

The Mississippi Baptist

JOURNAL OF THE BAPTIST MISSIONARY ASSOCIATION OF MISSISSIPPI

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Putting an "Everlasting Smile" on a Child's Face

by Ralph Izard, M.D.



The Sunbeams from Spring Lake Baptist Church enjoyed delivering their "Everlasting Smiles" shoeboxes to the warehouse in Little Rock to be packed with thousands of others and shipped to our BMAA missionaries in Romania and Peru. These shoeboxes open doors for the presentation of the Gospel to the parents of the children who receive them and the establishment of Bible

study groups and mission points on mission fields where they are sent. If you have not already started filling your shoeboxes or need further information, please call Doris at the office of the BMA of America at 501-455-4977 between 8:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. Your box could be the one that would put an "Everlasting Smile" on a child's face this year!

A message for parents of young children Sign up for DisciplePoints

DiscipleGuide encourages parents of young children to sign up for updates at www.disciplepoints.com.

While parents have the God-given responsibility of discipling their children, many find this challenging or may not even know where to begin. As a result, children see the church as the primary disciple maker and parents as holding a supporting role. To help empower parents, DiscipleGuide has created DiscipleKids and DisciplePoints.

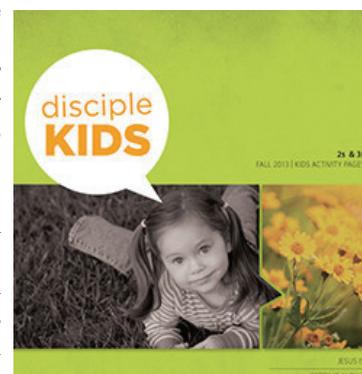
DisciplePoints is an online community that coordinates with DiscipleKids, DiscipleGuide's new children's literature. The two are meant to be used together to help parents get the discipleship process started. This online resource will provide parents with talking points, discussion starters and creative ideas for discipling their children. Parents will be able to preview their child's lesson and introduce the topic ahead of time, get ideas for object lessons and more. With parents taking

the lead role in discipleship, churches can follow up as the support system.

In addition to materials for introducing biblical concepts before Sunday's lesson, parents will find follow-up activities on the website to help reinforce the message and make sure their son or daughter understood. Busy moms and dads can choose to have alerts sent to their smart phone for a quick reminder. Parents are also invited to add their feedback to an online community of users so that DiscipleGuide can continue to improve and better serve churches' needs.

Cindy Williams of Conway, Arkansas, a BMA Sunday school teacher for 47 years, is coordinating the DisciplePoints website. A parent herself, she understands the importance of teaching her children the Word of God and how daunting that task can be for parents.

Sign up for free weekly updates by visiting the site at www.disciplepoints.com, and follow DisciplePoints on Twitter.



God Fueled Leadership - Pastors Oasis 2013

Pastoral & Leadership Conference - September 30 – October 2

by Kirk Shelton

Do you feel like your leadership energy and influence is sputtering and powerless? Have you been "running on fumes" for too long and now the tank is dry leaving you stranded roadside while the world passes by? Ministry, by its very nature, tends to drain the Christian leader of all passion, vitality, and enthusiasm for his calling. And sometimes the only person it is harder on is the minister's wife!

"Running on empty...burnout...dead

leader running..." Whatever you call it, it is real! But what would a God-Fueled Ministry look like? And how would it change things to discover the keys to a God-energized and Spirit-infused ministry?

Our desire in planning the annual Pastors Oasis is to expose BMAA church leaders to some of the best speakers and artists from around the country...and this year is no different! I am thrilled to announce that this year's speaker is Dr. Jack Graham,

pastor of Prestonwood Baptist Church. Dr. Graham will be speaking on the theme: A God-Fueled Ministry. You will be encouraged and challenged through the speaking ministry of Dr. Graham.

Bro. Pastor, make plans right now to attend the 2013 Pastors Oasis. Church leader; show your appreciation to your pastor and wife by sending them to Pastors Oasis as a gift from the church family. It's a small investment that will pay eternal rewards!

CONSIDER THIS

JOY is proof
that what we have
is REAL
and that it
SATISFIES!

Brotherhood Project News

Lingles Arrive In Thailand

By Pat Spriggs, National Brotherhood Project Promoter

A portion (65%) of this year's National Brotherhood project has been designated to Thai Missions, and excitement is in the air as the missionaries arrive on the field. The following report was received from the Lingles:

"Brittney and I made it safely to Thailand," said Missionary Brandon Lingle. "The hardest thing about it was leaving family, but God was faithful and supplied the grace and hope needed to part from them for now."

"So far, this adventure has been a wild one, but we are so thankful that we are now settled into an apartment. Searching and getting into one went faster than we expected and we know that's because God's people are praying for us."



"Today, we visited our language school to schedule our class time and get our books. We were very impressed with the school and management. It was also good for us to meet missionaries from Texas there. They have already been very helpful and encouraging to us."

