tuesday, October 20, 2020. The meeting will most likely be shorter than usual if the plan presented by the Program Committee is followed. The hope is that we can have a good and well attended meeting even in the midst of the current Covid-19 crisis.

Churches are encouraged to make a special effort to be represented at this year's meeting. Attendance has declined over the last few years. With the midyear meeting being cancelled due to the virus, churches are needed to take care of the business of the Association.

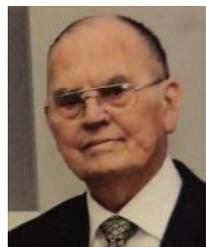
Midway Church is located a few miles from Hattiesburg and access to opened full-service restaurants is most likely limited due to health issues. The church is graciously providing a lunch for each one in attendance. This will allow for a shorter lunch break and allow more time for business.

Reports from departments, commissions and auxiliaries will be shorter than normal and each one has agreed to be mindful of the distance some will have to travel for the meeting. The plan is to end the meeting in the afternoon allowing ample time for each one to travel home.

We hope to see you at Midway!

Howard Rogers Dies

Rev. William Howard Rogers, 87, of Laurel, Mississippi, died Sunday, October 3, 2020 at South Central Regional Medical Center in Laurel, Mississippi. He was born Saturday, May 6, 1933 in Seminary, Mississippi.



Howard Rogers

Funeral services were held October 5, 2020 at Springhill Baptist Church, Laurel. Bro. Harold Floyd and Bro. Dewitt Bain officiated.

Bro. Rogers was in the ministry for over 60 years and pastored churches all over south Mississippi. He was a well loved and respected man of God who lived what he preached. His family remembers him as not only a great preacher, but a loving

husband, father, and grandfather.

He was preceded in death by his wife Georgia Faye Rogers; parents Buford and Roby Rogers; daughter Teresa Mott; brother Grover Rogers; sisters, Mary Myrtle, Betty and Helen.

Survivors include his daughters, Ramona Walley (Ted), Karen Davis (Tim), Sharon Coats (Doug), grandchildren, Allen Al-Suwaidi (Malori), Adam Gardner (Kayla), Chad Coats (Mallory), Conner Coats (Allie), Will Mott and Wes Mott, great-grandchildren, Maris Al-Suwaidi, Oren Al-Suwaidi, Autumn Mott, Bailey Mott, Jasper Mott, Stormy Mott, Kinleigh Tucker, Kylie Gardner, Madyson Gardner and Daisie Gardner, Reese Ann Coats, son-in-law, Walter Mott.

The family would like to thank Jones County Rest Home for their excellent care during the final days of his life.

MINISTERING TO YOUNG PEOPLE

by Anders Lee

It Needs to Be Said!

In March of 2020, the most drastic change came to America that I have EVER seen in my life time. COVID-19 shut us down. We closed schools, doctor's offices, barber shops & hair salons, restaurants, sporting events... the list goes on... and we did it... we closed church doors and shut down youth groups. I never thought that would happen. We spent Easter at home and watch prerecorded videos online. Camps didn't happen, SOAR was online, and association meetings were cancelled. I don't know about you but it broke my heart. Craziest thing EVER!



Anders Lee

But now... "it needs to be said" ... it's time to push forward! The physical, mental, emotional and spiritual strain of the separation and mitigations have become more consequential than the virus itself. The stats and data from over six months are in and we KNOW who this virus affects the most and the steps that are needed to protect the most vulnerable in our society and yes our churches. I'm not going to enumerate them in this article because we have heard it from all the scientists and medical professionals already.

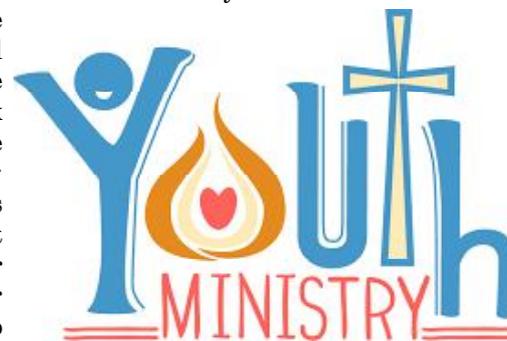
The Stats & Data Do Not Lie

There are two things I want to highlight. First, according to the CDC, only 1.7% of all of the nation's cases reported belong to those age 18 and under. That age bracket has the lowest infection rate of all. Some studies show that bracket increasing with schools trying to reopening, however, it is still the lowest bracket in all age brackets. Second, according to the CDC 99.997% of those students who contract the virus SURVIVE! WOW! That is great news! We

know it is those with pre-existing conditions that are impacted, kids and teens with major medical situations. We all know those students don't need to be around Grandpa to protect him... or Grandma... we sure don't want to leave her out. If they are, masks and distancing is the key!

What's my point? It's simple. It needs to be said... it's time for church leaders to push forward! Oh yeah, I already said it earlier in the article. Well every good point deserves to be repeated and as some say; "Say it louder so those in the back hear it too!"

Can you do that now? YES! As my grandma use to say; "Where there's a will there's a way!" Maybe you need to wear masks... maybe you need to create a plan to be safer and use your social distancing. Everyone will do it differently than others. Pray about it and do



what you know to be best for your group so that teens can have the group that they need so desperately!

Salvage What's Left of 2020!

We have a number of good weeks left to maximize what we can do for our youth & teens. By the time you read this article you will still have eleven weeks left to make up for lost time! Think about it! You have spent very little of your youth budget this year! Time to invest it in those teens and draw them back into the church. Reenergize your discipleship efforts with as many events possible before we ring the New Year in!

I'm beggin' you - don't be the one who says; "I'm throwing in the towel!" I'm hearing many in our ranks say they are chalking 2020 up to be a complete loss! I've heard some this week say we will relaunch youth in 2021. My question is... at what cost? Students are disconnected at a critical time in their lives! Push forward! Don't lose valuable ministry time! These kids need

the ministry efforts of their church!

Make Your Plans for 2021 Now!

Now is the time to plan for next year, especially bigger summer events. If you want to maximize what happens next year, don't minimize your planning now! The old saying is "plan your work and work your plan." When you start rolling out plans for 2021, I promise you it will energize your teens and inspire your parents all at the same time!

Start praying about what God would have you do in 2021 after this huge debacle of a year in 2020! Get your Pastor in on it Mr. Youth guy! You need him to have your back in pushing forward now and in the New Year! Have a meeting and share your plans for the end of the year and next year!

Work With The Willing & Improve

"But Anders, I have three families in the church who still won't bring their teens and half my team of workers won't come either!" That's fine. That's their prerogative. Go full throttle with those who are ready and willing to be involved. Remember, it is never a good thing if you let the number in attendance dictate your level of commitment to discipleship. When Jesus saw the crowds leaving Him, He withdrew and taught the few! So be willing to work with those who will show up, even if its half your crowd.

As far as your volunteers and team are concerned, rally the ones that are willing to help and ask them to step up and serve in additional ways to make this all too important ministry happen! That's right, you gotta improvise and make it work! In the worst of times I've seen people do their best work and grow in ministry because of it! So, don't be afraid to ask workers to do more things! Remind them, those kids are WORTH IT!!!

Praying for you all in these most difficult times! Let me leave you with the thoughts of the Apostle Paul! "Therefore, my beloved brothers, be steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, knowing that in the Lord your labor is not in vain." 1 Corinthians 15:58

I'm praying for you!
Lee is pastor of Central Church, Southaven, Mississippi and may be contacted at anders.lee571@gmail.com

Mississippi Baptist

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Mississippi Baptist Children's Home



Lindsey

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Dwight Lindsey - Director

Special Emphasis

We have reached the time of year many churches, individuals, and businesses give a little extra to the ministry of the Children's Home. Your faithfulness saw us through a very difficult time this past year. We praise the Lord for using so many people to help keep us moving forward. With that being said, we definitely have a dwindled surplus, like many other ministries. We know how hard 2020 has been on churches, individuals, and businesses. We do not want to create any heavier burden for anyone.

We are not setting any kind of particular goal this year. We will provide our project list and if any of you would like to donate your services or monetary support we would appreciate it, but we understand many are still hurting. We remind you of 2 Corinthians 9:7 that says, "Every man according as he purposeth in his heart, so let him give; not grudgingly, or of necessity: for God loveth a cheerful giver." We know kids can tug on our heart strings, but please know we only hope to receive from those who the Lord has blessed with abundance at this time.

Projects:

1. Christmas gifts for the kids
2. Funds to meet the daily needs of the house
9/1/19 - 8/31/20 our daily expenses averaged \$491.67 covering Utilities, Child Services, Insurance, Maintenance, & Payroll
3. Remodel the South Children's Wing Bathroom
4. Car/College expenses for this year's Senior
5. Re-plumb a drain line in the South Parents Wing
6. Payroll to add a Respite Care couple to the staff
7. Long range goal to build or remodel wings of the house to expand our ability to help more children.

Director's Annual Report to BMA of Mississippi

Dear Supporters,

It has been a long unprecedented year. I think all of us could have started this paragraph with the same sentence. As uncertain as the times are around us we know we serve The Lord who has never ceased to reign.

Psalm 127

"Except the Lord build the house, they labour in vain that build it:

Except the Lord keep the city, the watchman waketh but in vain.

