

# Baptist

## Mississippi

JOURNAL OF THE BAPTIST MISSIONARY ASSOCIATION OF MISSISSIPPI

September 1, 2015

www.bmaofmississippi.com

Vol. 69 No. 17

## Missions Office to Honor Faithful Workers

**Editor's Note:** *We regret to inform you of the passing of Mrs. Latrell. This article was written prior to her passing and still wanted to publish it to honor her and her family.*

Jack and LaTrell Bateman are iconic in BMA Missions history. This faithful and loving couple served for thirty-seven years in and around Taipei, Taiwan. Another longtime BMA missionary, special friend and colleague of the Batemans, Dale Thornton, offered us the following sketch of their life and ministry:

"Jack and LaTrell Bateman were pioneer BMAA missionaries. They were among the first group of missionaries sent out by the association after it was organized in 1950. First, there was Bro. and Mrs. Harold Morris to Brazil, followed by Bro.

and Mrs. Z. T. Rankin to Japan and then in November of 1953 Jack and LaTrell left for far-away Taiwan (then called Formosa).

Jack and LaTrell going as a

team to Taiwan was in itself a miracle. Jack was born in Tientsin, North China to an American father and a Chinese mother. His father died there

and Jack and his brother and sister were caught up in the war with Japan. They were taken by a single American missionary, John Blalock, first to the Philippines.

They were captured there by the Japanese and spent three years in a Japanese POW camp. After the war Jack went on to California, where he was

saved, and then on to Texas to study at Jacksonville College.



Bro. Jack Bateman preparing a broadcast



Jack & LaTrell Bateman

LaTrell was saved when she was nine and surrendered to foreign missions when she was thirteen. She had a burning desire to go to China as a missionary and studied everything she could about China and the

Continued on page 7

## Annual Church Letters In Mail

The Annual State Letters have been mailed to all the churches. Please have them completed and approved. You may bring your letter with you to the meeting in October or you can mail it to Justin Cameron, clerk, 34 Nelson Manor Dr., Purvis, MS 39474

Also, as you are approving your letter, please consider increasing the amount that your church is giving to the Minute and Program Funds. With the increasing expense of printing minute books and the increase in expenditures for our Annual Meeting, our Minute Fund is slowly declining.

For any questions concerning the Annual Letters please feel free to contact me at 601-325-3047 or justincameron@bellsouth.net.

## BMA Missions Announces Change in MLM

BMA Missions announces a change in the international literature ministry. Over the past few years, a new vision for international print ministry has taken shape. Under the present system, the donation of used literature has benefited primarily one country (Ghana) out of the 82 nations where BMA Missions is present. The ever-increasing cost of shipping, in connection with distribution difficulties, demanded a new approach. The BMA Ghana National Council, pastoral leadership in the three key regions of Ghana, and BMA America missionaries in the country were all involved in this decision.

Yes, this does mean that BMA Missions is no longer accepting used literature. We encourage

you to seek other ministries that more ownership and could use the literature. If nothing else, we encourage you to recycle the paper.

MLM (Missionary Literature Ministry) director Phil Knott elaborated on the new approach to missionary print ministry, "As with Missionary Literature Ministry projects in Latin America and Asia, a major shift is underway in how Christian literature, Gospel tracts, and other materials are published and distributed in Africa. One of the most important changes is "on demand printing" which more effectively meets local needs and fosters

more ownership and sustainability. There are several options available and BMA Missions personnel are working diligently with local leadership to develop the most effective means."

The new approach emphasizes partnerships with national associations to help produce and print literature in their respective countries. This will allow for much greater stewardship as much more literature can be produced with available funds instead of spending large amounts to ship used literature. It also fosters the participation of the national as-

*New  
Direction  
BMA  
Missions  
no longer  
accepting  
used  
literature*

sociations in the process.

Knott added, "Missionary Literature Ministry is still very much at work editing, producing and publishing materials in Mexico, Central and South America, Southeast Asia, Brazil, Portugal, Ghana, and the U.S. A Spanish language resource site is available online at [www.bmamissions.org/americalatina](http://www.bmamissions.org/americalatina)."

This new vision for MLM is bolstered by the tireless work of Belinda Caudle in Latin America, a new initiative in Southeast Asia through the printing ministry of BMA Philippines, and your continued support to help produce needed literature in many more countries. Thank you for your support of MLM. Let's all pray that many additional countries will benefit from this needed ministry!

## Constitutional Change Listed

The constitutional change concerning the institution of marriage is printed in this issue on page 4.

This will be voted on in the 2015 Annual Meeting in October.

## Late Issue

**Editor's Note** - This issue is being delivered later than our usual publication date. This editor's mother recently had heart surgery in Birmingham, Alabama, and I have been with her for a period of 9 days.

We worked on the paper while in Birmingham, but obligations during this time delayed the completion. Your understanding is appreciated.



**Larry Geraldson**  
Director



**Baptist Missionary Association  
of Mississippi**

**Department of Missions and Revolving Loan Fund**

State Missionaries and Wives







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Elvis & Wendy Garcia



Ed & Patricia DuVall

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“*OLORD, how manifold are thy works!...*” Psa 104:24

I was reading Psalms 104 again and as usual, I was moved by the inspiration of the Holy Spirit of God. He describes God the Father (to us) through, "the mouth of David." David tunes out all that is around him in creation and tunes in his heart to the sweet serenade of the Holy Spirit. Then, with stanza upon stanza the Holy Spirit presents a soliloquy describing the very creation David tuned out. However, now, the dominate cord, in this sweet meditation, is God. The harmony of his manifold works is so powerful that David breaks into singing, "I will sing unto the LORD as long as I live:..". He made the angels spirits...; He laid the foundations of the earth...; He watereth the hills...; He causes the grass to grow...; He appointed the moon for seasons...; and on and on he sings...; "Bless the LORD, O my soul."

