BMA of Mississippi

Celebrating 200 Years 1806 - 2006

On The Web at **msbaptist.org**

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Mississippi Baptist

JOURNAL OF THE BAPTIST MISSIONARY ASSOCIATION OF MISSISSIPPI

His Story . . . Our History

Associational Baptists Celebrate 200 years in Mississippi

2006 marks the 200th anniversary of Associational Baptist work in Mississippi. In 2004 a 200th Anniversary Celebration Committee was appointed to lead in celebrating this milestone.

The committee has prepared and mailed literature emphasizing this event and encouraging our churches to not only celebrate the history of Baptists in Mississippi, but also their own church history.

Additional material will be sent to our churches in the next few days. The material is intended to highlight this event and to offer information concerning our history.

A time of special recognition and celebration will be a part of our Annual Meeting on October 16-18, 2006, at Southeastern Baptist College. Each church is encouraged to be present for the annual meeting to be a part of this special time of celebration.

Who Is Worthy?

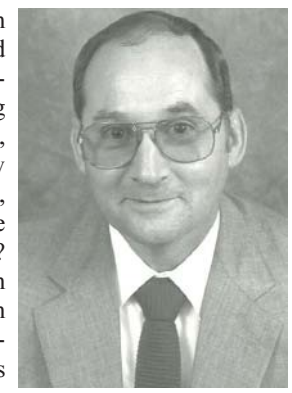
By Tom Foster, pastor
Grace Baptist Church
Saucier, Mississippi
2006 Biannual Message
BMA of Mississippi

It is a joy to be here to represent the Lord. I am always excited about that. I feel like the young man that got up to speak and he was so nervous he said, "I'm really 'deflated' to be here." An older minister got up and replied, "Young man, the word is 'elated'. But the younger man said, "Well when you put air in a tire isn't that inflation, but when you let the air out it is deflation? He continued ... all the air is gone out of me so you be the judge". We are always nervous when it comes to the handling of God's Word, or I am.

I want to invite you to Revelation chapter 5. I'm not going to tell you anything that is new. I'm going to give you some old things that are always new. That is how I find the Word of God. I believe it won't be long until we will be going 'Home'. I'm easing up closer to that 70 mark and it is easy to get homesick. I have more family over there now than I have here. Sometimes we get a yearning to go 'Home".

I want to read Revelation chapter 5: 1-14 and then John 17:24. Please stand in reverence to the reading of God's Word.

Rev. 5: "And I saw in the right hand of him that sat on the throne a book written within and on the backside, sealed with seven seals. And I saw a strong angel proclaiming with a loud voice, Who is worthy to open the book, and to loose the seals thereof? And no man in heaven, nor in earth, neither under the earth, was able to open the book, neither to look thereon. And I wept much because no man was found worthy to open and to read the book, neither to look thereon.


Tom Foster

And one of the elders saith unto me, weep

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Ministering To Ministers And Their Wives

Pastors Oasis Promises To Be One Of The Best Ever

The Pastors Oasis, a time of rest, relaxation, and renewal, is one of the best events the Baptist Missionary Association offers to its pastors and their wives.

Offered by the Department of Church Ministries, the event seeks to minister to those on the front lines of ministry and church leadership. Participants in Pastors Oasis in past years continue to make it the one "can't miss" event each fall. This year's Oasis promises to be one of the best ever.

The speakers for the '06 version of Pastors Oasis will be Larry and Barbara Magnuson. Larry is the CEO of SonScape Re-Creation Ministries and, together with Barbara, serve as Ministry Directors and retreat leaders for the Colorado-based organization dedicated to ministering to pastors and wives. On Wednesday, Barbara will lead a special session just for ministry wives.

In addition to the Magnusons, this year's talent and artists are second to none. Worship will be led by Neil Dumas from First Baptist Church of Jacksonville, Texas. To kick things off on Tuesday afternoon, comedian Dennis Swanberg will help all the pastors and wives put things back into perspective and during the course of the event there will be special concerts by Scott Krippayne and Grammy award-winner Steve Green. "I am very excited about this year's Oasis," said Kirk Shelton, Pastoral Ministries Consultant for DCM and planner of the annual event. "I know that God is going to touch hearts and change lives. When the pastor's life is touched and changed, churches are changed!"

DCM has worked hard to make Pastors Oasis affordable for pastors of all size churches. The event itself only costs $50 per person. Shelton explains, "We want to invest in the lives, marriages, and ministries of our pastors. It's our conviction that a spiritually healthy pastor, with a healthy marriage, can build and lead a healthy church." October is Pastor Appreciation Month across the U.S. Churches are encouraged to honor their pastors and wives by sending them to Branson for this life-changing time of rest, relaxation, and renewal. You may register online or print out a registration form at www.bma-dcm.org or call the DCM office at 501.513.3726.

Renewing The Call

Pastors Oasis
October 3 - 5, 2006
Chateau On The Lake
Branson, Missouri

Registration $50 Each
Room Reservations
1-888-333-5253
www.bma-dcm.org

Department of Church Ministries

(501) 513-3726

Department of Church Ministries

Senior Adult Conf. and Pastors Oasis Reaches Overflow Status

by Donny Parrish

Rooms for the National Senior Adult Conference and Pastors Oasis at the Chateau have sold out. We have secured overflow status at the Welk Resort located five minutes/two miles from the Chateau. Their group rate is $75 plus tax with up to four to a room. The Senior Adult Conference attendees will be served a full breakfast buffet at the Welk restaurant located right next door. The Tuesday night show is at the Welk Theater that is located on the resort site.

To make your reservations call the Welk Resort at 800-505-9355 and let them know you are with the National Senior Adult Conference or Pastors Oasis. If you have any trouble reserving your rooms please call the DCM office at 501-513-3726 and we will add more rooms to our block.

If you have rooms reserved at the Chateau for the Pastors Oasis or the National Senior Adult Conference and do not need them please have the rooms released as soon as possible. Thanks in advance for your cooperation.

National Brotherhood Project to help reach Bolivia

by Van Widger
National Project Promoter

A project goal of $10,000 was adopted for the year 2006-07. We will continue our support of the Galilean Ministry and adopted a new project - the purchase of a boat for Bolivian missionaries. Additional details about the boat and its purpose will appear in a future issue of the Gleaner.

Many people may have the misconception that Bolivia is a landlocked, mountainous nation. Until I examined a map, I didn't realize that almost one half of Bolivia is part of the Amazon basin and is accessible almost exclusively by rivers. The missionaries and medical missions personnel in Bolivia may have the opportunity to be the first Christians to have contact with indigenous people in the area. The boat will permit regular communications with existing mission points or churches, to encourage and train the people. The boat will be named for the M.S. Arrington family who served as BMA missionaries in Bolivia.

What an opportunity to help Bolivian believers reach more Bolivians! This is a fulfillment of II Timothy 2:2 - look it up and rejoice - then send your offerings for the National Brotherhood Project to Bro. Robert Bynum at 43 Bear Pen Creek Rd., Laurel, MS 39443 and make it a reality.

If you have internet access, http://www.baptistnewsservice.org/nat_brotherhood.php , lists the Brotherhood officers. Please feel free to contact me via email at vanbw@yahoo.com if you have a question about the National Brotherhood or our project.

Who Is Worthy?

from page 1

not: behold, the Lion of the tribe of Judah, the Root of David, hath prevailed to open the book, and to loose the seven seals thereof And I beheld, and, 10, in the midst of the throne and of the four beasts, and in the midst of the elders, stood a Lamb as it had been slain, having seven horns and seven eyes, which are the seven Spirits of God sent forth into all the earth. And he came and took the book out of the right hand of him that sat upon the throne. And when he had taken the book, the four beasts and the four and twenty elders fell down before the Lamb, having every one of them harps, and golden vials full of odors, which are the prayers of saints.

And they sung a new song, saying, Thou art worthy to take the book, and to open the seals thereof for thou wast slain, and hast redeemed us to God by thy blood out of every kindred, and tongue, and people, and nation; And hast made us unto our God kings and priests: and we shall reign on the earth.

And I beheld, and I heard the voice of many angels round about the throne and the beasts and the elders: and the number of them was ten thousand times ten thousand, and thousands of thousands; Saying with a loud voice, Worthy is the Lamb that was slain to receive power, and riches, and wisdom, and strength, and honor, and glory, and blessing. And every creature which is in heaven, and on the earth, and under the earth, and such as are in the sea, and all that are in them, heard I saying, Blessing, and honor, and glory, and power, be unto to him that sitteth upon the throne, and unto the Lamb for ever and ever. And the four beasts said, Amen. And the four and twenty elders fell down and worshipped him that liveth forever and ever."

And then in John 17:24 "Father, I will that they also, whom thou hast given me, be with me where I am; that they may behold my glory, which thou hast given me: for thou lovedst me before the foundation of the world. "

I want to give you somewhat of an introduction to this great subject. I want you to just open your heart and mind and let God speak to you. Let me give you some things that I saw as 1 studied this great subject. When the angel proclaimed "Who is worthy to open the book, and to loose the seals thereof? And I heard those words from the strong angel: no man in heaven, nor in earth, neither under the earth, was able to open the book, neither to look thereon. And I wept much, because no man was found worthy to open and to read the book, neither to look thereon."

