

Baptist

Mississippi

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Pastor's Oasis Set During Pastor Appreciation Month

by Kirk Shelton
Pastoral Ministries Consultant

Dear Deacon Chairman:

I hope this letter finds you and your church family enjoying the very best of the Father's blessings. On behalf of Kevin Clayton, Donny Parrish and the entire DiscipleGuide staff I want to say "thanks" for the faithful service you give to Christ and His church. The churches of the BMA of America are blessed to have men like you assisting pastors in the work of ministry.

Not only has God blessed His churches with faithful laymen like you, He has also given us wonderful, God-called pastors who faithfully and unselfishly lead His churches. Many times we take for granted the sacrificial service they render to the Father and to us. We may never know, this side of heaven, how many times our names are called-out to God in prayer by our pastor-shepherd as he "stands in the gap" for us. I, for one, am very thankful to have a God-called and God-anointed man to call my pastor.

How can we express our appreciation, thanks and love to our pastors? There are many ways but I want to mention just one. October has been designated as "Pastor Appreciation Month" across our nation. It is a special month set aside to let our pastors know how much they are loved and appreciated. In recognition of Pastor Appreciation Month, DiscipleGuide Conference Ministry has scheduled our annual Pastors Oasis for September 30 - October 2, 2008. Pastors Oasis is three days of inspirational teaching, outstanding music, relaxation and wonderful fellowship. The location for this year's Oasis is the Chateau On The Lake in Branson, Missouri. The cost for the conference is \$60 per person by September 5. Additional costs for your church include: hotel (\$125 per

night for 2 nights), travel, and a few meals. Hotel accommodations can be secured by calling the Chateau at 1-888-333-5253 or 417-334-1161. Please call by September 5 to receive the reduced rate.

Because your pastor would never ask the church to send him and his wife to the Oasis, we are asking you, as the Chairman of Deacons to lead your church in sending them. Would you please use your leadership and influence to lead your church to present this trip as a gift to your pastor?

A gift such as this will mean more than anything for your pastor.

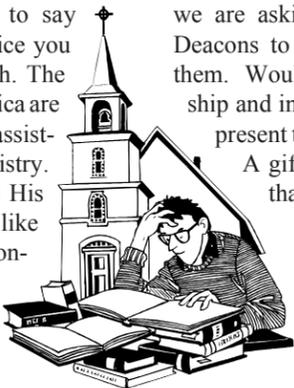
At Pastors Oasis your pastor will enjoy the inspiring teaching of Dr. Ronnie Floyd as he speaks on the topic: 10 Things Every Minister Needs To Know. In addition to the great teaching we will enjoy inspi-

rational singing and a banquet to honor our pastors and their wives. Maggie Chandler will speak to the ladies for one session and other special guests include; Tony Elenburg, Ken Medema, Ivan Parker, Randy Frazier and Nazareth. It's going to be a special time and we want your pastor to be a part of it.

We invite you to prayerfully consider sending your entire staff to the Oasis. To register your pastor and staff for Pastors Oasis, fill out the registration form and mail to DCM by September 5 or you may register online at www.DiscipleGuide.org. Please call the DiscipleGuide office with any questions at 501-513-3726 or e-mail tricia@DiscipleGuide.org. DCM will send your church a special certificate to present to your pastor during a worship service.

Thanks in advance for honoring and blessing your pastor and his wife in this special way! We look forward to hearing from you.

DiscipleGuide Conference Ministry
PO Box 10356, Conway, AR 72034
Phone 501-513-3726
www.DiscipleGuide.org



Student Pastors to meet in Laurel

All Student Pastors, Youth Committees, Part-time Workers, and Volunteers are invited to attend the Student Ministries conference on September 27, 2008 at 11:00 a.m. at First Baptist Church of Shady Grove in Laurel, Mississippi.

Student Pastors will be meeting together to further implement what is currently being called the "Student Pastor Fellowship." What many of our Student Pastors across the state are looking for is a time where Student Pastors can meet to discuss different issues that students and student pastors alike are facing, share different ideas concerning student ministry, and to discover the needs for workshops and provide them.

We are in the beginning stages of implementing this new "Student Pastor Fellowship" and need as many Student Pastors as possible to attend to aid in the formation of this desperately needed ministry. If there are any questions, comments, or concerns please feel free to contact B.J. Sullivan, Student Pastor, First Baptist Shady Grove, Laurel, Mississippi at 601-426-6098.

First Baptist Church is located on Highway 15 North in the Shady Grove community just north of Laurel, Mississippi.

The Church

by Johnny Watts

This treatise on the "church" is presented for a study to explain or enhance the teaching on the local, visible church concept.

Since the days of Christ men have tried to find ways to pervert the teachings and words of Christ and the early writers of the scriptures. This falling away has been so gradual, in many areas, that some believe that it is a new revelation from God. Christ established only one church and that was organized while He was on earth. Adam did not begin the first church, neither did it begin in Acts Chapter 2 on the day of Pentecost. But since the church's beginning some have pulled away because of a difference in belief, usually on one simple aspect, and began a new "denomination."

There are primarily three beliefs about the church. One, the church is a local, visible assembly of baptized believers. Two, the church is a universal, visible body composed of all those who have met certain requirements of the body. Three, the church is a universal, invisible body composed of all the saved of the church age. The "universal, visible" concept is held by the Catholic

church and requires its members to submit to its teachings. The "universal, invisible" was brought about by Martin Luther and others of the Protestant leaders.

