

The Missouri Missionary Baptist

“Holding Forth The Word of Life”

Philippians 2:16

Volume LXXX

St. Louis, MO • July 11, 2017

Issue No. 7

Homecoming at Temple, Belgrade

August 13th at 10:00 a.m.

Regular Morning Service featuring

Special Speaker - Bro. Melvin Meade

Special Singing - Heaven's Echoes

Lunch Provided

Followed by more singing

by Heaven's Echoes

“He Came Riding Up On a Stick Horse”

A Shepherd Bag Story by Fonda Norris

Evangelistic International Ministries Shepherd Bag Coordinator

Our van pulled into the rocky dirt drive of the small village school in Honduras as we had countless times before. It had been a long drive up the narrow mountain road to arrive here. The excited children in their blue and white school uniforms were already assembled and waiting for us under the beautiful shade trees on the school yard. As I got out of the van and began to walk through the iron gate to the entrance of the school, I noticed a small boy of about five years old come riding up to the school on his “stick horse.” When he got to the school, he got off his horse and promptly leaned it against the fence and draped the string through the wire. I could not help but smile.

Hold onto this mental picture of a little boy with the big imagination while I share this thought that the Lord put into my mind later on that night.

With all of the diversions of technology in our culture now, we rarely see children playing with the old fashioned toys of yes-

Last Opportunity

The time for churches and individuals to contribute to the Symposium Special Offering (to be divided evenly between Camp Garwood and The State Loan Committee's Grant Fund)

was extended through the month of July.

Send your offerings to:

BMAMO Missions • 176 Bear Creek Dr. • Wentzville, MO 63385

Mark them “Symposium Goal”

Last Call For Camp!!

July 31st thru August 4th

Chris reminds us:

1. Adults - Remember to do the screening! Deadline for this done is July 27th.
2. Everyone - Ric is requesting you bring Deserts, Fresh Fruit, and Vegetables.
3. Everyone - Remember to PRAY - for our speakers (Shawn & Jordan - for all the workers that make camp possible - and for the salvation of the lost!

Looking FORWARD to a GREAT time in The LORD!!

teryear. This young Honduran boy's stick horse was a small, simple stick with a piece of string tied to it. It was not valuable to the world around him, but to him it was a horse. His horse. And he was happy.

When thinking of the Great Commission to preach the Gospel of Jesus all over the world, I thought how easy it is to get into a mindset of thinking in order to do that it must be complicated, fancy, expensive or digitally enhanced in order to be effective. In other words, with lots of bells and whistles. I think we can overcomplicate what it means to “go and preach the Gospel.” Yet as Jesus went from place to place meeting people where they were, He carried nothing except a heart of love, the dust on his feet and the simplicity of the Gospel.

The Shepherd Bag Ministry is a very simple ministry. We designed it to be that way and never plan to change it. Why? Because it is so effective. Surely a small, simple unisex one gallon zip loc bag filled with the same items for all the children cannot change a child's or adult's eternal future can it? No it can't. It was never



meant to.

We decided many years ago that it is not about the bag. The bag is only a tool that God uses to open the door for us to go into schools and villages. It is about the Savior and the Gospel that is preached before the Shepherd Bags are given out that can and does change them for eternity. It costs seven dollars to put one Shepherd Bag together and ship it overseas to the waiting hands and heart of a child overseas. That's the price of a fast food meal. By keeping it simple and the cost low, it allows us to make many more bags which in turn allows us to reach more of the lost with the Gospel. And

• See *STICK HORSE* Page 4 •

Attention All Reporters and Article Contributors

Due to the dates of camp this year the deadline for material to be included in the August 2017 issue of the MMB is **Monday, August 7th**. Thanks for your help in getting this publication together each month.

Your Grateful Editor

Attention All Ordained Pastors

and Deacons!!

Your Assistance is requested at

Stony Point Missionary Baptist Church
13129 Old Highway 8 E
Mineral Point, MO 63660

Sunday, July 23rd
at 2:30 p.m.

as they Ordain
Bro. Michael Bourbon
to the office of deacon.

Refreshments will be served following the service



NEWS BRIEFS



First Baptist Church, Potosi, sends greetings to our Christian brothers and sisters. God never ceases to amaze me in all that he does for us; so many times our Sunday School lessons are reinforced by the songs or sermons of that same day. Many things have been going on here at First Baptist: salvations, baptisms, rededications, discipleship classes, Christian-based twelve-step classes, and powerful prayers by prayer warriors. Currently, the Pregnancy Resource Center baby bottle campaign is going strong. Brother Kevin Smith took several COW (Church on Wednesday) youth to attend Super Summer. Upon returning, Holly Jarvis explained that many of the young ladies do not know the elder women in the church, so she and the other youth are planning a luncheon where the attendees will begin to close that gap between the older and the younger. Our church has grown so much in the last two years that it is difficult to keep up. Raven Porter is beginning to pull everyone together to prepare for VBS. All those who can are meeting for a craft night where everyone will make decorations and items needed for crafts and lessons. The children are very excited about KID's Camp and many have signed up to attend. The youth are getting ready for TEEN camp and they always come back with many words of spiritual wisdom after attending. The Celebrate Recovery leaders are preparing to attend a seminar in Tennessee; the days are long and full of worship in song, Bible lessons, testimonies, workshops, and many other activities. I have a feeling I am going to be exhausted upon returning home, because this lasts for five long days; however, I will be so full of the Spirit that my Sunday School class may have to calm me down. As I am sure it is the same with you, we have many members who are ill or have family members who are very ill. Pray for us as we pray for you. God is good.
Jim Ainley, Pastor • Deborah Rauhut, Reporter

