Attention all Pastors & Pastoral Staff

Renewal Weekend!!
Please mark your calendar for
March 29 - 30, 2019
and attend our Associational Renewal Retreat
at Camp Garwood
from 5:00 p.m. Friday to 3:00 p.m. Saturday.

Bro. Charley Holmes will present two sessions on
What it means to be an Association.
Bro. Holmes is the President of the BMAA Theological Seminary and
has a heart for this subject.

Bro. Larry Barker will present two sessions on
What it means to be a Church.
Bro. Barker is the BMAA Director of Church Planting/ North American Missions and is over ACTIVATE, our national effort
to revitalize churches.

Bro. John Smith will present two sessions on
What it means to be a Pastor.
Bro. Smith is a long time pastor and successful missionary
to Kiowa, Colorado.

This meeting is co-sponsored by the Missouri State and the Mera-
mee Associations and is FREE to Pastors and Pastoral Staff.

For more information and to REGISTER please contact Retreat Planner, Ben Kingston at 636-629-2526 by March 15, 2019.

We pray that all our Pastors and Pastoral Staff will make a special
effort to attend this meeting.

BMA Information Services
Wants to Hear from You!

BMA Annual Church Survey
Deadline is April 15, 2019!

By providing the most up-to-date information your church helps BMA America connect, build relationships,
and understand the impact

BMA churches are making through their local communities with
the gospel.

Providing your feedback has never been easier.

Please choose one of the following options to provide BMA America with the most accurate information for your church:

1. Complete the survey online at bmaamerica.org (under “BMA Churches”).

2. Fill out the pre-populated survey that was mailed last fall.

3. Request a new survey. Updated surveys can be mailed or
e-mailed.

For questions about logging in to the website or to request an
updated survey, contact Tasha Waites:

- By Phone - 501-358-3860
- By e-mail - tasha@bmaamerica.org
- Completed forms can be e-mailed to:
  BMA America • PO Box 1188 • Conway, AR 72033

Will we help us keep our records updated and preserve the
history of our association??
Greetings from Black Creek Missionary Baptist Church, Poplar Bluff. We wish everyone a Happy Valentine Day. I do believe Bro. and Sis. Troy Sisk have an anniversary the 8th of February, so wish them a Great Anniversary with lots of love, gifts, cards, and a blessed life. We were sorry to see Bro. Bob and Sis. Hill move their membership to Briar, but know the Lord knows what is best. We enjoyed the Ladies Prayer Breakfast at Antioch January 19. Five from Black Creek were present and five churches were represented. Some activities have been cancelled because of the bad weather.

Troy Sisk, Pastor • Joan Lipsey, Reporter

Ohlman Missionary Baptist Church, Bunker news. First, this is a new job for me. I want to thank the members of Ohlman for accepting me and making me a part of their church family. The weather in January caused some services to be cancelled, like many of you had to do. The exciting news is that on Wednesday nights we continue to have 50 to 70 youth attend services. All 3 busses are put into service to pick up some in town as well as the communities near church. They get food for their physical strength and then they get food for their spiritual strength. The best news is that this past month two were SAVED! That’s what it is all about. One of these, Paisley May, presented herself for baptism on Sunday morning, February 3rd. Our prayer is that those who attend Wednesdays will start attending on Sundays and their families. The Brotherhood continues to meet on the first Sunday evening of the month. The WMA has started meeting again on the third Thursday evening of the month. We will be studying the book “Staying in Touch” over the next few months. We are excited to announce that March 9th we will have Angelyn Waddell presented herself for baptism on Sunday morning. The Lord knows what is best. We enjoyed the Ladies Prayer Breakfast on the morning of December 23rd as a part of our morning worship service, but then we performed it again in the afternoon and invited our community to come out and be with us and enjoy a time of fellowship afterwards. Three churches from our community, unchurched from our community, and two sister churches from our local SEMO Association represented in that service with us. In January we got our steeple and the cross on the side of our building lit. Pictures of this progress can be found on our Facebook page. Rodney Dunlap, Pastor

HELLO to All from Oak Hill! We hope and pray that 2019 is going well for everyone. We decided that we need a couple more Deacons. After we prayed about selecting Deacon Candidates we voted and they are Bro. Roy Nix and Bro. Chad Casey. We have not set a date yet for their ordination. PRAISE the Lord. Bro. Chad and Sis. Abby welcomed Emalyn Alyse Casey January 25th 2019. She weighed 8 lbs. 3 ozs. and was 20 inches long. Her big brother Carsten was happy to welcome his little sister home. Bro. Ed told us a story about how they were getting ready to change Emalyn’s diaper and they laid her on the bed and then they had to pull down her little one-sie and Emalyn did not like feeling the cold air on her skin and started fussing and Carsten was standing by the bed and said “Oh Dear!” The Flu has really had an impact on us; we were down in number for our Sunday services. I’m sure that we are not the only church that has had the same outcome from the flu. Bro. Patrick has recently had shoulder surgery and is dealing with his recovery and is having some other health issues and would appreciate prayers for his healing. Bro. Don Hufstedler our oldest Deacon fell and broke his hip. He had surgery and is in the Nursing Home receiving Physical Therapy. He would also appreciate prayers for his healing. Until next month when I hope I will have some good news to tell you but until then we will be praising and honoring our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. God Bless each of you!!

