

# The Missouri Missionary Baptist

“Holding Forth The Word of Life”

Philippians 2:16

Volume LXXIX

St. Louis, MO • November 8, 2016

Issue No. 11

## 89th Annual Meeting of the BMA of Missouri

October 22, 2016 messengers, representing 19 churches, and several visitors gathered at Bethel Missionary Baptist Church in Sikeston for the 89th annual meeting of the Baptist Missionary Association of Missouri.

Host Pastor Bro. Jerry Adams extended a warm welcome to those present and led us in prayer. Bro. David Griggs led some congregational singing with Sis. Carrie Hartlien at the piano. Bro. Terry Sharpe brought a devotional, “Where are the Elijahs of Today?”, based on II Kings 2:14.



Pastor Jerry Adams

Moderator Brian Meade called the meeting to order and seated the messengers. There were 28 churches represented by letter and 19 by messenger. Loyalty Baptist Church of Sparta, Illinois and Pastor Tom Foster petitioned for membership and were gladly welcomed into our fellowship.

Brethren Don Burke and Brad Banderman gave the ALIVE report. Bro. Banderman offered “free admittance” to any pastor in our work who has never attended and who would like to see what is going on in these conferences. The pastor must pay for his own room but there will be no registration fee. We would like to have more pastors come so they could encourage their youth to attend.

(See the article elsewhere on page 1 to read more about the Alive Conference. Bro. Joey Duckworth was elected to serve on the Alive Committee with term ending in 2018 and Bro. Don Burke was re-elected to serve with term ending in 2020.

Bro. Dennis Baker gave the Brotherhood report and encouraged our men to take part in the Spring and Fall retreats at Camp Garwood each year. This is a great time of fun and fellowship for our men and boys.

Sis. Bea Evans read WMA President Sis. Juanita May’s report on the work of the Women’s Missionary Auxiliary of the BMA of Missouri. Our women are doing a great work in supporting projects that enhance our ministries across the state.

Bro. David Watkins represented the work of the Baptist Missionary Association of America and it was exciting to hear how God is using our churches to preach the gospel around the world. He encouraged us to continue supporting our worldwide mission efforts through all the departments of our work.

## A Note From Our “Renewal Retreat” Coordinator

### To the churches of the BMA of Missouri

I was very appreciative of the response and approval of the renewal weekend for the pastors and staffs of our work. (Read more about this in the Assistant Missions Director’s report on page 3.)

If you were not able to be at the meeting let me encourage you to be looking in the paper for upcoming communications about the renewal weekend. This is simply an Effort to get us as pastors on the same page and help us to move forward as growing churches and a missions planting association.

I have given November 30th as a deadline to share possible dates for the weekend and then will need each of our pastors to communicate the dates that work for them and we will simply choose the dates that work for the most pastors.

**Ben Kingston, Coordinator**

Bro. Dennis Baker gave the BMA of MO Loan Committee report with Bro. David Griggs giving the financial report. We only have one outstanding loan and the church is making regular payments each month. It has been a blessing to be able to help churches who have emergency needs as provided in our by-laws. Bro. Matt Bolen was elected to replace Bro. Wayne Gibson who resigned from this committee.

Editor Jim Hoffmann gave the Missouri Missionary Baptist noting that this had been a good year financially for the

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## Camp Garwood

We had a good time at the Fall retreat. 35 or so present with 26 playing paint ball. The weather was perfect and everyone had a great time.

I’m glad to report that the dozer has been working at camp. I’ll be posting some pictures on Face Book. We are excited to see some forward momentum on the new dorm.

Along with the dorm we are excited for the new camp year. Camp dates are July 31 - Aug. 4 2017. This year’s theme will be “**God’s Masterpiece**”, based on Ephesians 2:10 “*For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus unto good works, which God hath before ordained that we should walk in them.*” You are the crowning work of His creation, the object of His thoughts, the very workmanship of His hands. He thinks of, and loves you so much that He gave His very self, His Son Jesus Christ, to make your salvation possible, and to give you life ABUNDANTLY! You are worth so much because He says you are. Not because of you, but because of Him. Value in your life what God has valued even before you were born.

You can begin now praying for our camp evangelists. Bro. Shawn Hammontree and Bro. Jordan Bowen. Both of these men have been to camp in recent years. We are blessed to have them working as a team this year. Can’t wait to see how the Lord blesses.

Blessing to the churches. We are praying for you in these difficult times.

**Chris Polk, Camp Superintendent**  
P.O. Box 271 • Matthews MO 63867

## 2016 Alive Student Conference

The Alive Student Conference 2016 will be held Dec. 29-31 at the DoubleTree by the Hilton Hotel in Chesterfield, Mo. The deadline for special room rate is Dec. 1. Each student must have a medical release form in case of accident or illness, and each church is responsible for collecting and keeping the medical releases for its students. The form and other information about the conference — including registration, order forms and a schedule of events — are available at [alivestudentconference.org](http://alivestudentconference.org). A conference T-shirt will be provided for all who register by Dec. 5. T-shirts will be handed out at the Alive registration table outside the ballroom of hotel between 3:00 and 6:45 on Dec. 29.

**Speaker:** This year’s speaker is Brad Russell. “I became a follower of Christ when I was six years old and answered God’s call to His ministry at the age of 16,” said Russell. “For six and a half years, I served as associate pastor, youth pastor and school administrator for Salem Baptist Church in Marble Hills, Mo., where I was licensed and ordained into God’s ministry. I accepted God’s call to come to First Baptist Church in Arnold in 2008 to serve as pastor to College & Career and Young Professionals.”

This year’s **worship leaders** are Sound City, a collection of musicians who call City Church in Conway, AR their home church. Their stated mission is to use music to help people experience Jesus. “If you leave only talking about the band, we’ve done something wrong,” they said. “We want to worship our God and

• See ALIVE CONFERENCE Page 3 •



# NEWS BRIEFS



**Antioch, Ellington,** reports all is well with us. We enjoy our Sunday School hour and Bro. Michael is bringing inspiring messages from God's Word. We have had several visitors. We helped Sis. Charlene celebrate her 60th birthday. Her sister, Paula from Arkansas came for the occasion and their mother, Maudeline, had a delicious dinner for them all. My son, Clinton, spent four of his vacation days with me. We enjoyed a good time together. We were sorry to hear of the death of David Chilton. Sis. Maudeline knew him well. He was a good Christian man. His parents were members here some time ago. Sis. Minnie said her cancer was spreading. She was ill this past Sunday and unable to come to church. Please keep her in your prayers as she is very dear to us. Until next time, Love and God's Blessings to All!

Michael Huddleston, Pastor • Mary Marcher, Reporter

**Black Creek, Poplar Bluff** writes: On Saturday evening October 15th Black Creek Missionary Baptist Church hosted a wiener roast organized by Jo and Robert Duckett. There were 48 people in attendance. In the Sunday night service October 16th Bro. Mike Polen of Sikeston brought the message. He and his wife also had special singing. Bro. Mike's message was taken from 2nd Timothy Chapter 2 verses 1-4.