Greetings once again from **Bethany, St. Louis**. Here we are once again getting ready to celebrate America's freedom. How many of us celebrate the day we found Jesus as our personal saviour? Bro. Josh, and Bro. Dunn have kept our flower garden going. Bro. Dunn has started working outside the church but seems to be doing well at both. Ezra has become our soloist on Sunday mornings. Check him out on facebook! The 17th found us handing out hotdogs and bottled water to those passing by. They know that Bethany is alive! Bro. Devin Kennedy graduated from high school and took a journey to Germany. We had fellowship the 26th. And at the end of the morning service Sis. Tiny Blanchard presented him with a Bible and some cash. We are all very proud of this young man. Pray for him as well as other graduates as they embark on their journeys. Sis. Beeler recently had cataract surgery and is having some complications, Keep her and Bro. Ted in your prayers. Also, Sis. Betty Johnston recently had a nine hour back surgery. She is recovering at home and states that both Via and Bro. Earl are pretty good nurses. My sister, Carolyn Meade is also having some health issues but we know the great physician. My Niece, Rhonda Fields, is recovering from neck surgery Ron has been here taking care of her. She's improving slowly. Pray for those going to camp Garwood. Pray for me as I go back to the doctor the last of July to have some kidney stones checked. We are glad that Sis. Kay Morrison is back from her mini vacations. Please keep Bethany in your prayers as we continue serving the Lord in the Overland area.
Nick Dunn, Pastor • Kathy Chapman, Reporter

Abundant Life in Christ, Charleston. We rejoice in the profession of faith of Eli Dunlap. Work continues on our new building and we are preparing to have Sunday services in it July 9th and 16th with VBS also in our building sandwiched in between July 10th and 14th.
Rodney Dunlap, Pastor

Stony Point, Mineral Point, is celebrating in the Lord the baptism of Daniel Korn and Marple Jarvis. Also celebrating with

the Lord is Bro. Gary Coleman who went home to Glory June 19th. Although he will be missed by all of us, we know he is worshipping and praising God in His presence. We will be having a one day Vacation Bible School July 15th. Please pray for the kids attending, that they will come to know more about our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. Also, please pray as we prepare for church camp beginning July 31st. Stony Point would like to invite your ordained pastors and deacons to sit in council to ordain Bro. Michael Bourbon as a deacon. The service is set for Sunday, July 23rd at 2:30 p.m. Light refreshments will be served following the service.
Claude Evans, Pastor
David Hughes, Reporter

June was a very active month for **Bethel, Sikeston**. For the June 10th ordination service for Bro. Joe Mcelroy we were blessed to have a good attendance and appreciate the pastors and members of our sister churches that came to be a part of this blessed event. Bro. Joe and his family have been faithful members of Bethel since 1999. We had good fellowship and refreshments after the service. The 18th we had a special Father's Day service, Bro. Billy brought a wonderful message on the responsibilities of fathers to be the leaders that God requires them to be. All fathers were presented a gift as a token of our appreciation. Afterward the ladies served a delicious meal. Every Sunday afternoon at 4:00 the adult men meet with the younger men to teach them about how to become men of God and also to teach them trades of skill. Bro. Matt Bolen is much appreciated for teaching this class as it requires much dedication, sacrifice of his time and study of the Word. On the 24th the Lord blessed us with perfect weather for our VBS kickoff picnic. We had good attendance, with lots of fun and games, along with refreshments for everyone. Some of our members handed out fliers to other people that were in the park that day. It was a great day in the Lord! The 26th-30th was VBS Week, the theme was

"Redeemer." We averaged approximately 35 children each night. What a great week it was with 2 professions of faith, Praise God! That's what it's all about! We have an awesome bunch of teenagers that pitched in to help with any and everything. We are so blessed to have them! Everyone worked together to make this year's VBS a great success! A great big THANK YOU! To Sis. Jennifer Cantrell for coordinating it, She did an awesome job.! God has blessed us with a slightly used, but new to us, bus! We were in need of, as our old one was in repair a lot. A correction from last month's news. Bro. Dave Maynard goes to Hunter Acres nursing home not Clearview. We would appreciate your prayers, as we have members that have been battling cancer and other health issues for the past few months. We are looking forward to camp later this month and for great things God has in store for us! Have a safe and Happy 4th! Blessings to all of you!
Billy Davis, Pastor • Joan Wood, Reporter

Lower Doe Run, Ellington, is excited that Camp Time is approaching! We love the sound of that every summer. Doesn't matter how old we are "camp time" thrills our hearts. We love the little bit of heaven that fills our lives for a week every summer. For those of us who celebrate worship every Sunday in our churches, we can experience that little bit of heaven every week. Several visitors came our way this month and we hope they continue to come our way. Sis. Kathy continues to lead a Kid's Bible Study during the midweek. Thank God for her dedication and desire to help the kids. One teen was able to attend the National GMA Retreat in Gary, TX. We thank Sis. Juanita and Ohlman Church for letting her ride with them. We are still experiencing a lot of sickness and physical problems but God is good to comfort and heal. It seems that every family has such problems. One day Pastor and wife left home about 10 a.m. for a little road trip and wound up a little over five hundred miles away in a suburb of Columbus Ohio at 8 p.m. We found the apartment of a dear sister in Christ from Ellington and knocked as we sang "Heavenly Love." Was Thelma surprised? We visited for a few hours, toured her facility and turned the car back toward Missouri! It was a very long trip but rewarding. The Pastor and wife celebrated the 4th with the group from Bates Creek Baptist. We enjoyed the fellowship and the food! Pray for one another.
Melvin Meade, Pastor • Carolyn Meade, Reporter

Bates Creek, Potosi, has had a fun start to our Summer season. We took a different approach to our VBS and made it a camp out session this year. The kids played games, fished, and Bro. Bryan taught lessons around the camp fire. It was a lot of fun!! The youth pastor has decided he isn't as young as he once was or the ground has gotten harder while sleeping in a tent. I will let

• Continued on Page 4 •

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FINANCIAL REPORT BMA OF MISSOURI MISSIONS • June 2017

General Fund: (Checking & Bank Savings Account)

Balance May 31, 2017		\$	142,985.54
June Receipts:			
Missions:	\$	<u>3,374.57</u>	
Total Income:	\$	3,374.57	\$ <u>3,374.57</u>
Total Available			\$ 146,360.11
Disbursements:			
Assistant Director's Salary	\$	500.00	
BMAMO Domain Fee 2 yr.	\$	141.36	
Transfer to Savings	\$	100,000.00	
Postage for transfer	\$	3.35	
Mileage	\$	<u>65.88</u>	
Total Disbursements	\$	100,710.59	\$ <u>(100,710.59)</u>
Balance June 30, 2017:			\$ 45,649.52
Bank Savings Account			\$ <u>(1,100.50)</u>
Checking Account			\$ 44,549.02
Investment in BMA of Mississippi Revolving Loan Fund:	\$	100,000.00	
Total of all Funds June 30, 2107			\$ 145,649.52

From Our Assistant Director...