Edward Casey, Pastor • Jennifer Williams, Reporter

Greetings from Bethel, Sikeston. We have been blessed with seeing new visitors each time we meet. Some members that haven’t been in a long while have started showing up again, Praise God! This is an answer to our prayers! Our vision and goal for 2019 is to win more lost souls to Christ by going out in our neighborhood and knock on doors. We all have become very lax in doing this! Bro. Billy has had a series of witnessing messages for us on Wednesday nights to help prepare us better to go out into the community. There is a great need all around us! After all it is our great commission from God! We covet your prayers as we go out in God’s power to do this. We are also planning to start an outreach for the youth in our community, by setting aside one night a week for refreshments, games and a devotional. Our youth are planning a Valentines day dinner to help raise money for their mission trip this year. January 20th, for the evening service Bro. Mike Bolen brought us a powerful message about Jonah! We are so blessed to have many ministries going out of our church. We are so grateful for each one of them! We are planning a spring revival April, 22 - 26th. Bro. Michael Poirier from Canada has agreed to come preach. We invite everyone to mark this on your calendar and come and join us at that time. We are so blessed and look forward to this time. We need to be in fervent prayer for the leaders of this country, for them to turn to God for answers to what needs to be done. We all need to take a stand against the partial birth abortion law that was passed in some of the states! This is nothing but murder, and it is going against God’s commandment!! Satan is trying to tear apart everything that God has established! If Christians don’t take a stand, who will? Judgement begins at the house of God first!! May God bless you all.

Billy Davis, Pastor • Joan Wood, Reporter

Greetings from Faith Baptist Church, St. Charles! It’s hard to believe how fast 2019 is already going! We’ve been keeping busy in the Lord’s work. We added a third service on Sundays in the afternoon. A team of volunteers make lunch happen every Sunday after the morning service, and following the delicious food for our bodies, we head back upstairs for more food

**Continued on Page 4**

The Missouri Missionary Baptist
Established by the Baptist Missionary Association of Missouri November 1937

Subscription price is $10.00 per year
176 Bear Creek Dr. Wentzville, MO 63358-3335
Periodical Postal Payment at St. Louis, MO 63155
POSTMASTER: Send address change to: Missouri Missionary Baptist
176 Bear Creek Dr.
Wentzville, MO 63358-3335
James E. Hoffmann, Editor
Ph: 314-277-8644 • E-Mail mmbpaper@charter.net

Don Burke, Assistant Editor
**DEADLINE for copy is the FIRST TUESDAY**
of the month in which you want it to appear
See the MMB online at bمامissouri.org
From Our Local Associations

Clerks, please share what is happening in your local meetings...

Meramec Landmark Baptist Association
Missionary Committee Meeting
10:00 a.m. Saturday, March 2, 2019
Westview Baptist Church
1036 LoMo Drive • Jefferson City, MO 65109

Agenda

Worship:
- A Word from the Apostle to Timothy
  Brendon Sanders
  Friendship Baptist Church
- A Word from the Apostle to Titus
  Benjamin Kingston
  Westview Baptist Church

Business:
- Missionary Committee

Lunch:
- Provided by Westview Baptist Church

Come hear and support a couple of the young preachers from churches in our association.

Kenneth Gibson Seminary Student Grant Fund
October 1, 2018 – December 31, 2018

Balance: October 1, 2018 $ 13,059.31
Receipts: $ 0.00
Total Available: $ 13,059.31
Disbursements: ( 0.00)
Balance: December 31, 2018 $ 13,059.31

BMA Disaster Relief

Ministry Opportunities

Even though it has been several months since hurricanes Florence and Michael hit the Gulf of Mexico, there is still a tremendous need for disaster relief efforts in the areas that were affected.

On February 23 – March 2, Bro. Lavon Haden of Just the Crumbs and BMA Disaster Relief will be traveling to Callaway, Florida (near Panama City) to help with clean-up efforts and the building process. They will be working with a ministry called “ACTS” out of New Hampshire to help support them in their disaster relief efforts.

Volunteers will be provided with food and lodging for the duration of the trip. Showers will also be available, but volunteers will need to bring their own cot and bedding, and arrange for their own travel.

Just the Crumbs will be hosting another disaster relief trip over spring break, which will be held the week of March 11. This relief effort will also take place in Callaway, Florida.

“There is, and will be for a long time, a tremendous need,” said Bro. Lavon Haden. “This place was devastated, and there’s a lot of people in need. We just want to go and help them as much as we can, and help as many as we can. If someone is looking for an opportunity to serve and be a blessing to those in need, we’ll give that to them.”

