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Baton Rouge Church Launches Flood Distribution Center

Report Provided by River Oaks Church, Denham Springs

(Baton Rouge, Louisiana) – River Oaks Baptist Church, one of the few dry sites in the Baton Rouge metropolitan area, re-

sponded to the massive flooding by launching a community distribution center of essential goods.



River Oaks Church was not flooded but most homes in area were

sponded to the massive flooding by launching a community distribution center of essential goods.

“The neighborhoods right around the church flooded and some had to be evacuated by boat, so we felt that God had blessed us by keeping the church and parsonage dry. In return, for two weeks we reached out to our commu-

nity by supplying them with what they needed right after the flood,” said Buck Hughes, ROBC pastor.

About 40,000 homes in East Baton Rouge Parish flooded, which is about 35% of residences. In nearby Livingston Parish, 80% of homes flooded, with specifically 90% of homes and businesses in Denham Springs.

“Families and churches from all around the country responded to our call for essential goods to



Denham Springs During Flood

distribute to the flooded areas,” said Hughes. “We had people hauling trucks and trailer loads

of non-perishable food and water, baby food and diapers, cleaning supplies, tools, toiletries, per-

sonal hygiene products, pet food, paper goods, trash bags and plastic tubs, among other important items.”

For two weeks following the flood, the church served as a center to distribute items every afternoon, in addition to cooking some hot meals that volunteers prepared for people in the neighborhood. The church also helped organize volunteers to help clean up and ‘mud out’ flooded homes.

“We were blessed to have a number of churches from Mississippi to help be the church’s hand and feet in our area,” said Hughes. “We can’t recall everyone who helped, but we were so blessed to have Christians show up and help – even sleeping in the church building – to help the next day.”

Some of the Mississippi churches that helped were: Central Baptist (Southaven), First Baptist Midway, Lone Oak Baptist, Ballardsville Baptist, Hopewell Baptist, Bethel Bap-

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COPING WITH THE STRAIN OF MINISTRY

Pastor’s Oasis - A Gift For Your Pastor & Wife

Most pastors are overworked, underappreciated and underpaid. In addition to their responsibilities of preaching and leading, they weep with those who hurt, plead with those who wander, pray for those who struggle, and nurture those who have been wounded. Many spend late hours visiting hospital rooms and shut-ins before returning home to prepare for Sunday. Often they carry home the strains and struggles of the entire congregation, placing a heavy load and much stress on

their marriages and families.

That’s why DiscipleGuide offers the Annual Pastors Oasis conference in Branson, Missouri.

This yearly get a way provides pastors and their wives with a much-needed respite. For 2016, the conference will focus on coping with the strain of ministry and protecting ministry marriages. The goal is to help save marriages, reinvigorate families, and extend pas-

torates.

Ultimately, the conference benefits more than just the pastor’s family; it also benefits

the conference benefits more than just the pastor’s family

the pastor’s church. As goes the health of the pastor, so goes the health of the church. Please pray for Pastors Oasis October 3-5. Visit discipleguide.org/pastorsoasis for more information.

Ladies Retreat Held In Clinton



Over 130 ladies from around Mississippi enjoyed their annual Ladies Retreat at Camp

Garaywa in Clinton. Sabrina Clayton brought inspiring lessons. More photos on page 7.



Larry Geraldson
Director



Baptist Missionary Association of Mississippi

Department of Missions and Revolving Loan Fund





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“As we have therefore opportunity, let us do good unto all men, especially unto them who are of the household of faith.” Gal 6:10

The opportunity to help our sister churches in Louisiana, impacted by the flooding is an opportunity that our churches welcomed. Ours was the opportunity to coordinate and assist as disaster relief supplies and volunteer support began to flow across the state line. I personally want to commend all of the churches, team leaders, and volunteers that provided time, supplies, and financial resources to help those in need. Our efforts focused primarily on two BMA churches in the affected area; River of Oaks in Baton Rouge and Victory Baptist Church in Pride, Louisiana. I was able to contact both of the pastors, Buck Hughes and George Scruggs, soon after it became obvious that help would be needed, and assess how we might help. Some churches had already called with commitments of support and other were contacting us with questions about how they could get involved. The spirit of cooperation and the enthusiasm to get involved was remarkable. To the best of our knowledge here is a list of churches that have helped:

With Volunteers & Supplies

Central, Southaven; Ballardsville; Bethel; Centerville; Greenwood; Hopewell; Lone Oak; Mt. Carmel; Midway First Baptist; Goodhope, Stringer; Little Creek; Shiloh; Campground; Divine Grace; First Orange Grove; State Brotherhood.

With Financial Support

Hoblochitto Association; Big Creek; Springhill, Ocean Springs; Washington; Association; Helton Road, Theodore, Alabama; Hillcrest, Yazoo City; Dykes Chapel; Paramount Springhill, Laurel; Grace Mission in Clinton; O’Neal Road.

I also want to express my appreciation to the following individuals who stepped up to lead teams of volunteers who traveled to the affected areas:

Bro. Anders Lee, Bro. Josh Daniels, Bro. Jimmy and Suzie Daugherty, Bro. Cedric Lumpkin, Bro. Scott Kirkland, Bro. Chris Flynn, and Bro. Ted Quinby.

It is very possible that we have missed someone or some contribution. If we have, please forgive us and let us know, so we can recognize you or your church in the next article.

Included in our report is a personal response from both of these pastors.