"Please continue your prayers. They work! We have already seen and experienced things that can only be ex-

plained by our Lord hearing and granting your requests."

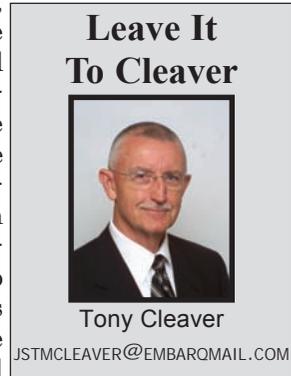
To keep up with the Lingles (and the Eli Semedo family, who are also on the field now in Thailand), "like" them on Facebook and/or watch for reports in upcoming issues of this paper. You can also contact the Lingles directly at brandon.thaimissions@gmail.com.

The remainder of the Brotherhood Project will be divided between the Galileans (25%) and Brotherhood General Fund (10%). Another project is the establishment of the Arthur Smith Scholarship, which will be awarded each year to the Mr. Galilean Senior and can be used at any BMA school. Donations for the goal may be sent to Robert Bynum, 43 Bear Pen Creek Rd., Laurel, MS 39440.

Dim Lights, Big Screen, Loud Music, and Smoke Optional

I watched a portion of an "entertainment event" recently on my television. It was a "performance" and it was an "experience." It was well choreographed, staged, and produced. The lighting, sound, and even the pyro-technics produced the "right things at the right time." The "experience" was much slicker than the carnival that came to my home town years ago—even though the process might well

really help our people grow and develop spiritually...it wasn't helping people that much. Other things that we didn't put that much money into and didn't put much staff against is stuff our people are crying out for... We made a mistake. What we should have done when people crossed the line of faith and became Christians, we should have started telling people and teach-



ing people that they have to take responsibility to become 'self feeders.' We should have gotten people, taught people, how to read their bible between services, how to do the spiritual practices much more aggressively on their own." (Reveal: Where Are You? by Cally Parkinson and Greg Hawkins)

The Lord God has said, "...my people are destroyed from lack of knowledge... (Hosea 4.6). I think Hybels may be on to something—perhaps it is in my church's best interest to hear Hybels. I know it is in my church's best interest to really hear the Lord God. Some churches have "performances" and "experiences" in their "worship" services. To be certain our society is a different culture than even one decade ago. Some churches present the Gospel well in the arena of dim lights, big screen, loud music, and yes, smoke optional. There is no doubt some come from the "experience" with a heart changed by God. Bill Hybels, one of the leaders in the church growth movement, has said, "Some of the stuff that we have put millions of dollars into thinking it would

ing people that they have to take responsibility to become 'self feeders.' We should have gotten people, taught people, how to read their bible between services, how to do the spiritual practices much more aggressively on their own." (Reveal: Where Are You? by Cally Parkinson and Greg Hawkins)

Missions - The Heart Beat of The BMA of Mississippi and BMA of America

Follow Missions at www.bmams.org (state) and www.bmamissions.org (national)

VSM Basketball Mission to Philippines Successful

This year's BMAA Volunteer Student Mission Basketball team included 8 members from 3 states. The team worked with EIM missionary Jhun Santos in the Philippines who arranged great opportunities for the team to use its basketball skills to promote the Gospel and make the name of Christ known.

The team held 3-man tournaments, had several exhibition games, ministered in local churches, distributed over 300 Shepherd Bags to children in the mountain region of Negros Occidental and was interviewed for local newspapers and television broadcast. Another highlight of the team was hosting a dinner for all BMAA missionaries serving in the Bacolod region.

Plans for the Summer of 2014 are underway. Students who love basketball, but love God more, are encouraged to apply for next year's team by going to



bmaamissions.org and filling out the basketball application in the VSM tab, or for more information call or email Stan Scroggins at 870-234-3595 - stan@fbcMagnolia.com.

Committee on Arrangements seeks input for meeting site

by Charles Attebery, Chairman
Committee on Arrangements

Baptist Missionary Association of America

The 2017 BMA of America meeting will be held in the Dallas/Fort Worth area. The Committee on Arrangements is seeking input for suggested meeting facilities. The deadline for receiving suggestions is September 20. The BMAA will be alternating annual meeting sites in the future at various geographical areas. To submit suggestions contact one of the committee members listed here: Leon Carmical at 601-466-2782, Charles Attebery at 501-472-2183, or James Ray Raines at 501-945-2640 or 501-758-4093.

Wanna be a TV star?

Training participants needed for video production

Discipleway is seeking participants to go through their training while at the same time being part of the taping for online sessions. The taping will be done at Lifeword studios in Conway, Arkansas, on November 11-12. Plans are to make this available in order to make it feasible for more people to receive the training. Trainers will still be available to conduct local church trainings.



We have some participants already signed up but need to have seven or eight more to help us with this project. The cost will be approximately \$25 per person to cover the expense of the training materials. If interested please contact Tommy and Judy Wallace as soon as possible at 501 724 3193.