Troy Sisk, Pastor • Ellen Boxx Reporter

Greetings again from **Bethany, St. Louis.** We are enjoying the change of seasons with the beautiful fall colors. We are praising the Lord for His goodness and grace. We have issued the call for a pastor and Bro. Nick Dunn has accepted the call. He and his family will be moving onto the field later in the fall. Please pray for him and his family and for Bethany as we work together for the good of the church. We are pleased to announce that Bro. Josh Norris was recently baptized into the fellowship at Bethany. We are glad to welcome him to the family of God. We ask your continuous prayer for Sis. Tiny Blanchard as she undergoes more treatments and for the Schwaderers, and for all of our shut ins. We are collecting food items for the Helping Hands Ministry in our area. Plans are in the works for a Christmas program in which all of the church can participate. We seek God's will in the coming election. We are admonished in God's word to pray for those in office. We know that God is in control in all things and we are His instruments to be used by Him. We are being challenged to pray one hour a day for our country as we wait to cast our votes. If you are a registered voter please go and cast your ballot asking God's direction. The Johnstons and the Hoffmanns attended the state meeting and brought back good reports of what God is doing. We ask that you continue to pray for Bethany and all of our churches with or without pastors. May God bless. Kathy Chapman reporter.

HELLO to all from **Oak Hill, Alton!** We hope everyone is doing and feeling well. The past few weeks in October have been very busy at Oak Hill with our Walk-of-Faith fish fry on the 22nd and our Hay ride and Weiner roast on the 29th, but we had a great time fellowshiping at each event. Events at Oak Hill in November include our Revival the 4th and 5th at 7:00 p.m. then on the 6th our morning service at 10:00 and then we will have lunch in our Fellowship Hall then have our evening service at 1:30 p.m. Another important thing everyone needs to do is before they go to bed on Saturday November 5th is to set your clocks back one hour otherwise you would get to Church one hour before everyone else. The preacher we decided to have is Bro. Tom McCanness from Cape Girardeau. We decided not to have our fifth Sunday dinner in October instead we postponed it for a week and plan on having it dur-

ing our Revival the following Sunday. Anyone and everyone is always welcome at Oak Hill. Bro. Tom performed the ceremony when Bro. Edward and Sis. Theresa Casey got married on February 23, 1985 almost 32 years ago. We are moving our Wednesday night Nov. 23rd services to Tuesday night Nov. 22nd, to help with preparing Thanksgiving Dinners for our families. Our men's Breakfast is November 26th. Everyone is welcome to come to our Men's Breakfast in our Fellowship Hall. I request prayers for myself because I'm looking at surgery and have some issues with my health. Any, and all prayers are appreciated. 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. Edward Casey, Pastor  
Jennifer Williams, Reporter

**Zion, St. Louis,** sends Greetings to her Sister Churches. October was a month full of activities. October 8th, ten from Zion "Bowled" for the World at Show Me Lanes in South County. A couple from Emmanuel joined us as well as some of our family and friends. Zion sent \$900.05 to Lifeword from monies raised bowling plus special offerings. Bro. and Sis. Baker and Bro. and Sis. Womble attended the Washington County District meeting at Stony Point on Oct. 15th and then on Oct. 22nd, we attended the BMA of Missouri Annual meeting at Bethel in Sikeston. Both meetings were good. Business was smooth, devotionals and messages were inspiring and all the music was uplifting. It is always good to get with fellow Christians to worship, take care of business and enjoy fellowship over a delicious meal. Zion was saddened to hear of the passing of Bro. Ron Pierce. Bro. Ron was a member and Deacon of Temple Baptist Church in Belgrade, MO. We send our condolence to Sis. Roberta, the family and

church family. The Fifth Sunday Singing was held at Emmanuel in Lemay on Oct. 30th. The singing was great! It is so good to worship by singing songs of praise to God. Emmanuel provided wonderful refreshments afterwards as we ate together and enjoyed sweet fellowship. A highlight for Zion in October, was having Bro. Van Widger come for membership on promise of a letter from Enterprise Baptist Church in Jacksonville, TX. Bro. Van also comes as a Deacon. It will be good having another Deacon in our services. For Pastor Appreciation Month, Bro. Perry Womble spoke some words of our love and appreciation for Bro. Baker as our pastor at Zion. We are thankful to have a pastor that loves preaching and teaching God's Word. Remember Zion in your prayers as we remember to pray for you.

Dennis Baker, Pastor • Norma Womble, Clerk

**Lower Doe Run, Ellington,** said farewell to Bro. Roy Williams on Oct. 26 and Bro. Ronald Pierce on October 31 "Til we meet at Jesus' feet!" We extend our sympathy to these dear families. Lower Doe Run Church hosted a Fall Festival for children from 1 to 95. All enjoyed the fun, food, and fellowship. A highlight of the evening was the hayride provided by Bro. Albert. His trusted tractor started trouble just in sight of the church on the way home. The alternator gave out but the men got the tractor on the trailer okay. We had 19 kids and 15 adults. Several were back for services the next morning. The WMA met at Sis. Thelma's home and studied the lesson "You Get What You Pay For" Ephesians 6:5-9, I Corinthians 6:19-20, Romans 12:18-21, Psalms 59:9; 3:3, and Deut. 20:4. Our focus was turned to prayer and how God is always faithful. We need prayer for many in our church family, community and nation. Melvin and I became great grandparents this month. We rejoice in this new life and also the news that the baby's mother received Jesus after counseling at the presentation of "Judgment House" in Potosi. Praise God! Pray for the baby as at this time she is still in NICU. We were happy to see our song leader, Sis. Helen back from Wisconsin in time to join the Fifth Sunday Singing at Ohlman. We had a great fellowship there. This reporter was privileged to go with the group from Charity, Bismarck on a road trip around southern Illinois. We had a great time. I also was privileged to accompany Sis. Connie Shelton and grandson, Colton, from Bethesda, Park Hills, on a tour around Caledonia's Fall Festival. We love to read reports from the churches.

Melvin Meade, Pastor • Carolyn Meade, Reporter

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## The Missouri

### Missionary Baptist

Established by the Baptist Missionary Association of Missouri November 1937

The Missouri Missionary Baptist (USPS 355-500) is published monthly by the

BMA of Missouri Publications Committee.

**Subscription price is \$10.00 per year**

176 Bear Creek Dr. Wentzville, MO 63385-3355

Periodical Postage Paid at St. Louis, MO 63155

POSTMASTER: Send address change to:

**Missouri Missionary Baptist**

**176 Bear Creek Dr.**

**Wentzville, MO 63385-3355**

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**Don Burke, Assistant Editor**

**DEADLINE for copy is the FIRST TUESDAY**

**of the month in which you want it to appear**

**See the MMB online at [bmamissouri.org](http://bmamissouri.org)**

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## FINANCIAL REPORT BMA OF MISSOURI MISSIONS • October 2016

### General Fund:

Balance October 1, 2016		\$	132,837.75
October Receipts:	\$	<u>1,682.45</u>	\$ <u>1,682.45</u>
Total Available		\$	134,520.20
Disbursements:			
Assistant Director:			
Salary	\$	500.00	
Association Exp.	\$	121.46	
Special Missions Committee	\$	<u>470.90</u>	
Total Disbursements	\$	1,092.36	\$ <u>(1,092.36)</u>
Balance October 31, 2016:		\$	133,427.84

### From Our Assistant Director...

I enjoyed peaching the last two Sundays in October at Bethany and appreciate the good folks there for their support over the years. As you can read in their report they have called Bro. Nick Dunn and he plans to move on the field soon.

