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Mississippi

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October - November

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October 20,21, 2015
Theme: "Stand Firm"
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Touching Lives With The Living Water of Christ



The W4C Team is blessed to have an effective and powerful international ministry. It does take money and time to accomplish this work, but we attest that seeing children and adults believing in faith that Jesus is Lord and receiving their very own personal Bible is worth every penny W4C & it's supporters spend. (In fact, we don't have enough pennies because we also attest to leaving a site where children were shouting for Bibles and we ran out and that is about the worse feeling one can have.) W4C hopes to ship a container of Bibles to Ghana and other necessities early next year.

A highlight from this summer's trip is the story of Hammer-Bit Hole. One of the wells W4C previously dug at a church ran dry in the dry season because the well

continued on page 2



The children and people in the villages of Ghana were suffering from drought conditions this past June. The people were overjoyed with the water wells drilled by Water for Christ! (W4C)

Maximizing The Great Commission Potential

Everyone would agree that the Great Commission is the church's calling. However, many congregations struggle to answer that call.

DiscipleGuide has several tools to assist churches in maximizing their Great Commission potential. Camps, Conferences, Church Solutions and Curriculum are the tools we use to accomplish this. Each tool may have a different function, but they all exist to help churches fulfill the Great Commission.

In the months of October and January, there will be opportunities for helping the church maximize its Great Commission potential through Conferences. These conferences are Pastors Oasis, National Senior Adult and The Great Escape. Infor-

mation on each Conference, as well as our other tools, is found at discipleguide.org.

Upcoming Opportunities:

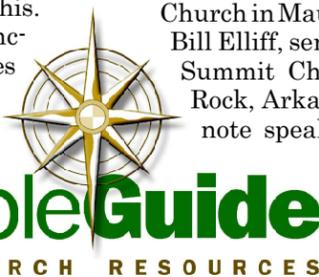
Pastors Oasis will be Monday, October 3 through Wednesday, October 5 at the Hilton Convention Center in Branson, Missouri. Todd West, lead pastor at Oasis Church in Maumelle, Arkansas, and Bill Elliff, senior teaching pastor of Summit Church in North Little Rock, Arkansas, will be the keynote speakers. Travis Sellers, worship arts pastor at Antioch Baptist Church in Conway, Arkansas, will be the worship leader. To register, go to discipleguide.org/pastorsoasis

National Senior Adult will be Wednesday, October 28 through Friday, October

30 at the Hilton Convention Center in Branson, Missouri. Bro. Richard Smith, pastor of Farley Street in Waxahachie, Texas, will be the keynote speaker. Bro. Shelby Race, music minister at Calvary Baptist in Fairfield, Texas, will be leading worship. To register, go to www.discipleguide.org/nsa

The Great Escape, student and children's minister cruise, will depart from Galveston, Texas, on Saturday, January 16 and return to Galveston on Thursday, January 21. Mark Dance, pastor advocate for Lifeway, will be the keynote speaker. Terry Kimbrow, president of Central Baptist College, will be this year's host. There will be ports of call in Progreso, Yucatan and Cozumel, Mexico. To register, go to discipleguide.org/thegreatescape

DiscipleGuide: helping churches maximize their Great Commission potential.



Builders Work at Second Oldest Church

By Nelda Malone

The Master's Builders began work at Bethel Baptist Church in Clayton, Texas on September 7. Bethel is the second oldest Baptist church in Texas. It was established on September 23, 1843. Dock Lazarine is their pastor.

The Builders were there to help in the construction of Bethel's new sanctuary. The old sanctuary was demolished and the new slab and metal roof were put right in its place. There were 21 of The Master's Builders who helped on their 138th job.

The work on the 6,600 sq. ft. building included framing the outside walls and putting up OSB, framing inside walls for classrooms, nursery, pastor's office, bathrooms, building sound booth, setting in baptistery and stairs, decking the second floor for storage, installing some arched windows and building the stage.

The Master's Builders welcomed Leo and Myrtle Setko of Leaksville, Mississippi, into their family on their first job. We had the privilege of working at their church, Midway Baptist Church, in March of this year. We were so happy to have Robert Ramey of El Dorado working with the Builders again! Because of health problems, he and his sweet wife,

Irene had not been able to come be with us. Irene went to be with the Lord earlier this year and Robert surprised us all when he arrived at Bethel ready to work! Robert is 89 years young, and he is a blessing and inspiration to us all!



The Master's Builders will now head to Tyler, Texas, for their next job. On Oct. 12, we will help at Inglesia Bautista Centro De Vito, Hispanic Mission. Please pray for this work!

If your church has building needs or if you have questions about The Master's Builders ministry, please contact Office Coordinator John Mangum at (318) 202-5155 or cell (318) 607-4100; or Field Coordinator Eddie Sikes at (903) 725-6549 or cell (479) 462-1675.

We are now on Facebook! Please "like" our FB page — The Master's Builders.

— from Baptist Trumpet

Water For Christ

from front page

wasn't deep enough. W4C had rented an air compressor this trip, so we decided to dig a deeper well at the same church in order that the well would work all year. During this process, an expensive air hammer drill bit got stuck 200+ft. down in the Earth with dirt collapsed on top of it, leaving little hope to pull it out. With a lot of prayer, and a little wisdom, we were able to pull most of the pipe out; yet, the hammer bit still remained in the bottom of the borehole. Nevertheless, the well was salvaged because it was still twice as deep as the previous borehole and full of good water. We left the drill bit behind, hence the name, Hammer-Bit Hole.

