

Baptist

Mississippi

JOURNAL OF THE BAPTIST MISSIONARY ASSOCIATION OF MISSISSIPPI

September 15, 2014

www.bmaofmississippi.com

VOL. 68 No. 18

Mother requests prayers and help "Not Without Our Daughter"

Introductory Note: Danielle Layman attends First Baptist Church in Galena, Kansas, with her husband and four children. She was born in Israel to a Jewish family of the Levi tribe, but immigrated to the United States alone in 2010 after falling in love with an American soldier. Mrs. Layman has since become an American citizen.

An article about the Layman family appeared in the August issue of the Baptist Herald, the official BMA publication of Kansas and Western Missouri. She noted in the article that she and the children would return to Israel August 31 for a four-month visit while her husband is deployed in the Middle East.

The following report by Mrs. Layman outlines the problems that have arisen concerning Amber while they have been in Israel.

From Danielle Layman

I am asking for your urgent involvement in a serious matter that has to do with our national rights and individuals' protection as one. It is the rescue of a 13-



Back row: 13, year old Amber who is not being allowed to leave Israel and return to America with her family - **Front row left to right:** Deborah, Ma'ayan, Danielle holding River and Jeremy Layman

year-old American girl from Kansas who is being held against her will in Israel by the Israeli Rabbinical court.

The girl is Amber Layman, her parents are Danielle and Jeremy Layman from Scammon, Kansas. Jeremy is a National Guard platoon sergeant, currently in Afghanistan. Danielle is visiting her family in Israel with her four children — among them, Amber.

Amber was adopted by Jeremy Layman. The adoption decree was issued by

an American District Court and was acknowledged by the Ministry of Interior in Israel, which removed the biological father's name from her Israeli ID and listed Jeremy as her father.

Amber was born in 2001 to Danielle and Shahaar, but Shahaar was a violent, abusive husband who had been convicted of threats to murder Amber while she was only a baby. He never maintained any relationship with the child, never paid the child support levied on him and, ultimately, the American court stripped him of his parental rights and declared him unfit to be a father. Jeremy Layman has been raising Amber for years. He is married to her mother and is the biological father of her siblings.

Shahaar still lives in Israel and never had a relationship with Amber. The Israeli Rabbinical court ignores the decree of adoption issued in USA and continues to see the biological father as her legal father. As such, they do not acknowledge the adoptive father's legal rights.

As far as they are concerned, he is not relevant to the case and not a party to the hearings. (The parties are only Danielle Layman and Shahaar.) They ordered the mother to allow visitations between the biological father and the child and threatened her with contempt and sanctions should she fail to do so.

The State of Israel has officially acknowledged the American decree, as it is obliged to do according to international agreements. They have listed Jeremy as Amber's father in her Israeli ID, removing any mention of Shahaar from her vital

Thirty-three Years and Still Going Strong

by Holly Meriweather
LifeWord Walk for the World National Coordinator

NOTE: The following article was written before the passing of one of Lifeworld's dearest friends. Connie Prawl died on August 7, 2014, leaving behind her husband of 54 years, Eldon Prawl; three sons, Kevin, Bruce and Lynn; a daughter, Renee Morash; 2 sisters; 6 grandchildren and 2 great-grandchildren. Those of us who knew her at Lifeworld and the BMA mourn her passing and pray for her family and friends who love her dearly. Thank you, Mrs. Connie, for loving us. (Bro. Eldon reports that the 2014 Area Walk for the World will be held on the morning of October 4th at 10:00 at Burr-Oak Woods in Blue Springs, Missouri, and he would like to invite anyone in the area to join him.)

"When people ask us about or are interested in why we're raising money



Eldon and Connie Prawl

for the Walk, it's an opportunity to let them know what Lifeworld is all about." At eighty and seventy-three years of age, Eldon and Connie Prawl of Faith Missionary Baptist Church in Independence, Missouri, are some of the most enthusiastic and passionate participants in Walk for the World. I first became acquainted with them at the 2014 BMA National Meeting when they stopped by the Lifeworld booth. Luis Ortega, Steve Crawley and I visited with them that day, and we were moved by

their obvious love for Lifeworld and its unique way of fulfilling the Great Commission. Eldon Prawl has participated in all but the first two Walks. "I did my first walk in 1982 and have been doing it

see WALK onpage 7

statistics.

However, the Rabbinical court, which is notorious for its bias in favor of Jewish men, has ignored the legal rights of the adoptive father and the child. It names Shahaar as her father and ignores Jeremy's rights and even his existence, failing to even allow him entrance to the court hearing. It views Amber's life in the United States as kidnapping.

(This action was taken) following the biological father's note in capital letters to the Rabbinical court, identifying the Layman family as Christians and professing "fears that they will raise his daughter as a Gentile." The Rabbinical court followed with a warrant restricting Amber from leaving Israel with her family to return to the United States.

In effect, the Rabbinical court is con-

ducting an international kidnaping of the child from her legal parents and her country, which is forbidden by the Hague Convention.

Israel is bound by international agreements to recognize decrees issued by American courts, but the Rabbinical court refuses to do so and uses its authority to hold Amber in Israel, preventing her from returning home.

Unless the full force of United States back decrees issued by the American Judicial System, these decrees are worth nothing but the paper they are printed on!

Please contact your local representatives in the Congress and Senate and demand action now. Please help us bring our daughter back home.