We lost a good friend in the Lord's work in Missouri when Bro. Ronald Pierce was called home unexpectedly. Please remember his wife Roberta, his family, and his church family (Temple, Belgrade) in their loss. Bro. Ronald was truly a pastor's friend and he and his wife were great hosts to visiting preachers when given the opportunity.

I enjoyed the State Association meeting in Sikeston this past month and thank you for reelecting me as Assistant Missions Director and also Editor of the Missouri Missionary Baptist paper.

Bethel Missionary Baptist Church welcomed the messengers of the churches of the BMA of Missouri and treated everyone with kindness and love. They also fed us a delicious meal.

You can read about the meeting starting on page one in this issue but I want to call attention to one action the Missionary Committee took that can be a blessing to all our churches in the state.

Bro. Ben Kingston was elected to plan a "Renewal Retreat" for the pastors and staff members of BMA of Missouri Churches. The entire schedule for this time will be built around renewal of the Association. There will be no charge to attend.

In the month of November our churches will be sent some possible dates for this retreat and the date selected by most respondents will be the date set for the meeting. It

is VERY important that each church respond so we can set the date that the most can and will attend.

Please do your best to attend and let's work at renewal our fellowship and cooperation and help each other in the ministry of the Word.

We need to be planting new works for the Lord, but we also need to strengthen what we already have.

We are all very busy and it is easy to skip these times that can benefit our ministries and that is exactly what Satan wants us to do! Let's determine to not let this happen when this meeting takes place. Let's strengthen one another as God wants us to.

Please pray for our work in Missouri that we will know where God wants us to start a new work when He gives us someone to work it.

Thank you for your support and prayers as we work for the Lord.

with the truth of who Jesus is. As a part of "Nothing Up My Sleeve," Zak weaves in his story what it was like to grow up in a religious household and how the Gospel of Jesus transformed his life.

**Recreation:** Recreation this year will take place at the hotel. Attached to the hotel is a huge Athletic Club that will be rented during conference recreation time. They have basketball, volleyball, racquetball, walleyball, a swim-

## BMA Missions Offers Mardi Gras Missions Trip

BMA Missions is pleased to join the ministry of Campground Baptist Church in Gulfport, Mississippi to share the love of Jesus on the Mississippi Gulf Coast! Each year thousands of people attend the annual Mississippi Gulf Coast Mardi Gras Parades. The 2017 parades will be in Gulfport, February 17-18 and Biloxi, February 24-25. Campground Baptist has leveraged this opportunity to serve and share Christ with the people who attend the parades. Pastor Bryan Atwood has invited the people of the BMA to join them in this ministry. This is an excellent opportunity for churches to experience a short-term missions trip that is close in location, inexpensive and very effective.

All BMA churches are invited to join in this effort. However, because of limited space, the first 150 people who apply for each weekend will be eligible to participate.

Training and lodging will be at  
Campground Baptist Church  
20577 Highway 53  
Gulfport, MS 39503

### Requirements:

- Each participant must attend training on the Friday night before the Saturday parade. The session will begin at 7:00 p.m.
- Cost per participant is \$35.00. This will provide your lodging, training, evening snack, Saturday morning breakfast, Bibles to hand out at the parade, a Mardi Gras Missions T-shirt and other ministry outreach during the parade.
- Campground will provide lodging. Be prepared to bring everything you'd need to go to camp including bedding.
- A Mardi Gras Missions T-shirt is required for each participant.
- Each participant must be 15 years of age. Because of the sleeping arrangements and the nature of the ministry, no children are allowed on this trip.

Questions? E-mail Angela Rice, Short-Term Missions Coordinator, BMA Missions: [angela@bmamissions.org](mailto:angela@bmamissions.org)

Or call 501-455-4977 EX 3855

## Washington County Churches

*Thank you so much for your gift of one thousand dollars to help send me on my missions trip. The gift has blessed me so much. I look forward to going on my trip and being able to come back and share with you all how the Lord blessed me.*

God bless each of You!

*Rebekah Son, VSM Missionary*

## SOAR 2017: Save the Date!

July 5-7, 2017

Student ministers and youth leaders, put these dates on your calendar: SOAR 2017 will take place July 5 - 7 at the Gaylord Texan Hotel in Grapevine, Texas.

This year's theme is Selfless: Love God, Love Others. Speaker Dustin Wisely will challenge students to imitate Christ by living a life of service and ministry to others. SOAR village will once again present students with opportunities for ministry.

Additional guests, as well as new features, will be announced soon. Stay up to date on all the latest SOAR news at [gosoar.com](http://gosoar.com) and SOAR conference social media pages.

ming pool and tennis courts and a meeting area that will be great to just sit down and chat, play cards or a board game that you bring. There will also be a few surprises, and there will be something for everyone. Participants will also likely get to try something they've never done before — knocker ball.

### • ALIVE CONFERENCE From Page 1 •

King alongside of you as we continue to realize how much He loves us together.

**Illusionist:** The conference will also feature Christian Illusionist Zak Mirzadeh, who spent 2011-2015 as a key member of the epic show known as M?ZE (a part of Reach Your City.) He is now branching off to perform his own show, "Nothing Up My Sleeve." This show will instill wonder in the audience and draw in every person to become a participant. Zak interweaves his persona and story into his show to lead people to the Good News. Zak grew up as a Muslim, faithful to his religion and praying five times every day. Due to incredible circumstances, he grew up in a fatherless household. At the age of 17, Zak was confronted with a reality that was very different from his upbringing. He was brought face-to-face

