

Baptist

Mississippi

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Just the Crumbs Provides Disaster Relief

When disaster strikes, the BMA of America partners with Just the Crumbs to provide relief.

Just the Crumbs is a nonprofit organization that began in December of 2014 in order to provide help to those in need. Its founder, Lavon Haden, began the ministry by simply handing out hotdogs to the hungry in his town of Columbia, Mississippi.

His goal was not to ask for money, but rather ask for anything people had in excess that he could sell, hence the name "Just the Crumbs." This vision has resulted in the establishment of four thrift stores, the profits of which go to disaster relief projects.

Thus far, Lavon and his volunteers have responded to 18 disasters. Next week they will be headed to North Carolina with their semi-truck, 53-foot mobile kitchen, and multiple trailers to help with disaster relief from Hurricane Florence.

Their ministry has made a tangible and lasting difference in the lives of many hurting people. After Hurricane Harvey in 2017, Just the Crumbs helped build one house from the ground up, fed approximately 80,000 people, and gave away about 300,000 prepared meals.

"All of those supplies have been donated," said Haden. "And being a part of the BMA, I wanted the BMA to be involved in the ministry. I also needed access to volunteers and people that wanted to get involved."

Currently, Just the Crumbs needs supporters and volunteers to help with disaster relief from Hurricane Florence, as well as future

disasters. Teams will include a chainsaw and cleanup team, a cooking and food serving team, and occasionally a medical team through BMMI (Baptist Medical Missions International).

Food and lodging will be provided for volunteers at the disaster site, though teams will need to bring a cot along with their personal belongings.

"The most important thing right now, though, is prayer," said Haden. "Pray that we would reach the lost. That's the whole concept of what we do - to create opportunities to witness. There's no better time to do that than when people are in need."

To donate to BMA partnering with Just the Crumbs, or to volunteer, contact Angela Rice at angela@bmamissions.org, or call the BMA Missions Office at 501-455-4977.

For more information about BMA Disaster Relief and Just the Crumbs, or to sign up to be first responder, visit bmamissions.org/disasterrelief.

Editor's Note - My wife and I have needed to clean out our closets for quite some time. We recently stopped ignoring this need and ended up with more to take out than we realized. We have several "large bags" of good clothes that no longer fit or that we just don't wear any more. All of these, along with a couple of non-clothing items, is headed to the Just For Crumbs store in Mt. Olive, Mississippi. I encourage our readers to support this ministry. This would be a good project for a youth group or other auxiliary to take as a project.



A Continuing Need

by the Editor

The BMA of Mississippi holds its annual meeting on Tuesday, October 23, at Southeastern College.

It has become disheartening in the past few years as it seems the attendance and participation at our meetings has become less and less.

We do seemingly live in a time that demands more of our time and there is always something to do. Having retired from the pastorate and now living in what I call "semi-retirement" I find days that are not filled with something that requires attention to be quite disturbing.

I know many pastors and workers have more than enough on their 'work plate'. Part of the responsibility of the leaders of our churches is to fully participate in the Association and its business.

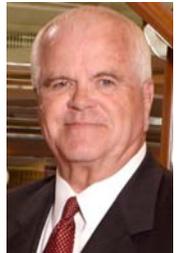
I hope our attendance will increase this year with more of our churches being represented. The work of the BMA of Mississippi is the most important work we can be involved in - that of doing the Lord's work and sharing His love with all.

May we make this meeting a priority and come together in the Unity and for the Purpose our Association exists.

The WMA Banquet will be held at FBC of Shady Grove on Monday evening, October 22 at 6:30. The State Brotherhood will meet at Southeastern College at 7:00.

The schedule for this year's meeting has been set to conclude in one day. Come to the meeting, fellowship with the brethren, take care of business, and leave determined to do more in the next Associational year.

The schedule for this year's meeting can be found on page 7



Don Brown

Lifeword Broadcast Ministries Highlights Arab Broadcasts

Only five languages have been chosen by Lifeword as "starter languages" included in the beta-testing stage before the public rollout of the new lifeword.org in August...and one of those is Arabic. To determine the best languages to use, Lifeword personnel considered the following about existing broadcasts:

* Are they produced only by indigenous people?

* Is the quality excellent, meaning biblically sound and culturally relevant?

*Are there variations in the formats, such as long form and short form, and videos?

*Do they use various media outlets, such as online radio, internet broadcasting, and community radio?

After English and Spanish, the third broadcast begun by Lifeword (then called Harvest Gleaner Hour) was Arabic. The



Costa Family

Word as well as broadcast was called From the Harvest of Bygone Days, and it is still heard regularly in the Middle East and in high Arab population centers in the northeastern USA, Canada and Australia." When Yusef Costa died in 1989, his son Charles Costa took over the Hour of the Harvest microphone and continues his father's work to this day.

His weekly

continued on page 8

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

"Wherefore take unto you the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand" Ephesians 6:13

We are God's people. And as the people of God, we are called to participate in His will.

Years ago, I received orders to Fort Bragg, N.C. I was instructed to report no later than a certain date to the 505 Parachute Infantry Regiment (PIR) as their next brigade chaplain. It was an honor to have been selected to service with this historic and proud organization. The unit participated in combat jumps into Italy, Normandy, and Holland during World War II. I also knew that I needed to be physically better prepared for such an assignment. So I began a personal training regimen that would "toughen" me up.

I had asked for two weeks off between assignments. This is a fairly routine request that offers the soldier time to visit family, friends and loved ones and having time off also helps him and his family better prepare for the move. But shortly before I was to begin my leave, I received a phone call from the 82nd Airborne Division Chaplain. He welcomed me into the mighty 82nd Airborne and then said he was instructed by my next commander to communicate a message to me. The Division Chaplain then stated that my new commander wanted me to sign out

of my current unit and sign into the 82nd the very next day! He was instructing me to cancel my leave because it was urgent that the 505 PIR have their Brigade Chaplain on board right away.