Baptist Missionary Association of Mississippi

Department of Missions and Revolving Loan Fund




State Missionaries and Wives



Bob & Edie Burch



Kenneth & Carole Pollock



Bobby & Lesa Elliott



Danny & Brenda Bartlett



Sidney & Becky Farmer



Kelby & Jessie Johnson



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Estuardo & Yasmine Marroquin



Elvis & Wendy Garcia



Ed & Patricia DuVall

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Ps 30:12b "...O Lord my God, I will give thanks unto thee forever."

New Missionary Candidates to Be Interviewed

The Missionary Committee is scheduled to meet in October prior to the annual state association meeting to review the progress of all of our present missionaries and interview new missionary candidates. We will be interviewing 2, possibly 3, new missionary candidates. We are so excited about these developments and we are looking forward, with great joy, to sharing with you more information about these developments as we meet in October for our annual meeting. Please pray that God will give us wisdom and discernment as we seek His will in all matters.

Annual Meeting of the State Association

The annual meeting of the Baptist Missionary Association of Mississippi is fast approaching and our missionaries are preparing to share brief reports throughout the meeting. I want to express my appreciation to those on the program committee for again allowing us to place a missionary report at the beginning of each department report. The idea is to saturate our meeting with an emphasis on missions and for this I am deeply grateful. Our missionaries have tremen-

dous testimonies to share and I hope every church will make plans to attend.

Update on Freedom Mission Matching Fund

Bro. Bobby Elliott, on behalf of Freedom Baptist Mission's matching funds, has received in actual contributions and commitments, \$43,300.00 to date. He is only \$6,700.00 away from reaching their full matching fund goal of \$50,000.00. Whatever amount they receive by the end of September will be matched by proceeds already approved by the Revolving Loan Fund Trustees. For example, should he raise \$50,000.00, it will be matched with an additional \$50,000.00, and Freedom Baptist Mission's debt of \$167,000.00 will be reduced by \$100,000.00 to just \$67,000.00. We are so grateful to all who have helped with this project. God has used you to help this mission build a permanent home for what will soon become Freedom Baptist Church.

Update on Clinton Property

We have been delayed some by the processing of paperwork through attorneys, but I feel we are near the point of signing. Once we sign the papers for the purchase of 5 acres on Pinehaven in Clinton, we will begin a protracted period of due diligence, before closing. Please pray that this process will progress without incident and we can get on with the process of building that first unit building so needed by this mission.

El Camino Holds Annual Camp Meeting

Bro. Estuardo Marroquin reported that they had



140 attend camp

140 people participate (121 from El Camino Laurel and 19 people from El Camino Hattiesburg) in their annual camp meeting. Their theme this year was "Arise and Shine" from Isaiah 60:1. Three people made a profes-



Bro. Estuardo baptizing

sion of faith at the camp and 9 people were baptized. One person who was among those who were baptized was a lady named Laura Crisanto. Laura came to the US about 5 years ago and was saved in one of the small groups about 6 weeks back. She recently fell and hurt

her back and hip. During the camp meeting she became ill and began to suffer excruciating pain from her injuries. Her husband said he had never seen her in so much pain before. Nevertheless, Laura would not leave the camp until after her turn to be baptized. After being baptized she later said that her pain would not stop her from her decision to follow the Lord and be baptized.

Two Baptized at Way, Truth and Life

Bro. Elvis Garcia reported that they baptized two recently, one from Way, Truth and Life in Ripley and one from the mission in Tupelo. He also reported that



First class held in Tupelo

they have enlarged their Bible Institute by starting an extension at Way, Truth and Life in Tupelo. They recently held the first class in Tupelo teaching the subject, "Baptist History and Heritage."

Update on South Forrest Building Project

Bro. Sidney Farmer asked me to share his appreciation to all those who have already given of their time to come and help with the construction of the new sanctuary for South Forrest. He asked that I specifically mention Paramount Baptist Church, First Mid-



Raising Walls at South Forrest Mission

way at Sumrall, Calvary Baptist at Purvis, Day Star Mission, and the State Brotherhood led by Bro. Roger Jeffcoat, and the people of South Forrest mission who have been on site each time work has been done. A group from Big Creek Baptist Church will be helping

continued on page 3

Reports for Aug 2014			
	High Attendance	Membership	Total Offerings
Church Planters			
Bob Burch	88	27	\$3,305.00
Bobby Elliott	68	47	\$2,772.00
Sidney Farmer	52	32	\$5,452.00
Kelby Johnson	11	14	\$715.00
Danny Bartlett	16	6	\$1,635.00
Phillip Burns	21	4	\$933.00
Hispanic Missions – South (Estuardo Marroquin – Coordinator)			
Hattiesburg	25	11	\$953.00
Biloxi	11	3	n/a
Laurel	125	107	\$4,902.00
Hispanic Missions – North (Elvis Garcia – Coordinator)			
Tupelo	57	15	\$261.00
Oxford	45	3	\$797.00
Ripley	93	75	\$5,958.00
African American Missions – (Ed DuVall – Coordinator)			
Olive Branch	17	13	\$2,102.00
Cleveland	26	50	\$3,071.00
Collectively, our missionaries reported 404 new contacts, shared the gospel 267 times, and had 13 professions of faith, 23 baptisms and had 2 join by letter.			

DiscipleGuide

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Scott Attebery

Missions

from page 2

on Saturday, September 13th, and on September 19th, the Master Builder will begin to arrive and will start work on September 22nd. We want to encourage folks to come out and help during the two weeks that the Master Builders are here. If you have a group in your church that would like to help, please call Bro. Farmer at 601-596-1004.