If you would like to volunteer to serve on either team with Just the Crumbs, contact the BMA Missions office at 501-455-4977 and ask for Angela Rice. You can also e-mail her at angel@bma missions.org.

State Missions

SEND MISSIONS OFFERINGS TO:
James Hoffmann
BMA of Missouri Missions
176 Bear Creek Dr.
Wentzville, MO 63385
314-277-8644 Cell
E-mail: mbmpaper@charter.net

BMA of Missouri Website: www.bmamissouri.org

FINANCIAL REPORT BMA OF MISSOURI MISSIONS • January 2019

General Fund:

Checking Account:
Balance December 31, 2018 $ 26,813.48
January Receipts:
Missions: $ 3,626.02
Total Income: $ 3,626.02
Total Available: $ 30,449.50
Disbursements:
Director, Salary $ 650.00
BMAA (Matt Barker) $ 200.00
Web Master 2019 $ 1,200.00
VSM Scholarship $ 500.00
Spec. Miss. Com. $ 814.66
Office Supplies $ 50.00
Total Disbursements $ 3,414.66
Balance January 31, 2019: $ 27,034.84

Bank of America Savings Account:
Balance December 31, 2018 $ 1,100.86
Interest: $ .02
Balance January 31, 2019: $ 1,100.88

Investment in BMA of Mississippi Revolving Loan Fund:
Balance December 31, 2018: $ 102,819.94
Interest: $ .583.12
Balance January 31, 2019: $ 103,403.06

Total of all Funds January 31, 2019: $ 131,538.78

From Our Missions Director...

Now that things are starting to thaw and most activities are getting somewhat back to normal things are going to be very busy among our churches in Missouri.

It is exciting to hear that a couple churches who have been searching for pastors have found someone to lead them and a few are having preachers in view of a call so that this time next month more might have pastors. It is also encouraging to know that some searching churches have found men who are willing to serve as interim pastors to help them have some form of continuity while they search for the man God wants to lead them.

Amidst this encouraging news we are brought back to the reality that a pastor or two has resigned and other churches are searching for pastors to fill the vacancies. Please keep in mind that as director of Missions I constantly get calls from churches that are in need of pastors or who are looking for someone to “fill-in” during their search. Therefore, if you are available to pastor or fill-in please let me know so I can give your information to those who contact me, and I can publish your availability in this publication.

The joint meeting of the BMA of Missouri Special Missions Committee and the Missionary Committee of the Meramec Association was very positive as both associations are interested in helping support the planting of new churches in our state. We met with a prospective church planter and his pastor and were impressed with what God has laid on their hearts concerning the work in Missouri. Both committees are working to see just how we can join in this effort and we hope to have some ideas to share at our mid-year meeting in May of this year. Please keep praying for this effort.

We are still praying for God to open doors and provide church planters all across Missouri as we know we need to be reaching more with the Gospel before the Lord returns.

I encourage Pastors and Pastoral Staff to do your best to attend the “Renewal Weekend” that we asked Bro. Ben Kingston to plan. It will be the last weekend in March and, as you see from the information on the front page, it should be very helpful to all who attend. This is a time to not only learn from experienced men but also a great time to fellowship and encourage one another in the Lord’s work. It doesn’t cost you anything but your time, and God has already given that to you! So use it wisely!
The Master’s Builders Retreat

The annual retreat for the Master’s Builders, was held on January 22nd-25th. For the first time, the Builders gathered at Daniel Dorm at Daniel Springs Encampment, in Gary, Texas. In April of last year, our men did some remodeling of the dorm and Daniel Springs can now offer a very nice facility for group gatherings. Bro. Jason Prewitt says the camp is “wide open” for large groups to enjoy. Daniel Dorm and Retreat Center offers sleeping quarters, a full kitchen, and a large multi-use room. The Master’s Builders will tell you that the facility is great for church groups, reunion, and retreats. You can contact Jason at 903-685-2433 or e-mail him at: jason@danielspringscamp.com.

Several of our Builders remarked that this was the Best Retreat yet! We had 30 Builders who attended the retreat and stayed on the grounds and 1 couple from Lufkin, TX, who came to visit. We always enjoy our time together. We do a lot of eating, snacking, grazing, and game playing. We are happy to welcome a new couple into our group. Don and Pam Win dam, of Fairfield, TX, certainly fit right in to our fun group.

On Wednesday night, we had a special treat, as the Jacksonville College Choir, under the leadership of Bro. Randy Decker, came and fellowship with us and put on a great con-

Gary Springs in March, be back at Daniel Dorm, come and fellowship with us and put on a great con-

Hello again from Bethany Baptist Church, St. Louis. We have had different weather since the last issue of the paper. The weather has not been our friend. We had to close for two Sundays due to the snow and cold weather. We still have members out due to illness and it being so cold. Sis. Tiny Blanchard is doing much better and Sis. Ella Beeler is still not quite able to get out yet. May God be with these and others that still need our prayers. Bro. Wayne Gibson is filling our pulpit for two weeks and we thank him for the good messages in the absence of Bro. Boatright. Bro. and Sis. Boatright are still waiting the arrival of their first granddaughter. We still have visitors despite the cold weather. God does so much for us! Sometimes we fail to notice all the needs and other things He provides for us. With His help we all can have a good start to this year. Tim Boatright, Interim Pastor • Betty Johnston, Reporter

We pray you will come and hear about “We Are FREE!” view Baptist, Fulton, Arkansas, in June. If you are near one of these jobs, come see us, we would love to meet you!