The Division Chaplain then explained that my next unit was on readiness status. This meant that the unit would be the first unit in the Army to be called upon should a national emergency occur. The unit was prepared to deploy anywhere in the world within 18 hours and engage the enemies of the United States in combat. The 505 PIR commander believed so much in the need for spiritual leadership within his brigade should a national emergency happen during my planned time off, that he followed up his request with a statement of, "If you cannot comply with this request, don't bother coming to Fort Bragg!" Wow! I really had no choice in the matter. I cancelled my leave and a few days later when I signed out of my unit, I reported to Fort Bragg the next day as instructed!

In my mind I was thinking that surely the 82nd Airborne Division could deploy without their brigade chaplain and such an event was very unlikely anyway. But my new commander



Dr. Scott Carson
President

thought otherwise. He believed the chaplain must be present and ready with the rest of the unit. In a way, it was an honor to know that he thought that way about the mission of the chaplain.

God often requires us to be present when He works on behalf of his people. I recently heard a great sermon from 2 Chronicles, chapter 20. In this passage of the Bible, Jehoshaphat is a good king of Judah who seeks the face of the Lord. Jehoshaphat learned that a great foreign army was coming to invade his country. He quickly turns to the Lord in prayer for wisdom on how to meet this threat.

In response to his prayer, the Lord answers him saying, "Thus saith the LORD unto you, Be not afraid nor dismayed by reason of this great multitude; for the battle is not yours, but God's. To morrow go ye down against them: behold, they come up by the cliff of Ziz; and ye shall find them at the end of the brook, before the wilderness of Jeruel. Ye shall not need to fight in this battle: set yourselves, stand ye still, and see the salvation of the LORD with you, O Judah and Jerusalem: fear not, nor be dismayed; to morrow go out against them: for the LORD will be with you." 2 Chronicles 20:15-16

As I read the story, I know that God could have done His intervening work on behalf of Israel without Judah's army. He could have said, stay in your

barracks, sleep in, do nothing at all and I will destroy the foreign invaders. But the Lord, more often than not, asks His people to participate in His work. Even though He might be doing it all, as in this case on behalf of Judah, yet He nonetheless required the army of Judah to assemble and deploy to the site where God was going to exhibit His great power and love for His faithful followers.

I am confident that many were fearful that the Lord may not do as He said he would and that they would be maimed or killed in the battle. The Lord tells Judah's army twice, "fear not, nor be dismayed," indicating that there was great concern among those in uniform.

The Lord does this many times in scripture, wherein He could just speak and destroy the enemies of His people, yet time and time again the Lord requires His people to put on their armor and to face their enemies even while being greatly outnumbered. I believe the Lord does this in order for His people to face their fears and in spite of their trepidations, to give them over to the Lord in faith and fully experience the amazing miracles of the Lord. People of faith have to exhibit their faith by participating in the will of God by putting on their battle dress uniforms, marching out to the battle lines, and then doing whatever the Lord asks regardless of the size and strength of the enemy we face. In His power we will always have the victory!

"For therein is the righteousness of God revealed from faith to faith: as it is written, The just shall live by faith." Romans 1:17

Equipping the Saints!

Alumni Association Breakfast

During the BMA of Mississippi annual meeting, the Southeastern Baptist College Alumni Association will have a breakfast on Tuesday, October 23 at 7:30 a.m. in the school library. Cost is \$3 per person to be collected at the breakfast. Please let us know if you plan to attend so we know how many to plan for. R.S.V.P. no later than Thursday, October 20. See you there!

Thank You!

Praise God for First Baptist Church of Midway, Sumrall, Mississippi, for answering the call to help with food for our students! They donated a \$1,000 worth of long shelf life food for the student food pantry. In addition, they have scheduled a hot meal in the near future while ministering to our student body. If your church family is moved to also help in providing a one-time hot meal for 50 students, or on a routine basis, contact Coach Phillips at 601-426-6346 to coordinate.

Seeking Volunteer Handyman

Having been blessed with 56 students living in our dormitories, and the infrastructure being old, we often have minor plumbing, electrical, window,

door, and miscellaneous other items needing repairs. We are offering an opportunity to someone to bless us with their handyman skills to assist us with these needs. Please contact Dr. Carson at 601-426-6346 if you would like to help.

Assistant Basketball Coaches and CDL Drivers Needed!

Our season starts soon! We are in need of coaches to help with the men's J.V. team as well as volunteers with

CDL license who would like to help us out driving the team bus to games. Contact Coach Phillips at 601-426-6346.

Special Emphasis

Praise the Lord that churches continue to send their generous Special Emphasis Month donations to us. We are grateful for all the churches and individuals who support God's work here at SBC. Thank you Union Baptist Church of Bay Springs who recently added to our Special Emphasis Month

tally. Most of our donor churches were listed in the September 15, Mississippi Baptist edition.

The Chargers Basketball Schedule

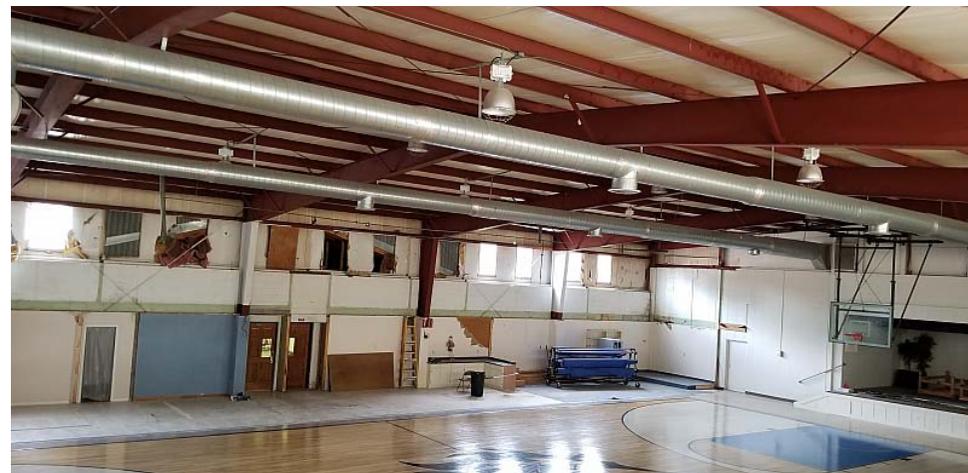
Let's have a great turn out in support of our first home game scheduled for 2 p.m., Saturday, October 27 in the SBC Gym! The season schedules for the Men's and Women's Varsity Games and Men's Junior Varsity Games are posted on our sports website: <http://athletics.southeasternbaptist.edu/>