We continue to keep our eyes and ears open for preachers and missionaries who are interested in coming to Missouri to pastor or plant churches. So far we have not been very successful. Please contact me if you or someone you know is interested in working with us to spread the Gospel in our area.

The financial support of our churches continues to be good and we are trying to be good stewards of what God provides. As I suggested and as instructed by the messengers at our Mid-year meeting, I have invested \$100,000 in the BMA of Mississippi Revolving Loan Fund in order to draw interest while we wait to use those funds in missionary support.

As you see in the financial report above, this still leaves us with immediate accessible funds of \$ 44,549.02 in our checking account and \$1,100.50 in a bank savings account. Please note that the bank savings account is maintained to keep us from having to pay a service charge on our checking account each month.

Please pray that we will follow God's leadership in our

ministries around our state. If you have any suggestions or ideas about what we can do please let me or any member of the Special Missions Committee know so we can consider your ideas when we meet before our annual meeting in October. Your input is appreciated. The following men serve on our Special Missions Committee: Russell Chitwood, Don Burke, Brian Meade, Dan Wisely, Dale Fish, and Ben Kingston. Any of us would be glad to listen to your suggestions and comments and present them to the whole committee.

2017 Christmas Shoeboxes

by Angela Rice



BMA Missions is preparing for EVERLASTING SMILES CHRISTMAS SHOEBOXES. We call it "Christmas in July"! Last year, I had the privilege of traveling to Jordan and handing out the shoeboxes packed by BMA churches in 2016. I cannot tell you what a blessing it is to see the children get the gifts. Another blessing is that people who do not usually attend church will come to the distribution to receive a "gift from the states."

I asked our missionaries how the shoeboxes help their ministry. Both missionaries receiving boxes last year told me that the Shoebox Ministry helps open many doors for them with people that would not typically come out for a service or to church. Shoeboxes allow them to begin relationships.

Everlasting Smiles shoebox information has been mailed to your church a few weeks ago. We are praying for many smiles from the children who receive the shoeboxes and open doors for our missionaries. Honduras and Guatemala will be receiving shoeboxes this year, and since both are Spanish-speaking countries, they will need Spanish Bibles.

Mission Philippines

Doug & Diane Lee...

Big Shoes to Fill!

We are enthusiastically pursuing the most momentous challenge of our lives which is keeping BMABC open and thriving. Doug and I have had many jobs in our lifetime. We have never had one that was as consequential and challenging. With God's help all things are possible. Bro. Doyle Moore retired as President of the college and passed the mantle to Doug. We are honored and humbled. God sent the perfect couple, Stan and Donna Scroggins, to help us at the school and other ministries. They bring with them a wealth of knowledge and experience.

Looking back over the past five years, we are amazed at what God has done in our lives. It has been an action-packed experience. Routine is not in our vocabulary. The warm hearts and happy smiles of the Filipino people have continued to motivate us and inspire us in our mission to serve.

CHED Application Delivered!

Lots of hard work!!! We are waiting for approval from Commission on Higher Education. (CHED)

Thank You BMABC Supporters!!!

Wow! Wow! Wow! What a summer! Home for two and a half months and it seems like it was only a few days. God was doing what he does best; taking care of His children. Thanks to all that are supporting the BMA Bible College. We have the funds to continue the education of our Filipino Bible students for a limited time. We are so excited as to what the Lord has done through His children. A great big thanks to individuals, organizations such as the National WMA, National Brotherhood, and churches and Sunday School classes.

Stan & Donna Scroggins...

From Stan

It is always busy, but June has been especially so. Saying good bye to the Moores, welcoming the Lees home, traveling to Palawan church planting, school starting up. My teaching schedule is full, Personal Discipleship, Education in the Church, Choir, Sight Reading, Conducting, and voice lessons make for long days. Locating some extra money allowed us to buy mattresses for the boys dorm. I didn't even know they didn't have them, they just sleep on the boards.. It is all great and we love knowing we are in the center of God's will for our lives. We are forever bolstered by your prayers and support.

From Donna

With the Academy on hold I've centered my work helping with nursing duties for returning students, teaching hygiene, keyboarding, and Physical Education. I'm also writing curriculum for higher education. Another exciting area of ministry

is working with EIM and Jun Santos with a weekly basketball camp held at the Bible College. I'd like to say a big thank you to our dear FBC Magnolia, Arkansas friends
• See *PHILIPPINES* Page 6 •

Please plan on participating in our Everlasting Smiles shoebox ministry this year. You never know how many people will come to know Christ because of your willingness to help out in this ministry.

If you have any questions or if you do not receive your packet, call the office at 501-455-4977 and ask for Angela.

• **NEWS From Page 2** •

you be the judge on that one. A special thank you goes out to Bro. John Simpson for letting us stay at his farm. The 4th of July we celebrated together with good food, great conversations, visitors, swimming, and fireworks. Bro. Bryan made his famous burgers and the teen boys put on a great fireworks show. We had a great turnout and everyone had fun! We continue to enjoy a talent night the last Sunday night of the month. Do you sing or play an instrument? Come join us...we start it at 5 p.m, May God continue to bless all of the work being done at each of our churches this Summer and on in to the Fall.