Missionary Goes Off Mission Status

Bro. Ray Boone officially goes off mission status as a BMA of Mississippi State Missionary at the end of September. I want to commend Bro. Boone for his work to establish, lead, develop and organize New Heart Baptist Mission. In March 2014, New Heart Mission organized

as a New Testament Church. Only Bro. Boone and Mrs. JoAnn know the challenges faced and endured over the time from start to present in the planting of this



Bro. & Mrs. Ray Boone

church. Missionaries and their families make great sacrifices and often receive very little praise (not that they seek it). I also want to commend the mother church, Pine Grove at Purvis, and all the other individual churches, and the local

associations of the BMA of Mississippi, who faithfully supported this project. To Bro. Boone, Mr. JoAnn, the folks of New Heart Baptist Church and the churches of the Baptist Missionary Association of Mississippi, I say, "Well done!"

Important Message from Your Director of Missions

As we move into a new year, we are looking at enlarging our mission activity by adding additional missionaries. A number of adjustments have been made in the way we do business, over the past three years, which has resulted in a much more efficient missions program. This, together with other changes, has enabled us to do more. But I must remind our churches and local associations that we could not do what we are doing without your continued support. The fact is that total receipts, to the general operation fund of State Missions, from churches have not appreciably changed over the past ten years. When you remove work funds (which are designated funds), and the contributions sent in by local associations, then average just what is received as offerings to state missions, from the churches, the difference, over a period of ten years is approximately \$300.00. My pledge to you is that we will continue to operate within our means, and through improved efficiency we will do as much as we possibly can do. But you need to know that our budget is based on your consistent support. Even slight changes in giving from our churches or local associations can impact us greatly. I ask you to please prayerfully consider this as you move into this time of annual local association meetings and as your church considers your financial giving for the upcoming year. We are grateful for what you do and I promise you that we will work hard to be good stewards of what you entrust to us.

The "Perfect" Singles Ministry

"I don't belong here." That was the first thought that entered my mind when I walked into the room labeled, "singles."

I had recently relocated and was interested in building relationships in my new church home. On that particular Sunday morning, I was greeted in the Church entrance and asked what kind of class I would like to attend. After a short discussion, the greeter led me to a small classroom upstairs.

To be honest, I felt like I had been dropped off in the "lost and found" box for Christians. Other than being single, "What else could I possibly have in common with these people?" I thought.

You see, the term, "single" has multiple meanings. It can refer to a 26-year old graduate student who has never been married, a 43-year old divorcee and mother of three, or a 74-year old widower, or a million different other combinations!

I sat down and waited for the lesson to begin. My mind was filled with curiosity as I scanned the room. "I wonder what his story is?" "What brought her to this class?"

The lesson was great. But what was even better was the discussion. It was during that time that I learned a valuable lesson: No matter how we all ended up single, we all had similar needs that only Christ can fulfill.

Over the course of several months, the unthinkable happened: I fell in love with my singles class! There is just something about sharing common struggles and needs that brings people together.

In the midst of that time, my perspective of what a singles ministry should look like has changed. It's not about age categories and marital status classifications. It's about a common

need for grace—God's grace.

Perhaps no other group of people in the church are as "in touch" with their need for Christ as singles. Why? Because God created marriage to teach us about Christ's love for us (Ephesians 5:25). When someone is missing a marriage relationship, it touches a nerve that heightens the awareness of our need for Christ.

For that reason, if I were starting a singles ministry from scratch (or revising an existing one), I don't think I would worry so much about making the meetings "cool" or "trendy." It wouldn't bother me if multiple age groups wanted to attend. And I wouldn't cringe at the thought of mixing divorcee's, widowers, and never-marrieds. Instead, I think I would focus on something more vital that every single person desires: an atmosphere of grace. That's the kind of place where everyone belongs!

BMA of Mississippi Revolving Loan Fund Report September 10, 2014 & since August 1, 2014

Gross Assets	\$19,141,062.00
Increase in Gross Assets	\$545,241.00
New Loans	1
Total of Loans Made	\$75,000.00
Loan Rate	4.25%
Shareholder Rate of Return	2.67%
Reserve	18%



The Executive Directors of
BMA Missions
Lifeword Media Ministries
DiscipleGuide Church Resources

Invite all of the BMA Family to a time of
Celebration and Dedication of

The BMA Global Ministry Center

Thursday, September 25, 2:00 pm
 611 Locust Street, Conway, Arkansas
 An Open House and Refreshments will follow the Dedication

**AVAILABLE
 FOR SERVICE**

Beau Comeaux

Beau Comeaux is available for service. He has been in the ministry for 15 years. He has pastored O'Neal Road Baptist Church, Gulfport and Middle Cross Baptist Mission. He also served as interim Pastor at Temple Baptist in Biloxi. He is willing to relocate and may be reached at 228-861-8308.

**Annual Meeting
 BMA of Mississippi
 October 21-22, 2-14
 On The Campus of
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 Laurel, Mississippi**

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Don Brown

**Mississippi
Baptist**

Opinion Page

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Journal of the Baptist Missionary Association of Mississippi

Don Brown - Editor

God's Road Machine

By Danny Pitts, Pastor

First Baptist Church of Shady Grove, Laurel, Mississippi

In those days came John the Baptist, preaching in the wilderness of Judaea, 2 And saying, Repent ye: for the kingdom of heaven is at hand. 3 For this is he that was spoken of by the prophet Esaias, saying, The voice of one crying in the wilderness, Prepare ye the way of the Lord, make his paths straight. Matthew 3:1

When I was a kid in rural Jones County, most of the roads were dirt and gravel. With usage and heavy rains, the roads would become uneven. Potholes and ripples would make the automobiles bounce. Then the supervisor would send out road machines. Some called them road graders. The blade would smooth the roads. They might not have been as good as paved roads, but the road machines made travel so much easier.