Southeastern Baptist College

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

Serving Christ With a Biblical World View In A Christian Atmosphere

The fall semester is looking good. We still have some getting their final enrollment processed. My goal for this semester was 40 students. It looks like we will have that many plus a few more. The total number of hours will be close to 500. Praise The Lord! What a building block to begin a great year. We have about 5 guys living in the dorm this year. We have not had that in several years.

The home schoolers association for Jones county and the surrounding areas met on our campus a few weeks ago. Dr. Parker had the opportunity to speak at the meeting. He told me there were about 200 people



A.R. Reddin Library that attended the meeting. He stated that this is a never ending well that we could draw from with the home schoolers. What an opportunity for us.

If you have not received that special offering for special emphasis, but been waiting to see how the numbers were going to be, please, we need your help. Make this year even greater by helping us with an offering. It

CHURCH NEWS BITS

Berean Church sets revival

Bro. Kenneth Bobo will be in revival services with Berean Baptist Church in Soso beginning on Sunday, September 8 and continuing through Wednesday September 12. Services are at 10:45 on Sunday morning and 1:15 Sunday Afternoon. Weekday services will be at 7:00 p.m. each evening.

Harmony Association

The August meeting of the Harmony Association was held at Oak Grove Baptist Church,

would be greatly appreciated.

I was about to leave for home a few weeks ago, and one of the professors walked out with me. As they were about to leave, this person spoke to me and said, "we will have to renew my contract for next semester." I asked if there was a problem with the contract. "No", they said, "I will teach next semester for free." I like those kind of talks. The Lord just keeps on blessing and blessing. Keep praying for us.

Matt Hudson, trustee chairman

Fulton on January 9th. The evening message was brought by Bro. Grover Laird. There were 9 churches represented with 40. The next meeting will be at Central in Farmington, with Bro Kenneth Pollock the speaker.

Bro. Bobby Elliott reported on Freedom Mission. They are beginning the construction of their new facility. Bro. Bob Burch reported on the mission work in Caledonia. Mark Johnson gave a report on the Gallilean work in the state. Big Oak Church provided a good meal prior to the meeting.

Tony Marolt, Reporter
Bro. Mike Smith, Moderator

Hobolochitto Annual Meeting set

The 2013 Hobolochitto Baptist Association annual meeting will meet with Shiloh Baptist Church on Saturday, September 28 at 9:00 AM. Shiloh Baptist Church is located on Hwy 603 near Necaie Crossing. Thanks to Bro. Josh Daniels and the good people at Shiloh for hosting this event on such short notice. The speaker

for the annual message is Bro. James Reeves with Bro. Vernon Watts as his alternate. Make your plans right now to attend this important meeting of your association.

Wayne Rice, Clerk

Grices Celebrate 50th Anniversary



Rev. Kent & Mrs. Peggy Grice celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary on August 11, 2013. The Grices renewed their wedding vows in front of family and friends at Magnolia Heights Baptist Church in Forest, Mississippi, where Bro. Grice is the pastor.

HOPE

of the WORLD

BMA Missions Symposium 2013 - September 10-11

Antioch Baptist Church & Central Baptist College, Conway, Arkansas



Brandon Cox



Rick Lemons



Travis Sellers



Shane & Shane

Tuesday Evening, September 10, 2013
Antioch Baptist Church
 Worship by Travis Sellers and Antioch Praise Band
 Missionary Testimonies
 Message by Rick Lemons, Senior Pastor
 Fellowship, Forney, Texas

Wednesday Morning, September 11, 2013
Central Baptist College
 Breakfast, Central Baptist College
 My Town, My Mission & Morning Workshops

Wednesday Afternoon
Central Baptist College
 Worship with the students of CBC
 Missionary Reports from Around the World

Wednesday Evening
Antioch Baptist Church
 Concert Artists - Shane and Shane
 Message by Brandon Cox, Church Planter
 Grace Hills Church, Rogers, Arkansas



**Baptist Missionary Association
of Mississippi**

www.bmaofmississippi.com

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662-397-6832

Baptist Children's Home

118 Lowe Rd., Laurel, MS 39443
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Missions & Revolving Loan Fund

4226 Highway 15 North, Laurel, MS
39440 - 601-428-8616

Commission on Senior Adults

4226 Highway 15 North, Laurel, MS
39440
601-729-3198

History & Archives Commission

4229 Highway 15 North, Laurel, MS
39440
601-729-8098

Moral Action

P.O. Box 88, Mantachie, MS 38855

Mississippi Baptist | **Opinion Page**

Journal of the Baptist Missionary Association of Mississippi

Guest Editorial

Parental Rights Taken Away

by **Travis Plumlee**

A news commentator recently on MSNBC stated that "conservative parents need to get over this notion that their children belong to them. Children belong to the collective community." But children do belong to their parents according to God Almighty! This is clearly established in Ephesians 6:1, 4. It is not the State Department that is to raise children. The authority has been given and commanded by God, to the parents to raise their children. The Department of Health and Human Services has now come out and said they will give the morning after pill (which aborts a baby) and birth control to any girl age 15 and up. The girl does not have to tell her parents. The schools do not have to tell the parents. The parents are completely left out of the conversation on their daughter receiving many types of birth control. This is an outrageous and egregious act of the government to take away control of parenting from the parents and put it in the hands of the government. This is just one of many recent examples.