It is vain for you to rise up early, to sit up late,

To eat the bread of sorrows:
For so he giveth his beloved sleep.

Lo, children are an heritage of the Lord:

And the fruit of the womb is his reward.

As arrows are in the hand of a mighty man;

So are children of the youth.

Happy is the man that hath his quiver full of them: They shall not be ashamed,

But they shall speak with the enemies in the gate."

We stepped into this ministry with one child to care for in 2019. As of the writing of this report the Home has quadrupled its long term placements in the past year. I know our God can do anything, but I don't think I will get the chance to make that announcement again. We have also helped multiple children through short term care anywhere from a day to a week. We are greatly encouraged by the blessings of opportunities to serve these individuals and families.

As encouraged as we are, hindsight is 20/20, as they say. We have not taken every step according to plan. The goal we placed before you last year to have our churches point us to children in need in their communities did not provide the opportunities we had hoped. I did receive a couple of calls, but upon further examination the families in question were taking steps to better care for their children. I would not say we are closing the door to this approach, but we do not feel as if it is going to be the most fruitful avenue.

So, how did we have such a good year when our plan didn't

work? The short answer is, God had another plan. After meeting with Judge Wayne Thompson and receiving our first placement. We had to back date some steps, but Lindsay and I were able to be licensed as Foster Parents through the Director's Home. This is a loop hole allowing us to keep both placement options available to us. We can still receive children through our Health Department Licensing at the big house and receive children through the state officially at our personal residence. I know we said last year we don't want to lose our religious freedoms by going through the state and this loop hole allows us to do just that. Lindsay and I are bound by some rules we don't fully agree with, but the Home as an entity is not. This also allows us to take aim at the plan we mentioned last year. The difference is the state has already identified the children for us. Now the children we receive will be evaluated for possible long term placement with us at the Home after a period of time to determine the likelihood of reunification with their family. This is what our caseload has

looked like:

1. We took in a 16 year old young man last November, and we have been named his "permanency plan". This is basically saying because he is now 17, they are no longer trying to reunify him with his mother, and not trying to terminate her rights due to his age. So, he will stay with us until he can make those decisions. He has been our biggest praise of all our placements to this point. He has made a profession of faith and followed the Lord in baptism since coming to us. The fruit of repentance has been a joy to witness.

2. We received a 17 year old young lady in January. She came to us through family placement. We are trying to help her finish an ESL program to get her GED, while praying she would receive her biggest help in Christ. Pray for her and us.

3. In February, we had an emergency case from the MDCPS. A 14 year-old young man came to stay with us until his extended family could finish arrangements to take him into their home. Similarly, in June we had a 6 year-old boy stay with us for

a week on his way to therapeutic treatment. We pray as there may still be a chance for him to be able to return to us in the future.

4. At the end of July we took in an 11 year-old boy. His arrival was marked with a difficult time as it was the Saturday we found out we had been exposed to the Corona Virus. Despite the difficult start, he has begun to settle in and we are now exploring the option of permanent placement for him and his brother. This is a faster process in their case because their parental rights were terminated in August leaving a clearer path for us to move forward. Please be in prayer for this process to go as smoothly as it can.

Obviously the worldwide pandemic slowed things down greatly. We also faced a few medical speed bumps through the past year. Through all of these uncertainties we began receiving more phone calls for placements and volunteers by the summer. All in all, despite so many negatives, I don't think I could have asked for a better year. Thank you for your faithful support.



Mississippi Baptist Children's Home

Special Emphasis

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Southeastern Baptist College

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

Serving Christ With A Biblical World View In A Christian Atmosphere

President's Perspective

"And of the children of Issachar, which were men that had understanding of the times, to know what Israel ought to do..." 1 Chronicles 12:32

Above is a tremendous testimony regarding the tribal leaders of Issachar. At a time in the nation of Israel's history when there was great confusion and strife between the followers of house of King Saul and those choosing to follow God's appointed leader, David. The children of Issachar are described as those who had the ability to counsel others with clarity on what God's will was for all.

As SBC continues to grow, we have identified a need to expand the size of the Board of Trustees from 12 members to 15. We believe the board needs more input from the BMA of Mississippi church members

God is on the move on the campus of SBC and we must keep up with Him!

who have significant wisdom and expertise in secular roles that will contribute to the future needs of the college. We are looking for dedicated men and women of God who sense the Lord's calling upon their lives and have a shared vision for SBC, to join the Board of Trustees, wherein God can enhance the board's ability to prepare for the future. For instance, as we begin our initial planning for building a new dormitory, a person with banking experience and a person with commercial construction would be very valu-



Dr. Scott Carson
President

able as members of the board.

I remember when I served as an active duty Army Chaplain, there was a particular job in the chaplaincy that was very undesirable by most chaplains. This highly specialized work was that of the local Chaplains Funds Manager. Because few chaplains wanted the job, and fewer still had experience in accounting, often they were selected at random for the position. On many occasions, the person selected was totally inept in how to handle money and had difficulty understanding the rules and regulations governing their use.

A very good friend of mine told the assignments chaplain very clearly that he could not even balance his own checkbook. Even after a long discussion on how my friend had difficulty

comprehending basic elements of accounting, the assignments chaplain nevertheless, appointed him Chaplain Funds Manager for the entire ministry program on his installation. Of course, the results were sometimes questionable at best, and at the admission of my friend, quite disastrous other times. As a minister of the Gospel, he often felt defeated in his calling as he struggled to understand why he was appointed to such a position that he did not want, nor was able to comprehend. In the Army, we call this type of assignment making, "setting a person up for failure". And, indeed, he later was passed over for promotion to the next rank.

I can also relate a personal experience. A local church made an annual practice of electing Sunday School teachers who had no calling nor experience in teaching. But because there were no others who felt a calling to this ministry and volunteered, the church members felt compelled that somebody... anybody, needed to fill the teaching positions, so they appointed church members against their will. The result was equally as

disastrous, as there was little ability for the newly appointed teachers to provide that ministry in their church's classrooms when they felt no calling from God to fill that position.

We have highly dedicated Board of Trustee members here at SBC and I praise the Lord for every one of them! However, we know our limitations, and we sense that the school will be best served by expanding the number of board members and inviting individuals who possessed expertise in their line of work and who can contribute wise counsel for the rest of the board supporting God's vision for SBC.

I pray that the messengers of our churches in the BMA of Mississippi will vote in favor of expanding our Board of Trustees. God is on the move on the campus of SBC and we must keep up with Him!

"A wise man will hear, and will increase learning; and a man of understanding shall attain unto wise counsels:" Proverbs 1:5

Equipping the Saints!
Dr. Carson

First Home Basketball Game

The first women's home game of the 2020-2021 season is scheduled for October 30 here on the campus of SBC. Come support the Lady Chargers as they take on Blue Mountain College. Time to be announced. Other dates remain fluid as colleges struggle to set their game schedules due to COVID 19 protocols.

TNT

Due to COVID 19, the Tuesday Night Talks (TNT) are cancelled through the end of the Fall Semester. We will endeavor to restart this important spiritual growth program in the Spring Semester.

Lighthouse Café is OPEN!

There are COVID 19 protocols in place, however, the café is open Tuesday through Friday, 11-2. Closed Saturday, Sunday, and Monday.

Amazon Smile

Anyone shopping on Amazon can select Southeastern Baptist College as your charity. When you do this, a portion of your purchase price will go directly to SBC as a donation from Amazon! Thank you for those who are already using this unique method to benefit SBC.



Photo on Left
SBC Choir "Cornerstone" performs at the Big Creek Missionary Baptist Association annual meeting



Dr. Carson isn't praying, but painting for the Lord!



SBC's Handyman Man, Eddie Dear, repairing water damaged baseboard



Students participate in their Christian Service Project with the BMAA Shoe Box Ministry

BAPTIST MISSIONARY ASSOCIATION OF MISSISSIPPI Missions Department & Revolving Loan Fund



Larry Geraldson
Director



www.bmams.org - 601.428.8616

State Missionaries, Coaches & Coordinators and Wives



Phillip & Dawn
Burns



Kenneth & Carole
Pollock



Sidney & Becky
Farmer



Johnny & Neta
Williams



Scott and Susan
Brocius



Chris & DeeDee
Yager



Daniel & Sherri
Allen



Wesley & Holley
Martin



Jason and Kylie
Howard



Josh and Mary Helen
Daniels



Estuardo &
Yasmine Marroquin

God has richly blessed your State Missions Department and Revolving Loan Fund. Despite the challenges we faced with COVID-19, we witnessed remarkable progress. Our Missionaries and Coaches and Coordinators number 15 and they are to be commended for facing adversity with unwavering faith.

Some of them, including myself, fell victim to the virus, but by God's grace, everyone is okay. In addition to the virus, we have had missionaries deal with surgery. Some for themselves and for some, it was their spouse. Nevertheless, they continued to minister to their folks without interruption, though for some it was to be remotely done.