The Romans were famous for establishing a road system from one end of the empire to the other. In every location they captured, they soon built roads so messengers and soldiers could travel.

In time the roads reached from Britain to Egypt to Persia. This work made the spread of the Gospel possible over the known world much quicker.

In ancient times, the arrival of an important person would be preceded with preparation of the roads. The text quotes Isaiah 40:3, but the longer passage is:

"The voice of him that crieth in the wilderness, Prepare ye the way of the LORD, make straight in the desert a highway for our God. Every valley shall be exalted, and every mountain and hill shall be made low: and the crooked shall be made straight, and the rough places plain: And the glory of the LORD shall be revealed, and all flesh shall see it together: for the mouth of the LORD hath spoken it" (Isaiah 40:3-5).

Our text tells us that John the Baptist was God's Road Machine to prepare the way for the coming of the Messiah. Of course, John was the Forerunner who prepared the people spiritually to receive Jesus. The primary message

which he gave emphasized judgment and repentance.

The Old Testament ends with Malachi pointing towards John the Baptist with the next word from the Lord (Malachi 3:1, 4:5-6). The hearts of the people had to turn in the right direction or they would miss the work of Christ. This was accomplished by God through John the Baptist.

Today God is looking for some road machines to prepare the way for His special work. We cannot change lives ourselves, but we can hold up His standard of morality and repentance. Are you willing to be that person? Are you willing to be viewed as different? Are you willing to deliver the message which the Lord desires for you to share?



Sofilthy's Attic

by Barbara White

Church of the Covered Dish BY THOMAS TAPP



"OK Larry, when I blow the horn, you yell 'RAPTURE!'"

Puckett, Mississippi

If you have ever driven Hwy 18 from Brandon to Bay Springs you have passed through Puckett where there is a big sign proudly proclaiming: PUCKETT, MISSISSIPPI, Home of 300 good friendly folks and a few old sore heads.

Well that brings a smile to my face every time I see it. But then I got to thinking about that and I decided that is about the same ratio as the membership of some churches I have known.

I suppose we all need to examine ourselves. Am I a good friendly folk or am I an old sore head?

Whatever you decide, we are told to be like-minded. Romans 15:5,6: "Now the God of patience and consolation grant you to be like-minded one toward the other according to Christ Jesus: That ye may with one mind and one mouth glorify God, even the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. "

**Mississippi
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PRICE
\$20.00 Per Year by Mail
\$15.00 Per Year by Email
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E-Mail - editor@msbaptist.org
Web site www.ms baptist.org

Published on the 1st and 15th of each month by the Baptist Missionary Association of Mississippi. Periodical postage paid at Hattiesburg, Mississippi 39402.

Postmaster: Send address changes to the *Mississippi Baptist Paper*, P.O. Box 8181, Laurel, MS 39441-8000.

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Danny Pitts

Serving Christ With a Biblical World View In A Christian Atmosphere

Pray for our students

A primary aim of Southeastern Baptist College is to give the students educational experiences which will allow their lives to shine the brightest for the Lord. Reaching such a lofty goal cannot be reached without God blessing the efforts. As you pray for the school, remember to lift up the students to the Lord. They have expressed concerns which include the adjustment to college rigors, health problems, and financial needs. Some are fresh out of high school. Others are middle-aged ministers with children older than some of our new students. The potential of each is unique. May God bless that their lives can count for Christ.

Special Emphasis

Although the Special Emphasis officially closed at the end of August, we continue to receive contributions from our

churches and individuals. The bookkeeper says some will trickle in all year. An initial figure should be available for the next report. We appreciate every donation. Some small churches gave \$500 to \$1,000. The special offerings from other churches, which are the greatest regular supporters of the school, each month have been substantial. We thank everyone who gave and appreciate your love and support for the ministry at Southeastern.

Student Count

After losing two or three students who had registered, we have 51 total students, with 44 for credit taking 460 hours and 7 audits taking 21 hours. Twenty are members of BMA churches and 13 are BMA ministers. The total number of ministers are 19. We have 24 new students who were not present in the

Spring. The increase in the number of new students and BMA ministers is especially encouraging.

Having A Plan

During the week of 9/11 our chapel service was blessed to have Vernon Newman as the speaker. Vernon is an active Lieutenant Colonel with the National Guard. He serves as deacon with Big Creek Baptist Church near Soso. His chapel message was on the Importance of Having a Contingency Plan. He shared about the preparation which our nation has for unforeseen emergencies. He encouraged everyone to recognize that God's plans may have unanticipated turns and illustrated it with his events from his life. Bro. Vernon stressed that the importance of salvation in being prepared for every situation.

Former Pastor & Missionary Dies

Andrew Jackson "Bro. Jack" Leslie, 78, passed away August 31, 2014, after a lengthy illness. Bro. Jack was born on July 12, 1936, in Carthage, Mississippi, to the late Hubert and Lovie Christine Gibbons Leslie. He graduated from Southeastern College in Laurel and spent his lifetime preaching in Baptist Missionary Association Churches all over Mississippi. He spread the Gospel for more than 50 years in churches in Tupelo, Oxford, Yazoo City, Laurel, Mooreville, Newton, Jackson and other places. His last two local pastorate were South Green Baptist Church in Tupelo and Pleasant Hill Baptist Church near Mooreville.