As I looked around over those of all the ages I see:

Adam & Eve ... the parents of all living.

Enoch translated that he should not see death.

Noah the grand old ark builder, believer.

Abraham ... the friend of God, the Father of all righteous, and his sons.

Moses ... God's faithful servant and leader who was permitted to see the hinder parts of God and who reflected the glory of God.

David ... a man after God's own heart.

Solomon ... in all his glory and wisdom, who built the temple that God filled with His glory.

Elijah ... ascended to heaven in a whirlwind and chariot of fire;

And there stood all the major and minor prophets, men and women of all Old Testament saints.

John the Baptist ... friend of the bridegroom, greatest born of woman according to our Lord.

All the apostles were there.

The mother of Jesus (Mary & Joseph), and his brothers & sisters.

The Lamb's wife the church, dressed as a bride in pure white linen without spot and without wrinkle.

And as heaven looked on and as earth looked on and those under the earth looked on and 1 looked on, realizing there were none worthy out of all of this great number, (I wept much), he said.

The strong angel kept saying "Who is worthy to take the book?" The future of the earth hangs in the balance.

The restoration of all things. What about that? The future of Israel. The animal kingdom that had been upset by sin of man. Putting away of Satan. The thousand years reign. The purifying of the world by fire. The new heaven and the new earth.

The sobbing seer is consoled by one of the elders who assures him that one was present to open the sealed scroll and carry out the divine counsels in the earth.

The central figure of the book was brought into view. He is the triumphant Christ.

John ceased his sobbing to behold Him, the Kinsmen Redeemer who held the crown rights to rule sovereignly over the entire earth. The hour of Christ's triumph had come. I was not there when they crucified our Lord and nailed him to a tree. I was not there when they placed Him in the tomb and on the third day he arose. 1 was not there when He left the Mount of Olives to take his seat beside the Father, but I'll be there when they crown Him King of Kings and Lord of Lords, I'll be there.

Jesus prayed that I would be there and I'm going and I'm going to experience this. John ceased his sobbing to behold Him. Christ is described here as "The Lion of the tribe of Judah". (Gen.49: 8-10). On his mother's side just a carpenter's son, but on his Father's side he can be traced throughout the whole divine revelation of God. He is the Seed of the woman.(Gen 3: 15) (Ga1.4:4), of the line of Shem (Gen.9:26), the seed of Abraham (Gen.12:1-3) (Gal.3: 7-8, 19), of the tribe of Judah. (Gen.49: 10).

John turned to see the lion, but instead he saw the Lamb. The Lamb is the central object of Heaven. There is no mistaking the identity of the Lamb. He still bears the death wounds in his body. He is the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world (John 1 :29). I never get tired of hearing that, I never get tired of preaching that. We are living in an age when a lot of the preaching is

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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

Fall Semester

At this time, registration is completed and classes are under way for the fall semester. The enrollment is 72, including 39 ministers.

We thank the Lord for each one of these and welcome the 21 first-time students. This is a slight decrease in enrollment from last fall. We feel that the decrease is caused by several things, such as a large graduation in the Spring, lingering effects of Hurricane Katrina, the price of gasoline for commuters, and personal conflicts of some of the former students.

Special Emphasis

We thank the Lord for providing our financial needs through faithful individuals, churches, and associations who love Southeastern and the ministry that is being done at the college. I will mention some examples that cause rejoicing on our part.

Special Emphasis offerings are being sent in regularly now, and they indicate a good interest in the needs of the college. There has been a good response to the effort to begin a choir and to the project for getting a new sign. We are pleased that around ten students are meeting each week for choir practice. The amount needed to pay for the new sign is now less than $4,000.00. Pray with us that the sign will be installed before the state meeting in October.

Another scholarship has been established to assist certain students who attend Southeastern Baptist College.

Memorial Gifts

Two more gifts have been sent to the college Foundation recently in memory of Dr. Jentry Bond and Mrs. Marie Rarick. A memorial gift has also been sent in honor of Mrs. Elsie Taylor. Memorial books have been placed in the library in her honor.

May the Lord bless these families

Available For Service

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

Sam Oglesby surrenders to ministry

Bro. Sam Oglesby made known his call to the Gospel Ministry on Sunday, September 3, at the Westover Baptist Church, Hattiesburg. Bro. Oglesby has served as Minister of Music & Youth at Westover since his graduation from Southeastern Baptist College in 1982. He is married to Judy Hill Oglesby and they have one daughter, Laurie, who is Junior at William Carey University.

Sam Oglesby

He continues to serve at Westover and will be preaching fairly regularly there since the church is currently without a pastor. While this will somewhat limit his availability to other churches, he can be contacted at 5002 W. 4th Street, Hattiesburg, MS, 39402, or by phone at 601-268-1414.

Sam Freeman

Bro. Sam Freeman is available for preaching appointments and pastoral work. Bro. Freeman may be reached at 601-580-4606 or 601-426-2123.

Neal Helton

Bro. Neal Helton, age 25, is available for pastoral service. He and his wife Aliesha love to work with young people. The Helton's are members of Midway Baptist Church, Leakesville, Mississippi. He may be reached at 601-508-4319.

Larry Pierce

Larry Pierce is available for pastoral work and pulpit supply. He graduated from Southeastern Bible College in Birmingham, Alabama in May 1997. He may be reached at 601-947-3531.

2006
JOIN THE LIFEWORD Team CHANGE THE WORLD
Lifeword
Walk of Faith

Band Of Brothers Plans Two Events For Fall '06

"The Band of Brothers retreat actually delivers exactly what it promises…it is indeed a retreat. While other events do not really 'get you away' for serious soul-reflection, this one does!" That is how Eric Goble, pastor of the Brister Baptist Church of Emerson, Arkansas described his BOB Wilderness Experience last March. Seven pastors who knew little about each other and, in some cases, little about wilderness backpacking, spent three days on the Ozark Highlands Trail and returned a true Band of Brothers.

The Band of Brothers Wilderness Retreat is an event especially designed for pastors and others in full-time ministry. The 2-4 day experience is built around any combination of hiking, backpacking, camping, and canoeing. In a rugged wilderness setting, groups of 4-8 men spend time getting to know each other, getting back in touch with their Creator, and reconnecting with the Word of God on a very personal and intimate level. Kirk Shelton, DCM Church Growth & Pastoral Ministry Consultant, plans and leads the retreat. "I was absolutely thrilled with our first wilderness retreat earlier this year" said Shelton. "It was everything we prayed for and I know that future retreats will be every bit as life-impacting."

Shelton is planning two retreat experiences for this coming fall. The first event will take place October 26-28 and will use the Blanchard Springs Caverns area near Mountain View, Arkansas as its base and campsite. This retreat will be physically less demanding and will offer a variety of activities including camping, hiking, caving, and mountain biking. The second retreat is scheduled for November 30 – December 2 and will be a three-day backpacking trip on the Ozark Highlands Trail north of Russellville. The OHT is one of the premier trails in the United States and to quote one of the BOB hikers from last spring: "The beauty of the trail is beyond words." This backpacking trip will be much more strenuous and will require several weeks of preparation for participants.

If you are interested in more information about either of these retreats you can contact Kirk Shelton at kirk@fellowshipforney.org or by calling 972.935.6898. Space is limited.

Baptist Missionary Association of America
News from National Missions Office

Relief Funds Greatly Needed

BMAA churches have asked what they can do to help fellow believers in Lebanon. Here are two things: (1) Pray! Ask God to give them great faith, courage, comfort and determination during these tough days; (2) Send relief funds that can be used to help them with their basic needs. The needs are great! We have already sent as much as we had on hand, and need to send more! Should the Lord lead you to assist mail your check in to the Department of Missions - marked "Lebanon Relief." When Bro. Costa and his son, Joe, were able to get back into Beirut, he stated that he found conditions worse than he had expected. Let's continue to remember them and they people there in our prayers.

The Allens Have Returned Home Following Evacuation Because of the Mayon Volanco

The Wade Allen family are back home now following evacuation to Manila. They were advised by the U.S. Embassy to evacuate the Legaspi region because of recent explosions from the Mayon volcano. They are thankful to be back home. Please keep them in your prayers.

2007 VSM Ministry Sites Are Being Expanded!

Plans are in the making for VSM Teams to go to Armenia, Ukraine, Czech Republic, Ghana, Brazil, Philippines, Peru, Idaho, Chicago, Colorado and Oregon. Because of the great response of potential VSM participants we are already expanding this list and will be contacting other missionaries as to the possibility of hosting a team. Pray that we will be sensitive to the Holy Spirit in the selection of other nations. Praise God for the great number of students who want to go.