We continue to see the results of having implemented at program of coaching a few years back. Bro. Sidney Farmer has served as our only missionary coach with a focus on discipleship. This year, we will add two new coaches (Bro. Jason Howard and Bro. Wesley Martin) to help us expand the training offered to our missionaries in the first two years of their mission project. They will be focusing on Church Doctrine and Church Pol-

Yet, there is so much more to do.
More than ever, we need to plant churches.

ity respectfully. Missionaries will be encouraged to receive all their areas of training within the first two years of being on the field. I am confident that this training will be very beneficial and will contribute to multiple church planting in the future. The reason I say this is because of my strong convictions that discipleship is the seed to multiple church planting. We already have three missionaries who have plans for multiple church planting. Discipleship is the seed for multiple church planting. We already have the potential of two new missions' projects in the upcoming year and we have associate missionaries in training and have identified others.

We have organized 9 churches since 2011 and have three missions that are discussing organization in the upcoming year.

We have added new missionaries, started new missions, purchased prop-

erty, built buildings, and supported the renovation of properties purchased. We added the "Jail" ministry, under the leadership of Dr. Paul Spurlin, and we are watching the Lord open doors of opportunity and enlarge area of influence. God is blessing this effort.

We have experienced some changes. Bro. Ed DuVall, due to health issues, has had to step down as our African American Missions Coordinator. We are praying for his replacement. Bro. Vernon Newman resigned as our Revolving Loan Fund Manager. We are praying about this position, as well.

We continue to be blessed in our finances. We closed the year's budget in the black again. That is nine years in a row of operating within our means and we plan to make it ten this year. We are operating at a 96% efficiency rate. Ninety-six cents on every dollar, received for missions, goes out the door to our mis-

sionaries. Despite the virus, our churches have remained strong and our regular giving has not wavered. While we did see a drop off in Special Emphasis and Matching Funds campaigns, the regular giving has been steady. We had another spectacular audit.

Also, our RLF is doing well. We finished the year in the black and reached record highs in Gross assets, deposit accounts and loans. We continue to seek new loans and have plenty of money available to loan.

Yet, there is so much more to do. More than ever, we need to plant churches. Thank you for your continued support, both financially and with your prayers. I am deeply grateful for the opportunity to serve you and look forward to the coming year.

Included, in this report, are the reports of our missionaries and coaches and coordinators. Please take time to learn more about them by reading their information and sharing it with your church.

State Missinary Staff Annual Reports

Living Hope Baptist Mission Mother Church – Big Creek Baptist Church, Soso, MS

2020 Annual Report

Chris Yager and his wife, DeeDee, along with their four children, Charity, Samuel, Charissa, and Titus have served together in full-time ministry since 1997. Chris



Yager Family

and DeeDee were married in August of 1994. At the age of 9, Chris realized his need for salvation and trusted Christ as his personal Savior. It was just before his

16th birthday that God called him into the gospel ministry. Since that call, Chris graduated from Pensacola Christian College in 1997 with a Bachelor of Bible and a minor in Biblical Greek. He has served for 4 years as a youth pastor, 10 years as a (BMA) church planter and pastor of Heritage Baptist in New York, and 10 years as the Senior Pastor of Cornerstone Baptist (BMA) in Michigan. Chris has a love for church planting and is enthusiastic about training men for the ministry. He is now serving at the Living Hope Baptist Mission in Meridian, MS. Growing up in church, DeeDee felt the Holy Spirit's conviction at the age of 10 and asked Christ to save her. Surrendering to full time Christian service as a teenager, she has served in various ministries through the years aiding Chris' ministry. Along with her ministries, DeeDee has spent many years home-educating their children. The Yager's four children are intricately involved in ministry with them. They have helped with the church plant in New York and in the ministry at Cornerstone. Charity

and Samuel are currently attending Pensacola Christian College, while Charissa and Titus are at home.

Living Hope Meridian Year End Report:

"The glory of God is seen the greatest when times are difficult. As we have experienced and stated, 2020 has been a trying and difficult year. True to the aforementioned statement, God has accomplished His plan and brought glory to His name.

God has proven Himself mighty and strong to my family as we have transitioned from pastoring an established church in Michigan to preparing to plant Living Hope in Meridian. He has provided for us physically, financially, and emotionally in more ways than I could mention in this article. He has comforted our hearts as we said goodbye to family in Michigan. He has provided for us exactly what we needed at exactly the time we needed it. He has proved Himself mighty and strong on behalf of the Yagers even though this year has not gone according to my plan.

In the deputation process, 2020 proved to make this aspect trying and difficult. Churches were shuttered and the future was uncertain, but God again proved

Himself capable to overcome. Although churches and associations were "closed" in June, I was able to fill in at our home church, Big Creek in Soso, when the virus struck our pastor and people. In July and August, though limited by the pandemic to Sunday mornings only, I was blessed to be in churches every Sunday morning presenting the mission and preaching God's Word. God, through your amazing faithfulness to the call of missions, has provided for us financially, and I am confident that He will continue to provide all that we need for this new mission.

In the beginning stages of Living Hope, He again revealed that He is not limited by difficulties when He placed it upon the heart of two families from our home church to help start Living Hope. These two families have been a tremendous asset to the inauguration of Living Hope. We have been meeting on Sunday nights since the middle of July. In this time, we have prayed, given, and been admonished by the Word of God. We have focused on the spirit and function of this new church. God has given us a core group of 10, a dedicated meeting spot in

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Meridian, and opportunities to promote this new church to souls in Meridian: All of this during trying and difficult times. God's glory is truly being seen. Praise the Lord!

Please be in prayer for this new mission. We held our first service on October the 4th, 2020. We had 25 in attendance and a great time of worship and fellowship. We have added a fourth family to our core group. There are still many hurdles to overcome, but as we have seen, God specializes in overcoming! Thank you so much for your faithfulness through these tough times. You are a testament of God's greatness. Because of our God, let us go forward in confidence in the year to come!" – Missionary Chris Yager hopeformeridian.com

Redemption Baptist Mission Mother Church – Campground Baptist Church, Gulfport, MS

2020 Annual Report

Daniel Allen was approved, by the Missionary Committee, on March 2, 2020, to serve as a State Missionary. He will begin by working as an Associate Missionary with Bro. Wesley Martin at Redemption Baptist Mission at Diamondhead. He is recommended to us by Campground Baptist Church on Hwy 53 near Gulfport.



Daniel & Sherri Allen

Daniel and his wife Sherri have 3 children, Heather (Blake) Morreale, Tyler (Payton) Allen and Austin Allen, and one grandson, Maddox Allen.

Year End Report:

"God has continued to bless at Redemption Missionary Church. I have been blessed to be a part of the things that are happening around there. In January I was put over Education. I structured the small groups and also helped find our material for our Children's Church. In the small groups we saw great participation for over

half of the 12-week study. Once the virus started shutting things down, we had to move to doing these studies over Zoom. This was good at first, but then participation started to fall off some toward the end. The virus changed us in several areas for a time period but, it also allowed us to work on doing more things across the internet. During this time, I had to learn how to learn how to talk into a camera, how to film and how to publish.

Also, during this time dealing with the virus I am now doing a study that is published on Sunday nights. This has been a big help to me to give me an avenue to continue to preach. It helps me to have to produce a message every week. I am also preaching now on Wednesday nights. We are waiting for people to be settled about the virus before we go back to meeting at people's houses for the small groups.

In the last couple of months, we have started to get back to a little bit of normalcy. Attendance continues to grow; offerings are growing, and our membership is growing. We have just started up a type of 'Grow' ministry to try and connect with the new visitors, as well as keep in touch with our existing members.

I have also been getting our people involved with disaster missions. We have gathered supplies and sent them to various places that were affected by hurricanes and tornadoes. A member and I went on one of these trips and helped patch a roof and helped clean up a yard.

We are looking forward to organization. We are getting close. I believe this will be happening very soon. God is continuing to provide in all the areas that we needed help with. We are in the process of putting together the Constitution and Bylaws.

I am also planning on continuing with my education. I want to at least work towards getting a Bachelor of Science in Church Ministries, and from here I will have to see where the Lord leads me.

We are also making plans for me to go out to plant a church. We have been talking to some families and sharing our vision. Our goal is to have a team that goes and helps with this. There are a couple of people that are interested in being a part of this. We are amazed at what all God is doing around us at Redemption.

There are lots of things happening and there is excitement among the people." - Daniel

Allen, Associate Missionary at Redemption Baptist Mission at Diamondhead

Hispanic Missions Bro. Estuardo Marroquin 2020 Annual Report

Bro. Estuardo Marroquin is the Hispanic Missions Manager for the Baptist Missionary Association of Mississippi. In addition to co-pastoring El Camino



Marroquin Family

Baptist Church in Laurel, MS. Bro. Estuardo was born March 26, 1972 into a Baptist Christian family in Guatemala, City. He accepted Christ as my Savior when he was 6 years old and was baptized at 9. His fire for missions work began by watching the example of his father's life in missions work in Guatemala. When he was 10, his father sent his brother and him on a missions trip. Bro. Estuardo said, "We only had the responsibility of showing a Christian movie in a small town in the middle of the jungle in Guatemala. Nobody spoke Spanish in that small town; they were native people from my country. But that experience touched my heart because I could see the need to spread the gospel. That day more than 300 people were saved. In 1999 I started my studies at the Bible Institute at my home church, to get training to be a minister. I surrendered my life to the ministry in 2000. Also, I have a Music and Administration degree. My wife, Yasmin, and my daughter, Abigail live in Laurel, MS."

