

Baptist

Mississippi

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David Allen to lead Paschal Bible Lectures

The thirty-ninth annual William N. Paschal Memorial Bible Lectures will be held October 13 and October 15, 2009 in the Dorman Memorial Chapel on the campus of Baptist Missionary Association (BMA) Theological Seminary in Jacksonville, Texas.

The speaker will be Dr. David Allen, Dean of the School of Theology at Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary. In addition, he is a professor of preaching at Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary and the Director of the Center for Expository Preaching. He and his wife of 30 years, Sherri, have four children—Jeremy, Jared, Melody and Kali.

Dr. Allen will lead four sessions on Preaching through Hebrews

Lecture 1—Tuesday, 10:00 a.m., Authorship and Background of Hebrews

Lecture 2—Tuesday, 3:00 p.m., Hebrews as a Sermon: Use of the Old Testament

Lecture 3—Thursday, 10:00 a.m., Preaching Hebrews 6

Lecture 4—Thursday, 3:00 p.m.,

Preaching Key Themes and Passages in Hebrews

Dr. Allen trusted Christ at the age of nine and was baptized in the West Rome Baptist Church in Rome, Georgia. At the age of sixteen, he felt God's call to preach, was licensed to preach in 1977, and ordained in 1978. Dr. Allen's educational background includes a B.A. degree from Criswell College, Dallas, Texas, an M.Div. degree from Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, Ft. Worth, Texas and a Ph.D. in Humanities from the University of Texas at Arlington.

Dr. Allen has served on several trustee boards, has led revivals, conferences and workshops in various parts of the country. He has also participated in international study tours and mission trips. In addition, he has



Dr. David Allen

two publications in process: The Authorship of Hebrews: The Case for Luke. (Nashville: B & H Publishing Group, 2005, forthcoming 2010) and Hebrews in the New American Commentary Series (Nashville: B & H Publishing Group, 2005, forthcoming fall 2009).

William N. Paschal, a successful businessman and pastor, passed away in 1978. In 1984, Dessarine (Paschal) McNeill of Waldo, Arkansas, and Kathleen (Paschal) Fullenwider of Magnolia, Arkansas, established an endowment to fund the William N. Paschal Bible Lectures in honor of their father. Among his grandchildren are the late Dr. Harold McNeill, Jr., who was mental health chaplain at Rusk State Hospital and Professor of Christian Education at BMA Seminary and Norita (McNeill) Higgs, whose husband, Grady Higgs, is Executive Director of the Department of Missions for the BMA of America, Little Rock, Arkansas.

Everyone is invited to attend these lectures.

October is Pastor Appreciation Month
DiscipleGuide
provides annual
'Pastor's Oasis'

Dear Deacon:

I hope this letter finds you and your church family enjoying the very best of the Father's blessings. On behalf of Donny Parrish, Kevin Clayton 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 Baptist Missionary Association 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 yourself, 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

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Ministering To Ministers And Their Wives

Pastors Oasis Celebrates Ten Years

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 DiscipleGuide Conference 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, the tenth anniversary of the event, promises to be one of the best ever.

The '09 edition of Oasis will be October 6-8 at the Chateau on the Lake in Branson and will feature guest speaker, Dr. John Greene. John has served as Lead Pastor for the Har-

mony Hill Baptist Church of Lufkin, Texas for more than thirty years. During his tenure the church has experienced tremendous growth. An interesting twist to this year's Oasis is that Dr. Greene and Kirk Shelton, Consultant for Pastoral Ministries and host for Pastors Oasis, both were featured speakers at the very first Oasis in 1999. "I am really excited to have John as our speaker this year, he is one of the best preachers I know and his walk matches his talk!" Shelton said.

This year's talent and artists are second to none. Worship will be led by David Attebery from Antioch Baptist Church in Conway, Arkansas. David

is a favorite around Pastors Oasis having led worship several times in the past. In addition, there will be renowned singing artists Avalon and Selah, along with David Pendleton, a ventriloquist who will "make you believe anything can talk."

DiscipleGuide Conference Ministry has worked hard to make Pastors Oasis affordable for pastors of all size churches. The event itself only costs \$60 per person (\$70 after September 5th) which doesn't even cover the actual expense. 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 of every year is Pastor Appreciation Month across the United States. 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 at www.discipleguide.org or call the DCM office at 501.513.3726.

Helping Your Children to be Stable People

Consistency. Consistency. Consistency. It is one of the foundational principles for parenting. Whether we are talking about discipline, chores, homework, etc., it is very important for you to offer consistency to your children. It is this consistency that creates a stable home environment. Children thrive and flourish in a home where there are consistent rules that everyone must follow. Younger children in particular, need a great deal of

structure. Yes, teens need more flexibility in their schedules, but even teens are more secure in a home with structure.

Years ago, I used to work in a child/adolescent psychiatric hospital. Did you know that the first thing we did to get these kids under control and stabilized, is to offer them a safe, secure and consistent environment. They had a schedule. Meals were served at consistent times in the same place. Expectations were clearly communicated and there were rewards or consequences based upon whether or not you acted responsibly. This cut the anxiety levels in half for these kids almost immediately.

The children were not in charge of their environment. They had an authority figure in their life who was loving, yet laid out the code of conduct and the rules of behavior. This was never found in their home environment. Before there was ever one counseling session, there was dramatic change in behavior by offering a consistent environment for these kids to operate in.

Let's examine three things that will make immediate changes for the better in your children if you give them what they need. These areas are eating, sleeping and exercising.

1. Sleeping - Most kids today are not getting enough sleep. This leads to behavioral and

academic problems. They are irritable, fatigued, argumentative, explosive in anger, whiny and just plain difficult to live

Family Ark Ministries



Travis Plumlee

PO Box 163
Mountain View,
AR 72560

with. Just because they start getting enough sleep does not mean all of this will disappear. It could be caused from something else. However, it will greatly help the entire process of your child's life to get enough sleep. It helps them grow, develop muscles, perform better in school and be more gentle in nature.

