

The Missouri Missionary Baptist

“Holding Forth The Word of Life”

Philippians 2:16

Volume LXXIX

St. Louis, MO • October 11, 2016

Issue No. 10

Annual Meeting of the BMA of Missouri

October 22, 2016 • 9:00 a.m.
Bethel Baptist Church
Sikeston, Missouri

From the Host Pastor....

Welcome BMA of Missouri Meeting
October 22, 2016 9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.
at Bethel Missionary Baptist
128 Fifth Street Sikeston, MO
573-471-3750 or 573-380-0284

“Behold, how good and how pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity!” Psalm 133:1

Message brought by Bro. Wayne Gibson
We will be serving lunch.
We look forward to seeing everyone.



Rejoicing Over 2016 Highlights

DiscipleGuide helps churches maximize their Great Commission potential through camps, conferences, curriculum, and consulting. According to Executive Director Scott Attebery, “We pour into local churches because that’s where our next missionaries are being trained and a new generation of believers are being equipped for ministry. By investing in local churches, we are investing in the future of missions!”

This year because of DiscipleGuide’s efforts,

- Forty-three churches are ensuring their long-term stability through Activate, DiscipleGuide’s church revitalization program.
- Over ninety young souls made professions of faith, and twenty-three students surrendered to full-time ministry at Daniel Springs.
- Teachers and Bible study leaders received more resources than ever through the improved Compass Bible study material.
- Over 1,800 students were challenged to have a missions-

WalkfortheWorld

vs.

LifeWord Sunday

Beginning in 1980, Harvest Gleaner Hour/LifeWord’s flagship fund raiser has accounted for one third of the ministry’s annual budget. First called a Walk-a-thon, then Walk of Faith, Walk for the World has been a way for churches around the BMA to partner in gospel programming that reaches one third of the world’s population.

Thirty-six years later, churches have found their own unique ways to fund raise through garage sales, bowl-a-thons, auctions, youth pastor pie-in-the-faces, Scripture memory contests, Sunday night fellowship meals, and fishing derbies. We are humbled by the churches who contribute to Lifeworld’s global initiatives that are crucial to the work of indigenous pastors, church planters and missionaries. The message we have for our churches is this: We want your congregation to know about our unique media ministry and partner with us in fulfilling the Great Commission.

LifeWord Sunday October 23 is that opportunity, and learning about, praying for and giving to Lifeworld is the purpose. BMA churches give generously to LifeWord, whether focused life at SOAR 2016. At least twenty of them surrendered to missions, and more than 100 signed up for short-term mission trips.

Learn more about DiscipleGuide’s ministry and resources at discipleguide.org. Representatives are available to present DiscipleGuide’s ministry and vision to local congregations. To schedule a Sunday visit, call 800-333-1442 and ask for Jonathan Wilson.

Fall Paintball Retreat

Friday & Saturday
October 28-29, 2016

See the Camp Garwood Report below for details.

Greetings From Garwood

There’s not much to report from camp again this month. There’s been no activity on the new dorm. We expect the ground work to begin any time.

We had perfect weather and a great time at the men’s retreat, although we were few in number. You know there weren’t many there when I came home with a trophy. But none the less we heard great devotions and testimonies. Enjoyed good food and a lot of laughs.

We will be back at camp later this month for the **Paintball retreat. October 28th-29th.** Please note that we will only have snacks on Friday night so stop and eat on your way. We will have some activities planned for Friday night. Paintball will start after breakfast Saturday morning. We will have some paintballs available but encourage you to bring your own. We will sell our paint for \$10 a bag or \$35 a case. Rather than charging for equipment rental, we will be taking donations for its use, our cost on CO2 and food. Whether you play paintball or not. It’s a great weekend to get away and enjoy the company of some great folks. Until next month,

Chris Polk

P O Box 271 • Matthews MO 63867

(573)-380-1975

it’s through general funds, budgeted monies or annual Walk giving. We can’t express our appreciation enough for those partnering churches and would especially like church members to learn how their offerings are being used to make Jesus’ name famous among the nations.

To participate in LifeWord Sunday, register your church (free T-shirt for the pastor and Team LifeWord leader), request bulletin inserts, show the LifeWord video, and pray. As an incentive to register your church, pastors will be entered into a December 14 drawing for a 60-inch TV. (Contributions, marked “LWS,” must be received by December 12.) Registration and T-shirt ordering is at lifeworld.org/lifeworld-sunday/ or you can contact holly@lifeworld.org for more information.

Revival
Kewanee
Missionary
Baptist Church,
Kewanee, MO

October 31st
thru
November 4th

6:30 p.m.
each evening

Steve Crawley,
Evangelist

Everyone
Welcome!

+++ NEWS BRIEFS +++

Bates Creek, Potosi, feels like September flew by!! Our WMA sent 5 ladies to the state WMA retreat. What a blessing! As usual, the ladies that organize the state retreat did an amazing job. Thank you!! We had another fun chili cook off and auction sponsored by our WMA. Bryan Buckley took 1st, Gail Rasnic took 2nd, and Fay Simpson won 3rd. We had a movie night at church and got to see God's Not Dead 2. Great movie! Bro. Knight suggested we start talent nights the last Sunday night of the month. We had several specials along with food and good fellowship. Come join us for the next one. Our Homecoming will be held Sunday, October 16. We encourage each church to bring a special to our singing in the afternoon. It will be a great way to fellowship with each other. Finally, we are blessed with a wonderful pastor at Bates Creek. Bro. Leonard and Sis. Bertha are very special to us. We appreciate their effort and work in our church. We are also thankful for a wonderful youth pastor, Bro. Bryan Buckley. He does an amazing job with our youth group. Make sure you tell your pastor how much he means to you this month. Happy Pastor Appreciation Month!!