Hispanic Missions - Year End Report:

"Every day we see God's hand working on the missionary field. Over the past twelve months, we have seen God's provision in the midst of difficult circumstances, and the work continues to progress. As manager of Hispanic missions, I have attended local association meetings in our state sharing the progress of Hispanic missions, sharing the development of each mission. I thank our association for the support they have given us during these months so that the gospel can be preached in Hispanic communities in Mississippi.

For the past six months we have undergone some changes due to COVID-19, but it has not been a barrier to continue to comply with the great commission. We have been using the resources and tools of internet use, video conferences and live broadcasts of worship services, all for the purpose of developing our vision in the Hispanic department of our association.

In these months I have been in contact with our laborers in the cities of Hattiesburg, Canton and Biloxi. I have had the opportunity to advise, guide and develop strategies together with them to continue working on their plans in order to achieve the established goals. It has not been easy, but not impossible, and I thank the Lord greatly for the faithfulness of these men of God who passionately continue to serve and plant the Word of God. I have only had brief communication with the laborers in the north of the state, through messages and phone calls.

Hattiesburg Mission:

Average Worship 40.

Shared the Gospel to 47 persons,

20 Accepted Christ

7 Baptized.

Bible Institute (15 students)

Biloxi Mission:

Average Worship 20. (Oct. 19 – March 20).

Shared the Gospel to 2 persons,

0 Accepted Christ

0 Baptized.

Canton Mission:

Average Worship 12.

Shared the Gospel to 42 persons,

3 Accepted Christ

2 Baptized.

El Camino Church, Laurel:

Average Worship 120.

Shared the Gospel to 50 persons,

17 Accepted Christ

16 Baptized.

Bible Institute (25 students)

"Call unto me, and I will answer thee, and show thee great and mighty things, which thou knowest not". Jeremiah 33:3.

The vision for state Hispanic Missions is: "In partnership with churches and local associations, of the Baptist Missionary Association of Mississippi, we will seek to plant new Hispanic churches through any biblical means possible".

The Lord told Jeremiah "Call unto me", and not only will He answer, but He will show great and mighty things. This Vision and this power gave to our Hispanic Ministry the capacity to

go and plant more Hispanic churches in our state.

The plan for the state Hispanic Missions:

Coaching:

Pray constantly for and with the church planters

Experiential and theological training

Mentoring:

Accomplishment of goals through truly spiritual dependence, and wise use of time and resources

Spiritual and personal support

Monthly meetings with the church planters

Multiplication:

Apply our coaching and mentoring models

Implementation of our development process "Evangelism, Discipleship and small groups". Short terms Goals (2020 - 2021) for the Hispanic Missions:

Organize Hattiesburg Hispanic Mission into a New Testament Church.

Ordain Bro. Leo Adan (Hattiesburg missionary leader)

Find a Location Canton Hispanic Mission.

Promote the participation of Churches and missions in Hispanic association meetings

Prepare survey and evaluate next areas for future Hispanic missions' work (Starkville, Waynesboro and Meridian).

Long term goals (2020 - 2021) for the Hispanic missions:

Opening two Hispanic missions works

Hold an annual Hispanic Missions Conference

Church planters' training. (Twice in the year).

As a Hispanic Manager, it's an honor and a joy to be a part of this great work in our association. Thanks for your prayers for me and my family and all your support. May God bless you!" –Estuardo Marroquin, Hispanic Missions Manager

Canaan Land Baptist Mission

Mother Church – Canaan Baptist Church, Richton, MS

2020 Annual Report

Jason Howard is the pastor of Canaan Missionary Baptist Church in Richton, MS and missionary to Canaan Baptist Mission in Waynesboro, MS. He was saved in March of 2002 on a Friday night during revival at Mt. Pisgah Missionary Baptist Church. A few weeks later, he was baptized into that body. Shortly thereafter, his wife was saved, and God began to call Jason to preach the Gospel. He surrendered and announced his call to the ministry in Novem-

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ber of 2003, and was liberated by the church! Jason received his first call to pastor in January of 2004 and was ordained in April of that year to the full



Jason & Kylie Howard

work of the ministry. He served at Antioch Missionary Baptist Church for 10 years. During this time, he founded a private Christian School.

Jason has been married to his wife, Kylie, for 21 years. Jason says, "She is a wonderful wife and mother, and a tremendous asset to my ministry." They have three children: Jace, Kaden, and Kenley. They also have one grandson.

Year End Report:

"I am thankful for the opportunity I have had to grow in my knowledge of our State Work, as well as, grow in relationship with the other Missionaries.

This has been a strange and difficult year. And yet, the Lord has blessed! Much of my report I am sure will overlap with that of Bro. Scott Brocius. I would like to say first that Bro. Scott has a heart for the work now in Buckatunna. That is not to say there has not been some discouragement this year, but He has weathered it well, and I am sure he will continue and persevere.

We have put many miles on our vehicles driving to and from, visiting and generally engaging in the work of the Lord there. Recently, we saw a young man come to a saving knowledge of Jesus Christ, and he was baptized by Bro. Scott at the Mother church. In the past few months, Bro. Scott has had several different families come and visit the mission church. This has been a great encouragement to us both. We have also been able to make several new contacts in the past few months.

I have been very busy in the work in Buckatunna. Bro. Scott and I have tried to be as frugal as possible with the funds we have raised for the renovation

for the Mission Church. Nearly all the work has been done either by one of us, or by volunteers from other churches. I also continue the discipleship on the first and third Sunday of each month. In addition to the building project, and the continued discipleship training, we have begun outreach in the community. Bro. Scott has made plans concerning reaching out in the community, sharing the gospel, and making himself and the work there known.

As I said, this year has had disappointments. We did lose a family. However, we recently have had a lady contact us who desired to come and play the piano for us. This is a tremendous blessing. All the time, we have people from the community ask us, "when is the building going to be finished," as if to insinuate that they desire to visit once the building is completed. We of course tell them, that we are already having services!

We look forward to completing the exterior and the sanctuary in the building soon! We also have several community gospel outreach events we are working on since COVID seems to be lightening up some. We, like other missionaries, have had to use, at times, Facebook, Radio Transmitter, etc. in order to have services. We are thankful now that we are back in the building!

I assist Bro. Scott in every and any way I am able to. I also am seeking the Lord's guidance concerning a couple of families who desire to start new work! Please pray for this. - Missionary Jason Howard

Salt Light Baptist Mission Mother Church – Camp-



Johnny & Neta Williams

ground Baptist Church, Gulfport, MS

2020 Annual Report

Johnny Williams was born at Kessler Air Force base on May 19, 1969 and grew up in Long Beach Mississippi along the Gulf Coast. He accepted the Lord Jesus and was saved December 12, 1988 and exactly 5 years to

the day was ordained to pastor his first church on December 12, 1993. He has pastored churches in Texas, Louisiana and Mississippi. He is currently a missionary Pastor and is planting Salt Light Baptist Church in Waveland, Mississippi. In August of 1988, he married his wife Neta, and they had 3 children, Ashley, Jonathan and Cortney. Their children are now grown and have families of their own, and now Johnny and Neta also have 3 grandchildren, Livvy, Elijah and Mason.

Year End Report:

"Wow! This past year has been different and difficult to say the least. I have had challenges that I thought I would never have to encounter. I have even had to lean about things to help in ministry that I had never heard of, much less, done before. But, through it all, the Lord has been growing me in ways that I have never experienced before, and it has expanded my ministry capabilities just a little more. I thank the Lord for this. It is easy to get comfortable with what you know and just rest on that. It is a good thing to keep learning and staying up with new methods and ministries. But it has also been difficult.

We started making plans in January to pass out Bibles, tracks, and a flyer we had made up with info about the mission at the local parades that start in February. Our plan was to go hours before the parade starts and walk around passing out everything to those who would accept it. Our goal is to make prospects and/or contacts in our community, to follow up on, to invite them to Church or to the Lord whatever the need might be. Well, it rained all day of the first parade and they finally started about an hour before dark. So, we got rained out! That is ok, because we still had all our fliers and Bibles etc... for the next parade that was literally going to be right around the corner from the Mission in Waveland. But, before we even had an opportunity, it was cancelled due to COVID -19! Nothing has been the same, since then. We had to cancel all services for a while until we knew what was going on. We had to cancel our Wednesday night disciple training and a small group I was doing with a couple of men. We even had a VBS planned for this summer that we had to cancel. And I could go on but that is enough to know that we have struggled.

We have used this time to do some things to the buildings on our property. In the sanctuary,

we have got all our sound equipment hooked up and it sounds amazing. Also, we have built a sound booth in the back corner of the church to hold all our new equipment and computer. We also got our projector hung up and the HDMI wire pulled through the attic and it is ready, as well. Outside around the sanctuary, all the flower beds have been landscaped and we cleaned out the little goldfish pond and put a new fountain in it and got it running. In the Fellowship hall/Sunday School building we have made bookshelves for a lending library. We have the nursery cleaned out and ready to remodel it, but we have a leak to fix first. I think we have finally found it and we have made plans to get it fixed. Once we do this, we can begin Sunday School. We need the two classrooms on that end of the building, and our Children's Church will also be using these rooms, as well. We are looking forward to being able to start Sunday school. We already had a little bit of time together on Wednesday nights with Disciple Training and we are ready to start it again. We also have a fellowship supper on Wednesday nights.