Plumlee

Society has worked hard for years to convince us all that teenagers are adults. Yet, this flies in the face of scientific data by the Center for Disease Control which states that the human brain is not through with complete development until the early 20's! This is why you have to be 21 in states to drink alcohol. This is why you have to be 18 to vote. The post-adolescent years find the human condition better able to make reasoned, rational decisions. A 15 year old, regardless of

maturity, is not an adult. You set them up for failure when you expect them to go out in an adult world, at an adult time, in adult situations and make adult decisions. It won't happen. But even if you believe the lie that they could make adult decisions as a teen, where is the right to keep the parents out of the decision making process?

I'm sounding the alarm again. What alarm? The alarm to wake people up to the fact that the government wants to control us by controlling our children. Parental rights are being stripped away at an alarming rate. If we don't start raising our voices, and simultaneously start voting for people who share these biblical views, then in a very short time the US government will parent your children. I first raised this concern back when I first started parenting conferences in the 90's. I could see the trend back then and warned congregations that there will only be one house that controls your children. It will be your house or the White House. It will be your house or the House of Representatives. I meant that the government was starting to encroach upon parental rights. Today, it is not even hidden. It is a full scale assault on parental rights.

It is still about morality. The government wants no morality to enter into a child's upbringing. One main reason teens do not engage in pre-marital sex is the fear of pregnancy. But we always give them a safety net to take away their fear of consequences. We provide birth control. And if that

continued on page 5

Annual State Meeting Near

The 2013 BMA of Mississippi meeting will be held at Southeastern Baptist College on October 22 & 23.

The complete schedule of the meeting will be available in our September 15, issue. The 2012 meeting schedule was changed and the meeting was held on Tuesday and Wednesday.



Don Brown
Editor

The WMA and Brotherhood met on Tuesday morning with the business session beginning Tuesday afternoon. The annual message was that evening and the business concluded on Wednesday.

This schedule seemed to work well and received support from those in attendance. The program committee will be meeting in a few days and making plans for this year's business session.

There are always important issues to discuss and decisions to make and this meeting will be no different. It is anticipated that the Trustee Board of Southeastern College will have recommendations concerning leadership and the future of the school. Other departments and commissions will report and present plans for the future.

Please make every effort to be represented and to be in attendance. God's business is the most important and needs to be cared for.

AVAILABLE FOR SERVICE

Lavon Haden

Lavon Haden is available for pulpit supply, interim, or however the Lord leads. He may be reached at 601-522-6055.

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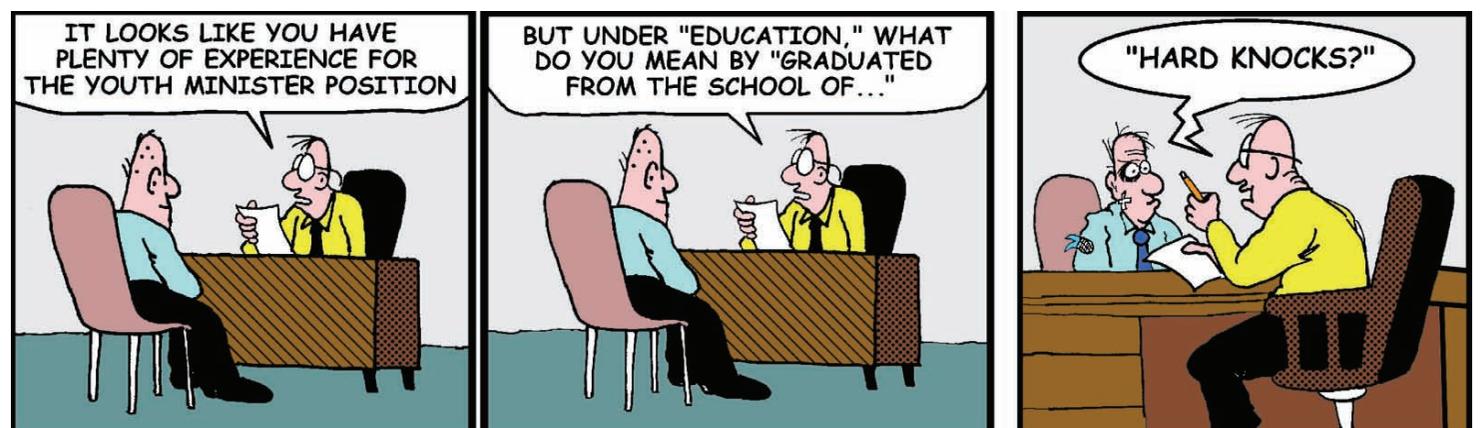
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Church of the Covered Dish BY THOMAS TAPP



