

The Missouri Baptist

"Holding Forth The Word of Life"

Philippians 2:16

Volume LXXIII

St. Louis, MO • February 9, 2010

Issue No. 2

Time To Start Thinking "CAMP"

As Spring is rapidly approaching, We would like to remind everyone of the good times to be had at Camp Garwood.

Beginning with our Spring retreat March 26-27th. We are combining the regular Spring and Paintball weekends into one event this year. With special activities for both groups.

Ages 11 and up can play paintball. However a permission form specifically for paintball is required for anyone under 18. Be sure your youth understand that they can't get there and then decide they are going to play paintball they have to discuss it with their parents or guardian first. There is a charge of \$15 to play paintball. We will have a few supplies available again along with HPA, CO2 and paint. They have a limited supply of rental equipment. Everything you need to play for the weekend is \$35. Paint is extra. This year it will cost an additional \$5 to play with your own paint. We use the SPPL rules as a guideline and everyone playing must attend the safety meeting before playing. If you have questions please contact me.

For those who do not play paintball there will be activities for you as well. The retreat will be based on the theme "A Good Name" with games and challenges for everyone.

It's also time to be thinking about summer camp. A lot of souls have been saved through this ministry in the past Let's pray that trend continues this year. Camp being July 26-30th with the theme "That Day." Hopefully the Lord will bless with a high attendance and a powerful presence of the Holy Spirit, moving His people.

Along with Spring comes A LOT! Of work. Raking up leaves, Mowing, Cleaning out the dorms, Preparing the Tabernacle, Mowing, Painting, Minor Repairs, Sorting mattresses, Mowing, Chasing out Critters, Cleaning, Mowing, Cleaning, Mowing, Cleaning, Mowing. You get the idea, right? Not to mention at this point the lower girls dorm is out of commission. So, Pick a date, pick a job and do your part to help get Your camp facilities ready for this year's activities. - See You Soon, *Chris 'n family*

Attention Ladies!!

State WMA - March 6, 2010 - Zion, St. Louis.

Washington County District WMA - March 12 -
Zion, St. Louis - 7:30 p.m.

See the reminder about the **October Retreat** on page 6

Everyone is invited to the Ordination Service

of Bro. Doyle Abbey
at

Antioch Baptist Church • Ellington, MO

April 24, 2010 • 11:00 a.m.

A special invitation is extended to the ordained members of our sister Churches to assist in the ordination of our Pastor.

CBC Spring Enrollment Sets New Record

Final spring enrollment numbers set another record at Central Baptist College with 582 students, a 10% increase over 2009. PACE (Professional Adult College Education), CBC's adult degree completion program, has completed registration for spring classes with 240 students enrolled. When added to traditional student enrollment of 342, compared to 325 in spring 2007, a 5.2% increase), the overall spring enrollment is at an all-time high of 582 breaking the previous spring enrollment record set last year of 529.

According to CBC President Terry Kimbrow, "This is the eighth consecutive year to have a record spring enrollment." While fall enrollment stood at 625, also a record, spring enrollment is historically lower than the fall numbers. Some students finish their course work and graduate or transfer to other institutions. Students also leave the institution for other reasons between the fall and spring semesters. "We work hard to identify these 'other reasons,' address them, and thereby improve our retention rate," said Kimbrow. "The PACE program has a strong presence at Camp Robinson in North Little Rock. I am very pleased to see a 17.6% increase in PACE."

Central offers four-year degrees in Bible, Biology, Biotechnology, Health Sciences, Church Music, Psychology and Social Services, Missions, Business Administration, Management, Marketing, General Studies, Organizational Management, Management Information Systems and Leadership

400 Participants Needed For DiscipleWay Survey

The development team for a discipleship training program being designed for BMA churches is requesting BMA church members to complete an on-line survey that will aid the preparation of the material.

The training program, called DiscipleWay, is a joint effort of BMA departments and about 50 writers and graphic designers. It will offer classroom as well as hands-on training in seven key disciplines for growing Christians, according to Steve Crawley, project manager.

A minimum of 400 participants, particularly lay men and lay women, is needed to give a meaningful outcome.

The window of time to complete the survey is January 25--February 15.

The survey will consist of 30 questions and will take about 10-15 minutes to complete. Participants may access the survey by going to www.discipleway.org and clicking on the Survey link.

Rainer Research is conducting the survey. The researchers will present an analysis and final report to DiscipleWay March 8.

The Rainer Research group was founded by Thom Rainer, president of LifeWay. Sam Rainer, president, will serve as lead researcher and primary contact and be responsible for the research, analysis and closure, Crawley said.

A Refreshing Letter

I'm writing this letter hoping you will print it in your newspaper so that all of your readers who don't know them will know that they share the earth with two of the finest Christians and human beings ever to walk this planet.

My grandparents are Edgar and Dolorece Gibson. They are true believers in Jesus Christ and live every day according to His will. They have given their life to teaching God's Word and being His most loyal servants.

It is through this devotion and love that they have raised 4 of the finest kids you will ever meet. It was their love of God and their devotion that helped lead to my Salvation. I know it was God's Grace that saved me but it was their shining example that made me want to be the best Christian I could be.

So, grandpa and grandma, thank you so much for your love, my mother, and your devotion to our Lord. I love you very much.

Your loving and grateful grandson, *Denton Fulmer*

and Ministry. CBC has begun the accreditation process with NCATE, the professional accrediting organization for schools, colleges, and departments of education in the U.S.

Intercollegiate sports include men's basketball, baseball, cross country, golf, soccer and women's basketball, volleyball,

fast pitch softball, cross country, and soccer. For more information about Central Baptist College, log on to www.cbc.edu. Prospective students are encouraged to contact the office of admissions at (501) 329-6872 ext. 167. For the PACE program, call (501) 329-5259.