Leonard Knight, Pastor • Sara Buckley, Reporter

Greetings from **Bethany, St. Louis**. Leaves are falling and changing color, weather is cooler, fall must be here. Time is passing quickly, and I am asked the question "What are we doing for the Lord?" We at Bethany have had Bro. Dunn and Bro. Hoffmann filling the pulpit. We are thankful there are God called men that are willing to share God's word with His children. We rejoice in one addition by baptism. Bro. Josh Nors has decided God wants him here at Bethany and we are glad! Please continue to pray for Sis. Tiny Blanchard, Bro. Cooper and Bro. Dale Schwaderer. He recently fell at his home and broke his leg. Two of our ladies attended the Ladies Retreat and were blessed beyond measure. Even with a power outage during Friday's meeting time we had a blast. Thank you to all who helped get that meeting going. We are planning on some special activities for our fellowship time. So many of our churches are without shepherd's to lead them so please go to the throne for those. We were blessed recently to have Sis. Jamie Eye and her granddaughter Izzy in our services from the Dallas area. We have had visitors in our services that seem interested. Please pray that we will follow God's leadership in searching for a pastor and we know that God already has the man in place for that position. Till next month, may God bless.

Kathy Chapman, Reporter.

Stony Point, Mineral Point rejoices that on September 11, 2016 Joe and Clarice Casner presented themselves for membership on promise of letter from Ozark Heights Baptist Church. They were given the hand of Christian fellowship. Baptism certificates were handed out. September 25, 2016 seven youth participated in Walk for the World by some playing guitars during morning worship service and some quoting memorized verses during afternoon service. We are very proud of our youth and their leaders. God's blessings until next month.

Claude Evans, Pastor • Debrah Coleman, Reporter

Landmark, DeSoto, reports that a couple of us attended the Washington County WMA/Brotherhood meeting at Zion on the 9th. There weren't too many of us there, but we had a very good meeting. WMA elected our 2016-2017 officers. Sis. Connie Reifsteck had a very good installation of officers program. We were all encouraged to spread around the gospel. The next weekend, Sis. Gibson and I attended the Missouri

Ladies Retreat. It was such a blessing. Sis. Pat Quesenbury is a great speaker and I cannot imagine that anyone would not have enjoyed the four sessions that we had with her. On the 27th, Hillbilly Day was held at church. It was a lot of fun. The Action Team had worked hard. The decorations were amazing, and the food was very good. We had our local WMA and Brotherhood on the 25th. We had quite a few attend both. In our Wednesday night Bible study, we have just moved into Revelation. We are hoping that more will attend. We have had a lot going on with sickness, family problems along with other things going on. We just ask your prayers for all involved. Until Next Month or the Lords Return, Wayne Gibson, Pastor Sharon Page, Reporter

Greetings from **Bethlehem of Doniphan!** September was an AWESOME month for us here at Bethlehem! We started the month with having Sis. Dian Decker's son and his family with us for both services on the Labor Day Weekend Sunday. Bro. Jimmy not only brought the messages to us but he also played the piano for his wife, Sis. Rebecca as she praised the Lord in song. Sunday evening we were blessed to hear their son, Gabe Decker sing Jesus Loves Me. September 18th we had Bro. Brian Adams, Sis. Kate and two of their children, Lila and Gabe. They were with us for the Third Sunday Singing as well as both services. Sis. Kate praised the Lord in song during both services and at the singing also! On Wednesday, September 21st Bro. Matt Baker joined us and brought another wonderful message from God. Bro. Rocky Houston and Sis. Debbie were with us September 25th and we were blessed with his message from the Lord. We may not have a pastor yet but God is assuring us each service with a message from Him. This month's

Youth in the Harvest was held at Black River M.B.C. and it was on the last night of their revival. It was so wonderful having 10 of our sister churches in the Association attending that night. Please pray for our Youth in the Harvest meeting for October as it is the Walk For The World at Pineywood Park in Elsinoe, MO Saturday, October 15th with Bro. Lee Miller from Bismarck, MO bringing the devotional at 9:00 a.m. Between 11:30 and 12:00 we will break for lunch and for anyone who wants to stay a while longer we will be singing praises to the Lord. So bring a dish to share, or your own lunch, whichever you prefer, a song book or instrument and come join us. Hope to see you there! Be sure and look for next month's letter for an update on how it all went. Please pray for us as we continue our search for a new Pastor. Keep the faith and until next month may the Lord bless and keep us all!

Yvonne Hill, Assistant Reporter

Kewanee Missionary Baptist, Kewanee, had a wonderful September. We started back with our potluck dinners before business meetings on the first Wednesday of each month. This year was the first time we recognized Grandparents Day. Sis. Pam and the children did a great job with poems and readings about grandparents. Each grandmother received a pin while each grandfather received a lapel pin. September 18th we had our 81st Homecoming Service. Bro. Dan brought a great message from the Lord and after he fed us with the Word, we gathered in the fellowship hall to be fed the physical food. Our ladies out did themselves as always with a wonderful spread of food. The fellowship hall was decorated with quilts and one that was displayed was over 100 years old. Sis. Pam does a great job with decorating ideas. She says she couldn't do it without her helpers. In the afternoon we heard singing from the trio "Intercession." It was a great day! We are now collecting food for our local county Food Drive. This has been an annual activity and we enjoy helping others. Some of our men and boys went to the Fall Retreat. Our own CJ Posey won first place. We are looking forward to a great October with Pastor's Appreciation October 16th, WMA Make, Bake and Take October 23rd, and with our LifeWord Walk that evening. October 29th we will have our Fall Festival for all ages of children with a hayride and cookout. We have babies on the way here at Kewanee. Sis. Lisa Pipkin's baby shower is October 30th. Next month we will have a baby shower for Nyna Sprouse and in December one for Heather Beardsley. We are having new members come forward but we are raising new ones too. Sis. Georgia Ivy was baptized this month. She has

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FINANCIAL REPORT BMA OF MISSOURI MISSIONS • September 2016

General Fund:

Balance September 1, 2016		\$	130,437.22	
September Receipts:	\$	<u>2,979.49</u>	\$	<u>2,979.49</u>
Total Available		\$	133,416.71	
Disbursements:				
Assistant Director's Salary	\$	450.00		
Dell Computer Service	\$	<u>129.00</u>		
Total Disbursements	\$	<u>579.00</u>	\$	<u>(579.00)</u>
Balance September 30, 2016:		\$	132,837.71	

From Our Assistant Director...

I had the privilege of filling the pulpit at Lower Doe Run Baptist Church near Ellington, Temple Baptist Church in Belgrade and Bethany Baptist Church in St. Louis this past month. I also enjoyed preaching at Landmark Baptist Church in DeSoto as they celebrated their 84th Anniversary the first Sunday of October.