**The Martins Have a New Son**

We welcome Grayson Cole Martin who was born on August 5, 2015 to Missionary Wesley Martin and his wife Hollie. Grayson was 7 lb 6 oz and 19 1/2 inches when he made his entrance into this world and was received with joy by his older brother, Lawson. Lawson and Grayson will spend the first years of their lives as Missionary Kids (MKs) and we will be praying for them in a very special way. Congratulations to the Martins!



Wesley, Hollie, Lawson & Grayson Martin



Martins New Family Addition

their efforts. Please pray for them as they go out on visitation.

**El Camino Get's Ready for Camp**

Coordinator Estuardo Marroquin shared that El Camino (Laurel) recently conducted Vacation Bible School and witnessed 5 professions of faith. El Camino (Hattiesburg) witnessed 2 and El Camino



VBS at El Camino in Laurel

(Biloxi) witnessed 3. The mother church in Laurel and the mission congregations in Hattiesburg and Biloxi will come together on September 26-27 at Campground Baptist Church to hold a Hispanic camp. They are expecting to have a number of baptisms.

**New Mission Opportunities**

I had recently announced that we are talking with some folks and that we have two new mission opportunities developing. This is still ongoing and we ask that you pray earnestly with us. One of the most important things we can do is to ensure that God's will is done. Therefore, we will take whatever time is necessary to make sure it is God's will before we move forward.

**Hispanic Missions in North Mississippi**

Missionary Coordinator Elvis Garcia recently baptized 4 and reported that training has begun in earnest



Elvis Garcia Baptizing

at the Mission in Oxford. Bro. Garcia's wife, Wendy, recently conducted Sundayschool training for the women of Way, Truth & Life in Oxford. He also reported that the Mission at Tupelo is working closer than ever with the host church, South Green Baptist. The two are discussing the possibility of holding a joint service for the purpose of fellowship and encouragement.

**Bro. DuVall Visits Harvest Baptist Mission**

Missions Coordinator Ed DuVall recently traveled from Cleveland to Olive Branch to meet with Bro. James Cook, Missionary at Harvest Baptist Mission. Bro. Cook and Bro. DuVall later visited Mid-America to represent the BMA of Mississippi work to the students and share the vision for planting churches in the Delta. Please pray Bro. Ed DuVall and Missionary James Cook that God will open more Mission doors of opportunity in this area.



**Missions Continued On Next Page**

**Missionary Committeeman Needs Your Prayers**

Bro. Ted Quinby, Missionary Committeeman and member of Midway First Baptist in Sumrall, Mississippi, has been diagnosed with a cancerous place on his bladder. He will return to have two additional biopsies and possibly more surgery and treatment. Bro. Quinby has served the Baptist Missionary Association sacrificially and faithfully. Now, let us serve him. I ask you to lift him up in your prayers.



Bro. Ted Quinby

**Missionary Activity in Burnsville, Mississippi**

Bro. Bobby Elliott, Missionary at Freedom Baptist Mission in Burnsville, reported that a number of folks are engaged in the evangelism training associated with their discipleship training and God is blessing

**Central in Southaven Holds Baptism Service**

Recently, Cherita and I had the privilege of visiting in the worship services at Central in Southaven with Missionary Anders Lee and his family and then, attending their baptismal service in the afternoon. What a joy to watch as the crowd gathered to witness the baptism of 13 people! There really is nothing like it. Please pray for those who were baptized and pray for Bro. Lee's oldest son, Zac, as he heads off to attend college at Central Baptist College in Conway, Arkansas.



13 candidates for baptism at Central



Anders Lee Baptizing



Father embraces his son after an emotional

## Mrs. LaTrell Bateman Dies

Mrs. Jack (LaTrell) Bateman, 84 of Arlington, Texas, passed away August 24. The Batemans served as missionaries to Taiwan for 37 years.

(For more information on their ministry, see related article in this issue.)

Her survivors include four children: John West (Kathy) Bateman, Mark Bateman and Ann (Dan) Toepperwein, all of Arlington; and Bruce Bateman of Taiwan and Arlington.

Funeral services were held Saturday, August 29 at Calvary Baptist Church in Arlington. In lieu of flowers, memorials may be sent to Gideons International, P.O. Box 140800, Nashville, TN 37214 or Lifeword Media Ministries, P.O. Box 6, Conway, Ark. 72033.

A fund has also been set up in memory/honor of LaTrell and Jack Bateman by Calvary Baptist Church, 2101 South Davis, Arlington, TX 76013. Please mark your check "Jack and LaTrell Bateman."

-from Baptist Trumpet News Release



LaTrell Bateman

## Little Story, Big Truth Launch Kit Focuses on Parables

One of the main focuses of Jesus' life on earth was teaching. He taught his main twelve disciples, his extended group of followers, and the mass crowds who flocked to hear him speak and perform miracles. On several occasions, Jesus used short, fictional stories, called parables, to communicate huge, foundational truths. Why did Jesus teach through parables? Because we relate to stories.

In this five-week Launch Kit called Little Story, Big Truth, students will discuss God's forgiveness, what God really thinks of us, how to truly love others, what to do with what God has given us, and how to pray by focusing in on five parables found in the book of Luke.

Launch Kits are lesson plans for student pastors, small group leaders, volunteers, and parents that are easy to use.