**From Pastor Buck Hughes,
Pastor of River of Oaks Baptist Church in Baton Rouge**

“I want to thank the BMA of Mississippi Missions Office and Larry Geraldson for coordinating relief aid and volunteers. They were immediate and resourceful in their assistance. It was such a blessing to so many people.

River Oaks Baptist Church, one of the few dry sites in the Baton Rouge metropolitan area, responded to the massive flooding by launching a community distribution center of essential goods.



Bro. & Mrs. Buck Hughes

The neighborhoods right around the church flooded and some had to be evacuated by boat, so we felt that God had blessed us by keeping the church and parsonage dry. In return, for two weeks we reached out to our community by supplying them with what they needed

items every afternoon, in addition to cooking some hot meals that volunteers prepared for people in the neighborhood. The church also helped organize volunteers to help clean up and ‘mud out’ flooded homes.

We were blessed to have a number of churches from Mississippi to help be the church’s hand and feet in our area. We can’t recall everyone who helped, but we were so blessed to have Christians show up and help—even sleeping in the church building – to help the next day.

Some of the Mississippi churches that helped were: Central Baptist (South Haven), First Baptist Midway, Lone Oak Baptist, Ballardsville Baptist, Hopewell Baptist, Bethsadia Baptist, Rock Creek Baptist, Carolina Baptist and Carolina Methodist.

Bro. Anders Lee was one of the first to show up at the church with pre-packaged supplies, boxed and ready to hand out. Bro. Cedric Lumpkin worked with the Pearl River County School District

and brought a bus load of clothes, shoes, water, food and other supplies. A huge thank-you to all who donated to this cause. Your support has been truly overwhelming. You have been a huge blessing to our community and our church.

Your assistance will be remembered long after the debris has been removed.

Thanks so much for all of you who have been praying for us and continue to do so.

In addition to Mississippi, the church received and distributed supplies from other churches and families in Louisiana, Texas, Alabama, Florida and Arkansas.

River Oaks has moved onto other recovery phases of helping our neighborhood, and closed the distribution center. We plan to assist our neighbors and church members in their rebuilding efforts.

For those who would like to help with the relief efforts, contributions may be made to the Baptist Missionary Association of America’s (BMAA) Missions Department, BMA of Mississippi office or

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tist, Greenwood Baptist, Bethsadia Baptist, Rock Creek Baptist, Carolina Baptist and Carolina Methodist.

“Bro. Anders Lee was one of the first to show up at the church with pre-packaged supplies boxed and ready to hand out,” said Hughes. Bro. Cedric Lumpkin worked with the Pearl River County School District and brought a bus load of clothes, shoes, water, food and other supplies. A huge thank-you to all who donated to this cause. Your support has been truly overwhelming. You have been a huge blessing to our community and our church.

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“River Oaks has moved onto other recovery phases of helping our neighborhood,” said Hughes,” and closed the distribution center. “We plan to assist our neighbors and church members in their rebuilding efforts.”

For those who would like to help with the relief efforts, contributions may be made to the Baptist Missionary Association of America’s (BMAA) Missions Department, BMAM missions office or directly to River Oaks Baptist Church, 14969 Old Hammond Highway, Baton Rouge, LA 70816. For further information: contact Bro. Buck Hughes at 225-454-8138.



Shiloh Youth group loaded supplies headed for Louisiana right after the flood.

About 40,000 homes in East Baton Rouge Parish flooded, which is about 35% of residences. In nearby Livingston Parish, 80% of homes flooded, with specifically 90% of homes and businesses in Denham Springs.

Families and churches from all around the country responded to our call for essential goods to distribute to the flooded areas. We had people hauling trucks and trailer loads of non-perishable food and water, baby food and diapers, cleaning supplies, tools, toiletries, personal hygiene products, pet food, paper goods, trash bags and plastic tubs, among other important items.

For two weeks following the flood, the church served as a center to distribute

continued on next page

SENIOR SOURCES - by Becky Ulmer- becky.ulmer@jghms.com

"Make Your Wishes Known"

If you want to give someone a message, what is the best way? The two ways that are most effective to ensure the message is delivered in the verbiage intended is direct verbal communication and the second is written communication.

"End of life" is not a topic most of us "enjoy" or even feel comfortable discussing. Failure to discuss this with the one(s) who will be making decisions can cause, at a minimum hurt feelings, to an unfortunate circumstance of permanent severance of family bonds. Waiting to make these decisions until the condition warrants action often results in decisions made in haste and based more on emotions than facts. The media has provided coverage of the consequences of failure to have a "Health Care Directive", "Living Will" or even a designated representative to carry out the wishes of the terminally ill person. By law, if an individual becomes unable to speak for themselves, make competent choices, or does not have a designated representative (Power of Attorney), these decisions fall on the spouse if married or adult child/children.

If the person is not married and/or has no adult children, the responsibility reverts back to ones parent(s), then to siblings, and finally to the next of kin willing to serve as spokesperson for the individual. So much time and effort is spent by the healthcare industry on determining who is the next of kin and if the representative is indeed the one "legally" in charge.

Procrastination and good intentions are common findings when the providers attempt to determine if the patient has made advance plans or directives for health care. This writer can tell you how much easier the process is if wishes have been written out by the patient in a legally acceptable way or he/she has designated in writing a "Power of Attorney(s)" for health care decisions. One hurdle that seems to prevent this being done is the mind-set that a "Power of Attorney" or "Living Will" requires the services of an attorney and the word "cost" becomes a real concern for some.