You know how miserable you are if you don't get enough sleep. Just imagine operating for months without proper rest. All children should generally sleep a minimum of 8 hours. However, young children need 10. Teens often times need 10. Their bodies are growing at a rapid rate and the body builds during sleep. You cannot make up your sleep on the weekend. This means a bedtime.

Your children will automatically get sleepy at the same time every night if you develop a habit of them going down at the same time every night. I

know some parents don't do this because you allow your child to manipulate you. But you are doing your child harm by not establishing consistency in the time to go to bed and sleep patterns.

2. Exercising - Most children do not get enough exercise. They play too many video games, text too much and watch too much TV. Back in the old days, kids had to work around the house. Then, when it was time to play, they had games that required running, jumping, walking or swimming. Parents think that if their kids play ball, that is enough exercise. However, going to play a softball game two or three times a week is not consistent exercise. They are sitting on the bench a lot of the time. Try and get them to do something each day for exercise. Why don't you do it with them and role model the behavior. The whole family will benefit.

3. Eating - Stop worrying if your child doesn't eat enough to keep a bird alive. They will take in enough to survive. Don't force eating. Set consistent times for meals. A hectic schedule where you skip meal times, skip meals, or eat at all different and crazy times will cause your children to not want to eat, or to over eat.

As much as possible, create a consistent time for meals.

Remember to help them eat about 6 times a day rather than 3 gorge times. One of the keys to healthy body weight is to keep the body fueled, and the metabolism burning. Smaller meals every couple of hours are better. Stop letting them whine and pitch a fit so they can have sugar. A burrito and sugar cookies does not make a good future for your child's physical development. I know.

You might actually have to lay the law down and discipline them and not be manipulated by them. Isn't it tough to be a parent! Eating at McDonalds is fun sometimes. But not all the time. Families that are close, eat meals together at home around a table or kitchen bar.

Finally, offer consistency in your discipline. When you discipline based upon your stress level for the day, you confuse the child. They don't know what is expected of them from day to day, and this creates chaos and confusion. All home behavior should be based upon the general rule of "choices and consequences". You have choices. What the child chooses determines rewards or discipline.

And never forget to consistently have a dialogue with your child regardless of age. Consistently love them, hug them and develop a new habit of consistently having family devotions with your kids. It is the greatest memory you will ever leave them with. Consistent homes make stable kids.

Pastor's Oasis

from page 1

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 Church Resources has scheduled our annual Pastors Oasis for October 6-8, 2009. Pastors Oasis is three days of inspirational teaching, outstanding music, relaxation and wonderful fellowship. The location for this year's Oasis is the beautiful Chateau On The Lake in Branson, Missouri. The cost for the conference is \$60 per person (\$70 if paid after September 5th). 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 Resort at 888.333.5253. Please call by September 5th to receive the special 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 you can do for your pastor...and it could be one of the best things you will ever do for your church!

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

Kirk Shelton
DiscipleGuide Pastoral
Ministries Consultant

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.

Small Church in Arizona seeking a pastor

Mt. Carmel Missionary Baptist Church in Safford, Arizona, is in need of a pastor that is self-supporting or who can work outside the church. We supply a parsonage, utilities, phone and a small love offering weekly to supplement your income. Safford is a town with a population of approximately 12,000 and is located in the

southeastern part of the state. The town is also the county seat of Graham County. You may get in contact with us by phone or e-mail at 928-428-4783, 928-965-1540, or email nolanslockandkey@hotmail.com. Please remember Mt. Carmel in your prayers. Pastors are precious and are hard to find.
Bro. Nolan C. Jones

Arkansas church seeks pastor

Denver Street Baptist Church in Greenwood, Arkansas is seeking a full time Pastor. Resumes may be sent to Denver Street Baptist Church Search Committee C.O. Kenneth Colvert, 2326 Skye Road, Fort Smith, Arkansas 72908 or krcolvert@cox.net. If you have questions you may call kenneth at 479-629-3258.

East Main to hold ordination service

Bro. Lester Davis will be or-

daind into the Gospel Ministry September 18, 2009 at East Main Baptist Church, Lumberton, Mississippi at 7:00 p.m. Bro. Davis has accepted the position as Associate Pastor & Youth Minister of East Main Baptist Church. Pastor Buddy Cameron and the membership of East Main invite all ordained Preachers and Deacons to come and assist in his ordination

Bethel, Fulton

Greetings from Bethel, Fulton. We had an awesome VBS. Average attendance was 161. The Penny Parade brought in over \$1,600. We had a Sunday School Teacher's Workshop on August 15. Speakers were Dr. Martin Jameson, Bro. Tracy McMillen, and Bro. George Reddin. Brother Reddin was the speaker in the Morning Services on Sunday. We have had several people serving on

Mission Trips this summer: Kaitlin Turner to Nepal, Margaret Bean to Malaysia, Sarah Hebert to Peru & Thailand, David Christian & Melanie Greenhaw to Chicago and Keith and Shawn Glissen to Mexico. You are always welcome at Bethel. If, you are in the area please stop in for a visit.

Senior Pastor Dr. Martin Jameson
Reporter Martha Duncan

Fall Revival Set

Good Hope Baptist Church,
Stringer
Evangelist - Collin Jones
Former Missionary
to Honduras
September 27th - 30th
Sunday morning
& afternoon
Monday - Wednesday
7:00 pm

Why God Doesn't Always Meet Needs

"But my God shall supply all your need according to his riches in glory by Christ Jesus." The promises of provision from God for His children are numerous and wonderful. God provides our every heartbeat, the food we eat and even luxuries that we could essentially do without. He is a great God and every time in every way, always and without fail, supplies our basic needs, ensuring that no child of His goes without the necessities of life. That last sentence is very comforting, yet sometimes, basic needs of life are not always supplied for the child of God.

If you believe God always and without hesitation, supplies every basic need at all times for all His children without discrimination, then you have been watching too much TBN, or at least the wrong programs on TBN. As a general truth, God does supply our needs and even some desires. Some like to say that God will always supply our needs, not our greeds. Sounds spiritual.

Need is determined by God, not man. That which we think we need and that which God KNOWS we need, may not match. Does this include even basic needs such as food, water, clothing, sleep and health? YES!