The highlight about this story was when the pump began pumping water, word got out quickly and within minutes there were about 50 buckets in line for water. In fact, the locals pumped the well so much the first two hours that it ran dry, and they had to wait for it to refill. In days to come everyone wasn't coming all at once, but reality set in quickly when we witnessed just how dire the water situation was in northern Ghana.

Another rewarding experience was the visits to the schools. First of all, to me, a foreigner to Ghana, it was shocking that they let complete strangers

visit the schools and speak to the children about Jesus in a Muslim region. One reason for this is because we were guests in their country and with joy they want to grant our requests. Another reason is the great respect they had for the work W4C was doing for them.

My favorite response was from one girl who came running up to us afterwards saying, "Thank you so much for sharing about Jesus at our school, many of my friends don't know about Jesus, I am Christian, but my friends are not." I thought to myself, why doesn't she just share Jesus with them. But then I remembered growing up as a teen in America, it wasn't always easy to share about Christ with others. We gave all the children tracts at that school, and some team members bought the children pens. We can't begin to tell you what a \$2.00 box of 50 ink pens meant to those children, it brought us great joy to see their smiles of joy and excitement.

NOVEMBER TRIP AGENDA

To dig water wells in the northern region of Ghana. Spread the Gospel.

The plan is to dig 2-3 water wells. One water well will be at the house W4C rented in the northern region which

Southeastern Baptist College

Danny Pitts - Interim President

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



Danny Pitts

Serving Christ With a Biblical World View In A Christian Atmosphere

Bible Conference Notes

Several people have asked about getting copies of the Bible Conference on Baptist Foundations in the US by Dr. Charley Holmes. You can see the conference on the chapel link at www.Southeasternbaptist.edu. Also if you are not online, you can contact the school and ask to speak to Hubert Dyess about CDs or DVDs being mailed to you.

The information shared by Dr. Holmes was strong in laying out history from the First Century. Of course, the presentation emphasized Baptist history with an emphasis upon church government and ministry. The methods of other denominations and other Baptist groups were contrasted to our associational foundations. Dr. Holmes explained the Regulative Principle which requires all of the churches beliefs and practices to be stated in Scripture or mentioned as the custom of the New Testament. Maybe this teaser will motivate more of you to get copies of the conference.

Classes Available

Those interested in online or on campus classes in the fall are encouraged to begin the process of registering early. Some who wait to the last minute are not able to gather all of the information required to complete the applications.

Credit where credit is due

The article in the last Mississippi Baptist was written by Amy Hinton. She is the Librarian at Southeastern.

Work Continues On Facilities

Editor's Note: The photo below highlights the continued progress on the facilities at SBC. The photo was submitted by Bobby Lowe and this editor is told that the handicapped ramp was completed with the joint effort of Roger Jefcoat and Dennis and Sylvia Rankin. All four of these individuals have done a great deal of work at the college, along with a host of others who love SBC.



New handicapped ramp located at rear entrance

serves as a base both to W4C (used for storage/lodging) and the BMAA missionaries (uses for church planting training/W4C maintenance). Another well will be at a new church plant. The 3rd might be at the police department. The Water for Christ team will depart October 31st, and will arrive in Accra, Ghana, on early November 1st. We will then fly from Accra to the northern region.

The American team will be a party of 6 including: Tim Tyler, Rodney Castleberry and his grandson Robert

Colvin III, Ben Temple, Bill Hooten & Mitchell Burnett. Special about this trip is our return, where we are have coordinated our trip to coincide with the return of missionaries Dale & Celia Broom who will be returning on furlough to America for 6 months. We are scheduled to leave Accra on the 12th of November, returning to America on the evening of November 13th.

Contact Information for W4C
Email: info@waterforchrist.com
www.facebook.com/waterforchrist



Baptist Missionary Association of Mississippi

Department of Missions and Revolving Loan Fund

State Missionaries and Wives






Larry Geraldson
Director



Bob & Edie Burch



Kenneth & Carole Pollock



Bobby & Lesa Elliott



Danny & Brenda Bartlett



Sidney & Becky Farmer



Wesley & Holley Martin



Anders & Carla Lee



Phillip & Dawn Burns



Estuardo & Yasmine Marroquin



Elvis & Wendy Garcia



Ed & Patricia DuVall

601.428.8616 www.bmams.org

“But call to remembrance the former days...” Heb 10:32a

Trip Down Memory Lane

Cherita and I had the wonderful privilege of attending services at my home church of College Heights in Poplarville, Mississippi, this past Sunday. It was a joy to meet new folks and renew acquaintance with some folks I haven't seen in close to 40 years. By the time I got up to preach, we had approximately 120 folks in the sanctuary. During the evening service I shared about our associational work and answered a number of questions.

A short time back, I had the joy of



The Burge Family

meeting and visiting with the pastor, Brandon Burge. During our visit it became clear that God has given us a kindred spirit. Bro. Burge grew up in McNeil and is the grandson of Bro. A.O. Biggs that pastored Zion Hill in McNeil for many years. His wife, Brynn is the granddaughter of Bro. James Lee who is a former BMA pastor. Bro. Burge and his wife Brynn and their 6 children have been at College Heights for approximately two years now and are doing a great job.



Me & Pastor Burge

Though this is his first church to pastor, their love for God and their love for family have already left an indelible mark on the church. My heart was full as I looked out over the church at the number of young families and children that made up the crowd. Some of you might remember the former pastor, Bro. Walter Pierce. His son, Walter Pierce Jr. taught our Sunday school class and did a great job and it is obvious



Inside College Heights Church

that he shares this same love for God, family and especially, children, as the pastor.