Jeckyl and Hyde

Years ago, I watched a movie called "Dr. Jeckyl and Mr. Hyde". I'm not sure if the spelling is right, but nonetheless, it was a film depicting a man with two personalities. It fascinated me to the extent that I have forgotten most everything about the show except that it involved a two for one person, which was a bargain at that period of my life. Now that I have a wife and children, if I see a movie, it better contain a person with more than two personalities just so I can get my money's worth. That's the downfall of having to be on a budget. A person can't frivolously throw money around on simple dual personalities.

Another reason why I won't go spend money on a movie such as this, other than being a cheapskate, is that I wit-

ness this anomaly in people every day. It seems everyone I meet suffers with this problem. It may even be an epidemic.

From The Mind of



Chuck Lee

There have been instances in my own life where I have been chewing out my children for one thing or another and had the phone ring. An instant transformation takes place that scares the bejeebers out of the children more than the chewing out. One second I am a raving, red-faced, fang-baring maniac and the next I am the epitome of sweetness.

"AND IF YOU CHILDREN EVER TRY PUTTING A STUFFED ANIMAL DOWN THE COMMODORE AGAIN, I'LL...Heellooo! It is sooo good to hear from you. Yes, yes, the wife is still beautiful and the children are...are...they are still just little cherubs." It is at this point that the kids disperse in a manner that would never be considered orderly. "Prompt" may be the better word. In fact, the promptness they show in leaving makes me

2013 Missions Symposium Lodging Information

Below you will find information for lodging in Conway, Arkansas, for the Missions Symposium on September 10th & 11th.

Country Inn & Suites

750 Amity Rd.
Conway, AR 72032
501.932.0500
Standard room (2 queen beds or king): \$65.00
Suite: \$75.00
Full hot breakfast included
No pets allowed

Hampton Inn

810 Museum Rd.
Conway, AR 72032
501.329.8999
Any room: \$80.00
Full hot breakfast included

Hilton Garden Inn

805 Amity Rd,
Conway, AR 72032
501.329.1444
Any room: \$94.00
Full hot breakfast is available, but must be purchased at check-in for an additional \$5.00 per person

**Reservations must be made
by September 1st
to receive group rates.**



Pastor jailed in Iran gets bad news

OneNewsNow.com - An Iranian-American pastor jailed in Iran for an eight-year sentence is enduring conditions that are much worse than America's prison sentence.

"This is not just eight years in a cell," Jordan Sekulow of American Center for Law and Justice says of Pastor Saeed Abedini.

"This is eight years of torture of physical and mental abuse, and he may not survive," Sekulow tells OneNewsNow.

The ACLJ attorney and others liken Abedini's imprisonment to a "death sentence," because his fate remains unpredictable.

Abedini, a native of Iran who immigrated and became a U.S. citizen, was jailed after returning to visit family members. He was sentenced to eight years in prison for past involvement in the house church movement in Iran.

He is considered an enemy of the state and in recent days, a two-judge panel upheld his sentence.

Sekulow, Jordan (ACLJ) Sekulow said of the news: "It's not the kind of news for someone who is in prison nearly for a year, in one of the worst prisons in the world, or his family, that an appeals court in the revolutionary court system, a two-judge panel, reaffirmed his sentence of eight years and his conviction.

Sekulow says ACLJ will continue to work through the international system as well as the U.S. State Department, and perhaps to Iran's Ayatollah.

On September 26, ACLJ plans a new project to get the public more involved in Abedini's case.



wonder why it takes counting to three and putting my hands near my belt buckle to incite them to pick up their rooms. They probably have multiple personalities.

I did have an encounter with a computer technician one time that confirmed my theory that most people deal with this infirmity. Not being technically savvy or computer literate, I made the mistake of calling the computer help line to help me solve an issue I was having with my Operating System. It wouldn't operate. And that's exactly what I told the man on the other end of the line. He had the nicest voice. Then he put me on hold, "for just a second". Yeah, right. Anyway, he apparently pushed the wrong button and I could hear everything he had to say. "This guy that called is an

idiot (laughing). I think I may tell him to try dictating the comput... the computer (more unseemly laughter). He is so stupid he will believe anything I tell him. Har, har, har!"

It was at this point that I said, "Hello" and was somehow cut off. But it proved my point. The man was obviously dealing with two personalities. I felt sorry for him.

Sadly, it seems many "Christians" have this illness. Pastors, deacons, Sunday school teachers, from the pulpit to the back door, in many instances display one personality around certain people and another personality around others. This could be the reason many are afraid to visit the services that are held each and every week. They don't want to see a horror movie.



Sofilthy's Attic

by Barbara White

Family Reunions

I heard the other day, somebody said of a family member, "When I think of them I just want to spit."