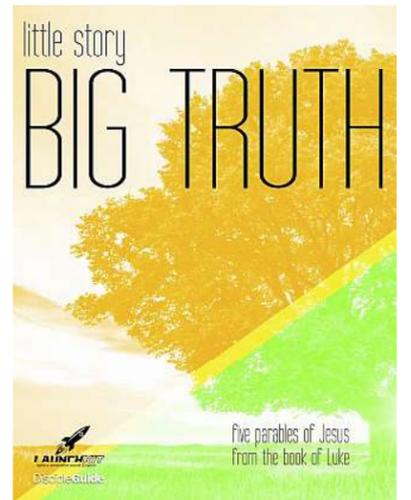
Lessons are designed to ignite a conversation around Scripture as students discuss their faith in a life-changing way. Each Launch Kit is crafted for use with middle-school through high-school age youth. Since Launch Kits are conversation-based, the lessons do not have student handouts or worksheets. Instead, they contain a leader discussion guide that steers conversation toward living out genuine faith and a life centered on Scripture.

tered on Scripture.

Launch Kits are sold per series and the cost is based on the number of weeks in the series. Once churches or individuals buy a series, they own it and may reproduce as many copies as they wish.

Each series has been written and developed by Stephen Castleberry, a student pastor at Antioch Baptist Church in Conway, Arkansas, where the lessons have been used with great success.

Find the growing Launch Kit series and an introductory video at DiscipleGuide.org under "shop," then "students," then "Launch Kit."



## Missions Report

from page 2



Freedom Mission Visitation

### Other News

The property in Clinton has been surveyed and we are preparing to conduct our due diligence on the property before closing. Grace Mission in Clinton is having some new folks visit the mission and we pray for their growth.

The Caledonia Baptist Mission in Caledonia is preparing for the construction of Phase II of their building which includes a baptistry, classrooms and fellowship hall. Plans are being drawn up and offerings are being solicited for this project.

South Forrest Baptist Mission is moving closer to completion of their building and has begun community outreach in earnest. Each week folks are coming together to go out and meet new people and share the gospel.

### Visit Our Website and Facebook Page

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

## Annual Walk for the World Set

Lebanon Baptist Church will be having our annual Walk for the World on Wednesday, October 14, 2015. We will meet at the West Jones Stadium at 6:00 p.m. We do this every year and always have a great turnout. Each year the attendance of churches has grown. We hope that you will make plans to join us this year! We have a good time and great fellowship. Those who plan to attend are asked to bring finger foods. Please let us know if you would like to join us for this event. I can be reached at 601-528-4153 or by email at [kwriley@bayspringstel.net](mailto:kwriley@bayspringstel.net)

**AVAILABLE  
FOR SERVICE**

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

### Lavon Haden

Brother Lavon Haden is available for pulpit supply or as the Lord may lead. He may be reached at 601-522-6055.

### Larry Pierce

Bro. Larry M. Pierce of Lucedale is available for service. He may be reached at 601-514-5085.

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## COMMISSION ON Senior Adults

4226 Highway 15 North, Laurel, Mississippi 39440



Kenneth Flynt  
Director

### Senior Conferences Fast Approaching

We are in the midst of the year, but our Senior Jubilee is coming. Our senior saints are ready to gather March 22, 2016 at Big Creek Baptist Church and May 10, 2016 at East Fulton Baptist Church. They have become accustomed to a day of refreshing praise and worship in these conferences, anxiously looking forward from one to the next. It is always an uplifting experience that hundreds of people look forward to. In the forthcoming conferences we plan to use more of our seniors in the program.

You will be glad we did. So much talent among our people can be used to bless others and to glorify the Lord. Look forward to it, and plan to be a participant in the Jubilee.

Our host churches are already preparing and getting plans ready to serve during Jubilee time. Thanks to the churches who so graciously assist on these special days.

Mark your calendar's now and remember the registration fee will remain the same as always, \$15.00 for a whole day of food, worship, fellowship and etc. Tell others of this special time for seniors!

**Baptist Missionary Association of Mississippi**  
www.bmaofmississippi.com

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Don Brown

**Mississippi Baptist**

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**Opinion Page**

www.msbbaptist.org

Don Brown - Editor

## If They Burst Into Your Home?

by the Editor

We hear daily of the atrocities committed against Christians in the Middle East, in other eastern countries, in certain areas of Africa and various places around the globe. I have recently read an account of a man in India who converted to Christianity 16 years ago. He had a heart for others and could not help but share his faith. He distributed thousands of Bibles and JESUS films, planted churches and taught new Christians. Earlier this year, he paid the price with his life.

World-wide Christian persecution continues today as it has to some degree for the past two thousand years. Jesus told us that we would be hated for His namesake. His words are as true today as they were when they were first spoken.

We have all heard of testimonies and accounts of individual believers who had to make a decision to deny Christ or pay with their lives. This has always been the case, but due to the information age in which we live, we are presented with this reality on a daily basis. It is no longer something in a history book that we read about, but it is presented to us daily on television or through news accounts via the internet.

This believer that I read about, a former Muslim, died in his home when gunmen burst in and shot him. I cannot imagine the pain his family and his church family have experienced, but the thought comes to my mind, "What would I do or how would I react to discrimination, intimidation and ridicule due to my personal faith in Christ." Many are not responding at all. Some in our country are paying with their jobs and livelihood and social rejection.

The social and political climate of our nation is changing so rapidly that it is hard to accept and even keep up

with. If we are not vigilant and thinking soberly, the danger is that change will come so rapidly that we will find ourselves living in a land that we do not recognize. Actually, this has already happened. We are told we cannot publicly pray or recognize our faith in any manner except a private one. The individuals that founded this nation had no intention of letting this happen. Worship services were held in the U.S. Capital building with no second thought that it was against the Constitution that these same individuals had written.

The question is what would you do "If they burst into your home?" I fear that is the wrong question. The question today is "Why didn't we do something when they were standing at the door?"