I must thank the Lord because for the most part we still have all our core group coming faithfully. We have not grown any nor have we lost any. I am not sure how I feel about that. I want to see the mission growing and God doing great things despite all the limitations on me! I know that if we are faithful to do what He has called us to do, that He will bless the way He sees fit.

We are so thankful for all the support we receive from the Churches of the BMA of MS. Your help makes it much easier and just knowing you are there, makes a huge difference. May God bless you." - Missionary Johnny Williams

Refuge Baptist Mission Mother Church – Midway First Baptist Church, Sumrall, MS

2020 Annual Report

Josh Daniels is a native of Hancock County in the Nacaise Crossing community. He was saved in the fall of 2000 and surrendered to God's calling of ministry in the summer of 2001 at the BMA of MS Sr. Youth Camp. He was licensed by Community Baptist Church of Poplarville, MS in 2002 and later ordained by Community in 2009. Josh has served as associate pastor & youth pastor in a few of our BMAA churches. He has

served as youth and associate pastor at Community Baptist in Poplarville, MS, Round Prairie Baptist in Fairfield, TX, Campground Baptist in Gulfport, MS, and First Baptist in Taylor, AR. He then served in



Daniels Family

his first pastorate at Shiloh Baptist Church in Perkinston, MS. During these years of ministry he has ministered through various youth camps, church revivals, D-Now weekends, outreaches, missions, and ministries. He also received a Bachelors and 2 Associates from Southeastern Baptist College in Laurel, MS. Josh now serves as mission pastor of Refuge Baptist Mission in Kiln, MS along his wife and children.

In 2002, Josh married Mary Helen and began their life of ministry together. Mary Helen currently works as a full time tutor for Poplarville Lower Elementary. She serves Refuge Mission through planning, serving, and music ministry where she sings and plays keyboard. They have 3 children, Hannah, Noah, & Sarah who also help serve in various ways in the mission through weekly setup, music ministry, youth ministry, and food service. They just had the blessing of closing on a home in January of 2020 in Kiln, MS in an area they believe will be used for more opportunity to reach others in the community..

Refuge Baptist Mission

Year End Report:

"As we look back on the past year, I'm sure we can all agree that it has been a very unique time full of new obstacles and uncertainties. As we at Refuge have completed year one of church planting, there have been some great things to reflect on and moments that we have been challenged.

We began this journey on the first week of September in 2019. This was a time of excitement and great expectations for us. Interest meetings were started with people in our area that

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found out what we were doing and wanted to know more about it. Many of these have stayed with us and are still a part of the mission. We had our first public service on Sunday, December 1st, 2019 in the Kiln Public Library Meeting Room. We were excited to have so many attend and support our first service. Services moved forward and we began to plan other ministries and outreaches until Covid-19 hit.

We could no longer meet in the Kiln Library, so we began to have services on Sunday and a discipleship class on Wednesday through Facebook Live. It worked for a while, but we all know that there is a personal connection that is missed when we are not meeting in person. As many churches began to meet again in their buildings, we felt the need and desire to start back as well, but we still could not meet in the library. Finally, our county buildings began to open up and we were able to start renting the Kiln Storm Shelter on Sundays for service. We continue to meet there for now until God leads elsewhere.

As the Coronavirus pandemic has continued, we have watched it come and go in families including our own. There were 3 out of our family of 5 that tested positive for Covid-19 and we were in quarantine for 3 weeks. So that meant having to go back to services online for a couple of weeks. There have been many ups and downs mentally, emotionally, and physically over the past few months, but we continue to serve, worship, and tell others of our Lord.

One thing about renting the Kiln Shelter is that we have it for the entire day on Sunday. So we have been discussing starting some youth and children's classes on Sunday evenings. Please pray for us as we move forward in that. Also, we want to begin children's church and nursery again as more parents become okay with that. My wife, Mary Helen has started a women's class and will be meeting for about 6 weeks. There seems to be some great interest in this among the ladies. We pray that more opportunities become available to minister, do outreach, and meet people, as we try to move forward during a time that people are still reluctant to meet and greet

people.

We have had visitors regularly join us at the mission on Sundays. Many have come back, as well. We were able to donate bookbags with supplies to our local elementary schools. Also, we were able to give boxes of school supplies to our local high school and middle school. The connection with Hancock High football team is still there and Refuge was able to serve them their pre-game meal and have a devotion with them on their first Friday night game. We believe that many ministry opportunities can come from building relationships with the staff and students in our local schools. Pray that we can stay connected to them and build relationships with them even more and that fruit will come from the seeds planted.

As we begin a new year, we've a few things in mind and heart that we hope to see:

- We are praying for God to give more opportunity to meet new people, get into some new neighborhoods, and see new faces.
- We pray for God to draw the lost to Himself through the preaching of the Gospel.
- We pray that the ones attending Refuge will be bold and courageous in their faith and in sharing the Gospel with others.
- We pray for our discipleship classes and process to be better organized and find opportune places and times for people to be a part of this important part of church family.
- We pray that God will direct us to a building and property or property to build on.

We can never thank the churches of the BMA of MS, our BMA of MS Missions Department, and our mother church, Midway First Baptist Church, for all of the support, guidance, and encouragement so far. It has been greatly appreciated and needed. It will continue to be appreciated and needed. May God bless you all!" – Missionary Josh Daniels

Midway Baptist Mission Mother Church – First Baptist Church of Mantachie, Mantachie, MS

2020 Annual Report

Dr. Kenneth Pollock, a native Mississippian, was born in Tupelo and reared in the Mantachie community. His first memory related to Christianity and church service is attending Oak Grove Missionary Baptist Church in Itawamba County. After starting school, his family moved membership to Mantachie Creek Missionary Baptist Church, where, in 1958,

he accepted Christ as Savior and Lord during a summer revival. Completing high school in 1964, Dr. Pollock attended college for two years before enlisting in the United States Navy. In September 1967, while on active duty in the Philippines, he received God's call to the ministry, a call-



Kenneth & Nina Pollock

ing he struggled with and did not answer for nine years. In September 1976, he surrendered to the Lord's call and on October 5, 1976 preached for the first time, at his home church in Mantachie. The first three years he was an itinerate preacher. Then he was called to be Associate Pastor at South Green Street Baptist in Tupelo, MS where, in 1979, he was ordained to the full gospel ministry. A little more than a year later in the Fall of 1980, he accepted a call from Pleasant Hill Baptist Church, Tupelo to be Pastor. In addition to that first pastorate, Dr. Pollock served as pastor of Euclatubba Baptist Church in Saltillo, MS, associate pastor/missionary of First Baptist Church in Saltillo, pastor of Mt. Vernon Baptist Church in Tupelo, pastoral leader of Northeast Mississippi Cowboy ministry, Wing Chaplain of the Civil Air Patrol, and now serves as State Missionary and pastor of Midway Baptist Mission in Panola County near Oxford and Batesville, MS.

Dr. Pollock is married to Dr. Nina Carole Sumner Pollock whom he met at church in Mantachie just before leaving for active military service. They married in 1967 and have enjoyed very active and interesting 52 years together. Midway

Baptist Mission, Batesville - Year End Report:

"What a year!" What else could one say? This year brought to us a glimpse of the church we will eventually become. At the close of the last church year, we were beginning to see more community interest in Midway. People in the community were asking questions and a few came for a visit in a worship service. From October to February, at-

tendance increased from around ten to nineteen. We were excited and decided to expand the services to include Sunday School, with the expectation of gaining some younger people to our congregation. Then, the unexpected happened, the Covid19 Pandemic, and the shut-down.

From the middle of March until Mother's Day, no in-person services were held. As many others, we went to Facebook as the format for reaching our members and the community. Sunday sermons and adult Sunday School lessons were broadcast as were mid-week Bible Studies. Emails and texts were also utilized to keep in touch with members, and to keep them in touch with one another. We held on to the hope that we would hold the group together. Unfortunately, when we finally returned to in-person services, we only had five souls to return. That is the number we had when the mission began. We are, in a real sense, starting over. We still list eleven members, but one no longer lives in the state. Our high attendance since the restart in May is eleven. Covid19 and other health issues are keeping several away, but some have dropped off the radar. Panola County has been in the "Red Zone" for a long time. People are nervous, and making new contacts is difficult. We are taking advantage of every opportunity to reach out to people and believe that we will gain back our losses and see new growth.

Though my report seems to lean toward the negative, let me assure you that is not my attitude nor is it the attitude of our membership. We have grown closer in our fellowship and in spiritual areas. Miracles have been witnessed and we rejoice in our wonderful Lord. The daughter of a couple in our membership was in a terrible automobile accident. She suffered many broken bones and a life-threatening head injury. She was in extremely critical condition with little hope for complete recovery. The father is a relatively new believer and was skeptical of the "power of prayer." We could not get together to hold a prayer service, but we all prayed and encouraged that father to pray and believe. Those prayers were answered! The young woman has some visible scars, but no mental impairments. It is a miracle from the accident victim, and a tremendous breakthrough for her father in recognizing the power of prayer and the graciousness of God.