A.J. (Jack) Leslie

Bro. Leslie and his family lived in France for five years where he served as a missionary for the BMA of America. He was a patriotic American and served his state in the Mississippi National Guard and his country in

the U.S. Marine Corps. Funeral services were held on September 3, 2014, at the Auburn Cemetery adjacent to the Auburn Baptist Church with Bro. Roger Dale Franks officiating.

Survivors include his children, Patricia "Patti" Livingston of the Auburn community and Steve Leslie (Debbie) of Plant City, Florida; five grandchildren: Tabitha Galindo (Mark), Jeremy Leslie (Jenny), Wendy Randolph (Lance), John Terry (Kimberly) and Michael Terry; nine great-grandchildren; a sister, Wanda Price (Joe) of Gulfport; and a host of friends, other relatives, his ministerial colleagues and church families all over Mississippi. He was preceded in death by his parents, Hubert and Lovie Leslie; his wife, Claudette Carol Mouring Leslie, a daughter, Cynthia Leslie Parker, and a brother, Roy Leslie.

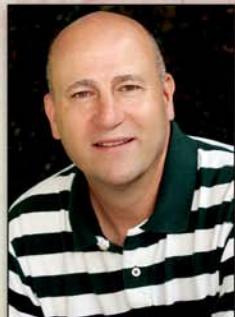
NATIONAL SENIOR ADULT CONFERENCE

Hilton Convention Center, Branson, Missouri - October 29-31, 2014

Go to discipleguide.org/nsa to register!



Speaker
Charles Costa



Worship
Randy Anderson



Guest Artist
Karen Peck & New River



Comedian
Aaron Wilburn



Branson Show
Sight & Sound Theater

Honduras Shepherd Bags - Pushing for Shipment this Fall

by Fonda Norris, EIM Shepherd Bags Coordinator

It's been another busy year in the EIM warehouse! We're working hard to be able to get as many bags as possible shipped out to Honduras in either September or October. Our number of bags is critically low in Honduras so we're making an effort to assemble as many bags as possible before our shipment leaves. Right now we have approximately 15,000 bags ready but we would like to ship at least 20,000-25,000 or more if funds become available.

As I've said many times over the year, it's hard to describe the faces of the children when they receive their bags or the looks of conviction and deep interest by both children and adults when the Gospel is preached. Many have heard about religion, but they've never heard the true Gospel. The saving grace of Jesus Christ and God's free gift of salvation is

preached before each and every bag (gift) is given out.

We recently had an experience that was not only unbelievably sad for us, but at the same time was joyous. While in Peru in July we traveled several hours up a small tributary of the Amazon River to a small village to hand out John 3:16 Spanish Frisbees and Gospel storybooks. As Bro. Rocky was preaching the Gospel before giving them their gifts, he asked them if any of them had ever heard what he was preaching or if they had heard of Jesus Christ. Sadly, not one single person had. Not even the name of Jesus. Incredible! We left joyful that day realizing that God allowed us to plant seeds that we trust He will bring forth fruit. Because of space, we were only able to take 500 Frisbees and Gospel storybooks instead of a complete bag into Peru, but because of

this the Gospel that made its way into the jungles of Peru where, according to our interpreter, EIM was the only group he had ever taken to preach the Gospel in that area! All who have given to the Shepherd Bags Ministry have had a part in taking The Great Commission to the Unharvested Fields on the Yanayaku Tributary of the mighty Amazon River! Thank you!

Would you now be a partner with us in getting The Great Commission into Honduras this year? Thousands have been saved because of the Shepherds Bags that have been taken into the schools and villages over the last few years. Our open invitation to EIM still stands to come into the schools and preach Jesus. We currently have 15,000 bags, but many more are needed to get a full shipment there. We would love to be able to make

thousands more bags to add to these but at this time, we simply do not have the funds. If God allows you to do so and you want to be involved, please designate your offering "Shepherd Bags" and mail to EIM, Attn: Julie, P.O. Box 297, Magnolia, AR 71754. This will allow us to finish up and get these bags to those precious children in Honduras.

What will we do then? Take a

rest? Oh No! We just start all over again! As funds become available, we will start making bags for either the Philippines or Ghana in 2015. So keep us busy! Only God knows how many, but we do know that if one person accepts Him, it's is ALL worth it! We will continue to say "Thank You" for continuing to partner with us. We couldn't do it without you. Please keep us in your prayers.

First Baptist, Bay Springs Raises Funds for ALS



On Wednesday night, September 3rd, First Baptist Church, Bay Springs, did the ice bucket challenge for ALS in honor of Mel Harrelson who is one of our deacons. We had over 30 actively participate in the challenge. Over \$500.00 was raised for the LAMS ALS Association designated for the Mississippi Chapter.



Women's Missionary Auxiliary

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Corresponding Secretary
Mrs. Shirlene Smith
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601-729-5638

Northeast District WMA

Martha Duncan, Reporter
The Northeast District WMA met on August 12 at East Amory Baptist Church. The meeting began with a delicious meal provided by the East Amory ladies and served by the men of the church. There were 37 present with 5 visitors. The nominations for the next year were presented and approved. Our quarterly project will be the Mississippi Baptist Children's Home.