It is always good to obtain advice if you don't feel comfortable in making these decisions or understanding what these documents mean. To be consid-

ered legal in health care, the document must be signed (or marked) by the person who the directive or will is for. The signature must be notarized or may be witnessed by two (2) adults that do not stand to be included in the estate of the individual or a health care provider. The form can be written by you, by an attorney or downloaded from a website on a computer.

I understand that some insurance companies are requiring these forms to be recorded either at local courthouse or state level in order to be accepted. Some of the best I have read were in written form, in the patient's own words and specific to their own wishes. These forms can be disease or condition specific. They can include both "do's and don'ts". "If's" can be included such as, "If I have been diagnosed with terminal cancer", or "If I have a stroke and unable to swallow or walk."

The documents should address when you want this authority to begin. That can be immediately upon signing or when a specified number of physicians declare you unable to manage your own affairs or at what point you desire. These forms can be changed at any time. The most recent form recorded will be honored.

In addition to having these recorded

in public office, it is always a good decision to offer a copy to the person designated on the form, legal representative, local health care provider/facility and the person that provides transportation to medical appointments.

Feel free to discuss these decisions with your personal physician or health care provider. Direct conversation with the one(s) you are entrusting to carry out your wishes will enhance a mutual understanding. To meet the requirements in health care facilities, a decision to accept or decline cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR), ventilator (Respirator), dialysis, oxygen, and blood transfusions must be made. The emergency crew or health care facility may not be able to provide time to discuss in depth these choices based on the serious nature of injuries or illness. It is human nature to put these topics off, waiting on a "better" time, in hopes of never needing to make them.

All decisions should be made only after prayer and sought after guidance from the one who gave each of us life. He is the Great Physician and maintains the ultimate control over life and death. "Seek the Lord and His strength, seek His face continually." 1 Chronicles 16:11 (KJV)



Becky Ulmer is Nursing Home Administrator of Jasper County Nursing Home, Bay Springs, Mississippi. She is a member of First Baptist, Bay Springs.

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directly to River Oaks Baptist Church, 14969 Old Hammond Highway, Baton Rouge, LA 70816. For further information: contact Bro. Buck Hughes at (225) 454-8138."

From Bro. George Scruggs, Pastor of Victory Baptist Church in Pride, LA

"Late Saturday night, August 13th, I was sitting in my in-law's house searching Facebook for updates so that I could form a plan on how to get back into the Baton Rouge area to find our church members and check on our church house. Our home did not flood from the rain, and though we were well stocked on most necessities, we were running short on diapers, so we evacuated via the last remaining path through the woods to St. Francisville, then to Natchez, then across to Monterey, Louisiana.



Bro. & Mrs. George Scruggs

I was concerned for my members and I regretted that we would not be able to meet together on the Lord's Day. It was particularly frustrating at the moment knowing that so many people were in

need but we couldn't even get to them. Just then I received a text message stating that help would soon be on the way and that they were with us and praying for us. I didn't even know who



Folks from Shiloh Baptist Church provided meals to those in need

they were because the 501 area code meant that it could have been several people from the BMA (turned out to be Bro. Larry Geraldson). I was glad to hear it, though at the moment, recovery efforts were a distant thought, but that would soon change.

The next day I heard from Pastor Josh Daniels that he and some from Shiloh Church would be coming over with supplies and laborers to help us. How needed it was! As I made it back into the flooded area Monday, I found that some of our members were fine with no damage, some got a couple of inches of water, and some got four and five-feet of water (six-homes in total damaged). When I finally made it to the church house our supposition was confirmed: we got water in the sanctuary and the gymnasium where we fellow-

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COMMISSION ON Senior Adults

4226 Highway 15 North, Laurel, Mississippi 39440



Kenneth Flynt
Director

Let's pull together to make the 2017 Senior Adult Conferences the best ever. It's always a joy to see the excitement of the host churches as they prepare for these special days for our seniors.

Tuesday, March 21, 2017 we will gather at Big Creek Baptist Church in Soso for another blessed time together.

Tuesday, May 9, 2017 will see us gathering at Greenwood Baptist Church, Fulton. The host churches always makes us feel welcomed.

The registration fee will remain at \$15 per person. This helps pay for the noon meal and other expenses of the day. Henry Ford once said "Coming together is a beginning: Keeping together is a progress: Working together is a success."

Our seniors who have been working together down through the years in our local churches have contributed love and time in the ministering to others. This has been done in order to further the Gospel. When we meet on these special days for fellowship, worship, and praise, we honor God together. Mark your calendars now, invite others to attend with you and we will go home having exalted the name of Jesus and our local churches will be strengthened because we have been together.

Let's pull together, pray together, promote together, participate together. Think what we can do together! There is value in churches/seniors working together in these special days as our seniors come together. For some it will be more difficult than for others, but always we see that determination that has been with us down through the years as we served and worshiped together. Looking forward to seeing you at Big Creek and Greenwood churches. We will return home to help our churches stay on fire for God, for missions and for fulfilling the Great Commission.

Ministering To Young People

by Anders Lee

BUILDING A YOUTH MINISTRY TEAM

In 1 Corinthians 12, Paul taught us that each person has their own gift from God when he said “to each man the demonstration of the Spirit is given to produce what is beneficial.” God has uniquely gifted the body of Christ to do the work of the ministry together. That’s a good thing, considering that a youth pastor simply cannot do youth ministry by himself. Some churches think they have hired a youth guy to do it all. They pay him part-time and expect full-time results, all the while he works hard by himself. What’s funny is they wonder why he leaves a little over two years into it.