The coming church year will be the fifth for Midway Mission. We are one year away from organizing as a New Testament Church. We intend to enjoy that experience in late 2021 or early 2022. The time between now and then will include some in-depth instruction of our people in how to become an autonomous church. Only a couple of the members have any sense of what all is involved. I covet your prayers that I may be able to effectively prepare this congregation for taking on the responsibilities that go with assuming Church status.

As always, it is a privilege and blessing to serve as Missionary Pastor. Thank you for all your support and prayers. Blessings to all." – Missionary Dr. Kenneth Pollock

Restoration Jail Ministry

Dr. Paul Spurlin lives in Bay Springs, MS, and is a member of First Baptist Church of Bay Springs. Jesus Christ saved Paul in March, 2003, and the Lord called him to ministry in October, 2007. After being licensed to Gospel Ministry by First Baptist Church of Bay Springs, he has continued teaching and occasionally preaching within his home church and has



Dr. Paul Spurlin

been used in pulpit supply by churches within Mississippi. Currently, Paul serves as coordinator of Restoration, a ministry of the missions office to churches of the BMA of Mississippi and to people who are jailed in Mississippi. His full time work is as an associate professor of finance for Mississippi State University, teaching on the Meridian campus.

Paul has been married to Julie since 2003. Julie is a former art teacher and is currently active in the ministries of First Baptist of Bay Springs. Paul and Julie have two daughters,

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Mandy Russell and Suzy Myers, who are each married to ministers. Dr. Jonathan Russell pastors First Baptist Church in Milton, FL, and Chris Myers pastors Palestine Baptist Church in Montrose, MS. Mandy teaches in the Milton, FL, school district, and Suzy teaches home school, works in retail, and serves as secretary for First Baptist, Bay Springs. Paul and Julie also cherish their four grandchildren: Jake Russell, Anna Myers, Cameron Russell, and Andrew Myers. While Paul attempts to rule his own house well, his and Julie's dachshund, Molly, challenges that notion at times.

Restoration Jail Ministry - Year End Report:

A new ministry to imprisoned people began its work within the Missions Department during the 2019-2020 year. During the first few months of this new ministry, with input from Director Larry Geraldson, we chose the name Restoration based on our desire of working toward restoration in three areas. One, we desire to see God save imprisoned people through the preaching of the Gospel, thus restoring their relationship with Him. Second, we desire to see God restore His fellowship with and obedience in imprisoned people who are saved but who have departed from a close walk with Him. Third, we desire to see God restore churches of the BMA of Mississippi who are not currently ministering to imprisoned people to their proper role in doing so as mentioned in Matthew 25:31-46. Therefore, we have chosen to focus our ministry within local county jails in Mississippi as this seems the most effective way to accomplish all three of these goals in a single work. Additionally, focusing work within local county jails offers the benefit of easier access to imprisoned people as typically the only requirement to begin Gospel ministry in a county jail is permission by the sheriff or his/her jail administrator as opposed to the necessity of earning credentials to enter state correctional facilities. While earning credentials for ministerial access to state institutions would be plausible for a few individuals serving within Restoration, the burden to individual churches of hav-

ing their congregants to be credentialed for this access is likely unreasonable.

Communication and Support

In order to make the churches aware of Restoration for the purposes of gathering prayer and financial support and encouraging churches to reach people within their local county jails, we visited local association meetings during the year, and at each meeting, we presented our vision for Restoration's ministry in the three areas mentioned earlier. Our goal was to visit each association during the year, but due to COVID-19 challenges restricting us to approximately six months of freely available meeting opportunities, we were only able to attend meetings of the following nine associations (listed in alphabetical order): Big Creek, East Central, Gulf, Harmony, Hobolochitto, Oak Grove, Ten Mile, Tombigbee, and Washington. We were also invited to Movella Baptist Church in Lucedale to present Restoration to her congregation.

With thanks to God, we can report that in addition to prayer support that has undoubtedly been lifted, we have been financially supported during the year (as of July) by the following churches and associations: Beacon Baptist Church (Arkansas), Bethesda Landmark Missionary Baptist Church (Missouri), Big Creek Baptist Association, Fairview Baptist Church (Arkansas), First Baptist Church North Lewisville (Arkansas), First Baptist Church of Bay Springs, First Baptist Church of Emerson (Arkansas), Harmony Baptist Church, Movella Baptist Church, Paramount Baptist Church, Riverside Baptist Church, Spencer Memorial Baptist Church, and Washington Baptist Association.

In April, Restoration began sending out a newsletter to financially-supporting churches and individuals in order to update them on the ministry. We sent a newsletter to supporters in April and July and intend to continue sending it at three-month intervals, so the next edition is set to go out in October.

Inside the Jails

To date we have been able to minister inside two jails: Jasper County Jail and the Jones County Adult Detention Center (JCADC).

We made one trip to the Jasper County Jail on March 10, as part of a five-man ministry team

(I was the only representative from Restoration). During our time inside the jail, we preached to a group of county prisoners (about 20 – 25 men) and to a group of state prisoners (about 6 – 8 men) who recently had been sentenced but had not been transferred. We also had prayer time with each group following the sermon to that group. I had the opportunity to preach to the state-prisoner group, and following the sermon, one of those men asked for counseling and prayed for salvation through Jesus Christ—Hallelujah! A few days after making this trip, the Jasper County Jail closed to ministry opportunities in an effort to protect the facility from COVID-19 infection, and to our knowledge, remains closed as of the date of this writing.

After four months of jails being closed due to COVID-19 restrictions, we found that JCADC was opened again to Gospel ministry, and the Lord provided our team access to this jail. We made one trip inside JCADC on July 24, where we ministered to ten men. We went back the next week and were told that the jail was again closed to ministry because of a spike in COVID-19 in the area. However, JCADC reopened to ministerial visitation, and we were able to go back on September 4 and have a worship service with a different ten men. It appears that JCADC offers prisoners to opportunity to visit with us in groups of ten, and we are allowed one hour with them.

It is in JCADC that my thoughts for how to proceed with jail visits have been solidified. My desire has been to bring what I can of a worship service into the jail because the prisoners are physically prevented from attending a worship service at a church, even if they want to do so. This vision was solidified when we were on our first trip to JCADC. I asked the men in the room with us how the jailors decide who can come to our meeting. The response was that they walk down the hall and ask, "Who wants to go the church?" Later, I asked about the regularity with which ministry came into the jail, and we were told "It's been a long time since we've been to church." These men are looking at our time together as coming to church. How wonderful!

Plans for the Future

Our plans are to continue working in the Jasper County Jail and the JCADC as they are open to ministry. My current team consists of myself and a

man from First Baptist Church of Bay Springs, who seems to have the vision of ministering regularly inside jails. I thank God for him and one other man from the same church who have been with me inside JCADC. Because the current team is limited to three, I plan to only work in these two jails until other churches get a vision for working in their local jails at which time I look to help them establish a regular ministry in their jail. Brother Geraldson has informed me that missionary Scott Brocious is anxious to begin jail ministry in his area, so I look forward to speaking with him to see how we can work together toward that end.

As I mentioned earlier, my vision is to carry what I can of worship service into the jail each time we visit. To do this, I think that it is wise to have at least two people (men when ministering to male prisoners and women when ministering to female prisoners as God grows this ministry) go into the jail because Jesus counseled that wherever two or three are gathered in His name that He would be in the midst. I know why I am gathering, but I cannot know for sure why any of the prisoners are gathering. Therefore, I want to have at least one other like-minded man with me as I go so that we can be assured that Jesus is in the midst of the worship service.

In my last trip inside the JCADC I formed the following order of worship: 1. Welcome; 2. Prayer; 3. Song; 4. Scripture 5. Reading; 6. Sermon; 7. Time for other members of team not preaching to share; 8. Invitation; 9. Opportunity for prayer requests from prisoners; 10. Prayer; 11. Song; 12. Offering of Gospel tracts

At the beginning of the service, each prisoner is offered a sheet of paper that contains the words of songs to be sung, the scripture used in preaching, and my sermon outline with brief sermon notes such that they can actively participate in the worship service and take the sheet with them (along with Gospel tracts) in order that they might have them to read and review later. To my knowledge, this order of worship includes all scripturally-directed aspects of a worship service that are feasible to occur within a jail atmosphere, but I am open to comments from anyone who thinks of other parts that can be added. I plan to continue to use this order of worship until God shows me a better way, and I believe He blessed our time in

the JCADC as we used this order on September 4.

The only other major initiative that I am contemplating is to begin visiting the Jones County Juvenile Detention Center. I have no idea as to the opportunity to visit juveniles in detention, but I will be making inquiry with the jail administrators in Jones County and hope to be able to begin ministering to juveniles who are jailed. How wonderful would it be if God opened the opportunity to reach young people who are currently in jail such that He may change their lives before they continue along a path that may lead to their adult imprisonment?

Please continue to pray for me, my team, and this jail ministry as God directs our efforts to reach jailed people. Often, we may have only one opportunity to reach a prisoner before he is released or transferred, so I ask that you pray specifically for God to open the hearts of the people in jails where we visit and for Him to move churches to be willing to engage in local jail ministry so that we can increase our efforts in this realm—that is to have more workers in this harvest field.