Consider Job. There was a time in his life when his greatest need seemed to be good physical health. His body was covered in boils, which brought fever, meaning he was in severe pain. One boil can cause great discomfort. Imagine not being able to sit, turn, or relax without extreme pain. Yet, God did not immediately heal him. And remember, Job had no idea why all this was happening. At the time, he was not aware of the dialogue between God and Satan found at the beginning of the book. Though Job was LATER healed and blessed, God's divine plan for Job at the time was to glorify Him through suffering. God's divine call for Job overruled any healing or prosperity for the moment.

Consider Lazarus the beggar in Luke 16. One thousand years earlier, David said he had never seen the righteous forsaken or His (God's) seed begging for bread. Yet notice,

Lazarus was God's child, but he was lacking (1) good health, for he was full of sores (vs. 20), (2) he also lacked money for he was a beggar, and (3) he was lacking food, for he was eating crumbs from a table. If only poor Lazarus could have just heard Benny Hinn or Kenneth



miniedition

Joseph Harris

www.miniedition.net

Copeland preach, he would have been well and wealthy . . . if he had enough faith. Or just maybe God's calling for him was to glorify God through adversity. Abraham did say Lazarus received "evil things" in life, verse 25.

Consider the great Apostle Paul. If anyone was in the will of God, and super spiritual, it was this rabbi from Tarsus who was changed on the Damascus road. He was even the one who said God would supply all need. By the way, he wrote this from prison. You would think his greatest need was being released so he could be free to preach the gospel. Strangely enough, Paul gives a list of sev-

eral needs of his that were not met, all while in service for God.

In II Corinthians 11:27, he mentions being "In weariness and painfulness, in watching often, in hunger and thirst, in fasting often, in cold and nakedness." This verse specifically states Paul had need of sleep, good health, food, water, shelter, and clothes, yet these basic needs were not met. Why? God's specific calling for Paul was that he endure these needs and glorify God through his suffering. And notice, Paul wasn't complaining, he was glorifying God.

This little nugget of truth, glorifying God through suffering, is ignored and denied because it goes against the flesh. If the modern day prosperity crowd preached this, offerings would bottom out tomorrow. You will not hear this message from these purveyors of prosperity whose sole purpose in life is to latch on to your loot. These "Profits" will continue to beguile the masses (even in Baptist churches, imagine that) while padding their pocketbooks. God help them on the day of judgment and may God help us to glorify Him through whatever calling He has given to each of us individually.

More Church News

Perkinston Church to Celebrate 100 years of Ministry

Little Creek Baptist Church in Perkinston, Mississippi, will be celebrating 100 year's of ministry on October 11, 2009. Former Pastor Bro. John B. Stonecypher will be bringing the message. Sunday School begins at 9:45 with worship at 10:45. There will be dinner on the ground and singing after the meal. There will be a presentation on the history of the church and a reading of former pastors. Pastor Billy C. Ferrell and our church family invite you to attend this celebration of 100 year's of service to our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

Red Creek Celebrates 72 Year Homecoming

Red Creek Missionary Baptist Church of Lucedale, Mississippi will celebrate their 72 Year Homecoming on Sunday,

September 20. Service will begin at 11:00 am with Brother Sam McClure as speaker. There will be lunch and special singing following service.

Pastor Charles McClure and congregation invite everyone to attend. For more information call 601-947-2200.

Shelly Stringer-Reporter

Church to hold "Health & Resource Fair"

Midway First Baptist Church, 85 Midway Church Road, Sumrall, Mississippi will hold its second annual "Health & Resource Fair" on Saturday, September 19, from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. There will be over 150 booths of area health service and community service providers, an antique car show, fun activities for children and adults, crafts and a free gospel concert and variety show. Plate lunches will be available as well as valet parking. Free blood sugar, blood pressure and cholesterol checks and vision and hearing screenings will be offered. There will be complimentary refreshments. Everyone

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

New Year begins at Southeastern Baptist College

The Lord's blessings continue to be upon the college as we begin the new academic year. The enrollment continues to increase, as it has for the past four years. The eighty-one students enrolled is an increase over last fall, but the most exciting thing about the enrollment is an increase of full-time students of 26% over last fall and 16% increase of total hours of classes taken. The number of ministers is up also. We are also excited about the 24 people in the choir this year.

We thank the Lord for blessing our efforts to be the college that He can use in spreading the gospel to the world. We request your prayers throughout this year.

Special Emphasis

Offerings are being received regularly at this time for the

Special Emphasis. These contributions are filling a need and we appreciate all who are praying and helping with extra finances.

Memorial gifts

Contributions have been sent to Southeastern Baptist College to purchase books for the library in memory of Mr. John Ward Davis, Mr. J. C. Millwood, Mr. Junior Hudson, Mr. Stewart James Graham, Mr. Bobby Ray Morgan, Mr. William M. "Bill" Smith, Mrs. Agnes Johnson Kelly, and Mrs. Agnes Winnie Bunch Johnson. May the Lord bless these families.

Also, a contribution has been given to the Southeastern Baptist College Foundation in memory of Brethren Thomas "Bud" Dixon, Duane Arender, and John Loden. May the work done by these ministers continue to be used of the Lord.

is invited to come and be a part of this exciting day.

Pine Grove, Purvis

Pine Grove Baptist Church, Purvis, has recently called Bryson Hayden as their new music and youth director. He will begin his ministry with them on September 27.

Kenneth Flynt, pastor

Sumrall church plans revival

Midway First Baptist Church, 85 Midway Church Road, Sumrall, Mississippi will be in Revival September 20-23. Bro. Kenneth Bobo of Hope, Arkansas will be the speaker for these services. Sunday services will be at 10:45 AM and 6:00 PM. The week night services will be at 7:00 PM. Lunch will be served following the Sunday morning service.

Harmony Association meets

The Harmony Association met on September 11 at New Hope Baptist Church in Mantachie. The focus of the September meeting was the Children's Home. We were blessed to have Bro. Sydney Davis and his wife Pat with us.