Protestants are those religions that protested and came out of the Catholic Church. Praise God that Baptists (most) can trace their roots back to the time of Christ. Some, though, have fallen into this "easy believeism" that all believers are part of the "church." But even these are not together on their belief. There is even a rift between them. Some, who follow the teachings of C. I. Scofield and a host of other Protestants, believe that the Church is composed of all the saved since Pentecost, thus giving the Church its beginning on that day. This would leave Christ out of the picture for He was with the Father. It would leave out the Apostles, who we think of as pillars of the Church, for they came before Pentecost, and



Johnny Watts

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Hummingbird Shadow

I saw the shadow of a hummingbird this morning. I saw it more than once as he or she flitted to and from the feeder hanging on the porch. It took me a few minutes to accurately understand what I was observing because the shadow was so small. The morning sun was just right to make a hummingbird shadow. Even then it was not much of a shadow. The largest hummingbird is very small. The shadow was almost imperceptible. Yet it was there when I looked carefully and closely. It was a little, bitty hummingbird shadow.



shadow in our media. The famous, the entertainer, the politician, the rich, the strong, the healthy, and the powerful cast great shadows, or so it seems. I cannot read a newspaper, watch the television, listen to the radio, or read any magazine without seeing the "big shadow" people.

Leave It To Cleaver

Tony Cleaver

The big shadow people seem to be on everyone's "A" list. Their words are important at face value if not chiseled in stone for all time. Their actions are closely scrutinized. The paparazzi cannot take enough photographs or get enough footage of their every moment both public and private. Big shadow people don't seem to come to my house. I am not on their speed dial nor do they give me their private number so I may put them on mine. They don't leave notes on my personal internet space. I don't ever have a meal with them. They are not in my circle when I need help.

God, I thank you for the hummingbird shadow this morning. It is those hummingbird shadows that have ministered to my life. It was a hummingbird that cast a shadow over me to tell me of Jesus and His salvation. It was a hummingbird in the pulpit You used to influence me to publically profess Christ as Savior. It was a hummingbird who taught me the Scriptures. It was a hummingbird who placed in my path when I needed counsel about life's directions. God, thank you for the shadow of the hummingbird. It reminded me it is those "little" people who are the important people of my life. They have cast the shadow of Your grace.

Lord I pray I can be like a hummingbird in my work for You. May I cast my shadow where it needs to be cast. Surely and quietly, without fanfare, may I be in the place for the person and situation You have for me today. Empower me to share the Good News in a way very much like the shadow of the hummingbird on my porch this morning. God of all things great and small, to include the hummingbird and its shadow, hear my prayer in the name of Christ. Amen.

CHURCH NEWS

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

Mid Central Association meeting date changes

The annual meeting of the Mid Central Association will be held at Mt. Olive Baptist Church, House, Mississippi at 9:00 am on September 20. The meeting was previously scheduled at Magnolia Heights but has changed to Mt. Olive. Our speaker will be Bro. Bill Raines

Bexley Prison Ministry report

Bro. Homer Bexley reports that his ministry at the Leakesville, Mississippi unit is going well. He visits the prison regularly and is endorsed by the Washington Association. Bro. Bexley reports 7 professions of faith and 2 other decisions in the past month.

Parkview, Laurel to hold revival

Parkview Baptist Church would like to invite 'whosoever will' to come and worship with us during our Fall Revival. Bro. Adam Sloan, Student Minister of Parkview, will be bringing the messages each evening with Bro. Latrelle Windham, Music Minister of Parkview, leading our song services. Services begin Sunday, September 7, with morning worship at 10:45 followed by lunch and an afternoon service. Weekly services will be held at 7 p.m. Monday through Wednesday, September 10. We hope you join us for worship and ask that you join us in prayer.
Shane Singleton, pastor

Trinity Florence

Trinity Baptist Church will have their Fall Revival September 14-19. Bro. Robert Burch, pastor of Pine

Ridge Baptist Church, Laurel, will be the guest evangelist. Worship services will begin Sunday morning at 11:00 with lunch at noon. The afternoon service will begin at 1:30 p.m. Services Monday through Friday will begin at 7:00 each evening. Supper will be served each night at 6:00. Nursery will be provided for each service.

Also, Trinity Church will be celebrating Homecoming on Sunday, October 26 at 11:00 a.m. Bro. Jimmy Cresswell will be the guest speaker. For more information call Pastor James Brown for more information at 601-209-1502.

Fairhope, Beaumont

Fairhope Missionary Baptist Church will be honoring her Senior Citizens on Sunday September 14th. Our guest speaker for the day will be Bro. John Stegall. Come and enjoy the day in service to the Lord and stay for lunch afterward and Christian fellowship as we honor our Senior Citizens on this special day.

We pray during the day in some way we may bless them and let them know that we love them in a very special way and let each of them know that they fill such a large part within our church family. May our church always be a blessing to all who attend. Always try to be a blessing to someone and you will be the one who is blessed at the end of the day.

Tina Lott, Church Reporter
Bro. Jerry Overstreet, pastor

Scotland Baptist Church

Both young and young at heart recently enjoyed "Outrigger Island" - Scotland Baptist Church's Vacation Bible School held July 21-25, 2008. During the week long event, coordinated by Dana Pierce and Toni Ballard, everyone enjoyed a time of Bible study, crafts, music, food, and fellowship. Five children came to know the Lord as their personal Lord and Savior as a result of hearing God's word throughout the week.

On July 26, Scotland Baptist hosted a VBS graduation ceremony followed by a Family Fun Day.

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Church

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were baptized before Pentecost.

Then there are those who follow J. R. Rice and others that want to be a little different from the Protestants and they say that all the saved from Adam are in the church. Since the New Testament Church could not have existed in the Old Testament days, this seems even more farfetched than the other.

It is Important When the Church had Its Beginning

Even though conservative Baptists may not pinpoint the exact same point that the church had its beginning, all will agree that it was during Christ's ministry on earth. Some would place it on the Mountain when Christ called His disciples together and ordained twelve and sent them forth to preach. Dr. Harold Cooper in his book, "Believing

Truth About the Church" says we should go all the way back to the time that John was baptizing in Jordan at a place called Bethabara (John 1:35-51). Surely this is the time that the first followers of Jesus were received and baptized. John preached repentance to them and then baptized them and then introduced them to the Lamb of God and they followed Him.