Immediate Basketball Program Needs

Coach Brad Phillips provided me a list of immediate needs for the restart of the SBC Chargers Basketball program. The items below are needed by October first. Please contact him directly to coordinate if you, your church, or a business owner wishes to donate (870-378-7203).

1. 2 Sets of Jerseys: One set for men's J.V. and one set for the Women's teams - Cost: \$2000 per set (total of \$4000)
2. Shot Clocks - Cost: \$2000 total for both.
3. Backboard Padding - Cost: \$360
4. Gym Wall Padding - Cost: \$2964

continued on page 3



The demolition inside the SBC gymnasium is complete! Now for the next phase of fixing up the area. We pray to have this area cleaned up and ready for the state meeting.

Ministering To Young People

by Anders Lee

They Made a Huge Difference

Many of you know that I am a church planter. Central in Southaven, Mississippi recently organized into a church and we are thrilled! As we looked back on the last few years of working to see this come to pass, there were many things that we remembered being so critical in the process. The youth group was one of those things! Youth groups are so critical in the local church! I thought I'd share a little bit of the youth story here at Central as a way to encourage you to keep at your own ministry!



Anders Lee

When we decided to start the plant in 2013, at first it was just our family and one other. This family had one teenage girl and we had two teen boys. We had supper with them and after went around the table discussing things about how church plants are so that the kids would have a good understanding of what we were doing. After they left my son Zac (who at the time

was a 10th grader) said when do you think we will have a "youth group?" He had grown up around a large kid's ministry and later a large youth ministry. He was use to enjoying that. I told him it might would take a while and that in surrendering to do this plant, it might be one of the things he would miss out on in his later High School years. That night we prayed together. During the prayer he asked God to give the plant a youth group one year from then. It was May. When he asked that, I said to myself, it will truly be a God thing if we see that happen! Every time we prayed, he would pray along those lines.

Time went along and we quickly found ourselves doing the first public service and OIKOS (outreach) events in early 2014. We were praying that from the first service God would give us 5 families. Zac would pray that those families would have teens in them. Easter of 2014 came and we had 153 present at our first service. We had prayed and advertised and WOW...God

answered! God didn't just give us 5 families, he gave us 6!!! Guess what? Every one of them had teens in them! Isn't that like God!

We started having youth group meetings immediately on Wednesday nights! Those teens feel in love with each other and there was an undeniable bond! Those families knew other families that were not in church. They started inviting them to Central! They had TEENS TOO!!! Zac and Reagan (my other son) started inviting boys from school and some came, but one (Cullen) really stuck and got saved!!! By the time summer camp rolled around we had 18 teenagers! We went to a camp in Arkansas that was for kids & teens. That year we took 44 to camp! God had answered Zac's prayer!

That youth group attracted kids and teens constantly! Families would come and ask us how we were a church plant and managed to have that many teens! We told them; "God answered prayers!" With such a close youth group, the church was impacted more than many people realize! Much of our early growth came from it! Praise God!

I say all of that to say, youth minis-

try is so important in the life of your church! Don't minimize it as merely something necessary to have while the



Central Youth Group at Camp

adults are doing their thing! When kids and teens get on fire for Jesus, the whole church is affected!!! Pour much into it! Make sure you have great leaders who will teach the Bible and have lots of fun too! Fund it in your budget! Keep calendar events going for them! You will never regret making sure it's a preeminent part of the church! Our youth have made a huge difference at Central, and I know teens can in yours too!

Lee is a church planter in Southaven, Mississippi. He is a pastor and former youth minister and may be contacted at anders.lee571@gmail.com

Southeastern Needs

from page 2

5. Score Table - Cost: \$1295 (permanent high grade); or, \$200 for a custom table cover
6. Stocked medical kit - Cost: \$500
7. Team Chairs - Cost: \$1800
8. Possession Arrow - Cost: \$130
9. Team Travel Expenses - Cost: \$2500 per trip (total: \$5000). Overnight games to Louisiana and Florida

VA Educational Benefits Accepted!

SBC possesses the 2018 Gold Award level as a military friendly college! Have you served in America's armed forces? Then you probably have Veterans Administration tuition benefits that you can use toward a free education right here at SBC. I urge you to contact your local VA representative for an evaluation of your benefits. You earned them! And remember, many benefits are now fully transferable to family members. SBC has numerous students receiving VA assistance for both online and in-classroom tuition.

Available to Preach

Dr. Carson is available to fill the pulpit for preaching or to provide an update about the great things the Lord is doing at Southeastern Baptist College. You can reach him at 601-433-4736 or at scarson@southeasternbaptist.edu.

Thoughts from Amos

Amos 6.1 "Woe to those who are at ease in Zion and to those who feel secure on the hill of Samaria"

Good Reader, is our nation at ease with the Lord of Armies and the stipulation of His requirements? Hurricanes of moral viciousness sweep our land. Ethical standards are in earthquake

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 jstmcleaver@embarqmail.com

disarray. Bubbling up like hot lava are the ineptitudes of politicians and church leaders. Yet in all this we seem to be at ease while we rest on our couches, find comfort in our central air and heated homes, listen to the latest music, and care for ourselves with the newest in potions and lotions to go with our most fashionable clothing.