I don't think I'd enjoy being at their family reunion. There are a lot of family reunions and homecomings going on this time of year and they are fun as we get together with folks we don't see very often. But I'm looking forward to the GREAT one when we will all be reunited with the ONE who makes it all possible because of: "For God so loved the world that He gave his only begotten son that whosoever believeth in him should not perish but have everlasting life." John 3:16

Parental Rights Taken Away

from page 4

fails, you can always go to the drug-store and the government will pay for you to take a pill and abort the baby the next morning after engaging in fornication. You do not have to tell your parents. Why should children obey their parents? They don't have to under this plan. Why should children honor their parent's morals? They don't have to under this plan. Go ahead and engage in fornication. If you get a disease or get pregnant, we will pay for that to all go away. No consequences. That is the goal of government. No consequences for sinful behavior. Parents can't tell you what to do. We, the government, will provide escapes for you.

And it is not just in this area of birth control. More and more legislation is being passed to put kids under governmental control. This is why there is a push for increased days in a school year and to start earlier with school. That way the government, which already controls so much of our schools, can control the minds of your children. What is taught at school will have greater impact than what is taught in the home. With busy parents making money at work, this seems like an easy

way out. Send your kids to us at an early age. We will also feed them breakfast and lunch and supper at school. Meal times used to be critical family time. Let's take that away. These are very subtle attacks to strip home impact away. Satan is always subtle on his attacks on the home. Meal times won't be with parents. It will be with government run schools.

You will have to do what they tell you to do with your children. In a politically correct society this will eventually include the government telling you that you can't teach children that Jesus is the only way. You must present to your children a more open approach. It's coming. Fight for local control of your schools. Stop voting for people that stand for abortion and other things against the teachings of our Holy Bible! Regarding this abortion pill for teens, President Obama today said in a news conference that he had nothing to do with it. It was a HHS departmental decision. As the blood of innocent children are aborted, he took his hands and washed them in a basin and said not me. Wait. That is a different story.

Folks, you better wake up!

Commission on Senior Adults

4226 Highway 15 North
Laurel, Mississippi 39440



Kenneth Flynt
Director

2014. East Fulton Baptist Church, Fulton, will host the North Conference, date to be announced later. Plans are coming together for these special dates and special services.

My wife and I are being blessed as we continue to meet with local associational meetings, God's people are always special to us.

We want the Commission and the conferences to honor the Lord, edify God's children, and influence lost sinners toward Christ. Thank you for your financial support.

Christian greetings to all of our seniors and supporting churches, local associations and individuals. Our Lord continues to pour out His blessings upon this ministry that touches the hearts and lies of some of

His servants who have and continue to serve Him through the local church.

Big Creek Baptist Church, Soso, will once again serve as host church for the South Mississippi Conference, March 25,

National Senior Adult Conference
Hilton Branson Convention Center, Branson, MO
November 6-8, 2013

Registration through October 7 - \$135 per person
Hilton Room Rate - \$127 each @ 1-800-445-8667
DiscipleGuide Conference Ministry Office - 501-513-3726
Go to discipleguide.org/nsa to register.


Neil Dumas


Jerry Jolly


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Northeast District WMA report

by Kala Hudson, reporter



The Northeast District WMA met at Hopewell Baptist Church on August 13, 2013. The ladies of Hopewell served a delicious meal, then President Stacy Smith called the business meeting to order. The welcome was given by Sister Kala Hudson of Hopewell and the response was given by Sister Dot Emison of South Green. Sister Anita Akers then led the ladies in "Let My Little Light Shine". The minutes were read by Secretary Martha Duncan and approved. Treasurer Sheila McDowell gave her report and it was approved as read. The nominating committee gave their recommendations for the 2013-2014 Northeast District officers. These recommendations were approved.

The New officers for 2013-2014 are as follows: President, Teresa Taylor, Vice Pres. Stacy Smith, 2Nd Vice Pres. Gloria Jarrell, 3rd Vice Pres. Patti Harlow, Sec. Martha Duncan, Ass. Sec. Martha Reich, Song Leader Beverly Beane, Ass. Song leader Anita Akers, Pianist Bobby Bradley, Ass. Pianist Anita Akers, Project promoter Jonell Wood, Reporter & Historian Kala Hudson, Treasurer Shelia McDowell, Ass. Treasurer Martha Duncan. Nominating Committee: Teresa Taylor, Dot Emison, Stacy Smith, Advisory Council: Bro. Gary Smith, Bro. Roger Akers, & Bro. Matt Hudson.

Sister Gloria Jarrell from Bethel Baptist Church gave a report on her summer mission trip to Uganda. She spoke of one young man named Dalton Appola who is trying to raise money to build an orphanage in Uganda.

Hopewell presented the program and the Installation of Officers. Sisters Martha Reich & Kala Hudson read the duties & responsibilities of each office represented by a candle. Sandra McMillen presented the candles. The Scripture used was John 8:12. Lisa Hudson sang "Go Light Your World".