If you have questions about the Master’s Builders ministry, or if your church has any building needs, please contact our Office Coordinator, Bro. John Mangum, at 318-202-5155 or (cell) 318-607-4100 or our Field Coordinator, Eddie Sikes, at 903-725-6549 or (cell) 479-462-1675.

Keep up with us on Facebook. Rose Bittner does a fantastic job keeping everyone informed of all our goings on! Like us at “The Master’s Builders” w/ (arbor logo).

Nelda Malone - Reporter

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Nelda Malone - Reporter
From BMAA Recording Secretary

To: Churches of the Baptist Missionary
Association of America

Brethren,

We need your help. Our roster shows that we have 1,260 churches who are affiliated with the BMAA. However, the representation in our Annual Meetings reflect the participation of only about half of these.

We recognize that the Association is the servant of the churches. Each church is autonomous and participation is voluntary.

However, there are many benefits offered to the member churches. Below is a list of some of those benefits.

1. Legal certification that the church is a registered member of a non-profit organization. (The BMAA is a registered non-profit organization with the IRS.)
2. Certification to assist if the church chooses to incorporate for legal or tax purposes.
3. Gives each church a voice in the actions and decisions of the BMAA.
4. Encourages and strengthens the voice in their stand on moral, political and doctrinal issues.
5. Offers fellowship with other churches of “Like Faith.”
6. Opportunity for involvement in fulfilling the great commission on a world wide scale.

Your Help is NEEDED NOW!

Please remit funds for meeting and minute expenses.

All expenses for facilities, equipment, and supplies for the annual meeting plus travel expenses for several committees and the printing of the yearbooks are paid from this fund. The total cost is $35,000 - $40,000 each year.

It is imperative that we increase contributions to this fund. Thanks to your response last year, we made it. However, our balance is dangerously low. We still need extra help.

We can only turn to our churches, you who are reading this are our first line of communication with our churches. Your help will be deeply appreciated.

If you have suggestions for helping us communicate with the churches, we invite your input. Please know that we are praying for you and stand ready to serve in any way possible.

Even when attendance at the meeting is not possible, the letter of registration affirms your membership.

The registration letters need to be forwarded to:

James Ray Raines
PO Box 17872
North Little Rock, AR 72117

Sincerely,

James Ray Raines
Recording Secretary, BMAA

* BMAA From Page 1 *

Our prayer is that the BMA of America national meeting will become a means to an end—the national meeting is the “means” and the “end” is the edifying of the churches of the Lord Jesus Christ. We hope that you will agree and ask that you begin even now praying for your leaders and the upcoming meeting.

70th Annual
BMA of America National Meeting
May 6-8, 2019
Embassy Suites Hotel & Convention Center • Rogers, Arkansas

Program

Monday Afternoon, May 6
1:30 National WMA Officers Meeting
3:00 National WMA Business Meeting

Monday Evening, May 6 • First General Session
7:00 Welcome - President
• Worship Service - House Band (Antioch Baptist Church, Conway, AR)
• President’s Message - Pastor Jeff Swart

Tuesday Morning, May 7
8:30 Registration for Women’s Ministry Conference (Temple Baptist Church, Rogers)
BMA Orientation to New Pastors & Churches (Pastry, Coffee, Meet the Directors)
9:00 Women’s Ministry Conference - “Catch the Vision” (Temple Baptist Church, Rogers)
National Brotherhood Meeting

Tuesday Afternoon, May 7 • Second General Session
2:00 John David Smith (What it Means to be “On Mission”)”
3:30 BMA Town Hall Meeting (Directors and DiscipleGuide Trustees)
5:30 BMA Seminary Dinner

Tuesday Evening, May 7 • Third General Session
7:00 Worship Service - House Band (Antioch Baptist Church, Conway, Arkansas)
Annual Message, Dr. Clif Johnson

Wednesday Morning, May 8 • Fourth General Session
BMA Associational Business
8:00 Song, Scripture & Prayer
8:15 Miscellaneous Business
8:40 BMA Theological Seminary
8:55 Ministers Resource Services
9:10 Lifeword
9:25 DiscipleGuide
9:40 Moral Action
9:55 BMA Foundation
10:10 Missions Department
10:25 Miscellaneous Business

Wednesday Afternoon, May 8 • Fifth General Session
2:00 Church Leaders Table Talk
3:30 Missions Commissioning Service

Wednesday Afternoon, May 8 • Sixth General Session
7:00 Worship Service

Enrollment Committee Schedule

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

An altered format may also prove beneficial to our bi-vocational pastors. They may be able to attend one day of the meeting, and if so, they could choose to attend the business session or several of the breakout sessions that are offered.