Just walking in the church brought back my own memories. I didn't have to close my eyes to see my boyhood pastor, Dr. Ralph Brand, standing behind that pulpit. I can still hear the click and see him rest his weight on that leg brace and I knew it wouldn't click again until the sermon was over. I can still hear him say, "It's the gospel and I'll run before I take it back..."

I can still see Bro. Dan Hillman's stately figure standing at the front of the sanctuary during Sunday school. I can still remember Mrs. Rosalie's lessons, her kind spirit and gentle influence. I can still hear W. A. McCardle on the accordion and David Brand on the



Preaching at College Heights Church organ and Mrs. Rose at the piano, saying, "Hum a few notes so I can pick it up..." I'll never forget growing up at College Heights Baptist Church. I left the steps of that church and joined the Army in 1974, with only a brief return during the time I was attending the University of Southern Mississippi.

I am grateful to Pastor Burge and the church for having me and I look forward to our fellowship together in the future. College Heights has a bright future and I am looking forward to what God has in store for this church. I am also grateful to the churches of the Baptist Missionary Association of Mississippi for allowing me to serve you as an ambassador. I am also grateful to the churches of the Hobolochitto Baptist Association who helped support the missionary and to First Baptist Church of Henleyfield (the mother church) for organizing this former mission into a church.

You can sing all you want about how you love Jesus, you can have crocodile tears in your eyes, but the consecration that doesn't reach your purse has not reached your heart.

-Adrian Rogers

Reports for August 2015				
	High Attendance	Membership	Total Offerings	Mother Church
Church Planters				
Bob Burch (Caledonia)	81	36	\$4,861.00	East Fulton
Bobby Elliott (Burnsville)	54	49	\$2,955.00	Forked Oak
Sidney Farmer (S. Forrest County)	61	36	\$7,618.00	Paramount
Danny Bartlett (Clinton)	15	10	\$3,678.00	Wilderness
Phillip Burns (Sumrall)	22	7	\$1,268.00	First Bay Springs
Wesley Martin (Diamondhead)	51	22	\$4,216.00	Campground
Anders Lee (Southaven)	133	77	\$16,311.00	Charity
Hispanic Missions - South (Estuardo Marroquin - Coordinator) <small>(Estuardo Marroquin is also the Sr. Pastor of El Camino, which serves as the mother church for the church plants listed below.)</small>				
El Camino (Laurel)	128	117	\$6,999.00	
Church Planters				
Marciano Montalvo (Hattiesburg)	25	12	\$1,504.00	El Camino
Rodolfo Galicia (Bllox)	8	2	n/a	El Camino
Hispanic Missions - North (Elvis Garcia - Coordinator) <small>(Elvis Garcia is also the Sr. Pastor of Way, Truth & Life, which serves as the mother church for the church plants listed below.)</small>				
Way, Truth & Life (Ripley)	90	86	\$4,267.00	
Church Planters				
Humberto Navarro (Tupelo)	23	17	\$1,484.00	Way, Truth & Life
Erin Pech (Oxford)	36	5	\$1,076.00	Way, Truth & Life
African American Missions - (Ed DuVall - Coordinator) <small>(Ed DuVall is also the Sr. Pastor of Homestretch which serves as the mother church for the church plants listed below.)</small>				
Homestretch (Cleveland)	11	50	\$2,594.00	
Church Planters				
James Cook (Olive Branch)	13	13	\$1,675.00	Homestretch
Collectively, our missionaries reported 405 new contacts, shared the gospel 190 times, and witnessed 38 professions of faiths, and 17 baptisms and 6 joined by letter in August.				

Reports for September 2015				
	High Attendance	Membership	Total Offerings	Mother Church
Church Planters				
Bob Burch (Caledonia)	71	39	\$4,645.00	East Fulton
Bobby Elliott (Burnsville)	50	45	\$2,298.00	Forked Oak
Sidney Farmer (S. Forrest County)	55	37	\$5,113.00	Paramount
Danny Bartlett (Clinton)	16	10	\$2,627.00	Wilderness
Phillip Burns (Sumrall)	21	8	\$1,262.00	First Bay Springs
Wesley Martin (Diamondhead)	31	25	\$3,536.00	Campground
Anders Lee (Southaven)	134	77	\$12,797.00	Charity
Hispanic Missions - South (Estuardo Marroquin - Coordinator) <small>(Estuardo Marroquin is also the Sr. Pastor of El Camino, which serves as the mother church for the church plants listed below.)</small>				
El Camino (Laurel)	119	117	\$3,866.00	
Church Planters				
Marciano Montalvo (Hattiesburg)	35	12	\$532.00	El Camino
Rodolfo Galicia (Bllox)	15	2	n/a	El Camino
Hispanic Missions - North (Elvis Garcia - Coordinator) <small>(Elvis Garcia is also the Sr. Pastor of Way, Truth & Life, which serves as the mother church for the church plants listed below.)</small>				
Way, Truth & Life (Ripley)	91	86	\$5,339.00	
Church Planters				
Humberto Navarro (Tupelo)	25	17	\$1,483.00	Way, Truth & Life
Erin Pech (Oxford)	30	5	\$1,070.00	Way, Truth & Life
African American Missions - (Ed DuVall - Coordinator) <small>(Ed DuVall is also the Sr. Pastor of Homestretch which serves as the mother church for the church plants listed below.)</small>				
Homestretch (Cleveland)	22	50	\$2,192.00	
Church Planters				
James Cook (Olive Branch)	15	13	\$1,450.00	Homestretch
Collectively, our missionaries reported 564 new contacts, shared the gospel 458 times, and witnessed 31 professions of faiths, and 6 baptisms and 9 joined by letter in September.				