Barnabas Touch Ministry Trips

Three trips remain during 2006, perhaps you might like to join one of them! We are going to Armenia (October 23-31); Jordan and Lebanon (November 5-17) and to Romania (December 7-15). God is using these teams to: Evangelize the lost; Excite the churches; Encourage missionaries; Enlarge our vision; Educate pastors; Embrace the Great Commission. We encourage every BMAA pastor to go with us on one of these trips. Call 501-455-4977 for further information. We certainly encourage churches to send your pastor on a Barnabas Touch Ministry trip. It would be a great Pastor appreciation, birthday or Christmas gift. Pray about it.

Funds Are Needed to Purchase Equipment for a Hospital in China

God is opening doors in China to the BMAA, one of which is to update a hospital in China. We will need at least $60,000.00 to purchase the needed equipment. If you can help with this project please do so. Just think what a door of opportunity this will open for us! Pray that God will supply this great need! God is working in China, and we want to be a part of what He is doing.

Great Commission Intercessory Members Needed!

As far as we can tell we have about 4,300 BMAA members who are participating in our Great Commission Prayer Force. We thank God for each of these. We are still asking God for 5,000 who will join us in daily prayer for the BMAA. If you have not joined as yet, please do so. You can find our current prayer log on our website (under resources), or you can receive it by e-mail or by mail. Contact us today.

Missions Symposium Dates Set

Our 2007 Missions Symposium will be held at Temple Baptist Church in Little Rock, Arkansas, on January 8-9, 2007. Make plans to attend.

Missionary Hager Will Begin Deputation Soon

Bro. and Mrs. Robert (Christy) Hager, missionaries to Chicago, began deputation on September 1, 2006. They are presently accepting invitations to visit your church or local association. They can be reached at 630-554-2109 or by e-mail at Jesuslovesyou77@sbcglobal.net.

Missionaries on Furlough Darlene Carey - June 5, 2006 to January 15, 2007 Tom Jopling - July 29, 2006 to January 29, 2007 Paul Heuermann - August to January

Who Is Worthy?

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without power and without anointing and the reason is we just fail to preach the Word. The Word is what is sharp and quick and powerful. It is the one that can divide the marrow from the bone and body from the spirit.

We need to preach the Word in simplicity. The Lamb that speaks of meekness and sacrifice is He who is about to go forth as the mighty conqueror of all the earth.

John recognized Him at once for he was near the cross when Christ died. He took His mother to care for her. After Jesus came forth from the tomb He showed the nail prints to His disciples (Luke 24:40). He displayed those wounds for the benefit of Thomas (John 20:24-28). When we get there the marks on His body for our redemption will still be there.

Who is worthy to take the book, to loose the seals? The Lamb, He is worthy! Verse 9 (in a new song). The angels said; "Worthy is the Lamb, that was slain to receive power and riches and wisdom and strength and honor and glory and blessing.

Verse 13 & 14 ... when the Lamb took the book this guaranteed the fulfillment of all earth's dreams. I don't know about you, but I have some dreams.

First of all I dream of one day living in a place where wickedness is no more and I know the ceasing of wickedness means the ceasing of the wicked. Malachi tell us in the Word that one day the wicked will be like stubble and the fire shall devour and they shall be as ashes under our feet. The wicked will be gone.

In our neighborhood in the past week we have had three suicides. There is chaos on every hand, but I dream of a place where wickedness is no more. The Master has the plan and first of all I want to see wickedness subside and that's in the Lamb. And then I want to see Mystery Babylon or talking about the harlot that has deceived by religious front hundreds and thousands, and hell has enlarged herself because of her apostasy. I long for the day when there will be one Lord and there will be one faith and there will be one kingdom and the Lord Jesus Christ will be reigning.

Then I think about the Anti-Christ that sits upon the throne of God professing himself to be a god above every god. I'm longing to see Jesus put him in his place. And then last that ole serpent the devil that deceived our first parents and is deceiving all of those of our day. I tell you that every wicked thing that is ever done is backed up by the power

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Editorial

Don Brown
Editor

100 & Counting

On Saturday, September 2, my wife and I had the joy of attending a birthday party. We have attended many birthday parties in recent years, but none like this. Most of our party attendance concerns grandchildren and other close relatives, but this one was different.

Mrs. Ruby Wilson celebrated her 100th birthday and what a celebration it was! Mrs. Ruby is a member of Union Baptist Church south of Bay Springs, Mississippi, where her pastor happens to be one of her sons, Bro. A.M. Wilson. She is a faithful member of Union Church and a joy to all who know her.

Mrs. Ruby Wilson (front center) with her seven children posed in front of the large display of her quilts.

Scores of friends, church members, relatives and a few strangers helped her celebrate this milestone. Mrs. Wilson is a 'quilting artist' and a large number of her quilts were on display for guests to enjoy. She is in excellent health and this writer has it on good authority that she takes no medication and has no health problems. Mentally she is 'sharp as a tack' and a joy to be around.

Walt Grayson interviewing Mrs. Wilson for his statewide TV program "Looking Around Mississippi".

She has also become somewhat of a celebrity recently with articles appearing in a number of statewide publications and appearing on Walt Grayson's TV program "Looking Around Mississippi".

Congratulations to Mrs. Ruby Wilson and may God continue to bless you with good health.

Sofilthy's Attic

by Barbara White

Entertainment

Now there's goat ropin's, rodeos, singings (or concerts), races, movies, plays, etc. - just all kinds of events called entertainment. But for real fine entertainment you just can't beat an association - whether it's local, state or national.

You get to hear what God is doing for the different phases of His work and that's a joy.

There's another aspect of a meeting like that when you get to thinking about the names of people who attend. Now that's some first-class entertainment. For instance at the Mississippi State meeting recently, there were Joneses, Smiths, Browns, Whites, Davises and the usual

_____sons, _____mans, _____lands, _____berrys, etc. but we were led by a Knight and to cap it all off we had a visitor, Bro. Kakilala from Walla Walla who is going to Honolulu as a missionary.

Now that was a fun meetin'!

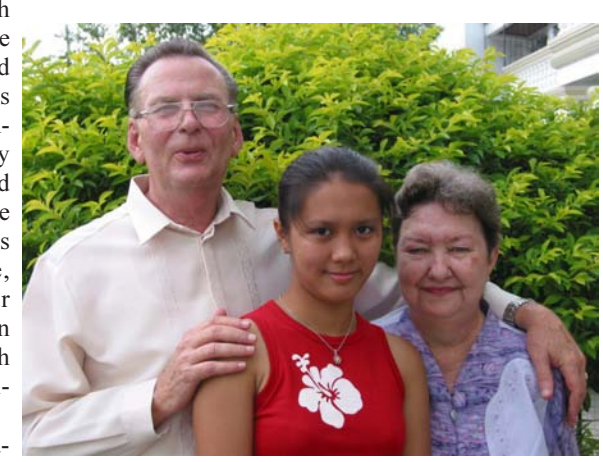
'Here's Hope Ministries' update

by BMA Missionary Don Newsom

This past year has been the most exciting we have yet experienced. God is opening many new doors of opportunity

Dorcas House has just had their accreditation renewed by the Department of Social Welfare and Development. We are thankful that we passed this process with flying colors. In fact, the accreditor said he would use Dorcas House as his example for other residential facilities for temporary care of abandoned and abused children. We have thus far had 57 children pass through Dorcas House, who are now, either adopted, or placed back in a safe environment with members of their own families.

Our supplemental feeding program is in full swing. We are presently feeding 14,534 malnourished children one very nutritious meal a day for five days a week. Besides these children, several pregnant and lactating mothers are also are enrolled in the program. This program is done in partnership with Evangelistic International Ministries. The food being used is dehydrated vegetables manufactured by Breedlove Industries of Lubbock, Texas. David Fish, the General Manager of Breedlove visited us for a week last month and went with us to several of the areas. He said they have initiated this program in 52 countries and that ours was the best organized he had seen. We praise God for the outstanding personnel that are involved with us in this very important program. Not only have we been able to help thousands physically, but it is much easier to share the Word with them now. As a direct result of this program, three new missions and several new Bible Studies have been started. One of these new missions meets in our home. We are averaging around 100 in attendance. We are desperately in need of property so we can build a permanent meeting place. This is a GOOD problem. We feel sure that God already has the solution.

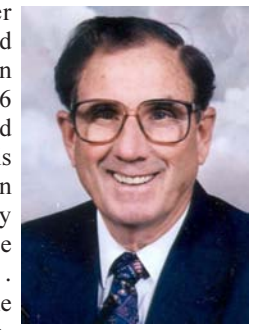


Don Newsom Family

Normally, by now, we would be beginning to make plans for our regular furlough next year. But, as you probably know, Linda's health has been steadily declining. She just can't seem to get any stronger. She could not possibly make the trip, and I just can't leave her in this condition. Please pray for her. Also, much of my work fund is usually raised while on furlough. It is much easier to raise money in person. I can't help but be concerned about this. Would you also make this a matter of prayer, and if possible, support? If you could send me your email address, I would be very happy to send you a regular report of the tremendous blessing of God upon our ministries. The regular mail service here is not very dependable. Thanks for your continued prayers and financial support for Here's Hope Ministries.