Have we not just passed a new military budget of a gazillion dollars? Don't we have a modern high tech military force capable of defeating any enemy?

What would cause us to worry? Those who rested in the security of the hills of Samaria were surprised when defeat came to them in spite of a booming economy.

God pronounced a "woe" to this

people. Woe simply means affliction, anguish, distress, despair, or misery. The Lord of Armies has a woe set aside for our land as we come to be at ease with the prerequisites of necessities and constraints He has placed on us His creatures made in His likeness.

Amos 7.8 "The Lord asked me, 'What do you see, Amos?' I replied, 'A plumb line.'"

A plumb line is an accurate measuring instrument with no moving parts, electronic gadgetry, batteries, or computer assisted operations. It is a simple weight attached to a string or cord that is held up to show a perfect 90 degree angle. Gravity holds the weight down and the line straight. Builders for centuries have used the plumb line to erect structures that are "plumb" or straight.

The Lord of Armies held up a plumb line to His people to see how they measured in regard to accuracy in their behavior to Him. God still uses a plumb line to measure all of humankind. Are you right with God? There is no standard of deviation when the plumb line is held right beside you. The plumb line measures precisely with perfection.

Some say they are pretty close to being right with God or perhaps they are not as bad a person as their neighbor or they have a fascination with talking about religion. The plumb line does not measure almost. It measures the relationship with the Christ of the

Gospels. Dear Reader, "Have you been to Jesus for His cleansing power? Are you washed in the blood of the Lamb?" Only when measured through Christ will any of us rate fully righteous against the plumb line of God.

Sofilthy's Attic

by Barbara White



Look Behind You

Not too long ago, on a Sunday night, I parked in a spot where I wasn't use to parking. When I got ready to leave, I shoved it in reverse and almost immediately heard breaking glass. Yes'um I had backed right smack dab into a fellow church member's car. Broke her tail light and dented her bumper. Now that was embarrassing. Especially since she saw the whole thing!

I was telling a friend of mine, who like me, has seen quite a few years and he said, "I don't think they oughta put reverse in old people's cars!" He may be right. It is scriptural. Philippians 4:13 ".....forgetting those things which are behind...."

MISSISSIPPI BAPTIST CHILDREN'S HOME

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



SIDNEY DAVIS

Special Emphasis Needs

Greetings from the Mississippi Baptist Children's Home:

Throughout our approaching 75 year history, the ministry of the Mississippi Baptist Children's Home has been driven to make a difference in the lives of children. This ministry has endeavored to help young people learn the ways of the Lord for their lives, to shape them for the future, to lead productive lives for the glory of the Lord. This ministry continues to strive to help children excel in their studies in the classroom at school, understand their role in society as a responsible child of God, to go from this place and live a good life, helping others and making right decisions.

We are pleased to report that Desi Brunty will be graduating from West Jones High School in May 2019. Desi became a resident at the Home when she was nineteen months old. She is an Honors Student. We are thankful of what Desi has accomplished in her academics throughout her school days. Next year she will be attending college. We are asking for your help during this Special Emphasis period in assisting us in providing a vehicle for her as she prepares for this next step in her life. These funds will also assist in providing insurance for her and other college expense in the years to come.

Will you partner with us in meeting these needs by participating in this year's Special Emphasis? We would like to suggest to you to consider designating Sunday, November 11th as "Children's Home Emphasis Sunday." We would like for you to have special prayer for the ministry of the Home on that day.

The important work of the Mississippi Baptist Children's Home would not be possible without your support. With your investment in the ministry of the Home we are able to provide children with a life of stability and structure in a Christian atmosphere that is honoring to God and true to His Word. God bless you as you consider a gift to the ministry of the Home as we ensue the purpose of this ministry to be wholly benevolent, and that benevolence be extended to the care of children in need.

Making a difference in the lives of children,
Sidney D. Davis, Director



Desi Brunty

Power of Prayer Teams at SOAR 2019

Matthew 7:7 says to, "Ask, and it will be given to you; seek, and you will find; knock, and it will be opened to you."

At SOAR 2019, Prayer Warriors and Prayer Partners will band together to cover churches, youth groups, and students in prayer as they attend the annual student conference.

This idea to approach the throne of grace on behalf of SOAR's attendees came to Kristen Riddle of Conway, Arkansas, during SOAR 2018. Before the sessions at the 2018 conference, Kristen and a handful of sponsors covered the students in prayer. This birthed in her a passion to be intentional in her prayers for next year's conference, while bringing other believers along in her journey.

"You could feel the Spirit moving in our group," said Riddle. "It was felt in the entire room - so powerful. I feel like God would like us to be intentional in praying for our kids and our leadership for this entire year, through next year's conference."

As a result of this desire, Kristen is developing two prayer teams for next year's conference: Prayer Warriors, who will come to SOAR 2019 with the sole purpose of covering conference-goers in prayer, and Prayer Partners, who will stay at home, but commit to praying over the students, pastors, and SOAR leadership for the duration of the conference.

"God tells us to come to him with our requests. He tells us that he will bless that," said Riddle. "And that's what we intend to do. Prayer Warriors will attend the event as part of the army, and during the sessions we will have a War Room as our prayer room."

Sign-ups for the two teams will begin October 1 and last through December 31. Beginning in January, weekly prayer

requests for SOAR will be sent to the two groups. Those who commit to be Prayer Warriors will need to come to SOAR 2019 solely to pray over the event, rather than coming as a



sponsor. Their registration fee will be waived. Those who commit to be Prayer Partners will also cover the conference in prayer, asking God to change hearts and lives.

"We'd like to see kids coming to know Christ, walls coming down, unity within youth groups, spiritual growth from kids who are already believers, and strengthening of the pastors and youth pastors," said Riddle. "From the minute these people step foot in the area, we just want them to feel the sweet spirit of Christ."

As the beginning of sign-ups approaches, pray about whether God would have you join one of the teams to cover SOAR 2019 in prayer. Stay tuned to [facebook.com/SOARconference](https://www.facebook.com/SOARconference) for updates about the prayer teams.