+++ NEWS BRIEFS +++

Ozark Heights, Potosi, is sorry to announce the passing of one of our beloved members, Sis Dessie Rankin, who is now joined with her Savior! She had lived with her daughter, Sis. Eugenia, for the last few years. The services were led by her grandson-in-law Steve along with Bro. Leonard Compton and Bro. Brian Meade. All were sad to lose such a precious jewel in this world but we celebrated her release from the temporal body. Sis. Dorothy Lawson is now in St. John's Rehabilitation Center receiving therapy and recovering from a stroke. Our prayers go out to her and her family. We miss all our members who have been unable to attend due to sickness and the extreme cold weather. Sis. Mary Dement has not been well. Please pray for her to get well soon. She and Bro. Bob are such a great part of our church. Sis. Connie Evans presented a pictorial tribute of Ozark Heights. It was so beautiful with beautiful music. We are so thankful. She must have worked for many hours to create the program. We had a nice turnout on Sunday morning and the choir repeated the cantata (The Precious Name of Jesus) which was previously presented around Christmas. It was led and accompanied by Sis. Sara at the piano and was really great. Our Bible study continues each Sunday evening. We are now studying the life of Joseph. There is much for us to learn. God surely blesses those who are in the Word. Bro. Brian will be away for 5th Sunday with his family. Bro. Gary Gilliam will fill the pulpit Sunday morning with Bro. Scott Wilson preaching Sunday evening. Please lift us up in your Prayers. Love to you all, and God Bless!

Brian Meade, Pastor
Georgie Brokaw, Reporter

Antioch, Ellington, sends greetings to all of our brothers and sisters in Christ. Some of our members were able to have a get-together New Year's Eve. The cold weather hin-

dered some of us from attending. We have started having some Bible studies, which are enjoyed by those who attend. The pastor has not been able to cover as much material as he had planned as there is so much to discuss and many ask questions as they want to learn more about God's Word. We rejoice in having a visitor last Sunday. She said she would be back and bring some of her family. During the cold weather one of our member's water pipes froze and burst, but she was able to get them repaired. We praise God from whom all blessing flow.
Doyle Abbey, Pastor
Minnie Asberry, Reporter

Emmanuel, Sikeston, rejoices at the salvation of Joshua Palmer. He was saved in January and is awaiting baptism. He is twelve years old and his testimony of salvation is wonderful. Emmanuel has been saddened by the deaths of Bro. Gorman Hartlein and Sis. Jean Hartlein. They were severely injured in a car accident in early December. He passed away in early December and she on January 17. A memorial service was held at the Ponder Funeral Home in Sikeston, Friday, January 22. Pastor Billy Davis officiated. God's comfort was surely felt. Lunch was served to the family and friends at the church Fellowship Hall after the service. The Lord has called them to a better place where there is no more pain and suffering. They will be sorely missed. Heartfelt sympathy is extended to their loved ones. Bro. Tim Bell was guest speaker during the end of the month and brought a very challenging message. We were glad also to see his wife. We recently enjoyed a praise service which lifted and encour-

aged everyone. Services at the end of the month were cancelled due to the big snow. May God bless everyone serving Him.

Billy Davis, Pastor
Vi Maclin, Reporter

Stony Point, Mineral Point, says "Hello" to everyone with just a real quick note on what has been going on. Sadly, but with the knowledge of the victory over death won by Jesus Christ our Lord, we said goodbye to our brother David Evans as he went home to glory the first week in December. We rejoice in the time of his life he was able to share with us. We thank God for saving him unto Himself. Amen! Bro. Claude and Sis. Bea Evans and their two grandsons attended the Alive Conference in Jefferson City. New Years Eve the church held a watch service and worshipped with the gospel bluegrass music of the Harper Family from Bunker. It was a great time of praise and fellowship. The church hosted the gospel quartet "Tribute" on January 17. As always, hearts were stirred and souls revived with their musical dedication to the Lord. By the way, should you run into Bro. Claude ...don't step on his blue suede shoes!!

Claude Evans, Pastor
David Hughes, Reporter

Bethel, Sikeston, sends greetings to all. January has flown by. God gave us plenty of cold air, hopefully to get rid of some of these colds and coughs; also lots of snow around the Sikeston area, which was a beautiful sight to see. The 12th of January, Bro. Jerry and Bro. Mike Bolen attended the Missions Symposium in Arkansas. It was a blessing to hear the

speakers and the emphasis on what we can do to further our work in missions. Bro. Tim Bell filled in while Bro. Jerry was absent, and preached on Hell and the importance of witnessing. The children have started practicing for Youth in Harvest, scheduled for March 20. They are concluding the play "Pilgrims Progress." The other two parts were so good we are excited to see this last one! We pray the month ahead brings many blessings with more souls being saved as seeds are planted.

Jerry Adams, Pastor
Marcia Hickman, Reporter

Charity, Bismarck, has been having wonderful services this month. Folks just love to get together in God's house. Bible Study in this group fills us with a desire to know more. Bro. Meade filled the pulpit for us while our Pastor and his family were on vacation in Arizona. While the snow kept other churches from meeting we kept the doors open and welcomed many visitors. Our sick ones are recovering nicely, and our two expectant mothers are nearing the delivery time. God has truly blessed. Our WEPAS (WMA) have given generously to the East Asian Women's Conference. First to help Valarie Fish with expenses, and then to help other women be able to attend. We are looking forward to the State WMA meeting at Zion March 6. Hope to see a good turnout there. We want

to encourage you to join us in the District Auxiliary Fellowship also at Zion on the 12th at 7:30. Till we meet.

Lee Miller, Pastor
Carolyn Meade, Assistant Reporter

Lower Doe Run, Ellington, reports that our song leader, Sis. Helen Morris, went to Florida on vacation and was gone for 3 Sundays. We really missed her, although Sis. Kathleen did a good job filling in. Bro. Kenneth Gore lost 3 cousins within a week. We certainly offer our deepest sympathy to him and the rest of the family. We were in charge of the nursing home service the 10th. There were 10 of us there to sing and to visit with the good folks. Denver and I were so happy to be able to attend the Missions Symposium at Conway. It was so good - and we were all so challenged to go "Across the Street and Around the World" to reach the lost. We gave a detailed report of the symposium on Wednesday evening the 20th. We showed the DVD about ISHELP and a DVD from the Wade Allen missionary work. It was a little long, but hopefully we have informed those who were interested in knowing more about the BMAA work around the world. Bro. Don and Sis. Thelma Hoffmann have joined our church and are just a blessing each time we see them. They do have some health

• See NEWS Page 4 •

First Quarter Financial Report	
Missouri Missionary Baptist	
October - December 2009	
Balance: October 1, 2009	\$ 5,257.70
Receipts:	\$ <u>5,376.82</u>
Total Available:	\$ 10,634.52
Disbursements	\$ <u>-(4,600.89)</u>
Balance: December 31, 2009	\$ 6,033.63

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✝ From Our Workers ✝

From Our Director...