• **NEWS From Page 2** •

**Landmark, DeSoto,** reports: I know it has been said before, but let me just say it one more time. I cannot believe that we are so near the end of 2016. I don't know if the younger folks are feeling it like I am, but it seems that we are busier than ever and I have to wonder if it is really suppose to be this way at this stage of our lives. All I can say about that is that God is GOOD ALL THE TIME. He blesses us far beyond what we deserve and I cannot praise Him enough for those blessings. We have had a busy month at Landmark, which is not unusual. The 1st Sunday of October is always our homecoming and this was our 84th. Bro. James Hoffmann brought our message on Sunday morning and it is always a blessing to hear him preach. He stayed and hopefully enjoyed the fellowship with us afterward. In the afternoon service, many from Landmark brought messages in song. It was a good song service and I, personally, enjoyed it very much. There were 22-23 people that went to Judgement House at Potosi Southern Baptist Church, mostly adults, but some teens. The glorious thing about that is that we had 1 adult lady saved. She is the step-mother of a couple of our teens. We are still basking in that blessing. The Gibsons and Pages were able to attend the annual state meeting at Sikeston. That was a very good meeting and, of course, a good meal was served. Some of us attended the wedding of one of our young ladies, who is not a member, but attends quite regularly. We congratulate them. The 29th, the Action Team had a barbecue and it is always good. Since the 30th was to be our quarterly fellowship dinner, there was enough left over that all we had to do was take desserts. So, it was good the second day too. Sunday morning the 30th, we had a family of three added to our church. We welcome: Kevin and Marilyn Saylor and their adult daughter, Beth, with open arms and hearts. They have already been blessing us with their attendance. We also have another young couple that have been attending on Wednesday nights. They are involved in starting a church down around Goose Creek, but as of yet, they do not have Sunday or Wednesday night services. We are enjoying getting to know them. We extend our sympathy to Sis. Roberta Pierce, her family and Temple Baptist at Belgrade on the passing of Bro. Ron. Bro. Wayne performed the services for his homegoing the 31st. He will be greatly missed.

Until next month, or His return,

Wayne Gibson, pastor • Sharon Page, reporter

**Stony Point, Mineral Point,** reports that October 9th they were blessed with the singing from Heaven's Echoes. We hosted the Washington County District Association and thank all those that attended on October 15th. We are thankful to our church families for the offering of \$875.00 for the Walk for the World with 14 participants. October 22nd Pastor Claude and Sis. Bea attended the State Association Meeting in Sikeston. October 30th we enjoyed our Harvest Hayride and fish fry and we pounded our Pastor for Pastor appreciation month. (We did not pound him with the hammer, but with all types of food and goodies). We love our Pastor for dedicating his time and energy working for the Lord. We thank you Pastor Claude and Sis. Bea. Blessings until next month to all.

Claude Evans, Pastor • Debrah Coleman, Reporter

Happy Fall from **Kewanee Baptist!!** We started off the month with some of our men and boys attending the Fall Retreat. Kewanee also held the Association Rally the same night. Churches from our association came and we had a great time with Bro. Joey Duckworth bringing a devotional and afterwards great fellowship. We are donating food for our Community Food Pantry and that is going very well. Many of our ladies attended a Women's Conference on October 14. We had our Pastor's Appreciation Sunday, October 16. We acknowledged our preachers in our congregation along with Bro. Dan and

Sis. Pam. Sis. Debbie Nowell did a wonderful job putting this together and afterwards we had cake and finger food in the fellowship hall. Our District WMA was held at First Baptist Matthews. We always enjoy meeting up with the other ladies in our district. Sunday, Oct. 23 we had our Make, Bake and Take. This is our annual fund raiser for our local WMA. It was held at Sis. Marcy Faulkner's home. We all had a great time and everyone enjoyed themselves bidding on items that were donated. That night we had our Lifeword Walk. We had a good time walking and enjoyed hamburgers and hotdogs afterwards. Our Lifeword ministry is something near and dear to the hearts of those at Kewanee. Oct. 29th we had our Fall Festival for our youth. We had hayrides, hotdogs, chips and SoMores. We had an attendance of 68 and the weather was beautiful. As I write this we are in revival with Bro. Steve Crawley. Last night was the first night and it was wonderful. We are anxious to see what the Lord has for us.

Dan Wisely, Pastor

Terri Adams, Reporter

Greetings from **Bethlehem, Doniphan!** October has just flown by! But that is because it was so busy! We went to the Cane Creek Association Meeting on the last Friday night of September and the first Saturday of October at Black Creek M.B.C. in Poplar Bluff, MO. Then we were blessed to have Bro. Billy Davis and Sis. Donna with us for two weekends in the month. Bro. Rocky Houston and Sis. Debbie for one weekend. Bro. Rob Duckett and Sis. Jo were with us for another weekend. Bro. Ernie Cate and Sis. Becky were with us also for one weekend. And Sis. Becky played the piano for us. For Youth In the Harvest this month we had our Walk For the World on October 15th. Bro. Lee Miller came and gave our devotion for us. It is just amazing everything that Lifeword does around the world for our Father in Heaven. Even

though our Youth in the Harvest has met the challenge of raising the money to sponsor a community radio station in a third world country. I am still being asked questions about how the radio stations work. So I am going to try and explain it again and also challenge the BMA of Missouri as well as the Cane Creek Association to sponsor a station. It is a one time fee of \$1,500.00 to put a radio station in a third world country where we have never placed a missionary before. The station is in the native tongue of the country and it is put in place before the missionary goes in. There isn't another fee at any time. Only the start up fee. This is a part of what God has commissioned us each and every one to do. It is our job to spread the gospel to the entire world. If you have any questions you may contact Lifeword at [www.Lifeword.org](http://www.Lifeword.org) or you are welcome to call me at 573-996-5976. Leave me a message with your phone number and name and I will return your call if I happen to miss your call. The third Sunday singing was held at Antioch M.B.C. and as we will miss Bro. Bill Ormsby as the President. Bro. CH Colburn did a wonderful job on his first meeting. If you have not been attending for one reason or another you have certainly been missing a blessing! We were very blessed to attend the MO State Association Meeting on Saturday, October 22nd at Bethel M.B.C. in Sikeston, MO. God is certainly being good to us! We were able to go to Kennett, MO October 27th and 28th and join Twin Oaks M.B.C. in their revival with Bro. Troy Sisk. What a blessing that was! Please pray for us as we continue our search for a new Pastor. Keep the faith and may the Lord bless and keep us all!

Yvonne Hill, Reporter

**Ozark Heights, Potosi,** is still saying "WOW"! What a Great God we have. We have a new Pastor. Bro. Brian Kingston and his wife Erin and their five children come to us from Arkansas. They have been a real joy to us as we get to know more about this sweet family. We also had another Salvation and Baptizing! Little Leah Miller was led to the Lord by her Big Brother Logan. She presented herself for baptism and Logan joined by letter. Praise be to God. We are so proud of our Youth as they study Christian Teen Standards using a different topic each week and the group continues to grow! We ended the month with our annual "Trunk or Treat" with about 45 little people coming. It has truly been a great month. Continue to pray for our country and the election next week. GOD is in control. Pray for the sick and the ones who have lost loved ones that God will give them comfort. Thank You to all our Veterans who have served or are serving our country.

Brian Kingston, Pastor • Naomi G G Lawson, Reporter.

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## ***CBC Jumps in Latest Rankings***

Central Baptist College has been ranked as a "Best Regional College" in the South, according to the 2017 U.S. Best College rankings by U.S. News & World Report. CBC ranks 40th in the category of "Best Regional Colleges" among regional universities in the South moving up from the 71st position in the 2016 rankings.

"I am so proud that CBC has once again been recognized by U.S. News & World Report as a best regional college in the south. This achievement is due to efforts and accomplishments of our faculty, staff, and students who are committed to transforming lives through education that integrates Christian faith and academic excellence," said CBC President Terry Kimbrow.