2015 Top 20 Churches Giving to State Missions (Aug 2014 - July 2015)				
We close our books at the end of July and begin a new fiscal year on Aug 1 st .				
1	Paramount, Perkinston			
2	Midway First Baptist, Sumrall			
3	Canaan, Richton			
4	Hillcrest, Yazoo City			
5	Bethel, Fulton			
6	Evergreen, Seminary			
7	Good Hope, Columbia			
8	Campground, Gulfport			
9	South Forrest Mission, Hattiesburg			
10	Lebanon, Laurel			
11	First Bay Springs, Bay Springs			
12	Buffalo, McLain			
13	Magnolia, Hattiesburg			
14	Tiger Creek, Ovet			
15	Wilderness, Vicksburg			
16	Grace Mission, Clinton			
17	Big Creek, Soso			
18	First Baptist, Calhoun			
19	Day Star Mission, Sumrall			
20	First Baptist, Mantachie			

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Don Brown

Mississippi Baptist

Opinion Page

www.msbaptist.org

Journal of the Baptist Missionary Association of Mississippi

Don Brown - Editor

Let's Hear About Your Church Fun!

The article below is amusing and informative about church life and individual actions and thoughts about their pastor, sermons, churches and fellow church members. I think it would be interesting to hear from some of our readers about similar incidents. You may be the recipient or the perpetrator. Please share your experiences and thoughts with the editor. You may request your name and the church remain anonymous, but we can't accept anonymous comments. Let us hear about your funny or strange things you said or heard.

Twenty More Funny and Strange Things Church Members Say to Pastors and Staff

by Thom S. Rainer
from Christianpost.com

If you get a group of pastors and church staff together, you will inevitably hear some pretty unusual comments they received from church members. So I did an informal Twitter poll to

get some of these comments in writing.

There were so many good submissions; narrowing the list to twenty was a difficult process. Ultimately, I was able to get the number down to my requisite count. Here they are. Some of the comments have been modified slightly to reflect a direct quote.

"I am not a Christian; I am a Baptist." I don't know why I found this one so funny.

"Do you grow weed in your closet?" The church member actually wanted to look in the pastor's closet to confirm his suspicions.

"Sorry I was late to church. My dog, Rambo, and I have been witnessing to people." Rambo must be a special dog.

"I don't know if I will be able to help with baptism tomorrow. I'm bleeding from my rectum. I think it's hemorrhoids." By all means, please stay home.

"Are you the one who keeps taking the beer off my daddy's grave?" I'm left

wondering how daddy gets the beer.

"So did you fly or drive there?" That was a question asked of a pastor after he returned from a trip to the continent of Africa.

"We never had these storms until you came." Those are words said to a pastor after hurricanes Rita and Ike.

"You need to turn all the lights up during worship. You can't worship God when it's dark because He is light." There has to be a theological response to that.

"Can you perform a ceremony just short of marriage for just living together?" Do you take this roommate . . .

"I really appreciate the content of your sermons, but I can't stand to watch you as you deliver it." It would be tough to take that statement as a compliment.

"I need you to go catch a peacock that

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Honor Your Church Pastor

Show love and appreciation for your pastor by sending him to this year's Pastor's Oasis. At Pastor's Oasis, your pastor will be encouraged, strengthened and energized to be the "Praying Pastor" that God has called him to be.

The keynote speakers this year are Todd West, lead pastor of Oasis Church in Maumelle, Arkansas, and Dr. Bill Elliff, senior teaching pastor at Summit Church in North Little Rock, Arkansas. These men of God have over sixty-eight years of combined experience in pastoring and teaching. Also joining us this year will be Selah, seven-time CMA Dove Award winners, and Gordon Mote, one of the main keyboardists for Gaither Homecoming. Leading in worship will be Travis Sellers, minister of worship arts at Antioch in Conway, Arkansas.

Register by going to discipleguide.org. We look forward to seeing your pastor there.

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



SIDNEY DAVIS

Annual Emphasis Drive Essential To Success

Greetings from the Mississippi Baptist Children's Home,

We would like to convey to you our heartfelt appreciation, thankfulness, and gratitude for your continued prayerful and financial support of the worthy ministry of the Children's Home. We are grateful to the Lord that He has allowed us to be a part of helping girls and boys to come to an understanding of their great need of Him. Deuteronomy declares, "Gather the people together, men, and women, and children, and thy stranger that is within thy gates, that they may hear, and that they may learn, and fear the LORD your God, and observe to do all the words of this law: And that their children, which have not known any thing, may hear, and learn to fear the LORD your God, as long as ye live in the land whither ye go over Jordan to possess it." Deuteronomy 31:12, 13. With the Lord's help and guidance the Home continues to meet the physical and spiritual needs of the children He has placed under our care. We continue to claim the promise of Proverbs 22:6, "Train up



a child in the way he should go; and when he is old, he will not depart from it."

We thank the Lord for the friends and supporters of the Mississippi Baptist Children's Home. Your support makes it possible for girls and boys to hear and learn the ways of the Lord who otherwise most likely would not have the opportunity to do so. Your support allows the ministry of the Home to share Christ with these young people so that they can hear and learn in a clear and understandable way that the Lord cares and loves them. Your support helps the Home fulfill its mission which is to help provide children with a life of stability and structure in a Christian atmosphere that is honoring to God and true to His Word.