May God help us to stand!

### Doctrinal Statement Vote Scheduled for October Meeting by Justin Cameron, Clerk

#### Baptist Missionary Association of Mississippi

"At the annual session of the BMA of Mississippi in October 2014, the messenger body voted that the President of the Association appoint a committee to formulate a proposed addition to our Doctrinal Statement concerning our beliefs concerning Biblical Marriage. The committee appointed consisted of Bro. Danny Pitts, Dr. John Adams, Bro. Larry Geraldson, Bro. Frank Panzirino, and Bro Justin Cameron. Article XI, paragraph one of the Constitution of the BMA of Mississippi states, "The Constitution of the Baptist Missionary Association of Mississippi may be amended by the two-thirds majority vote of the messengers present and voting at any annual session of the association. When the amendment is desired, it will be offered in writing in any session, morning, afternoon, or evening; its adoption moved and seconded, and thoroughly discussed. At a subsequent session the vote will be taken without further discussion."

#### Proposed Change to the Doctrinal Statement of

#### The Baptist Missionary Association of Mississippi The proposed change is to add:

##### 27. Biblical Marriage

God, having created male and female, instituted their union in marriage. God designed marriage as the covenant relationship of one man and one woman for a lifetime.

It is God's unique gift to reveal the union between Christ and His church. God provides in marriage the context for the only appropriate sexual desires and behaviors and the only means for procreation of the human race.

The God-ordained institution of marriage is not subject to redefinition or re-interpretation by human means or practice. Forgiveness and reconciliation are found in God's atonement which is without respect of persons.

(Gen. 1:27-28; Genesis 2:18-25; Matt. 19:3-9; Lev. 18:22-25; Prov. 5:18-19; Mark 10:6-9; Rom. 1:18-32; 1 Cor. 6:9-11,16; Eph. 5:22-33; Heb. 13:4)

### Church of the Covered Dish BY THOMAS TAPP



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## Sofilthy's Attic by Barbara White



### POLI" TICKING"

Well, I was sitting around in a group a few weeks ago when the subject of the coming elections was brought up. I tell you what - my jaw hit my chest and it's still there!

Some of them were telling about these big parties that some candidates throw the night before the elections and hand out money and food in order to buy the votes the next day. I was shocked for two reasons. 1. That citizens will sell their vote for a little money and/or some food. 2. No one has ever invited me to one of those parties!

I thought I'd see if the Bible had anything to say about bribery. Boy, does it! Some who mentioned it were Samuel, David in Psalms, Isaiah and from what I concluded, they're ALL agin' it. I think I am too. But like I said, I've never been invited to one of those parties.

Another thought - You know what a tick can do to a body! I think a bribe taken from a person who is poli"ticking" would have the same effect on a voter! Just sayin'.

## Lifeway's Dance Keynote for Great Escape 2015

DiscipleGuide Conference Ministry, along with sponsor Central Baptist College, is pleased to announce the details of Great Escape 2016. Planned as a "getaway" cruise experience for youth/children's leaders and spouses, Great Escape also offers inspirational and instructional training for both paid and volunteer staff.

Great Escape 2016 keynote speaker will be Dr. Mark Dance. Mark served as senior pastor of Second Baptist Church in Conway, Arkansas, from 2001 to 2014. Under his leadership, the church completed a relocation to a fifty-acre campus and repurposing of the former church location into the Ministry Center, an evangelical non-profit designed to serve those with material needs while also providing for their spiritual needs.

During his ministry in Conway, Mark served as trustee for Lifeway Christian Resources, chaplain of the Conway Police Department, and mission team leader to more than two dozen countries. Mark has earned Bachelor of Business Administration, Master of Divinity, and Doctor of Ministry degrees.

In 2014, Dance was named Lifeway's Pastor Advocate, and in 2015 he and his wife Janet relocated to Nashville, Tennessee. The focus of his new role is helping pastors lead healthy lives and ministries, in season and out of season.

During the cruise, Mark will lead multiple sessions on the theme "Home-work." According to Terry Kimbrow, President of Central Baptist College and host of Great Escape 2016, "Mark is one of the most dynamic young pastors I have ever met. He is a dedicated man

of God, and he is given to transparency and integrity." In addition to scheduled teaching times, informal roundtable discussions will complement the instructive sessions. "The focus is to help student leaders build a healthy life in and away from ministry," said Kimbrow.

The Great Escape cruise will depart from Galveston, Texas, aboard Carnival Freedom on Saturday afternoon, January 16 at 4 p.m. and return to the same port on Thursday, January 21 at 8:30 a.m. and include ports of call in Progreso, Yucatan and Cozumel, Mexico.

DiscipleGuide has secured rates starting at \$279 plus \$54 tax and fees per person for an inside cabin. In addition, DiscipleGuide's early registration fee is only \$60 per person if paid by November 16, 2015.

Don't miss this one of a kind event! For complete details or to register online, go to [www.DiscipleGuide.org/thegreatescape](http://www.DiscipleGuide.org/thegreatescape). Visit Carnival website at [www.Carnival.com](http://www.Carnival.com) to view all the details of the cruise itinerary and amenities of the Carnival Freedom. For general questions about Great Escape, call Tricia at DiscipleGuide at 501.205.8753 or contact her via e-mail at [pkimbrow@discipleguide.org](mailto:pkimbrow@discipleguide.org).