The program was presented by East Amory: "Apples of Gold, Pictures of Silver" words spoken at the right place, at the right time for the right reason.

The officers were charged with assuming the positions they were chosen to hold. These are as follows: President Theresa Taylor, 1st Vice Pres. Elaine Smith, 2nd Vice Pres. Shelia McDowell, 3rd Vice Pres. Patti Harlow, Secretary Gloria Jarrell, Asst. Secretary Martha Reich, Treasurer Stacy Smith, Asst. Treasurer Martha Reich, Song Director Beverly Beane, Asst. Song Director Anita Akers, Pianist Anita Akers, Asst. Pianist Bobbye Sue Bradley & Sa-

rah Tolleson, Project Promoter JoNell Wood, Reporter/Historian Martha Duncan, Youth Director Gloria Jarrell, Nominating Committee Theresa Taylor, Elaine Smith, & Stacy Smith. WMA Advisory Council Bro. Gary Smith, Bro. Roger Akers, Bro. Matt Hudson. A closing prayer was given by Patti Harlow.

Ten Mile WMA Report

by Maria Ochoa, reporter
The Ten Mile WMA held their meeting on 14 July 2014, at Pleasant Hill Baptist Church, in Saucier, Mississippi. The Meeting was called to order by our First Vice President Myrtis Mallett. Our 2013-2014 Theme is "Run now, I pray thee, to meet her, and say unto her, Is it well with thee? Is it well with thy husband? Is it well with the child? And she answered, "It is well." 2 Kings 4:26

Third Quarter District Project 2013-14 - 75% Bobby & Lesa Elliott, 5% General Fund National Project 2013-2014 - 40% I Am Woman Center in Beirut, Lebanon, 15% Youth Fund, 5% General Fund

Our devotion was brought by

Pleasant Hill Baptist Church from John 16:33. Jessie Phillips, from Temple Baptist Church, blessed us with a song, "How Great Thou Art."

We had Election of Officers for 2014-2015 with the following elected: President Geraldine Necaie, First Vice President Myrtis Mallett; Second Vice President Cathy Rhodes; Third Vice President Dena Ellzey; Secretary/Treasurer Julia Lee; Reporter Maria Ochoa; Song Leader Alana Woods; Pianist Jean Knight; Historian Louise Crawley; District Project Promoter Patricia Allen; State Project Promoter Pat Johnson; Sunbeam Promoter Diana Williams; Assist. Angela Givens; GMA Promoter Jirrica Kirkland; Assist. Adrienne Compston.

Our new project for the quarter, is Missionaries Donnie and Jewel Loggins, recently organized in Indianola, Mississippi. Pray daily for our Missionaries.

We enjoyed refreshments and a great fellowship with Pleasant Hill Baptist Church. Our next meeting will be on October 13th Paramount Baptist Church.

NEWS FROM THE CHURCHES

Gospel Sing in Meridian

Broadmoor Baptist Church located at 5312 Highway 39 North (just north of North Hills Street - Hardee's) in Meridian, will host southern Gospel music artists "The Riders" in concert on Saturday, September 20, 2014 at 6:00 p.m. Admission is free and a love offering will be taken. Everyone is invited to this special night of Southern Gospel music. For more information, please call 601-323-4400.

Chris Floyd, Pastor

Oak Grove Association to meet

The 56th annual session of the Oak Grove Missionary Baptist Association will be held at Rocky Branch Baptist Church on Thursday night, September 18, at 7:00 p.m. Bro. Denny Patterson, Pastor of Good Hope Baptist Church, will deliver the annual message. All churches are urged to elect messengers to represent them at this meeting as plans will be made for the coming year.

Ed Steele, Reporter

The Master's Builders Work Continues

by Nelda Malone reporter



Summer truly arrived on August 25th, when The Master's Builders began interior work on the new 120 x 60 building at Old Liberty, Conway, Arkansas. The Builders framed all the walls of the sanctuary, 4 classrooms, pastor's study, nursery, and 4 bathrooms. They also installed sheet rock, installed a baptistry and stairs, built a stage and steps, and built a sound booth.

There were 19 RVs parked near the church with 3 of them being from the Arkansas Nail Benders who came to give a helping hand. First time workers with The Master's Builders were Leon and Sabra Murphree of Bee Branch, Arkansas.

While we were in Conway, the Builders had the opportunity to tour the National Offices of the BMA of America at their new building. Many of the Builders had worked on the building at different times and were excited to see the final results.

The ladies auxiliary also worked 3 days at Lifeword to help in preparing the Christmas shoe boxes for shipment. I know I had never realized what has to be done to get the boxes ready to ship! With thousands of boxes, this can be overwhelming when you walk into the warehouse and see all that needs to be done. But you know what, we all had a such a great time! The fellowship with the workers there was so special! So please, if you live close enough to help with this wonderful ministry, go by and help them out. You will be blessed by doing it.

The Master's Builders plan to be in Hattiesburg, Mississippi, on September 22 and in Charleston, Missouri, on October 13 to begin construction efforts. Come by and visit and see what this ministry is all about. If you have questions about The Master's

Builders or if your church has building needs, contact Office Coordinator, John Mangum at 318-202-5155 or cell 318-607-4100 or Field Coordinator, Eddie Sikes at 903-725-6549 or cell 479-462-1675.

Walk

from page 1

ever since, even though I did one in a wheel chair. I compacted my heel in August 1998 and decided I would still do it somehow.