The opposite is true also, some youth guys are so egotistical they think the whole youth ministry is about them. They attempt to do everything and have their finger in every pot, even though they have plenty of people who would love to serve and contribute to the ministry. Bottom line any successful youth ministry must build a team to have maximum impact.

What does it take to build a great team?

It takes time! Nothing happens in

ministry overnight. If it does, it doesn’t have true depth. Discovering and developing a quality team in my opinion takes about two years, but it is worth the journey. When you get started on this task, remember it’s not a sprint it’s a marathon. For a period of time you might get a little disheartened in the



process. But suddenly you will come to the point where you will enjoy the fruit of patience from the development period. You will have a team so valuable that other youth guys will be asking you how it happened.

It takes personal investment! Your team needs to know how much you appreciate and care for them. You sure can’t ask a group of volunteers to serve passionately on a weekly basis without encouraging them and pouring into them personally. Have them in your home often. Plan occasional fellowships where they don’t serve but they get served. Be sure to text them and call them often to build rapport with them and friendship. But don’t do these things mechanically, genuinely love them as your co-laborers in the Kingdom!

It takes prayer and wisdom! When you select people to serve on this team, you should spend a lot of time in prayer about it. In Luke 6:12, Jesus modeled that for you. Before He chose the apostles, He spent the whole night in prayer for wisdom from the Father. If He did it, you and I sure should! Pray long and hard before you ask a person to be on the team. You sure don’t want to get someone on board that you will regret.

It takes disciple makers! As you pray through selecting people to serve, you want to look for people who you believe will truly want to develop the teens God has given you. People who will make pouring into these teens through discipleship efforts their priority! Yes, they have to be able to be spontaneous but they have to be a shepherd. They got to be a fun person, but they should be all about fruit before anything else. They need to be crazy but their heartbeat should be to develop Christ-followers. That’s what it’s all about! So pray that God will give you people like that more than anything else! I know that’s what Jesus looked for in a team member and you should too!

It takes a willingness to be the MAN! My neighbor Larry would say “Sometimes you got to be the man and its

Lee is a church planter for the BMA of America and Mississippi. He is a pastor and former youth minister. Lee may be contacted at anders.lee571@gmail.com



Anders Lee

spelled M-A-I-N! MAIN!!!” A team cannot have three or four heads. It can only have one. Be the leader! Know your vision and communicate it well to the team! Don’t leave them guessing at times about what is going on. Listen to your team! It’s fine and normal to gain insight from your team, but when there are differing opinions on matters and push comes to shove, be the man that makes decisions and finalize the direction the team

is taking.

Part of being “the man” also means there might come a time when cutting a team member is necessary. I’ve had to do it. It’s tough! If a team member is hurting the fruitfulness of the ministry, or they are pulling the rugs out from under your team, at times you have to pull the plug on their service. Pray through it, know clearly why you are ending their service, and use biblical guidelines when you meet and end their position on the team.

What are the essential parts to the team?

You need a Martha Mom! Every youth group needs a woman who will work her fingers to the bone! If you have two or three, that’s even better! It won’t take you long to identify them. She’s a Mom who wants to work for the ministry where her son or daughter is attending. She will be the one that picks up donuts for you before Sunday school. She will go get supplies for Wednesday nights. She will make a thousand finger foods the night you do that Hawaiian Luau and at Christmas she will baked a hundred dozen goodies for the kids! She is one of your biggest assets! Be sure to keep her informed about things because she is a busy Mom and doesn’t deserve to be caught by surprise.

You need a Money Man! Youth groups are constantly raising funds for trips, camps, and SOAR. You should have a budget that your church has given you to work with. Teens and parents will be handing you money when you go bowling or to laser tag. The last thing you want to do is not be able to account for some money, lose money, go over budget for the year, or not have enough money for your big events. Ministers must maintain a high level of integrity. Don’t take a risk! Get the best guy or lady in the church that is a banker or an accountant to help you stay on budget, maintain youth fund reports, keep funds

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Sofilthy's Attic

by Barbara White

The Book I Lost

(The following was written by a 98-year-old lady who is a member of Mineral Springs Baptist Church near



Taylorville, Mississippi. Her vision is now greatly diminished and this is her take on how it has impacted her life.)

The Book I Lost

by Lucille Lawson

The book I lost lies on a shelf. I dust it now and then.

I long to open up the pages and read it once again. But years go by and eyes grow dim and now I can not see.

But I know it tells of His great love, and that he died for me.

So read your Bible while you can,

For years go by and eyes grow dim
And if the mind should go 'tis true,

You'll never know of His great love
and that He died for you.

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Danny Pitts

Serving Christ With a Biblical World View In A Christian Atmosphere

Truth About Islam

The Gulf Coast Association met at Woodlawn Baptist Church in Pascagoula on August 18. Gerry Blakeney shared the second part of a presentation on the goals of the Islamic religion. He incorporated PowerPoint and video into this session. Bro. Gerry teaches in the school system on the coast and has a master's degree. He has done substantial study on the historical and modern teachings of the Muslim movement. Even though I have studied and taught on the issue several times through the years, I learned several things which I did not know. Meditating on how good it was, I thought that some churches, especially in the southern part of our state, might be interested in Bro. Gerry speaking at your congregation. His pastor is Danny Creswell.