According to the US. News and World Report, ranked colleges focus on the graduate experience and offer a broad range of programs in the liberal arts in fields such as business, nursing and education. The rankings are based on peer assessment, retention and graduation rates, faculty resources, student selectivity, financial resources, and alumni giving.

## Will You Catch Us?

Scott Attebery, DiscipleGuide

### Scary. Exhilarating. Trusting.

It was my first summer at church camp. Recreation time was almost over. We were hot, tired, and ready to swim in the pool. Our recreation leader announced that we had one more activity. He asked for a volunteer. I was all too eager.

The leader placed me on a platform about six feet off of the ground. Next, he arranged the rest of my group on the ground into two rows, starting at the base of the platform, facing each other with arms straight ahead crossing each other. Looking down from the platform (which now felt more like sixty feet tall), my team formed a landing pad -for me!

Before the leader gave me instructions, I already knew what I was supposed to do: fall backwards into the arms of my team. That's right, backwards—as in, without being able to see where I would land. It was a call to extreme trust.

Everything within me wanted to climb down from the platform. Some of my teammates didn't look very strong. What if they dropped me?

The recreation leader, seeing the look of uncertainty of my face, pulled me aside and said something I've never forgotten: "We are stronger when we work together."

I still wasn't completely confident, but I knew what I had to do. I had to trust the group. (Besides, I couldn't let the cute blonde-headed girl see me back down.)

I placed my feet on the edge of the platform with my back turned toward my group. With a deep breath, I took the plunge. What a sensation!

### Scary. Exhilarating. Trusting.

Time stood still for a moment. And then, all of a sudden, it was over. My team caught me! I yelled, "Let's do it again!"

Today, I stand on a different platform. Together with the entire DiscipleGuide team, we have placed our toes on the edge, and we are about to lean back. We are trusting you to catch us.

Two years ago, we realized the need to improve our associational curriculum. Church leaders shared their concerns with us. They loved the biblical content of our material, but wanted more focus on relevant application and greater helps for teachers.

Curriculum development is a process. It does not happen overnight. We knew that to make the improvements churches were asking for would require time and resources—both of which are difficult to come by when you have a small staff. Keeping the current curriculum on schedule is a great enough challenge, but to add the development of future improvements is almost impossible.

That's why we began reprinting the writings of Dr. E. Harold Henderson. Since these writings were already proofed and edited, it afforded us time to focus on improvements. We used that time to interview teachers and leaders from various churches and find out what our congregations need. And, at the same time, we were able to assemble a stable of talented BMA writers.

The past two years of curriculum planning and development have been like climbing up the platform at camp. Every rung requires energy and hard work. Now we have completed the work and are ready to present it to our churches. How does it feel?

### Scary. Exhilarating. Trusting.

We have taken a huge risk. After working hard to address everyone's needs, we know that not everyone will care for all of the improvements. Curriculum funds the greatest portion of our budget. Proceeds help us to invest into church revitalization efforts. To make any changes to our curriculum is a risk to our finances and, as a result, our ability to help churches. But I believe it is worth the risk to create better curriculum that will serve our churches more effectively.

It is at this moment in time that I recall the words of the recreation leader at camp: "We are stronger when we work together."

I believe you will love the improvements we have made to Compass. But even if the improvements aren't exactly what you would have preferred, we still need you to catch us. We are not a huge business with a massive research and development budget.

## An Open Letter to BMA Teachers

Scott Attebery

Do you teach a Sunday school class or lead a small group Bible study? If so, let me say thank you for investing in the lives of God's people. You play a vital role in your church and in the kingdom.

DiscipleGuide is the BMA department focused on investing in local churches. Through consultation, camps, conferences, and curriculum, we aim to help every local church maximize its Great Commission potential.

Over the past two years, we have worked hard to update our Compass Adult Bible Study curriculum. We've listened to teachers and leaders throughout the BMA and implemented their suggestions. Now we are excited to release the improved Compass this December.

Recently, we have called churches to share the news. More often than not, pastors tell us that they let you, the teachers, choose the material you will teach from. So I decided to write a letter directly to you explaining why we believe you should consider using Compass. Here are three reasons:

1) Proceeds from Compass help BMA churches receive help. Our Activate church revitalization program is funded in part by curriculum sales. If you are going to spend money on curriculum anyway, why not help a BMA church while you are at it?

2) Compass trusts in the sufficiency of Scripture. Compass is more than "self help" material with a few Bible verses sprinkled on top. We be-

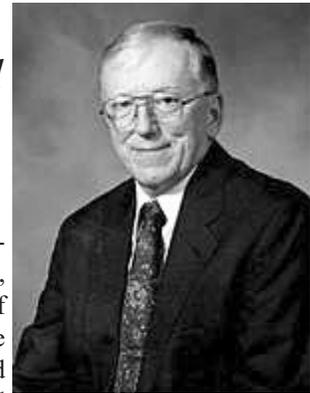
We are a ministry of the BMA. We are your brothers and sisters in associational work. We are trying to serve you in the best way we know how.

- If you want us to keep making improvements in the future, please catch us.

- If you want to continue having BMA curriculum written by BMA writers, please catch us.

- If you want to see im-

## Faithful Husband, Father, Friend and Servant of God Called Home



Ronald W. Pierce

Ronald Wayne Pierce of Caledonia, Missouri, was born on June 17, 1946 in Ironton, Missouri, a son of the late Lewis J. Pierce and the late Mildred (Buckley) Pierce. Ronald went home to be with his Lord and Savior Jesus Christ on Friday, October 28, 2016 having reached the age of 70 years, 4 months and 11 days.

On June 7, 1969, Ronald was united in marriage to Roberta Ferrell and they shared forty seven years together.

Survivors include his loving and devoted wife Roberta Pierce of Caledonia; two sons Jim and Christy Pierce of Farmington and Scott and Brandi Pierce of Caledonia; 6 grandchildren Jacob, Adam, Will, Peyton, Elizabeth and Benjamin.

In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by his beloved son, Matthew Pierce, an infant brother Edward Pierce, father-in-law and mother-in-law Chris and Mary Ferrell and brother-in-law and sister-in-law Donald and Carolyn Byers.

Ronald served in the United States Army June 1970 until December 1972. He served on boards, held offices and received many rewards, never expecting accolades or attention because he felt his greatest accomplishments were his three sons. His only hobbies were wandering the fields of the farm and studying his Bible. His unwavering faith and devotion to his church (Temple Baptist at Belgrade), his family and his friends and his wisdom and integrity were trademarks of his life...The definition of a good man.

The Funeral Service was Monday, October 31 at 11:00 a.m. at the DeClue Memorial Chapel with Rev. Wayne Gibson officiating assisted by Rev. James Hoffmann. Interment was at the Caledonia Methodist Cemetery where Ronald received full military honors by the United States Army and VFW Post 6996.

lieve the "Word of God is quick and powerful" (Hebrews 4:12) and that it is "profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness" (2 Tim. 3:16). Every Compass writer is committed to the inspiration, inerrancy, and infallibility of Scripture. Further, we partner with the BMA Theological Seminary to ensure biblical accuracy.