After the program, President Stacy Smith again opened business and asked for nominations for a new project. Elaine Smith made a motion to give Dalton Appola 500 dollars toward his project to build an orphanage. Bro. Matt Hudson spoke of Southeastern Baptist College and the great need at the school. Sister Shelia McDowell made a motion to send the three new preachers enrolling in school this fall 200 dollars each. A motion was also made to make Southeastern the project for the next quarter. Sister Teresa Taylor closed in prayer.

The next meeting will be at Providence on November 12th. There were 32 present with 3 visitors and 7 churches represented. Thank you to all of the Northeast District WMA ladies who love and carry on the WMA work.

2013 BMA of Mississippi Annual Meeting

October 22-23, 2013

Southeastern Baptist College Campus
Laurel, Mississippi





Baptist Missionary Association of Mississippi

Department of Missions & RLF

State Missionaries & Wives



Larry Gerulfsen
Director






Bob & Sally Hartzel


Kenneth & Corale Powell


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Gweny & Brenda Bostick


Salvey & Becky Pearson


Ray & Jordan Hoover


Kelby & Jessie Johnson


Phillip & Dawn Burns


Eduardo & Janain Marroquin


Elvis & Wendy Garcia


Ed & Patricia DuVal

601.428.8616

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Missions Update

It is the joy of my life to hear missionaries talk about meeting new people, sharing the gospel, preaching the Word, leading people to Christ, shepherding and ministering to people, baptizing and teaching them to follow Jesus. Oh, what joy it is to serve you and them in this great ministry!

I had a wonderful time visiting with Bob and Edie Burch at Caledonia Baptist Mission for a special service in which a large number of folks from the



Parking Lot Full at Caledonia Special Service

community attended. It was a good time of fellowship and singing and just getting to know folks.

The following Sunday morning I was able to visit in the services of Grace Mission in New Albany with Kelby and Jessie Johnson and the fine folks of Grace. In addition to the fine preaching, I was able to witness the baptism of three people. What a blessing... Praise the Lord!



Kelby Johnson Baptizing Amber



Kelby Johnson Baptizing Alex



Kelby Johnson Baptizing Kim

As you read this article, Freedom Mission in Burnsville should be raising the walls and installing the trusses on their new building. We so appreciate everyone who volunteered time to travel up to



Trusses for Freedom, Burnsville

Burnsville and help with this project. Special thanks to Bro. Charles Bobo, who went up early and helped Bro. Burns get ready for the folks coming to help. Also, special thanks to Bro. John Prickett for providing so much help in this project. It was good to hear that South Forrest was fielding some help along with their mother church, Paramount. Bro. Elvis Garcia was organizing help, as well, from Ripley. It is always good to see our missions helping other missions. Bro. Matt Hudson and the folks at Hopewell have really been a blessing. It is so good to see God's people working together to accomplish good things for His work.

South Forrest recently reported record attendance, another new addition and another who has trusted Christ and is awaiting baptism. My, my how God is blessing South Forrest!

Bro. Danny Bartlett reports good attendance and a good spirit of worship at Crossway in Clinton. We continue to bathe this project in prayers and have great confidence that God will bless. Bro. Justin Rhodes has been called as the pastor of Big Creek. We wish him, Christie and their children the best as they begin their new ministry to this church.

Please pray for Bro. Ray Boone and the fine folks at New Heart as they go through this year of transition and move toward self-support. Bro. Boone is a fine man with an impeccable commitment to the truth of God's Word.

Bro. Garcia, Bro. Marroquin and Bro. DuVal have all reported progress through the summer in their efforts to enlarge the ministry to the Hispanic community and the African American Commu-

nity. These guys are jewels. They are sure and steadfast in the work of our Lord. What a joy it is to work with them!

Pray for Phillip and Dawn Burns and their girls as they relocate to Sumrall to begin their church planting work soon. We have visited the field a number of times together and our excitement and anticipation is growing. Already folks are coming forward to offer support and express a desire to be involved. Wow, how God blesses!



12 turn out for Biloxi Bible study

In the upcoming weeks I will be traveling to a number of the local association's annual meetings. I am looking forward to the fellowship and hope to see you there. God is blessing our mission work in Mississippi and we hope and pray, around the world. Thank you for all you do to help get the gospel to those who are lost and unchurched.



Fellowship at Caledonia

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Our website is www.bmams.org. Like our Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/bmamsmissions>.

When they therefore were come together, they asked of him, saying, Lord, wilt thou at this time restore again the kingdom to Israel? And he said unto them, It is not for you to know the times or the seasons, which the Father hath put in his own power. But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you: and ye shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judaea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth.
- Acts Chapter One



Marissa Jennings
South Forrest

New missionaries now on field

by Jesse, Rebecca and Colton Hales
Missionaries to the Dominican Republic

We arrived in Costa Rica for language school on the 10th and have had a few days now to get settled in at our apartment and learn our way around town. It feels good to be settled! I don't want to be settled too much though. I don't want to get to the point that I get comfortable and because of that miss the opportunities all around us to share God's love. One of the biggest opportunities right in front of us is the park across the road from us and the guys who are always playing there. I want to know those guys and I want them to know me, not for popularity, but because I want them to know Jesus. Pray for open doors there.