We are praying that our churches will view our national association in a new light. Instead of being merely a meeting where we conduct business, we would like to repurpose the BMA of America national meeting as a church conference where we do business.

• President’s Message - Pastor Jeff Swart

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Exciting Momentum for World Missions Day

At BMA Missions, we are so excited and encouraged by the response for this year’s World Missions Day. Our goal for this year is 350 participating BMA churches. At this point, over 200 churches have registered for the event, which is 50 more registrations than there were at this point last year!

Thank you to those who have pledged to participate! We are excited to celebrate the legacies of many missionaries and church members in our association, and we are excited to celebrate our missionary God. We are also eager to pray for and give toward ministries around the world who are working to make disciples, plant churches, and develop leaders.

If your church has been undecided about participating in World Missions Day, now is the time to register. We need your help to reach, and hopefully exceed, our lofty goal of 350 participating churches. No matter how small or large your church is, we count on you to celebrate World Missions Day with us on February 24.

Along with the many U.S. churches who will be hosting this Missions event, Pastor Gerson Orellana Porras, who serves at PRIMERA IGLESIA BAUTISTA DE CHUPACA, will celebrate World Missions Day with his congregation in Peru! Pastor Gerson is originally from Costa Rica, but followed God’s call to Peru to become a missionary. On February 24, their church will gather to pray for, give to, and learn about BMA Missions.

“I want to do a special Missions service,” said Pastor Gerson. “I want to present some photographs of BMA Missionaries, and give the church a missionary vision inside and outside our mountains!”

If you would like to participate in World Missions Day and be a part of meeting the 350-church goal, you can register online at bmamissions.org/worldmissionsday, by phone at 501-455-4977, or by emailing Paige West at paige@bmamissions.org. We will mail you free bulletin inserts, posters, a promo video, and a BMA Missions fleecy vest for your pastor to help promote your church’s event.

50th Annual State WMA Meeting
(The State Missionary Baptist Church will also meet at this time and location) at

Kewanee Missionary Baptist Church • Kewanee, MO
March 2, 2019 • 10:00 a.m.
Theme - “Mission Possible”
Your Presence will MAKE the “MISSION POSSIBLE!”

2019 National WMA Meeting and Ladies Conference
Rogers Arkansas
“Catch The Vision”
Monday, May 6 • Convention Center
1:30 - 2:30 National WMA Officers Meeting
3:00 - 5:00 National WMA Business Meeting
Tuesday, May 7 • Temple Baptist Church
Just 5 minutes from the Convention Center at 1812 S. Dickson Road
Women’s Conference
8:30 Registration
9:00 Program • “Catch the Vision”
Keynote Speaker • Judy Wallace
Special Music • Sabrina Clayton
There will be a special time of honoring
Pastor’s wives and widows
Lunch will be catered • pay at the door
1:15 - 3:00 Breakout Sessions • you may choose 2
2:00 - 3:00
Reaching out in Service
1) Through Missions • Belinda Caudle
2) Through Benevolence • Robin Tyler
3) Through Youth Auxiliaries • Valerie Fish
4) To Minister’s Wives • TShana Everitt
All ladies are encouraged to attend! Be sure to check our Website (nationalwma.org) and our Facebook page (National WMA of BMA) for updates. If you have any questions you can e-mail me at jodiegrhea@live.com or call and leave a message at 501-472-9490 and I will call you back. Hope to see you in May!
Jodi Rhea, President

Director of Abortion Recovery Ministry
Speaks at Jacksonville, College

January 23, the day after New York passed the Reproductive Health Act, BJ Garrett, Executive Director of Christ-centered Abortion Recovery & Education (CARE), spoke in Chapel at Jacksonville College. As she addressed students, faculty, and staff, BJ began to recount the tragic story of her childhood: “When I was twelve years old, my mother sold me for a bag of groceries. I was being sex trafficked by my own mother before sex trafficking was a thing. When I was twelve years old, there had been so many men that had been given access to my body that I was basically a shell of a little girl. There was no real ‘me’ left at twelve years old.”

BJ felt like her life was out of control, and she made one terrible choice after another. Those choices led to four pregnancies, the first when she was only fourteen years old. She kept two of the babies, Ashlei and Austin, but she had two abortions. She still struggles with the memories of her first abortion. She explained, “I can still feel today the pressure in my gut from me lying on that table and them ripping my child from my body. Every time I hear the sound of a vacuum cleaner or an air conditioner, I can hear the sound of them literally taking the life of my child from my body. It was horrendous.”

BJ then married a man who was an alcoholic. The marriage seemed unlikely to last, until BJ and her husband became Christians. “I cannot tell you what it was like for me to go from such ugliness and such brokenness to meeting Jesus Christ as my Lord and Savior,” she said. “He is the Healer of all things.”