Thank you for the opportunity to continue serving as the coordinator of Restoration Jail Ministry." Dr. W. Paul Spurlin, Coordinator

Canaan Land Baptist Mission - Mother Church - Canaan Baptist Church, Richton, MS

2020 Annual Report

Scott has lived in Leakesville, MS for majority of my life. He was saved at 19 years old in a Sunday school room at Pilgrim's



Brocious Family

Rest Missionary Baptist Church. He surrendered to the call to preach in June 2015 under Bro. Charlie McNeil at Sweetwater Missionary Baptist Church. He had the honor to serve the Lord as pastor of Sandhill Missionary Baptist Church in Rocky Creek, MS for two years. Since his resignation in 2019, he joined Canaan Mission-

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ary Baptist Church and Pastor Jason Howard. While a member at Canaan, he has been active with helping Bro. Jason with Canaan Land Baptist Mission. He has also been supply preaching where needed throughout Mississippi. He and his wife, Susan, were married in September 2006. They have three children Zane, Jase, and Everli.

Year End Report:

“Greetings, from Canaan Land! Wow, what a year 2020 has been! First and foremost, I would like to say God is good and I pray all is well with you all. We have been working hard, and I have found out through my journey mission work is not easy. With that being said the rewards are great.

This year in review: I partnered with Bro. Jason Howard at Canaan Land to become the pastor of this church plant. Since then, I began holding and preaching the services there. The Lord has blessed tremendously. We have since seen two young men make professions of faith and follow the Lord in baptism. What a blessing! This is what church planting is all about: getting to see people come to the knowledge of our Lord and Savior. Bro Jason has been teaching a Baptist doctrine and discipleship class on Sunday afternoon and we have seen people grow in knowledge of what we believe and why we believe it. This seems to be dying in most churches today. We have also been blessed with several members and visitors and returning visitors.

We have had several outreach programs throughout this time, as well as door to door visitation. This seems to go well. After the last community outreach, the following Sunday, we had six first time visitors. COVID has slowed these outreach events down somewhat but we have been exploring some new ideas on how to have some that can include social distancing. One of our ideas that is in the works is to get a projector and a big movie screen and have a drive in movie, and include popcorn and hotdogs, as well as, gospel tracts and an informational card invitation to the church. We are looking for new ways to connect with people to get them in and share the Gospel. Also, we have been looking

at having an outdoor gospeling. We must find new ways to get people in the house of God to preach the tried and true Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ.

We, with the help of many have also secured a building for this church plant this year! We have been hard at work with renovations on the building. God has greatly supplied our every need thus far and I am sure he will continue to do so in the future. If I had to give a number, I would say that we are seventy five percent done with these renovations. There has been much talk in the community about the building and many are asking when it will be finished. We are currently holding services in a large room in the building and our members are glad we have been blessed with it. Please help us pray that the remainder of this renovation will be finished in a timely manner. We have also been blessed by the donation of some very nice pews and sound equipment.

We are very excited about the opportunity to go full time the first of September. Since then, I have gotten the opportunity to be in the community more. I plan to go to the local school system to see if I can be of assistance and possibly be able to have prayer or do devotionals for students, as well as, athletes. I have also talked to the local jail about securing a slot to come and minister to inmates, as well as, their families. Please be in prayer for these efforts. Any ideas or input on some ways to reach out to people for the cause of Christ are very welcome.” – Missionary Scott Brocius

Sidney Farmer Missionary Coach

2020 Annual Report

Bro. Sidney Farmer was saved in 1978 and surrendered to the ministry in 1997. He has pastored three churches: two in



Farmer Family

Mississippi and one in Alabama. In April of 2012 he accepted the call to the mission field and began church planting in the South Forrest county area. He successfully led in the founding

and organizing of South Forrest Baptist Church where he is currently the Pastor. Since the organization of South Forrest he has served as a Missionary Coach for the BMA of Mississippi Missions Department with an emphasis on training missionaries in the area of discipleship. Sidney has been married to Becky Farmer since 1987. They have three sons: Austin who is married to Caitlin, and Dexter who is married to Clara, and Kyle. In May of 2020 they were blessed with their first grandson, Charles Elliot Farmer.

Sidney has been working with the following missionaries over the past year.

Wesley Martin – Diamondhead, Johnny Williams – Waveland, Josh Daniels – Kiln, MS, Kenneth Pollock – Batesville, MS, Ed DuVall – Cleveland, MS

In the upcoming year, Sidney will be leading our team of Missionary Coaches to provide coordinated specific training in three different areas.

Church Doctrine, Church Polity, Discipleship

Redemption Baptist Mission Mother Church – Campground Baptist Church, Gulfport, MS

2020 Annual Report

Wesley Martin grew up on the Gulf Coast where he attended Campground Baptist Church. In 2004, he was saved and in February 2008 he sur-



Martin Family

rendered to the gospel ministry and was licensed by Campground Baptist Church. He was ordained in 2013 and served as Associate Pastor at Campground until January 2015. He has spent time working in youth ministry, music ministry and preaching the gospel. In 2018 he finished his Bachelor's degree at Southeastern Baptist College. He now serves as the Mission Pastor of Redemption Baptist Mission outside of Diamondhead. In 2012, he married his wife, Holley, after dating since high school. Holley is a kindergarten teacher and faith-

fully serves beside her husband. She uses her gifts in numerous areas including nursery, music ministry, and finances. They have three beautiful sons, Lawson, Grayson, and Hudson. Together they moved to Diamondhead in 2015 to become apart of the community and start the mission there.

Redemption Baptist Diamondhead Year End Report:

“The last two years of our journey at Redemption have been nothing short of amazing. We have seen God do so many wonderful things. He has done what I could never do and I give him all the glory and praise. I am excited to report to you the work that God has done.

God saw fit for us to buy our new building on Kapalama Dr. He opened all the doors and made it abundantly clear that we would minister here for the future. After a lengthy remodel process, we were able to have our first service in the new building last October. It was a blessed day to worship in a place that we owned for the first time. We have gradually finished small projects and made upgrades to get the building to work for what we needed in ministry.

Through this process of church planting God has grown me exponentially. I thank you for the patience and grace you have shown me as I tried to figure out how to church plant and pastor. Over the last year, God has continued to take me deeper into His Word. Through this process, He began to reveal to me, a clear vision for the church. We, at Redemption, want to be a church that plants churches. Even in our infancy, that had been in the back of my mind. Now it is being brought closer to the forefront.

I have committed myself to making disciples and training people that could and would go out to plant churches in the future. We have done deep studies on Church Polity and Church Doctrines. As God continues to grow me, I have taken our people along. We have seen great spiritual growth in our church. This year we completed the DiscipleWay study with 18 people. These folks are now actively serving in various roles throughout the church. I am convinced that if we are to plant churches, we must make strong disciples first. I have committed myself to strong biblical preaching from the pulpit and deep biblical study in small groups.

As we made these commitments and sought the Lord in prayer, He began to respond. In

January, you as a Missionary Committee saw fit to add Bro. Daniel Allen. He came and became a part of our local body. He has been such a blessing. He has worked diligently on whatever task he has been given. He started by organizing and launching our small groups in the Spring. I have continued to give him opportunity to teach and preach. I have seen him grow week after week. He came to us at a special time. He has been able to help me with various ministries across the church. In doing so, he is getting invaluable experience that will help him as he enters the mission field on his own.

In March, the church was doing quite well. We had a big launch service in our new building. The service was 5 years to the exact day of our very first service. As you very well know, around that time COVID-19 was really getting started in our area. We followed the State and Local recommendations and ceased in person worship services. We pre-recorded our sermons for Sunday and used ZOOM for small groups on Wednesday night. For eight weeks, we were strictly online. This was a trying time for us as a church. We missed the fellowship and worship of in person services. We did the best we could in the given situation, but nothing can replace the assembling of God's people together. As we learned more about the virus and conditions began to change, we saw fit to begin in person meetings again around the end of May.

I will say that our time online made us think about things differently and some good things have come out of that. We used the Zoom platform for small groups. This has still been a platform that we have used for some Bible study things since. Also, Daniel posted a sermon each Sunday night on Facebook. This was an opportunity for him to prepare and preach each week not only to our local body but to anyone who would listen. He has continued this even after coming back to church. To this point, he has almost completed the book of Ephesians on Sunday night Facebook videos.

Since we came back from COVID, God has blessed us greatly. Many of our families came back over the first few weeks. Then, we started to meet new families. For a span of 6 or 7 weeks, we had a new family each time we met together. Over

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the summer, we started all our activities at the church again. We have continued to have great attendance each week usually in the 60's. We recently had 80 for a normal Sunday service. This is our highest attendance since the beginning.

We are working diligently on organization. We have a few men who were nominated by the church body to work with Daniel and myself to prepare our Church Constitution, By-Laws, and Statement of Faith. One factor that had worried us some

in the past was our finances. We are now seeing our finances get better month after month. In August, we had record offering numbers. If this trend continues, we will have no problem being self-supporting. The church has already voted and taken up the second portion of my salary and all is well. We have continued to give to missions and do mission work as we have the opportunity.

It is an exciting time for us at Redemption. We have many new families that are coming week after week. Now we are starting to see these families join our local body. We are getting various ministries started throughout the church. These include children and teens ministries, outreach, and missions. This is

opening plenty of opportunities for these new members to serve.