Tiger Creek Report

Just want everyone to know we will be having our Chitterling Supper on October 27, 2016 at 6:00 p.m. If you can come and enjoy the fellowship with us we would love to have anyone who would like to come and enjoy the chitterlings. We're staying busy here at Tiger getting ready for all our Fall events. Please continue to keep us in your prayers and always look toward the eastern sky because He's coming back. God bless until next time!

Reporter Brenda Overstreet



Contact BMA Foundation Executive Director
Charles Attebery
for more information.
charles@bmaamerica.org or cell 501-472-2183

A Gift That Keeps Giving

Gifts to the BMA Foundation are never spent. They are invested and the earnings benefit BMA departments annually until the Lord returns.

Some Ways to Give
Cash - Stocks and bonds
Life insurance policies - IRA Rollovers
Bequests

AVAILABLE

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

Dale Wirick available for pulpit supply. He may be reached at 228-249-0558, 228-235-273, by email at wd40wirick67@gmail.com or by writing him at P.O. Box 256 Escatawpa, MS 39552.



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“Let the redeemed of the Lord say so,”... Ps 107:2a

In our continuing series, I want to share another testimony from someone who has been impacted by one of our missions. This is an ongoing effort to help our readers understand that Missions is more than just numbers. It's about real lives being transformed.

“Let me give you a little history about myself. I grew up in church and accepted Christ as my personal Savior at a young age. I attended church faithfully as we were always involved in church up until I was around 20 years old. I moved out of my parents' house and out on my own and began working offshore and drifted away from church. Several years later, I got married and we moved to Florence, Mississippi, for another job, where I pretty much abandoned the church and betrayed my relationship with God.

My marriage was not so good. Let's just say, I was hard to live with. Several years later, my wife and I had our first child, and things got better but only for a short time. I once again

started another job which moved my family back to the Hattiesburg area. One day I was walking in Gander Mountain when I ran into my now Pastor. We talked a little and he invited us to church where he was preaching. We began to start going to church again. We built a house in Brooklyn, Mississippi, and once again began to fade away from church, which brings me to the day God felt He'd had enough of the way I was living and slapped me in the face to get my attention. My marriage was in need of help and I was not living as God had intended.

God used this mission to change my life. I remember receiving a call one day from my pastor and he asked if I could come over one evening to talk. I

told him I would stop by that day after work. That evening, he explained that God had led him to plant a church, and that God had put me on his heart to be a part of the mission. Now let me tell you that God did not allow me to think this through because I answered immediately that I was in. I can assure you, if He would have allowed me to think about this decision, I would have just appeased him and later come up with an excuse.

The Mission, from day one, has been a game changer for myself and my family. Through this mission and Discipleship training I truly understand how to pray, study God's Word, be responsible with everything God has given me. This includes my wonderful wife, children, church, and everything else. I am now truly able to lead my family in the way of the Word and my marriage is a beautiful thing, precious, just as God intended.

I'm not a people person and don't really like crowds. I do not communicate or socialize much with others outside of church. Funny thing is, I teach the Adult Sunday School class. It is funny because if it wasn't for God speaking through me, I 100% guarantee I would not stand in front of the church to speak, much less, teach. God has allowed me to complete Discipleship and I now have the privilege to disciple someone. Because God brought me to the mission, I now have a better relationship with Him and a better understanding of what He wants from me.

I always had the mind-set of what could God do for me. This mission is God's mouthpiece which proclaimed to me that I needed to understand it wasn't what God had for me but what I had for Him. I know I can say with confidence that I serve a risen Savior and strive to bring Him glory day and night.”

Revolving Loan Fund Trustees Approve Rate Increase on Deposit Accounts

by Vernon Newman, RLF Manager

The Lord has blessed the BMA of Mississippi Revolving Loan Fund (RLF) this year in our efforts to support Missions and Churches across our Associational work. We have closed out the budget year in the black and have received the results of our annual audit. Clint King, with Horne LLP; CPAs & Business Advisors, appeared before the Revolving Loan Fund Trustees, on September 24, to present the result of our annual audit. The outside auditors found zero discrepancies in the accounting and management practices of the Revolving Loan Fund; thus, issuing an “Unmodified Opinion” (the highest opinion to be given).

Due to the financial strength of the fund, the RLF Trustees have approved to raise the interest that is paid to our depositors, effective October 1, 2018, to 2.25% (previously 2.17%). We have been contacted by a number of other churches that are interested in requesting a loan from the Revolving Loan Fund. To meet the needs of these requests, we continue to encourage our Churches and Church members to become depositors of the Revolving Loan



Baby Dedication Service at Redemption Baptist Mission at Diamondhead, Wesley Martin, Missionary Pastor

Fund.

If you or your church would like to know more about the Revolving Loan Fund, please contact us at 601-428-8616 for more information or to request a presentation at your church.

Missionary Committee to Interview New Missionary Candidate

October 2, 2018, the Missionary Committee will interview our next Missionary Candidate. They will be considering our support of this mission project to the city of Waveland, Mississippi. If approved, the new missionary will begin missionary activity immediately. I have visited the field with this new Missionary Candidate and I am excited about the possibilities. This meeting will also be a time to review the finances of the Missions Department.

The same audit covers all of the Missions Department books. We are excited to report that we finished the year in the black again making this our 7th year in a row to do so. Our efficiency averaged over 90%, meaning over 90% of everything that came in for Missions went out to our missionaries.

Day Star Nears Completion of New Building

The steeple has been ordered and the parking lot paving has been scheduled as Day Star moves closer to the finish line of their building project. Bro. Burns has reported that they hope to be meeting in the new facility sometime in October. To date, because of

the generous giving of the churches of the BMA of Mississippi, Day Star has not had to take a loan to complete this project. We are hopeful they will be able to finish it out without having to borrow.