The Form of the Church

Even though everything about the Church is important, I want to deal primarily with what the church is. Is it local or is it universal? Is it visible or is it invisible?

Since it really doesn't change anything just because I believe it that way, we must look at the Scriptures. Since Christ said, "Upon this rock I will build my Church" and Paul wrote to the Ephesians, "Husbands, love your wives as Christ also loved the church and gave himself for it," then the church did have its beginning after Adam and before Pentecost. As we keep this in mind let us look further. The church is composed of baptized believers. Baptism is considered the doorway to the church. No one is considered a member unless baptized. So then those who have never followed the Lord in scriptural baptism (none other will do) are no part of the church. This does not mean that they are not saved.

Dr. Cooper says that the word

"church," in Matthew 16:18 is used in the generic, or institutional sense. That Jesus meant a local, visible assembly is clear from Matthew 18:15-20. There, an aggrieved person was charged to go to his brother first and then tell it to the church - an act that was only possible if she was local and visible. He also relates the passage in Ephesians 5:23 that states, "For the husband is the head of the wife, even as Christ is the head of the church; and he is the Savior of the Body." Many say there that the church is universal and invisible, but the husband and wife are not. How can one determine that? Nowhere in the context is such a distinction made.

There are other evidences of the Church being local and visible. The many metaphors used in the New Testament for the church show the

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2008 Local Association Meeting Schedule

Association	Date	Location	Speaker
Big Creek	Oct 4	Fairview, Laurel	Harold Holifield
Capitol	Sept 20	Oakland, Vicksburg	Michael Moore
East Central	Sept 13	Calvary, Leakesville	Greg Hillman
Gulf	Oct 9	TBA	TBA
Harmony	Oct 11	Corinth, Farmington	Martin Jameson
Hobolochitto	Sept 27	Hickory Grove, Lumberton	Wayne Rice
Judson	Sept 13	Oak Grove, Mantachie	Michael Yielding
Mid-Central	Sept 20	Magnolia Heights, Forest	Ray Lott
Oak Grove	Sept 18	Main Street, Petal	Ralph Hatten
Tombigbee	Oct 4	Shiloh, Calcedonia	Bobby Jerrell
Washington	Sept 20	Temple, Lucedale	Malcolm Clark

Louisiana Church Seeks Full-Time Pastor

Plainview Baptist Church at Denham Springs, Louisiana, is in search of a full-time pastor. For more information contact Bro. Roy May at 225-665-5852, or write him at 24069 Joe May Road, Denham Springs, LA 70726.

BAPTIST MUSIC FELLOWSHIP

Dr. J. E. Sims, Director
P.O. Box 24, Mantachie, MS 38855
662-282-7425
Email fbcjes@nexband.com

Is "Contemporary" A Bad Word?

I often find myself backing away from the word "contemporary" when talking about music that is being used in some worship services, concerts, associational meetings, etc., because this word is regularly associated with loud, fast-paced music that can resemble music used in secular venues, and commonly uses instruments that some might find objectionable.

First, let's define what "contemporary" means. The dictionary defines this word as "belonging to the same period of time." A simpler way of saying this is that it means "now." That being said, all of us must admit that there is a vast amount of good music that is being written today (now) in all genres: hymns, southern gospel, praise songs, choruses, anthems, and even in the style called "contemporary." We must also admit that there is a lot of "bad" music being produced for the consumption of the Christian community. We often see and hear music that is produced for primarily commercial purposes for the Christian community that is not Biblical in its theology and lyrics, and often is of poor musical quality. We also see music that is overpowering any message that it might contain because of the volume, instrumentation, and the way it is presented. Many of these songs could easily be used as love song to another person, and have been referred to as "musical mush," "desert," "fluff," "spiritual junk food,"

or other adjectives that refer to the universalism of their music and message.



J.E. Sims

Today's Christian interviewed Rick Muchow, worship leader at Saddleback Church in Lake Forest, California. While I do not necessarily agree with everything at Saddleback Church, Rick Muchow makes some interesting points. Here are some of the questions and answers:

What is worship?

"Any expression of our love to God – for who He is, for what He's said, and for what He's doing. Worship is a physical expression of our spiritual relationship with Him."

What's the most common misperception about worship?

"That it's synonymous with music. The Bible does mention music as being one way to worship. But Jesus exemplified many ways of worshiping – through obedience, teaching, reading and quoting Scripture, prayer, fasting, and giving."

Is there a wrong way to worship?

"Focusing on yourself. There's a difference between 'service' and 'serve us.' A lot of people go to church for what they're going to get out of it. But it's not about us. Though we benefit from worshiping God, that's not why we should

do it. You don't love your kids for what you can get out of it. You love them because you love them."

How can we keep the focus on God?

"Understanding what the Bible has to say about worship – that God commands it, that it must be done in love, with humility and reverent fear, and that it involves surrendering your entire life as an offering to God – will keep our focus true."

How can a smaller church with limited resources compete with megachurches that are able to offer multiple styles of worship services?

"Churches should be encouraged to be themselves, to find their own identity and not try to cater to an audience as if it were entertainment. The questions our churches should be asking is not 'How can I compete with the church down the block?' but 'What has God called our church to be? What is our mission field in this community?' The goal is to reach people for Christ."

As we strive to stay contemporary (now) in our worship, while remaining true to "the old, old story", no matter what style of music we use, may we always point ourselves and the lost to Jesus Christ.

God has always used music as a means to glorify and worship Him. Likewise, Satan has always used music as a tool of division, even in churches. Whether your preference of music is southern gospel, traditional, blended, or contemporary, we must always strive to glorify Christ in all we do. Remember, the focus of the Holy Spirit is to point people to Jesus. Our music must do the same.

The same things that was said of preaching can be said of baptizing. A local, visible body is necessary to fulfill that function.

Also the third part of the Great Commission - teaching. Who will teach if not from the local, visible body? Where lies the responsibility for doctrinal purity, if not in the local assembly? If not for the restraint of the local churches, everyone would feel free to teach that, "which was right in his own eyes."