They were accompanied by several children from the home. Bro. Sydney introduced each of the children, who then presented the special music. Bro. Davis then brought the evening message.

We had 11 churches represented with 60 present, along with 9 visitors. Bro. John Adams gave a report on both the Moral Action Commission and The Christian Action Commission. Bro. Vern Holifield reported on the Senior Adult Commission.

Daniel Brookman,
Asst. Moderator
Tony Marolt,
Promotional Secretary

Tiger Creek News

On September 6, 2009, we started a new church year with good teachers and leaders who are willing to work, teach and learn more about God's Word. Our Annual Harvest Supper will be on October 24th at 6 p.m. Please come eat a good meal and fellowship with us. Pray for us always.

Tiger Creek Baptist Church
Bro. Dana Williams, Pastor
Betty Holifield, Reporter

*Great is Our God
And Great Is His Mercy*

Mississippi Baptist Opinion Page

Journal of the Baptist Missionary Association of Mississippi

Rerun

My wife and I seem to watch a lot of "reruns" on TV. We are particular about what shows we watch and when the season ends and reruns begin, we just get to enjoy our favorite shows all over again. One advantage of growing older (I suppose there are many) is that we do not always remember the outcome of the shows. It's almost like watching them for the first

time. My good friend Barbara "Sofilthy" White has the same blessing.

Below you will find a 'rerun' of an editorial I ran in May 2009. As we approach our annual meeting it is not too early to begin thinking of those important business items we gather annually to care for.

I have been in some local meetings and heard various reports concerning our Youth Department. It is my understanding at this writing that

the trustees will not be presenting a nominee for director at the meeting in October.

That being the case, I thought it prudent to **g a i n** present my thoughts from this past Spring. Your thoughts would also be welcomed.



Don Brown
Editor

Change

We have heard a lot about change in the past couple of years. I think change for the sake of change is usually a waste of energy and time. As conservative Baptists we believe in the "old paths" when it comes to salvation and biblical standards. They have always worked and they always will. They are God's ways!

Change inevitably comes to organizations, churches, and individual lives. A number of years ago the BMA of America made some significant changes in its organizational structure. There were many who opposed ANY change. There were aspects of the changes that were finally made that did not have 100% approval from our churches.

Overall it appears that the changes have been successful and have added to the progress and effectiveness of our associated work.

One area that has worked well is the area of conference

ministries. The Department of Church Ministries was integrated into DiscipleGuide, but still functions according to its original structure and goals.

State Application

With the current vacancy in the State Youth Department, it may be prudent to consider all options before filling this position.

The Youth Department grew out of our camp ministry and many consider that the main focus today. Currently in our state work there are other groups and commissions who have engaged in camps, retreats, conferences, etc. It seems now would be a good time to consider a different direction if there were advantages found in that direction.

A Department of Church Ministries for the BMA of Mississippi may be worth considering. A new department could be formed by the reorganization of our Youth Department, Commission on

Senior Adults, Pastor's Conference, etc. The potential of a newly formed department set up for the sole purpose of managing and providing conferences, retreats, training programs and other events would seem to be unlimited. Currently held events would continue and be enhanced by such a move and the potential for additional events would be unlimited.

The National DCM director is a part time position and the various conferences and retreats are directed by different individuals who have expertise in different areas. This same concept could be used (and would be necessary) in such a move. It is incumbent on us as stewards to consider all options.

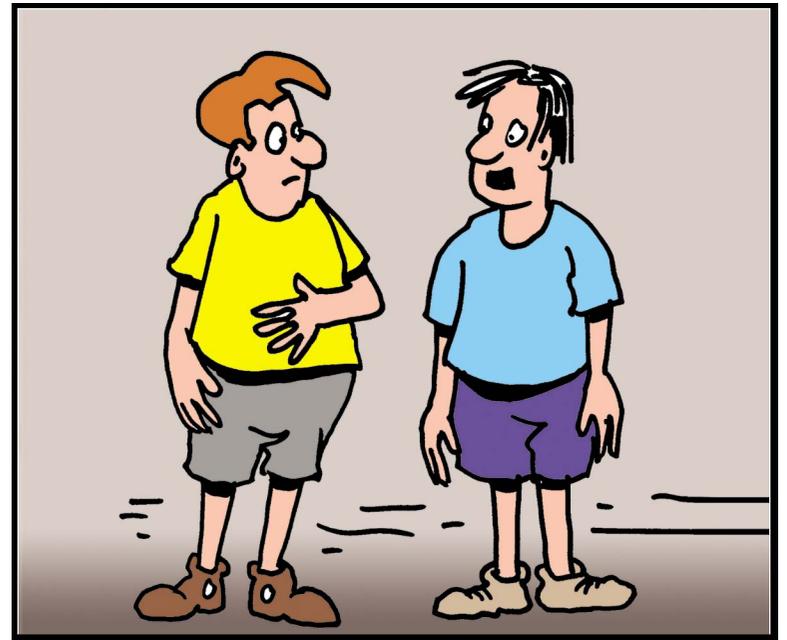
AVAILABLE FOR SERVICE

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

Sam McClure

Bro. Sam McClure is available for pulpit service wherever the Lord may lead. He may be contacted by calling 601-947-9686 (Days), 601-947-9914 (Evenings) or 601-508-1053 (Cell).

Church of the Covered Dish BY THOMAS TAPP



"Our Family is trying one of those 'RETRO' churches . . . they read out of the Bible and have sermons and stuff!"