Starkville Missionary Needed

Missionary Coach Bob Burch and I are praying that God will raise up someone to go plant a church in Starkville, Mississippi, near Mississippi State University. Caledonia Baptist is ready to serve as the Mother Church for this mission project. We ask everyone to pray with us about this.

Central, Southaven Organized

On September 16th, Central Baptist Mission in Southaven organized as a New Testament Church. Central was a mission begun by Charity Baptist Church in Arkansas and was endorsed by the Baptist Missionary Association of America, headquartered in Conway, Arkansas. Our Missionary Committee, under the provision of our By-Laws, which allows us to work with other associations, chose to help with this project by providing a small monthly amount. Later, our Revolving



Awaken Baptist Mission now meeting at the Mustard Seed Day Care center at 4247 Pops Ferry Rd in D'Iberville

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From The Mind of Chuck Lee

Deeper Into The Woods

As a teenager, one of the greatest advantages of living where I did was having a large block of woods across the highway. They used to be just behind the neighbor's house, but the highway department decided the road needed to be straightened out from the shape of a twisted pretzel and deduced that the best place to straighten it was right through my woods. I wasn't even consulted in the matter. Still, they left me a pretty sizable portion to roam in after school.



Bro. Chuck Lee

I'm not sure of the logistics of the matter, but for whatever reason it has been my experience that the woods always seem thicker along the outer edges. The sun's light probably reaches

the perimeter more fully and encourages hedge and thorn growth. It didn't matter. I had already plowed my secret pathway through the jungle area so that I could reach the open areas beyond. It was like being able to close the door on the world when I finally reached the inner sanctum of my woods.

For the most part, I didn't go very far into the forest because of limited time in the evenings, but I noticed that the further I ventured, the woods became more and more beautiful. I know that they stretched all the way to the Amite River, but I never was able to

Sometimes you have to get beyond the tangled outer edges and walk a little further...

go that far. Still, one day I decided to just take off walking to see where my feet would lead me. South Louisiana isn't known for its hills and valleys, but as I ventured farther in, it seemed that the landscape began to change. There was a small creek lined with oak, bay, beech, hickory, and magnolia trees. It just felt cleaner than the rough and tangled outer edges. I would lay down on the leaves looking up into the trees at the squirrels as they jumped from limb to limb. I don't think I ever shot one when I was that deep in the woods. My fried squirrel and gravy had to come from the outer edges. It just didn't seem right to disturb the tranquility of the deep woods.

Those woods have changed through the years. Mostly, they have become subdivisions and shopping centers. The

people living there now will never know the joy I had as a boy wandering in what is now their back yards. Even now the memory of those woods teach



me of peace. Sometimes you have to get beyond the tangled outer edges and walk a little further than before in order to really see the beauty that God has prepared.

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

WOMEN'S MISSIONARY AUXILIARY

President Beth Caldwell

166 Twin Creek Rd, Lucedale, MS 39452 - 601-947-60118

Corresponding Secretary Mrs. Shirlene Smith

730 Hwy 533, Laurel, MS 39443 - 601-729-5638

Attention Ladies

by Beth Caldwell, President

It is almost time for the Ladies On A Mission Banquet. Mark your calendar and plan to join us on October 22 at 6:30, Shady Grove Baptist Church. Angelyn McMurray will be our speaker.

The WMA business meeting will be on Tuesday morning, October 23rd at Southeastern Baptist College in the Chapel. A new project and officers will be elected at this time.

I am looking forward to seeing each of you on the 22nd.

LADIES ON A MISSION

When: October 22, 2018

Where: First Baptist Church of Shady Grove
Laurel, Mississippi

Time: 6:30 PM

What: Dinner, Speaker and Door Prizes!

Angelyn McMurray was raised in what most would consider an average middle-class suburban household. Her upbringing, which was rooted in faith, family and education laid the foundation for a successful life. She attended Rutgers University receiving an undergraduate degree in Political Science and remained at Rutgers for Law School.

While working to lay the foundation for a successful career in the law, Angelyn's eyes were opened to the evil of human trafficking, its reality and the extent to which it not only exists, but thrives both internationally and in the United States.

Faced with this knowledge and in conjunction with her love of both justice and mercy, she founded 'We Are FREE' to raise awareness and provide much needed care to survivors of human trafficking.

In addition to her work, Angelyn is happily married and has three children.



Angelyn McMurray

Loan Fund approved a loan of 1.17 million dollars to help them purchase property and build a building. We are excited to see Central organize as a



Dr. Robert Burch and his wife Edie celebrating the 50th Wedding Anniversary of faithful members of Caledonia Baptist, Dean and Patsy Cook

New Testament Church.



Burch anniversary photo



Grace Baptist at Clinton recently participated in Back to the Bricks welcoming students back to Mississippi College



Missionary Committee Member Dennis Knight Celebrates 50th Anniversary with his wife Jean

Help Us Update Our List

We are mandated by the Association to maintain a list of preachers who are available to supply or pastor. We also maintain a list of churches without pastors. Our website contains information on each of our churches which we try to keep current (www.bmams.org). Our list is in constant need of updating. If you have changed status, please give us a call and let us know. If your church has called a new pastor, please let us know.

East Central Holds Annual Meeting

The East Central Association held its annual meeting on September 8. The annual message was brought by Bro. Wendell Helton. Our meal was hosted by Calvary Missionary Baptist Church of Leakesville and they did a great job.

Reporter Bro. Jerry Overstreet
Moderator Bro. Justin Howard

COMMISSION ON *Senior Adults*

4226 Highway 15 North
Laurel, Mississippi 39440



Kenneth Flynt
Director

2019 Conferences Scheduled

2019 Senior Adult Conferences, the place to be, Big Creek Baptist Church and FBC Mantachie. While it's on our mind go ahead and save these dates for the 2019 conferences, Tuesday, March 19th at Big Creek Baptist Church and Tuesday, May 14th at FBC Mantachie.