It is time for our annual association meeting and I hope to see many of our churches represented at Bethel Baptist Church in Sikeston October 22nd. We need this time of fellowship and planning for

the work of our association of churches for the next year. Your input is helpful and necessary if we are going to be unified in our efforts for the Lord.

Pastor Jerry Adams and Bethel Baptist Church welcome this meeting and we look forward to being with them. Let's fill their building with people ready to go forward for Christ.

Please join me and our special missions committee in praying for a new church plant during this next associational year. Is your church interested in planting a church

somewhere in Missouri? Do you know of a preacher who feels led of God to start a new work in our state? Let's unite our efforts to see this become a reality soon.

I am anxious to hear the reports of all our committees and departments at this annual meeting. God is working in our churches and it is good to hear what is happening around our state.

We will be electing our President and Vice President at this meeting along with considering recommendations of all committees and departments.

Please come and be involved in this great meeting.

5. We assisted Missionary Boris Lebedev with a Russian Rehab facility that helps those with drug and alcohol addiction to find Christ and overcome their addictions as well as his radio studio project.

6. We were also able to help missionary Jamshad Hadyat with his Pakistani church (Veritcal Life Urdu) and their outreach to Muslim families.

7. One team also did a local missions project for a single senior from our church that needed help with lawn care, pressure washing and repair of a deck that was rotting.

We have also had 3 Preview Services this Summer. Preview Services are simply a time we can invite people to come and check us out to see what we are all about and we can have a few dress rehears-

als (if you will) to work out any of the kinks before our Launch. Our Preview Services were on July 10th, August 14th, and September 11th. We had new people at each one of our Previews!!

Our latest bit of great news is that the new family I mentioned back in June that started coming and leading worship for us, Dan & Nikki Thomason, were just recently approved by the Missions Office and Advisory Committee as our Associate! We are so thankful for this and for all of your prayers through this process to find the family God was leading to us for this position.

We are feverishly getting ready for our upcoming Grand Opening/Launch Sunday October 9th. Please be praying for people to come and visit and that God would do great and mighty things through our mission here in North Georgia at StonePoint Church as we reach others for Him and continue to lead them to a deeper level of discipleship and relationship with Him. Also, the afternoon after our Launch services, we will be holding our first baptism services at the lake. Praise God for all He is doing!!

We would also ask that you would prayerfully consider supporting our work here in Georgia monthly. We are still in need of partners and every bit helps and is appreciated. Thank you to those who have been supporting us and have made it possible to minister to those we already have and we pray that God would bless you as you continue to pray for us and financially support the work here in Georgia.

I am anxious to write soon and give you an update on how the Launch goes and how God will provide.

Ways to give:

Mail to BMA Missions - P.O. Box 878 Conway, AR 72033

Designate to Missionary Todd Cox - StonePoint GA

Give Online at BMAA Missions website - scroll down and select Todd Cox

Or - Mail directly to StonePoint Church PO Box 3029 Cumming, GA 30028

Mission: Dominican Hales Family Happenings

On Furlough

I just wanted to send out a quick note to let you know that my temporary US cell # is 501 487 0115 and will be good through December 30th. You can still contact me via e-mail at missiondominican@hotmail.com through facebook. Our Skype number 501 499 6011 is also still good. We look forward to connecting with as many of you as possible over the next 3 months. Most of the time we will be based out of Conway, AR but we also have plans to travel through Missouri, Kansas, Oklahoma, Texas, Tennessee, Kentucky, Indiana, Michigan, North and South Carolina. If we haven't already been able to arrange plans to connect with you over the next 3 months please contact us. Thank you.

Information on BMAA Missionaries

If you would like to know more about our BMAA Missionaries or contact them go to www.BMAAMissions.org.

Are You **DEW**ing it?

Give a **Dollar Every Week**
to Camp Gawood

News From BMAA Missionaries

News from Todd & Tina Cox at StonePoint Church North GA

Summer is a Wrap and Fall is Here!!

Happy Fall everyone! It might be the season of Fall but in Georgia it is still 90 degrees.

We have had a great summer and I wanted to take a minute just to share a few things with everyone and celebrate what God has been doing and ask for your prayers for our upcoming Launch.

This Summer we were blessed to host mission teams from Brister Arkansas, Sumrall Mississippi and Brownsboro & Canton, TX. Our last newsletter covered some of their projects and showed some great pictures but I wanted to just recap an overview here quickly. These teams ministered to hundreds of families throughout North Georgia and the greater Atlanta area. Here are some of the things they helped us accomplish this summer:

1. We were able to hand out goodies to first responders and thank them for their service.
2. We volunteered over 100 hours to help an organization called SAFFT that helps support adopted and foster families.
3. We volunteered over 100 hours to help an emergency assistance and food pantry facility called The Place of Forsyth.
4. We handed out over 500 door hangers to invite people to StonePoint Church.

been coming with her son and daughter-in-law. It is great to have new converts. Please mark your calendars for October 31st - November 4th as we will be in revival with Bro. Steve Crawley starting at 6:30 p.m.,
Dan Wisely, Pastor • Terri Adams, Reporter

HELLO to all from **Oak Hill, Alton**. Not a lot has happened at Oak Hill in the month of September other than my niece Cortney Moyer had her fourth baby Lawson Cole Moyer. He was born September 28th at 12:30 a.m. and weighed 7lbs 14 oz and was 20 inches. His two sisters and one brother are not so sure about him yet, I think they are beginning to adapt to having a little brother. In October we have quite a few things planned. On the 3rd through 5th is the Pastor's Oasis. We have four anniversaries to celebrate, and six birthdays. The 22nd we are having our Walk-Of-Faith Fish Fry. Not only are we having fish to eat but one of our church members is allergic to fish and fish oil so we also are having Chicken Strips. We also will be having French Fries, Hush Puppies and a lot of other dishes and desserts and everyone is welcome. The goal we set is to collect \$1,000 to send to spread the Gospel in other countries by radio and other ways to spread the gospel about our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. The 23rd is when we are having a Baby Shower for Chad and Abby Casey they are so excited about having a little boy in January. The 30th is our fifth Sunday Dinner and everyone is welcome to come. Until next month I hope I will have some good news to tell you but until then we will be praising and honoring our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. God Bless!!