"The walk started out as a 20 mile walk and then went to 10 miles, then to 10K and finally 5K which it is now. Those first walks were really tough and I think that I have gone over 300 miles so far since I started. I tell my sponsors that I have gone to St. Louis and am part way back, so would you please help me complete my journey."

Eldon is a retired teacher in the Independence area and currently substitutes regularly in the school district. He says that students and teachers are used to his requests for sponsors and donations when it gets close to October and Walk season. "I tell them that I am raising money for Christian broadcasts that are being put over the airways in 34 languages today and when I started doing the Walk they were broadcasting in three or four languages.

"Many will ask me in September if it is about time for my walk. Each year I try to have around 100 plus pledges and these will come from friends and family outside of our church. This way I consider their pledge a three-way blessing: they get blessed for giving, the listener gets blessed and I get blessed for

MISSISSIPPI BAPTIST CHILDREN'S HOME

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



SIDNEY DAVIS

What's In A Name?

In the case of John the Baptist his name was given to him before he was born. Even more important than that his name was given to him by the Lord from heaven. Luke 1:13. Zacharias and Elizabeth were the proud parents of a baby boy and he was given a gracious name, John.

The name John means, "God is gracious." My, what a great name for a baby! A name to remind mom and dad that, "God is gracious." A name to cause one to reflect on the grace of God. And one day this child named John grew up and as a man his message was plain and clear as he pointed to Jesus Christ as the gracious gift of God to a lost world. John 1:29. Praise the Lord, what a Savior we have!

Progress Reports

The boys and girls at the Home have gotten off to a good start in their studies and are settling down to the routine of school for

this new school year. Recently progress reports were given out and these reports reveal that our students are doing well thus far in their studies. Our fourth grade girl was excited to be selected as a representative for her class for the Student Council this year. We are thankful for all of the progress our boys and girls are achieving in their academics.

Special Emphasis

Just a reminder next month will begin the Special Emphasis period for the Children's Home. The months of October and November are the months that have been set aside each year as Special Emphasis months for the Children's Home. Let me encourage you to participate in this year's emphasis.

Remember in Prayer and Focus Verses

Continue to remember the girls and boys and the ministry of the Home in your prayers.



Our kindergarten student wearing hat he made at school

"Praise ye the Lord. Praise the Lord, O my soul. While I live will I praise the Lord: I will sing praises unto my God while I have any being." Psalm 146:1,2.

doing the walk."

Their faithfulness throughout the years is inspiring, and their reason for continuing is simple. Connie Prawl says, "We're not interested in the gratitude we get, but the gratitude and glory that the Lord gets. We give other people not in BMA churches the opportunity to give to Lifeword."

While many churches and former walk participants have stopped doing so, Eldon continues to get sponsor pledges and participate in the Walk year after year, always trying to beat his previous year's numbers. "The reports that come back from listeners are wonderful, and this is what keeps me going. It is so wonderful to hear that lives are being changed and souls are being saved."

Along with the Prawls and Faith Missionary Baptist Church in Independence, BMA churches in the eastern part of Kansas City area come together for an area Walk. "Each year at the end of September or first of October those of us on the east side of KC meet for the walk at Burr-Oak Woods and Nature Center in Blue Springs, Missouri. There are usually five

churches that are involved. We also have a rocking chair for those who have some physical restrictions, and they raise money this way.

"When we finish the walk we meet at Pink Hill Park, which is close by, and have a picnic and fellowship. Through the years, other locations have included the trails at Missouri Town, George Owens Nature Center Park and inside the Independence Center, but we always have food and drinks brought by different churches. Sometimes we have volleyball and horseshoes for those who want to play and the kids have a lot of playground equipment."

As a new member of the Lifeword team, I had not heard of the Prawls' commitment to Lifeword, but their continuing support has not gone unnoticed. Longtime Lifeword staffer and Chief Programming Director Rick Russell said, "The Prawls were a tremendous blessing to this ministry way before I got here 25 years ago, and they just don't show any signs of slowing down at all! I've loved meeting up with them at various associational meetings down through the years. They are always tell-

ing me about their plans for the next Walk, asking about the next languages we might be going into and commenting about something that they have read in the most recent Faith Inner Circle newsletter. They are wonderful ambassadors for Jesus Christ and they're always looking for another way that they might be able to help Lifeword reach out to more people around the world."

The Prawls are not the only faithful supporters of Lifeword's media ministries, so as the 2014 Walk season begins, we would like to humbly thank those of you who pray for and give to us as we seek to follow God's will and search for His direction in spreading the truth of God's love throughout the world. We would love to hear your stories of Walk participation throughout these 35 years, so please email me at holly@lifeword.org or post your comments on our Facebook page.

Eldon Prawl issued a final challenge to all BMA churches and church members, "I will continue to encourage others to walk and set goals so they can be involved in raising money for the broadcasts. Join me in this venture as you can do it."

MORAL ACTION COMMITTEE

Baptist Missionary Association of America

Dr. John M. Adams, Director

P.O. Box 305, Mantachie, MS 38855 - 662-231-3863

On The Web at www.macbma.net/

Email - fbcdjmaj@yahoo.com



John Adams

Moral Action and Resources

Looking for a good catalog of "helps" related to Morality and Patriotism? Visit our website: www.macbma.net

Our "link" can also be located on the BMA Life webpage and, also, on the various departments of the BMA.

