

The Missouri Missionary Baptist

“Holding Forth The Word of Life”

Philippians 2:16

Volume LXXXI

St. Louis, MO • June 12, 2018

Issue No. 6

2018 State Camp at Garwood Coming SOON!!

• July 30th through August 3rd •



BE A DEWR AND NOT A HEARER ONLY
ROMES 12:2

Become a Camp Garwood DEWR

If you give \$75.00 or more annually to Camp Garwood, you are a DEWR

Simply make your DEWR membership official, by emailing your name, church and t-shirt size to campgarwood@gmail.com

Members are able to attend a DEWRs Only weekend at camp each year and receive a T-shirt!

The DEWRs replaces the current DEW (Dollar Every Week) program

As time for our annual state camp draws near there is a flurry of activity at Garwood. Many improvements are being made along with normal cleaning and repairs. Camp Director Chris Polk sends word that a lot of work has been done in the last month. Joe and his crew have poured concrete under the pavillions and in other areas around camp and installed a new roof on one pavillion. Chris is working to improve power in the lower shower houses, and work is being done on the camper sites along with the new paintball area. Thanks to Bro. and Sis. Don Adams, a new recreation hut is in place that will serve as a central place to store, and check out recreation items. Too much is going on to list here but the idea is to make the camp facilities better.

With all the work going on it means that our finances are getting tighter quickly. Chris would like to encourage those who are planning to be DEWR's to go ahead and send those funds to camp. As camp gets closer the funds always get tighter as we stock the canteen, buy supplies, and prepare for camp.

As usual there is always plenty of things to do. Please contact Chris to see how you can help. This is OUR camp and WE need to take care of it!!

Remember, if you are 18 or older and plan to spend a night at camp you MUST complete the yearly Adult Screening. Go to bmamissouri.org and click on Camp Garwood to find “Adult Screening” which will lead you through the process.

2018 Camp Theme: “God’s Tool Shed” - Romans 1:16

To contact Bro. Chris you may call or text him at 573-380-1975. To send an offering mail it to him at P.O. Box 271, Matthews, MO 63867.

Please prayerfully consider remaining a DEWR or becoming one if you have not previously participated in the old program. It will be a blessing to you and will help finance the camp for years to come. Someone has said that the \$75 a year to be a DEWR amounts to a little over 20 cents a day. If 200 people become DEWR's that would amount to \$15,000 for camp this year. Let's DEW It!!

NOW let's begin praying for a great camp this year where many souls will be won for Christ, young people and adults will be called to serve, homes will be strengthened, and churches will become centers for God to work. It will take dedication, hard work, determination, consecration, and many willing

workers, **but it will be worth it all!** Pray for our camp committee, our evangelist, teachers, workers, and campers to be infected with the power of God that will be shown through obedience, worship, praise, love and understanding.

Get excited about what God has in store for us this year!!

BMA of MO Mission Symposium
&

Mid-Year Business Meeting

May 18, 2018, at 7:00 p.m. we were privileged to have two newly elected missionary families come to Missouri and take part in our annual Mission symposium which was at Zion Baptist Church in St. Louis.

Bro. Jimmy Walker, his wife and five children shared their call to work for the Lord in the Philippines as they plan to leave this summer. We could sense their joy in being able to serve the Lord in this way.

Bro. Larry Wood and his wife also came and shared their hearts about going to Ukraine. They both have a great love for the people with whom they are going to be working and are anxious to leave for the mission field July 31st.

It was a joy to meet these workers and we were challenged by their enthusiasm about doing God's will. Please pray for them as they follow the Lord.

Our Symposium Offering was designated as a love offering for Pastor David Griggs of Emmanuel Baptist Church in St. Louis. Bro. David has had a lot of physical problems this past year and we wanted him to know his brothers and sisters in Christ love and appreciate him. The love offering totaled \$1,745. Our thanks to all who gave. It was good that Bro. David was able to attend the meeting and he blessed our hearts by singing a beautiful song during the service. Please keep him in your prayers.

May 19, 2018, at 9:00 a.m. Zion hosted the mid-year business meeting of the BMA of Missouri. President Dale Fish did an outstanding job of keeping the meeting moving and we enjoyed hearing the good reports from all our departments. A petitionary letter from Lighthouse Baptist Church of Malden, MO was read and a motion and second to welcome them into our fellowship was approved. (Read the Missions Director's Report on page 3 for more details about these meetings.)

Zion Baptist Church and Pastor Dennis Baker are to be commended for being well-prepared and gracious hosts for these meetings. The attendance was good at both services, we were uplifted by the special singing, the fellowship was enjoyable and a delicious lunch was served at the conclusion of the business meeting.

We look forward to our annual meeting **October 27, 2018 at 9:00 a.m. at Bethel Baptist Church, Lonedell, MO.**

Moral Action Freedom Offering June 24th and July 1st • 2018

All BMA of America Churches are encouraged to receive a special offering for **Moral Action** on either of these dates.

(See related article “Adams Award/Moral Action” on page 5 of this publication)

REVIVAL

Lower Doe Run Missionary Baptist Church
Near Ellington, Missouri

County Road 510 • 1/2 mile off H Hwy • or 3 miles off HH Hwy

June 29th, 30th & July 1st
7:00 p.m. mightly & Sunday Morning

Speaker • Donald Morris
Pastor • Melvin Meade

All Are WELCOME!!



NEWS BRIEFS



Greetings from **First Baptist Church, Potosi**. What a busy month this has been for us. The GMA's once again hosted our annual Mothers' Day Breakfast. Michelle Knobloch, Alisia Wright, and the girls served a most delicious breakfast to us on beautifully decorated tables. God has blessed me with these two beautiful Christian daughters who serve Him. Also, we recognized our high school graduates: Aaron Boyer, Chase Boyer, Kobe Boyer, Ryan Coleman, Abby Compton, Dylan Hays, Noah Jackson, Audrey Kamper, Grace Obenhaus, Stephanie Shepard, Garrett Wilkinson, Joseph Williams, Jordan Wisdom, Aaron Wright. Baccalaureates for Potosi and K-14 were beautiful ceremonies. It is wonderful that these Christian theme programs are allowed to take place. Our Celebrate Recovery (CR) Praise Band presented the music at K-14. It truly was an awesome experience. We are making big changes in our security system for our children that begins June 3rd. Our children's ministry director, Raven Porter, along with others have worked diligently to make this as easy a transition as possible. It is sad that the world has caused us to feel unsafe in our churches. Our youth pastor has been preparing our youth for summer activities. Super Summer date and location has changed to Southwest Baptist University, Bolivar, June 11-15; Mission Project is July 13-21; Teen Mindcraft Camp is July 18-21; and Kids Slimed Camp will be July 25-28. Any volunteers for the Richwoods camps will be greatly appreciated. VBS plans have been in effect and will begin Craft Nights in June and Shipwrecked - Rescued by Jesus will take place July 9-12. Betwixt and between all of these other activities the State GMA Retreat will be July 13-14 at Camp Garwood. June 3rd a representative from the Gideons presented information on their program. The Sunday night community Bible Studies have completed their sessions and will begin again in the fall. I will be using the information I received in the evangelism study to enable me to be a better witness for God. Many positive comments have been made about the other topic studies. Celebrate Recovery is ongoing as usual and we are so thankful for the volunteers who help make this outreach program a success. Healing Our Past Experiences (HOPE) for survivors of sexual abuse, misuse, or trauma; and the Surrendering The Secret, healing the heartbreak of abortion, are both available in confidential settings. In addition to all of the programs that are publicized, there are Bible Study and prayer groups that continue on a regular basis either in members' homes or at the church. It takes so much prayer and Bible study to keep the rest of the church going and to keep Satan out. It is the same for our personal lives. Please pray for us as we pray for you.