I read the sad story the other day of a 26 year old flight attendant who was fired from her job for posing for Playboy Magazine.

What was interesting was the reason for doing something that would cost her job. She stated that she had a lung disease that would require surgery and that the outcome was not good. She decided to pose for the magazine so the world would remember her.

The world is filled with people who desperately wish to be remembered. Many are inclined to build monuments to themselves in one way or another. This is why the account of Babel, found in Genesis chapter 11, is so important for us. It exposes the underlying cause for building monuments.

And they said, "Come, let us build ourselves a city, and a tower whose top is in the heavens; let us make a name for ourselves, lest we be scattered abroad over the face of the whole earth." Genesis 11:4

What lessons are in this story for us today?

From the Jones'...

Hello Friends,
January was very encouraging for us. First of all, we were able to attend the BMA Mission Symposium. What a treat it was! Missionaries from across the globe shared about all God is doing in their per-

1) Man's plans will never thwart God's purposes.

God had commanded mankind to "fill the earth." Man preferred to cloister rather than

to comply with God's command to spread out. In spite of man's greatest efforts, God's purposes prevailed.

2) Unity is not the highest good, but purity and obedience to the Word of God.

At first glance, we may commend the people for wanting to be of one voice and to be together in one place. Unity is a great virtue. Psalm 133:1 states, "BEHOLD, HOW good and how pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity."

This is a good thing, but the Bible also says: in Amos 3:3, "Can two walk together, unless they are agreed?" Ecumenism is the watch word of religion today, but it is a unity at the cost

spective corners of the world. Some had experienced hardships along with blessings, but all were busy building the Kingdom. God truly has the whole wide world in His hands. It was uplifting, encouraging, and we were blessed to be able to attend.

We held two worship services in the month of January, and each one was encouraging in it's own way. Our first was on January 24th in our home. It was neat to gather in our living room for worship. We prayed, I preached, the children were taught, we had fellowship along with lunch, and it felt so.....biblical. The Holy

of truth. Some regard unity as a goal worthy of any sacrifice. God does not.

3) The Word of God, and not the works of our hands, is the only thing worthy of our faith.

The men of Babel began to look at work as the cure rather than the curse. They believed that the work of their hands could assure them of some kind of immortality be-

yond the grave. Here, I suspect, is the driving force behind many work-aholics. They can never rest because he (or she) is never certain that a large enough monument has been built. Human endeavor is never satisfying, never fulfilling. Only work which is done for the Lord and in His strength brings lasting satisfaction.

The work of missions and church planting is labor that can bring satisfaction to our hearts for we know it is the great burden of our Lord. When we give of ourselves to the cause of sharing the gospel with the world, we are content with making our Savior famous and the Kingdom of God larger.

When Ye Be Angry....

"Be ye angry, and sin not; let not the sun go down on your wrath." Ephesians 4:26

by Joseph Harris • via www.miniediton.net

Anger is something we all have to deal with in life. Anger usually results when someone infringes on our rights. We get angry when someone slanders us because WE have a right to a good name and reputation. We get angry when the motorist ahead does not signal their turn off the road because they were inconsiderate of OUR safety. We get upset with long check out lines because We have places to go and things to do. Sometimes our anger seems justified.

Ephesians 4:26 is not a command for the Christian to get angry. Anger is not something we schedule into our lives; it usually just happens without warning. Notice the context. Verse 25 is a command to stop lying. Verse 28 is a command to stop stealing. In between is the subject of anger. Unlike lying and stealing, which are premeditated, anger is an emotional response. We are commanded to cease from lying and stealing because we can refrain from these actions (regardless of what modern society may say about man's inability to control sinful urges). Anger, however is not something we do: it is something that happens. We get angry. Getting angry is not a matter of IF, but WHEN.

Lying and stealing are always wrong, but anger in and of itself is not always sinful. Jesus was angry with the moneychangers and drove them from the temple. He was also angry when the Pharisees questioned his authority to heal on the Sabbath. In both of these instances, the Scriptures tell us that Jesus was angry, but His was a righteous anger against sin. However, Ephesians 4:26 is not speaking of righteous anger.

We can refrain from lying and stealing, but we cannot always keep from becoming angry. Paul is giving guidelines on what to do when anger happens. He is not saying, "Be ye angry" but is saying, "When ye be angry" do not sin. Why? Because the potential to commit sin is greater when we are angry. In fits of anger, people do and say things they might not otherwise do or say. In anger, people curse, profane the Lord's name, say hurtful words, attack others, and sometimes commit murder. Anger can be an Achilles heel, so Paul is giving a warning to stay on guard and deal with it quickly by using the phrase, "let not the sun go down on your wrath" which is an admonition to get it right within

24 hours. Even if we can stay in control at the first sign of anger, we may not be able to remain in control if we remain in an angry state too long. Paul is hinting that one day may be all we can handle before we begin to commit sins of the heart (and in other ways) against those with whom we are angered.

Do not minimize your anger. Do not excuse it by claiming that you have a short fuse or quick temper. When someone infringes on one of your "rights", ask yourself how important is that right. Rely on God's strength and the power of Scripture to respond as Jesus would respond. And if you do experience righteous anger against sin, display it in a spirit of love, for "the wrath of man worketh not the righteousness of God." James 1:20

Spirit was present and spoke to us in a great way that day. The second service was held on January 31st. On this day, God showed me through the prayers of those attending that He had been working in ways that I was missing. I was reminded to keep my eyes open for Him.