Change

Have you seen the cartoon where the preacher says, "Our church must make some changes." In the next slide, the congregation cries out in shrill agony, "Change?!!?" Change is difficult for all of us, especially as we age, but change is a part of life.

Jesus said, "Neither do men put new wine into old bottles: else the bottles break, and the wine runneth out, and the bottles perish: but they put new wine into new bottles, and both are preserved". Jesus' ministry was a drastic change to the work of the Lord on earth through Judaism. The pressure

of the new paradigm was causing explosions in the society of that day. Jesus compared the new mind-set to putting new wine into old bottles. These bottles were actually wineskins. New wine was put into new skin bottles. The chemical reactions of the wine caused the skins to expand and stretch. Jesus said that if you put new wine into old skins which had already stretched to the limit, the skins would explode and burst the skin bottle. They would lose the wine. He is speaking about the majority of Jews being incapable of making the changes necessary accept His ministry.

Many of us are resistant to even minor changes which might make the work of the Lord more effective. Others have pointed out that the message of the Gospel which saves sinful people cannot be changed, but the means used to get the Word out needs to be flexible. Years ago I had a friend who was an Old School Predestinarian Primitive Baptist. Some of his churches had tar paper around the building. They did not believe in modern inventions such as tracts, Sunday Schools, or Revivals. As Missionary Baptist, we must give the Lord our best and be so motivated by passion for the lost that we are searching for new ways to reach them with the transforming Word of the Lord. Is that the focus of your church?

The world of education is changing. We cannot compromise our mission and core values, but we must adapt to new situations. Changing technologies, culture, and economy are affecting schools everywhere. Southeastern is not exempt from this. Although our totals are not final, the enrollment will probably show a growth to 50 or more. The total number of hours per student will be less. More and more students who were on campus a couple years ago are totally online now. Pray for God's wisdom and Grace in the right changes being made for all in the Lord's work. Southeastern is making a difference in the lives of students today.

Laurel Church Seeks Pastor

First Baptist Church of Shady Grove, Laurel, Mississippi, is searching for a pastor. Resumes are currently being accepted. Individuals wishing to pursue this position are encouraged to contact the Pulpit Committee Chairman Don Brown at P.O. Box 8181, Laurel, MS 39441 or by calling him at 601-426-3293.

LIFEWORD SUNDAY SET FOR OCTOBER 23 Local Church Participation Is Key To Success

by Steve Crawley, Ph.D.

Lifeword, your partner in gospel media programming around the world, is reaching more people every year because of BMA churches. Your generous support has allowed Lifeword to broaden its broadcast footprint to thirty-eight languages and a potential listening audience of two billion! Lifeword is reaching more people every year because of your involvement in our unique media ministry. Moreover, the Lifeword Community Radio network has grown to forty-three stations around the globe and is ever expanding, paving the way for new mission churches.

Lifeword's most important day of the year is coming soon, so mark your calendars: October 23 is 2016 Lifeword Sunday, an emphasis day for church members to learn about, pray for and give to Lifeword Media Ministries. To show our appreciation, one pastor will receive a 60-inch TV just for registering to participate at lifeword.org/lifewordsunday.

For thirty-five years BMA churches have used the Walk for the World as a

catalyst to raise needed broadcast funds. The Walk still works well for many churches, but we realize that every church has its own unique way of plugging into this effort. What's most important is that all churches find a way to support Lifeword in a way that works best for them.

To help you do this, we have sent Lifeword Sunday packets to all BMA churches. Packets include the 2016 Lifeword video (to be shown on Lifeword Sunday), a poster, and a bulletin insert



Lifeword reaching listeners around the word. Steve Crawley, Rick Russell and Pete Etabag in the Philippines

sample which can be ordered for your entire congregation when you register. Detailed information about Lifeword Sunday, church registration, T-shirts and guidelines for the TV drawing can be found at lifeword.org/lifewordsunday.

Lifeword is an extension of your church. Thus, your investment in this ministry means you have a part in every believer who comes to Christ through the broadcasts and programming. Thanks again for your confidence and for partnering with us in fulfilling the greatest cause on the face of the earth.

YOUTH MINISTRY TEAM

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marked in your account for kids who have been fund raising, and who will whisper in your ear about things you can and can't do right now. Trust and lean on them!

You need a Geek! A true geek won't be offended by that phrase. This person is the one who will do your web site, create a ministry App for the teens, do all your screens, create fun videos to watch, and do all your crazy countdowns at the beginning of the youth service. Keep them up to date by communicating weekly.

You need some College Students! They are some of your best team players. They have lots of energy! Get them to run your games at your weekly meetings. Mentor them to become your Sunday school teachers or DNOW small group leaders. Develop them into being the ones who contact your teens each week to ensure that none of the teens

are falling through the cracks in the group. And of course they can serve in so many ways like helping you set up things before hand and clean up afterwards. They are invaluable!

You need a Worship Guy! Some youth pastors I've known are the worship guy also. It's tough to lead worship then turn around and preach. It's ideal to have a guy that will lead for you. Someone who has the skill and time to develop the teens in the group who play an instrument. If you empower the teens to lead as a result of investing in them, you will have a major asset in the ministry. Some of the best praise bands I've seen are youth led. Let it happen!

There are more sub roles that I could have discussed, but these cover the basics. I pray that all over the BMA God would raise up youth ministry teams that will change the fabric of the BMA itself!