We would like for you to prayerfully consider giving a special offering in this year's Special Emphasis for the months of October and November. Over the past few years funds have been on the decline as far as the overall operation needs of the ministry of the Home. We have made cutbacks in salaries and other expenses that is involved in the operation of the Home. Unless there is an increase of regular giving from the churches and a good response from this year's Special Emphasis more cutbacks will be necessary. Will you help us in reaching our GOAL of \$25,000.00? We would like to suggest to you to consider designating November 15th as "Children's Home Emphasis Sunday." We would like for you to have special prayer for the outreach and ministry of the Home. Also, we would like for you to prayerfully consider receiving an Emphasis Offering for this ministry.

God bless you as you partner with us in meeting the needs of children. Helping Children Hear and Learn the Ways of God, Deuteronomy 31:12, 13

Church Fun!

from page 4

escaped!" Of course, that's item 6c in the job description.

"I can tell you have the anointing of God. My cat does too." It must be a very spirited cat.

"I can't run the media and worship God at the same time. I can only worship God with my eyes closed." Note to that church member: Don't drive and worship at the same time.

"Are you and your wife getting a divorce?" This question was asked of a pastor when he announced his resignation. They were not getting a divorce.

"You need to wear a bra when you preach." Just to be clear, this statement was said to a male preacher.

"You blink too much when you preach. You are also a very pale person." Thank you for your kind words.

"When are you going to get your own church?" This question was asked of an associate pastor.

"Top that, preacher!" Words spoken to the pastor by the soloist as she stepped down from the podium.

"Working here will help you overcome your seminary education." Somebody doesn't like seminaries.

"Congrats. This is our last Sunday. This church is dead." Words said to a new pastor on his first Sunday at a church.

Sometimes we just need to laugh. I hope these twenty statements provided a bit of humor. Let me hear from you. I know there are so many more. We can probably have many more laughs together.

CHURCH NEWS IN BRIEF

Calhoun, Laurel Special Day

A Mother's Day Out/Fall Celebration is scheduled at First Baptist Calhoun on October 24 from 1 until 5 pm. We will have Bible stories, games, snacks and a meal beginning at 5 p.m. Parents are invited to attend the meal also. Look forward to seeing you!

Laurel Church Sets Revival Dates

Temple Baptist Church, Laurel, will be having their Fall Revival beginning Sunday, October 11th through Friday, October 16th. The Sunday morning service will begin at 10:00 a.m. with Sunday school and worship service following at 11:00 a.m. Lunch will follow the morning worship service and afternoon services begin around 1:00 p.m. Monday through Friday services will start at 7:00 p.m. nightly. Bro. Randy Clark from Laurel will be the speaker. Bro. Randy is a man of God who boldly preaches the word. Bro. Earl Smith of Picayune will be leading the music. Temple looks forward to these services and pray that you will join them and allow God to speak to your heart. Please be in prayer for Bro. Randy and for those who will be attending the services, especially the lost.

Magnolia Heights Revival

Magnolia Heights will be having their Fall Revival Services on October 18-21 Sunday morning services @ 11:00 am. Sunday evening services @ 6:00 pm. Mon - Wed. Services @ 7:00 pm.

Our Visiting Preacher will be Bro.

Church Seeks Pastor

Grace Baptist Church in Wynne, Arkansas, is seeking a pastor. Resumes may be sent to Joyce Garner via Email to jgarner31147@yahoo.com or mailed to 354 Barry St E, Wynne, Arkansas 72396.

Jerry Poole. Magnolia Heights would like to send out an invitation to all! Need directions - please call Pastor Chris Sledge of Magnolia Heights 601-416-3441

Harmony Association Meets

The Association held its September meeting with The Unity Baptist Church in Guntown. Host pastor Bro. Eddie Boutwell brought the evening message. 8 churches represented with 40 present. The October meeting is our annual meeting and will be held at Freedom Mission in Burnsville, on Saturday October 10th, at 9:30 AM.

A committee appointed by the moderator consisting of Kenneth Pollard, Eddie Boutwell, Scott Johnson, Tony Marolt and Dr. John Adams, are to meet and discuss ways to increase participation in our association meetings. Mark Jones reported on the State Galileans and Bro Bobby Elliott reported on their work at Freedom Missions.

Bobby Elliott - Moderator
Tony Marolt - Promotional Secretary

AVAILABLE FOR SERVICE

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

Wants To Preach

My name is Zechariah Rogers. I am available for preaching opportunities or pastoral work as the Lord leads. I am currently attending Southeastern Baptist College working on a Bachelors in Christian Ministries. I may be reached by cell phone at 662-372-5730.

Turnip Greens and Pancakes

I don't tend to get sentimental very often, but every now and then, something will happen to help me reminisce about some fond occasions in the distant past. For a few years, fresh out of high school, I went to work in Houston, Texas, with my Uncle Donnie remodeling kitchens and bathrooms. Yes, it is as glamorous as it sounds. Anyway, during those years I was blessed to live with my widowed grandmother. I cherish those years.

Granny didn't drive. She never had learned and felt like, at her age, that she would just be wasting everyone's time and money to start now. I would take her to go shopping or to church on rainy days and wherever else she so desired to travel. Every once in a while we would go to the ice cream place and get us an ice cream cone. On one of these occasions, (this was back in my snuff dipping days), as I was driving back home, I opened my door to spit, not having a bottle available. Well, Granny thought I was jumping out of the truck and proceeded to take over the steering of the vehicle.

We wrestled back and forth and I was finally able to gain control of the truck once more. I said, "Granny! What are you doing? You don't know how to drive!" She replied that she thought I was abandoning her and she was not going to meet her Maker without at least putting forth an effort to learn.