Letters From Our Readers

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

Prisoners Bible Crusade Report

Dear Editor,

We had a good month in August, 1,260 English KJV's & 320 Spanish Bibles. For the year 2009 PBC have given free to prisoners 4,574 English Bibles; 1,285 Spanish Bibles; 40 New Testaments; All Study Books 6,450; 2,176 Study helps, all totals to date in 2009 is 14,495. These were sent into 47 prisons. Chaplains report 2,487 people saved (18,209 since 1/1/2000). 8 new Chaplain requesting Bibles for the 1st time. I have traveled 9,491 miles, I have personally seen 4 confessions of Faith in Jesus Christ 2009 (304 since 1/12000), visited 20 churches, 13 associations meeting & 49 prisons visits, taught 32 bible study classes, taught 3 volunteer worker's class. I have preached 12 sermons in churches, 15 in prisons. PBC's Evangelistic Team has conducted 15 Worship services in prisons in 2009. Since 1973 we have given 188,996 Bibles; Total for all

bibles and materials: 550,652

I am requesting that God's people pray about beginning a "Prisoners Family Ministry" in your Church. Its purpose is to minister the hope and love of God to people with love ones in prison. In the beginning we are asking the Ladies in our Churches to seek out the wives and mothers in your community with love ones in prison. Then, go to them in love showing, sharing, and ministering the love of God in their time of need. I have a brochure entitled, "Ever Present Help" (in time of trouble) to help begin a ministry in your church to people with love ones in prison.

We also have a manual with guide lines that will help guide your ministry. These guide lines will address some of the differences between a Family Prison Ministry and other ministries in your Church. As your Prisoners Family Ministry grows, I encourage the men to get involved in ministering to men with love ones in prison in your community.

Remember them in bonds! - Heb. 13:3; You visited! - Matt. 25:34-40

I would be happy to send information and/or speak to your Church or Group about this prison ministry, the Prisoners Family Ministry or the one day Bible Study Helps Seminar.

Again, our thanks for your prayers and support for this Bible Ministry to people in prisons.

Paul E. Lee, Director PBC
601-798-6497

Mississippi Baptist

USPS 353-960
P.O. Box 8181
Laurel, Mississippi 39441-8000

Phone 601-426-3293
Fax 601-763-4430

Don J. Brown, Editor
E-Mail - editor@msbaptist.org
Web site www.msbaptist.org

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Commission on Senior Adults

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



istry.

A Dear Friend

Brother John T. Loden recently went home to be close to the Lord. The Lodens and I go way back. Many years ago when I was Director of Missions for our BMA of Mississippi their home was my home when I would be in their area of the state. I counted the Lodens as dear, personal friends. Brother John was a BMA Baptist right down to his heart. He was a great soul winner. Brother John and Mrs. Mae are now home and together again forever. Thank God for friends.

Conferences

We are already making plans for the 2010 Conferences. I am talking with pastors about hosting the meetings. I am praying about the programs. We want to know God's will about the preachers and the music. I do ask that you pray with me about the Conferences.

The National Conference

The National Senior Adult Conference will soon be here. A great program is planned. This is a good meeting to attend. Make plans now to be in Branson on November 17-19.

Shiloh

Dot and I have enjoyed thirteen months at Shiloh Baptist Church near Mt. Olive. They honored me with a birthday reception on my 83rd birthday. The church elected me as Pastor Emeritus. I appreciate this honor. I love Shiloh Baptist Church. They have called Brother Dewitt Bain to be their pastor and he accepted the call. He began his ministry with them on September 13.

New Support Welcomed

The Corinth Baptist Church, Runnelstown, and pastor Virgil Ainsworth have joined the Commission with regular budget support. The Ballardville Baptist Church, Tupelo and pastor Thelbert Hill have also joined the Commission with regular budget support. Thanks pastors and churches for helping us help your senior adults. Your support gives us much needed encouragement, and helps us with a great min-

Greetings

It is a joy to greet the readers of the Mississippi Baptist Paper in the name of our wonderful Lord and Saviour. Here it is September 2009. Summer has ended and fall will soon be in the air. When the Spider Lilies begin to bloom you know the season is changing, and they are blooming in South Mississippi. It is time to plant the greens and get the onion sets in the ground.

Revival

Dot and I enjoyed a week of revival services with Pastor Dale Broom and Rocky Branch Baptist Church. Brother and Mrs. Broom, along with the church family, made us feel right at home. The attendance was good and the spirit was high all week. It is good to make new friends among God's dear people.

Rocky Branch has organized a ministry to their Senior Adults. We look for good reports from that ministry.

2009 Church Letter Form Now Online

by Bobby L. Hudgens

DiscipleGuide's church letter form is online as a service to church clerks. After a clerk completes the form online, he or she will receive

the completed form as a PDF file attached to an e-mail. It can then be saved to their computer, printed, and submitted to annual local and state association meetings. Check to see

if your local and state associations are using the form. If they are, church clerks will only have to complete one form, one time. Paper copies have been mailed out, and the form is also located in the back of the 2009-10 BMAA Directory and Handbook. Regardless of whether your association is using the form, we ask that clerks complete it for DiscipleGuide Information Services. This is our principle source of information for the annual BMAA Directory and Handbook. Thanks for your cooperation.

Church Buys Missionary Motorcycle

On Sunday Night, August 30th, the First Baptist Church of Henleyfield, pastored by Bro. Vernon Watts, presented a check to Bro. John Lindsey, BMA missionary to Ghana, Africa. The money is to be used to purchase a motorcycle for a native missionary. This was our VBS mission project where approximately \$575 was raised. Our WMA put in \$100. The rest was raised in a special offering by the church.



Jeff Burks, Treasurer [left] and Christi Spencer, VBS Director [right] present a check for over \$1,000 to Bro. John Lindsey



The Great Escape Cruise

By Steven Carroll

Southwest airlines use a slogan in their commercials that says, "Want to get away?" Each commercial asks that question after something awkward or embarrassing happens to someone. Well, in Student Ministry it seems like something awkward or embarrassing tends to happen all the time, so DiscipleGuide Conference Ministry wants to ask the same question, "Want to get away?"

The Great Escape provides a chance for Student Ministers, Leaders, and Volunteers along with their spouses to "Get Away" for a few days. The 2nd "Cruisin' Escape" will set sail January 16-21st. The theme this year is "When Life and Ministry Collide." The sessions will be dealing with relevant issues and questions that Student Ministers and leaders face. This year's conference will provide teaching sessions as well as open discussions so that student leaders and their spouses can find answers to issues they wrestle with every day in their ministries and families. These sessions and group discussions will be facilitated by Steven Carroll and Terry Kimbrow. Small group discussions will be utilized so that these needs and questions can be addressed together in more intimate settings so that relationships can be formed to help these leaders long after the Conference is over. Worship and specific sessions will be led by Drew Cline over the week.