Mavous Phifer celebrates 50 years of ministry

Bro. Mavous Phifer celebrated 50 years of ministry on August 26, at Shady Grove Baptist Church, Tishomingo.



Bro. Mavous Phifer

Bro. Phifer surrendered to preach in August 1956 and preached his first sermon at Shady Grove Church. Through the years Bro. Phifer has pastored four churches: Roland Mills, 1959-61; Temple, 1961-84; Jackson Camp, 1984-2002; and Shady Grove, 2002 to present.

Bro. Phifer attended Southeastern Baptist College and has served as a trustee for the State Youth Department, Children's Home and Southeastern Baptist College.

Through the years he has held 53 weddings, 178 funerals and baptized 123 individuals. He currently serves as clerk for the Harmony Association and as treasurer for the Harmony Encampment. He toured the Holy Land in 1971.

Bro. Phifer was presented with a plaque and others gifts on behalf of Shady Grove Church. We love and appreciate Bro. & Mrs. Phifer. Please keep the Phifers in your prayers. We at Shady Grove love them both.

Shady Grove Baptist Church
Tishomingo, Mississippi

2007 BMAA Theme *"Our First Concern: Making Disciples"*

Coordinating council continues to work

The BMAA Coordinating Council met August 22, 2006 at the BMA of Texas Offices in Waxahachie, Texas, with an emphasis upon the search for a director for the Department of Church Resources.

Reports were given by the subcommittees for Maturing Pastors, Maturing Churches and Maturing Association. Ronnie Green, Grady Higgs, Charlie Holmes, and Roy McLaughlin gave verbal reports on the ministries of their departments and agency. A written report was presented on behalf of George Reddin and Lifeword. His report updated the committee on Lifeword's fund-raising efforts for the year totaling $468,209 in commitments and $435,971 received as of August 21, 2006.

The council considered several issues pertaining to future ministries of the Department of Church Resources. These included the possibility of Internet resources and associational event planning and logistics management.

David Watkins presented a theme for the 2007 BMAA National Meeting, "Our First Concern: Making Disciples" (Matthew 28:19-20).

The council is scheduled to meet again November 2, 2006.

Mississippi Baptist

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The wounds of a friend...

Proverbs 27:5,6,9,17. " Open rebuke is better than secret love. Faithful are the wounds of a friend; but the kisses of an enemy are deceitful. Ointment and perfume rejoice the heart: so doth the sweetness of a man's friend by hearty counsel. Iron sharpeneth iron; so a man sharpened the countenance of his friend."

There are many passages of scripture related to friendship. Having friends is important. It is not so important as to how many friends you have, but that you have at least one or two Christian friends. Having one Christian friend who loves you is greater than having a multitude of superficial relationships where people do not genuinely care about you. They are only your friend because you meet some need in their life. The importance of friendship is more about nurturing than numbers.

If a friend wounds you for your own good, this is better than getting all the flattery and kisses from an enemy it states in Proverbs. Hearty counsel from a friend, even if it is somewhat painful, can be sweet like perfume. Truthful, hearty counsel from a godly friend means that they will not always tell you what you want to hear, but may tell you what you need to hear. So as iron sharpens iron, your friend may give you some advice that will help you be a better Christian. It can sharpen you.

We have to learn to be gracious receivers of our friend's Godly counsel. But what if it is not Godly? What if my friend has said or done things that creates wounds without cause? That is a different story. As the

Family Ark Ministries

Travis Plumlee

www.travisplumlee.com

American family continues to be scattered geographically, and increasingly becomes more dysfunctional, friends are playing an increasing prominent role in people's life. Here are some things to consider when a friend says or does something to you that hurts.

1. Is the person Godly?

If not, they are not capable of giving good advice. All advice should be taken from Godly people who know the Bible and know God. All wisdom is from Him and Him alone. If someone is lost, or ignorant about the ways of the Lord, I would advise you to not see it as wise counsel of a friend. I don't want a friend to tell me something about my life or my relationships that they read or heard about from some talk show host or read in some magazine. What does the Word of God say? This is why it is critical that all your friends, regardless of age, be Christian. Read II Corinthians 6:14-17.

2. Is it true?

Has my friend told me something that stung me? Did it hurt? I can handle the stinging word of a friend if they are truly my friend and have my best interest in mind. I can also handle some rebuke from someone that I know cares about me. Sometimes God can use a friend to point out something that we cannot see for ourselves. Rather than immediately discounting it, maybe we should bathe it in prayer. If there is some truth in it, maybe I should humble myself. I need to thank God that my friend told me something that I can correct with God's help and be a better person. None of us are perfect. Re-frame your thinking. Maybe this is not something I should get hurt over. Maybe I need to listen and heed the advice and grow on to become a better person because of it. How would I know if it is true? Check the Word of God and pray to God about it. What does His spirit tell you?

3. Is there a hidden agenda?

Is my friend telling me this because they have some reason that is not altruistic? They are not wanting to help me, but hurt me. If what you tell me doesn't help me, then it is hurtful. Advice is different than constant criticism. What is the motive of my friend's heart? If you don't know, ask.

4. Am I involved in a sick relationship?

Most families and most relationships today are not based upon holiness and healthiness. Most Americans are sick and dysfunctional. When people come out of sick families, very often they respond to their friends in the same sick way in which they were raised. Maybe I need to ignore this because my friend is using it as a tool of guilt, manipulation, intimidation or trying to get me to do something for them. These are games people play. Don't be a part of it. Don't invest in a sick relationship. If they are telling you these things just to hurt you and tear you down, then ignore it and move on. Decide also if it is worth you investing any more of your life in a relationship that is sick. Don't spend another minute letting someone else define you. Let the Word define you. Don't let people who are sick have power over you.

A Christian friendship is like this. The F stands for forgiveness. Christians are not perfect but they are quick to forgive one another when they make a mistake. The R stands for Restoring. They restore you when you have fallen. I is for intercession. They intercede in prayer for you. E is for encouraging. They encourage you always to be successful for God's glory. N is for nurturing. They cause you to grow. D is for devoted. No matter what you are going through, they are there for you. S is for serving. They are not in the relationship for selfishness, but selflessness. Develop friendships based upon this. The wounds of this friend are healing and helpful. The wounds of a malicious, sick person should tell you to pray, let go and grow on.

Verla Attebery, of Hope, Arkansas dies

Mrs. Verla (Allen) Attebery, 81, of Hope, died Aug. 22. She was a member of Garrett Memorial Baptist Church and was the widow of BMA Pastor Harry Attebery, who died June 11, 2004. Survivors include a son, David Allen Attebery of Rogers; and a brother, Lyle Allen of Hope. Other survivors include her brother-inlaw, Charles Attebery, former president of Central Baptist College.

Funeral services were held August 25 at Garrett Memorial Church, with Pastor Larry Silvey and Clif Johnson officiating. Interment was at Memory Gardens Cemetery at Hope, under the direction of Brazzel/Oakcrest Funeral Home. Memorials may be sent to Garrett Memorial Baptist Church, 1 Genesis Dr., Hope, Arkansas 71801.

PASTORS OASIS
October 3-5, 2006
Chateau On The Lake
Branson, MO

DCM

Renewing The Call

Larry & Barbara Magnuson

Neil Dumas

Steve Green

Dennis Swanberg

Scott Krippayne

Schedule

Tuesday, October 3

12:30pm	Registration
1:30 - 2:30	Welcome and Comedian Dennis Swanberg
2:30 - 3:00	Break
3:00 - 5:00	Worship & Larry Magnuson Prayer & Encouragement
5:00	Free Time

Wednesday, October 4

9:30am - 10:45	Opening and Scott Krippayne Concert
10:45 - 11:15	Break
11:15 - 11:45	Worship
11:45 - 12:30pm	Men - Larry Magnuson (Innsbrook) Women - Barbara Magnuson
12:30	Free Time
5:30 - 7:00	Photo Session
7:00	Appreciation Banquet and Steve Green Concert

Thursday, October 5

9:30am - 10:45	Worship & Larry Magnuson
10:45	Closing

Pastors Oasis is a three-day conference of spiritual renewal for Pastors, their wives and staff. October is Pastor Appreciation month and DCM is asking deacons and church members to make a special investment in the life of their Pastor and staff by sending them to Pastors Oasis.
Chateau On The Lake is a lakeside resort settled on a mountaintop overlooking majestic Table Rock Lake in Branson, MO. Each Pastor is responsible for making their reservation at the resort. The group rate for double occupancy is $114 plus tax. We suggest the church take care of the two-night stay. You should make your reservation by September 2 at 1-888-333-5253. After that date, requests will be subject to availability and rates.
Registration fee is $50 per person and is due by September 2. After that date the fee will be $60 and if you choose to stay at an off-site hotel the fee is $70. After the cut-off date paid registrations are non-refundable. You may register online or print out a registration form at www.bma-dcm.org or call the DCM office at 501-513-3726. Pastors Oasis is a special time away and a time for enrichment designed just for pastors, staff and their spouses. For this reason Pastors Oasis is an adult only event.