The woman had grit. I still take pride in being the only person ever to motivate Granny into wanting to learn to drive. I relish the memory of sitting on the piano bench with her and playing music. Her favorite, and still one of mine, was "Red River Valley". She and I would make pancakes some mornings. In fact,

she is the one who taught me when it was time to flip the pancake. One of my most favorite times was coming in from work to the smell of turnip greens. She would save me a little bowl out to the side so I could be the first to sample before my Aunt Gloria arrived.

I miss her. I am so thankful that she is with the Lord now and I'll get to see her again. However, I think I will miss seeing her scare the younger grandchildren by sticking out her false teeth at them. Oh well, you can't have everything.

A Day In The Life of Chuck Lee via Facebook

After a strict diet of eating constantly, mainly snack cakes and junk food, and lack of exercise, I have finally gained ten pounds in the last two months. It was a struggle, but well worth the effort. If you are not genetically thin, then you probably won't understand. I'm surprised that I have never heard of a support group for the metabolismally charged. Apparently the politically correct police have overlooked this dilemma. Well, I must fight on...Cheese Puffs, here I come!

From The Mind of Chuck Lee

Lee pastor's Pine Grove Baptist Church, Purvis. He may be reached by email at leecharles47@yahoo.com



Teaching Wild Animals Can Be Fun

The wild animals I am alluding to in the title are not real wild animals. I am speaking of teenagers. Ha! While many teens are respectful and decent and wonderful Christians in their daily walk, there are an increasing number that come to camp and act like a pack of wild dogs or broncos that need to be broken in. I still some times am shocked by their rudeness, arrogance and overall lack of manners and respect for adults or even the facilities of the camp. So the main focus of this article will be addressing the need for manners in the younger generation. As a whole, America is not a civilized society anymore where people cooperate with one another, are concerned more with respect than their personal rights, and respect other people's property. Many Americans today are rude, crude and could care less about anyone other than themselves.

As Christians, it should still be very important for parents to teach their children manners and respect. Honoring others and holding others in esteem is in the Bible. I realize that many churches have teens that are coming from profoundly messed up homes where survival is more the key than being civilized and polite. However, it is then necessary for the church to help teach young people how to let their light shine before others. If we allow kids from dysfunctional homes to come in to the church and still act dysfunctional, then we are not teaching them new ways or responding. While you may think it is not the church's role to help young people learn manners, if we don't teach this, then teen classes and camps become out of control and no one hears or learns anything. Even your decent acting Christian kids lose out when they can't hear the preacher for all the talking, laughing and hors-

Family Ark Ministries

Dr. Travis Plumlee is a full-time professional speaker and leads Family Ark Ministries. For more information or to contact him, visit www.travisplumlee.com.



ing around that goes on in a sermon by some of these kids. It may be necessary for some of the adult sponsors to walk up and sit with a group of unruly kids.

It is best to talk to one or two privately instead of embarrassing them in front of all the others. But sometimes, I have found it necessary just to have a heart to heart talk with the teens and talk to them about respect and honor. In every case they straighten up and I



Kids Can Act Like Baboons Sometimes

think it is because many of them have never been instructed. There are a few groups that even after you talk to them, they are still disrespectful. This requires a different

and deeper approach that takes more time and tact. However, teaching is still the best method of conveying the ideas.

Scriptures that might be helpful in teaching on manners and respect can be:

I Peter 3:8, "Finally, be ye all of one mind, having compassion one of another, love as brethren, be pitiful, be COURTEOUS." Luke 6:31, "And as ye would that men should do to you, do ye also to them likewise." Leviticus 19:32, "Thou shalt rise up before the hoary head, and honour the face of the old man, and fear thy God: I am the Lord." If this scripture doesn't work for you and you are gray headed and old like me, then you can always throw out the

continued on page 8

Women's Missionary Auxiliary

President
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2816 Old Bay Springs Rd.
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601-470-1398



Corresponding Secretary
Mrs. Shirlene Smith
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Laurel, MS 39443
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Moral Action Is Everyone's Project

by Mrs. Chris Smith
212 So. Fox Hall Rd.,
Pearl, MS 39208
601-939-6707

Never before has Satan attacked our morals like he is doing in this day and time.

Brandon High School was attacked by stopping their band from playing "How Great Thou Art" just for one person's rights. What about our rights? There was a time that the majority ruled. Well, praise the parents that stood up at the ball game and sang "How Great Thou Art". Right now I am house bound but I do want to praise the parents who stood and sang praises to our Heavenly Father. I know He knows who each of you are and He will bless.

Are you one of the people that took

part in helping with the stripes on the flag? Linda Smith asked us to give a \$1.00 per stripe on the flag. That will be \$13.00 for the year.

At the first of the year I asked each lady to take part in forming a chain across the state of Mississippi. Are you one of the ones that has already taken a stand? Do I have your name to include on the chain? It is time for every Christian to stand Up and Be Counted.

I realize that I have been hindered because of health reasons. It has been less than a week since I had a heart attack. I do not plan to stop. I will stand and be counted, I will keep on keeping on.

Commitment is a priceless possession. Do you plan to strand with Moral Actions and Bro. John Adams? Let's do not leave it for him to do alone.