Anyone who works with students will find this week both beneficial and refreshing. If you are a Student Minister, leader, teacher either paid or volunteer we want you to be there! Local church, make sure this opportunity is offered to your Student Minister, leader, or volunteer. They will find connections with other student ministers and workers, and will come back revitalized, refreshed, and better equipped to lead students at your local church.

Registration has been extended to September 27, 2009 and space is still available, so call today to ensure your cabin! Information and details can be found at www.DiscipleGuide.com. Click on the conference tab and then click on the Great Escape Link! Don't miss this amazing week to get away with men and women who are working on the front lines of Student Ministry everyday!

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BMA OF MISSISSIPPI MISSIONS DEPARTMENT

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Over The State

August 23, 2009, Bro. Ray Boone (former pastor of Broadmoor, Meridian) and I visited with Bro. Oyeleye and Maple Street Baptist Mission of Columbus, Mississippi. Their attendance showed signs of steady growth, and Bro. Boone and I were impressed with the number of college age students attending. Bro. Oyeleye is also experiencing frequent professions of faith and baptisms. Maple Street is looking forward to the future when they will be able to organize into a New Testament Baptist Church and become self supporting. Pray for this young congregation.



Rayburn
Freeman,
Director

In the afternoon, Bro. Boone and I then passed through Mooreville and picked up Bro. Bryan Wilson, chairman of the State Missionary Committee. From there we proceeded to Ripley to be with the First Hispanic Baptist Mission in their evening service. They were having an open-air service at their campground which is provided by Bro. Walker, a member. According to Missionary Garcia, there were 80 in attendance. They have people coming from New Albany and Tupelo who are faithful attenders. It appears that both New Albany and Tupelo will be future mission sites. Bible studies are now being conducted in the two areas.

From Ripley to Laurel is a pretty fair distance, but we made it back in the same day.

Sunday morning August 30, 2009 - On my trip to the fellowship of the Delta Churches being hosted by Missionary Donnie Hogan and First Nation Baptist Mission of Indianola, I stopped by Good Hope Baptist church of Yazoo City for the morning worship service. Good Hope is without a pastor and evangelist Jack Munday of Hattiesburg filled the pulpit. Bro. Munday delivered an informative message. Afterwards we enjoyed a delicious meal served by the ladies of the Church

After Good Hope, next on the agenda was the fellowship of the Delta churches. Bro. Donnie Logan is a self supporting missionary working under the authority of Homestretch of Cleveland. Homestretch is under the authority of New Beginnings of Olive Branch. The fellowship was well attended with Missionary Duvall moderating. Bro. Logan delivered the afternoon message on the subject of Love. Love originating in the Lord is the answer to solving personal, church, and national problems. Love is the element that leads us in reaching the LOST and building more soul winning Churches.

On my return home I stopped by Oakland Baptist Church in Vicksburg for the evening service. Bro. Justin Rhodes, Oakland's new pastor, extended a very cordial welcome and delivered a challenging message. During the invitation one came by transfer of letter. Needless to say, after services an invitation to McAlister's for food and fellowship by several members of Oakland was not refused. Following a day with three good meetings of worship, fellowship and food, my head met with my own pillow about 1:30 A.M. with an exhausted body and happy heart.

Monday August 31, 2009 - Bro. Ray Boone and I, together with Bro. Bryan Wilson, chairman of the missionary Committee, scouted the Tupelo area for a possible mission site. Afterwards, we visited with Bro. Maddox, a member of Hopewell, Dorsey, at Component Builders and placed an order for the trusses and exterior walls of Homestretch Baptist

Mission in Cleveland. At 5:00 P.M. we attended the funeral of former Missionary and Pastor Bro. John Loden. Following the funeral we made a number of stops and then headed home arriving around midnight.

On the morning of September 6, Faye and I, together with Bro. and Mrs. Charles Bobo, former missionaries to Japan, enjoyed visiting with Parkway Baptist Church of Petal, Mississippi. Relocating to the East Petal facilities on Highway 42 East of Petal appears to a blessing for East Main Baptist Church which is now renamed Parkway. The attendance shows signs of growth and the new location gives the Parkway more visibility.

The tentative plans for the former Main Street property is to develop it into a hispanic church. According to Bro. Marroquin, the BMA of Mississippi Hispanic Coordinator, Hispanic home Bible studies are scheduled to begin this week in the Petal area.

In the evening service we visited with the Washington Baptist Church of Neely, Mississippi and Pastor Frank Panzrino. Bro. Panzrino asked Bro. Bobo to share with the church an update of the work in Japan, some of the experiences of their 39 years of labor with the Japanese people and bring the evening message. Washington Church is always so cordial to visitors.

Missionary Fellowship

On September 4, 2009 a day of fellowship with our missionaries in prayer and preaching was enjoyed. Each missionary blessed our hearts with a power point presentation of his Mission point.



Missionary fellowship at office

Homestretch Baptist Mission, Cleveland, Mississippi

Homestretch is on the move with an increase in new visitors, additions, and finances. Preparation is now underway for the new facilities of Homestretch



Bro. Duvall, Logan & Boone in Cleveland

including the construction of updating Highway No. 8 to a fourlane. The electric power pole has been set and electrified, water meter set, and the septic

system installed. The time of actual construction is now set to begin on October 26, 2009. We are asking our BMA people who can help with this new construction to keep their eye on the Mississippi Baptist and our Web site for the date. When the date is published and you can help, please notify me at the Missions Office by calling 601-428-8616 or cell at 601-433-2694.

Bro. John Loden, Former Missionary and Pastor

Bro. Loden was truly a friend, pastor and missionary. He was personally known by most BMA members of Mississippi and neighboring states. Bro. Loden was a man who loved souls and truly delighted in soul winning. His personality was magnetic and inspiring to those around him. He was one who needed no encouragement to go, his desire to please the Lord kept him traveling the roads and knocking doors. Even though we may say a lot, yet our comments fall way short of giving adequate recognition to his usefulness and accomplishment in the Lord's work through the Baptist Missionary Association of Mississippi. In this generation, Bro. Loden will not be forgotten.