Edward Casey, Pastor • Jennifer Williams, Reporter

It is always good to read the reports from the churches and to report from **Lower Doe Run, Ellington**. What a month of blessings! We celebrate Jesus through messages from the letter of Paul to the Romans. We are enjoying the verse by verse commentary. It touches each of us in our own spiritual needs. Visitors are so welcome and they encourage our workers. Barbara Radford and Carolyn Meade attended the Women's Spiritual Retreat in Arnold and look forward to the next September Retreat if Jesus delays His coming. Our Pastor celebrated his physical birthday and his 48th year in the ministry this month. Our hearts break for the sickness and frailty of some members yet rejoice that they try to be at God's House every service. Sis. Irene celebrated her 95th birthday with a party, family and friends on the 24th. The WMA Bible Study and Prayer Meeting was held October 1st with Sis. Hoffman hosting. We studied why we serve. We serve because we love. Anything else fails to please God. We anticipate our annual Fall Festival at the church and the Fifth Sunday Singing at Ohlman Church. May God bless each one as we prepare our hearts to vote in the national election.

Melvin Meade, Pastor • Carolyn Meade, Reporter

Special Offerings **Put Us OVER the TOP**

Thanks to some last minute special offerings the **Missouri Missionary Baptist** exceeded the goal of \$5,000 for the Special Emphasis. Thanks to everyone who gave to make this possible. An anonymous special offering of \$500 and A \$1,200 offering from the Meramec Association combined to "put us over the top."

When you come to the annual association you will see how well this Special Emphasis helped the paper have the BEST year financially since I have been the editor.

Special Thanks to all who support this ministry. Please keep up the good work and we will do our best to produce a publication for which you can be thankful.

God Blesses Lives and Min- istries That Want, Prepare For and Expect His Blessings

by Dr. Bill Rice

I like to ride a horse that is ready to be ridden! A horse that is fed right, trained right, saddled right and shod right. Take away any one of these things, and the horse simply is not ready for real work.

And this is a simple lesson that many a preacher and layman needs to learn.

It would be foolish for a farmer to pray for a mighty harvest when he had never sowed the seed.

It would be foolish for a rancher to expect a great calf crop when he didn't have a cow!

It is foolish for a pastor to pray for a great ministry when he has never prepared himself to preach.

It is foolish for a Sunday School Superintendant to pray for a large Sunday School when he never enters into a visitation program.

Psalm 126:6 expresses the point that the fellow who works hard at preparation is the one who gets the crop. *"He that goeth forth and weepeth bearing precious seed, shall doubtless come again with rejoicing, bringing his sheaves with him."*

This simple truth, that preparation precedes blessings, is emphasized again and again in the Bible.

1. No Water for Israel's Army until They Dug Water Ditches

"And he said, Thus saith the Lord, Make this valley full of ditches.

"For thus saith the Lord, Ye shall not see wind, neither shall ye see rain; yet that valley shall be filled with water; that ye may drink, both ye, and your cattle, and your beasts. II Kings 3:16, 17.

2. No Oil for the Widow Until She Borrowed Empty Vessels

"Then he (Elisha) said,

LifeWord's Spanish Broadcast Changes Lives!!

El Contacto Cristiano is one of LifeWord's fifty broadcasts on the air in more than 300 radio stations in the United States, Mexico, Central America, South America, the Caribbean, and Spain. It can also be heard all over the world via www.oneplace.com, www.elsitiocristiano.com and soon via Trans World's Radio lportal www.twr360.org.

LifeWord doesn't always get to hear the stories and testimonials of transformed lives from God's redemptive work, and some may never be known on this side of eternity. LifeWord recently received a letter originally sent to Jazmina Robinson, wife of LifeWord's El Contacto Cristiano speaker Ricky Robinson, from Dollie Martin, director of Radio Amistad, a network of radio stations in Houston where the program is broadcast. The following is a translated excerpt from the letter:

"In June 1993, Perfecta started to listen to the radio and she felt attracted to the message of hope and peace, something she felt was lacking in her life. In fact, she felt that she was the worst sinner in the world! One day while listening to El Contacto Cristiano she heard Pastor Ricardo Robinson say that nobody is too much of a sinner to disqualify them from accepting Christ, then he invited the listeners to put their full trust in Jesus for salvation. She prayed to God confessing her sins and put her trust in Jesus. Immediately she felt the change that began in her heart and called the radio station to share the joy of having received the gift of salvation. I visited Perfecta, took her some Bible study material (El Contacto Cristiano offers free discipleship material), and I encouraged her in the Lord before she had to depart back to Mexico.

On July 20, 2016, Perfecta called our radio network to thank Radio Amistad and for the discipleship material she received. When she returned to Mexico she went through many trials with her family. Her father pressured her to renounce her new faith in Christ and made life practically impossible for Perfecta, almost to the point of renouncing her faith in Jesus Christ, but she did not give Satan the joy of doing so. Finally, almost twenty-three years later, Perfecta is reporting that members of her family have come to the saving knowledge of Jesus Christ, beginning with her mom and then her brothers. After many years her dad, too, came to the saving knowledge of Jesus Christ and made a profession of faith. Perfecta is now married to a man of God and along with her three children, they are active in their church. For the glory of God, all twelve immediate family members have now declared Jesus Christ as their Lord and Savior."

Contributions to LifeWord help people like Perfecta and her family hear the gospel via the airwaves and be redeemed by God. Partnering with this unique media ministry enables lives like these around the world come to the saving knowledge of Jesus Christ. Please join BMA churches in a celebration of Lifeworld on LifeWord Sunday, October 23, a day to learn about, pray for and give to our unique media ministry that takes the gospel all over the world. Go to lifeworld.org/lifeworldsunday/ for more information.

Go, borrow thee vessels abroad of all thy neighbors, even empty vessels; borrow not a few.