James Ainley, Pastor • Deborah Rauhut, Reporter

Temple, Belgrade, rejoices in the addition of Bro. Bo Cooper who was baptized June 3rd. He and his wife Caley (Yount) Cooper have been a blessing to us and we are glad to have them working with us. Plans are being made for our annual Homecoming celebration August 12, 2018. Bro. Leonard Compton will be bringing the morning message; lunch will be served, and a singing will start around 1:30 p.m. You are invited to come and join us for this celebration.

James Hoffmann, Interim Pastor

Abundant Life in Christ, Charleston, reports that on paper, our spring quarter looked rather uneventful. We saw no professions of faith nor membership additions. There was no breakthrough moment on our building progress. There were no "Wow!" moments in our community ministry. It was not, however, a bad quarter at all. Our attendance averaged 16 in Sunday School and 27 for morning worship. This is margin-

ally better than it was in the winter, and so we're thankful. We've also had several visitors—largely as a result of me being able to be on the street again—and so for that we're also thankful. On the other hand, we had to stop having Wednesday night services because literally no one was showing up except my family. I continue to teach our three kids at home on Wednesday nights, which is what I was doing at our building before we finally had to admit defeat on attempting Wednesday night services.

Work has continued on our building and is always continuing. The details of our progress would not be exciting to you in a letter, but they actually are exciting to our people. They come in week by week noticing the progress and are always happy and thankful. As I realize there is progress being made week by week for them to see I'm happy and thankful. Our building progress can always be seen on our Facebook page. Our services continue to be good. They are spirited and they are spiritual. Those adults who come to Sunday School show evidence of growth via the verse by verse teaching of the Word. A majority of visitors have good things to say about our services. In all things God is being much better to us than what we deserve! As always, we thank you for your interest in and support of Abundant Life in Christ Missionary Baptist Church.

Rodney Dunlap, Pastor

Lower Doe Run, Ellington, is anticipating a summer of sweet fellowship and a Holy Spirit led Revival. We have had visitors every week lately even though many of our members have been out with sickness. We represented at the State Mission Symposium and the State Association at Zion. We appreciate the hospitality and were so blessed by the presentation of newly elected missionaries and the messages from

the Word of God. Larry and Tammy Wood didn't have their packet of contact information so we are still trying to get in touch with them. If any of you have it let us know. Bro. Hoffmann encouraged us to update our church mailing lists. So we are trying to inquire of our members if they are receiving the paper regularly. We have been doing some needed remodeling around the church plant that will help a lot. Still some more going on. A group of us gathered at the Villas in Desoto in May and we were blessed by the residents who worshiped with us. We honored Mothers Day. Ladonna sang "My Mother's Bible" and gave a testimony using her Mother's Bible. A few of us gathered at Georgian Gardens Residential Care also in May to sing for the residents there. Ellen Kearns sang every song with Ladonna Baker, Jeanne Haterlein, Juanita Wilkerson, Roberta Pierce, Alice Simpelo and Carolyn Meade. What a blessing! These two dates each month are becoming a regular ministry event. Our church looks forward to singing at the Brent B. Tinnin Manor in Ellington June 17, Father's Day. Also in June is the National GMA Retreat at Gary, TX. Pray for us and for Revival

Melvin Meade, Pastor • Carolyn Meade, Reporter

From **Landmark, DeSoto**: I waited too late last month to get our report in, but there are a couple of things I want to mention. We did have services Easter morning, but dismissed the evening services. They had predicted wintry weather and thankfully, we were home when the sleet came falling from the sky. Bro. Aaron and his wife moved into the parsonage in April. We are glad that they are finally on the field full time. We had our Mother's Day/Father's Day Banquet and had a good time and a great meal. Two of our own ladies did the preparations voluntarily. We do appreciate Sisters Terry Smith and Bobbi Hall. We've had sickness among our members and their families. Our prayer chain is kept pretty busy. It is a privilege and a blessing to be able to pray for our friends and families. I couldn't begin to name those who have requested prayer from our church. I'm sure that everyone else is like me enjoying all that Spring has to offer: the birds, the flowers and the animals that we don't usually see until Spring. Praise the Lord for His wonderful creations. Until next month or the Lord's Return,

Aaron Maxwell, Pastor • Sharon Page, Reporter

Bethel, Sikeston sends Blessings to all! God continues to bless us with visitors each week. Bro. Gary Lindsey was saved (praise God)! He thought he had been saved before but he had really been struggling about it, so he wanted to make sure this

• Continued on Page 4 •

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FINANCIAL REPORT BMA OF MISSOURI MISSIONS • May 2018

General Fund:

Checking Account:

Balance April 30, 2018		\$	47,428.66
August Receipts:			
Missions	\$	1,771.21	
Symposium	\$	<u>1,645.00</u>	
Total Income:	\$	3,416.21	\$ <u>3,416.21</u>
Total Available			\$ 50,844.87
Disbursements:			
Director's Salary	\$	600.00	
Rooms/Missionaries	\$	520.00	
Stipend/Missionaries	\$	1,500.00	
Matt Barker, Nixa	\$	200.00	
David Griggs	\$	1,645.00	
North Lake Bldg. Fund	\$	<u>20,000.00</u>	
Total Disbursements	\$	24,465.00	\$ <u>(24,465.00)</u>
Balance May 31, 2018:			\$ 26,379.87

Bank of America Savings Account:

Balance April 30, 2018		\$	(1,100.70)
Interest:	\$.02	\$ <u>.02</u>
Balance May 31, 2018:			\$ 1,100.72

Investment in BMA of Mississippi Revolving Loan Fund:

Balance April 30, 2018		\$	101,710.35
Interest:	\$	0.00	\$ <u>0.00</u>
Balance May 31, 2018:			\$ 101,710.35

Total of all Funds May 31, 2018 **\$ 129,190.92**

From Our Director...