### Revival Services set

Riverside Baptist Church, Ellisville, will hold revival services September 13-16. Bro. Harold Floyd will be our speaker. Sunday service times are 11:00 a.m. and 1:30 p.m. Monday - Wednesday services are at 7:00 p.m. Dr. Medrick Savell is the pastor

*"The focus is to help student leaders build a healthy life in and away from ministry"*

## Southeastern Baptist College

Danny Pitts - Interim President  
4229 Highway 15 North, Laurel, Mississippi 39440, (601) 426-6346



Danny Pitts

*Serving Christ With a Biblical World View In A Christian Atmosphere*

### Bible Conference Set

The First Annual SBC Bible Conference will be on September 21 and 22. I know that Southeastern has had Bible conferences and lecturers in the past, but not in many years, so this is a new beginning. The speaker will be Dr. Charley Holmes who is the President of the Baptist Missionary Association Theological Seminary. The subject will be "The Baptist Foundations in the US". A timeline of the development of issues in the United States which led to the formation of the Baptist Convention Movement and the Independent Baptist Movement will be made available to everyone present. Explanations of how these developed out of the Associational Baptist historical practices will be presented.

The times for the conference were chosen to work around the class schedule at SBC as much as possible. Dr. Holmes will be speaking on Monday from 9:45 to 10:30AM and that evening from 6:30 to 7:30PM. He will also speak from 9:45 to 10:30AM

on Tuesday. Everyone is welcomed to come and profit from these studies.

### Big Creek Auxiliaries Visit

The Big Creek local project of the GMA's, Sunbeams, and Galileans is Southeastern Baptist College. On August 15th they met at Southeastern, toured the campus, had meetings, and enjoyed a sack lunch in the Canteen. A special offering for the school was pre-



Big Creek Auxiliaries give offering to President Pitts

sent to the Interim President. We thank the young people and the leaders for their support.

# NATIONAL SENIOR ADULT CONFERENCE

Hilton Convention Center, Branson, Missouri  
October 28-30, 2015  
Details & Registration - [discipleguide.org/nsa](http://discipleguide.org/nsa) - 501-205-8753



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Speaker



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Concert



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SIX  
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Triumphant Quartet  
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I've never been one to get too worked up over alien sightings, although I personally have never seen an alien. If I ever am in a situation where I am face to face with an oval headed, mind talking creature from outer space, there is no doubt in my mind that I can summon up some creative moves that would make your regular alien sighter feel right proud. Until then, I will remain quite skeptical.

Sure, there was that one time my brother and I were coon hunting when I was a teenager that we sighted something abnormal. A bright light hovered about

# ALIENS

## From The Mind of Chuck Lee

Lee pastor's Pine Grove Baptist Church, Purvis. He may be reached by email at [leecharles47@yahoo.com](mailto:leecharles47@yahoo.com)



three hundred feet away from us down an old gravel road. At the same moment that I spotted the bright light, I smelled an odd odor that I hadn't notice before. It smelled like a mixture of foul odors, but the most prevalent was that of burning rubber. Since I had blinked, I didn't notice that my brother had taken off in the other direction, so you can imagine my surprise at all the smoke that is associated with the bottom of rubber boots melting on a gravel road. It didn't take long for me to catch up, such was the surge of adrenaline at the thought of being taken by space aliens.

A half mile later, through several briar patches, a small creek, and a fairly sizable swamp, we managed to slow down to a fast trot. It's amazing how quickly the imagination can gather steam and begin ricocheting off the walls of urban legends and myths. We went from seeing a bright light in the sky, to having hand

to hand combat with Big Foot, outrunning a pack of black panthers (they scream like a woman, you know), and evading several ax murderers.

We eventually escaped our untimely deaths and made it out to a black top highway. A couple of hours later we were riding in the safety of my brother's pick-up with the radio blaring. It's uncanny how quickly your mood can change from one moment to the next.

If I hadn't had to catch up to my brother, (he had the truck keys), I would have loved to investigate the bright light phenomena. We went back later to see if the unidentified flying object was still there, but by that time it had disappeared. The gravel road had been paved. A subdivision had also been built. I was married and had three children. Still, we went back.

## Women's Missionary Auxiliary

### President

Linda Smith  
2816 Old Bay Springs Rd.  
Laurel, MS 39440  
601-470-1398



### Corresponding Secretary

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

## Ten Mile WMA Report

by Maria Ochoa, Reporter

The Ten Mile WMA held their meeting on July 13 2015, 7PM, at Vardaman Street, Wiggins Ms.. The Meeting was called to order by our Vice President Myrtis Mallett.

A devotional was given by Mrs. Margaret Andrews from Romans 10. She and her husband Ryan are going as Missionaries to China. Martha's words gave all of us a message to be a missionary wherever we are. A special offering was given to the Andrews.

We elected officers for 2015-2016 as follows: President Myrtis Mallett, 1st Vice President Louise Crawly, 2nd Vice President Cathy Rhodes, 3rd Vice President Dena Ellzey, Secretary Julia Lee, Reporter Maria Ochoa, Song Leader Alana Woods, Pianist Jean Knight, Historian Lorna Shoemaker, District Project Promoter Pat Allen, Sun Beam Promoter Pat Johnson, Sunbeam Promoter Diana Williams, Asst. Sun Beam Promoter Angela Givens, GMA Promoter Jessica Kirkland, Asst. GMA Promoter Adrienne Compston Rogers

Our project for this quarter is Brother Phillip Burns from Sumrall, Mississippi.

We enjoyed refreshments and a great fellowship with Vardaman Street Baptist Church.

Our next meeting will be on October 12, at 7 PM with Pleasant Hill Baptist Church.

## Northeast WMA Report

by Martha Duncan, reporter

The North East District WMA met August 11, at Providence Church, Amory. A delicious meal was served by the ladies of the church. Door prizes were given. The meeting was for the installation of officers for the 2015-2016 year. Each officer was presented a jar with sand & shells. The shells represent us. Some are broken & some are not. Love, Enthusiasm, Availability, Dedicated, Encourage, Reach out in service, Strength, Help, Inspiration, and Precious.