Renewing The Call at Pastors Oasis

Celebrating 206 years of ministry!

Farmington Baptist Church
Corinth, Mississippi
Homecoming Day!

October 1
10:00 a.m.

"Dinner on the Grounds" following the service

Everyone is Welcome!

Who Is Worthy?

from page 3

of Satan. Someone said the devil is not always the fault, but I think he is. And even if he is not I'm going to give him credit for it. He has divided God's people every day. He is like a roaring lion seeking out those whom he may devour. Preachers are falling, folks, preachers are falling, they are not being tempted above that they are able, but they have been deceived. God has always made a way of escape, if we want it.

Millions of the redeemed burst into a song that had never been sung before. I want you to listen to this: the praise and the worship of the singers is pure. Have you ever been in a service with half-hearted singing? Half-hearted praising? I remember a little church up in the hills, they didn't believe in clapping, the pastor ask me if I would teach on the subject of clapping.

I started it off something like this, how many of you believe the Word of God? Of course everyone raised their hand. I said everything God tells you, are you willing to do that? They said yes. Then I turned over to Psalm 47 and you know what that says ... clap your hands all ye people. Now you are either going to clap your hands or you don't believe the Bible. And not only that, it says give praise with the voice of what? Triumph! I mean, when you see one of your favorite ball teams win over the other, you shout victory of triumph! Come to the house of God.

I remember one time a young preacher was introducing me to preach their revival. He said, (in a low monotone voice) "now we are going to have revival and Bro. Foster is going to do the preaching and I am so excited." I didn't have much incentive to preach. I mean to tell you, we need to shout with a voice of triumph! When they marched around the walls of Jericho, what did he say? Shout! For the walls are coming down! I tell you something, I am free from sin and I shout it from the housetop, it's victory for me! I am a Baptist! I have been all my Christian life and I'll die that way, whether you hang on or not! I tell you, churches are losing their identity. You can hardly tell a New Testament Church anymore from counterfeits. I have no problem were I stand!

And so we are talking about millions, the praise and worship of singers are pure, they lift up their voices, it's blessing unto the Lord and praise unto the Lord, it's not the sound of my voice, it's not how well I know music, but it is coming from the heart, Praise the Lord! When they set those crowns upon His head and he takes that book and begins to open those seals there is Praise unto Him and it is not fake. The praise and worship of singers is pure.

In Heaven all pretense and make-believe will be done away with forever. I remember years ago when just a boy when I went to church (I hardly ever went when I was little) but when mama took us it was to a Pentecostal church. My Uncle was a Pentecostal preacher and I was brought up in the holiness group, they called them holy-rollers back then. This lady got in-the-spirit supposedly. She got in the aisle sitting flat down and was carrying on and she spit out her gum. She stopped and picked it up and put it back in her mouth and carried on. I believe that's pretense. I don't think it's real. If she would have been caught up in the spirit she would not have known she had gum in her mouth and she would have probably swallowed it. But in heaven there will be no pretense. It's going to be real it's going to be genuine.

You Baptists that are close to my age, and maybe a little older, have you ever sat in a service and talked about heavenly things and someone would say, "Praise God" and it come right out of the heart and if they were sitting next to you the hair would raise up on the back of your neck? The Holy Spirit had passed by! That is what we need.

Last Sunday I preached on the subject: "We didn't even know there was a Holy Ghost". Isn't that what Paul said? He said to the disciples, "well what were you baptized unto?" John's baptism. That is what they said. They didn't mean John baptized them, but somebody followed John and probably put them under the water. But they had not heard the gospel. When Paul straightened them out on the gospel they were baptized. They had just gone down dry and came up wet the first time. The second time they were baptized. I am here to tell you the Holy Spirit is heaven's witness of the obedience of the church and when you preach the gospel, He is going to be there. And when you put someone under the water that has been redeemed, He is going to be there. And when you fellowship them in the church of the living God, He is going to be there. Heaven gives the approval.

In that day we shall be perfect, like Him whose praises we shall sing. Have you ever sang when you didn't feel like it? Did you ever preach when you didn't feel like it? I've preached a couple of my own messages and I didn't feel anything. I tell you, I was studying one time to preach and I just could not get my mind straightened out. You have been there - the subject wouldn't come. I'd just wear myself out and then a small voice said, "If you can't find one just turn over here and just use one of mine". So I got into the Word of God and it turned out good. But that is what it is all about. Sometimes we will run to our helps and everything under the sun instead of right where the source is, right here.

Let me close with this recitation:

No Disappointment

There's no disappointment in Heaven, No weariness, sorrow or pain
No hearts that are bleeding and broken, No song with minor refrain
The clouds of our earthly horizon, Will never appear in the sky
For all will be sunshine and gladness, With never a sob nor a sigh.
We'll never pay rent for our mansion, The taxes will never come due
Our garments will never grow threadbare, But always be fadeless and new.
We'll never be hungry nor thirsty, Nor languish in poverty there
For all the rich bounties of Heaven, His sanctified children will share.
There'll never be crepe on the door knob, No funeral train in the sky;
No graves on the hillside of Glory, For there we shall never more die.
The old will be young there forever, Transformed in a moment of time
Immortal we'll stand in His likeness, The stars and the sun to out shine.
I'm bound for that beautiful city, My Lord has prepared for His own
Where all the redeemed of all ages, Sing "Glory!" around the great throne
Sometimes I grow homesick for Heaven And the glories I there shall behold:
What a joy that will be when my Savior I see, In that beautiful city of gold!

-F. M. Lehman

Mississippi State W.M.A.

Donna Lawrence, President
1621 Hildreth Road
Columbus, MS 39702

Corresponding Secretary
Mrs. Shirlene Smith, 730 Hwy 533
Laurel, MS 39443

Lawrence

Big Creek WMA

The Big Creek District WMA met at Lebanon Baptist Church on Monday, July 10. There were nine churches represented and a total of 35 ladies present. New officers were elected. Regina Chisholm installed the officers (which for the most part remained the same as last year) and explained the duties of each office. This reporter was unable to attend the meeting because my church (Mt. Moriah) was in revival services. When I talked with Ms. Janelle Burks to get the notes from the meeting, it turns out she was also unable to attend the meeting because of having to have back surgery. She is recuperating nicely and says it is truly a blessing to be able to walk without having to use a cane. She was praising God for the·blessing of restoring her to better health. After I hung up the phone, it just did my heart good to hear someone so happy and giving all the praise to God. I take so much for granted - just being able to get up out of a chair without pain is a blessing. I'm sure President Shirlene Smith got all of the business taken care of and plans are in the works for the upcoming year.

The next WMA meeting will be held on October 2nd at Lebanon so let's all make plans now to attend.

Sherry Shows, Reporter

Providence hosts Northeast District WMA

Tropical waterfront decor complimented the theme, "Follow me, and I will make you fishers of men," when Providence Baptist Church of Amory hosted the Northeast District WMA and graciously provided a summer-perfect array of salads, meats, and sweets at 6.00 P.M. on August 15, 2006. Door prizes added a special touch to the evening.

The meeting was called to order by President Elaine Smith and opened with prayer by Bro. Roger Akers. A song was led by Assist. Song Director Lennie Thompson. We voted to collect funds for Darlene Carey, tentmaker missionary to China, for the September-November quarter.

Officers for 2006-2007 were elected as follows:
President - Elaine. Smith; First Vice-president: - Louise Wilson; Second Vice-president - Teresa Green; Third Vice-president - Brenda Bain; Secretary/Treasurer - Wanda Grimes; Assist. Secretary/Treasurer - Tina Cox; Reporter/Historian - Beth Haden; Assist. Reporter/Historian - Mae Loden; Song Director - Stacy Smith; Assist. Song Director - Lennie Thompson; Pianist - Anita Akers; Assist. Pianist - Bobbye Sue Bradley; Director of Youth - Donna Lawrence; and Promoter - Mary Beacham.

Patti Harlow spoke to us about volunteering our service for our Lord. Rickey Jones, the Rock Family, Angie Borman, and Patti Harlow emphasized points through song. Ms. Harlow encouraged us to look for and grab opportunities of service as they are presented to us. She then challenged each of the officers to stay ready to serve faithfully in their position by keeping their spiritual bag packed. Each officer was presented a small bag as a reminder of this challenge. All 56 of those who grabbed this opportunity to serve returned home with a blessing.

At 6:00 P.M. on November 14 at Shiloh Baptist Church, Steens, Mississipi, another opportunity to be a faithful servant in the WMA will be offered. Will you take advantage of this opportunity?