Being here and talking about this is only possible because of another blessing. God has used you (BMA churches and supporters) to bring us to 100% fully funded in support coming in each month. That is our living expenses,



Jessie & Rebecca Hales

insurance, work fund, everything! Prayer works! It has been so exciting to get to watch God put this team together. Thank you for being on it. Now, let's not foul out.

Editor's Note: *I was introduced to Jesse Hales during a BMMI trip I took to Haiti in 2011. He is a dedicated young man and we look forward to the work he and his wife will be doing on the mission field.*

Yes! We made it! Third Shepherd Bags shipment of 2013 – Ghana bound!

by Fonda Norris, Shepherd Bags Coordinator

My how good our God is!

On July 16, we had a team of guys (and head supervisor Mitzi Goodwin!) to come and load a shipment that was bound for Ghana, West Africa, on a brutally hot, muggy day. They had to repeatedly stop to take water breaks. I don't believe there was a dry thread of clothes left on them. Whoever said that mission work is glamorous told a fib! This is a side to the ministry that most don't see. They loaded boxes of Shepherd Bags, bicycles and Bibles to be used as a means to preach Jesus and open doors in Ghana. Our goal was to get a shipment to Ghana this summer and God saw it through from start to finish.

Since this God ordained children's ministry started over 13 years ago it was a record here at EIM. How? We've had three shipments go to three different countries in a six month period. That is by far the most shipments and largest number of bags we've sent in a single year. It was unusual that the logistics and paperwork came together that enabled the shipments to go out that close together. The paperwork is a long and at times a frustrating process but we're so thankful it all came together when it did.

During 2013 the three shipments that were completed are: Honduras - 18,598 bags in January, the Philippines - 17,023 in April and finally 16,459 to Ghana last month for a total of: 52,080 in all! NEVER would we have dreamed it would come together, but it did and ALL the glory goes to God. But it is truly a labor of love for ALL those who help all along the way.



Two Shepherd Bags Distribution Teams just arrived back from Honduras from distributing bags. They can and are testifying to the way God is moving among the places that bags are being given because the Gospel is being preached.

I have gotten several calls the past couple of weeks from groups who are asking if I need help assembling bags. I have to tell them what I'll share with you. We cannot assemble any more bags this year due to exhausting our entire Shepherd Bags fund from making the bags and paying for the cost to ship them. As God supplies the resources we can supply the bags, so please consider investing in the Shepherd Bag® Ministry. I always want to remind you that we assemble bags all year long as we have the means.

For information on how you can help, visit our website, www.eimworldwide.org, email me at fnorris@eimworldwide.org or give us a call here at the office at 870-226-3626.

The destruction of Damascus: Syria and biblical prophecy

OneNewsNow.com - An end-times scholar says the events unfolding in Syria could lead to the fulfillment of a biblical prophecy.

Syria's foreign minister said Tuesday that his country will defend itself using "all means available" in case of a U.S. strike. Walid al-Moallem said Syria has two choices: surrender or fight back, adding that it will choose the latter.

The Syrian diplomat spoke at a press conference in Damascus amid growing international support for military action against Syria in response to what U.S. Secretary of State John Kerry said was "undeniable" evidence of a large-scale chemical attack likely launched by the Syrian regime.

Jan Markell, founder and director of Minnesota-based Olive Tree Ministries, says the Syrians' use of chemical weapons makes her think about Isaiah 17, which foretells the complete destruction of Damascus, which hasn't happened in thousands of years.

"If one Israeli dies from chemicals coming from Syria, Israel is going to take the issue into her own hands," she tells OneNewsNow. "She would do some real destruction to the city of Damascus. Israel will send a huge message to the rest of the Islamic world

[that] this is what happens when you mess with us."

And while a Syrian official said Monday that Israel "will come under fire" if Syria is attacked, Markell says the Jewish nation will likely have to confront Damascus because of the weak foreign policy of President Barack Obama.

"The Middle East sees him as sort of a joke and knows they can get away with anything," says the ministry founder. "And that's why these chemical weapons are being unleashed; it's because the tyrants of the Middle East realize America is neutralized because of her president."

French President Francois Hollande said Tuesday that his country is prepared to take action against those responsible for gassing people in Syria. The French leader met with President Obama on Sunday and told him France, like Britain, would support him in a targeted military intervention.

Meanwhile, the head of the United Nations refugee agency warned Tuesday that Syria could be on the "verge of the abyss" as aid workers brace for a likely increase in the nearly two-million refugees who have already fled the country's civil war.

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