One of our goals, and a prayer request that I have shared with you all, was that through the bible study in our home we would be able to birth other similar groups. It looks like this will happen this next Tuesday. Thank you for the prayers! We plan to begin a youth bible study in another neighborhood, in another home. Please pray for us in this endeavor. That God would bring teens for us to minister to and share the love of Christ with.

• **NEWS From Page 2** •
 problems, so please remember them when you pray. The 31st was scheduled to be the day for our fellowship dinner at church, then we were to attend the 5th Sunday singing at Mt. Zion, but it all was cancelled. We did have Sunday morning services, but with 7 - 7 1/2 " of snow, we didn't have a great attendance. We did call off Sunday evening services, because we didn't want someone to fall and possibly get hurt. It has been a blessed month, in spite of weather problems. God is so good and just keeps blessing!!! Till next month or the Lord's Return.
 Denver Page, pastor
 Sharon Page, reporter

Bethany, St. Louis, rejoices as we see God working in the lives of our members. Sis. Megan Eye came forward surrendering her life to work with youth. Bro. and Sis. Murphy have followed God's call to start a new church in Bridgeton, as a mission from a Southern Baptist Church. Please join us in praying for these who are letting God lead them in ministry. Our attendance has held up well during the cold weather, but we are looking forward to Spring. We are past the half-way mark in our Fifty Days of Praying and Giving for Missions. Our people continue to pray for God's blessings on our missionaries and souls who need to be saved during this time. We have been challenged to reach "Across the Street" by inviting our neighbors and friends to attend the World Missions Sunday service February 28th. Plans are underway for a Missions Dinner February 28th. We have formed a group for people who have been married and have lost their companion. This group has named themselves the HEOs (Helping Each Other). This explains the purpose of the group. We will meet monthly to share food and fun with each other.
 James Hoffmann, Pastor
 Carol McDonald, Reporter

Abundant Life in Christ Mission, Charleston, mourns the passing of Shirley Jeffries,

but rejoices that she made a profession a few weeks before her passing. All our supporters are invited to our note-burning service March 7th at 3 p.m.
 Rodney Dunlap, Pastor

A Bit of Humor
 Mother to her son: "Young man, there were four cookies in the jar on the table this morning. May I ask how it happens that there is only one now?"

Son to his Mother: "Must have been so dark I didn't see the other one!"

 The sermon went on and on and on...

At last the minister paused and asked, "What more, my friends can I say?"
 In the back of the church a voice offered earnestly, "Amen!"

61st Annual BMA of America National Meeting April 19-21, 2010 Fort Smith Convention Center • Fort Smith, Arkansas

Program

Monday Morning, April 19

Display/Exhibit Set-up (Mon.-Wed.) Exhibit Hall C
 Registration Set-up (Enrollment and Finance Committee)

Monday Evening, April 19

7:00 **First General Session** Exhibit Hall B
 Music
 Opening Prayer
 Welcome by President
 Introduction of Officers
 Introduction of Host Pastors
 Central Baptist College, Jacksonville College, &
 Southeastern Baptists College Choirs
 President's Message and Introduction of Theme

Tuesday Morning, April 20

8:00 WMA Registration Exhibit Hall A1
 8:30 WMA Exhibit Hall A1
 Brotherhood Exhibit Hall B
 10:00 Pastors' and Laymen's Conference Exhibit Hall B

Tuesday Afternoon, April 20 (Called Meetings)

1:30 Committee Meetings
 Missions Department Convention Center Rm. A1
 Baptist Music Fellowship Convention Center Rm. A2
 LifeWord Convention Center Rm. 2
 DiscipleGuide Convention Center Rm. 3
 BMA Seminary Convention Center Rm. 1
 Nominating Committee Holiday Inn
 Ministers Resource Services Holiday Inn
 Moral Action Committee Holiday Inn
 Coordinating Council Holiday Inn

Tuesday Afternoon, April 20

3:00 **Second General Session** Exhibit Hall B
 Music and Prayer
 3:10 Enrollment Committee (Initial Report)
 Welcome Petitioning Churches & Seat Their Messengers
 3:20 Proposed Changes to the Constitution
 3:45 Nominees for Nominating Committee
 3:50 Clerk's Report
 4:00 Master's Builders Report
 4:10 Coordinating Council Report
 4:30 Miscellaneous Business
 5:00 Prayer/Adjourn
 5:15 Seminary Dinner TBA

Tuesday Evening, April 20

7:00 **Third General Session** Exhibit Hall B
 Music and Prayer
 Annual Message Jason Aultman
 Alternate Gary Smith
 Prayer/Adjourn

Wednesday Morning, April 21

8:30 **Fourth General Session** Exhibit Hall B
 Music and Prayer
 8:45 Nominating Committee Report
 9:05 LifeWord Media Ministries
 9:35 Baptist Music Fellowship
 9:45 Ministers Resource Services
 10:15 BMAA Seminary
 10:45 Brotherhood Report
 10:55 WMA Report
 11:05 Vote on Constitutional Changes
 Miscellaneous Business
 Prayer/Adjourn

Wednesday Afternoon, April 21

2:00 **Fifth General Session** Exhibit Hall B
 Music and Prayer
 2:15 Final Nominating Committee Report
 2:25 Minute and Clerk Hire
 2:35 Election of Officers
 Election of Annual Speaker
 3:00 Committee on Arrangements
 3:15 DiscipleGuide Church Resources
 3:45 Moral Action Committee
 4:15 Revolving Loan Fund Report
 4:20 Election of Missions Advisory Committee Members
 4:30 Final Enrollment Committee Report
 4:40 Prayer/Adjourn

Wednesday Evening, April 21

7:00 **Sixth General Session** Exhibit Hall B
 Music and Prayer
 7:15 Missions Department
 8:45 61st Annual Session Closed
 Missionary Commissioning Service
 9:00 Closing Prayer

*Come to Fort Smith praying
 that we will focus on the theme,
 "Get In The Way!!" John 17:21*

Enrollment Committee Schedule	
Monday	2:00-4:00 p.m. 6:00-7:00 p.m. and 30 minutes after session
Tuesday	8:30-9:00 a.m. 2:00-3:00 p.m. 6:30-7:00 p.m. and 30 minutes after session
Wednesday	8:00-8:30 a.m.