Then what would you do with that scripture that says if your brother will not hear you when you go to him with your grievance that you are to take him to the church and if he will not listen then the church is to exclude him from its membership. How can a church exclude a brother that has erred from her membership or fellowship, without excluding him from the family of God (since all of the

saved of the church age are supposed to compose the universal, invisible church)? This does not make much sense, does it? A church must be local and visible to exclude anyone from her fellowship.

Of course there is a sense in which the church is universal. When Christ comes for His bride, that bride will be made up of all true New Testament (local, visible) churches. This bride will be made up of all believers that have 1) Been saved, 2) Scripturally baptized, 3) United with a true New Testament Church, and 4) Have kept themselves pure.

Maybe number 4 needs clarifying. In Revelation 19:7-8 we find, "the marriage of the lamb is come, and his wife hath made herself ready. And to her was granted that she should be arrayed in fine linen, clean and white: for the fine linen is the righteousness of saints." Is this not

Southeastern Baptist College

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



Dr. Medrick Savell
President

Serving Christ With a Biblical World View In A Christian Atmosphere

Enrollment

The new semester is underway and appears to be a good one. There could be a few changes in the enrollment, but for the most part it is complete. At this time there are 78 students enrolled. The total number of hours they are taking is 856, which is 28 more hours than last fall. We thank the Lord for this increase. This enrollment includes 31 new students and 33 ministers.

Memorial Gifts

A contribution has been received in memory of Mrs. Miriam Coleman Cooper to purchase a book to be placed in the A. R. Reddin Memorial Library. May the Lord bless her family.

Special Emphasis

Contributions are coming in almost daily for the Special Emphasis. An updated list of contributions that we have received at this time is

those who have been faithful since their salvation? Would Christ have a bride whose garments were all dirty and spotted from living like the world?

Conclusion

All the saved are not part of the Church. There are some saved persons that do not have a church relationship. Some have not been baptized (scripturally). Some may have had a form of baptism, but not as the word teaches. The mode could have been wrong - not immersed. The church that administered the baptism might have not been doctrinally sound. If they cannot trace their lineage back to the first church, then they have no solid foundation.

There will be guests at the wedding. The Word makes this clear. Revelation 19:9, "Blessed are they which are called unto the marriage supper of the lamb." A bride is never called or invited to her wedding. She is a part, a very important part of that wedding. Who are these guests? Some would say the Old Testament saints. Probably this is so, but also some New Testament saints will be there. Since all the saved are not in the Bride, those who are not in the bride, but are saved will be guests at the wedding.

as follows:

Associations
Capitol Association
Gulf Association
Oak Grove Association
Washington Baptist Association

Churches
Antioch Baptist Church, Soso
Bethel Baptist Church, Hattiesburg
Bethel Baptist Church, Seminary
Center Ridge Baptist Church, Chunky
Central Baptist Church, Corinth
Centerville Baptist Church, Mantachie
Community Baptist Church, Poplarville
Cypress Creek Baptist Church, Brooklyn
First Baptist Church, Bay Springs
First Calhoun Baptist Church, Laurel
Movella Baptist Church, Lucedale
Mt. Calvary Baptist Church, Picayune
New Bethany Baptist Church, Ellisville
Oak Grove Baptist Church, Lucedale
Oakland Grove Baptist Church, Laurel
Paramount Baptist Church, Perkinston
Riverside Baptist Church, Ellisville
Rock Hill Baptist Church, Meridian
Skyway Hills Baptist Church, Pearl
Ten Mile Baptist Church
Ladies SS Class, Perkinston
Westhaven Baptist Church, Jackson
Wolf Creek Baptist Church, Kiln

Individuals

Dr. and Mrs. Tony Cleaver
Mr. and Mrs. Charles Davis
Mrs. Marjorie Harper
Mr. and Mrs. Jim Moore
Bro. Frank Panzarino
Bro. and Mrs. Mavous Phifer
Bro. and Mrs. Howard Rhoden
Dr. Medrick Savell
Mr. and Mrs. Larry Welborn

The total received is \$18,248.36. We expect to hear from most of the churches during the next month or two. If your church has not responded, please consider helping us in this anniversary year.

Church

from page 2

institution to be local and visible in nature. Such metaphors as building, bride, body, flock, field, temple, pillar, house, and candlestick are used to characterize the church. Can a building be universal and invisible? Can a bride or a body be universal and invisible? Can a flock? The answer is simple - NO!

The functions of the church also demand that she be local and visible. Preaching surely is one of these. (Church) Go into all the world and preach the gospel." How can preaching or evangelizing be done by a universal, invisible church which is never assembled? Who would decide who would go? Who would decide where to go? Who would be responsible to support those who were sent?

Mississippi Baptist Opinion Page

Journal of the Baptist Missionary Association of Mississippi

Random Thoughts

Conferences

The conferences that DiscipleGuide has begun conducting for pastors, staff and members of our churches are well thought out and conducted with professionalism. They address areas that will help us as individuals and churches to be better ministers of the Gospel. I have attended two of these sessions and have been blessed by the content and impressed with the dedication of those who took their time to share their thoughts and experiences to help others.

I just wonder why more of our people have not taken advantage of these resources. I have been disappointed in the attendance or lack of interest. Surely we do not think that we can not benefit from the experience of others!



Don Brown
Editor

'Socially responsible' investor blacklists McDonald's

OneNewsNow - The president of a pro-family values mutual fund company says the extreme actions of McDonald's has forced the investment firm to publicly clarify that its portfolios won't include any stock in the worldwide hamburger retailer.

Timothy Plan's socially responsible investing includes screening of companies whose revenues or actions support pornography, abortion, anti-family entertainment, or promotion of non-married lifestyles. But Art Ally, president of the investment company, says his group normally does not spotlight or publish notices on businesses they screen out. In this case, however, he says the Timothy Plan could not stay silent when McDonald's went "over the edge."