Our new officers are as follows: President Elaine Smith, 1st Vice President Patti Harlow, 2nd Vice President Shelia McDowell, 3rd Vice President Teresa Taylor, 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 Sarah Tolleson & Bobby Sue Bradley, Project Promoter Shelia McDowell, Reporter/Historian Martha Duncan, Youth Director Gloria Jarrell, Nominating Committee: Elaine Smith, Shelia McDowell, & Lindsay Lindsey. WMA Advisory Council includes Bro. Roger Akers & Bro. Matt Hudson. Each Member was given a copy of "Foot Prints In The Sand."

Our next meeting will be November 10, at Bethel Baptist Church, Fulton.

## GMA Girls

### State Youth Auxiliary Director

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

### State GMA Promoter

Becky Farmer  
464 Churchwell Road  
Hattiesburg, MS 39401  
601-596-1005  
[becky@southforrest.org](mailto:becky@southforrest.org)



## Auxiliary Visits College

Big Creek Auxiliary toured Southeastern Baptist College on August 15, 2015. The youth had an opportunity to learn about the college and the needs of the college.



Big Creek GMAs presented money to the college to help with college needs. The Big Creek GMA project for this quarter will be Southeastern Baptist College. We are thankful for the tour and time together to learn more about our college.

## Noah Launch Kit Focuses on Salvation From Sin

From children's Bible stories to coloring pages, Noah is the jolly guy who has a floating zoo and likes rainbows. In this series, however, we will discover the real Noah, a man full of faith, and the huge task that God placed on his shoulders in a very perilous time.

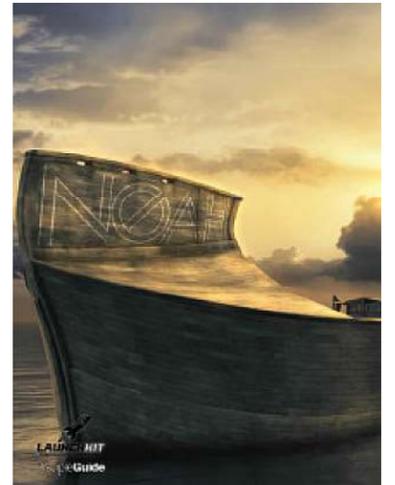
In this seven-week Launch Kit called Noah, students will see that, like in Noah's day, the world is spiraling out of control and God's not happy about it. Students will discuss that even though God punishes sin, he always provides a way of salvation - for Noah, it was an ark; for us, it's Jesus.

Launch Kits are lesson plans for student pastors, small group leaders, volunteers, and parents that are easy to use.

Lessons are designed to ignite a conversation around Scripture as students discuss their faith in a life-changing way. Each Launch Kit is crafted for use with middle-school through high-school age youth. Since Launch Kits are conversation-based, the lessons do not have student handouts or worksheets. Instead, they contain a leader discussion guide that steers conversation toward living out genuine faith and a life centered on Scripture.

Launch Kits are sold per series and the cost is based on the number of weeks in the series. Once churches or individuals buy a series, they own it and may reproduce as many copies as they wish. Each series has been written and developed by Stephen Castleberry, a student pastor at Antioch Baptist Church in Conway, Arkansas, where the lessons have been used with great success.

Find the growing Launch Kit series and an introductory video at [DiscipleGuide.org](http://DiscipleGuide.org) under "shop," then "students," then "Launch Kit."



## Church Seeking Music Minister

Mt. Pleasant Baptist Church in Fulton is searching for the man God would have to be our music minister. This person will be responsible for planning and leading the singing portion of our worship, as well as working with the choir and organizing special singing services. This is a bi-vocational position. For more information contact Tim at 662-322-7679.

# NO SECRETS IN MARRIAGE

“For this cause shall a man leave his father and mother, and shall be joined unto his wife, and they two shall be one flesh.” Ephesians 5:31. Then Mark 10:7, 8: “For this cause shall a man leave his father and mother, and cleave to his wife and they twain shall be one flesh: so then they are no more twain, but one flesh.” What a great mystery God has performed. He took two humans and made them one. In the scripture above it states they are no longer two, but one.

Married couples need to work on becoming totally one. Financially, spiritually, physically and in every aspect of life, they should work on being one as God intended. People cannot have true deep intimacy and a close, loving rela-

tionship when they are married and keep important things separate or secret.

Some Christians are very passionate about defending their rights to be single or secret in some aspects of their marriage. Our society raises people to be so self-centered and selfish that this spills over into the deepest human relationship a person can ever have on this earth. There are no other relationships on earth where God himself makes two people one. There are many reasons why marriage partners try to justify keeping things separate or secret. But in the end, it just simply serves as a wedge between true transparency, intimacy and trust. And Satan loves to find

Christian couples who refuse to completely merge their lives into one.

You may think you are supposed to be autonomous and independent in things. Society teaches that. God teaches that the husband and wife are one in a holy covenant and they don't even make decisions for themselves anymore. They have a covenant partner to consider when making decisions. If you don't want to share your life with someone, then you should not get married. Marriage is a giving away your singleness to live with another - for another - God. The purpose of marriage is to give God glory.

Here are some common areas I see where couples are staying separate: Electronics and social media - There is absolutely no reason for a spouse to have private emails or private text. There is no justifiable reason for you to say you don't want your spouse to have your email password or to see anything on your phone. You are hiding and that is a secret. That is the first unraveling of the marriage. A marriage is based upon trust, and openness. If you are on a second marriage and you have some personal issues with a past relationship, then you need to work this out with your current spouse with a biblical counselor. Every social media account you have should be readily available for you or your spouse to share. What are you afraid for them to see? You may say nothing, I just like having some privacy. But you are married. You can have privacy in the bathroom sometimes, but you don't have privacy when you are interacting with other people and social media.