Nursery provided in Exhibit Hall A3

Things That Don's Really Matter

by Travis Plumlee • Family Ark Ministries • Mountain View, AR

One of the things that saddens me in my ministry is to see what splits the family of God apart. It sometimes astounds me what will cause bickering and hurt feelings in a church. It absolutely appalls me over what some pastors have to put up with. I hear a lot of stories. I just want to appeal to my readers to stop the insanity. We have to start speaking up against ignorance and stupidity. If good people don't speak up, then the trouble makers flourish. We must do as Scripture tells us to do, and speak the truth in love. More importantly, we have to focus on what matters in the Kingdom. All of this stuff is stupid and irrelevant. People are dying and going to hell and we are sitting in the church arguing about things that do not have any bearing on whether someone knows Jesus is the Savior of the world. Come on, people!

If I wrote an article containing all the stories I have heard, it would be the length of a novel. Just in the past several months, I have heard so many stories. I heard of a pastor who was made to leave the pastorate because the older women in the church did not like the fact that he made the decision to not use the great big wooden pulpit. He preferred a wooden stand that was light weight and could be moved around. They thought he should preach from the traditional wooden pulpit that was heavy and weighed about 200 pounds. He was asked to leave over this. This pastor had been able to reach many lost men in the community. He had a heart for strengthening the family through strengthening the men. He had led several men to Christ by going out into the community and establishing relationships with these lost men. He is no longer there doing this, but at least the ladies can take comfort that the wooden pulpit is back up on the platform. I know Jesus cares more about that wooden piece of furniture, than he does men being saved by His blood.

I have been in churches driving people away over whether or not to allow coffee in the church, having a community clothes closet, ear rings on boys is banned and the youth can't go to a Christian concert because one of the band members wears an ear ring. I have heard of huge church squabbles over not wanting people in the church who ride motorcycles. People look down upon and judge people who have tattoos, smoke, dance, or cannot conduct themselves properly. Please! It's time to put those rocks back in your pocket. No one is perfect. As they grow spiritually, some of these people may come to realize that their lifestyle is not the testimony they want out in the community. But they have to grow. When you receive Christ, you are not instantly a mature saint. There has to be a growing in the ways of the Lord. No one is perfect. We all have sin. We all have bad habits we need to have victory over. (And by the way, I am not saying that coffee drinking and motorcycles are bad habits to overcome). I think some people find it easier to harshly judge others if these other people are doing something that they don't struggle with. It is easy to look down on someone with tattoos, while you fail to see anything wrong with your gossiping.

I exhort teens to not listen to ungodly music. I implore them to not watch or listen to the wickedness that is pervasive in today's society. There is scripture to back that up. We are to guard our hearts and mind for His glory. We are to seek the things that glorify the Father and not conform to the world. However, we can't get the teens to hear the gospel and get saved, if church folks are always making them feel unwelcome. I have heard of churches on more than one occasion who vote to stop the bus ministry because they are attracting too many street kids whose parents don't come to church. They don't like all these hoodlums in the church. They don't like the fact that they may not contribute to the church's offerings. The parents are not coming, so there is no financial giving. This type of behavior is to me the height of wickedness in the church. Do you really think Jesus does not

Ministers Resource Services

Retirement Agency of the BMA of America

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BMA RETIREMENT RETURNS

	<u>2003</u>	<u>2004</u>	<u>2005</u>	<u>2006</u>	<u>2007</u>	<u>2008</u>	<u>2009</u>
LT GROWTH	20.48%	12.03%	5.55%	15.74%	5.23%	(29.03%)	25.39%
FIXED INCOME	2.89%	2.18%	2.75%	2.34%	2.54%	2.64%	2.78%

The Long Term Growth accounts have averaged a growth of 7.91% each year for the past seven years. In the past seven years we have posted a total of 55.39% to each LT Growth account.

The Fixed Income accounts have averaged a growth of 2.59% each year for the past seven years.

The BMA Retirement portfolio assets totaled \$9,109,032.11 on December 31, 2009. In 2009 the BMA Retirement portfolio grew by 1.8 million, with 1.1 million of the growth being new retirement money deposited by participants. The BMA Retirement portfolio over the past seven years has had a growth in assets of \$5,226,965.24.

MARKET PERFORMANCE

	<u>2003</u>	<u>2004</u>	<u>2005</u>	<u>2006</u>	<u>2007</u>	<u>2008</u>	<u>2009</u>
DOW	21.1%	3.15%	(0.6%)	16.29%	6.4%	(34.9%)	18.8%
NASDAQ	42.1%	8.58%	1.4%	9.52%	9.8%	(40.5%)	43.9%
S & P 500	0.2%	9.0%	3.0%	13.62%	3.5%	(38.8%)	23.5%

The Dow has averaged 4.32% each year for the past seven years.

The Nasdaq has averaged 10.69% each year for the past seven years.

The S & P 500 has averaged 2.00% each year for the past seven years.

You may contact Ministers Resource Services, the retirement agency of the BMA of America, at P.O. Box 2866, Texarkana, AR 75504, by phone at 870-774-2654 or email Executive Director, Ron Chesser, at RCHESSER6365@aol.com to request a retirement packet or to open an account.

want these kids to be saved because they don't know how to dress and act like you do at this point in their life? They don't know how to act because they have parents who don't care about them. They have a messed up family. It's cruel and sad to live in their home. Maybe they could learn to speak differently, dress differently and even learn to give a little money if Christian adults in the church would take them under their wing. Mentor them as the Bible instructs. Show them and teach them. The greatest thing that would change these people is seeing the love

of Christ in you. That changes people for the better.

We have to prioritize what is important to Jesus. While you fight over pulpit furniture, keyboards, music, to have power point or not; people in your neighborhood are going to hell. Witnessing, serving, helping, proclaiming, loving are some of the things we should focus on. The rest is meaningless and stupid, and we will have to answer for it some day. If some Christians would spend half the energy reaching out to the lost world, they do condemning the saved world; there would be a lot more people being saved.

Remember Me?