"McDonald's actually has been on our screen or prohibited list since 1999 -- so this is nothing new," says Ally. "What is new is the aggressive approach that they're moving to, in promoting and supporting the homosexual agenda."

That aggressive approach? The fast-food giant's \$20,000 donation to the National Gay and Lesbian Chamber of Commerce for a seat on its board of directors, and labeling of those who oppose the homosexual agenda as "haters" -- both of which Ally says marked an extreme

National Missions Symposium

I am glad that the leaders in our National Missions Department will be having two symposiums this year instead of just one. Mississippi will host one of these meetings at Calvary Baptist Church, Horn Lake. While it will still be a long drive for some of our churches in the southern part of the state, this will afford the opportunity to attend this meeting to a greater number of our laymembers. I encourage each pastor and church to make a special effort to attend this meeting on January 6-7, 2009. You will be blessed and will be able to have a better appreciation for the worldwide missions effort of the BMA of America.

The Movie

On the page opposite this article you will find an ad for the new movie "Fireproof". I look forward to seeing it and am pleased that Dr. Adams and the CAC trustees are urging our people to go to this movie. It is produced by the same church in Georgia that gave us "Facing The Giants" and "Flywheel". In addition to viewing a good movie with a positive Christian message, your attendance will continue to send the message to the entertainment industry in this country that there are millions of people who are hungry for family friendly movies with a positive message. Check your local theatres and make plans to see this movie as a family, a Sunday School class or as a congregation.

Football, Fall and Meetin's

Fall is near, the football season will have begun by the time most of our readers received this issue and annual local association meetings will be getting underway. Fellowship and the business side of these meetings are very important to the life of our association. In the past few years the attendance at these meetings has decreased - especially by the average church member. Make a special effort to attend your local meeting this year and see what a blessing it will be.

Church of the Covered Dish BY THOMAS TAPP



Bro. Eli listens intently as the committee discusses the merits of scented toilet paper over non-scented toilet paper.

step up from sponsorship of TV programs and movies with anti-family and pornographic entertainment. Those actions, coupled with offering its employees transgender health benefits, have kept McDonald's out of Timothy Plan investments to this point, according to Ally.

He believes corporate officials at McDonald's are shirking their responsibility to make money for shareholders, by alienating the

company's large "family-oriented" customer base with support of the homosexual agenda.

The pro-family American Family Association has called for a boycott of McDonald's because, says AFA, it has "chosen not to remain neutral" in the culture wars, "but to give the full weight of their corporation to promoting the homosexual agenda, including homosexual marriage."

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ABS ASSOCIATION OF BAPTIST STUDENTS

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JONES COUNTY JUNIOR COLLEGE

WEDNESDAYS 7:50AM - 8:20 AM
CHAPEL IN FRONT OF STUDENT CENTER
1ST MEETING WEDNESDAY AUGUST 27, 2008

SOUTHEASTERN BAPTIST COLLEGE

MONDAYS 12:00 - 12:45
CAFETERIA ROOM
1ST MEETING AUGUST 25, 2008

AVAILABLE FOR SERVICE

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

Freddie Mills

Bro. Freddie Mills is available for service as the Lord leads. He may be reached at 601-441-4057.

Larry Pierce

Bro Larry M. Pierce is available to fill in the pulpit or where ever the Lord leads. He may be reached at 601-947-3531.

NAME _____
ADDRESS _____
CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____
PHONE _____ UNIVERSITY/COLLEGE _____

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FIREPROOF

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At work, inside burning buildings, Capt. Caleb Holt lives by the old firefighter's adage: Never leave your partner behind. At home, in the cooling embers of his marriage, he lives by his own rules.

After seven years of marriage, Catherine Holt wonders when she stopped being "good enough" for her husband. Neither one understands the pressures the other faces—Caleb as firefighter and Catherine as the public relations director of a hospital.

Regular arguments over jobs, finances, housework, and outside interests have readied them both to move on to something with more sparks.

As the couple prepares to enter divorce proceedings, Caleb's father challenges his son to commit to a 40-day



experiment: "The Love Dare." Wondering if it's even worth the effort, Caleb agrees—for his father's sake more than for his marriage. When Caleb discovers the book's daily challenges are tied in to his parents' newfound faith, his already limited interest is further dampened.



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CHRISTIAN ACTION COMMISSION

Baptist Missionary Association
of Mississippi

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"This film is promoted by the Christian Action Committee and we urge all our churches and pastors to promote this Godly work, and allow our Association to be a part of a Godly movie".



John Adams
CAC Director



LATRELLE WINDHAM
DIRECTOR

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Some Key Words in Psalm 119
Walk, Keep, Obey, Learn

Walk of Believers

When we look at the walk of believers from the negative standpoint, there are several things we consider. We are not to walk in darkness, John 8:12. Jesus said, "that he is the light of the world". As the sun is the physical light of the world, so Jesus is the spiritual light of the world who exposes sin, and gives sight.

We are not to walk after the

flesh. In Christ, we are no longer under the sentence of the law, but empowered by the Spirit to live for Christ. The purpose of the coming of Christ was that the law might fulfilled. The believer gains the righteous standard of the law, which is love, not by means of the law but by being in Christ and walking according to the Spirit.

We are not to walk as other Gentiles walk. You have been set free from the old life, so why live in those old sins anymore? Those who are so insensitive to moral dark-

ness as to be past feeling have been hardened by sin and debauchery.

We are not to walk in craftiness. Paul rejected craftiness, that is, being unscrupulous of handling the Word of God deceitfully.

We are not to walk in lust of flesh. The truth is something to live as well to learn. While obedience to rules cannot bring salvation, those who are saved ought to live worthy of that salvation. Thus Paul gives the Colossians instructions about proper conduct.

We are not to walk in disorder. Paul uses the word command it not an option but something to be obeyed. We are commanded to walk in love.