Friends - As Christians all our friends should be Christian. II Corinthians 6:14, 17. They should all be the same sex as you, except you may have couple friends that both sets of couples have fun together. But there should not be a male female friendship that stands

alone. And your spouse should know all of your friends. Your spouse should know every one that you know.

Finances - wow this is a powder keg for so many couples. Money is the number one cause of divorce. That is because most people put a higher priority on their money over their marriage. Again if it is a second marriage, people always want separate accounts. They say we just never combined all of our funds together. No married person should have their own stash of cash or account. This is blatantly deceitful and shows no trust or commitment to the marriage.

There are some rare exceptions to the separate bank account such as having a spouse who has one account to take the child support out of. Or someone who is a co-signer for their elderly parents account as an example. But many couples divide bills up. She pays for this. He pays for that out of his money. I thought the two of you were one? You live under one roof. You share a house. Why do you not share a bank account? There isn't a need for his and her accounts.

I can't tell any of you what to do. You have to pray about this. You have to let the Lord lead you. But all of these things I have mentioned above are what starts the eroding or the lack of true transparency and closeness in a marriage. You need to pray and talk and try to get every aspect of your life together as one. Not separate as two, but called together as one.

## MISSISSIPPI BAPTIST CHILDREN'S HOME

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



SIDNEY DAVIS

### Back To School Bash

We were with the Pleasant Hill Baptist Church in Saucier on Saturday, August

1st for a day of recreation with the youth and youth leaders of the church. The children, Pat, and I enjoyed this time of activity the church had planned and we appreciate the time of fellowship that we were able to have with each other. Then on Sunday, August 2nd, following the morning services, the children were presented with back to school supplies for the upcoming school year. Our thanks is extended to Pleasant Hill Church and Pastor Jerry Anderson for the hospitality shown to us during our stay with them.



**Above-** Pleasant Hill Church, Saucier helped with school supplies

**Below -** Bethel Church, Wiggins visit

### VBS Presents Check to Home

We were also privileged to be with the Bethel Baptist Church in Wiggins and Pastor Freddie Wagner for their Sunday morning services on August 16. At the close of the service the youth presented to the Home a check for the funds they collected during their VBS this summer. Our appreciation is extended to each VBS student and worker for your efforts in the support of the ministry of the Mississippi Baptist Children's Home.



### Remember In Prayer and Focus Verse

Thank you for remembering this ministry in your prayers. The Lord knows our need and we look to Him to supply that need. “And it shall come to pass, that before they call, I will answer; and while they are yet speaking, I will hear.” Isaiah 65:24. Praise the Lord! He is faithful!

## Batemans

from page 1

Chinese in Lubbock, Texas, where her family were members of Central Baptist Church. Then the pastor's son went to Jacksonville College and he reported that he had found LaTrell a “real live Chinaman” who could teach her Chinese. And the rest is history: After a yearlong courtship, they were married in 1950 and then sent out as BMAA missionaries in 1953.

Dr. John W. Duggar wrote two short books about the Batemans. The first, Two for God, was written about the early years of their ministry in Taiwan. The second, The Girl with the Missionary Heart, was published in 1975 as LaTrell's testimony of her call to missions. Even though the Batemans have been retired as missionaries to Taiwan since 1990, their ministry lives on through the souls they won and the churches they planted. They have continued to actively serve the Lord. Bro. Jack at eighty-six still drives to a small Chinese church in Plano, Texas, and preaches there once a month. LaTrell, because of failing health, has been limited in what she can do. She is looking forward to going to her eternal, heav-

only home.

Dr. Duggar, in the last paragraph of Two for God wrote these words: “The influence of these two lives for God will live on and on. Their work in far-off Formosa will never be finished. Not only did they give their hearts to the cause of foreign missions, but they gave their very lives on the field itself. They have been the means of reaching many for Christ, and only time will tell and eternity will reveal how many people will eventually be saved as a result of their witnessing to the few who in turn witnessed to others. Jack and LaTrell Bateman, we count you as two of the greatest missionaries that God ever willed to preach and teach the unsearchable riches of Christ Jesus in a land where millions had never heard of Him. Because Christ lived in you.”

The BMAA Missions office would like to honor the Batemans for their years of faithful service by encouraging churches and individuals to send a love offering in their honor. You may send your gift to Calvary Baptist Church at 2101 South Davis, Arlington, TX 76013. Please mark your funds with “Jack and LaTrell Bateman.” If you have any questions, you may contact the BMAA Missions Department or Pastor Jerry Phillips at 469-964-4600. We praise the Lord for the legacy of Jack and LaTrell Bateman.

### Family Ark Ministries

Dr. Travis Plumlee is a full-time professional speaker and leads Family Ark Ministries. For more information or to contact him, visit [www.travisplumlee.com](http://www.travisplumlee.com).



## A Twenty Year legacy

Almost twenty years ago, Peruvian Paul Tinoco heard a Lifeworld Spanish broadcast, El Contacto Cristiano and was so “moved by the preaching, the type that makes you feel a fire burning inside,” that he wrote a letter to Lifeworld. After receiving Tinoco’s letter, Ricky Robinson reached out to the late James (Jimmy) Swindoll, who at that time was the nearest BMA missionary serving in Bolivia, and asked him to visit Tinoco, who was touched by Swindoll’s personal, follow-up visit.

Later, Swindoll and missionary Jerry Kidd returned to Peru to meet Tinoco. In the following years, American missionaries Marvin Lloyd and Thom South and Bolivian missionary David Flores took part in the ordination of Paul Tinoco as pastor and missionary. At some point during the two de-

cadecades that followed, David Dickson (Puerto Rico) continued to oversee and encourage the growing Peruvian work.