My name is Gossip. I have no respect for justice. I maim without killing. I break hearts and ruin lives. I am cunning and malicious and gather strength with age. The more I am quoted, the more I am believed. I flourish at every level of society. My victims are helpless. They cannot protect themselves against me because I have no name and no face. To track me down is impossible. The harder you try, the more elusive I become. I am nobody's friend. Once I tarnish a reputation, it is never quite the same.

WMA & GMA NEWS

Articles for this column should be sent to **EDITOR**

Shelia Polk
P.O. Box 259
Matthews, MO 63867
Phone 573-471-8885
Email: sheliapolk@yahoo.com

Send all WMA Offerings to:
STATE WMA TREASURER:

Cathy J. Fox
2142 Sunset Dr.
Poplar Bluff, MO 63901

Send all GMA Offerings to:
STATE GMA TREASURER

Norma Womble
4498 Cindy Lane
Barnhart, MO 63012

Time Flies...Make Preparations!

Ladies, October 8 & 9 will be here before you know it. Make plans now to attend the Missouri WMA sponsored retreat which will be at Zeno's in Rolla, MO.

We have received one early pre-paid registration. We are hoping that many of you will take advantage of the early registration which will be available at the State WMA meeting at Zion on March 6, 2010. This package deal will assist the committee with registration details.

Early registration fee (before September 1, 2010) is \$50.00. This includes three meals. After September 1, 2010, the registration fee will be \$60.00 and will also include three meals.

I am hoping to have a very special gift for the first 10 paid registrations.

Please pray for our speaker, Sis. Jerene Reddin, as she prepares to come and bless our hearts.

You can call and make your hotel room reservations at any time. Let them know that you are with the Missouri WMA. Call:

Zenos Motel & Steak House
1 Martin Springs Dr.
Rolla, MO 65401
(573)364-1301

The rates are the AARP discount rates:

Queen 2 people.....\$59.40
King 1 or 2 people.....\$63.36
Double 1 person.....\$59.40
Double 2 person.....\$63.36
Triple 1 or 2 person.....\$63.36

As always, on behalf of the committee, we thank you for your prayers and support.

Janet Widger

WMA Enlistment Month

February is Enlistment Month for the Women's Missionary Auxiliary. My prayer is that each local WMA group will catch the vision (Proverbs 29:18) of ladies reaching out in service, through benevolence, in witnessing, in teaching, and in missions. Once your WMA has caught the vision, you need to share the vision (Acts 26:19) by seeking to enlist other ladies in WMA.

During the month of February, the following ideas can be used to focus attention on the WMA:

1. Have WMA ladies sit together for a worship service.
2. Ask the pastor to let a WMA lady speak briefly on "What WMA Means to Me" and share this year's district, state, and national WMA projects.
3. Ask the pastor for space in the bulletin to announce WMA activities.
4. Sponsor a breakfast, brunch, luncheon, tea, or dinner to promote WMA awareness.

Once you have decided what type of event to sponsor, the following ideas might be helpful:

1. Select a decorating theme for the event (decorate the tables with teapots and teacups, fresh flowers, a specific type of silk flower, cut glass containers, Valentines, candles, or just use your imagination).

Family Ark Ministries

Travis Plumlee, Director
P.O. Box 163 • Mountain View, Arkansas 72560
Email: kingofthemountain@mvtel.net
WebSite: travisplumlee.com

Did Your New Year's Resolutions Already Flop and Stop???

Join the club. Most people never accomplish their new year's resolutions. When I used to live in the city, I would go to a gym and work out. Every year, we would have people that the gym regulars would call "Six Weekers." This referred to people who would make a new year's resolution to get in shape. They might also have received a gift certificate to a gym for a Christmas present. They would fill the gym up in January, and they would nearly all be gone by Valentine's Day, never to darken the door of the gym again. They would only stick to it for six weeks. Hence, the label.

Some people do accomplish their resolutions. And it isn't hopeless for any of us. At any given point in time, we can make changes for the better. It doesn't just have to be at the start of a new year. There are two critical ingredients needed to accomplish change and growth. One is mental attitude. The other is a plan. Many people have a determination, and a right attitude. They fail to accomplish goals for lack of a good plan on how to achieve it. Others may have the best plan in the world, but lack the spirit to get it done.

If you tend to not accomplish your new year's resolutions, which one do you struggle with? Of course, there is a third variable. That is personality traits. Some people are just naturally motivated and driven to accomplish no matter what they strive for in life. I have seen it in many family units. It doesn't really have anything to do with parenting. I have seen parents who are highly motivated adults. They teach and foster this aspect in their children, only to watch their kids respond to life with apathy. I think we are born with personality traits that lend themselves to laid back or pursuit oriented.

It is important for all people to realize that regardless of their personality traits, we can all accomplish things in our life that we find to be important. That is the mental attitude. You have to really want something for it to be accomplished. There has to be desire. Communist Russia failed because the workers had no desire to work hard. The government provided everything. There was no point in making money, because the government took it all. Little is accomplished when there is no desire to achieve.

Pray and ask the Lord to change your attitude. Specifically ask God to give you a desire to accomplish things in your life whether that be spiritual, mental, emotional, physical or financial. It might be that you "have not" because you "ask not".

If we have the right attitude and desire, then humans often fail because of a lack of a good plan of action. Goals must have a date attached to them. Humans work better if a certain goal has to be achieved by a specific date. As an example, don't say I want to

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2. The event can be potluck or prepared by current WMA members. GMA girls might be enlisted to serve as waitresses.
 3. Prepare a short program to present on what your WMA does (your Bible study, missions study, benevolence activities, youth auxiliaries, and any other special events or activities).
 4. Appoint a telephone committee to invite prospective ladies.
 5. Send special invitations by mail or email.
 6. Make posters advertising the event to be placed in prominent positions in the church plant.

Above all, once you have your enlistment activities planned, be enthusiastic about sharing the vision of WMA.

Brenda Hornaday, National WMA First Vice President

start walking and increase my distance. Shape up your goals like this: "We must start walking one mile a day until March 1st. March- May we will do a slow jog part of the time and finish a two mile walk. By next Christmas, we will do a walk, jog for 3 miles 5 days a week." For goals to be accomplished you have to have specifics. You have to have timetables. You have to write down who will be responsible. Goals that are accomplished are usually written down as well. That helps you take an idea in the head to a more concrete level when you see it in writing.