3) Compass is completely relevant. Contrary to popular belief, scripturally-rich teaching does not sacrifice relevance. In fact, just the opposite is true. THERE IS NOTHING MORE RELEVANT THAN GOD'S WORD! Every Compass lesson now includes discussion questions and application points to help your class apply God's Word in the way Scripture intends.

This winter, give us the privilege of re-introducing Compass to your Sunday school class or Bible study. Learn more about the improved Compass at [discipleguide.org/compass](http://discipleguide.org/compass) or call 800.333.1442 to order.

improvements to student and children's materials as our next project (including a return to printed materials) please catch us.

The winter edition of Compass has gone to print. We are currently taking orders. We are all in and there is no turning back.

If every adult class in every BMA church will purchase compass this winter, this could be the beginning of a new era in BMA curriculum! Call 800.333.1442 or go to [discipleguide.org](http://discipleguide.org) to order.

We are trusting in our association. We are stronger together. **Will you catch us?**

paper. Thanks to the faithful support of many churches, special offerings from three associations, and an anonymous donation of \$500 from one couple we are able to exceed our goal of \$5000 in the Special Emphasis. We ended the year with the best balance in a long time. Bro. Hoffmann was reelected as Editor and Bro. Don Burke was reelected as Assistant Editor. Bro. Jim Ford was elected to replace himself on the Publications Committee with term ending 2019. The editor's salary was kept the same at \$800 a month with 1/2 designated as "business expenses." A Christmas bonus of 1 month's salary was also granted as in years past.

Bro. Hoffmann gave the Kenneth E Gibson Seminary Student Grant Fund Report and noted that due to his reporting on this at a local association a \$500 donation was made to this fund that has helped two preacher further their education through our Seminary in Jacksonville, Texas. Another preacher is inquiring about getting involved in this opportunity also.

Bro. Chris Polk gave the Encampment Report noting that it has been another good year for the camp. The institution of the Protection Policy has been well accepted and has already proven to be a safeguard for our campers. Work on the new girl's dorm is scheduled to start soon. Offering have been good and again the DEW funds have been a big help in meeting expenses. Total DEW funds were \$4,150.55. Giving a Dollar Each Week adds up and helps a lot. Bro. Chris Polk was reelected at Camp Director with Bro. Matt Bolen as Assistant Director. Bro. Brian Whitlock was elected as a camp trustee replacing Bro. Lucus Polk with term expiring 2017 and Matt Baker was elected with term ending 2021.

Bro. Dale Fish was elected as President of the BMA of MO with Bro. Claude Evans as Vice President.

Bro. Meade declared that we would recess the business for our worship service. Two specials were presented by Tanya Hutton and Shelly Kinder. Bro. Wayne Gibson brought the message on "Worshipping God" Using Luke 2:8-11 and Psalm 29:1-2. An invitation was extended and several came forward to pray.

Bro. Meade announced we would recess for lunch and that the Missionary Committee would report right after lunch.

A delicious meal was furnished by Bethel Church and fellowship was enjoyed.

President Meade called the meeting to order and called for the Missionary Committee to meet. Bro. Ben Kingston spoke about a "Renewal Proposal" of the Special Missions Committee.

The Missionary Committee elected the following officers:

Moderator - Brian Meade  
Assistant Moderator - Dennis Baker  
Clerk - Ray Thurman  
Assistant Clerk - Terry Sharpe

The Special Missions Committee gave their report with the following recommendations:

The following stand as nominees for the Special Missions Committee:

Dan Wisely - term ending 2021  
Dale Fish - term ending 2023  
Russell Chitwood - term ending 2017

That James Hoffmann stand as a nominee as Assistant Director of Missions with a monthly salary of \$500 with 1/2 designated as Housing, a Christmas love offering of 1 month's salary.

That we elect Bro. Ben Kingston as coordinator for a Renewal Retreat for Pastors and Staff of our churches.

These recommendations were approved and there were no other nominees therefore these nominees were elected.

We voted to have our next annual meeting at Camp Garwood October 28, 2017, and to accept the invitation of Landmark, DeSoto to meet with them for our mid-year meeting and symposium May 19-20, 2017. The clerk's salary was set at \$1,250. The Enrollment committee for 2017 is Russell Chitwood, Leonard Knight, and Brad Banderman.

A standing vote of appreciation was given to Bethel Baptist Church for hosting the meeting. The benediction was offered with everyone coming forward and standing together as we prayed for our country and churches.

## Activate

### A healthy approach to church growth and revitalization

Todd West • Director of Church Solutions • DiscipleGuide

More than ever before, pastors and churches are realizing that they must come together and discover how to move forward in "such a time as this." We can't do this alone, and, honestly, God never intended for us to do it that way. We now have thirty-seven BMA churches from seven different states that have joined the Activate movement. We expect at least forty other churches to join us in 2017. After two years, Activate is proving to be a "go to" ministry for many churches of all sizes and ages who simply want to be healthier.

#### Levels

Activate is a level-based ministry where churches can move at their own pace throughout the process. If you decide to join Activate, you will immediately receive level one by e-mail. Upon completion, we will e-mail you the next level. Each level contains suggestions for your Activate team meetings, a clear explanation of the tools, and other content to enhance your process.

#### Selecting an Activate Team

In level one of Activate, each local church selects a team from their church that represents a cross section of people from the congregation. Selecting people of various ages, both genders, and a healthy combination of newer and long-term members has proven to be effective. Using the tools provided through Activate, the team partners with the pastor to help discover unique challenges and potential solutions for greater health. The Activate team will regularly report discoveries to the entire congregation in what is called "Activate Congregation Workshops." This process is designed to move an informed and unified church forward.

#### Pastor Huddles

Many of our current Activate pastors are enjoying the benefits of the pastors' huddle. Most of these take place in the pastors' local area every four to six weeks, but some have chosen an online huddle option. Here are the advantages:

- Receive coaching from your huddle leader on your current Activate level.
- Gain insight from other Activate pastors.
- Find encouragement from pastors in a positive environment.
- Praying for and celebrating the wins in our churches.

#### Activate Orientations

Each year we host several orientations in various states with online options available as well. The orientation is a "no cost"

and "no commitment" event. I would encourage you to recruit other pastors from your area to join you for the orientation, because this will benefit you greatly. Pastors, just show up for one of these three-hour events, and feel free to bring staff members or key church leaders. Here's how the orientation will benefit you:

- Hear from pastors currently involved in Activate.
- Gain insight into how Activate can help unite your church around a biblical process that leads to greater health.
- Get hands-on experience in how the Activate tools work.
- Learn how Activate can encourage pastors and help them sharpen their leadership skills.
- Learn how Activate respects the uniqueness and autonomy of every church.
- Connect and build relationships with other pastors, church staff members, associational leaders, and church leaders.