What a busy and productive time we have had these last few months!! It seemed as though the National Association meeting was barely over before it was time for our State meeting and there was much preparation to be done! But it has been a good time and God is blessing His work across our state!

On page 1 there is a very brief summary of the Mission Symposium and the Mid-year business meeting and I will give a little more information in this report.

Our Symposium featured two recently elected BMA of America Missionaries which was a change from what we had been having. It was a blessing to get to know these workers who we support through our national association.

A word of explanation in regard to the Symposium Offering for Bro. Griggs. We reported a total love offering of \$ 1,745 was received and given to Bro. David. In the financial report above it shows \$1,645 was collected and given to him. The reason for this is that one of the checks given at the symposium was made out to him and therefore was not reported in our income or expenses. That check for \$100 was given to him along with a check for what was given to the BMA Missions (\$ 1,645.) which made the total \$1,745.

The reports given during the mid-year meeting all showed continued growth in our work. We need to be aware that all churches need to work together to have the greatest impact possible as we fulfill God's plan for us.

The clerk's report noted that 12 churches sent no letter of representation during this last year and we have complete

reports for only one-half of our churches. According to our By-laws "any church not identifying with the Association either by messenger or letter for three consecutive years shall be considered as having terminated her membership in this Association."

Let's show that we want to work together by staying together as an association of churches by representing at these meetings as often as possible. WE NEED EACH OTHER!

Our BMA of MO Loan Association report noted that our "Grant" program which helps churches in emergency situations is in need of more funds in order to help when the need arises. Ninety percent of any undesignated offerings to the Loan Association go into this grant fund. Please consider sending an offering whenever you can.

BMA Retirement Plan • Next Steps

As shared previously, you will find important information about the BMA Retirement Plan and the programs within the plan on the website www.bma-retirement.com. To assist further in the transition process, we wish to address some frequently asked questions and outline your next steps:

I am a current participant in the existing 401(a) plan; how do I access my account information? For online access to your current (if applicable) account that was part of the former 401(a) plan, go to www.retirementlogin.com/envoy. The first time you login, your username will be your Social Security number (no dashes). Your password will be the last 4 digits of your Social Security number, and your "Role" will be "Account Holder."

How is the money from the former 401(a) plan now invested? The 401(a) plan funds originally held by Manning & Napier are now invested in a Faith Based Target-Dated Portfolio. You do not have to take any further action on the account. This investment provides younger participants with a more aggressive asset allocation for growth and older participants with a more conservative allocation for wealth preservation. The former 401(a) plan is now frozen and will be closed in December of 2019. You will receive instructions prior to that date explaining your options, including rolling the account over to the new BMA 403(b)(9) Retirement Plan if you are still employed or into an Individual Retirement Account if you are already retired. Envoy Financial will assist each participant throughout this process.

Will my current distributions continue uninterrupted? Yes, for those setup to receive current monthly distributions, those disbursements will continue as normal.

We wish to participate in the new BMA 403(b)(9) Retirement Plan; should we continue with the default Basic Plan or instead choose the Choice Plan? Every church will participate in the Basic Plan. This default plan option is the best fit for your church if: your church only wants to make an annual contribution on behalf of your pastor in October each year (even churches choosing the Choice Plan are encouraged to make this annual contribution as an added benefit for its pastor; see www.bma-retirement.com for suggested amounts based on church size); your church wants to make monthly or other contributions on behalf of your pastor but does not want to allow the pastor to make voluntary contributions to the plan himself; your church desires

• See **NEXT STEPS** Page 7 •

As your Missions Director I want to express my appreciation to our Special Missions Committee for their cooperation and guidance throughout the year as we try to seek God's will in the work of missions.

I also appreciate the confidence expressed by the messengers at the mid-year meeting as they adopted the recommendations of this committee.

As a result of the adoption of these recommendations we have or are doing the following:

- Guidelines for providing help to Volunteer Student Missionary participants;
- \$200 a month support going to Associate BMAA Missionary Matt Barker in Nixa, MO;
- A one-time offering to the building fund of North Lake Church in Smithville,

MO. We are still looking for someone who is interested in church planting in Missouri and would like to partner with our churches in this ministry.

Please pray for God to lead us in our work for His honor and glory.

If you have any questions about any of these items please contact me. I will be happy to discuss these and other ideas that pertain to the work of our churches in the BMA of MO.

I sense a renewed desire in the hearts of many of our people and we need to work together to encourage, uplift, strengthen, support and help each other in the Lord.

Will you join me in praying for God to give us greater unity in our associated work that we might see His hand at work daily in our churches?

• **NEWS From Page 2** •

time. He was baptized the following Sunday and given the hand of fellowship and lots of hugs! You don't leave Bethel without a Hug or a handshake. A wonderful Mother's Day Service was prepared for all the Mother's, The ladies had a delicious meal served to them and were given a plant and a card made by the young children. Poems were read and special songs sung to fit the occasion. It was all very much appreciated. Congratulations to our Graduates, Aaron Beardsley, Maddie Seabaugh and Brandy Bower. Sis Tanya Hutton presented them with a gift from the church. We had snacks and a celebration after the evening service. Everyone is looking forward to our VBS and the kickoff in June. We are counting on lots of children to attend this year. We are looking forward to Camp Garwood in July and praying for many souls to be saved! We appreciate and love our Pastor, as he continues to bring powerful sermons from the Word of God. Have a Happy and Safe 4th of July!!

Billy Davis, Pastor • Joan Wood, Reporter

Greetings from your friends at **Faith Baptist Church in Saint Charles!** It seems like we should still be gearing up for summer, but based on the weather and the kids all being out of school, it looks like summer is already here! Summer of course means Vacation Bible School, which for us will be the last week of June (the 25th to the 29th). This year, the children attending will help our director investigate some of the miracles of Jesus by reading the stories in the Gospels and by looking at the events leading up to the miracles. At the end of VBS, the children will all get to take home a newspaper with the articles they helped write based on their investigation! The summer months also bring our bowlers a bit of a change of pace, since they bowl on Tuesday evenings instead of their normal Monday evening schedule. From the sounds of it, the competition is fierce, but friendly enough that everyone can still smile and hug each other at Bible Study on Wednesday night! We were reminded by Pastor Justin recently that too often we focus on Goliath's armor, and we forget to look at how David got his victory: by simply putting all his trust in God. We at Faith Baptist Church hope that you all, our sister churches, are staying



Faith, St. Charles • Bowlers

encouraged in the Lord.