Leonard Knight, Pastor • Sara Buckley, Reporter

Kewanee' Missionary Baptist Church, Kewanee, had a great June... VBS this year was Maker Fun Factory and kids loved it. We saw one saved, Praise the Lord!! The Sookraj family joined us on our kickoff Sunday and Monday morning. Please be in prayer for this family as they get ready to do mission work in Peru. Our girls went to Gary, Texas, for GMA camp and had a wonderful time. We have started having Financial Peace classes, Monday nights at 6:30 p.m. David Ramsey's take on this is great. No one likes to think about school starting but we have placed our teacher crates out to be filled. We have many teachers in our congregation and they give a list of items they need for the next school year and we try to fill their crates to take back to their class. We have 18 people at SOAR right now. Praying for all that are attending and safe travel home. We are all getting excited about Camp Garwood and we have had a crew go over to help get things ready.

Dan Wisely, Pastor • Terri Adams, Reporter

Greetings from **Zion, St. Louis**. We trust everyone had a safe and enjoyable 4th of July. Seems like the Summer got here fast. Last month Bro. Baker had to make a quick trip to Arkansas and Bro. Joey Duckworth filled in for him. We enjoyed having him and his son with us. The ladies prepared a lunch and we had a good meal and fellowship with Bro. Joey and his son. Sis. Wilma Finley has left Delmar Gardens and is now residing with her daughter in O'Fallon. Please keep her in your prayers as she continues to heal from her surgery. Several from Zion went to Emmanuel June 11th for an afternoon meal. It was Friends Day at Emmanuel but because of Zion's time of service, we could only eat with them. Bro. David Griggs and his people made us feel welcome and served a delicious lunch. Bro. and Sis. Baker made a fast, short trip to Arkansas for his dad's surprise 90th birthday gathering. Tracy Goede's two grandchildren are here for the month of July. We always enjoy having Hannah and Kyle Sherwood visit us at Zion. We will be hosting the 5th Sunday Singing at Zion on July 30th starting at 5:00 p.m. Come visit and enjoy the singing if you can. Zion is also looking forward to time at Camp Garwood. We are thankful for all the hard work our Camp Superintendent, Bro. Chris Polk, puts into making our camp grounds a wonderful place to visit and get refreshed. Remember us in your prayers as we remember you.

Dennis Baker, Pastor • Norma Womble, Reporter

• **STICK HORSE From Page 1** •

that's what it's all about. Very simple and effective.

So as the Lord continues to open the Unharvested Fields, EIM will carry Shepherd Bags and head up those narrow dusty roads into the mountains, across the rivers and through the creeks. There's a lost world of boys and girls like the little boy on the stick horse. Lost without the One who died for him. I'm so thankful to be involved in EIM's Shepherd Bag Ministry and for God allowing me to see multitudes come to know Jesus because of a small, one gallon bag that He uses to open hearts and draw them to Himself.

At present we are working on a Honduras shipment. We currently have 11,000 unisex Shepherd Bags almost completed and will work to get 16-18,000 total before shipping our container. When we finish the Honduras shipment, we will begin working on a shipment of 16-18,000 bags for Tanzania as well as the Philippines. We are so excited that our EIM Gospel Story Coloring book and John 3:16 Frisbee that we place into our bags have been

LifeWord Visionary Leaders Around The World

As LifeWord enters year number 38 of fund raising through walks, other events or LifeWord Sunday offerings, they are providing a series of articles focusing on their "Visionary Leaders" in various parts of the world. Part One was printed in the June issue of the MMB and we continue with others in this issue.

Part Two

The following men are visionary leaders in Central and South America, and they tirelessly travel to remote places searching for unreached people groups in their respective areas. In fact, the following LifeWord Community Radio or LCR number counts are likely incorrect, because they are installing them so quickly!):

Name: **David Flores Perez**

Country: Bolivia

Bio: David is the visionary leader who ministers along the Mamoré River. He envisioned LCR helping BMA Bolivia reach a dozen more villages on both the Bolivian and Brazilian borders.

Name: **Denis Eduardo Lopez Aguilar**

Country/Region: Central America

Bio: Denis is BMA Missions coordinator and Lifeworld's visionary leader. He helps oversee Lifeworld's work in Central and South America and has facilitated dozens of multimedia training, and LCR training and installations.

Name: **Javier Muñoz Ruiz**

Country: Nicaragua

Bio: Javier is associate pastor of a BMA church in Nicaragua and is the visionary leader for Lifeworld. He has facilitated the training of a dozen young people in the use of media and led in the installation of three LCRs so far.

Name: **Paul Esteban Tinoco Lopez**

Country: Perú

Bio: Paul came to the BMA and Lifeworld via Lifeworld's Spanish broadcast. Paul pastors, runs a radio ministry, and has led Lifeworld Peru in installing thirteen LCR stations and training the personnel to run them.

Name: **Ricardo Herrera Ramirez**

Country: Honduras / Garifuna

Bio: Ricardo is of Garifuna origin and is a key leader for Lifeworld in leading broadcast efforts and LCR initiatives among the Garifuna people. They run six LCR stations.

Part Three

The following men are visionary leaders in Africa, and their job of establishing new LCR stations is further complicated because of restrictions and government interference in the licensing process. Living in an area where religious practices center on animism and superstition, they have a burden for sharing the gospel with their people:

Name: **Hayford Jackson**

Country/Region: Ghana, West Africa

Bio: Speaker on Lifeworld's Twi broadcast and engineering producer for nine other African-language broadcasts, he was the first person outside Lifeworld's home office to catch the vision of what a Lifeworld Community Radio (LCR) station could mean to a local church. Hayford has worked diligently on the idea for the past few years and led his church to build studios and apply for a commercial license. He hopes to be LCR's very first licensed radio station.

Name: **Abraham Cheyee'**

Country/Region: Liberia

Bio: Speaker on the Western Krahn broadcast, when Ebola ravaged Liberia it literally came to the entrance of his subdivision. Abraham saw firsthand how radio became the information lifeline for people trapped inside their homes, and it changed his pastoral values: He moved his family from the comfort of a big city church to live among his native people far away and win them to Christ. His church's LCR station will likely become the second licensed station.