El Camino Hispanic Baptist Mission, Laurel

Together with Bro. Pierce, owner of Colonial
continued on page 7

Mississippi W.M.A.

Mrs. Ruby Bynum, President
43 Bear Pen Creek Rd., Laurel, MS 39440
601-428-1901

Corresponding Secretary
Mrs. Shirlene Smith
730 Hwy 533, Laurel, MS 39443
601-729-5638

Ten Mile WMA Meeting

Theme: Land of the Free, Home of the Brave-Our Fathers trusted in thee-Psalm 22:4

The Ten Mile W.M.A. held their July meeting at Vardaman Street Baptist Church, in Wiggins. The meeting was patriotic in nature as we sang our opening song, "My County 'Tis Of Thee" and then were blessed with a special by Jena Smith, "America the Beautiful."

Louise Crawly brought our devotional on "The Liberty Bell."

Savannah Smith, missionary to China, gave us her testimony and a brief talk of about her excitement concerning her upcoming trip, "Operation New Generation." Our 10 Mile District approved a \$100.00 blessing for Savannah and Ryan.

Mrs. Louise Crawly presided over the installation of our new officers serving 2009-2010. The following positions were filled: President Louise Crawly, 1st Vice President Mertis Mallett, 2nd Vice President Geraldine Ncaise, 3rd Vice President Pat Allen, Sec./Treasurer Julie Lee, Asst. Sec./Treasurer Cherie Breland, Reporter Maria Ochoa, Song Leader Shelia Swansey, Historian Megan Brewer, District Project Kathy Rhodes, State Project Promoter Carolyn Roberson, Sunbeam Promoter Diana Williams, Asst. Sunbeam Promoter Angela Givens, GMA Promoter Nancy Brewer, Asst. GMA Promoter Nikki Prickett.

The District Project for the year will be 75% Bro. Ed Duvall Missionary and GMA and Sunbeams in Cleveland with 25% to General Fund Treasury. We enjoyed a great fellowship after services with Vardaman Street Baptist Church. Our next meeting is on First Baptist Orange Grove, Gulfport on October 12, 2009.

Reporter Maria Ochoa

Missions

from page 6

Chapel Funeral Home, September 16, 2009 has been set as close out date for the purchase of the El Camino property and building. Bro. Estuardo and his men have visited the building and begun preparing plans for a slight renovation project that will better arrange the building for worship. The date of the first formal service and dedication will be announced in the Mississippi Baptist. If all moves smoothly an organization date will be set for the near future after the dedication of the new facility. Pray for El Camino.

Skyway Hills

The importance of leadership/discipleship is embedded within the Great Commission. The Great Commission is to



Skyway Hills GMAs

evangelize, baptize, and teach, meaning disciple those we win. We commend Skyway Hills for the program they have to disciple their Young Ladies/GMA group. It is through the leadership of ladies like Chris Smith, Lynn McCoy and Dianne Rainey that this GMA group is able to grow and learn more about the Great Commission. We were excited to have them

visit us here at the missions office. They came with such a great interest to view our facilities with which God has blessed the BMA of Mississippi. It is very important for us to encourage our young people in the Lord's work. The response

and participation that young people give back is a strong encouragement for the older people.

It is with joy that we take this opportunity to commend Skyway Hills for the purchase of their new fifteen passenger bus. Our prayer is that this bus will be a blessing to

continued on page 8

CHILDREN'S HOME

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

Association Meeting

The Big Creek Association met on August 6 with the Sharon Missionary Baptist Church near Laurel and Pastor Joe Watson. A special worship service was planned for this meeting. Special music was rendered by a quartet from the Hattiesburg area and I had the gracious opportunity of delivering a message from the Word of God. We enjoyed this time of worship and fellowship together and afterwards the host church provided those in attendance with refreshments.

Back To School

Well, the boys and girls at the Home are all back in school for the new year. The elemen-

tary students got back into the routine of school on August 10 and our college student began on August 21. Everyone is excited about who their new teachers are and who their classmates are in their individual classes. This academic school year has gotten off to a good start as the daily schedule of school activities and homework is back on the agenda of things to do each day during the week.

Continue to remember our girls and boys in your prayers each day that the Lord will guard, protect, and surround them with His love, mercy, and grace. May they take advantage of the opportunities of obtaining a good education and be students who will learn those things which will equip them to be a better child of God now and for the future.



SIDNEY DAVIS
DIRECTOR

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Recent Church Visit

On Sunday, August 30, we were with the First Baptist Church Oak Grove, Hattiesburg and Pastor Greg Bennett for their morning service. The children shared special music and I preached a message from God's Word. Afterwards we enjoyed a good meal together and fellowship.

Annual BMA of South Alabama Meeting

I attended the annual BMA of South Alabama meeting on September 8 which was held with the Helton Road Baptist Church, Theodore and Pastor Willie Oldenquist. It was good to report on the ministry of the Home to this association.

Expression of Sympathy

We would like to express our sympathy to the family of Bro. John Loden. Bro. Loden was an encouragement to me as a young preacher. He allowed me to preach one Sunday night at the church he was pastor of right after I surrendered to the ministry. His love, concern, support, and faithfulness to the ministry that God had called him to was evident. Our prayers and thoughts are with the Loden family during their time of sorrow and loss.

One Smooth Stone...

A shepherd boy stood before the challenge of the giant. The boy had one shot to make a difference. He selected one smooth stone and with great precision defeated Goliath. Like that one smooth stone, a timeless truth communicated in a timely fashion can slay giants.

If I Had Known Then

(Article No. 5)

By Kirk Shelton

Last week I celebrated forty years in the ministry. How well I remember that first sermon, if you could call it that. The list of things I didn't know about the ministry and preaching would have read like the IRS Tax Code! Somehow I didn't even know that a preacher was supposed to have an outline for his messages. Having surrendered to preach on a Friday night at church camp I eagerly accepted my pastor's invitation to preach on Sunday night, less than forty-eight hours later.