Justin Arrender, Pastor • Annaliese Wagner, Reporter

Greetings from **Black Creek of Poplar Bluff!** Another first is going to be taking place at Black Creek in the month of June! We will be having VBS, June 18th thru the 20th. We will be serving the children dinner and snacks for two of the evenings and on the 3rd evening we will also be feeding the parents. The children will get to show the parents what they have learned during VBS and what they have made each evening in the craft section. We will be having games each night and are really looking forward to VBS. Please keep us in your prayers. For the month of May we went to the Westwood Nursing Home and handed out items to the Mothers (as well as to the other residents) for Mother's Day. This is such a blessing to be a part of and to see the faces of everyone light up when you walk into their room. Thank you to Sis. Joann Lipsey for bringing this ministry to Black Creek M.B.C. and letting us be a part of this with you. We will be going to Cedargate Nursing Home in June for Father's Day, afterwards we will be handing out flyers around Poplar Bluff promoting our VBS. We are very happy to say Bro. Gale Guthrie is cancer FREE! Praise

God! We were not surprised to hear this as Bro. Gale had told us from the beginning of his diagnosis that God was going to heal him. After all, God is the great physician. God is ALIVE and WELL at Black Creek and we are all so excited to see what He is going to do next for us and with us. Please remember to pray for all of our Sister Churches who are without Pastors. And also pray for all our Pastors. May God continue to bless us all!

Bro. Troy Sisk, Pastor
Yvonne Hill, Reporter

Greetings once again from **Bethany, St. Louis.** We are so proud of our graduate Mattie Mitchell. She has been very active in the work here at Bethany, and she graduated at the top of her class. Bethany surprised her with a luncheon in May and she wants to thank her church family, especially the Beeler's for all of their hard work. The Boatrights have been blessing us with his Bible inspired messages and her beautiful voice. They took some time off the first weekend in June and Bro. Knight filled the pulpit. He's still going strong. We have had a lot of sickness and lack of concern but God is still on the throne and only He knows the future. Please continue to pray for us as we will pray for you. Tim Boatright, Interim Pastor
Kathy Chapman Reporter.

Stony Point, Mineral Point, sends blessings to all. Christina Bowen was given the hand of Church membership May 6th. We extend our thanks to Denny for cutting out the Pine-wood Derby Cars for our youth so they can race them Saturday, June 9th, at Potosi City Park. Vacation Bible School is planned for one day - Saturday, July 14. We thank God for all His continued blessings. Claude Evans, Pastor
Debrah Coleman, Reporter

HELLO to All from **Oak Hill, Alton!** We hope you had a safe and happy Memorial weekend! March 22nd we had a memorial service for Bro. George Marquette's parents. April 12th we had a funeral for Sis. Sharon Bettis's Mother Helen McDonald. I'm pleased to write that the Lord's family grew as we gained a sister, Tammy Lager. Sis. Tammy asked the

BMA Information Services ***Where Information Powers Relationships***

What is BMA Information Services?

Information Services is a resource center for all entities of the BMA. Every year an information survey is sent to each BMA church. The information collected, along with information about our national association, departments, agencies, and auxiliary ministries, is used to produce the annual **BMA Church Directory and Handbook**. This resource exists for the benefit of our entire BMA family, but its value depends directly on your participation.

What information do we collect?

1. Church info – address, phone number, website, etc.
2. Church staff – names, roles, and contact information
3. Church ministries and stats – membership, attendance, growth, and ministries offered

Why do we collect this information?

Accurate information empowers communication, and effective communication is a vital element to any healthy organization. Information also provides valuable insights such as changes in leadership, changes in ministries, and kingdom-impacting statistics that influence how associational leaders react to the ever-changing landscape of our churches.

Information Services at work for you

- Data Collection – We are making it easier to provide information. Update your church information by using our secure, online portal at www.bmaamerica.org/church-survey.
- Digital Directory – We are working to provide secure access to a digital directory, which will enable the most up-to-date information to be accessible at any time.
- Resources – We are creating a resource center at www.bmaamerica.org where your church can easily find information, get questions answered and access new tools and services.

What can your church do?

Complete the Annual Church Survey. The information survey is sent to each church between August and September. Churches have until the end of March to provide their information. If you are new to the BMA or unfamiliar with this process, please contact your Information Services team. We are here to make the process as easy as possible. Contact us at:

Lauren Noland

BMA America – Information Specialist
lauren@bmaamerica.org
501-358-4007

John Meriweather

BMA America – Director of Operations
john@bmaamerica.org
501-499-6810

Lord to save her in May. Mother's Day the men gave the ladies at Oak Hill a White Rose.. I know we will do something for the guys at Oak Hill on Father's Day. The weather is kind of strange as we skipped spring and went right in to summer. The farmers are hesitant on when to mow the hay to get it bailed before it gets wet. I tell them the Lord doesn't want the cows to eat dirty hay, but I don't think the farmers like my idea. We hope everyone has a blessed and happy summer! Until next month we will be praising and honoring our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. Edward Casey, Pastor • Jennifer Williams, Reporter

Adams Award/Moral Action Scholarship Fund Established



Dr. John Adams

The launch of the Adams Award/Moral Action Scholarship Fund for BMA Seminary students was announced in a joint letter last week from BMA Seminary President Dr. Charley Holmes and Moral Action Director Dr. John M. Adams (along with the Adams Award Sub-Committee — Dr. Kevin Clayton, Richey Hester and David Inzer). The letter said, in part:

“The BMA of America and the BMA of Mississippi Moral Action Boards of Trustees have established an Adams Award/Moral Action Scholarship Fund at the BMA Theological Seminary in Jacksonville, Texas by unanimous vote on April 17 in Jackson, Miss.

“The June 24 and July 1 Moral Action Freedom Offering will go to further establish the \$20,000 scholarship to help a deserving (BMA) Seminary student. The scholarship fund already has \$10,000 as of May 1. This is a continual/perpetual fund.

“We ask for your support in these special offerings, and that your church consider the possibility of placing this in your church budget as ‘Adams Award/Moral Action Scholarship Fund.’”

The Moral Action Freedom Offering goal is \$35,000 from the 1,300 BMA churches and individuals. The offering will be

JESUS

Mandatory or Optional???

Mankind through the centuries has formed and followed a variety of religions. Are there optional ways to find peace with God and eternal life?

Acts 4:10, 12 - “Be it known unto you all, and to all the people of Israel, that by the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, whom ye crucified, whom God raised from the dead, even by Him doth this man stand here before you whole. Neither is there salvation in any other; for there is none other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved.”

Philippians 2:9-11 - “Wherefore God also hath highly exalted him, and given him a name which is above every name; that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of things in heaven, and things in earth, and things under the earth; and that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.”