#### Upcoming Activate Orientations

November 29 (9 a.m. - noon), Farley Street Baptist Church, Waxahachie, TX

December 8 (9 a.m. - noon), Oasis Church, North Little Rock, AR

December 13 (9 a.m. - noon), Online Activate Orientation (E-mail [hsorrells@insideoasis.com](mailto:hsorrells@insideoasis.com) for instructions to join online.)

## The Meaning of Thankfulness

Thankfulness is an important subject to the apostle Paul and in the Word of God as a whole. Some combination of the word is found 169 times in 162 verses in the NASB and 195 times in 186 verses in the NET Bible. Paul uses the concept over 40 times in his epistles and seven times in Colossians alone (cf. 1:2, 3, 12; 2:7; 3:15, 17; 4:2). The concept of thankfulness in the New Testament comes from the use of two Greek words. The first is *charizomai*, which comes from *charis*, "grace." The second is *homologeō*, "to confess, acknowledge," (Heb. 13:15), (cf. also *exomologeō*, [Matt. 11:25]). Thankfulness is a mental and/or verbal expression of one's acknowledgement and appreciation of God's person, His grace, blessings, and sovereign work in one's life and the world. Some key ideas related to thankfulness are: biblical understanding, trust, humility and grace, the right focus and values, and joy. It is through the possession and function of these qualities that we become thankful. So, why should we be thankful?

Some General Reasons Why We Should Be Thankful

**1. Because it honors God.** When we are thankful, we recognize that God exists, and we are acting on the reality of His life as the very source and means of ours. True thankfulness recognizes our total dependence on God and stems from

realizing that everything going on in our lives and all we have is the product of God's sovereign control, infinite wisdom, purposes, grace, and activity (2 Cor. 4:15).

**2. Because it is commanded in Scripture.** First, the Psalms are filled with the call to give thanks. An example is Ps. 100:4 which says, "Enter his gates with thanksgiving and his courts with praise; give thanks to him and praise his name." Then Paul tells us in 1 Thessalonians 5:18, "In everything keep on giving thanks, for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you" (my translation). In Colossians, he twice gives the command to be thankful (3:15, 17).

**3. Because of the danger-**  
• See *THANKS* Page 7 •

## The Mind Is A Terrible Thing To Waste

Jeff Swart, Senior Pastor First Baptist Church, Galena, KS  
via Baptist Herald

In 1987, there was a 30 second television commercial that made a huge visual impact on both teens and adults in America. In the commercial a man is standing in a kitchen and asks, "Is there anyone out there who still isn't clear about what doin' drugs does? OK last time." He holds up an egg and says, "This is your brain." The camera then pans down to a hot skillet setting on a stove. The man points to the skillet and says, "This is drugs." Then, he cracks the egg and drops it into the skillet and as the egg begins to fry he declares, "This is your brain on drugs. Any questions?" Then, you see a graphic with the words, "A mind is a terrible thing to waste!"

Sadly, many young people and adults who had incredible potential in life have scrambled their brains by using mind altering drugs. And once the damage is done, the results are irreversible. "A mind is a terrible thing to waste" but that is not only true with the use of drugs but also with other content that we upload into our brain every single day of our lives. The things we watch, the things we listen to, and the things we read, affect what we think about, and what we think about affects what we do! The Apostle Paul understood the principle that "the thought is the father of the deed" and so he admonished the Philippians what they should be thinking about: "Summing it all up, friends I'd say you'll do best by filling your minds and meditating on things true, noble, reputable, authentic, compelling, gracious — the best, not the worst; the beautiful, not the ugly; things to praise, not things to curse." (Philippians 4:8 — Msg)

What are you uploading into your mind today? Make sure that it is things that are "... true, noble, reputable, authentic, compelling, gracious — the best, not the worst; the beautiful, not the ugly; things to praise, not things to curse." Remember, a mind is a terrible thing to waste!

### •THANKS From Page 6•

**ous consequences of thanklessness:** Thanklessness is dangerous to self and others. It dishonors God and leads to proud humanism or dependence on man rather than God (cf. Rom. 1:21).

In addition, it leads to bitterness, complaining, and a joyless life (Heb. 12:15). Since thankfulness is a response to the grace of God, its opposite, bitterness with its companions, complaining and grumbling, are the product of an unthankful heart that fails to properly respond to God in faith to His person, infinite wisdom, grace and purposes. Thanklessness promotes pettiness and occupation with self, people, and problems. That in turn creates depression and feelings of hopelessness because we become focused on our problems rather than on the Lord.

But thanks be to God who always leads us in triumphal procession in Christ and who makes known through us the fragrance that consists of the knowledge of him in every place (2 Cor. 2:14).

This verse in 2 Corinthians demonstrates that a thankful and God-focused person counts on God and His triumph and will manifests the sweet fragrance of a life filled with the knowledge of Christ rather than the spirit of bitterness and complaining.

Thankfulness, then, becomes a spiritual barometer; it is an evidence of the condition of our spiritual life and value system, which should give us a warning if we have ears to hear (cf. Eph. 5:4 & 20 and note the context of each verse. For verse 4, the context or focus is living as children of God rather than as children of the world [cf. vs. 1]; for verse 20, the context or focus is the fruit of the Spirit [cf. vs. 18]). -copied-

## Review of Dr. Louis Franklin Asher's book John Clarke (1609-1676)

by Dennis Baker

One of the prized books in my library is a book entitled **John Clarke 1609-1676**, written by Louis Franklin Asher Ph.D. Inside the cover is found the inscription, "To: Dennis Baker-an ex-student of the author-sharing our interest in biblical truths." Dr. Asher was my professor at the BMA Seminary in Jacksonville, TX and a na-



First Baptist Church of Newport R.I.  
ative of Bismarck, Missouri.

John Clarke, was a physician, lawyer, politician, fighter for religious freedom, and one of the original founders of the Rhode Island colony. Dr. Clarke helped to bring



First Baptist Church of Providence, R.I.

legitimacy to the new Baptist movement brought to the colonies in the 1600s. He was one of the original advocates of the separation of church and state.

In chapter Eleven, Dr. Asher examines Dr. Clark's theology (his view of God), his view of salvation (so-



Bro. Baker at John Clarke's Grave

teriology), his view of the church (ecclesiology), and his view of last things (eschatology). In the section entitled "Baptist Antiquity" Dr. Asher states that:

Clarke perceived the gospel successors as those who kept the biblical faith and not one who have been identified only by name. Like their ancient heritage from the British Lollards of the fourteenth-sixteenth centuries, the Waldenses of the ninth-fifteenth centuries, and Paulician forefathers of earlier centuries, Clark believed in and practiced missionary work. His method of spreading the "Good News" was through preaching and teaching. He was persuaded that coercion could not accomplish what the power of the gospel through preaching could. People voluntarily received the message of God, Clarke argued, when the heart is awakened by the quickening Spirit of God. To him, therefore, if this method failed to accomplish the intended result, then no power or force of men on earth could perform the task.