"And when thou art come in, thou shalt shut the door upon thee and upon thy sons, and shalt pour out into all those vessels, and thou shalt set aside that which is full." II Kings 4:3, 4

3. No Cleansing for Naaman Until He Dipped Seven Times in the Jordan

"And Elisha sent a messenger unto him, saying, Go and wash in Jordan seven times, and thy flesh shall come again to thee, and thou shalt be clean." II Kings 5:10

• See **PREPARATION** Page 8 •

BMAA Recognize Service in Three Ministries

by Holly Meriweather

BMA Global Ministry Center staff members were honored recently for their consecutive years of service to Lifeword Media Ministries, BMA Missions, and BMA LLC (shared services team). Since all current employees of DiscipleGuide have worked with the ministry less than five years, no employees were eligible. Recognition was given for five, ten, fifteen, twenty, twenty-five, thirty and forty years.

Steve Crawley said, "At the risk of sounding cliché, our employees are our greatest organizational assets, as every component of our work is driven by human effort through the power of the Holy Spirit. We thank God for each team member, and we take delight in recognizing their faithful years of service to the BMA."

The following BMA LLC staff members were recognized for their service: Charles Attebery, five years; Nick Jacobsen, five years; Mike Jones, five years; Mark Malone, twenty years; and Diane Ward, twenty years.

The following BMA Missions staff members were recognized for their service: Larry Barker, ten years; Sarah Hamilton, five years; Ralph Izard, ten years; Karen Keathley, twenty-five years; Jerry Kidd, forty years; Phil Knott, thirty years, John David Smith, twenty years; and Linda Thompson, fifteen years.

The following Lifeword staff members were recognized for their service: Steve Crawley, ten years; Carol Gipson, twenty years; Luis Ortega, fifteen years; Rick Russell, twenty-five years; and Ellen Siler, five years. The Lifeword team also invited Bro. George Reddin to take part in the event and recognized his thirty-one years of service with the ministry from 1980-2011.



BMA Bible College in Philippines

BMA Bible College in the Philippines hosted their second annual Bible Conference this past week with "Together in Unity" as their theme. One of the guest speakers was Tony Cleaver from BMA Seminary in Jacksonville.

Fifty pastors registered for the event. Morning and evening sessions were well attended at the school with an overflow crowd attending the last evening service Thursday night to honor the pastors at a closing banquet... traditional Philippine food along with a whole roast pig!

Dr. Cleaver representing the BMA Seminary said: "The students welcomed me with great warmth. The city of Bacalod is known as the city of smiles. I believe those smiles start right here on this campus. The host missionaries treated me most royally. It was a pleasure to be a part of this good institution's effort to carry on the mission of Christ and His Church in this country."

LifeWord Community Radio

At only two years old, LifeWord Community Radio is the youngest of the three parts of LifeWord Media Ministries' vision. (LifeWord Broadcasting and LifeWord Media and Leadership are the other two.) For this fifty-year-old media ministry, it is the most exciting and effective tool for church growth that LifeWord has created to date.

This project partners with indigenous local churches in third world countries to own and operate their own FM radio stations. Ninety-eight percent of the people who attend the typical third world church will live within five to seven miles of the church and walk everywhere they go. Even though its power is only fifteen watts, to everyone within that range it sounds just as big as any other radio station. Local churches can air LifeWord programs in their own languages or dialects seven days a week if they want, and it encourages the people of each church to create their own original programming to serve the community.

As those church-based stations develop programs in their indigenous languages, LifeWord collects the best ones, and soon there will be enough great shows to program a 24/7 radio station in each LifeWord dialect. Using internet streaming to mobile phones, which will soon be a reality in nearly every country in the world, that station could be heard by nearly every person in the world who speaks that language! LifeWord staff members train the personnel to create programs of interest to the community and to weave the gospel message into that community-minded programming.

This is a true partnership between the local church and LifeWord. To insure success, the people of each local church make the financial sacrifice of \$300 to pay for the equipment. Once they in-

• See LifeWord Page 6 •



LifeWord's Luis Ortega, Denis Flores, Luis Gonzalez, and David Dickson attend a conference in Nicaragua

Community Radio Offers Alternative to Occult Practices

by Holly Meriweather

Diriomo, Nicaragua is known to locals and foreigners as the seat of occult practices, supernatural activity and witchcraft tourism. Some even believe it is the gate of hell itself because of its proximity to volcanoes. Its reputation has increased the number of witches, witch doctors, healers, and seers in the area. Some believe it's just black magic at work and a chance for charlatans to profit from tourists.

The truth, of course, is that the people are in bondage and in darkness and the spirit of fear tends to prevail in Diriomo and its neighboring municipalities. Unfortunately, many people flock to Diriomo seeking the help of the spirit world in their quest for love, yet often do not find it. What they need is an encounter with the love and forgiveness of Jesus Christ. The Bible says, "there is no fear in love; but perfect love casts out fear: because fear has torment. He who fears is not made perfect in love" (1 John 4:18).

In the nearby town of Diria, Primera Iglesia Bautista Los Obreros de Cristo dedicated the first LifeWord Community Radio station in early 2016. The church's broadcasts of their services and other gospel programming now offer an alternative to the spirit of fear pervading the Diriomo area.

Denis Flores and Luis Gonzalez traveled there to install the transmitter and train the church's media team to run the station. In October the associate pastor of Primera Iglesia, Javier Muñoz Ruiz, will conduct media training at Nicaragua's Bible colleges. With the training, more young men and women can have the technical skills to involve them in even more LifeWord Community Radio stations.

For seven months, the new radio station has been transmitting the truth and serving as a tool for First Baptist Church of Diria as they proclaim and show the love of Christ. Pray that the church's efforts will continue to be a beacon of light to a dark world, casting out the spirit of fear through the love of Christ.



A LifeWord Community Radio transmitter is installed in Diriomo, Nicaragua by a media trainee

WMA & GMA NEWS

Articles for this column may be sent to

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Send all WMA Offerings to:

STATE WMA TREASURER:

Connie Reifsteck
P.O. Box 190493
St. Louis, MO 63119

Send all GMA Offerings to:

STATE GMA TREASURER:

Shelia Polk
P.O. Box 259
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Washington County District WMA

The Women's Missionary Auxiliary of Washington County met September 9 2016, at Zion Baptist Church, with four churches represented. This was the time for election of new officers and a new project. The new officers are:

President - Barbara Williams - Emmanuel
1st Vice President - Ruth Gibson - Landmark
2nd Vice President - Connie Reifsteck - Zion
Secretary/Treasurer - Tracy Goede - Zion
Assistant - Ladonna Baker - Zion
Historian/Reporter - Norma Womble - Zion
Youth Promoter - Dana Dane - Bethesda
Assistant - Mandy Barton - Bethesda

The 2016-2017 project is 25% Missouri Missionary Baptist Paper; 25% Camp Garwood; 30% General Fund and 20% Youth.