Revelation 5:9 - “And they sung a new song, saying, Thou art worthy to take the book, and to open the seals thereof: for thou wast slain, and hast redeemed us to God by thy blood out of every kindred, and tongue, and people, and nation.”

For 2018 years, the entire world has marked time from the birth of Jesus Christ despite all the influential men and women who have lived - a man who preached and practiced peace, love, and kindness; a man who led no conquering armies, built no great structures, and left no mark on earth except that of the millions who have followed him in simple faith even to their death, but who the Holy Scriptures declare will rule the earth.

Revelation 19:11, 16 - “And I saw heaven opened, and behold a white horse; and he that sat upon him was called Faithful and True, and in righteousness he doth judge and make war. And he hath on his vesture and on his thigh a name written, King of Kings and Lord of Lords.”

Charity Missionary Baptist Church • Bismarck, MO

divided between the award/scholarship fund (\$10,000) and \$25,000 for Moral Action Freedom offering for expenses, travel, hotels, etc. Offerings should be sent to Moral Action, P.O. Box 305, Mantachie, MS 38855.

Scholarship Terms

The Adams Award, sponsored by the BMAA Moral Action Committee in honor of Dr. John Adams:

- Will be awarded each fall semester to an exemplary student preparing for pastoral ministry.

- Preference will be given to students with limited financial support from other sources.

- Preference will be given to BMA students.

- First semester students are not eligible.

- Applicants must have a minimum GPA of 2.5.

- Recipient will be selected by BMATS Scholarship Committee with subsequent notification to BMAA Moral Action Committee.

- Initial award after funding by BMAA Moral Action Committee will be \$500. Remaining principal balance will be held in the BMAA Foundation Fund and be open for additional contributions. The amount of future awards will be determined upon consultation between BMATS and BMAA Moral Action Committee.

Highlight BMA Missions in VBS

BMA Missions and Baptist Medical Missions International have created a mission lesson time that will fit in any Vacation Bible School. There is a lesson plan for a 20 to 30 minute segment of time you can use to highlight our BMA Missions team in your VBS. There’s a lesson for each day!

Each lesson includes:

- A fun “kids video” focusing on kids from other cultures who have been impacted through the ministry of BMMI.

- A short lesson you can use to teach your children: “What is a Missionary?”

- A missionary story that will introduce your children to a BMA Missionary.

- An opportunity for your VBS kids to give to BMMI’s Children Helping Children campaign.

From Here to There...

EIM’s Labor of Love

by Fonda Norris,

Evangelistic International Ministries Shepherd’s Bag Coordinator

EIM is excited that another shipment has left here and made it to there! “Here” being our EIM Shepherd’s Bag Storage Warehouse in Warren, AR and “There” being the Central American country of Honduras! We finally were able to complete our paperwork with their new government and get this Labor of Love filled with 14,890 Shepherd’s Bags shipped and ready to be used to glorify our Heavenly Father, make our Savior’s Name Famous and declare the truth of the Saving Gospel in schools and villages across Honduras. Bro. Rocky Goodwin, EIM’s Director, will be leading distribution mission teams to Honduras in June and July going into schools and handing out Shepherd’s Bags and preaching Jesus. It really doesn’t get any better! Pray for God to open the eyes and hearts of the children of Honduras as well as adults that will hear the Gospel before receiving their gift. Especially that they will hear not only with their ears but that they will hear and accept with their hearts the free gift of salvation.

We are pleased with the overwhelming benefits of switching over to a cost efficient unisex Shepherd’s Bag. A few of the main benefits have been: • It allows us to control the items that go into a bag insuring they will present the truth of Scripture in a heart language the children can understand and that the items going into the bags are safe for children • all children receive the same items keeping the distribution of the bags fair and equitable • it has greatly simplified the logistics and organization both here and abroad • costs are kept lower allowing us to assemble more bags which in turn lets us make bags all year long. More bags mean more children hear the Gospel. Our motto is “It’s not about the bag, it’s about the Gospel.” It is only a tool that God uses to open the door for the preaching of the Gospel while at the same time bless needy children with fun and useful gifts while presenting them with the Eternal Gift of His Son. We stand in awe and amazement that He has allowed EIM to be a small part of His Big Plan around the world.

Yes the shipment to Honduras was a lot of hard work. But are we done for 2018? No way! We have almost 10,000 Shepherd’s Bags completed, boxed and stored at our shipping warehouse ready to go to the country of Tanzania and will continue to work until we have enough to fill a container. Our goal is to ship this container at the end of summer. This is our first shipment of Shepherd’s Bags going to Tanzania and we are excited that God has opened another country in which Shepherd’s Bags can be distributed. These bags will contain our Gospel Story Books the children can color and the John 3:16 Frisbees especially designed in the heart language of Swahili for the children. This makes our seventh different language! Amen!

Please pray for us as we continue to do what God has called us to do in the Shepherd’s Bag Ministry for the past 19 years. That is to offer ourselves up to be found faithful, be willing to work hard and do any task in order to see a shipment come together so that it can go to a child in need of Jesus, to be diligent and good stewards of all monies that He burdens people to give to this wonderful, Christ Centered children’s ministry. Thank you all for praying, encouraging us and giving. We love you!

All VBS offerings will help children who cannot afford healthcare be able to see a doctor, and they will also give them the opportunity to hear the life-changing message of Jesus Christ.

Baptist Medical Missions International uses the gift of medical care to draw people to mission clinics, where people who rarely see a doctor are given vital medical care. But, the most important thing each person receives is an introduction to the love of Jesus Christ. Not only are children introduced to Jesus, but so are their parents. We pray your VBS kids will learn to invest in the eternal destinies of hundreds of children around the world.

The material, videos, and lessons are free of charge! Download them at bmamissions.org/vbs. Just look for the tab that says “Mission:VBS.” For more information, contact Angela Rice at angela@bmamissions.org or call 501-455-4977 ext. 3855.

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

National WMA Project 2018-19

The National WMA met in Jackson, Mississippi, in April and what a great time we had! A Big Thank You goes to Charlotte Johnson and Jodi Rhea for having the Outrageous Courage to make a change in our meeting plans. We conducted business on Monday afternoon with about one hundred women present, and then enjoyed a retreat on Tuesday that was wonderful! We heard from Kim Crabill, founder of Roses and Rainbows Ministries, we enjoyed a wonderful time of lunch together and then had four break out sessions to pick from in the afternoon. Again, thank you to Charlotte and Jodi for this great retreat day.