Elaine Smith, president
Beth Haden, reporter

GMA Girls

GMA Promoter Beth Caldwell
166 Twin Creek Rd,
Lucedale, MS 39452
601-947-6011

Sunbeam Prom. Linda Dertinger
132 HowardHill Road
Soso, MS 39480
601-729-2908

National GMA Officers meet

by Allena Burns
Corresponding Secretary

The National GMA officers met in Waldo, Arkansas, on August 15-16 for their annual planning meeting. We are very excited about this year's work. Our theme for this coming June is "My Special Place." The theme verses are John 14:2-3 and the date for camp is June 12-15, 2007. Our goal is for 555 people to attend camp this year.

Our project is 90% Bolivain Houseboat and 10% General Fund. Sometimes the only way to get to a certain village is going on a river, so this boat would be very beneficial for our BMMI workers and other missionaries. This year the BMA will be supporting our project by sending out flyers called "Rivers of Blessings Flow." This promotion goes toward the national GMA project. Our goal for this year is $25,000. In order to help achieve this, we ask the GMA churches to decorate a treasure box and fill it with money for the project. Bring the treasure boxes to camp for a contest to see who has the best one.

We are very excited about camp and know that God will work throughout the week. Please pray for the GMA work and that hearts will be touched.

GMA report

Hello everyone, I am Megan Brewer, Ten Mile District GMA Vice-president. I would like to encourage each young girl in our district churches to participate in GMA's. If your church does not have a GMA program and you are interested, please contact Mrs. Paula Pricket, District GMA Promoter.

Our district project this year is Bro. Ed Duvall. I would like to encourage everyone to join me and pray that God will bless Bro. Duvall and his mission work.

October 7, 2006, will be our Fall-A-Rama. The girls will be visiting the Children's Home in Laurel. Girls, do not forget about the picnic. We are going to have lots of fun.

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.

Homecoming at Lebanon Baptist Church

Lebanon Baptist will celebrate Homecoming on September 24. The day's program will begin at 9:00 a.m. with the former pastors Bro. Eugene Murphy, Bro. A. Marion Wilson and Bro. A. W. Kirkland preaching messages.

The theme for the day is "Jesus Christ, the same yesterday, today and forever" taken from Hebrews 13:8.

Bro. Murphy will bring a message in the 9 o'clock Sunday school hour. After a short break, Bro. Marion Wilson will bring a message in the 10 o'clock regular worship hour. Lunch will be served at noon and Bro. A. W. Kirkland will bring a message in the afternoon.

There will be special music in each of these services.

All members, former members and friends are cordially invited to come and enjoy the blessings of the day with our church.

T. Aaron Maxwell, pastor

Plainview, Poplarville revival set

Plainview Baptist Church, located at 2506 Silver Run Rd., Poplarville, will be holding revival services September 17-22, 2006. Sunday services will begin with Sunday School at 8:45a.m. and worship at 10:00 a.m. with lunch and an afternoon service to follow. Services will be held at 7:00p.m. Monday through Friday. Bro. Wallace Williams, Missionary Pastor of Divine Grace Baptist Mission, will be the guest speaker. All are invited to attend. For further information, contact the church office at 601-795-8291.

Bro. Justin Cameron, pastor

First Baptist Church, Tremont

August has been a busy month at FBC. On the 15th, several of our ladies went to Providence Baptist Church in Amory for the N.E. District WMA meeting. We received such a wonderful blessing from the meeting. On the 21st, our church sponsored a blood drive. We held our Space Quest VBS program on the 23rd. Since the girls brought in the most money, they each got to shove a pie in Bro. Nick Brewer's face. The boys had to eat sour candy - of course some of the girls wanted to try the sour candy too. We had our Awana registration on the 30th. We are all looking forward to a great Awana year. There is always fun to be found every Saturday night for Friends Night. This month we have been blessed with three new members to our church.

Please remember that the welcome mat is always out at First Baptist Church of Tremont.

Pastor Lavelle Smith
Pam Dines, Secretary

Letters From Our Readers

The Church that Excluded the Lord

Dear Editor,

There is a North Mississippi church that, according to the pastor who resigned, has voted to exclude certain people on the basis of race. Church members apparently deny that this is the case. But the story brings up an issue that needs to be addressed by Christians and settled biblically. This is my personal opinion for what it is worth, but I think that any church that votes to exclude people on any such unbiblical basis should be expelled from the Association. After all, they are clearly NOT missions minded. No matter how much they may contribute to any missions program, they have proven to be disobedient to the Great Commission by refusing to minister to a selected group.

How could any true Christian believe that God would approve of such a thing? Such a congregation brings reproach upon the name of Christ and His church. If they were doing God's work before, He certainly will not bless their endeavors now that they have essentially spit in the face of the Lord. It is a dead or dying church that doesn't practice the doctrine of Christ revealed in His Word. In Matthew 25, the Savior says, "For I was an hungered, and ye gave Me no meat: I was thirsty, and ye gave Me no drink: I was a stranger, and ye took Me not in: naked, and ye clothed Me not: sick, and in prison, and ye visited Me not. Then shall they also answer Him, saying, Lord, when saw we Thee an hungered, or athirst, or a stranger, or naked, or sick, or in prison, and did not minister unto Thee? Then shall He answer them, saying, Verily I say unto you, Inasmuch as ye did it not to one of the least of these, ye did it not to Me."

Sadly, there are a few like-minded people in perhaps every congregation, but God is not pleased with them whether they be few or many and they will be a hindrance to the Spirit's work in their churches as long as they have that attitude. However, that particular church made a willful decision NOT to minister, as the Lord talks about in the previous passage. They actually made it a matter of official business when they voted on it. It is so easy to send money to the mission's board and puff ourselves up in pride because we are helping people of all races and languages in other parts of the world, but the real test of love and obedience is to minister to the people who are right in our midst!

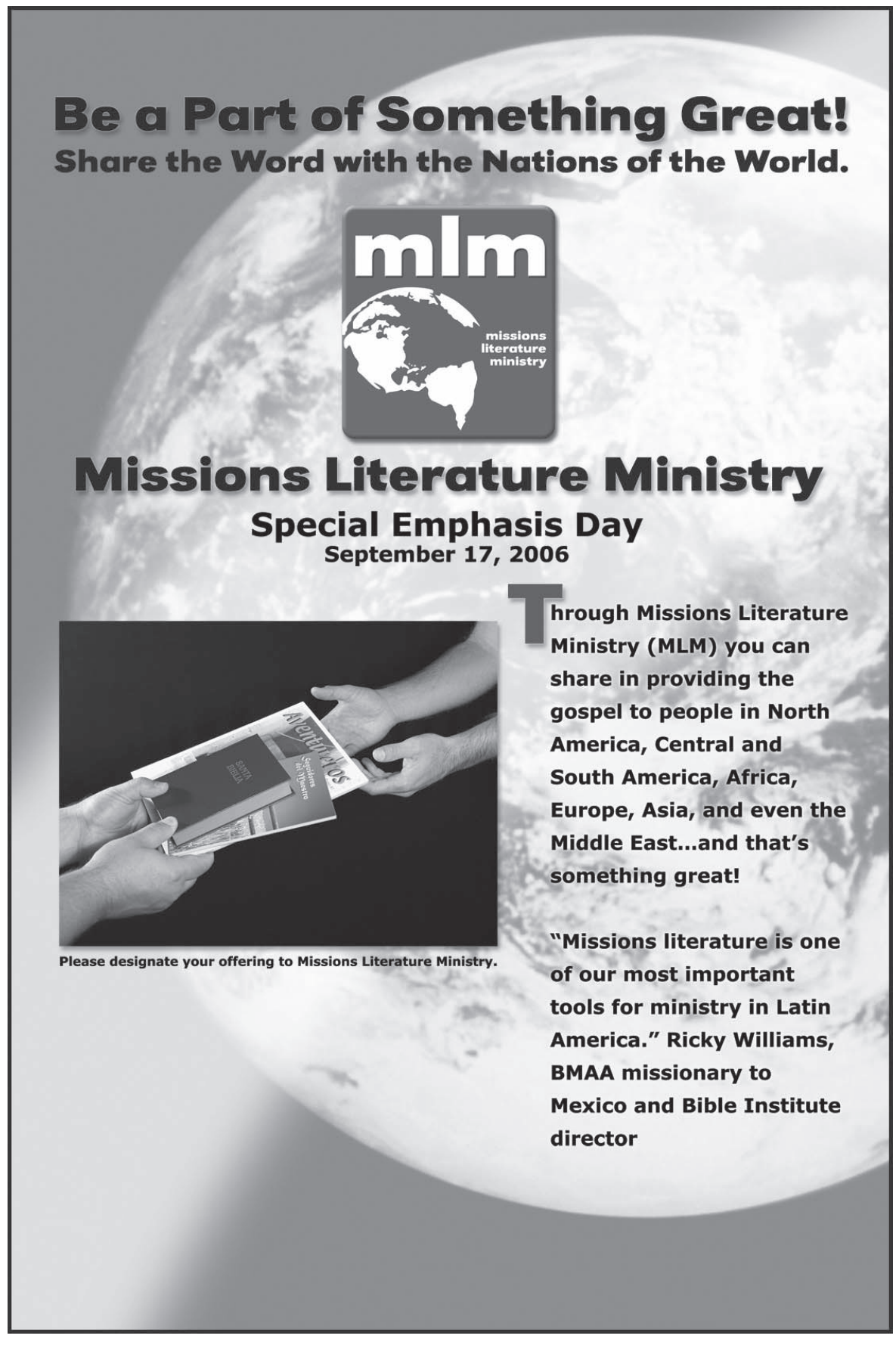
Some of it is downright hatred and some of it may be fear, because most people don't like big changes in their church. But even if it is due to an ignorant fear, the apostle John also speaks to that in his first letter (4:17), "There is no fear in love; but perfect love casteth out fear: because fear hath torment. He that feareth is not made perfect in love."