Name: **Renatus Kanunu**

Country/Region: Tanzania

Bio: Renatus is lead pastor and producer of the new Swahili broadcast. Only recently introduced to LCR, the first Tanzanian station is not on the air yet, but his transmitter is already translated into Swahili for Tanzania. This is our newest translation. To date we have had both the Gospel books and Frisbees translated into seven different languages.

If you'd like to support this ministry or have questions, please feel free to contact me at fnorris@eimworldwide.org or go to our website at www.eimworldwide.org It's a very small investment with an eternal impact.

being used to draw attention when evangelistic teams arrive in a new village. During set-up for the evening's open-air meeting and showing of the Jesus Film, announce-

• See *Visionaries* Page 8 •

Master's Builders On The Move

Nelda Malone • reporter

On May the 5th, as the students moved out, The Master's Builders moved into the parking lot beside the girl's dorm at Jacksonville College, Jacksonville, Texas. Dr. Mike Smith had asked the Builders to come help with several campus projects, with the main project being creating more campus housing. They worked in several of the JC houses around campus creating more rooms and bathrooms for the Fall 2017 enrollment. They also put a new ramp on the backside of the Gym, worked on cabinet tops in the Bookstore, and worked on several other projects.

We always looked forward to going to Jacksonville, as we get to visit with all our friends there. Dr. Mike and all the staff treat us so well, ; they "kinda" spoil us. A big thank you to our Cafeteria friends. We had 4 students, who worked along side our men everyday, that we truly enjoyed meeting and talking with. Most of these boys are from outside the US. Thank you to each of them!

The Master's Builders returned to Summers Baptist at Summers, AR, this past June , to work on another new addition to their church plant. This was our third time to be with this church and we so look forward to being with our friends, that we've come to love and appreciate so much. Bro. Paul Young and family are such special people and they lead such a wonderful group of dedicated servants, that we are inspired each time we get to be together.

There were nine RV's parked on the north side of the building as we began work on the 25 x 100 foot side building to the metal 100 x 60 Family Life building. The side building will house a kitchen, pantry, laundry, large classroom, restrooms and youth pastor's office. On the north side of the Family Life building, the men also walled up areas that would be used to park two church vans, house a classroom and a storage area. A stairway was built up to the second floor over this area that will serve as a large 22 x 60 foot youth room. The Master's Builders were very disappointed that they could not complete all that Bro. Paul had planned for them



The Jacksonville, TX Crew

because the metal workers had not completed the roofing over the larger building. Maybe we will be called upon again!!

This church is a working church! It is such a blessing to work along side willing members who give of their time and sweat! There were always ready to lend a hand. Several men worked every opportunity they could with one taking his vacation to work with our men. There were three young men who were there every day, that their parents would let them come, and some



The Summers, AR Crew

hard working ladies came to help also. The food is always amazing at Summers! Even working hard in the heat, you DO NOT lose weight! Thank you to all who fed us. Thank you most



SENIORADULT

CONFERENCE • BRANSON, MISSOURI



DON CHANDLER



STEVE GREEN



DAVID ATTEBERY



NEIL DUMAS



SIGHT & SOUND

November 13-15, 2017

It's Like a Family Reunion! DiscipleGuide's annual Senior Adult Conference is your opportunity to catch up with friends in the beauty of the Ozarks. Join us November 13-15, 2017 at the Hilton Convention Hotel in Branson!

Third Quarter 2016-2017 Financial Report

Missouri Missionary Baptist Paper

April 2017 - June 2017

Balance: April 1, 2017	\$ 6,647.73
Receipts:	\$ <u>5,139.52</u>
Total Available:	\$ 11,787.25
Disbursements:	\$ <u>(4,836.04)</u>
Balance: June 30, 2017	\$ 6,951.21

Third Quarter Reports

Above and below are the financial reports for the *Missouri Missionary Baptist* and the *Kenneth Gibson Seminary Grant Fund*. It is good to see the support for the paper has improved this year and that the Grant Fund is being used to help preachers further their education. If you have any questions please contact the editor who handles both funds.

Third Quarter 2016-2017 Financial Report

Kenneth Gibson Seminary

Student Grant Fund

April 2017 - June 2017

Balance: April 1, 2017	\$ 14,128.29
Receipts:	\$ <u>25.00</u>
Total Available:	\$ 14,153.29
Disbursements:	\$ <u>(1,815.13)</u>
Balance: March 31, 2017	\$ 12,338.16

of all for the sweet Christian fellowship!

We love our Master's Builders group! But we need more helpers! There is no way I could try to share with you the blessings we enjoy together. Our Father knows our needs better than we do and we are trusting in him to provide. SO, if you have questions about our group

or if your church has building needs, please contact our Office Coordinator, John Mangum at 318-202-5155 or cell 318-607-4100; or Field Coordinator, Eddie Sikes at 903-725-6549 or cell 479-462-1675.

Remember.. Follow us on Facebook at "The Master's Builders" (look for church or arbor logo).

WMA & GMA NEWS

Articles for this column may be sent to

WMA Secretary: Norma Womble
7421 Hillsboro House Spg. Rd.
Cedar Hill, MO 63016
e-mail - nrwomble@juno.com

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
Matthews, MO 63867

State WMA Project

Ladies, we encourage you to support the Missouri WMA project this year, as you have in the past. As most of you know, we don't support one single effort, but usually have three or more.

Please consider giving to our project. We believe the areas we try to support are all important and worthy of our giving/

The project selected for the 2017-2018 year was for support of:

1. The Missouri Missionary Baptist Paper
2. Missionary Andy Lahmann Work Fund
3. The General Fund,
4. The Youth Fund

Project offerings should be made payable to Missouri WMA and sent to the state treasurer.

Missouri WMA
C/O Connie Reifsteck
P. O. Box 190493
St. Louis, MO 63119

If you have any questions, feel free to contact me.