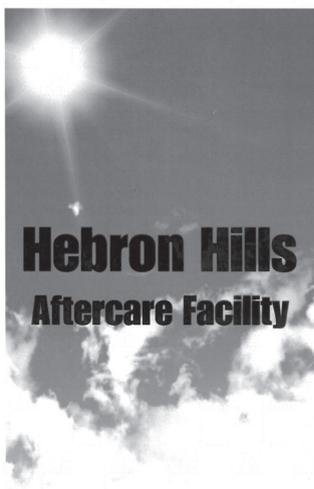
During our business meeting we heard from Mrs. Diane Lee of the College in the Philippines, thanking the National WMA for the funds we raised during the last year. Our ladies and churches raised approximately \$33,000, 80% of which went to the college. The other twenty percent is designated to the WMA General Fund and the Youth Auxiliary Fund. Mrs. Lee sends a big thank you to all who helped!

There were three nominations this year for the 2018-19 National WMA Project. They were We Are Free, LifeWord Cloud, and the BMA Moral Action Committee. We heard from all three organizations. The ladies voted to choose We Are Free as the National WMA Project. Angelyn McMurray, the Founder of this organization, shared some facts with us about human trafficking. Angelyn is the granddaughter of Silas McMurray, a BMA Missionary to New Jersey in the 1960's and 1970's. Her dad is now the pastor of that church. Their website is www.wearefree.us and I urge you to visit that website for more information.

Ms. McMurray, who is an attorney, was so moved by the facts of human trafficking that she started this organization. She speaks so passionately about the people affected by human trafficking and she speaks to groups about ways to avoid being pulled into any relationship that can lead to human trafficking.

The National WMA Project Committee met with Ms. McMurray and other officers and interested parties after the retreat to discuss how best to promote this project this year. Ms. McMurray has offered to visit any church, WMA District meeting, or state meeting to share about this ministry with no cost to the churches. The committee is also willing to travel to your meetings to share about the great need of We Are FREE.

We are stepping out in faith with our goal for this project. Ms. McMurray shared at the meeting that the first building has begun and they have funds to finish that building, but no funds to furnish it. She asked that the WMA help her to make this building into a home. The cost to furnish the home, kitchen, bedrooms, living room, conference rooms, etc. is



approximately \$60,000. We considered that as our budget but because we take 20% of the funds received for the general fund and youth auxiliary, we decided to set a goal of \$80,000, so that her portion is the \$60,000 needed. She will be sending me some information about how much each room would cost so that if your church or district or state wants to take on a particular room, we will know what that looks like.

Last year was my first year to serve as a National Officer on this committee. Here is what I learned: IT ONLY TAKES ONE PERSON DECIDING TO HELP TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE! No amount is too small! If your church (or even you yourself) want to give toward this worthy cause, please understand that every dollar helps!

Here are some things from the We Are FREE website:

DID YOU KNOW . . .

- There are roughly 27 million slaves in the world. There are more slaves now than at any other time in human history.

- More than 17,500 persons will be trafficked into the United States each year.

- Every year, approximately 100,000 U.S. Citizen children will be trafficked within the United States.

- In the United States, forced prostitution (trafficking) begins at an average age of 13 for girls and 12 for boys.

- And in the United States alone, human trafficking is a 9.8 Billion dollar industry. More specifically, in major urban areas, a pimp will earn as much as 1.7 Million dollars every year.

My prayer is that some day this facility will not be needed because we have eradicated the problem of human trafficking, but I'm realistic enough to know that Satan is alive and well, and seeking whom he may devour. Let's all get behind this project and make a difference this year!

You can contact me at: kelgirl0805@gmail.com or

The Women's Ladies Retreat September 14 & 15, 2018

Speakers - LifeWord Trio

Registration Fee:

\$ 25.00 BEFORE August 31, 2018

\$ 30.00 after August 31, 2018

(No refunds after August 31st)

Drury Inn & Suites

Arnold, Missouri

(636)287-3111

Group Name: Women's Missionary Auxiliary of MO

Group Number: 2333172

Room Rate: \$ 114.99 (plus tax)

2 Queen beds (up to 4 people)

Rate guaranteed until August 15, 2018

Room Occupancy will include:

"Kickback" (Supper) & "Quick-start" (Breakfast)

Fun begins 4:00 p.m. Friday & ends around 3:00 p.m. Saturday

Enjoy the Fun and Fellowship

Ladies Retreat Registration Form
(Make additional copies as needed)

Make check payable to: Missouri WMA

and send with this form to:

Terri Adams

1450 State HWY HH

Matthews, MO 63867

Church Name: _____

Address: _____

Contact Phone: _____

Lady's Name: _____

Registration: (\$ 25.00 before August 31st) \$ _____

Late Registration: (\$ 35.00 after August 31st) \$ _____

Total Included: \$ _____

Note: Please make room reservations directly with the motel. Be sure to mention Group Name and Number.

There will be a silent auction with all proceeds going to Camp Garwood.

call me at: 214-534-9875 to ask for a visit to your WMA.

Kelly Williams, Chairman
National WMA Project Committee

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

Clean Hands and Pure Heart

Psalm 24:3-4

by Dennis Baker, Brotherhood President

"Who shall ascend into the hill of the LORD? or who shall stand in his holy place? He that hath clean hands, and a pure heart; who hath not lifted up his soul unto vanity, nor sworn deceitfully."

Paul in Romans chapter three concludes that we are justified by faith without the deeds of the law. But he also asked the question, "Do we then make void the law through faith?" He answered by writing, "God forbid: yea, we establish the law."

The focus of Psalms 24:3-4 seems to be on acceptable worship. Worship, to be acceptable, requires certain obligations for the worshipper. A study of Deuteronomy 16:18 through 26:19 helps us to understand that worship is not a detachment from the law, but is related to our daily conduct, fulfilment of obligations, and our treatment of others. Moses helps us identify God's requirements of justice, honesty, purity, and kindness for those who worship Him.

Because of limited space, this article will focus of God's requirement of justice. The requirement of justice includes the necessity of integrity, necessity of respect, obligation to truth, and the principle of mercy. While these laws are related to circumstances that may seem far removed from modern day life they express principles that are everlasting. Through them we can understand what pleases and what displeases our heavenly Father. The things that offended God in the days of Moses are still an offense in our day. The standards of acceptable behavior given to Israel are guidelines for our conduct today.

Justice must not be influenced by friendship or prejudice toward another. Class, status, or color should not sway the administrator of the law, who must show equal justice to all. What use does God have for rituals of religion when those who perform them demonstrate contempt for human rights?

Respect for authority involves proper respect for judicial authority. Integrity by those in authority is essential. Of equal importance is the attitude of the people toward the law and its administrators. Deuteronomy 17:8-13 teaches that contempt for the courts was to be punished by death. This may seem severe, but we need to recognize that one person who acts in open defiance of the law sows the seeds of anarchy. The Old Testament philosophy of punishment considered the interest of the nation in fulfilling her divinely given mission. No nation can maintain law and order without the cooperation of all its people. Cooperation involves proper respect for those in authority.