Dr. Asher also addressed one of the controversies of Baptist History in America. Did Roger Williams or John Clarke establish the first Baptist church in America? Most historians, argue that Williams establish the first Baptist church in Providences, RI. However, Dr. Asher states that, "Although Williams' baptism may have preceded Dr. Clarke's. Clarke's work with the church at Newport stamped his group as the first active Baptist ministry of Rhode Island...the only active Baptist ministry...in all of New England by 1650 was initiated and supported by the Newport church under the leadership of Dr. Clarke..."

I would encourage anyone who has an interest in Biblical Truth, to read Dr. Asher's book. You will be encouraged by how our forefathers practiced the "faith once delivered to the saints."

In the Spring of 2015 I had the privilege of visiting the sites of the First Baptist church of Providences, RI and The First Baptist Church of Newport, RI, as well as John Clarke's grave.

## Prisoners Bible Crusade

October 2016 Report  
Paul E. Lee, Director  
pbc8paul@datasync.com

I am excited about giving this report!

First, I want to ask again for your prayers for this ministry, and then my wife, Ms Gretchen. She has some health issues also, plus the added work of helping me both in the ministry and in my personal health and then finally pray for me.

I want to introduce Bro. Donald Brown as a Field Representative for the PBC. Bro. Brown is the former Pastor of Movella Baptist Church in Lucedale, MS, and is now serving as a Crisis Chaplain at the South MS Correctional Institution in Leakesville, MS.

He will be visiting Churches and Associations presenting the work of PBC.

His Contract info: Donald Brown, 2212 Stonecreeper Rd, Lucedale, MS 39452. Phone 601.508.4199. Email: donaldandlynn7577@gmail.com.

I want to ask our Churches to give Him a call and set up a time that he can come and report in person because as you know by now that I cannot travel much any more. But, Praise the Lord I can still carry on with computers and phones.

To date this year we have given 6,554 Bibles; 520 NT. It looks like we are on track to go over 8,000 Bibles this year. If you know of any prison or jail volunteers that needs bibles, let me know.

On a ministry note: As our Missionaries practice Matt. 22:9 which is Door knocking, I practice it by writing letters and phone calls to Chaplains. We have 16 new chaplains this year.

My present project is writing letters to all the women's prisons in the U.S. It takes time as I send out about 10 letters at a time and then wait for a response.

Serving His Servants  
Paul E. Lee, Director

## Be A 2017 LifeWord Sponsor

With businesses ranging from banks to bread companies, Lifeworld's 2016 sponsors have one thing in common: They support Lifeworld because of its global reach. These businesses, schools, and churches have given either \$1,000, \$500 or \$250 to help kick start Walk and Lifeworld Sunday efforts. Contributions during this season of Lifeworld giving will enable broadcast languages to be added to the current thirty-eight, more media and leadership training opportunities around the world and new Community Radio stations to be established in third world countries.

We'd like to thank the following sponsors for their faithful giving:

- Hill City Popcorn in Fayetteville, AR (Kirk Shelton and family)
- Rankin Cabinet Shop in Mobile, AL (Dennis and Sylvia Rankin)
- First Security Bank in AR (Mike Baldwin)
- Smith Family Pharmacy in Conway, AR (David Smith)
- Arkansas Graphics in Little Rock, AR (mission:world printer)
- Calvary Baptist Church and Schools in LaVerne, CA (Lincoln Dial)
- Garrett Memorial Baptist Church and School in Hope, AR (Clif Johnson)
- Cameron Homes in Conway, AR (Craig Goad)
- Sunbeam Foods in Dallas, TX (Richard and Barbie Kraig)
- Balanced Life Concepts in Rogers, AR (Dan and Temple Carson)
- Mike's Sound Systems in Conway, AR (Mike Jones)
- Solid Rock Audio in Conway, AR (Mark Malone)
- McCown Veneers in Terrell, TX (Robin and Pat McCown)

All but one of these businesses are owned and operated by BMA church members, and we're grateful for the support. In addition to being listed on the back of the 2016 Lifeworld T-shirts, they were also included in *mission:world* magazine and will receive a plaque. **If you're interested in being a 2017 Lifeworld sponsor, please contact holly@lifeworld.org for more information.**

## Master's Builders are Back at WORK!

The Master's Builders returned to Midway Baptist, McLain (Leaksville), Mississippi, to begin work on September 26th. Midway needed help in finishing out work in their Family Life Center.

This was 145th job for the Master's Builders and the 4th time the Builders were privileged to work at this church. The first time was in 1999, and then again in 2004 and 2015. Midway is a very loving and giving church. We always look forward to seeing them and enjoying fellowship with our brothers and sisters there. We enjoyed meeting their new pastor, Bro. Johnny Williams and wife, Nita. As they have in times past, the folks there fed our Builders very well and the fellowship was even sweeter. They have a large congregation with many young families and lots of babies, so we may be needed back soon to help with a larger sanctuary and possibly a bigger nursery!

It was good to be together again working in this ministry, because 2016 has been a heartbreaking year for The Master's Builders family. Heaven has gained 7 of our members: John May, of Shepherd, TX.; Robert Ramey, of El Dorado, AR.; Tom Olds, of Silex, MO.; Virgil Curry, of Waxahachie, TX.; Bob McDonald, of Diana, TX.; Anna Sandstrum, of Denton, TX.; and Donna Rankin, of Mt. Pleasant, TX. We miss each of them deeply, but are looking forward to being together with them and our Lord for eternity.

We continue to ask for your prayers for The Master's Builders. Pray the Lord would send us workers and for safety as they work.

If your church has building needs or if you have questions

## 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.

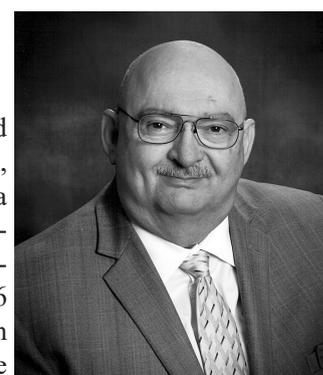
**James Hoffmann**, is available for pulpit supply. Contact him at 314-277-8644 or by e-mail at jmhoff@charter.net.

**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).

## Celebrating His Ministry

Dr. James Shine was honored by Enterprise Baptist Church, Jacksonville, Texas with a churchwide lunch and fellowship immediately following worship services November 6, 2016 in celebration of Fifty Years in the ministry and twenty-one years as pastor of Enterprise Baptist Church.



James Shine

(Editor's Note: Even though this celebration will have already taken place by the time our readers get this note it is not too late to share your congratulations.) If you have been blessed through Dr. Shine's ministry and would like to share an experience or send him a card or e-mail, please send to: 2302 Briarwood Dr., Jacksonville, TX 75766-9215 or e-mail jim.shine@bmat.edu

about The Master's Builders ministry, you can contact our Office Coordinator, Bro. John Mangum at 318-205-5155 or his cell 318-607-4100 or Field Coordinator, Eddie Sikes at 903-725-6549 or his cell 479-462-1675.

Rose Bittner, Secretary