Girls Missionary Auxilliary

State Youth Auxiliary Direct
Beth Caldwell
166 Twin Creek Rd,
Lucedale, MS 39452
601-947-6011



State GMA Promoter
Becky Farmer
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Hattiesburg, MS 39401
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State GMA Outreach News

Mississippi State GMAs plans a Mission Outreach in July 2016. We are currently taking applications for GMAs who are interested in participating with this effort. We will provide one of our local church plants with a VBS next summer. Please contact Lane Flynt at 601-641-1475 or by email at lane.flynt@gmail.com for more information.

Global Prayer: Lifeblood of Lifeword

by Holly Merriweather

Leading up to Lifeword's Fiftieth Anniversary, Donny (Parrish, BMA Productions Chief Creative Officer) and I talked quite a bit about a way to honor our unique media ministry, those whom God has used to spread the gospel through it, and the countless supporters during these fifty years. The goal was a lofty one, and we wanted to do it well.

September 4, 1965. Leading up to that date, there were prayers sent up by many faithful people. At first by two men, Harold Morris and Ashford Conrad, then by pastors and members of the following Missouri churches: Trinity in Florissant, the Cane Creek Association, Chambers Park in St. Louis, and Thirty First Street in Kansas City, all of whom gave generously to the radio ministry along with their prayers.

In fact, Harold Morris's first short

article about the new St. Louis radio broadcast mentioned the word prayer four times. He wrote, "We are truly convinced that by the radio we can not only reach and challenge our churches to a great world-wide missionary endeavor, but that we can also effectively reach many in our nation with the saving grace of the Lord Jesus Christ. As you read this article, if you share with me this conviction, I would appreciate ...your prayers and support for this endeavor." A man with great vision and conviction, he knew that prayer support was critical.

So a Global Prayer Meeting seemed to be the most appropriate way to honor the prayers of so many and thank God for his blessings. Prayer has been and always will be the lifeblood of Harvest Gleaner Hour/Lifeword.

September 4, 2015. One hundred people worldwide and fifty people at the BMA Global Ministry Center watched the Fiftieth Anniversary video and heard the prayers of Executive Director Steve



Executive Director Steve Crawley (center), former Executive Director George Reddin (right) and Paul Bearfield, Jr. (left)

Crawley, former Executive Director George Reddin and Paul Bearfield, Jr., son of former Director Paul Bearfield. In the last week and a half, one hundred more people have watched it as well. If you would like to see the livestream from that day and listen to those prayers, go to the Lifeword Facebook page and share it with others.

We would still echo Harold Morris's plea today: Learn about, pray for and support Lifeword, especially on Lifeword Sunday, October 25. Join BMA churches everywhere and sponsor a Walk or Walk event in conjunction with Lifeword Sunday OR use Lifeword Sunday as an emphasis day in your church. To get involved (or "re-involved"), contact me at holly@lifeword.org, 501-205-1127 or go to lifeword.org to register your church and begin the process.



Letters From Our Readers

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

Open Letter to the Churches Daniel Springs

Baptist Camp 2015

by former Camp Director James Speer

New leadership, new staff, new programs and exciting results. After thirty-five years as director, it was good to see the results of the new leadership of Jason Prewitt and his staff. Wondering what this young man might do to alter the programs and the face of Daniel Springs, I got to visit several camps this summer and was thrilled at the direction that Jason was taking the camp. With fresh eyes and new ideas comes change. The change that Jason has brought will lead to greater success in the future.

The speakers that were chosen this year did a fantastic job of sharing the gospel with the campers. The musicians were responsible for setting the tone and leading them in worship and they did that as the campers immersed themselves in the services. One camp even had its highest attendance ever.

Daniel Springs is alive and well and beginning to plan for an even greater year in 2016. Call Camp Director Jason Prewitt to see what you can do as an individual or church to help the 2016 camp season be the best ever. Make plans now to attend Daniel Springs in 2016.



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10 Characteristics Of Bad Christian Teachers

By Chuck Lawless

Several times in my teaching career, I've asked graduate students to give me descriptions of the worst teachers they've had. During those same years, I've watched leaders, discussed leadership and read leadership books to learn characteristics of good and bad leaders. Perhaps not surprisingly, I've seen that some of the characteristics of bad teachers and bad leaders are the same.

- They don't communicate well. Sometimes they just don't communicate; they expect others to read their mind and meet their unstated expectations. At other times, they are simply boring when they do try to communicate.

- They make others feel dumb. They don't miss many opportunities to point out when others are wrong. Nor do they miss a chance to show others how much they know. Eventually, no one speaks up around them—and the worst teachers and leaders are too unaware to recognize they are often the problem.

- They're disorganized. Maybe they're just so busy that it's hard to stay on top of everything, or maybe they're just plain disorganized. Either way, they usually can't figure out why others struggle with following their unclear and often changing directions.

- They're disconnected. Many are the students and staff members who are frustrated by teachers and leaders who

are nowhere to be found. When the teacher or leader fails to build relationships, those he teaches or leads become means to an end, not people created in the image of God.

- They're lazy. It's clear from their lack of passion that they lost their focus and energy years ago. They know nothing new, and their teaching/leading has not changed in decades. They may think others don't realize they're just "going through the motions," but they're kidding no one.

- They're arrogant. You know what this trait looks like, even in Christian organizations. These teachers and leaders always talk about themselves. Any sense of humility seems to be forced; in fact, others see it as only another way to point out how good they are.

- They're critical. Not only do they criticize others, but even more importantly, they almost never praise others. The only time you hear from them is when they want to correct something.

- They don't know what they're talking about. Some teachers don't know their material well, and some leaders don't know their field well. In some cases, both have been given their positions for some reason other than their know-how, and it's obvious.