Seniors in their 90's are still attending these conferences and what a delight they are. They receive door prizes with great enthusiasm and what a delight to be with them. Don't miss it. Some expect to be attending when they are 100, we will have to see.

Our theme for 2019 is "He is our Hope", Col. 1:20. Our hope is in the Lord Jesus Christ and will always be there for us.

Looking forward to these conferences is always exciting. This year seems to be an exception among our seniors; some said "I can't wait".

Our joy will be bolstered by the enthusiasm of a large gathering of seniors coming together for this once a year get together. What a glorious time it is. You don't want to miss it. If you have never attended a conference this will be the one to begin.

Our deepest appreciation to our churches and individuals who make these opportunities possible. If your church is not supporting this ministry why not get in on the joy of supporting your members with a monthly offering to this cause or a one-time offering to this ministry. Your seniors will appreciate it.

The 2019 Senior Conference is the place to be!

Senior Adult Date Change

Bro. Kenneth Flynt announces that the North Mississippi Senior Adult Conference date has been changed due to a conflict. The Conference has been rescheduled to May 14, 2019 at First Baptist Church of Mantachie.

The original date of May 7th conflicted with the national BMA meeting. The correct date is reflected in this current article.

Chest of Joash – II Chronicles 24:4-6, 8-14

Restoring the Temple

by Charley Holmes, President
BMA Seminary

Verses 8 and following – A chest was placed outside at the gate of the Temple

A friend of the Seminary Bro. Glen Tropp (pastor of Unity Baptist Church, Hope, Arkansas), initiated the Chest of Joash at his church a number of years ago. The example of King Joash was to take offerings dedicated for repairs of the Temple in Jerusalem. The biblically-inspired offering has been blessed over the years to keep the church's facilities in a condition honoring to God.

The Seminary's chapel and adjacent buildings need a Chest of Joash offering for ongoing repairs.

This past year, by the generosity of our friends, the Dorman Memorial Chapel's interior was completely renovated. The Chapel had not had a facelift in 60 years! It was obviously greatly needed and has been a blessing for our students and many guests over the last several months. (Special thanks go out



Seminary roof in need of repairs

to BMA Seminary trustees Bro. Reggie Blake, Bro. Marvin Delk, and Mrs. Elaine Beal for a lot of consultation.)

More work is needed for the chapel roof and the roof of the adjacent building. We literally need your help in "keeping a roof over the students'

continued on page 8

212TH ANNUAL SESSION OF THE BAPTIST MISSIONARY ASSOCIATION OF MISSISSIPPI *Together As One; United For A Purpose* Ezra 3:1

Below is the tentative schedule for the
2018 annual meeting of the BMA of Mississippi

Monday, October 22

- 6:30PM WMA Banquet (First Baptist Shady Grove)
- 7:00PM Brotherhood Meeting (Southeastern Baptist College)

Tuesday, October 23

- 9:00AM WMA Business Meeting (SBC Chapel)

SESSION ONE

- 9:30AM Music
- 9:40AM Call Meeting to Order
Scripture & Prayer
- 9:45AM Enrollment Committee Initial Report
- 9:50AM Constitutional Changes (if necessary)
- 10:00AM Election of Officers
- 10:10AM MidYear Meeting Location-Speaker
Annual Meeting Location-Speaker
- 10:15AM Sidney Farmer (Missions Coach)
- 10:20AM Commission on Senior Adults
- 10:35AM Moral Action
- 10:55AM Nominating Committee Report
- 11:05AM Music
- 11:15AM President's Message and Theme
- 12:00PM Dismiss for Lunch

SESSION TWO

- 1:30PM Music
- 1:35PM Scripture & Prayer
- 1:40PM Vote on Constitutional Changes (if necessary)
- 1:45PM Ed Duval (Missions Coordinator)
- 1:50PM Commission on History and Archives
- 2:05PM BMA of MS Children's Home
- 2:25PM Baptist Music Fellowship
- 2:30PM Bob Burch (Missions Coach)
- 2:35PM Brotherhood Report
- 2:45PM WMA Report
- 2:55PM Southeastern Baptist College
- 3:15PM BMA of MS Youth Department
- 3:35PM Estuardo Marroquin (Missions Coordinator)
- 3:40PM BMA of MS Missions & RLF
- 4:15PM BMA of MS Publications
- 4:35PM BMA of MS Foundation
- 4:45PM Guest Reports
- 5:00PM Salary Committee Report
Clerk's Report
Final Enrollment Committee Report
Appoint Enrollment Committee
Miscellaneous Business
- 5:30PM Dismiss for Supper

SESSION THREE

- 7:00PM Worship / Annual Message
Adjourn / Dismiss
Wednesday, October 24

SESSION FOUR

- 9:00AM If Necessary

- Registration Table
Tuesday Morning 8:00AM
Tuesday Afternoon 1:00PM

*Each church must register messengers and receive ballots

Seminary Roof Repairs Needed

continued from page 7

heads.” The first really big repair project that the school needed when I was elected as president was to replace our aging roof. I had hoped that it would last longer than me. However, I



Flat roof needed replacement

have outlived the roof! 19 years is a long time for a commercial flat roof and it has served us well until now. We had a few leaks several years ago and a major patch job was done. We are now beyond patching. Some major leaks are occurring and the new roof cannot wait. We have done our due diligence and reviewed four (4) bids. Work will start in mid-September. The total cost for the roof for the chapel and adjacent classrooms, administration offices, and the Gregson Center is \$140,000.00. The contractor will ask for approximately half of the bid (\$70,000.00) when the materials are delivered – about September 15.

Would you pray that God will fill our Chest of Joash so that we can repair the roof? We were planning to fund and begin the work in the next two (2) years, but providence has advanced the start time. We must start now to stop any further water damage and preclude spoiling the renovation of the chapel.

Again, please pray about this need and also share it with your Sunday School classes, your church, and your local association. Any Chest of Joash gift can be made in honor of or in memory of a friend or loved one.