BJ and her husband, Jay, have now been married for 21 years. The two have a daughter, Alex, who is attending Jacksonville College. Ashlei, BJ’s first child, is a Jacksonville College graduate. She is now 28 years old and is a beautiful reminder of how precious life is. Ashlei attended the January 23 Chapel service to support her mother.

When BJ became involved with CARE, she was able to talk about things from her past that she had kept hidden from even those closest to her, including her abortions. God used CARE to help her heal, and she is now able to offer support to other women who are struggling with the same decisions she had to face. BJ explains, “CARE’s mission is to restore lives wounded by abortion and to educate the community of its consequences. In short, we minister to both men and women who are hurting from a past abortion experience. We help them understand the truth of abortion, and we offer real help and resources for those facing an unplanned or crisis pregnancy.”

In 2016, BJ accepted the position of Executive Director of CARE. She is also a graduate of the Baptist Missionary Association Theological Seminary in Jacksonville, and she welcomes opportunities to share her testimony of restoration and abortion recovery.

When asked for her response to New York’s Reproductive Health Act, BJ answered, “First, and most importantly, taking the life of a preborn or full-term infant has no place in God’s kingdom! It is an absolute and inalienable evil. It is not legal and it is not moral. It is murder. It is impediment to natural death, possessing inherent dignity and immeasurable worth—including preborn children, elderly individuals, those with special needs, and others marginalized by society. Children, from the moment of conception, are a blessing and heritage from the Lord. Christians, then, are called to defend, protect, and value all human life.

New York’s Reproductive Health Act that legalizes even full-term abortions was signed into law on the 46th anniversary of Roe v. Wade. JC President Mike Smith lamented, “Christians were asleep in 1973 when abortions became legal.” It is the prayer of Jacksonville College that Christians will wake up and support ministries like CARE that work with women who find themselves in “crisis pregnancies” and who help men and women who have suffered from the spiritual and emotional complications of abortion.

For more information about CARE, visit careabortionrecovery.com.
The Keys of the Kingdom of Heaven

Matthew 16:19, “And I will give unto thee the keys of the kingdom of heaven: and whatsoever thou shalt bind on earth shall be bound in heaven: and whatsoever thou shalt loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven.” by Dennis Baker, Brotherhood President

What is the purpose of Jesus giving the “Keys of the Kingdom of Heaven” to Peter? What kingdom is Jesus referring to? What is meant by “whatsoever thou shalt bind on earth shall be bound in heaven: and whatsoever thou shalt loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven”?

The traditional interpretation of some groups or denominations is that Jesus conferred upon Peter a special status enabling him to define doctrine and convey grace, for example, by forgiving sins. However, the giving of the “Keys” to Peter was God’s sovereign plan for building His earthly kingdom and expanding the outreach of the Gospel, and ministry of the Holy Spirit to the whole world!

The meaning of the “Keys” can be found in the expansion of the Lord’s New Testament Church in the Book of Acts. The “keys” refer the inclusion of all people groups from the sons of Noah; Shem, Ham, and Japheth, into the church. The three sons of Noah represent the three people groups of the world, Jews, Samaritans, and the Gentiles. Act chapters two, eight, and ten record Peter opening the door of faith to the Jews, Samaritan, and Gentiles.

The first “Key” was the empowering of the Jewish church (descendants of Shem) with the Holy Spirit at Pentecost. Peter’s explanation of what happened at Pentecost was not the fulfillment of Joel’s prophecy in Joel 2:28-31. Joel’s prophecy deals with the nation in end time events, in connection with the “Day of the Lord.” Peter was led by the Holy Spirit to make application of the prophecy to the church. The application was, “This is the same Holy Spirit that Joel wrote about.” The same Holy Spirit that empowered Moses, David, and the prophets was now empowering the church. It was the dawning of a new age, “last days” in which God would bring to completion His plan of salvation for mankind. Jesus had finished the great work of redemption, and nothing more had to be done except to share the good news with the world, beginning with the nation of Israel. The invitation is; Acts 2:21, “And it shall come to pass, that whosoever shall call on the name of the Lord shall be saved.”

The second “Key” was the empowering of the Samaritans (descendants of Ham) with the Holy Spirit. Acts 8: 14-15, “Now when the apostles which were at Jerusalem heard that Samaria had received the word of God, they sent unto them Peter and John: Who, when they were come down, prayed for them, that they might receive the Holy Ghost.”

God commissioned Philip to evangelize the people of Samaria. The gospel was moving from Jewish territory into Samaria were the people were part Jew and Gentile. God in His grace was building a bridge between two estranged people and making believers one in Christ. The church would no longer be limited racially, culturally, or geographically. The Samaritans received the empowerment of the Holy Spirit after Peter and John laid hands on them.