Connie Reifsteck
Missouri WMA Treasurer
connierents@gmail.com
(314) 283-4973

• PHILIPPINES From Page 3 •

who hosted Doug & Diane Lee as VBS missionaries this year. You make us proud to serve as your missionaries. Pray for us and please contact us with all the news from home.

Meet our new Church Planter John Rey Navarte

J. R. graduated from the BMA Bible College back in March. He is an honor graduate and considered to be one of our most outstanding students ever. Every student seeking a ministry degree is required to spend a semester in the field as an intern. J. R. spent his intern semester in Honda Bay on the island of Palawan. J.R. worked with the Honda Bay Baptist Church under pastor Rex, another BMABC grad. Pastor Rex and the congregation loved him so much they wanted him to come and work with them after graduation. Knowing God's will for him to return to Palawan J.R. could see the doors opening for church planting. Along with our supporters in the U.S. and support from the church in Honda Bay we knew God was giving us a special opportunity to collaborate together reaching people and planting a church on this island. Donna and I have traveled there twice now and will work closely with Missionary Navarte with salary support and training. He has already selected a Barangay (like a sub-division in the Philippines) and begun a home Bible study with 12 attenders. Danny Ballard, our BMA Missionary in Manila, took a Filipino Volunteer Student Mission team to Honda Bay in May. The team provided funds to build a "parsonage" for J.R. The Honda Bay Baptist Church gave him a spot for it next to the church. Its simple, but J.R. is very proud of it. J.R. needs transportation. We've located a used motorcycle for \$500.00. Anyone who could help with this let me know. You can connect with J.R. on Facebook to encourage him.

2017 Ladies Retreat September 8 - 9, 2017

Drury Inn & Suites • Arnold, MO

(636) 287-3111

Group Number: 2288716

Room Rate: 129.99/night:

2 Queen beds (up to 4 people)

Room Occupancy will include:

"Kickback" (Supper) &

"Quick-Start" (Breakfast)

Registration Fee

\$ 25.00 BEFORE August 31

\$ 30 after August 31

Fun begins at 2 p.m. on Friday and

ends around 3 p.m. on Saturday

Plan now to come as early as you

can to enjoy the fun and

fellowship!

We are stepping up a notch on the fun so you don't want to miss it!!

There will be a silent auction and all proceeds will go to Camp Garwood

Registration form 2017 Ladies Retreat

Church Name _____

Address _____

Contact Phone# _____

Lady's Name _____

Registration \$25.00 (before August 31) _____

Late Registration \$30 after August 31 _____

Make checks payable to Missouri WMA
and send with the form below to:

Chris Griggs
321 Carthage
St. Louis, MO 63125

Hotel: Drury Inn & Suites Arnold, MO
1-800-325-0720 www.druryhotels.com

Note: Make Room reservation directly with the hotel.
Be sure to mention Group #2288716

Finding a Church Home on a Frisbee

by the Late Travis Plumlee
Originally published in 2006

Life Point Church in Charlotte gives away thousands of Frisbees with church information on them. Ten Percent of the total congregation says they learned about the church from a Frisbee.

New Life Church in Centerville, Virginia has invested \$10,000 to buy an ice cream truck. They now travel the streets of town giving away free ice cream to children. Pastor Rick Ruble states, "It makes God's love real. It in some way communicates that we care and that God is cool."

Many churches now offer coffee and internet computer connections in their "church cafes," along with concerts and frescoes. We are reaching many culture-loving adults by providing cultural events in our church. According to one rapidly growing church, "Faith given to us is not a possession, but something to pass on and tell others about. We invite people in, to take part in it."

The churches that are growing are marketing. Is marketing just a way of letting people know of your church and by such, they can come and hear the Gospel message? On the other hand, is marketing by churches being done because most Christians are not going to witness, testify and tell others about their church and Jesus?

Is marketing replacing the job that all Christians used to do, but are afraid to do in today's anti-Christian environment? All of this has me scratching my head and wondering if our BMAA churches should target market our churches. What, if any, is the benefit? What are the dangers? Should this be something a church should even consider? The growing churches are marketing. Many of our small churches are dying in attendance. What is the answer? Scripture. What does Scripture say?

• See *FRISBEE* Page 7 •

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

Conflict Between Law and Grace

Galatians 4:19-31

by Dennis Baker, Brotherhood President

Paul uses a literary device called an allegory to convey hidden meanings through symbolic figures, actions, imagery, or events, which together create the moral, spiritual, or political meaning the author wishes to convey. An allegory can be defined as a narrative that has a deeper meaning. Paul's use of the Old Testament story of Sarah and Isaac versus Hagar and Ishmael gives greater meaning to the conflict between law and grace.

In verse 22, Paul states that, Abraham had two sons. One by a bondmaid and the other by a freewoman. Verse 23 states that the son born by the bondwoman was born after the flesh and the son born by the freewoman was born by promise.

These verses illustrate the two births; the physical birth that makes us sinners and the spiritual birth that makes us the children of God. As we read Genesis 21:1-12 we discover wonderful truths about salvation.

1. Isaac, Sarah's son, was born by God's power. We might say that since Abraham and Sarah had waited approximately twenty-five years and were beyond child bearing age, that Isaac was miraculously conceived. Verse 29, refers to Isaac being "born after the Spirit. The greater meaning that Paul is conveying is that a believer must be "born of the Spirit." John 3:6-7, "That which is born of the flesh is flesh; and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit. Marvel not that I said unto thee, Ye must be born again." Abraham represents faith, Galatians 3:9, and Sarah represents grace. Therefore, Isaac was born by faith through grace. Ephesians 2:8, "For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God..."

2. Salvation is just the beginning, not the ending. Genesis 21:8 states that Isaac grew and was weaned. After we are born again we must grow. To mature as a believer, we must lay aside "childish things." I Corinthians 13:1, "When I was a child, I spake as a child, I understood as a child, I thought as a child: but when I became a man, I put away childish things." II Peter 3:18, "But grow in grace, and in the knowledge of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. To Him be glory both now and forever."