AVAILABLE FOR SERVICE

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

Neal Helton

Neal Helton is available for ministry opportunities. He is 37 years old and he and his wife have two children. He is a member of Midway Baptist Church at McLain, Mississippi and may be reached at 601-508-2889 or 228-355-4739.

Zechariah Rogers

My name is Zechariah Rogers and I am available for preaching opportunities or pastoral work as the Lord leads. I am currently attending Southeastern Baptist College working on a Bachelors in Christian Ministries. My home phone is 769-301-5004 and my cell phone is 662-372-5730.

"The spiritual, mental, and physical health of a pastor affects the overall health of a church. That is why this year's Pastors Oasis theme is Healthy Pastors = Healthy Churches. Pastors Oasis takes place in October during Pastor Appreciation month. Show your pastor and staff how much you appreciate and care about their well-being by sending them to this year's Pastors Oasis. The health of your church depends on it. Visit discipleguide.org/pastorsoasis for more information."

Lifeword's New Daily Broadcast

On Monday, September 12, Lifeword will begin a new daily broadcast called Day by Day. This "social-media cast," as Donny Parrish calls it, will be aired at 8 a.m. and 8 p.m. Monday through Friday on Lifeword Media Ministries' Facebook page.

Lifeword has not had a daily presence in North America for almost twenty-five years when Station WWL in New Orleans aired the Harvest Gleaner Hour program on channel 870 AM. The fifteen-minute program included music recorded in the Conway studios and Bible teaching recorded in Red Oak, Texas, by Dr. Harold E. Henderson.

The long-format broadcast was suspended in the early 1990s due to cultural changes and cost-prohibitive air time. Lifeword has always adapted to changing media, so the ministry made the decision to expand its footprint globally to those who had the greatest need for the gospel.

Now, the advent of the internet and social media has allowed Lifeword to reenter the

American media scene with this short-format program. The Stories series, Facebook videos of changed lives due to the gospel, has been successful, so Parrish had the idea of a daily broadcast that "harkens back to the Day by Day program, which was written by former Lifeword Executive Director George Reddin."

Donny says, "We want to be an encouragement to people in BMA churches all over the world. We'll be sharing the exciting things going on around the world from our missionaries and Lifeword. And we want to share the exciting things going on in our BMA churches as well. It will be three-and-a-half minutes of encouragement from God's Word and God's people and we invite people to share the videos on their own social media."

To see and share Day by Day, like Lifeword Media Ministries' Facebook page. To let Lifeword know about your church's ministries and outreach, tag Donny Parrish in your posts.



Exceed Information: Embrace Transformation Improvements to Compass Aim for Life Change

by Scott Attebery
"I'll skip Bible Study this week. It's not like it will make a difference anyway." Not make a difference? Surely that can't be right. Unfortunately, for many church members, that's an accurate description.

According to several studies over the past two decades, weekly Sunday school classes have had very little impact on the way members live. For many churches, Sunday school has become a come-and-go, take-it-or-leave-it meeting. Simply put, many Sunday school and small groups don't really make a difference.

DiscipleGuide aims to help churches revitalize Bible study groups and Sunday school classes through improvements to Compass Adult Bible Studies beginning in December of 2016. The DiscipleGuide team has worked diligently for over two years to enhance the curriculum to bring about greater gospel transformation in the

lives of small group and Sunday school class members.

Because the Word of God

changes lives, every church must intentionally teach and disciple members to grow strong in Scripture. Small group leaders and Sunday school teachers have a powerful opportunity to impact lives. For this reason, a church's choice of curriculum is of utmost importance.

The updated Leader Guide will provide greater preparation tools for each lesson. In addition, each study guide will deliver interactive, practical discussion questions to help group members apply biblical truth immediately.

To request a Compass sample packet, including lesson samples and helpful leader videos, call 800-333-1442 or visit discipleguide.org/ sample today.

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Ten Mile WMA Meets

by Maria Ochoa, Reporter

The Ten Mile WMA held their meeting on July 18 at Ten Mile Baptist Church, Perkinston. Our Theme was "And the inhabitants of one city shall go to another saying, Let us go speedily to pray before the LORD of hosts" Zachariah 8:23

A Devotional was presented by Julia Lee from Psalm 118. Some of our sisters gave their testimony with their main emphasis when they were saved.

Our New District Project for 2016-2017 is BEAMS - Bible Education And Missionary Service.

We had election of officers for 2016-2017. They are as follows: President Cathy Rhodes, 1st Vice President Louise Crawley, 2nd Vice President Paula Prickett, 3rd Vice President Pat Johnson, Secretary/Treasurer Julia Lee, Assistant Secretary/Treasurer Gayle Diamond, Reporter Maria Ochoa, Song Leader Alana Woods, Pianist Jean Knight, Historian Lorna Shoemaker, District Project Promoter Pat Allen, State Project Promoter Yvonne James, Sunbeam Promoter Diana Williams, Assistant Sunbeam Promoter Angela Givens, GMA Promoter Jessica Kirkland, Assistant GMA promoter Adriane Rogers.

We enjoyed refreshments and a great fellowship with Ten Mile Baptist Church.

Our next meeting will be on October 10, at 7 PM with Vardaman Street Baptist Church in Wiggins.

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John Adams

Yea, to Our Grandparents!

by Dr. John M. Adams

September 11, will be Grandparents Day in our BMA churches!