Elected to the Advisory Council were Sis. Bea Evans, Sis. Janet Widger, and Sis. Sharon Page.

The program, Officer Recipes, was the Installation of Officers done by Sis. Connie Reifsteck. Each lady was presented a spatula and a recipe card of instructions for each officer's duties.

After dismissal, a good time of food and fellowship was enjoyed by all.

Norma Womble, Reporter

If Not, Why Not?

You call Me Master, and you do not listen to Me.

You call Me the Light, and you do not look to Me.

You call Me the Way, and you do not follow Me.

You call Me the Truth, and you do not believe Me.

You call Me the Life, and you do not live for Me.

You call me the Wise, and do not seek My counsel.

You call me Lovely, and you do not love Me.

You call Me Rich, and you do not ask for anything.

You call Me the Everlasting, and you do not seek Me.

You call Me Merciful, and you do not trust Me.

You call Me Almighty, and you do not fear Me.

You call Me Righteous, and you do not Honor Me.

WHY NOT??

• LifeWord From Page 5 •

vest their own money, LifeWord will invest \$1,500 to bring the equipment to the field and train the pastor and the church's broadcast team to install and operate the station.

The final step is when that church's broadcasters train other broadcasters, the same driving force Missions uses to teach discipleship and plant churches: LifeWord trains broadcasters to train other broadcasters just as Missions trains missionaries to train other missionaries. Those new broadcasters/missionaries then agree to help other churches do the same thing. This "media discipleship" is exactly what Jesus did with his disciples and what Paul did with Titus and Timothy. LifeWord Media Ministries is committed to continuing this multiplication method until the whole world hears.

Doing The Work of An Evangelist

Evangelism in Death and Loss

What Does Jesus Have to Say Regarding Stages of Death and Loss?

Tony Cleaver -

prepared for Chapel South Texas School of Christian Studies
October 13, 2016

INTRODUCTION

Student Scripture Reading: Job 2. 11-13; and Job 16. 1-5

Jesus did not leave the work of evangelism to the banking industry. He did not leave it to governmental agencies-particularly political parties. He did not leave it to secular educational institutions. He did not leave it to any corporate entity. He left the work of evangelism to those who are called by His Name - Christians. He left it to those who work for Christ and His Church.

Doing the work of an evangelist is a day by day normal and full time occupation. It comes from a life of piety. Piety is a good word. It simply means the practice of one's faith. Evangelism comes from that inner glow of knowing Christ; rather perhaps of being known by Him. Our lives glow with Him to an expression of evangelism. Sometimes we have to use words in evangelism.

You have heard the reading of the Job passages. The comforters were at first good and positive. They kept their mouths shut. They sat down with Job in the ashes of his pain. Later Job called them miserable comforters. They had plied Job with secular philosophies of the day-and they are still prevalent.

Young men and women don't be miserable comforters when you minister to family, neighbors, or parishioners in death or loss. Do not ever say to a parent, "God took your little boy/girl because He needed another angel in heaven." That is absolutely false! Do not ever say to a grieving spouse at the loss of a mate, "I know just how your feel." No, you don't! Simply say "I am sorry for your loss. Please accept my sympathy."

As those who work for Christ and His Church we need to be aware of some of the feelings of death and loss. Elisabeth Kubler-Ross in her seminal 1969 book *On Death and Dying* brought to the forefront some valid stages we need to be aware of as we minister to people in death and loss. It is not the words of Kubler-Ross that are able to salve the soul. We must take the message and words of Jesus to those who are gripped with the agony of death and loss.

DENIAL

As we come to death and loss, what does Jesus have to say about denial? "I can't believe this is happening. I just saw her/him yesterday. This isn't happening; this can't be happening." It is a normal reaction to rationalize overwhelming emotions. It is a defense mechanism that buffers the immediate shock of the loss. We block out the words and hide from the facts. This is a temporary response that carries us through the first wave of pain.

Jesus talked with a very educated and religiously experienced man named Nicodemus in John 3. Nicodemus was unbelieving and in denial at what Jesus told him.

9 "How can this be?" Nicodemus asked.

5 Jesus answered, "Very truly I tell you, no one can enter the kingdom of God unless they are born of water and the Spirit. 6 *Flesh gives birth to flesh, but the Spirit gives birth to spirit.*"

16 "For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life." 17 "For God did not send his Son into the

world to condemn the world, but to save the world through him."

So for those caught in the throes of denial, we must share the words of hope to be born from above by the very words of the living Christ.

ANGER

The anger may be aimed at inanimate objects, complete strangers, friends or family. Anger may be directed at our dying or deceased loved one. Emotionally, however, we may resent the person for causing us pain or for leaving us. They may begin to feel anger at the loss and the unfairness of it.

What are the words of Jesus at anger?

Look at John 11 as it speaks of death at the Lazarus family. Both sisters, one by one, come to express some anger toward Jesus for allowing their brother to die.

21 "Lord," Martha said to Jesus, "if you had been here, my brother would not have died."

25 Jesus said to her, "I am the resurrection and the life. The one who believes in me will live, even though they die; 26 and whoever lives by believing in me will never die. Do you believe this?"

These are the words of Jesus to a grieving sister. These are the words to a grieving family today who is angry at God for allowing this to happen in their family.

Now Mary gets into the act: 32 "When Mary reached the place where Jesus was and saw him, she fell at his feet and said, "Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died."

It is interesting Jesus' response: 35 "Jesus wept."

It is perfectly allowable and desirable for you to minister to those in death and loss with feelings expressed in your own tears. Yet Jesus' tears came through in great words that we can share with those like Mary: 43 "When he had said this, Jesus called in a loud voice, 'Lazarus, come out!'" 44 "The dead man came out, his hands and feet wrapped with strips of linen, and a cloth around his

• See *EVANGELISM* Page 8 •

Brothers.... Dealing with men's issues
and Promoting the Fellowship & Growth
of Men in the BMA of Missouri

The Father's Responsibility

by Joe Henry Hankins

"And they went both of them together." Genesis 22:6

The story of Abraham and Isaac is one of the most beautiful in the Bible of a father-son comradeship.