Finally, it is always best to decide what will be my potential roadblocks to success, and how will I combat those. Who else may need to be involved in my goal attainment? These are things to consider when contemplating a change. Take the walking example again. What are some roadblocks? Illness. Cold or wet weather. What can I do? Stay in bed and rest when I realize I am getting sick and lay off for a week and not overdo. I can go walk in the mall or Wal-Mart if it is a cold, wet week. I need to include my family. I will need my spouse to agree to watch the kids for me while I walk, then I will watch the kids while my spouse goes to the gym. These are just examples.

Sometimes I help churches do goal setting. They may come out with a goal of wanting to grow next year. That is a nice goal, but it needs some help. By what date do you want to reach the goal? What percentage? Who will be responsible to oversee the programs? What programs do you think would be the best biblical way to achieve this goal? What are our roadblocks for success? Getting all of these things worked out and written down will go a long way in helping to be successful. The church will more likely be successful with all of these specifics, rather than just the original idea of what they want to do.

Have your new year's resolutions already flopped or stopped? It is never too late to have a good year. It is never

• See **FLOP** Page 8 •

Meramec Banner

News of one of the oldest local associations in the BMA of Missouri

Meramec Missionary Committeemen Meeting

When: Saturday, February 27 beginning @ 9:00 AM

Where: First Baptist Church, Potosi, MO

Missionary Tony Crocker will be our special guest and he will be speaking on the subject: "Missions...Right Under Our Noses".

The emphasis for this meeting will be local missions. God gave the church a big task to win the world, but we must not forget our responsibilities to our Jerusalem and Samaria. Pastors, bring a group with you from your church! Lunch will be provided.

Dealing With "Sandpaper" People

Sandpaper is a wonderful substance for working with wood. It removes all the rough spots, making wood as smooth as glass and just as nice to touch. But sandpaper is not nice if it is woven into the fabric of a person's personality.

"Sandpaper" people are those who rub us the wrong way. It could be anything from the way they wear their hair to the way they talk. Most of us can probably identify as least one person like this who taxes our patience and Christian spirit.

Perhaps it would help if we try to take a different view of these people. We should pray for such people and ask God to love them through us. This will help us to be more tolerant and forgiving in our attitude.

Some Reminders As We Approach President's Day

A Republic is Born

It was a dreary day in 1776. General George Washington was completely distraught. The American revolution had just begun. His troops were raw militia...who preferred to fight in the summer.

He was weak in power and supported poorly by a congress that sometimes left him without adequate funds to pay his troops. Jealously and intrigue often preoccupied his subordinate officers.

It is a little wonder that General Washington wrote these words in 1776: "Such is my situation that if I were to wish the bitterest curse to an enemy...I should put him in my stead!"

It was under such trying circumstances...that the American Republic was born.

A Just and Lasting Peace

With malice toward none, with charity for all, with firmness in the night, as God gives us to see the right, let us strive on to finish the work we are in, to bind up the nation's wounds, to care for him who shall have borne the battle, and for his widow, and his orphan - to do all which may achieve and cherish a just and lasting peace among ourselves and with all nations.

(President Abraham Lincoln (2nd Inaugural Address, March 4th, 1865)

Washington's Farewell Address

The father of America, George Washington, in his farewell speech, reiterated this timeless counsel...

All Are Welcome to Attend a:

Fry, Cry, and Lie Supper

When: Friday, March 5 beginning @ 6:00 PM

Where: Bethel Baptist Church, Lonedell, MO

Special Guest will be Chuck Buck, CEO of Buck Knives, Inc in Post Falls, Idaho. Bring your Buck knives if you want him to sign and bring your unchurched hunting buddies to hear the gospel. Several knives will be given to some fortunate guests.

Need more info? Contact Pastor Ben Kingston at 314-640-3633

Meramec Missions

Danny Kirk, Director
920 Lindsay Lane • Florissant, MO 63031
email; pastorkirk@mindspring.com

From Our Director...

Please mark your calendars for May 6-8 for our annual BMA of Missouri Men's Retreat. The theme this year will be "No More Excuses" and will address issues that husbands and fathers face every day. The Meramec Association and the BMA of MO Association make substantial financial contributions to this event so we want to encourage pastors and laymen to attend. The cost is only \$60 and the activities include golfing, skeet shooting, horseshoes, washer pitching, ping pong, archery, volleyball and much more. If you have never attended the Men's Retreat, then treat yourself this year to something special and come!

I attended the Mission Symposium in Conway, Arkansas, this past month and was challenged by the missionaries who spoke concerning their respective fields. The theme for the symposium and for the national 50 Days of Prayer and Giving is "Across the Street and Around the World." Christ has given us a mandate to take the gospel to our community as well as around the world. Saturday, February 27th, our association will meet with the First Baptist Church in Potosi. Pastor Haguewood has planned a special day to address this mission theme. Bro. Tony Crocker will speak to us about "Missions...Right Under Our Noses" and Pastor Haguewood will tell us about a special opportunity to share the gospel "around the world." All are welcome and we hope that you will bring folks from your church.

Meramec Landmark Baptist Association Financial Report • January 2010

Balance December 31, 2009	\$	8,906.39
Total Receipts:	\$	2,236.41
Total Available	\$	11,142.80
Disbursements:		
Danny Kirk	1,100.00	
Director's Expenses	501.16	
RLF Transfer	50.00	
FileTax.com	3.99	
Brotherhood Mutual	777.90	
Total Disbursements:	\$	2,433.05
Checking Balance, January 31, 2010:	\$	8,709.75
Revolving Loan Fund Balance	\$	41,356.94

"Of all the dispositions and habits which lead to political prosperity, religion and morality are indispensable supports. In vain would that man claim the tribute of patriotism who would labor to subvert these great pillars of human happiness, these firmest props of the duties of men and citizens..."

"Let us with cautions indulge the supposition that morality can be maintained without religion. Whatever may be maintained without religion. Whatever may be conceded to the influence of refined education...reason and experience both forbid us to expect that national morality can prevail in exclusion of religious principle."