We need to pray that those who would agree to this shameful policy would be convicted and repent of their rebellion so that they may be restored to the true fellowship of the Lord and His people. Until then they continue to bring reproach upon the name of Christ. II Peter 2:1-2 speaks of people in the church who cause others to stumble because of their behavior, "But there were false prophets also among the people, even as there shall be false teachers among you … And many shall follow their pernicious ways; by reason of whom the way of truth shall be evil spoken of."

God gave Peter a hard lesson in prejudice and he repented and said, "Of a truth I perceive that God is no respecter of persons" Acts 10:34. I pray that the child and family who suffered this hurtful rejection will not think that one particular church is representative of the rest.

I would also highly recommend a book on the subject by Ken Ham of Answers in Genesis. The title is One Blood: The biblical answer to racism. The title is based on Acts 17:26 ("And hath made of one blood all nations of men…").

Diane Betts
Columbus, Mississippi



2006

Lifeword
Walk of Faith

Commission on Senior Adults

Vern D.Holifield, Director
4226 Highway 15 North
Laurel, Mississippi 39440

It is a great blessing to say a few words about the Commission On Senior Adults to the readers of the Mississippi Baptist paper. Our people in Mississippi and people in many other states read the article printed in this paper. It is good to hear folks say that they saw certain things in this paper.

Please note an error in my last article. The South Senior Adult Conference is schedule for March 29, 2007, not May 29 2007. That error was my fault, not the paper. So mark your calendar for March 29, 2007. The place is Mill Creek Baptist Church, Picayune, and pastor Arthur Lee. Plans are now under way for a great Conference.

Dot and I attended the Annual meeting of the East Central Association. It met with the Zion Rest Baptist Church and Pastor Howard Rogers. It was a great meeting indeed. The Association not only continued their liberal support to the Commission, but they give liberally to most all the other Departments and Commissions. I will allow Bro. Freeman to tell of their giving to missions. The pastors in the East Central Association are to be commended for their leadership. I commend the churches for their being goof followers. Every member Church represented in this Annual meeting. Thanks East Central for your outstanding work.

Dot and I enjoyed meeting with the Pineview Baptist Church near Lucedale. We were given a hearty welcome by Bro. and Mrs. Wayne Christian . We enjoyed their home and family.

Our people in Mississippi are reminded that the Commission is now standing on our own. It means that we need the financial support of every church in the BMA of Mississippi. Several local associations have us in their budgets. We ask others to join us. We must have quality programs in the Conferences. It takes money to have it right. I firmly believe that God will give us what we need. Please help us help you to help your dear Senior Adults.

If I can help you organize a Senior Adult Ministry in your church, please let me know. God bless!

BMA of Mississippi

Missions Department

4226 Highway 15 North, Laurel, Mississippi 39440 - (601) 428-8616 - Rayburn Freeman, Director

ATTENTION MISSIONARIES - PAST AND PRESENT -

In an effort to accurately list every Mississippi missionary, we have been working hard to compile the following information. This effort is in conjunction with the upcoming 200th Anniversary Celebration. Please review this information and let Mrs. Chris Smith know of any changes that need to be made. She can be reached at 601-939-6707 or 601-668-6347. If she is unavailable, please contact the Missions Office at 601-428-8616. We appreciate your help with this endeavor!

MISSIONARIES

ADAMS, DR. JOHN, Central Baptist Church, Corinth, Mississippi 1973-1975; Calvary Baptist Church, Ocean Springs, Mississippi 1975-1976

BAIN, DEWITT, Shiloh Baptist Church, Kosciusko, Mississippi 1976-1979; Gautier, Mississippi 1981-1983; West Hills Baptist Church, Meridian, Mississippi 1988-1992.

BARTON, C. D. Missionary in 1948

BENTON, TERRY, 1985 Magnolia Heights Baptist Church, Forest, Mississippi

BLASS, T. J., Missionary to Decatur, Mississippi

BLOUNT, DALE, Joint with Mississippi Missions Department and Big Creek District Association, Magnolia Heights Baptist Church, Forest, Mississippi 19893-1984

BOUTWELL, ELBERT, Ridgecrest Baptist Church, Columbus, Mississippi, 1960-1965

BRADLEY, HULON F., Missionary to Theodore, Alabama

BRADLEY, MERLE, Temple Baptist Church, Yazoo City, Mississippi; North Gate Baptist Church, Indianola, Mississippi; Fellowship Baptist Church, Hurley, Mississippi; Christina Park Baptist Church, Lakeland, Florida; Westview Baptist Church, Oxford, Mississippi.

BREEDLOVE, JIMMY, Finley Road Baptist Church, Memphis, Tennessee, 1980.

BROOM, DALE, Jordan Baptist Mission, Mobile, Alabama, 2003

BULLOCK, BOB, Westgate Baptist Church, McComb, Mississippi, 1964-1965

CAMERON, LUTHER, East Petal Baptist Church, Petal, Mississippi, 1979; Fellowship Baptist Church, Hurley, 1980

CHILDRESS, M. E., Missionary in 1939

CLAYTON, KEVIN, Calvary Baptist Church, Horn Lake, Mississippi

CLINE, R. D., Broadmoor Baptist Church, Meridian, Mississippi, 1980.

COCHRAN, PRESTON M. , Calvary Baptist Mission, Leaksville, Mississippi, 1996.

COOLEY, CHARLES, Parkview Baptist church, Baldwin, Mississippi, 1974

COOPER, H. D., Unity Baptist Church, Greenville, Mississippi, 1968

COUCH, SAMMIE L., Zion Baptist Church, Anquilla, Mississippi, 1933-1939.

COX, JIMMY, Seven Oaks, Hernando, Mississippi, 1991.

CRAWFORD, CAREY, Associate Missionary, South Haven, Seven Oaks, 1992

CRAWLEY, VERNER LAVAY, Jackson Heights, Pensacola, Florida, 1965-1966.

CRESWELL, JIMMY, December 6, 1973, Meridian Baptist Mission, Later became Broadmoor Baptist Church, organized 1975 and built building. 1986, North Gate, Indianola, Mississippi

CROWE, OCIE, Pleasant Hill Baptist Church, Saucier, Mississippi, 1978-1980.

DAVIDSON, GRADY, 1978, Thomas Street Baptist Church, Tupelo, Mississippi.

DAVIS, SIDNEY, Starkville, Mississippi 1984-1989.

DAY, DANNY, 1978 Calvary, Brandon, Mississippi; 1984, East Petal Baptist Church, Petal, Mississippi; 1980, Hattiesburg, Mississippi

DIXON, THOMAS (BUD), Hillcrest Baptist Church, Yazoo City, Mississippi, 1992, 1996.

DUVALL, ED, Missionary at Home Stretch Baptist Mission, Cleveland, Mississippi, 2003-2006.

ESTES, JAMES, Lone Oak Baptist Church, West Point, Mississippi, 1974.

FARNHAM, DON, Providence Baptist Church, Amory, Mississippi, 1991.

FLOYD, HAROLD, Westview Baptist Church, Oxford, Mississippi; 1987, Springhill Baptist Church, Ocean Springs, Mississippi; 1988, East Starkville, Baptist Church, Starkville, Mississippi; Broadmoor Baptist Church, Meridian, Mississippi; Mission in Bartlett, Tennessee.

FULLER, RALPH, 1977, Yazoo City, Mississippi.

FLYNT, KENNETH, 1989 East Petal Baptist Church, Petal, Mississippi

GARCIA, ELVIS, Working with Hispanics in Ripley Baptist Mission; Ripley, Mississippi, 2003

GARDNER, H. L. 1967, East Main Baptist Church, Lumberton, Mississippi.

GIBSON, ROBBY, 1975, Broadmoor, Meridian, Mississippi

GLENN, J. E. , Missionary in 1911 to work with churches in Louisiana. Arrested for preaching the Gospel at Isabel, Louisiana.

GRARY, M. M., Missionary in 1933, Dorsey, Mississippi

GRICE, KENT, Magnolia Heights Baptist Church, Forest, Mississippi. 1979-1983.

HEMBREE, HUBERT, 1961 Organized church in McComb, Mississippi.