Isaac was born in answer to the prayer of a father's heart. Long years Abraham had waited on God, believing that He would keep that promise. Then when Isaac came, there grew up between father and son a most perfect understanding and comradeship.

We say a great deal about mother and motherhood, and all too little has been said about fatherhood and the responsibility that rests upon the father's shoulders.

The necessity of providing for his household takes the father away from home and family. He is deprived of their fellowship. He is deprived of many things -- the prattle of the baby, the toddling about, seeing him do the "cute" things.

But that doesn't mean a father's heart is not in the home while he is out in the battle of life, in the struggle to support his family. There isn't a true father who wouldn't take the shirt off his back for his child and make any other sacrifice. Fathers sacrifice far more than you realize; we love more deeply than some give us credit for.

The father is an example to his children. This Scripture says, *"Enoch walked with God...three hundred years,"* (Genesis 5:22) Most people fail to see something in that Scripture -- that the day his first son was born, Enoch became a different man.

He thought of life differently. Everything was more serious. That day father Enoch made a new dedication of himself to God and began to walk with God.

Father, if you haven't done that, you have deprived your boy of the greatest thing you could give him -- a real Christian father. Every child is entitled to a Christian home, and the wife can't make it by herself.

I feel sorry for a lot of you women who are trying to carry the responsibility alone. Without the help of the father, it is impossible to have a Christian home the way God meant for it to be.

I read the story once of an unsaved lawyer who told when the turning point came in his life. One morning he started out to his office. He had to cross the street to catch the streetcar. The snow was deep, and he was taking long steps to avoid stepping in the snow more than necessary.

When he looked back, he saw his three-year-old boy trying his best to step in his father's tracks in the snow. "Son, what are you trying to do?" he asked.

"Just stepping in Daddy's tracks," was his answer.

The father said he realized then that his boy was not only stepping in his tracks in the snow, but was literally following his ways.

Every boy makes a hero out of his father. Dad, are you leading him to heaven or Hell?

"And they went both of them together." God, give us men who are willing to lead the way to God!

Joshua took all the responsibility for his family -- his wife, his children, and his servants -- saying, *"As for me and my house, we will serve the Lord."* (Joshua 24:15)

via *The Sword of the Lord*

**Lord, help me be what I hope my
child grows up to be!**

prayer of a concerned father

**Why Not Your
Best??**

by T. DeWitt Talmage

"As he sat at meat, there came a woman having an alabaster box of ointment of spikenard very precious; and she brake the box, and poured it on his head."

Mark 14:3

That woman could have gotten a vase that would not have cost so much as those made of alabaster. She might have brought perfume that would have cost only fifty pence; this cost three hundred. As far as I can understand, her whole fortune was in it.

She might have been more economical, but no -- she gets the very best box and puts in it the very best perfume and pours it all out on the head of her Redeemer.

My brothers and sisters in Christ, the trouble is that we bring to Jesus too cheap a box. If we have one of alabaster, and one of earthenware, we keep the first for ourselves; and we give the latter to Christ.

We owe Jesus the best of our time, the best of our talents, the best of everything. Is there an hour in the day when we are wider awake than at any other, more capable of thought and feeling? Let us bring that to Christ.

We are apt to talk to Jesus a few moments in the morning when we are getting awake or a few moments at night when we are getting asleep. If there be an hour in the day when we are most appreciative of God's goodness and Christ's pardon and Heaven's joys, oh, that is the alabaster box to bring to Jesus.

We owe Christ the very best years of our life. When the sight is the clearest, when hearing is the acutest, when the arm is the strongest, when the nerves are the steadiest, when the imagination is the brightest, let us come to Jesus and not wait until our joints are stiffened with rheumatism and the glow is gone out of our temperament and we arise in the morning as weary as when we lay down at night.

He deserves our BEST!!

2016 Fall Men's Retreat

The 6th Annual Men's Fall Retreat was attended by fourteen men and boys from four churches, Bethany St. Louis, Kewanee New Madrid, First Matthews, Zion St. Louis.

Friday evening, we were blessed with BBQ ribs, slaw, and potato salad. Everyone seemed to enjoy the door prize drawing and the snacks. Bro. Joey Duckworth presented an excellent and very timely devotional on discipleship. His devotion focused on Barnabas the encourager. Very little is written in the New Testament about Barnabas, but his life testimony had a great impact on the ministries of others. Bro. Duckworth shared the joy and responsibility of his ministry of disciplining the young men of Kewanee. Bro. James Hoffmann blessed us by sharing his life testimony. He shared how God had provided every need for both himself and his family, because he was faithful to God's calling.

Saturday morning started with egg burritos and pancakes. Bro. Brent Baker gave a great devotional on the importance of living a separated life before marriage. After breakfast we enjoyed the annual Archery Contest followed by lunch.

Dennis Baker



Youth Division Winners
(l to r) Luke Polk 3rd, Brannon Yi 2nd, Caleb Polk 1st



Adult Division Winners
(l to r) Lucas Polk 3rd, Chris Polk 2nd, CJ Posey 1st



Clean up Crew

• **EVANGELISM From Page 6** •

face.”

Jesus' words bring life to those who have no hope in the hopelessness of death and loss.

BARGAINING

In this stage, people beg their “higher power” to undo the loss, saying things along the lines of, “I’ll change if you bring her (or him) back to me”. This phase usually involves promises of better behavior or significant life changes which will be made in exchange for the reversal of the loss.

What does Jesus have to say regarding this stage of death and loss? In Matthew 5.6 we read these words: “*Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled.*” This beatitude tells us that Jesus Himself will fill us with all that we long for. Hunger is a gnawing pain. Thirst is still more intense. A drink of water becomes more desirable than the gold that glitters on the finger of wealth. Jesus will give us our fill for He is that bread of life.

As we come to the Lord’s Table we are celestially nourished on His body and on His blood that came down from heaven. The bargain is that he will supply our needs as we come to Him.