Because of our continued growth, we are running out of room in our building. Now we are working to come up with plans for a building expansion. In the expansion, we would get more sanctuary space, some classrooms, and a place to do teenage youth services. We could then turn our current sanctuary into space for children's ministry. I am thankful to the RLF and churches who have donated toward our debt. Because of their kindness we are in position to borrow more money to expand.

It is my hope that we will continue to see growth in number and spiritually. I hope that early next year we can organize

into a Local New Testament Church. Then we will shift all our focus onto Daniel. Even now, we are talking to people about going to plant with him. We have two families in the church now that are prayerfully considering going with him in time. If we can disciple and train these people to send with Daniel, I feel as if we will have accomplished what God has called us to do.

I want to again thank Bro. Larry, the Missionary Committee, and all the churches of the BMA of MS for your continued support. You have shown me grace and patience. You have continued to invest in me and the work that we are a part of. I am blessed beyond measure. I only hope that we will make you

thankful and that I can help other missionaries in the future to carry out the Great Commission.

In this last year, we have seen God do wonderful things. I pray that we will continue to trust in Him and follow him. I pray that we will continue to have compassion for the lost, so we can reach our community with the Gospel. "Now unto him who is able to keep you from falling, and to present you faultless before the presence of his glory with exceeding joy, to the only wise God our Savior, be glory and majesty, dominion and power, both now and forever. Amen." – Missionary Wesley Martin



Giving a warm welcome to those attending services at new mission effort in Meridian, Mississippi



Refuge Mission Baptism Service



Living Hope Mission, Meridian Service



Josh Daniel's baptizes his son at recent Refuge baptism service

Position on Abortion?

from Front Page

human life began, it is still alive and should not be killed.

As space is getting short, I cannot show the numerous places in the Bible where we find that judgment will fall on murderers. If you have had an abortion, seek God's forgiveness. God can and will forgive this sin.

I must now direct our atten-

tion to rulers with this mindset. Some politicians are saying all women should be able to abort on demand. Others are saying that if a child is born alive after a "botched or failed" abortion attempt, the baby should be forced to die. There is even a movement that, up to one year after a child is born, a parent should be able to terminate that child's life. These are wicked and evil ideas and actions and God will judge those with these actions.

Anyone who believes that it should be legal to commit mur-

der, especially to those that are helpless and precious in God's eyes, is not qualified to be a leader. Anyone who votes to put people in power who are going to make it easier (legal) to kill babies will also be judged. Christians must take a stand against sin and stand up for righteousness. When considering who to vote for, we must also consider what they stand for and what they plan to do after election. We will not be held guiltless if we allow murderers to be placed in positions of authority because we voted for them.

Just think

If women knew how respectable men felt and what they say about the way many of them fail to properly dress, they would make some changes. There are many things which attract attention that doesn't make an impression.

Whether women dress immodest to keep in style, because they are careless and are not thinking, or for reasons worse, none of these things will justify one in disobeying God-- "In like manner also, that women adorn themselves in modest apparel, with shamefacedness and sobriety; not with braided hair, or gold, or pearls, or costly array;" 1 Tim. 2:9

Let sinners dress and act as sinners if they will not have it any other way, but "...let everyone that nameth the name of Christ depart from iniquity." (2 Timothy 2:19) God will bless you if you will, and our Nation will be a nicer place to live.

-Grover Laird

A PROVERB IS A
GENERAL PRINCIPLE
GENERALLY APPLIED,
THAT BRINGS A
GENERAL RESULT

Sofilthy's Attic

by Barbara White

The Watched Door



Well, I don't watch a lot of television but I do enjoy "Jeopardy". The other day it was time for Jeopardy and I turned it on but it wasn't on. What WAS on was a big black vehicle pulled up to a door of The White House and after I watched that a while, I learned that they had interrupted "Jeopardy" to watch that door for President Trump to come out that door, get into the big black vehicle, and be taken to the hospital to be treated for THE VIRUS!

I never did learn what was taking so long unless it took his wife that long to find enough clean underwear and socks to pack for his stay in the hospital!

But what got me was: I sat there and watched that door with the rest of the nation (I suppose). What a waste of time! And I missed Jeopardy!

This has been a fearful time for many. I came across this verse the other day, "And he saith unto them, 'Why are ye fearful, O ye of little faith?' Then he arose rebuked the winds and the sea; and there was a great calm."

Our God's got this! We need to be wise, but not fearful!

MORAL ACTION

Baptist Missionary Association of America

Dr. John M. Adams, Director
 P.O. Box 305, Mantachie, MS 38855 - 662-231-3863
On The Web at www.macbma.net/
 Email - fbcdjmaj@yahoo.com

Annual Report

Moral Action of Mississippi

The churches of the Baptist Missionary Association of Mississippi have discussed in detail why Moral Action is needed as an agency.

Posted in writing was the great need for God's people to ORGANIZE for the purpose of (1) being informed of proposed legislation affecting our moral values, (2) having an organized plan to contact our appropriate officials, and (3) keeping ourselves informed as to HOW these officials voted on these issues. **THUS, IT IS THE PURPOSE OF MORAL ACTION OF MISSISSIPPI TO FULFILL THESE THREE NEEDS.** Pro-abortion/LBGTQ organizations have had great success in the past simply because of highly organized and vocal proponents. It is time for Christians to unite and organize for the purpose of protecting our religious freedoms and biblical values by letting our voices be heard.

Years later in 2020, Moral Action of MS actively supports

the following:

1. The right to life of the unborn,
2. School choice and local control of public schools,
3. Abstinence based sex education programs,
4. Voluntary prayer in public schools,
5. Public policies that promote family values,
6. Biblical decency and morality,
7. The rights of parents to raise their children without government interference,
8. The rights of Judeo Christians practicing their religious beliefs without government interference,
9. Legislations that promote Christian, moral and family values.

We actively oppose the following:

1. The use of federal funds for



Dr. Adams

abortion, euthanasia, or sexual perversion,
 2. Condom distribution in the public schools and colleges,
 3. Tax funding of pornography,
 4. Legislation that would result in the decline of biblical moral values,
 5. As Director of Moral Action of MS, I desire to make our BMA family familiar with other valuable Christian resources. Some recommendations are listed below:

Family Research Council
 Tony Perkins
 1-800-225-4008
www.frc.org

WallBuilders
 David Barton, Historian
 1-817-441-6044
www.wallbuilders.com

Focus on the Family
 President Jim Daly
 1-800-A-Family (232-6459)
www.focusonthefamily.com

Christians United for Israel
 Director: David Brog
 1-210-477-4714
www.CUFI.org

Alliance Defending Freedom
 1-800-835-5233
www.adflegal.org

The Heritage Foundation
 Jim Dement
 1-877-531-4603
www.heritage.org

American Family Association
 Tim Wildmon
 1-662-844-5036
www.afa.org

This ministry is available at the following:

Moral Action of Mississippi
 Dr. John M. Adams
 P.O. Box 88
 Mantachie, MS 38855
 1-662-231-3863
www.macbma.net

Our site lists the latest recommendations, issues, and our BMA purpose for this agency.

We wish to thank each church, association, WMA, Brotherhood and individual who has contributed to this agency.

We need to remember to pray for our military men and women daily as they are forefront in fighting for our liberties.

I would like to encourage each of our BMA family to make contributions monthly and/or to the annual Freedom Offerings in July.

Ms. Adams and I covet your prayers. I thank you for this privilege that you have afforded to me as your Director.

I Love Metaphors!

From Paul Gauntt's Facebook page

I think sometimes we learn more from "indirect" metaphorical counseling than from confrontational, "in your face" counseling. Case in point:

Did you ever wonder why Canadian geese fly only in the "V" formation? Each goose, in flapping its wings, creates an upward lift for the goose that follows. When all the geese do their part in the "V" formation, the whole flock has a 71 percent greater flying range than if each bird flew alone. Each then, depends upon the other to get to its destination.

Also, the head goose - the one in front - bears the greatest burden, therefore the geese, in rotation, relieve him, taking the lead so that none burn out.

Something else - when a goose begins to lag behind, the others "honk" him back into place.

The church could learn a lesson from God's animal creation! The church needs to fly in a spiritual "V" formation, "honking" one another into steadfastness. That would probably make it 71 percent easier to live the faithful Christian life "flying with the flock" as opposed to going it alone.

Does that make sense?

What a great time to be involved with the ministry of Lifeword. The church has witnessed a profound shift overnight. This shift has moved the church outside of the walls of the building and into the public arena of media like never before. Lifeword is out front leading the way for churches to have a well presented voice in the public square by providing quality programming that presents the Gospel clearly and effectively into the marketplace of ideas we know as social media.

As churches make plans to fulfill the Great Commission both locally and globally it is imperative to partner strategically to achieve maximum reach and impact. We are blessed to have the opportunity to invest in the ministry of Lifeword that speaks daily into the lives of people around the world in a powerful way.

Join Janis and I as we give and encourage our church family to give on Lifeword Sunday. Lifeword is a vital part of our Great Commission strategy.

Lifeword Sunday
10-18-20

Pastor Bryan and Janis Atwood
Harvest Church, Gulfport, Mississippi