Categories at www.macbma.net include:

Dr. Adams' personal notes and article archives; Moral Action purpose statement (why we exist);

A bibliography about the Executive Director; The Moral Action Board of Trustees;

Action Alerts;

A fast search engine on biblical questions located on "got Questions?org";

Click on "Bible Gateway" to search for a word or passage in the Bible;

A great search site is "Scribd" (www.scribd.com) which includes a personal digital library for new books and articles;

Locate a free copy of "What One Person Can do To Fight Pornography"

Locate the section "Issues Dealing With Sexuality" and "Church Safety and Security" This is a great resource for pastors and churches.

A great concern of Dr. Adams is the "Reconstructing American History" Click on the download file to read this startling report of our country's history.

Take time to read Dr. Adams' article on "What Happens if We Christians Do Nothing." The church should encourage its members to be actively involved in Moral and Social issues facing our society today!

Our contacts are located on the webpage, as well. You can locate me with concerns or questions. Also, if in the area, come by and visit the Moral Action Display at 6080 Hwy 363, Mantachie, Mississippi (Tupelo area). We are here to serve you.

Pastor cries 'censorship' after Sunday sermon gets blocked by YouTube

OneNewsNow.com - A Georgia pastor whose YouTube account was shut down has had it reinstated - with help from a Fox News reporter.

Pastor Daniel Ausbun of First Baptist Church in Moreland has posted sermons on YouTube for three years until an August 24 sermon on radical Islam and the ISIS terrorist group.

He tells OneNewsNow that he told the First Baptist congregation about the persecution of Christians in Iraq and Syria, and how ISIS was recruiting in the United States, relying on information from Fox News, CNN, and ABC News.

"It was almost like a news report. It was a very educational message," he says of the sermon.

Two days later, Ausbun received notice from YouTube that his account had been terminated because the pastor broke the "terms of service."

His only guess was that the sermon was considered "hate speech," and he had to guess because YouTube didn't respond to his questions.

project I would like to request that each Brotherhood take this on as a project as well. Our Brotherhood at Lebanon Church has set a goal of \$1,000.00

Bro. John Adams and his committee to a great work, not only for the state of Mississippi, but for Christians throughout the nation. As an example of this I encourage you to read his report on page 5 of the September 1, 2014 issue of the Mississippi Baptist paper. Due to the decline of our once great nation we cannot select a more worthy project. Please help with this goal.

At our next district meeting we will be asking for an update. This meeting will be November 3rd at First Baptist Church of Calhoun.

Robert Pope
Project Chairman

Enter Fox News' Todd Starnes, who ran a story on the pastor's banned "hate speech," and Tuesday afternoon the account was reinstated.

Even though Ausbun agrees that YouTube can allow whatever content it wants, he told Starnes that what happened to him can happen to other Americans in the name of banning "hate speech."

Ausbun considers the action to be censorship and says he will post future sermons on website Vimeo.

*Faith is the
response
of the heart
to the
character
of God.*

MINISTRY POSITIONS

Texas Church Seeks Youth Minister

Farley Street Baptist Church, Waxahachie, Texas is receiving resumes for the position of full-time Student Ministry Pastor. Those who are interested are asked to send resumes to resume@farleystreet.com.

Arkansas Church Seeks Pastor

South Main Missionary Baptist Church in Malvern, Arkansas, is seeking a pastor. Contact Gene Clements at (501) 844-5822 or email resumegdclem@gmail.com or send to the church at 2027 South Main St, Malvern, AR 72104

BROTHERHOOD NEWS

We Can Do This!

by Pat Spriggs,
National Brotherhood
Project Promoter

When I asked National Brotherhood Secretary/Treasurer Robert M. Bynum for an update on our national project and scholarship fund, I was disheartened to hear that the figures remained the same as previously reported:

National Project (Bolivian River Of Blessings), \$520; Arthur

Smith Scholarship Fund, \$1,536.88; Galileans, \$200; and General Fund, \$614.53.

Although it has been almost five months since this goal was selected at our national meeting, that still leaves us seven months to get behind this goal. Pardon the pun, Men, but let's blow it out of the water. We can do this!

Our project is 65% Bolivian Riverboat, 25% National Galileans and 10% General Fund. Please do what you can to promote this project in your

men's group, church, district and state associational meetings. One way to do that is to show the short (less than 15 minute) video, "The Arrington, Rivers of Blessing Bolivian Riverboat Ministry," which is available at <http://vimeo.com/74457593>.

Offerings for the National Brotherhood Project may be sent to: Robert Bynum, 43 Bear Pen Creek Rd., Laurel, MS 39440.

Big Creek Brotherhood News

At our August meeting the Big Creek Brotherhood voted to take the Moral Action Committee as our project for the year. As a means of supporting this

Pastors Oasis
September 29 - October 1, 2014
Hilton Convention Center, Branson, Missouri
To register go to discipleguide.org/pastorsoasis

 Jonathan Falwell	 Babbie Mason	 Acts of Renewal	 Sandi Patty	 Michael Jr.
 Scott Attebery	 Jason Aultman	 Henry Horton	 Travis Sellers	

DiscipleGuide
CHURCH RESOURCE

Last Chance to Honor Speer with Retirement Offering

Churches wishing to honor James Speer's 35 years of service as Director of Daniel Springs Camp through a retirement offering should send their gifts marked "Speer Retirement" to DiscipleGuide by the end of October. Throughout the 2014 camp season, campers have shown their appreciation with special offerings. Several churches have also chosen to give special gifts. Brother Speer has served BMA campers faithfully for three and a half decades. This offering is an opportunity for BMA churches to show their appreciation.