How are we to walk as Christians? We are to live in such a way that one is enlightened by the truth of who God is. When we walk in the Spirit we can have fellowship with one another. The Blood of Jesus Christ can cleanse us from all sin.

Walk in the truth. Truth is that which agrees with final reality. Gaius walked in the truth. To walk

in the truth means to walk according to God's Word, the revelation of His truth.

Walk in Christ. Walk in holiness. Be rooted and grounded in Christ. If we teach our kids the world of God when they are growing up it will help them to make good decisions about purity and living a Godly life.

Walk in the Spirit, be led of the Spirit and live in the Spirit. Walking by faith in God's word under the Spirit's control assures victory over the desires of our sinful nature.

Walk in love. God is our example of loving people. Help us to love each other, love sinners not their sins. Be alert for opportunities which is the best time for something.

Walk as children of light. We are to love our enemies. Our position has changed from darkness to light. We are to walk no longer darkness but in righteousness, upright living.

We are to walk as Christ walked. Settling down in Christ or resting in

Him. It is evidenced by a life modeled after Him. Seek the leadership of the Holy Spirit to help make you more like Christ. Saturate yourself with His life as you read the Gospels.

Walk after His commandments. His commandments are not an option but a command to be obeyed. His will is revealed through His commands in His Word.

Walk by faith. Faith is the ability to act on His Word. Add to your faith, grow in your faith as God works through His Holy Spirit to produce other fruit in your life. Faith is a gift of God and a Fruit of the Spirit.

Walk in good works. God works through you to accomplish His great purposes. You are saved by faith. You act on faith with the help of the Holy Spirit.

Walk worthily in your faith. Our behavior should result from the doctrines of beliefs taught in the first half of Ephesians. The Christian life here is not compared to running

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10 Things Every Minister Needs To Know

Pastors Oasis
September 30 - October 2, 2008
Chateau On The Lake, Branson, Missouri



Every Pastor and his wife need and deserve a time to get away, renew and reconnect with God and with one another. Pastors Oasis is a conference focusing on the unique needs of Pastors. Pastors Oasis 2008 is a world-class event featuring teaching, worship and inspiration by some of the greatest preachers and Christian artists in the world. Many churches give Pastors Oasis to their church staff and their wives as a way to show their love during Pastors Appreciation Month. Pastors Oasis is an annual event that will be a blessing to your staff and will reap benefits for your church!

Chateau room rate is \$125 per night by the September 5 deadline. Make reservations by calling 417-334-1161 or 1-888-333-5253.

Registration is \$60 per person by September 5. You may register online at www.DiscipleGuide.org and navigate to conferences then Pastors Oasis. All the information will be there including a schedule. You may also download a registration form and mail it to the DCM address. Call the DCM office with any questions. As you bless your pastor you will be blessed.



Dr. Ronnie W. Floyd
Senior Pastor - First Baptist Springdale/The Church at Pinnacle Hills



Maggie Chandler
Pastor's wife/Author/ Speaker



Tony Elenburg
Recording Artist/ Worship Leader



Ken Medema
Composer/Pianist/Poet/ Speaker



Ivan Parker
Concert Artist



Randy Frazier
Humorist/Inspirational Speaker



Nazareth
Communicator/ Uplifting & Inspiring Comedian

Dumping A Curse in your Children's Lap

Thank God, that because of Jesus Christ, children are not cursed to eternal punishment because of ungodly parents. However, that does not mean that children do not suffer because of what parents do, or don't do, while raising them. In effect, the multiple scriptures relating to curses upon our children, and our children's children because of parental behavior, is a precept that is still carried out by a just



Family Ark Ministries

Travis Plumlee

vessel in the heart of their kids. That is tantamount to a curse upon them. They can be filled with Christ, praise God. But they also are much more vulnerable to going the way of the world.

A dad or mom who shows anger all the time; pass this attitude on to their kids. This can be the equivalent to a generational curse.

These kids will grow up and show the same kind of anger in all of their relationships as well. Then the children's children will do the same thing. We will have multiple generations of messed up families. It is a vicious cycle that you could break within your own family with God's help.



You should have the courage to care about your kids and take action to demonstrate the ways of the Lord to them. Don't raise them in church. Raise them to totally live for Jesus. They then will gravitate to church. Help them not to just have head knowledge of scripture. Have them learn how to apply it in their life. How to live it out. How to embrace scripture as valuable and beneficial to their life. The greatest way to accomplish this is for your children to see you live out scripture. They are much more likely to follow parents who have a real, authentic love for Christ.

Passivity is cursing our children. You know what you are suppose to

do, but you just don't get around to doing it. We are too busy. We have too much other stuff going on.

You fail to teach a son how to be a real man of God and he suffers his whole life because of it. You fail to teach a daughter what it means to be a receiver of true unconditional love and she is affected her whole life by this failure on your part.

Attitudes are caught more than they are taught. You can teach your kids right from wrong and you can take them to church every Sunday, but the greatest lasting impact on right living for your children will come when they see you live out your life for the glory of the Lord. How sad that so many children are burdened and cursed so young in life because of the actions of their parents.

A child that grows up in an alcoholic home suffers some major mental, emotional and spiritual consequences. It does not mean that this child can not go on to become a wonderful, holy, healthy individual

saved by the blood of Jesus. It does mean that they have to overcome some things. Conversely, if a child grows up in a spirit-filled home, it does not guarantee that they will follow the Lord as adults. It means that the parents fulfilled their Godly role and these kids have been given what it takes to be successful in life for the Lord. They will still make their own choices. They can choose to follow Satan because he is powerful or they can follow Christ. But they don't start out in life with a minus 10 points.

Although our kids can overcome anything with Christ (Romans 8:37), wouldn't it be great if they didn't have to? Doesn't it enhance your child's life to start out as an adult and not have to overcome something that you failed to demonstrate to them. Jeremiah 32:18 states, "Thou shewest lovingkindness unto thousands and recompensest the iniquity of the fathers into the bosoms of their children after them: the Great, the Mighty God, the Lord of hosts, is his name." Recompensest into the bosom means in our language today, to "dump into their laps". The sins of the parents pour problems into the laps of their children. Just remember Achan (read Joshua 7:24,25).