Judges and witnesses have an obligation of truth. The Mosaic code protected a person against condemnation on the testimony of a single witness. At least two witnesses were required and the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth were required.

Character assassination is one of prevalent sins of our time. No one, particularly if he occupies a place of leadership, is immune from malicious attacks. As Christians we need to recognize that not only is the person who originates false accusation guilty in God's sight, but also those who repeat unsubstantiated charges.

The principle of justice also includes mercy. Justice is not about an "eye for eye or tooth for a tooth." The Mosaic law was merciful and reflected the Character of God, who while stern in His judgment against sin is "ready to pardon, gracious and merciful, slow to anger, and of great kindness." Nehemiah 9:16-17, "But they and our fathers dealt proudly, and hardened their necks, and hearkened not to thy commandments, And refused to obey, neither were mindful of thy wonders that thou didst among them; but hardened their necks, and in their rebellion appointed a captain to return to their bondage: but thou art a God ready to pardon, gracious and merciful, slow to anger, and of great kindness, and forsookest them not."

The Mosaic Law does not save. Romans 3:20, "Therefore by

the deeds of the law there shall no flesh be justified in his sight: for by the law is the knowledge of sin." Romans 3:31, "Do we then make void the law through faith? God forbid: yea, we establish the law." Worship is not a detachment from the law but is related to our daily conduct. Justice is about character that reflects the values and character of God! In the life of the believer, justice involves the necessity of integrity, the necessity of respect, an obligation to truth, and the principle of mercy.

• **NEXT STEPS From Page 3** • only a single investment option for the participant [faith-based, age-based, Target Dated Fund]; your church does not want to make retirement contributions for non-pastoral paid staff; your church does not want a loan or hardship withdrawal provision.

Choose the Choice Plan (instead of the Basic Plan) if your church has multiple staff members (paid staff in addition to the pastor) and wants to make retirement contributions for the staff as well as its pastor; your pastor or staff want to make voluntary retirement contributions through payroll deduction; your pastor and staff want to have flexible options in their choice of investments; your pastor or staff want to roll monies from other retirement plans into the new 403(b)(9) plan; your pastor or staff want loan and hardship withdrawal options.

If we stay with the default Basic Plan, what are our next steps? Both monthly and annual contributions will be sent by the church treasurer or payroll administrator to MRS – P.O. Box 995 – Conway, AR 72033. To ensure proper posting, the church's check is to be accompanied by the Basic Plan Contribution Form available online at www.bma-retirement.com. Forms may also be obtained from the MRS office in Conway or from Envoy Financial. Once the initial contribution has been remitted to the plan, you can view your account online using the instructions shown previously. Note that you will not be able to access your account online if there have never been any contributions remitted to the plan on your behalf.

BMA of Missouri Brotherhood Auxiliary Semi-annual Report

The Seventh Annual Spring Men's Retreat held at Camp Garwood May 4 & 5, 2018 was attended by seventeen men. I was encouraged by the high school students that attended. Their testimonies of faith and the impact that their churches are having on their lives were a great blessing. Bro. Jeff Polk and Rick Garza did a fantastic job providing the meals Friday and Saturday.

The Friday program was group participation involving individuals answering questions about themselves. The first question asked for each person to tell "Two Truths and one lie" about themselves. Then the group would guess which statement was a lie. Other questions were "What quality do you appreciate most in a friend?" What is a good thing happening in our life right now? "When, if ever, did God become more than a word to you, and how did it happen? It was spiritually uplifting to hear the responses. High School students shared their appreciation for parents and their church family. Some men were going through hard times but were able to praise God. It was great to hear men express, from their hearts, that God was more than just a word.

Ten men participated in the annual skeet shoot. After four rounds Shane Piplin and Jason Taylor were tied with nine hits out of twelve. After a tie breaker Jason Taylor was the winner. Thanks to Don and Daniel Adams for being our Safety Officers. Also, thanks to all those who participated for following our Safety Officers instructions. Thanks for making the event safe and more about fellowship with brothers in Christ than competition.

An offering of \$250.00 was received at the meeting. The BMA of Missouri Brotherhood sent an offering of \$250 to Camp Garwood to help with the expenses of the retreat. We appreciate those churches that have faithfully supported the BMA of Missouri Brotherhood. Your offerings help us purchase supplies and door prizes for both the Spring and Fall Retreats.

Dennis Baker, President, Brotherhood Auxiliary

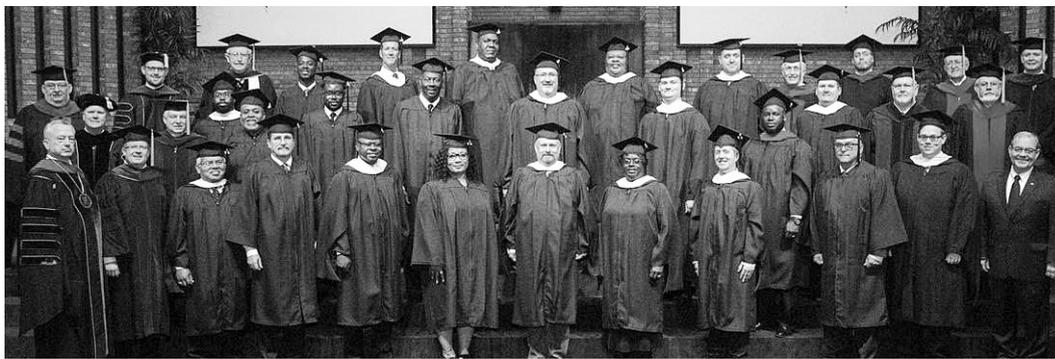
If we instead choose the Choice Plan, what are our next steps? Churches/entities choosing to participate in the Choice Plan on behalf of their pastor and staff will need to set the plan up for their church. There are four forms that must be submitted to Envoy to establish the Choice Plan for your church: Church/Ministry Resolution; Church/Ministry Adoption Agreement; Church/Ministry Schedule of Plan Administration Duties; and the Church/Ministry ACH Debit Authorization for Retirement Plan Contributions. The forms required to set the plan up for your church/entity can be downloaded from the website at www.bma-retirement.com. The instructions needed to complete the forms are provided as well. Your church treasurer or payroll administrator will need to complete an employee census template provided by Envoy Financial to report each participant's name, Social Security number, date of birth, etc. for enrollment.