The third and last “Key” was the empowering of the Gentiles (descendant of Japheth) with the Holy Spirit. Acts 10: 44-45, “While Peter yet spake these words, the Holy Ghost fell on all them which heard the word. And they of the circumcision which believed were astonished, as many as came with Peter, because that on the Gentiles also was poured out the gift of

The Meaning of the “Keys”

The “Keys” that Peter received at Pentecost were not an eternal, unchangeable title or theocratic soil-conditioning power to legislate on every subject, but a promise of the Spirit’s guidance that would provide the church with “authority” to follow the leading of the Holy Spirit in ministering to the needs of a diverse people group with different traditions, customs, and cultural backgrounds. The Keys are the means of grace: the empowerment of the Holy Spirit to the church. Wherever the Holy Spirit is present, there is authority to do the work of God. Whether it is Jews, Samaritans, or the Gentiles, the keys include the whole church. The Keys of the Kingdom of Heaven are the keys to evangelism, church growth, and development.

The Keys of the Kingdom of Heaven are for global evangelism, church growth, and church development beyond the cultural, racial, and geographical barriers that have historically limited the kingdom of Jesus Christ.

Dress Like A Man

by C. R. Curtman, via ThatWeMightKnow.com

The Cheap, classless, childish, comedic even creepy ways some men, boys and boy-men dress today is a product of the overall dumbing down of Americans; and I do mean “dumbing,” and I do mean, “down.” Shakespeare says, in Hamlet, “For the apparel oft proclaims the man.” How true.

The Bible says, “The Lord seeth not as man seeth; for man looketh on the outward appearance, but the LORD looketh on the heart” (1 Sam. 16:7). Some Christians this as rationale for dressing (even though they have the wherewithal to do better) as though they’re on their way to a ball game at best, or, at worst, like a bunch ofbums when they go to church. Others use it as justification for what amounts at one level or another to what the world calls “crossdressing.”

But when 1 Sam. 16:7 is used by men (or women for that matter) as an excuse for their careless nonchalance and overall unbiblical approach to how they dress, they miss the truth of the message that is in this Scripture. The point is, that others (including our children) can’t tell what’s in our hearts as to how much we do or don’t want to obey the principles in God’s Word, which reveal God’s will for every aspect of our lives.

The only clues people have, the only conclusions they can reach, concerning us spiritually depend almost, if not altogether, entirely on what they can see being displayed by our outward appearance, and what they can hear coming out of our mouths, etc. outside. Again, “The Lord seeth not as man seeth; for man looketh on the outward appearance, but the LORD looketh on the heart” (1 Sam. 16:7). “Man looks on the outside.” That’s all he can do. Therefore, Christians who care about the testimony they have to the Jewish, lost men and women for the sake of evangelism, and the testimony they have before other Christians for the sake of their edification, need to recognize the significance involved in how they dress.

Someone once said, “The body is the shell of the soul, and dress the husk of that shell; but the husk often tells what the kernel is.”

We can’t help mingling with unbelievers. We have to as long as we are in this world. And we ought to. It’s our duty and is essential to the spread of the Gospel. But make sure you do it conscientiously determined to be “salt” and “light” among them. And be extremely careful, that in the process you do not let yourselves become deficient in your saltiness or let your light become dimmed.

“Ye are the salt of the earth: but if the salt have lost his savour, whereby shall it be salted? It is thenceforth good for nothing, but to be cast out, and to be trodden under foot of men. Ye are the light of the world. A city that is set on an hill cannot be hid. Neither do men light a candle, and put it under a bushel, but on a candlestick; and it giveth light unto all that are in the house. Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven.” (Matt. 5:13-16)

Have YOU become a DEWer?

contact Chris (573-380-1975) or Laura (573-472-1038)

Polk to learn how you can help Camp Garwood.

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Consequence For Behavior

Genesis 3:14 - "And the Lord God said unto the serpent, Because thou hast done this, thou art cursed above all cattle, and above every beast of the field; upon thy belly shalt thou go, and dust shalt thou eat all the days of thy life;"

Genesis 3:17 - "And unto Adam he said, Because thou hast hearkened unto the voice of thy wife, and hast eaten of the tree, of which I commanded thee, saying, Thou shalt not eat of it; cursed is the ground for thy sake: in sorrow shalt thou eat of it all the days of thy life;"

1 Samuel 24:15-16 - "The Lord therefore be judge, and judge between me and thee, and see, and plead my cause, and deliver me out of thine hand....and Saul lifted up his voice, and wept."

1 Kings 3:11-12 - "And God said unto him, Because thou hast asked this thing, and hast not asked for thyself....Behold, I have done according to thy words:...so that there was none like thee before thee, neither after thee shall any arise like unto thee."

Haggai 1:5,6,7,9 - "Now therefore thus saith the Lord of hosts: Consider your ways. Ye have sown much, and bring in little; ye eat, but ye have not enough;....and he that earneth wages earneth wages to put into a bag with holes. Thus saith the Lord of hosts: Consider your ways. Ye looked for much,....and when ye brought it home, I did blow upon it. Why? saith the Lord of hosts. Because of mine house that is waste, and ye run every man unto his own house."