Two decades later in July of this year,



Luis Ortega was able to witness God’s work in Peru through Paul Tinoco when they served alongside a Baptist Medical Missions International (BMMI) team in several villages, including the community of Picoy. The mayor of Picoy was among those who made professions of faith. An enthusiastic new convert, his salvation put him in a particularly difficult position in his

largely syncretistic (merging of several religions) tribe, because every year one of his major duties is to fund raise for and plan a large pagan worship celebration for the community, a celebration that now goes against his Christian faith.

Following his conversion, a dialogue began with the mayor as a result of this collaborative team effort, and he offered a piece of land to Lifeworld for the installation of a Community Radio (LPFM) station. The granting of permits and licenses is necessary for this small radio station, which will complement the ministry of local BMA missions that is reaching out to the community of Picoy with evangelism and discipleship.

Lifeworld’s involvement in Peru is continuing to expand beyond Picoy. During Luis’ travels in Peru with Paul Tinoco, the Asháninkas, a native tribal group, requested the installation of Lifeworld radio stations for their villages. Tribal leaders of the Asháninkas indicated that there are more than 100 communities (of people in that tribe) up and down the river and throughout the

Peruvian jungles and mountains. Lifeworld and BMA Peru are in dialogue about further partnerships to reach out to this people group, which is perhaps the second largest (after the Quechua) in Peru.

God has blessed the work in Peru, which began with Bro. Paul Tinoco’s letter to Lifeworld and continues through the efforts of BMA Missions and Lifeworld. It is a twenty-year legacy of faith, collaboration and prayer.

Please join Lifeworld in prayer for the following: partnerships with the Ashaninkas, the newly-converted mayor of Picoy, permits and licenses that need to be granted, and plans for Community Radio to come to fruition within a year. As always, Lifeworld’s desire is that more people will profess Jesus as Lord, become disciples, then disciple-makers.

## Prayer Request For Assistance

*From Rama Bochung, Lifeworld speaker and missionary to Myanmar (formerly Burma) - sent to Bro. Phil Knott on Thursday, August 19th*

“Heavy monsoon rains during the month of July have caused flooding and landslides in several parts of Myanmar and over a hundred people dead and displaced thousands. Among many victims Ko Nyi Nyi, one of our trained leaders and his family are out of them. They live in Nanchung village, Sagaing Division, northwest

of Myanmar. He and his wife and 3 kids are now in rescue camp for 4 weeks. Now the water is gone but mud remain in his house and all over the village and they could not move into their home yet because of mud and bad smell all over the village. The Myanmar government has appealed for international aid to flood victims. International



aids have been arriving from several countries including the US. Thanks for it. But I think it would need long term for recovery. Bridges and roads have been destroyed or damaged by the flood landslides in Chin State and Sagaing Division and communications in those areas are still very difficult.

Ko Nyi Nyi is one of our workers in the area of Athetsaka (LifeWord Burmese program). He has been advertising our LifeWord Burmese program and collecting our listener’s letters from many villages. By answering those listener’s questions through him we have another chances to share Christ in that region. Two people have been saved and another two people made profession of faith through him and our lifeWord Burmese program.

Now, the Lord opens for Ko Nyi Nyi to shares the gospel in rescue camps every day and night. He told me that many people are more interested in the gospel after that flood. He asked me to send more gospel tracts. But it is out of print. Please pray for Ko Nyi Nyi as he continue to share the gospel many lost souls might be saved. The only way we can reach right now to that region is by flight and it is very expensive. Please pray for the recovery of those damage roads.

Our mission church members who live in 5 different villages of Irrawaddy Division have been affected by the flood also. No one is dead but their rice fields have been covering by waters.

I asked uncle Myint about our brethren in Paletwa area of Chin State. Chin State and Irrawaddy Division are two out of 5 regions the Myanmar government has declared disaster zones. Uncle Myint told me our brethren in Paletwa, Chin State are OK. No one is dead but all of their crops were destroyed by the recent heavy monsoon rains. Please pray for them.

We never have that kind of flooding and landslides in Myanmar. But we have it now and at the same time that kinds of disasters were not only in Myanmar but also in some parts of India and in Macedonia etc., I believe it is the sign of Christ coming! His coming is very near. Pray for us so that we might able to share the gospel in effective ways to unbelieving people of Myanmar.

Thanks for your prayers and support!

## Cleavers Celebrate 50th Anniversary

On August 29, Tony and Jerrie Sue Cleaver celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary. The Cleavers were married August 29, 1965, in Jacksonville, Texas. The Cleavers have called Killeen home since the Army brought them here in 1983. Chaplain (LTC Ret) Cleaver served as an Army chaplain, a public school teacher and counselor, a community college counselor, and is currently Director of Distance Education and Professor of Biblical Literature for the Baptist Missionary Association Theological Seminary in Jacksonville, Texas. Mrs. Cleaver is a credentialed health information management administrator and has been affiliated with Central Texas College since 1983. Until last year she served as the Chair of the Office Technology Department and now is a professor in that department. The Cleavers have two children, Amelia Hartman and husband Michael of Dallas and son Max and wife Brandie of Richmond, Texas. They have four grandchildren, Elliot and Silas Hartman of Dallas and Eli and Ava Cleaver of Richmond. To celebrate this anniversary, the Cleavers took a family cruise to Alaska in June and were honored with a reception in Killeen in July. On their actual anniversary, they attended the Eagle Scout Court of Honor for their oldest grandson Elliot Hartman.



Tony & Jerri Sue Cleaver - Then and Now