The word "grandparent" is not in Webster's Dictionary. Is that a surprise to many of you? Even if it isn't an official word, it is so real and so good! If Webster chose to ignore the word, we Christians highlight it!

Grandparents are to be a delight in God's family structure. The grands faith will surely effect our future generations. One wonderful Bible model was Timothy's grandmother Lois of II Timothy 1:5. The Apostle Paul says to his spiritual son Timothy, I miss you

and I long to see you. Lois' faith in Christ was a great influence on Eunice and Timothy.

Grandfather and Grandmother a forceful question is "are you influencing your grandkids in such a way that they bring joy and peace to all around them? Or are you just spoiling them and then sending them home?" May we be challenged to influence their salvation, Godliness, a good work ethic, and good manners in life?

A 7-year old said, "A grandmother is

a lady who has no children of her own, so she likes others' boys and girls. Grandmas don't have anything to do except be there. If they take us for walks, they slow down past pretty leaves and caterpillars. They never say "Hurry up". Usually they are pretty fat, but not too fat to tie shoes. They wear glasses, and sometimes they can take their teeth out. They answer questions why dogs hate cats and why God isn't married. When they read to us, they don't skip words or mind if it is the same story again. Everybody should try to have a grandma, especially if you don't have a T.V." (Unknown)

As Lois did, grandparents should:

1. Teach them of Jesus and salvation,
2. Guide them toward good grades,
3. Model a good marriage before them,
4. Don't curse, smoke or drink alcohol before them,
5. Avoid watching bad T.V. shows with them,

6. Be consistent in your church life,
7. Play with them often,
8. Tell them that you love them,
9. Share your past life with them,
10. Look for good things in your grands,
11. Believe them and believe in them,
12. Don't pressure them to excel, and
13. Talk straight to them about sensitive subjects.

As Lois did, grandparents should not:

1. Dishonor the grandchildren's parents,
2. Change the parents rule, unless it is illegal,
3. Correct the parent in front of the child,
4. Laugh at their sins and mistakes.

Our nation, our churches, and our homes are facing a moral and spiritual decline. It is evident in America as

continued on page 8

MISSISSIPPI BAPTIST CHILDREN'S HOME

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



SIDNEY DAVIS

There Is Work To Do

Work. There are many people in today's world that spend more time it seems trying to figure out how to get out of work instead of doing something productive and worthwhile. People are born to work. Many retired people will tell you that they are not happy unless they are working.

The Bible encourages labor. Ephesians 4:28 suggests two proper motives for work. Labor to meet ones own needs. And when your needs are met, work in order to meet the needs of those who are less fortunate. Work is good and godly. And when dedicated to God it becomes a blessing to the worker and others.

Have a blessed Labor Day!

Everyone At The Home Back In School

As I mentioned in my last article, summer is coming to a close and the routine of school has everyone involved in the work of everyday school activity. In the last article there was with it a picture of our elementary students at the Home. In this article there is a picture of our High School tenth grade girl and our freshman year college boy. Please remember these young people in their school studies in your prayers as they labor to learn and be all the Lord has for them in life.

Remember In Prayer and Focus Verse

Continue to remember the Home and its ministry in your prayers. Especially pray for the girls and the boys at the Home during this school year. "...let him labour, working with his hands the thing which is good, that he may give to him that needeth." Ephesians 4:28.



Above - High School Bound
Below - Our College Freshman



Church Makes Plans for the 2016 Walk for the World

Lebanon Baptist Church will have their annual Walk for the World on Wednesday, October 19th at 6 p.m. at West Jones football stadium. There have been several churches participate in this event for the past several years. Last year we had seven other churches join us and we hope to have even more this year. The feedback that we have gotten over the last several years has been very positive. We are getting this article in now so that other churches can hopefully make plans to join us this year. More information will be mailed to each church in the Big Creek Association soon.

Oak Grove Meeting Info

The 2016 annual session of the Oak Grove Missionary Baptist Association will be held at Calvary Baptist Church in Purvis on Thursday, September 15, at 7:00. Bro. Blake McCain was chosen to bring the annual message with Bro. Greg Medenwald being the alternate speaker.

Each church is encouraged to have her letter of representation mailed to our clerk, Bro. Sam Oglesby, in time for him to receive them prior to the meeting. Brethren Wayne Martin, Ted Quinby and Buddy Wigley will serve on the Committee on Finance and

Digest of Letters. Any letter not mailed can be handed to them during the time of food and fellowship as they prepare their report.

East Central Asso. Sets Revival

by Jerry Overstreet

The East Central Association Revival will be held September 5-9. Services will begin at 7:00 p.m. each evening at the following churches with a guest speaker for each service.

Monday night, Dykes Chapel, Bro. Danny Bartlett; Tuesday night, Canaan, Bro. Sidney Farmer; Wednesday night, Central, Bro. Bob Burch; Thursday night, Bible Baptist, Bro. Phillip Burns; Friday night, Mulberry, Bro. Bobby Elliott.

If you need further information feel free to call Bro. Phillip Reynolds at 601-716-4300. Please come and join us for a spiritual filled revival and also meet our missionaries that we support.

Ellisville Church Sets Revival

Riverside Baptist Church, Ellisville, will have revival services September 18 - 21, 2016. Bro. Brandon Wilson will bring the messages. Services will be Sunday at 11:00 and 1:30. Lunch will be served. Monday --Wednesday services will begin at 7:00 p.m. We invite all who can to come and ask for your prayers.