I am my church or entity's treasurer or payroll administrator—what are my next steps? Administration of the Basic Plan consists simply of sending in an annual or monthly contribution check and Basic Plan Contribution Form (found at www.bma-retirement.com), and sending to MRS – PO Box 995 – Conway, AR 72033. The Basic Plan administration is very similar to what has been done in the past. Administration of the Choice Plan is a bit more involved but not complicated. After reviewing the information for the Choice Plan available on the website www.bma-retirement.com, contact Envoy Financial and they will guide you through the next steps to create a seamless ongoing process for submitting the retirement contributions and withholdings. For information on either the Basic or Choice Plans, you can reach the Envoy Financial Employer Service Team at (888) 879-1376. You can also e-mail questions to PlanSponsor@EnvoyFinancial.com.

Review of next steps: (1) Determine whether you will participate in the default Basic Plan or choose the Choice Plan; (2) Become familiar with the website information: www.bma-retirement.com; (3) Obtain the forms you need for the Basic or Choice Plan; and (4) Encourage your pastor and staff to participate.

BMAA Seminary News

BMA Seminary's Sixty-First Commencement



Twenty-three individuals received a degree from the Baptist Missionary Association Theological Seminary of Jacksonville, Texas during commencement exercises conducted Saturday, May 19, 2018. First Baptist Church in Jacksonville, Texas hosted the event.

Henry D. Coleman of Henderson, Texas; Regina Durham of Tyler, Texas; and Kenneth Johnson of Tyler, Texas received the Associate of Divinity degree.

Jack L. Blankenship, Jr of Jacksonville, North Carolina; Curtis R. Durham, Sr. of Lufkin, Texas; James W. Henderson of Palestine, Texas; and Joe Simalonda of Lusaka, received the Bachelor of Arts in Religion degree.

Cortney T. McCall of Shreveport, Louisiana received the Master of Arts (Pastoral Theology) degree. Julio F. Ba Gonzalez of Humble, Texas; John B. Bockmon of Tyler, Texas; Mark S. Buckner, Sr. of Cleveland Mississippi; Michael Shawn Cook of Whitehouse, Texas; Johnny Everette of Morrilton, Arkansas; Kevin Simmons of Spurger, Texas; Sandra J. Williams of Tyler, Texas; and Dustin R. Wisely of Magnolia, Arkansas received the Master of Arts (Religion) degree.

Stephen L. Davenport of Teague, Texas; Matthew Dean of Fort Worth, Texas; Michael Lathan of Houston, Texas; David W. Vandergriff of Lufkin, Texas; and Christopher J. Walls of Palestine, Texas received the Master of Arts in Church Ministries degree. Randall R. Barlow of Blooming Grove, Texas and Marvin L. Green of Palestine, Texas received the Master of Divinity degree.

Mr. Randy Veach of Manila, Arkansas presented the commencement address. Veach, President of Arkansas Farm Bureau, is a deacon at Little River Baptist Church in Manila, a

BMA Seminary trustee, and third-generation farmer. In 1998, Mississippi County, Arkansas chose Veach's family as Farm Family of the Year. In 2012, Veach received the Honorary American Future Farmers of America degree for lifetime service to youth and agriculture education. In 2014, he was recognized as the Burlsworth Foundation's Legends Honoree.

BMA Seminary provides accredited theological education to qualified individuals by seeking to equip them for Christian service and leadership roles. The seminary supports the educational needs of the Baptist Missionary Association of America and other groups who share a like commitment to the authority of Scripture by offering certificates, associate, bachelor, and masters' degrees.

Lisa Henderson,
Dean's Assistant

Dr. Philip Attebery, Dean

BMA Seminary Library Director Blaylock Retires after 52 Years



Dr. James C. Blaylock

along with an additional 25,000 items in the library's physical collection.

In recent decades, Blaylock oversaw the digitization of the Library card catalog and the adoption of electronic research databases for use by the students and faculty of the seminary.

Blaylock especially enjoyed collecting and maintaining

items related to the churches of the Baptist Missionary Association of America, and BMA ministers. In 2016, the school received a 17th century Sefer Torah scroll, which it named after him.

Blaylock earned an Associate of Arts degree from Southeastern Baptist College in Laurel, Mississippi, a Bachelor of Arts from the University of Texas at Tyler, a Master of Science in Library Science from East Texas State University in Commerce, Texas, and a Bachelor of Theology and Master of Religious Education degrees from BMA Seminary. He received the Doctor of Divinity degree from BMA Seminary in 2011.

Blaylock celebrated 50

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.

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.

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 or as the Lord leads. Contact him by e-mail at bkadams27@yahoo.com or by phone 217-779-9264

Len Young, a member of Lakewood Baptist Church, Potosi is available to preach. Contact him at home 573-786-2485, by cell 573-247-6623, or e-mail libertybooks04@gmail.com.

If you are a preacher and a member in good standing of a Baptist Missionary Association of America church and would like your name added to this column please contact the editor using the information on page 2.

Searching for a Pastor

New Testament Baptist Church of Sullivan, Missouri is seeking a full-time, lead Pastor. Average attendance is around 200 in Sunday morning service. The church is located in mid-Missouri on Interstate-44.

To submit a resume or for further information, contact
Bro. Dave Wright by phone • 314-606-7069
or via email • wrightsdecor@gmail.com

years in the Gospel ministry in 2010 and has served four Texas churches as pastor, including First Baptist Church of Maydelle, Texas and Corinth Baptist Church of Jacksonville.

He appeared in *Personalities of the South* in 1974, *Who's Who in the Southwest* three (3) times, and to *Who's Who in Religion* four (4) times.

He is author of numerous articles and four books: most of these dealing with Baptist or local church history. He retired as editor of the BMA of America's Baptist News Service in 1999 following 30 years of service as editor or associate editor.

Blaylock earned the respect and admiration of all his colleagues and is well-known in Jacksonville for his commitment to the community's senior adult population.

Blaylock has impacted the lives of many employees, including the many international students who have worked in the library over the years as they attended school at BMA Seminary. Frances Thomas, a current student and library worker from Nigeria, says that she will miss Brother Blaylock's fatherly presence and gentle nature. Alicia Johnson, the Library's Public Services Supervisor, has worked with "Brother B," as she refers to him, for more than twenty-five years and will also miss him greatly.

Jacob Gucker, the Assistant Library Director since 2012 and a graduate of BMA Seminary, has accepted the position of acting Library Director, effective May 22nd, 2018. Gucker has worked with Blaylock for more than seven years and is grateful for the practical knowledge and wisdom accruing from his time under Dr. Blaylock's supervision.

Gucker's credentials include a Master of Divinity from BMA Seminary (2011) and a Master of Library Science from Texas Woman's University in 2012. He is excited to see what God has in store for Kellar Library and BMA Seminary.

Lisa Henderson, Dean's Assistant
Dr. Philip Attebery, Dean

www.bmats.edu