3. Verse 29, Ishmael born after the flesh persecuted Isaac born after the Spirit. Genesis 21:9 states that Ishmael caused problems for Isaac, just as our old nature causes problems for us. Ishmael caused no problems in Abraham's home until Isaac was born, just as our old nature created no problems for us until the new nature entered, when we trusted Christ. In Abraham's home, we see the same conflict that believers face today. The law only releases the opposition of the flesh and a conflict within the believer. Romans 7:19, "For the good that I would I do not: but the evil which I would not, that I do."

4. Hagar, Abraham's second wife, like the law was added. Hagar's function was only temporary and then she moved off the scene, the law was added because of our transgression, Galatians 3:19.

5. Hagar and Ishmael were cast out and Ishmael was not an heir of Abraham. It is impossible for law and grace, the flesh and the Spirit, to compromise and stay together. It is impossible to mix law and grace, faith and works, God's gift of righteousness and man's attempt to earn salvation.

The Old Testament story appears to be nothing more than an account of the conflict in Abraham's home, but the greater meaning teaches us tremendous spiritual realities. Salvation

Are You
DEWing
it?
Give a **Dollar**
Every Week
to **Camp Gawood**

• **FRISBEE From Page 6** •
What would Jesus do?

I still can't get past the church and the ice cream truck. Do the children who run out to get the free ice cream really think God is cool? How many of these kids hear about Jesus Christ and His salvation? How many decide to go to that church because of the free ice cream? Or do these kids just run to meet the ice cream truck because it offers free ice cream? Is giving away free ice cream just a way of being nice to people and letting our light shine before other?

If the church invests money to give away Frisbees and ice cream as a random act of kindness, then that is okay, I guess. But could that money have been better invested in a cause that would show greater Christian compassion? Could the thousands of dollars spent on marketing be used to reach people with the gospel message?

Is all of this marketing of cafes and coffee shops contaminating the church with the culture? Are we mashing the needs and desires of people ahead of the desires of the Holy Father? When you try and lure people into church with free giveaways that meet some sensual desire like food or drink or play, and then tell them they must die to themselves and life for another, is that a conflicting and confusing message? How do you get people to stay in church if they only came to get some personal need met?

Do these churches hope to have people come to church is by grace through faith. After being "born again" we need to grow in our relationship with God. Believers will face conflict between the old and new nature. It is impossible to mix the law and grace to earn salvation.

How Old Did You Say You Are?

by Dr. Tony Cleaver • retired U.S. Army Chaplain and
Director of Distance Learning for BMA Seminary. You may
contact him at jstmcleaver@embarqmail.com

Having been on both ends of the pastoral spectrum as far as age is concerned, I have lately formulated some opinions about the advancing age of a prospective pastor. Few churches call pastors who are above "fiftyish" years old. This is an observation on my part, not scientifically collected, accurate, irrefutable data. I know there are exceptions to what I have observed. There are some older men called to a pulpit who experience great success. The church wonders why they did not call an older man before. The opposite is also true. That older pastor "just did not work out, so we had to let him go. We'll never do this again."

If you plot on the X axis (the up and down of a graph) the age of the pastor and plot on the Y axis (the left to right of a graph) the ability, knowledge, and experience of the pastor it would be a line going up (to the right). As the pastor ages, he gets more experience. As the pastor matures, he gains insight from events with people. As the pastor spends time alone with God, he becomes more spiritually acute. These things do not happen overnight. If you were to plot on the X axis the age of the pastor and plot on the Y axis the incidence of the local church calling, you would see a line going down (to the right). The older the man, the less likely the church is to call him. He has too much experience! He is not malleable or congregation fit. This might be true. My guess is that if these two lines were plotted on the same graph, they would intersect somewhere about fiftyish something of pastor age. As the pastor experience goes up - somewhere about/above 50 years old - this line intersects with the age going down of the churches in their call of the pastor - about/above 50. I do not see any age qualifications mentioned in Titus and Timothy. Paul does say to Timothy to be careful regarding his behavior so that his youth does not sully the work of his ministry. He does not prohibit him from his work because of his age. He simply cautions him to take care regarding youthful behavior.

Paul, Simon, and others did not write in the New Testament to the "youngers." Multiple times they mentioned the elders. The word "elder" in the sense of leadership in the New Testament Church means an older person. These were the leaders who had some gravity attached to their ways. Paul and his contemporaries address the elders with use of wisdom involved in spiritual sharpness. Now that I am on the other side - way past - of the plot line of about/above fiftyish potential call to a church, I would encourage our churches to look at the positive benefits of older preachers. I believe we, in spite of everything associated with being beyond fiftyish, have some value to the ministry of Christ and His Church in this our day and time. In my personal view, the first graph (we plotted this one earlier) shows the insight, spiritual acumen, and gifts with people that the older man can offer a church. How old did you say you are? Old enough to recognize God's bountiful hand on my life in the past and young enough to still marvel at what He has in store for the future.

via The Mississippi Baptist

because of free giant screen video sporting events and then hopefully, the people will come to Christ and change their ways? Is the gospel message out of the Bible good enough to attract the typical American to Church?

I know from first-hand experience how to reach lost college students. I taught for several years at a state university. I showed those kids how much I cared about them by forming a relationship with them. Then, I showed them about a new relationship of caring that they could have with Jesus Christ. I used nothing but Scripture and they came in droves. I am not

• See **FRISBEE Page 8** •

• **FRISBEE** From Page 7 •

bashing church marketing completely. I raise these questions so that it might drive a discussion amongst the local church body on how best to reach people for Christ.

It is obvious that growing churches today reach people through these marketing attempts. But 10 years from now, where are these people spiritually? I just know that if you reach people by being interested in them at a personal level, and then share the gospel with them, that gospel message can be irresistible. It takes time and hard work and an investment of my life into others. Maybe that is why churches are market driven. Many American Christians today do not want to take the time and energy it takes to reach others for God's glory at a personal level. Maybe it is easier to ease your guilty conscience of not witnessing by simply giving money to but an ice cream truck.