I wish to add this comment.

I have read of a great artist who always kept a number of beautiful gems on his easel: sapphires, emeralds, rubies. When asked the reason, he said that there was a danger of his colors being faded by usage, and his eye getting toned down so that the tints would lose their brilliance; so, he kept his eyes toned up by constantly referring to these fundamental colors that remain permanent.

As Washington said, moral foundations require a reference to eternal truth. Eternal truth is found in God's Word.

Paul Evans

Why God Doesn't Always Meet Needs

by Joseph Harris • via miniediton.com

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

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

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

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

Consider Lazarus the beggar in Luke 16. One thousand years earlier, David said he had never seen the righteous forsaken or His (God's) seed begging for bread. Yet notice, Lazarus was God's child, but he was lacking (1) good health, for he was full of sores (vs. 20), (2) he also lacked money for he was a beggar, and (3) he was lacking food, for he was eating crumbs from a table. If only poor Lazarus could have just heard Benny Hinn or Kenneth Copeland preach, he would have been well and wealthy . . . if he had enough faith. Or just maybe God's calling for him was to glorify God through adversity. Abraham did say Lazarus received "evil things" in life, verse 25.

Consider the great Apostle Paul. If anyone was in the will of God, and super spiritual, it was this rabbi from Tarsus who was changed on the Damascus road. He was even the one who said God would supply all need. By the way, he wrote this from prison. You would think his greatest need was being released so he could be free to preach the gospel. Strangely enough, Paul gives a list of several needs of his that were not met, all while in service for God.

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

This little nugget of truth, glorifying God through suffering, is ignored and denied because it goes against the flesh. If the modern day prosperity crowd preached this, offerings would bottom out tomorrow. You will not hear this message from these purveyors of prosperity whose sole purpose in life is to latch on to your loot. These "Profits" will continue to beguile the masses

Annual BMA of Missouri Men's Retreat

May 6-8, 2010

Meramec Retreat Center
Richwoods, MO

Cost: \$60 including meals and activities

A great time of fun, fellowship, food, and inspiration.

For more information Contact:

Danny Kirk

314-921-2378

email: pastorkirk@gmail.com

• FLOP From Page 6 •

too late to change and grow. God is interested even in the small matters of our life. Seek Him first. Pray for help. That starts the right attitude process. Ask God for strength, courage and desire to achieve whatever it is you want. Then, come up with an action plan that is specific. Don't try and do it all at once. Do gradual improvement, followed by steady improvement, followed by constant improvement. Three steps forward, one backward. That's okay. Get up and keep going. God bless!

More Faith?

A lady called a radio pastor. The pastor was a wise, grandfatherly gentleman who has that calm reassuring voice that can melt all fear. The lady, who was obviously crying, said, "Pastor, I was born blind, and I've been blind all my life. I don't mind being blind but I have some well meaning friends who tell me that if I had more faith I could be healed."

The pastor asked her, "Tell me, do you carry one of those white canes?"

"Yes, I do," she replied.

"Then the next time someone says that, hit them over the head with the cane," he said. "Then tell them, 'If you had more faith that wouldn't hurt!'"

(even in Baptist churches, imagine that) while padding their pocketbooks. God help them on the day of judgment and may God help us to glorify Him through whatever calling He has given to each of us individually.

AVAILABLE PREACHERS

The following names are listed as a service to our churches in keeping you informed as to preachers that are available. The publishing of a preacher's availability for preaching appointments or pastoral work should not be considered as a recommendation by the *Missouri Missionary Baptist*. Names are published at the request of the individual and will be published in three consecutive issues unless the editor is otherwise instructed.

Perrin Seay, a member of Emmanuel Baptist Church in LeMay, Missouri, is willing to go anywhere the Lord leads to preach or pastor. You may contact him by phone: 314-402-0906, or by email: papaseay@yahoo.com. -11-

Rick Blair, of Potosi, is available for preaching appointments. Contact him by phone: 573-330-2933. -11-

Ray Thurman, is available for pulpit supply or to serve as a interim pastor as God leads. You may contact him at 573-438-2195. -2-

Editor's Note: Attention all "available preachers." Please note that the heading for this column states that "names are published at the request of the individual and will be published in three consecutive issues unless the editor is otherwise instructed." The number following the information listed for each name is the number of the month in which the notice was first published. By the end of the third month you need to notify the editor if you want your name continued to be listed, otherwise it will be removed. Also, I need to hear from you, not someone else, if your name is to be listed in this column. This avoids confusion for everyone involved. You can contact me by mail, email, telephone or FAX. The contact information is on page 2. We are happy to offer this service and want to keep it updated monthly. Thanks for your cooperation.

Position Available

Pastor of Family Ministries

Mt. Olive Baptist Church of Guy, Arkansas, is seeking a Pastor of Family Ministries to oversee children and student ministries. A job description may be seen at our website, mtolivebcguy.org/StaffOpening.dsp. Resumes may be sent to Mt. Olive Baptist Church, P.O. Box 128, Guy, AR 72061.

Online Church Letter Form to Expire

Bobby L. Hudgens • DiscipleGuide Information Services

DiscipleGuide Information Services is currently gathering data for the next edition of the 2010-2011 BMAA Directory and Handbook to be distributed this summer. We sincerely thank your church for promptly sending us your church letter. If your church has not sent us your church letter with information ending in 2009, please do so soon.

Our latest records show that only one third of BMAA churches give an offering each year toward the publishing of the BMAA Directory and Handbook. Without the support of our churches we cannot continue to provide our churches with this service. We need your help, and we thank you so much for it.

If you plan to complete the 2009 Annual Church Letter form on-line, time is running out. The on-line form will expire on February 14 and will no longer be available.

Please send offerings to Information Services, 4613 Loop 245, Texarkana, AR 71854. Thanks so much for your help.

First Quarter Financial Report

Kenneth E. Gibson Seminary Student Grant Fund October - December 2009

Balance: October 1, 2009	\$ 24,322.87
Receipts:	0.00
Total Available:	\$ 24,322.87
Disbursements	0.00
Balance: December 31, 2009	\$ 24,322.87