Church holds ordination service

Lebanon Baptist Church ordained four deacons and one preacher into the Gospel Ministry on Sunday, August 21. We were thankful for the large crowd that came to support these men. There were 19 men who served on the presbytery confirming that these men are qualified to serve in these positions. We look forward to seeing how God is going to use these men in these leadership roles. Ordained as Deacons are Greg Hill, Jeffery McDonnieal, Marshall Bynum, and Tommy Everett. Bro. Adam Parker was ordained into the Gospel Ministry.



Shoeboxes From South Mississippi A group of volunteers gathered at the Missions Office to load up around 2,000 Christmas Shoeboxes. Roger Jefcoat took them to Greenbriar, Arkansas on Tuesday, August 30. They will be processed and sent to children around the world to help introduce them to the love of Christ.



Above - Roger Jefcoat & David Davis discussing the size of box needed?

Below - Boxes from all over the state showed up. Last minute delivery from Wilderness Church, Vicksburg.

Paschal Lectures Set for September 13

BMA Seminary is pleased to announce the annual William N. Paschal Memorial Bible Lectures. The lectures will be held in the Dorman Memorial chapel on the Jacksonville campus and are scheduled for Tuesday, September 13, 2016. Sessions will be held at 10:00 a.m. and 3:00 p.m.

This year's lectures will be presented by Dr. Thomas J. Nettles, Senior Professor of Historical Theology at Southern Baptist Theological Seminary in Louisville, Kentucky. The focus will be A View of Landmarkism from the Perspective of a non-Landmark Baptist.

In conjunction with the lectures, the seminary will be offering a three semester hour motion course, Special Studies in Church History (CH 431/CH 631). Students will need to attend both lectures and a meeting on campus on Wednesday, September 14, 2016. In addition, they must also be prepared to conduct reading and research in conjunction with the course.

For more information, call the Dean's office at 800-259-5673, or email bmats@bmats.edu.



Thomas Nettles

Church honors Pastor

Dr. John Adams was recognized for his 46 years in the ministry by First



Baptist Church of Mantachie on Sunday, August 21st.. A plaque was presented by State Representative and Deacon Randy Boyd. Each class presented him with cards and gifts, and a video was shown of his works over the past 46 years of his ministry.

Grandparents Day!

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grands see in every 24 hours: 3,000 divorces, 1,629 children are put in adult jails on average, 3,200 run away from home, 1,512 drop out of high school, and 7,742 teens become sexually active every day. So we see the great need of spiritual adults, and spiritual parents/grandparents. Our children need us.

We see the great joy and delight that Grandparents give us, so we say "Yea to our Grandparents!" If you need a good laugh or to get out of the doldrums, stay close to these special God-given kiddos. As Grandpa Joe's wife Grandma Susie was at home babysitting her grandchildren, Susie wondered just how much her 3-year old granddaughter Joanie had learned. Grandma picked up a box of crayons and began a test to see if Joanie had learned her colors yet. She would pull a crayon out of the box and ask what color it was. Little Joanie would tell her and always she was correct. Finally, the grandchild slid out of the porch swing and headed to the door. Over her shoulder, the little one said, "Grandma, I think you should try to figure out some of these yourself!"

Proverbs 17:6 "Children's children are the crown of old men; and the glory of children are their fathers".

Genesis 48:9 states "And Joseph said unto his father, they are my sons, whom God hath given me in this place. And Jacob said, bring them, I pray thee, unto me, and I will bless them." As Teresa Bloomingdale said, "If your baby is beautiful and perfect, never cries or fusses, sleeps on schedule, and an angel all the time, you're the grandma!"

Yea, to our Grandparents!

Missions

from page 3

ship and meet for Sunday school. There lay a large chore ahead, all the while our small church would soon be tearing out their homes and that of their loved ones.

We needed help, and Thursday morn-



Folks from Mt Calvary and Divine Grace

ing it showed up in our parking lot...trucks and trailers of help! Several pastors and church members showed up to pitch in and deliver supplies, in which there was no lack. There was carpet pullin', floor bustin', chair movin', and all kinds of work going on at the church house. That day we also had about 100-people come to get supplies and when they came they also got the gospel, either in form of a tract or when witnessed to.

J's food trailer was a big hit and the community really enjoyed the burgers

and biscuits he was cookin' (I enjoyed a couple myself). The crew from Shiloh, as well as, Bro. Bo Comeaux stayed beyond the first day and even got to go to some houses to help people, much in need, remove the wet materials from their homes. All the while we enjoyed the fellowship and the sense of mission among us. It was a mission indeed. Scores of people were touched by the



Jimmy Daughtery making sandwiches at River Oaks Baptist Church near Baton Rouge generosity and provision of our Lord, many expressing it with tears.

It didn't take long for everyone helping to realize that the relief effort had become a great stepping stone for the growth of Victory Baptist Church. We relocated to the area last February and though we hosted events and conducted visitation, most people didn't realize that we were there. That has now changed.



Pastor Josh Daniels praying with folks impacted by the flood

We had three guests join us for church the following Sunday and we expect more this coming Sunday as people get their oxen and homes out of the pits. I can't express my thanks enough to everyone that had a part in the effort whether they sent supplies, money, labored, prayed, organized, or all of the above. You will reap what you have sown. Please continue to pray for our church and community as there is yet a great work ahead for our buildings and our church."