On Saturday night desperation set in – where do you find a sermon anyway? As I frantically searched the scriptures I came to Romans 8. The words seemed to come alive as I read and re-read them. I knew then that I had my text, all thirty-nine verses of it. On Sunday evening I read all of Romans 8, with weeping sobs said everything I knew to say about it, and then sat down...seven whole minutes after first standing up!

Well, here I sit forty years later and it seems that I don't know much more now than then. The difference, I think, is that now I know how much I really don't know about ministry, about life, about myself, and about God. But while I am sometimes overwhelmed with the challenges of life and ministry, there are a few things I have learned. If I had understood these things earlier I might have saved

myself and others a lot of headaches (and heartaches?) and would have certainly been more effective in serving Christ. Here are a few things I wish I had learned earlier in ministry.

I need people in my life

I have always been a loner and have often boasted that I didn't need people. I love being by myself. Few things in life can compare with taking a backpack and a few essentials and heading off on a trail alone. But I've learned that God created us with a need for being in community with Him, and in community with others. Having people that I "do life with" is what the Christian life is all about. I need accountability, and I need people with whom I can be open, transparent, and vulnerable.

God has to work on me before He can work through me.

We all have baggage, and those of us in ministry have more than our fair share. We are imperfect, flawed people. While it is true that "God cannot use greatly someone He hasn't first of all hurt deeply," we must experience healing for our hurts, or we just end up hurting others. Hurting people hurt people. But healed people can heal people! God has called us to be healers, and it is out of our pain that we have the greatest potential for healing others (2 Corinthians 1:4). Pastor, for God's and your people's sake, get well! Learn a lesson from Peter, let Jesus wash your feet.

Leadership influence is a trust

It can be lost! Those in ministry used to enjoy a certain level of respect, credibility, and influence just because of their calling. That means nothing to most people today. Influence has to be earned. My calling, title, position, or giftedness in the pulpit will not guarantee respect. I earn it through building relationships with people and caring about them more than my vision or agenda. We should love

people and use things, not love things and use people! Follow the example of Jesus; learn to wash people's feet.

It CAN happen to me

What can happen? Any of those things – moral failure, ethical lapses, pornography, depression, suicide – you name it. It can happen to any of us. Only by staying close to God and maintaining healthy relationships can we make it to the finish line intact. My constant prayer is that God will help me make it to the finish line without messing up. I could go on for God has taught me many more things through trial and error (mostly error!) over the years. Someone has said: "It's a smart man who can learn from his mistakes, but it's a smarter man who will learn from another man's mistakes." Maybe God will use one of these rambling thoughts to help another young minister along the way. If so, then may God be pleased.



Sofilthy's Attic

by Barbara White

The Gown With the Split Down the Back

I was digging in my "Attic" a few days ago and came across this that I've had for several years. I just wondered if there might be some of you who have not read it before.

The Gown With The Split Down The Back

I was sittin' here mindin' my business,
Kinda lettin' my mind go slack,
When in comes a nurse with a bright, sunny smile.
And a gown that was split down the back.

"Take a shower," she said, "and get ready,
And then jump into this sack."
What she was really talkin' about
Was that gown with the split down the back.

"They're coming to do some tests," she said.
They're gonna stretch me out on a rack,
With nothin' twixt me and the cold, cruel world,
But a gown that's split down the back!

It comes only to the knees in front,
In the sides there is no lack,
But by far the greatest shortcoming
Is that bloomin' split down the back.

Whoever designed this garment,
For humor had a great knack.
But I fail to see anything funny
"Bout a gown that's split down the back.

I hear them coming to get me,
The wheels go clickety-clack,
I'll ride through the halls on a table,
In a gown that's split down the back!

When I get to Heaven it'll make me no odds
If my robe is white, red, or black.
The only thing I will ask is, "Please,
Give me one with no split down the back."

Missions from page 7

them and to the glory of the Lord. It will be an advantage for the young people to visit all of our mission locations here in the state. Skyway Hills is doing a very commendable job of rearing up the next generation in the way that the Lord would have them to go. Prays are continually being poured out as this church continues to grow and train up their young people for God's great work which He has in store for them.

Missionary Reports

Homestretch - During the month of August Bro. Ed made 21 home visits, made 27 soul talks and had 1 professions of faith. Homestretch had an average weekly Sunday school attendance of 22 and morning worship of 27. Their weekly average offering was \$729.00.

Maple Street - August was a blessed month for Bro. Joseph. He visited 44 homes, made 77 soul talks, and had 8 profession of faith. Their weekly average Sunday school attendance was 20. For morning worship they averaged 27, and had a weekly average offering of \$384.

First Hispanic - Bro. Elvis did a faithful job during the month of August. First Hispanic made 76 home visits and had 6 professions of faith. The church's weekly average offering was \$764.68.

El Camino - For the month of August Bro. Estuardo reached out and visited 18 homes, made 39 soul talks and had 7 professions of faith. They had an average of 58 in Sunday school, 70 in their weekly worship service. The Lord blessed El Camino with an average weekly offering of \$667.53.

NEA reveals true stance on homosexual marriage

OneNewsNow - Does the NEA support same-sex marriage?

In early July, OneNewsNow was contacted by the Conservative Educators Caucus, an organization within the National Education Association (NEA) made up of conservative teachers. They claimed that the NEA threw their full support behind the homosexual marriage during their annual meeting in California. Concerned teachers within the NEA contacted their local officials, who denied any such support.

However, Jeralee Smith of the Conservative Educators Caucus says those officials are playing "liberal word games." She directs concerned teachers to the NEA's website, which has posted the resolution.

According to resolutions B-13 and I-13, the NEA opposes the "discriminatory treatment of same-sex couples" and it believes that "such couples should have the same legal rights and benefits as similarly-situated heterosexual couples."

Furthermore the resolution states that the NEA will support affiliates that seek to "enact state legislation that guarantees to same-sex couples the right to enter into a legally recognized relationship..." And that the "NEA will support its affiliates in opposing state constitutional and/or statutory provisions that could have the effect of prohibiting the state and its political subdivisions from providing the same rights and benefits to same-sex couples..."