- They don't enjoy their work. People

Clashes Escalate at Temple Mount

CROSSWALK.COM - Conflict between Muslims and Jews continues at the Temple Mount during a time of religious significance for both groups.

Christian Today reports that last night police restricted access to the Temple Mount after Palestinian youth threw stones and firecrackers at Israeli police.

Muslims and Jews are vying for control of what both groups view as a holy site in their respective religions.

The tensions escalated due to the



coinciding of the beginning of the Jewish holiday of Succot and the end of the Muslim holiday of Eid al-Adha.

In an effort to combat the conflict taking place at the holy site, police have restricted the site to Muslim men aged over 50 and to all Muslim women. Also, no Jewish visitors are being allowed near the Al-Aqsa mosque, located within the vicinity of the Temple Mount. Non-Muslims are allowed into the compound between 7:30 a.m. and 11:30 a.m., but they are not allowed to pray in respect for the last day of Eid al-Adha.

Despite the restrictions, Christian Today reports that Palestinian rioters continued to incite clashes between the two groups.

"Palestinian rioters who couldn't find Jewish visitors to attack on the the Temple Mount, started throwing rocks and firecrackers at the Mughrabi Gate," Ofir Gendelman, a spokesman for Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu stated. "Israel upholds the status quo on the Temple Mount. Those who violate it are Palestinian rioters who smuggle pipe bombs and firecrackers into it."

who spend time with them learn quickly that they have no joy in their day-to-day tasks. Their smiles are forced and their laughter is infrequent.

- Their Christian walk is debatable. That is, some who know them best question the depth of their walk with God, primarily because the leaders they are in public are not always the people they are in private. Needless to say, this problem is, among all these listed here, the most serious one for Christian teachers and leaders.

Recognizing that all of us probably show some of these characteristics at times, what other characteristics would you add to this list?

— *Chuck Lawless currently serves as Professor of Evangelism and Missions and Dean of Graduate Studies at Southeastern Seminary. You can connect with Dr. Lawless on both Twitter and Facebook. (via www.christianpost.com)*

70 Came Before 50

I know normal counting goes something like 1, 2, 3...and 70 does not come before 50. It did however for me in birthdays and celebration of marriage. I am several lunar cycles beyond 70 years. The 50 years of marriage represents many lunar cycles of being married to a lady who is way above my station.

As all this rattles around, what does it all mean? Well, to be up front, the Lord God has been gracious to me and continues to be so. I don't know about you, but as I look back I ask, "How did I get here?" Simply it is the prevenient grace of a beneficent Lord who guides my life in context of living. Some label themselves as "Five Point Calvinist." If there is such a thing as a "Six Pointer" I guess I would claim humbly to say it is of Him, through Him, and for Him I am where I am today. It is not what I brought to this 70 plus years, it is what has honored Him that brings me to today.

Being married 50 years—all in a row and to the same person—is an expected thing in my family. Both my parents and my "first wife's" parents were married more than 60 years. So I had a good example before me. Yet again it is the kindness of Him who loves me and gave

Himself for me that my first wife and I are at this point in life. It is not what we brought to the altar but what He gave us as we made vows to each other, to family, to friends, and to the Lord Himself.

What can I say as I look at 70 coming before 50? So far as marriage, have a short memory when you are right or wrong with your spouse. Saying "I might be wrong and you might be right, or I'm sorry, please forgive me" are important phrases to repeat often. Laughter at self, even settings of seeming shattering situations can be of great value to come to the other side. Life will go on. The morning will come. Your life will continue.

Thanks be to God for this time in my life where 70 did come before 50 in a wonderful, marvelously exciting and continues to be way.

Leave It To Cleaver



Dr. Tony Cleaver is a retired U.S. Army Chaplain and Director of Distance Learning for BMA Seminary. You may contact him at jstncleaver@embarqmail.com

Teaching Wild Animals

Plumlee from page 6

story about the bears that ate the kids for making fun of the prophet. That is a really quick attitude adjustment. Ha.

Romans 12:10, "Be kindly affectioned one to another with brotherly love, in honour preferring one another." Other scriptures that you could have youth look up some night as you teach on treating others with respect are: I Corinthians 15:33, Philippians 2:3, Proverbs 23:1, Ephesians 4:29, I Corinthians 13:4,5, Matthew 15:11, Titus 3:2 and many others. You might get a book on proper manners to teach some social skills.

You might invite an older person who is sound in doctrine and a good example of manners, to teach some of the old ways to the kids from back in the day when people were polite to one another. There are books on it as well. For the most part the kids are glad to learn this stuff. It is brand new to them.

By the middle of August, the last of the teen camps were winding down for me, and another summer of great salvations and spiritual growth was logged in for the Lord. I love doing teen camps because of the great evidence of the Holy

Spirit working. So many salvations. So many lives changed. Deliverance and healing and hope restored through Jesus Christ. Sometimes when I am growing weary with all the travel, hot, humid days in the sun and some very challenging sleeping arrangements, all I have to do is hear one teen say — "this camp changed my life forever because of what Jesus did in my life this week" and I am good for another 1,000 miles!

Some pastors and adult sponsors say, "I am exhausted after one week of camp. I don't know how you do it all summer, week after week." It is God that strengthens me, and I find so much joy in seeing hope restored in some of these kids who come to camp crushed and hopeless. So, while it would be helpful to have teens learn manners, we must still press on toward the prize even with kids that challenge us. We must love and help those that don't even know enough to want it. I suspect that our Shepherd, the Lord, sometimes finds all of us, his sheep, a little unruly. Let's all pull together and love one another and live in peace, and respect — giving honor unto others.