There are so many Christians today who go to church just to have their needs met. God makes them feel better. He helps them in times of trouble. He is their cosmic counselor. But many do not go to church to praise Him. To worship Him as King of Kings and Lord of their life. God is just something else to use to handle stress. When we get families to come to church because of computer access, coffee, food, and amusement rides for their children, then how do they die to all of their desires to live for Him and not for themselves? What is the future of a church whose people come to church because they offer so much fun things for their children? Is that the purpose of the church? Maybe it just draws them in and then they change after hearing the Gospel?

I am just old fashioned. I am going to just keep forming relationships and telling people Jesus Saves!

• **VISIONARIES** From Page 4 •

ments, interviews and invitations are broadcast to the entire village.

Part Four

October 22 is LifeWord Sunday, and church registrations, T-shirt sales, and video production are in full swing. This season of giving to LifeWord has been going on since 1980, but this media ministry's gospel reach has changed as technology has grown by leaps and bounds in almost four decades. One way LifeWord is using technological advancements is the plan to make LifeWord broadcasts and discipleship materials available to anyone around the world at lifeword.org. The working title of this new initiative is the "LifeWord Network on the LifeWord Cloud."

Whether it's LifeWord Community Radio, traditional broadcasting, or the LifeWord Cloud, without indigenous leaders around the world—our "boots on the ground"—the goal of expanding LifeWord's footprint could not be realized. In this final article about these global visionary leaders, we will highlight Romanian missionary and LifeWord speaker Bogdan Bilav:

Name: **Bogdan Bilav**

Country/Region: Romania

Bio: Bogdan and his wife Daniela have a heart for Eastern Europe's most despised people group—the gypsies. For seven years, he has supervised the recording and distribution of LifeWord's Romany-Kalderash broadcast, heard on Friday evenings across a network of Romanian-language Christian radio stations.

Through the years, many listeners have been encouraged and inspired by the broadcast, but now the Bilavs see great potential for introducing Jesus using LifeWord Community Radio stations to unite the tiny gypsy villages spread across Eastern Europe.

In September, Rick Russell will conduct the first LCR (LifeWord Community Radio) training as Bogdan begins to develop this vision. He says, "A few young men will form the team that will focus on using internet in sharing good news of salvation to the gypsy people. We want to give them skills that, along with the technology that is available today, will make a great impact on today's young generation of gypsies."

To participate in LifeWord Sunday 2017, a day to learn about, pray for and give to LifeWord, go to lifeword.org/lifewordsunday to register your church. Also, look for your LifeWord Sunday packet mailed to every BMA church the first week of August.

A Word to Young Pastors

by Pastor *Jordan Tew* • Eighth St. Baptist Church • Grand Prairie, TX

My heart is heavy with concern over our generation of pastors and ministers. We are at a critical point in the history of both Christianity and our denomination. What we do over the next few years and decades will have a profound impact on the future, should the Lord tarry that long.

Let me begin by stating I am 26 years old (although I am 76 at heart). I understand what my fellow young pastors or ministers are going through and the feelings they have in regards to ministry and reaching people with the Gospel. I understand these can be frustration, at times, with church traditions, practices that seem antiquated and ineffective, going to meeting upon meeting with very few people under the age of 65 present, and serving in a culture which values historic, Baptist doctrinal positions. I know there seems to be a dividing line between the "old school" BMA and the "new school" BMA people. Brothers, this should not be.

As a young pastor, please let me state that we desperately need to learn from older pastors and ministers. Friends, we do not know all that we need to know. There is much value in learning from men who have been pastoring longer than you have been alive. There is much to be said about the men who planted your churches - about how they thrived and were sustained to this very day. There is much safety in clinging to the old doctrines, as they have stood the test of time and existed before the latest author got his book deal or recorded his video based teaching series.

Please understand me. I am not saying that all new things or technology are bad. I am not saying we should not try to reach a younger generation with the Gospel, nor am I saying that you should not help your church move forward.

However, I am saying there is infinite value in respecting and learning from our elders, as they have set a godly example before us in their teaching and love for the Lord. I am saying we must be humble and be willing to learn from them.

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.

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.

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

Five Resolutions For A Growing Church

from *Josh Daffern*, New Wineskins blog, posted January 5, 2017
via *Northern Landmark Missionary Baptist*, February 2017

If you want your church to slowly but steadily lose ground, then your resolution is simple: don't do a thing. Resist anything new and hope that Jesus comes back while there's still people left in your church. If you want your church to grow, to advance, to take new ground and push back the darkness, here are five great resolutions for you to consider.

1. We will find meaningful places for a majority of our people to serve...

2. We will provide multiple opportunities for community

I am saying that it is important to know that doctrine still matters, and it may be a good idea to study and make your people aware of the BMA Doctrinal Statement once and again

We live in a time when young pastors are flooded with a plethora of church trends, buzzwords, methods, systems and programs. However, I often step back and make note of how Christ had no need for such things. I am reminded how He modeled preaching and discipleship and missions to us. We must recapture an appreciation for the old ways, a respect for the old people, and a love for the old doctrines.

Fellow young pastors, we should not seek to be a 21st Century church. In case you have not noticed, the 21st Century church is not faring so well. We must always seek to be a First Century Church. This cannot happen if we refuse to learn from or respect our elders. We have so much to learn. May God bless us with willing, humble, teachable hearts.

Via *Baptist Progress*

to happen in small groups...

3. We will make sure that our children's ministry is the best funded and best staffed ministry in our church... If their kids hate church, if every Sunday is a screaming match because the kids are bored to death and hate church, then you've lost the family. You show me a growing, thriving church and I'll show you an outstanding children's ministry, an environment where kids are dragging their parents to go because they can't wait to get there.

4. We will create a team of volunteers whose sole job is to ensure guests' expectations are exceeded on Sunday mornings...

5. We will embrace the messes... All the easy families, the put-together-people, the Hallmark families with a perfect resume are probably already attending church somewhere else. If you want to grow as a church, you've got to be willing to roll up your sleeves and embrace the messes that God will bring you.

Amen!!