DEPRESSION

Sadness and regret predominate this type of depression. We worry about the costs and burial. We worry that, in our grief, we have spent less time with others that depend on us. This phase may be eased by simple clarification and reassurance. We may need a bit of helpful cooperation and a few kind words. The second type of depression is more subtle and, in a sense, perhaps more private. It is our quiet preparation to separate and to bid our loved one farewell. Sometimes all we really need is a hug.

What does Jesus have to say about this stage of death and loss? His words to us in Matthew 6.13 are these: “*And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from the evil one.*”

Depression is a terrible state and can overcome our very being at time of death and loss. It can incapacitate us, make us miserable, and lead us to behaviors that are not rational.

There is evil in this world. Like Simon Peter, the “roaring lion” does go about to eat us up. The strength and power of His words here are for a purpose. If we are in trouble, call for help. If we are drowning, call the lifeguard. Jesus knew we would need help as those who wear skin suits. So He put this part in His Model Prayer for us who are in dire need due to death and loss.

ACCEPTANCE

Reaching this stage of mourning is a gift not afforded to everyone. Death may be sudden and unexpected or we may never see beyond our anger or denial. It is not necessarily a mark of bravery to resist the inevitable and to deny ourselves the opportunity to make our peace. This phase is marked by withdrawal and calm. This is not a period of happiness and must be distinguished from depression. Finally (if all goes according to Dr. Kubler-Ross’s plan), people enter a stage of Acceptance where they have processed their initial grief emotions, are able to accept that the loss has occurred and cannot be undone, and are once again able to plan for their futures and re-engage in daily life.

What does Jesus have to say about this phase of death and loss? We read His words in Matthew 6. 10: “*Your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.*” Wow! What a big part of the Model Prayer from His lips and from His heart!

Can you imagine right now any corner of heaven that His will is not being done by myriads and myriads of those around the throne? Certainly not! As we come to see that our place is here on earth to move along in life to do His will, how marvelous that we can share in this glorious adventure! How wonderful to know that Jesus loves me. The most profound fact in

the world is in the little song: “Jesus loves me this I know for the Bible tells me so.”

CONCLUSION

Doing the work of an evangelist is a daily task that must be normal in our life routine. We will encounter death and loss. We will encounter it with family, friends, and parishioners. Only the words of Jesus can offer any hope or consolation to those gripped in its terrible throes.

John Bunyan tells the story of the man with the muck rake. We need to remind ourselves of this story and we must remind those in death and loss of this story. The man with the muck rake could only look down to rake the muck (Those who live on a farm understand what muck in a barn full of animals really is.) He would back and forth rake the straw, the sticks the dirt, and the muck-back and forth and back and forth. Day in and day our his work was to work the muck-always face toward the ground as the dust of muck and dirt and straw filled his nostrils and clouded his vision. he could look no way but down.

Above him stood an angel who proffered (offered-I love that word proffered) him a golden crown. If he would only look up to see the celestial being and the golden crown offered him! But he would not look up. He kept raking the muck, the sticks, and the straw. All he time the angel held out the offer of the golden crown.

Young ladies and young men, there is an angel offering a golden crown to us who minister to those in grief and loss. If only we would look up. If only we could see the words of Jesus! There is a golden crown to those who are in despair. We must take the words of Jesus to them so they can look up!

• **PREPARATION From Page 4** •

4. No Harvest Without Plowing and Sowing

“*Sow to yourselves in righteousness, reap in mercy; break up your fallow ground: for it is time to seek the Lord, till he come and rain righteousness upon you.*” Hosea

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 until a request is received to remove it.

Joseph Duckworth, a member of Kewanee Missionary Baptist Church is available for Preaching or however the Lord leads. Contact him at 573-521-8039.

Rocky Houston, a member of Kewanee Missionary Baptist Church is available for pulpit supply or as the Lord leads. Contact him at 573-521-6385.

Caleb Houston, youth minister of Kewanee is available for weekend revivals, youth events, and pulpit supply. Contact him at 573-521-7826 or calebhouston@yahoo.com.

Brad Akers of Belgrade, is available for pulpit supply or as the Lord leads. Contact him 573-766-1405 or 573-701-1850 or by e-mail at bakers001@centurytel.net

Denver Page, a member of Landmark Baptist Church in DeSoto is available for pulpit supply as God leads. He can be contacted by home phone 636-942-3503 or cell phone 314-283-7243.

Richard Smith, from Matthews, is available for pulpit supply or however the Lord leads. Contact him at 573-931-0455 or through his Pastor, Chris Polk at 573-380-1975.

James Hoffmann, is available for pulpit supply. Contact him at 314-277-8644 or by e-mail at jmhoff@charter.net.

Brian Adams, a member of First Missionary Baptist Church of Matthews is available to preach. Contact him by e-mail at bkadams27@yahoo.com.

Dennis Leonard, from Potterville MBC is available for pulpit supply or as the Lord leads. Seeking God’s direction. May be contacted at 417-284-1277 (home) or 573-561-6414 (cell).

Available for Preaching Appointments

After 30 years of service, Dr. Scott Carson recently retired as an Army Chaplain and is the newest Academic Dean at Southeastern Baptist College, Laurel MS. Dr. Carson is also the BMAA Chaplaincy Director. He is available to fill pulpits and for special patriotic themed services and events. He may be contacted at 601-426-6346 (m-w); cell at 601-426-4736; or email at scott.r.carson@gmail.com.

10:12

5. No Sight for the Blind Man Without Washing.

“*And (Jesus) said unto him, Go, wash in the pool of Si-loam, (which is by interpretation, Sent). He went his way therefore, and washed and came seeing.*” John 9:7

6. No Resurrection for Lazarus Until the Stone Is Removed

“*Jesus said, Take ye away the stone. Martha, the sister of him that was dead, saith unto him, Lord, by this time he stinketh; for he hath been dead four days.*” John 11:39.

7. No Soul in Heaven Without Cleansing by the Blood.

“*One of the elders answered, saying, unto me (John), What are these which are arrayed in white robes? and whence came they?*”

“*And I said unto him, Sir, thou knowest. And he said unto me, These are they which came out of great tribulation, and have washed their robes, and made them white in the blood of the Lamb.*” Revelation 7:13, 14.

Via *The Sword of the Lord*