Today, people are not taken out and killed because of their father's sins, but our children still suffer because of what we do or don't do. Stop being a passive parent and show your kids Jesus!

CHILDREN'S HOME

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

Back To School

Well, school got started back on August 6. All the children are getting back in the routine of all the activities of school. First of all, the elementary students are adjusting to going to a new school. Shady Grove Elementary and Sharon Elementary were merged together and now they are attending North Jones Elementary. They were excited about attending the brand new school. To say the least everything has gotten off to a good start as the daily schedule of school and homework is back in full force. Keep our girls and boys in your prayers each day that the Lord will guard, protect, and surround them with his love, mercy, and grace.

Back To School Bash

On Saturday, August 16, we were with the Good Hope Baptist Church near Stringer and Pastor Corby Jones and their youth for their back to school bash. Our girls and boys enjoyed this time of recreation, food, and fellowship.



SIDNEY DAVIS
DIRECTOR

Church News

from page 2

Members and guests enjoyed a great time of fellowship, food, and water recreation.

Our pastor, Brother Glenn Allen, graciously took a pie in the face on behalf of the boys as the girls raised the most money for missions throughout the week. The money raised will go to sponsor a Vacation Bible School for the Spanish community in the Canton area.

Our church has also been blessed with the addition of two new babies - Emma Rae Horton and Mila Melton Ledbetter. Our children's church, Sunday School, and worship services are growing by leaps and bounds.

If ever in the Yazoo County area, please feel free to join us at Scotland Baptist Church where every day with Jesus is sweeter than the day before.

Melanie Hardy
Church Reporter

Greenwood Church, Fulton

Greetings from Greenwood Baptist Church. We've been busy the last several months. We had a week of revival services with Bro. Marty Comer as our evangelist. Our youth had a great week at The Wilds church camp in North Carolina. We had a good week of Vacation Bible School. Our kids learned a lot about God's Big Backyard. Bro. Kenny Fleming was our guest speaker for fifth Sunday youth services. Please keep Bro. Fleming in your prayers as he has been called to serve God. We really enjoyed him and wish him the best as he serves Christ. As our youth gears up for a new school year we will be getting ready for our Awana ministry to begin. In the

last several months we have seen souls saved and some additions to our church family. We have been trying to reach out to our community with an Evangelism Explosion group that goes out and spreads the Word to those who are lost. Please pray for our church as we are "impacting lives for the glory of God."

Emily Ison
Church Reporter

Youth Report

from page 6

or standing still, but to a walk.

Walk worthy of the Lord. It means to live in a way measuring up to the God you serve. It seems like an impossible standard. God has called you for this purpose and He will empower you to live this life.

Walking circumspectly is to step gingerly. It means to walk with caution. We should watch our path to avoid contact with undesirable influences.

Three things are involved in giving our kids a heart for God, knowledge, learning and wisdom. We are to teach our kids the Word of God. Knowledge is reliable information about God. Learning is personal application of the Word. Wisdom is seeing things from God's point of view.

Parents must be active in the process of teaching our kids when they are small.

Is my walk with God pleasing to Him? Is my own life worth imitating? Do I have a natural enthusiasm for spiritual things, or are prayer, Bible study, and church real or optional habits?

In our next article, we will use the word keep!

BMAA Equipping Center Locations and Schedules

Bethel Baptist Church, Fulton, Mississippi

November 15, 2008

Building A Small Group Ministry/
Becoming An Effective Teacher

January 24, 2009

Mission Possible: Winning Your
Community For Christ

March 7, 2009

Sunday School Materials That Work!

June 20-21, 2009

It All Rises and Falls on Leadership

Magnolia Baptist, Hattiesburg, Mississippi

November 15, 2008

Turning Your Church Inside, Out!

January 24, 2009

Building A Small Group Ministry/
Becoming An Effective Teacher

March 7, 2009

Mission Possible: Winning Your
Community For Christ

June 21, 2009

Sunday School Materials That Work!

BMA of Mississippi MISSIONS DEPARTMENT

4226 HIGHWAY 15 NORTH, LAUREL, MISSISSIPPI 39440 - (601) 428-8616
Rayburn Freeman, Director



Another fiscal year has come to a close and the auditors have been with us now for two weeks looking into the operation of Missions and the Revolving Loan Fund. We will be receiving a rough draft of their work to be reviewed in a few days. At this point it appears that we will have another good report to share with our Committeemen and Loan Fund Trustees for approval to be present to the annual State Association in October.

Computer Technician

The Lord has blessed us to have Bro.

David Dobson to come on board with us as our computer technician and media director. Bro. David has a master's degree in Computer Science from USM and is currently working on his Doctorate. He is now in the process of updating our computers



David Dobson

and network system and setting up a data backup system in case of a computer crash or fire. He is an active member of Evergreen Baptist Church in Seminary, Mississippi.

Giving and Debt Reduction

Your participation in general mission's giving and in the debt reduction emphasis is encouraging to our missionaries and mission members. The inflation that we are now experiencing makes this effort to reduce indebtedness even more important. Each missionary and mission wants you to know how much they appreciate your help, this will help them to concentrate more on ministry than finances. Because of your prayerful and financial help a number of our missions will be organizing into New Testament Baptist Churches in the near future. Our target to reduce the financial burden of new mission projects is that a mission must have property and it paid for before construction of an initial building which will be limited to six-thousand (6,000) square feet. Remember to pray daily for our missions as well as world missions.

Web Site

Bro. David now being on board as a staff member has enabled us to bring our Web Site up to date. Our goal is to keep current information concerning Missions, Loans, Churches, and Associations posted for the benefit of our churches. If your church would like to link your church web site, have your church listed, or post information concerning your church to our web site please let us know.