P.S. If only two (2) people purchased a \$100,000.00 Charitable Gift Annuity by transferring funds from low-interest CDs, this would supply more than half the need and double the interest paid to the donor. If this could be you or someone you know, call 800-259-5673 (LORD), email president@bmats.edu, or return the attached slip for more information.

2019 Senior Adult Conferences

South Conference
Tuesday, March 19, 2019
Big Creek Baptist Church, Soso

North Conference
Tuesday, May 14, 2019
First Baptist Church of Mantachie

Ministry Opportunities

Vardaman Street, Wiggins

Vardaman Street Baptist Church of Wiggins is seeking a full-time pastor with a heart for Christ and people. Potential candidates should firmly believe and support the doctrinal statement of the BMAA. We are seeking a pastor who can lead the church to win the lost to Christ, encourage and challenge Christians in growth and maturity through biblical preaching, and discern God’s direction and plan of growth for VSBC. If you believe God is

COMMISSION ON History & Archives

4229 Highway 15 North, Laurel, Mississippi 39440
601-794-8861



Ed Steele
Director

A search through the files contained in the History and Archive section of the Southeastern Baptist College Library revealed that numerous Minutes of our local Associations were missing. Bro. Don Brown assisted many of the clerks of these Associations in the printing of their Minutes and kept copies for Mississippi Baptist use. He called to tell me he had these copies if I wanted to go through them to fill in what was needed. Our records may not be complete, but they are much better due to Bro. Brown allowing me to have these copies.

A section of our records contains old tapes. For example, there are cassette tapes of Bro. Harold Leytham preaching. These tapes are probably over 30 years old and it is unlikely they are still useable. Anyone who has the capability of converting them to a digital form

leading you to pursue this position, please send a resume to VSBC Pastor Search Committee, Post Office Box One, Wiggins, MS 39577 or via e-mail to vardamanstreetba@bellsouth.net.

Skyway Hills Baptist Church Seeks Pastor

Skyway Hills Baptist Church in Pearl, Mississippi, is seeking God’s leadership in the selection of a new pastor. Any minister who feels God’s direction to apply for this position, should send a resume to Pastor Search Committee, Skyway Hills Baptist Church, 3790 Highway 80 E., Pearl, MS 39208 or email at welbornr1390@gmail.com.

by copying them to CDs, please let me know. Otherwise, they are in the files but likely will never be of any future benefit. For this reason, I would like to modernize our files by adding CDs of audio and DVDs containing audio and video that can be used for a much longer period.

I was thrilled recently when Bro. Sam Gray of Stratford, NY, sent me a DVD that contains 52 messages by Dr. D. N. Jackson he preached on the radio. Dr. Jackson (who once was pastor in Mississippi of what is now the Parkview Baptist Church in Laurel) had a tremendous impact on the early days of our Association before his death about 50 years ago. Though I never had the privilege of meeting him or hearing him in person, it is such a blessing to hear him now. Most of these messages are Bible studies, but it was interesting to hear him on one of them promoting the work of the North American Baptist Association and giving details of how contributions could be sent to support the various departments. A copy of these discs will be placed in the History and Archives files.

I will share information concerning the addition of CDs and DVDs to our archives in the October 15 edition of the Mississippi Baptist. It would greatly please me if the Association chooses someone else to be Director of History and Archives in the annual session. If that happens, I will gladly meet with that individual to share my idea of what the inclusion of these discs can mean to our churches.

Lifeword Broadcast Ministries Highlights Arab Broadcasts

from front page

In 2000, realizing that the Arabic world now had more than forty hours per week of quality gospel programming aimed at Arab believers, Lifeword shortened its broadcast from a fifteen-minute Bible teaching format to a more contemporary one-minute dialog format aimed at Arabia’s lost population of about 200 million.

During the Gulf War, the new short format allowed Charles Costa to quickly prepare special messages to the Iraqi people. “We were able to assure them that the war was not an action aimed at the Iraqi people, but was designed to help topple the cruel regime that had held them in fear and bondage for decades.”

By late 2009, the BMA’s Arabic ministry in the Middle East had expanded and strengthened to the point that its

media ministry could be sustained entirely by BMA churches there, allowing Lifeword to re-allocate much needed funds for broadcasts to unreached people groups. Missions Director Dr. John David Smith said, “That decision by Lifeword follows a fundamental principle in today’s missions philosophy: When indigenous ministries are capable of standing on their own, we remove our ‘temporary scaffolding’ and let them take complete charge of reaching their own culture with the gospel.” By doing this, indigenous ministries can become more effective, and U.S. funds can be redirected to new fields.

Bro. Charlie said, “Creative new Arabic media ministries on the internet are proving the wisdom of this approach. Financial necessity made us work to invent less expensive and more

effective methods of reaching out to our own people here in the Middle East, and our people take a great deal of pride in ‘owning’ those new media ministries.”

Now the third generation of Costas is involved in the Lifeword Cloud. Joe Costa, grandson of Yusef Costa, has produced a series of videos, and Bro. Charlie is overseeing the transcribing and metatagging of his father Yusef’s sermons. Both formats will be loaded onto the Cloud, continuing the media ministry legacy begun by his grandfather almost 40 years ago.

Team Lifeword Information:

Register your church for Lifeword Sunday October 21st or whatever date is convenient for your church.

Contact holly@lifeword.org if you

need a speaker for your church, group or event.

T-shirts (available at lifeword.org/lifewordsunday) are \$14 for s/s and \$20 for l/s

Please join us as we praise the Lord for the launch of the Lifeword Cloud this month.

Please join us as we pray: that Arab Christians will be bold as they proclaim the gospel and that Arab non-Christians will be reached with the truth of God’s unconditional love. (With an estimated 420 million speakers in the world, Arabic is the sixth most spoken language. It is almost impossible to know how many of them are Christians, but there are a large number, since there were Arab Christians six-and-a-half centuries before there were Arab Muslims.)

And that people searching for answers about life will find the truth of the gospel at lifeword.org.