HILL, THELBERT, 1967-1970 Central, Richton, Mississippi; 1975 Calvary, Taylorsville, Mississippi; 1982, Bay St. Louis, Mississippi; 1987 Fellowship, Hurley, Mississippi; 1997-2000 Harmony, Hurley, Mississippi.

HILL, VAN. B., 1933 Missionary to Wiggins, Mississippi.

HOLDEN, AUGUST, 1948 Missionary

HOLIFIELD, VERN D., 1978 South Haven, Greenville, Mississippi

HOWELL, LONNIE, Pleasant Hill Baptist Church, Saucier, Mississippi.

HUDSON, JOHN, 1979, Shiloh Baptist Church, Kosciusko, Mississippi

ISHEE, JODY, Fifth Street Baptist Church, Iuka, Mississippi, elected in 1967.

KIRKLAND, A. W. 1982, Superintendent of Building; 1983 Missionary, Prentiss, Mississippi.

KNIGHT, ARNOLD, Re- elected state missionary October 10, 1967.

KNIGHT, B. J., Second Secretary of Missions, State Missionary 1955. 1972 Baptist Missionary Association of Mississippi Minute book dedicated in his memory.

LESLIE, JACK, South Green Baptist Church, Tupelo, Mississippi. Organized October 10, 1971.

LESLIE, RUBEN, 1983-1986 Spring Hill Baptist Church, Ocean Springs, Mississippi; Woodland Baptist Church, Columbus, Mississippi.

LINDSEY, FULTON, 1973-1976, South Haven Baptist Church, Greenville, Mississippi; 1978-1980, Fellowship Baptist Church, Hurley, Mississippi; 1986-1988 South Haven Baptist Church, Greenville, Mississippi; also worked as missionary for the Washington Association in Mississippi and helped organize Wilmer Estates Baptist Church, Wilmer, Alabama,

LODEN, JOHN, Born May 24, 1918, Missionary for thirteen years, 1970-1983. During this time he organized O'Neal Road Baptist Church, Gulfport, Mississippi and built building there while serving as Missionary pastor. He also worked at Bay St. Louis, and Central Baptist Church, Richton, Mississippi.

LODEN, TIM, 1964-1965 Ridgecrest Baptist church, Columbus, Mississippi; 1983, Lone Oak, West Point, Mississippi.

LEWIS, L. R., 1976-1978, Central Baptist Church, Bay St. Louis, Mississippi

LOWE, W. H., 1952 Missionary

LLOYD, MARVIN, Helped Bro. Ray Freeman in organizing Hispanic work, 2000.

MARR, KEVIN, 2004 Life Point Baptist Church, Hernando, Mississippi; 2003 East Pointe Baptist Mission, Olive Branch.

MARROQUIN, ESTUARDO, 2001-2006 Missionary to Hispanic community. Presently working with El Camino Hispanic Baptist Church, Laurel, Mississippi. Attendance of 60.

MATTHEWS, M. V., 1933 Missionary to Purvis, Mississippi

MERRITT, ALLISON, 1978 Construction Missionary

MILNER, HASKEL, 1978, Magnolia Heights, Forest, Mississippi

MIGUEZ, RANDY PAUL, 1995-2001 New Beginnings Baptist Mission, Olive Branch, Mississippi.

MONTGOMERY, GORDON, 2003, New Beginnings Baptist Mission, Olive Branch, Mississippi

MOONEY, ROBERT, 1979, Temple Baptist Church, Yazoo City, Mississippi; 1983 Bay St. Louis, Mississippi.

MURPHY, NEIL, 1997-2000, Grace Baptist Mission, Saltillo, Mississippi.

NOLAN, B. A., December l, 1968, Immanuel Baptist Church, Monticello, Mississippi.

O'HARA, JAMES, Heritage Baptist Church, Woolmarket, Mississippi, 1992-1995.

OYELEYE, JOSEPH, December, 2003, Maple Street Baptist Mission, Columbus, Mississippi. Bro. Joseph continues to serve as missionary in Columbus.

PARKER, AARON, 1980-1986, Westview Baptist Church, Oxford, Mississippi.

PARKER, OLLIE, Director 1939 - 1952 and 1955 - 1957

PHELPS, HENRY, 1992-1997, Temple Baptist Church, McComb, Mississippi.

PITTS, DANNY, January 1981 - September 1984, Christina Park Baptist Church, Lakeland, Florida.

PITTS, DOUG, 1982, Lone Oak Baptist Church, West Point , Mississippi.

PONDER, JOSEPH L. 1981-1986, Collierville, Tennessee; 1987 Bartlett, Tennessee.

RANKIN, Z. T.,1959, Ridgecrest Baptist Church, Columbus, Mississippi

RESTER, ALVIN J., 1933 Missionary to Poplarville, Mississippi.

RHODEN, HOWARD, 1961 Hobolochitto Association in Mississippi and the Mississippi State Missions Department joined together for Bro. Rhoden to go to Poplarville, Mississippi. This was the beginning of College Heights Baptist Church which was organized February 9, 1962; January 1990 to August, 1990 helped with Temple Gate Baptist Church in McComb, Mississippi; October 1995 to June 1997, Missionary to Westside Baptist, Cleveland, Mississippi. Bro. Rhoden had a missionary heart, moving several times to help small, struggling Missions or churches.

RICE, JERRY, 1986-1987 East Petal Baptist Church, Petal, Mississippi

ROGERS, GEORGE, Central Baptist Mission, Aberdeen, Mississippi.

ROGERS, RICHARD, West Side, Cleveland, Mississippi, 1991.

SAVELL, MEDRICK, 1967-1969 Central Baptist Church, Richton, Mississippi.

SHAW, ARTHUR, 1971-1973 Immanuel Baptist Church, Prentiss, Mississippi

SHELLY, 1967, Eastwood Park Baptist Church, Moss Point, Mississippi

SHOEMAKE, S. A., 1933 Missionary to Collins.

SIMMONS, L. T., 1938 Missionary

SMITH, ARTHUR, 1969 -1974 Parkview Baptist church, Gautier, Mississippi; 1974 -1978, Calvary Baptist Church, Purvis, Mississippi.

SMITH, B. L., October, 1968, Lumberton, Mississippi

SMITH, HINTON, Ocean Springs, Mississippi

SMITH, RICHARD, 1982, Pleasant Hill Baptist Church, Saucier, Mississippi.

SMITH, STEPHEN C., 1980, Springhill Baptist Church, Ocean Springs, Mississippi

SMITH, CARLOS, New Life Baptist Mission, Lyman, Mississippi, 2001.

SMITH, GARY, 1984-1986, South Haven, Greenville, Mississippi

SPRAYBERRY, JAMES, 1983-1988, Parkview Baptist Church, Gautier, Mississippi; 1988 -1990, Westside Baptist Church, Cleveland, Mississippi.

SPURLIN, DAVID, East Starkville Baptist, Starkville, Mississippi.

STEELE, ED, March 1972, Unity Baptist Church, Greenville, Mississippi; September 15, 1974, Westover Baptist Church, Hattiesburg, Mississippi.

STEWART, HERBERT, 1987 Magnolia Heights Baptist Church, Forest, Mississippi.

STONECYPHER, JOHNNY, 1986 Magnolia Heights Baptist Church, Forest, Mississippi.

STRICKLAND, F. M. 1984, Westside Baptist Church, Cleveland, Mississippi.

STRINGER, B. H. 1955 Missionary

SWINDOLL, JIMMY, 1987 Westview Baptist Church, Oxford, Mississippi.

TAPLEY, THOMAS, 1984 Beth Haven Baptist Church, Lake City, Florida; 1985 Fellowship Baptist, Hurley, Mississippi; 1990 Springhill Baptist Church, Ocean Springs, Mississippi.

TAPP, HARRY, Central Baptist Church, Bay St. Louis

THOMPSON, CHARLES, 1974 Theodore, Alabama; Ocean Springs, Mississippi, 1975

TOLAR, J. W. - Missionary 1912

VARNADO, L. G. - Missionary 1938

WALKER, L. S. 1977, Self-SUPPORT missionary to Old Spanish Trail Baptist Church, Waveland, Mississippi; 1979, Self support missionary to Central Baptist Church, Bogalusa, Louisiana.

WALTERS, M. , Missionary 1912, 1938.

WARREN, CHARLIE, 1975, Temple Baptist Church organized in September, 1975, Southhaven, Mississippi

WARREN, DEAN, 1979 Parkview Baptist Church, Baldwin, Mississippi.

WATSON, JOE, 2001-2002 Cornerstone Baptist Mission, Laurel, Mississippi

WILLIAMS, WALLACE, January 4, 2004, first service, Divine Grace Baptist Church, Long Beach, Mississippi. They anticipate being in their new building by Christmas 2006.

WILSON, WOODROW 1980 East Starkville Baptist Church, Starkville, Mississippi

WOMACK, JOHN Philadelphia Baptist Church, Grand Bay, Alabama, 1997-1998.