Reports

LifePointe Baptist Mission

July was an incredible month for your mission in Hernando. We had the joy of welcoming a new member and of welcom-

ing 20 teens and adults from Woodland Baptist Church in Columbus, Mississippi. Our new member, Mrs. Linda Douglas, has been attending LifePointe for several months and felt the Lord leading her to become a part of the LifePointe family. This was such a thrill for our entire church and especially for the Life Group that she faithfully attends in Hernando. Her addition takes our membership to 39 and helps us continue to build a solid foundation as we prepare to organize into a New Testament Church.

The teens and adults from Woodland came to lead our first-ever Vacation Bible School. They led us in a three-day VBS that taught the kids about their role in "God's Big Backyard." We were all excited to see two teens come to know Jesus as Savior and Lord of their lives and to have crowds that ranged from 35-45 each night not including the crew from Columbus. Their work was an incredible encouragement to our mission and a springboard to our people realizing that we can do this every year with or without the help of a sister church. Thanks again Woodland Baptist Church and Youth Group for the incredible impact you had on our mission in Hernando.

I have just returned from a 24-hour planning retreat with three of our men in Heber Springs, Arkansas. We went with the goal



Sofilthy's Attic

by Barbara White

Why 'On't We Jus'

You know, sometimes words become words just through common usage and pretty soon you find them in the dictionary. I've been hearing a word a lot lately that will probably be in the next edition of Webster's Dictionary just because of its popular usage. I hear it often. "Why 'on't we jus' skip church tonight. The kids have to rush to do their homework. I've got some things I want to do. The team needs to practice. It's too hot and dry. It's raining. And on . . . and on . . . and on . . . and on . . ."

I've come to the conclusion that "why 'on't we jus' " is a disease that is causing the death of some churches. What a dreadful disease!

Read Colossians 3:23 and think about it.

of putting together a calendar for the new church year which starts in September. One of the events that we planned, pending the approval of our mother church and the state missionary committee, was our Organizational Service which will be held Saturday, January 24th, from noon until 2:30 p.m. We hope all of our sister churches throughout the state will put this date on their calendar and join us for this exciting and monumental day! We will have more info in the Mississippi Baptist in the near future and an opportunity for you to RSVP if you are coming.

Thanks again for all that you do to make LifePointe a success. We love you!

In His love,
Kevin Marr
Pastor/Church Planter

Missionary Statistical Report for July 2008

First Hispanic Mission - Elvis Garcia

Bro. Elvis visited 32 homes and talked to 39 people about the Lord, and he had 7 professions of faith! Average worship attendance was 24 and monthly offerings totaled \$1,281.00. Home Cell Group average attendance was 21.

Divine Grace Mission - Wallace Williams

Bro. Williams visited 6 homes and talked to 2 people about the Lord with 1 profession of faith. Average worship attendance was 57. Monthly offerings totaled \$5,987.00.

Maple Street Mission - Joseph Oyeleye

Bro. Oyeleye visited 29 homes and talked to 64 people about the Lord with 4 professions of faith! Average worship attendance was 24. Monthly offerings totaled \$1,235.00.

El Camino Mission - Estuardo Marroquin

Bro. Marroquin visited 25 homes, talked to 29 people about the Lord and had 8 professions of faith! Average worship attendance was 70. Monthly offerings totaled \$4,476.00.

LifePointe Mission - Kevin Marr

Bro. Marr visited 192 homes and talked to 7 people about the Lord. Average worship attendance was 39 with 1 addition by letter. Monthly offerings totaled \$4,043.08.

Homestretch Mission - Edward Duvall

Bro. Duvall visited 21 homes and talked with 27 people about the Lord. Average worship attendance was 28. Monthly offerings totaled \$2,879.95.

Start of School Signals Walk Time

When school starts, it is time to begin promotion of Lifeword's Walk for the World (formerly "Walk of Faith"). Most churches observe "Sign-Up Sunday" soon after Labor Day when summer activities have concluded and church life returns to normal routines.

Materials are available from Lifeword for Sign-Up Sunday. Simply call Lifeword on the Walk for the World hotline (1.800.543.1090) to register your church.

Many churches are already preparing for the Walk and there is still time for your church to get in gear. Here are some first steps:

1. Select a church coordinator to plan and promote the Walk in your church. Find someone who has leadership skills and enthusiasm to inspire the church.
2. Register your church. Your church coordinator should call Lifeword to sign up your church. In most cases when you call the toll free hotline, Diane Ward, national Walk coordinator, will be the one who will answer the phone and help you get started. Anytime you have questions about the Walk and how to proceed in your church, she will be glad to talk to you. Call her any time during work hours (8:00-5:00, Monday-Thursday, and 8:00-4:00, Friday).

3. Review the printed materials and DVD in the packet you receive when you register your church. You should find a challenge, important dates, instructions and motivational listener responses which should start you on your way to a successful Walk.

Walk for the World is Lifeword's annual "special emphasis." The ministry depends on the Walk for about one-third of its annual budget.

The goal for this year is \$430,000. Last year's record-breaking receipts of \$426,221 came very close to that goal. The Lifeword staff is praying for another banner year that will exceed the goal. Each church is urged to set a challenging goal.

Funds received from the Walk of Faith are used to pay production and air-time costs for Lifeword's international programming in 28 languages and more than 125 countries. Last year almost 40,000 people responded to the broadcasts by phone, letter or email.

Walk for the World t-shirts are now available for \$12.00. Remember to order early for best selection.

Earn Free Trip for Two

Your church can win a free trip for two from your congregation by (1) raising more money for the Walk than any other participating church or (2) by raising the most money per capita (total raised divided by average Sunday morning worship attendance).

The winning churches will each select two people from their membership to accompany a Lifeword production team overseas to interview people who listen to Lifeword or who help produce Lifeword programs.

Last year's winners accompanied Lifeword crews to India and to a creative access country.