Malachi 3:8-10 - "Will a man rob God? Yet ye have robbed me. But ye say, Wherein have we robbed thee? In tithes and offerings. Ye are cursed with a curse: for ye have robbed me, even this whole nation. Bring ye all the tithes into the storehouse, that there may be meat in mine house, and prove me now herewith, saith the Lord of hosts, if I will not open you the windows of heaven, and pour you out a blessing, that there shall not be room enough to receive it."

Hebrews 1:9 - "Thou has loved righteousness, and hated iniquity; therefore God, even thy God, hath anointed thee with the oil of gladness above thy fellows."

Matthew 3:16-17 - "And Jesus, when he was baptized, went up straightway out of the water:and, lo, the heavens were opened unto him, and he saw the spirit of God descending like a dove, and lighting upon him: And lo a voice from heaven, saying, This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased."

Matthew 7:7 - "Ask, and it shall be given you; seek, and ye shall find; knock, and it shall be opened unto you:"

Galatians 6:7-8 - "Be not deceived; God is not mocked: for whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap. For he that soweth to his flesh shall of the flesh reap corruption; but he that soweth to the Spirit shall of the Spirit reap life everlasting."

James 4:7-8,10 - "Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you. Draw nigh to God, and he will draw nigh to you....Humble yourselves in the sight of the Lord, and he shall lift you up."

II Corinthians 5:10 - "For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ; that every one may receive the things done in his body, according to that he hath done, whether it be good or bad."

Revelation 20:12 - "And I saw the dead, small and great, stand before God....and the dead were judged out of those things which were written in the books, according to their works."

Submitted by: Charity Landmark Missionary Baptist Church Bismarck, Missouri

Church Mission Opportunity

Is your Sunday school class, church, or youth group looking for a week-long mission trip where you can learn skills that can be used in your own local church, all while helping a sister church reach its community with the gospel? Then the Launchpad Community Mission Project in Siloam Springs, Arkansas may be a great opportunity for you. Your group would lead backyard Bible clubs during the day and minister to those in need through service projects during the afternoon. You would encourage homeless families working to reset their lives and become self-sustainable as they work toward ending homelessness for their family.

Siloam Springs is located in the Northwest corner of Arkansas, which is one of the fastest growing areas in the United States and home to many corporate giants, including: Walmart, JB Hunt, Tyson, Simmons Foods, and the University of Arkansas. It’s also home of East Kenwood Missionary Baptist Church; a small church in the middle of a church revitalization, being used of God in big way.

“When our church began praying for a vision to reach our community and serve them without expecting anything in return,” said Pastor Jeremy Wiginnton, “we never expected to end up building homes on our property to aid homeless families.”

The Launchpad Community Ministry includes four small homes on the church’s property, ranging in size from 500-600 square feet. The homes are utilized in partnership with Genesis House, a local homeless day shelter, to provide emergency housing for 90 days while families work through a program to become self-sufficient.

The 2-year pilot program has resulted in a successful launch of 24 families, with a success rate greater than 95% to date. Over the next 10 years, 160 families and over 800 homeless individuals will pass through these homes, each being given an opportunity to establish new friendships with Christian families in the area and receive Jesus Christ as Savior!

East Kenwood MBC needs help this summer to expand their reach into the community as part of their revitalization. According to Pastor Jeremy, “This is a great opportunity for church groups to have a mission field opportunity in the U.S., experience some on the field training that they can utilize at their home church, and help a small sister church revitalize in their home area.”

Church groups will live in and operate out of East Kenwood’s building during their mission trip. Students must have completed the 7th grade to attend, but there’s no age restriction beyond that.

Mission teams will arrive on Saturday evening at the church and be greeted by their church host for the week. They will worship with the church on Sunday, survey the area, and review the work sites for the week. Teams will conduct two backyard Bible clubs each morning, from Monday through Thursday, with work projects in the afternoon. There will be two team-building events during the week so that mission teams can experience the area and have fun together as well. The Launchpad Community Project will begin June 15 and run weekly through August 2.

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 Association. Names are published at the request of the individual and will be published until a request is received to remove it.

Wayne Gibson, a member of Stony Point Baptist Church in Mineral Point is available for pulpit supply. Contact him at 314-277-6940 or by e-mail wayne.gibson@sbcglobal.net

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.

Matt Baker, a member of Black River Baptist Church in Quinl and former pastor of Twin Oaks, Kennett is available for pulpit supply as God leads. He can be contacted at 573-609-1223.

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 bkadams276@yahoo.com or by phone 217-779-9264.

Denver Page, a member at Landmark, DeSoto, MO is available for preaching as needed. (636) 942-3503

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.

Associate Pastor Search

Beacon Baptist Church, Taylor, AR is seeking a bi-vocational associate Pastor. Resumes may be sent to Search Committee PO Box 94 Taylor, AR 71861 or emailed to BeaconBaptistTaylor@gmail.com. For further information you can contact Douglas Collier at 870-299-0640.

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BMA Short Term Missions is excited to partner with Launchpad to create more areas to serve. For more information contact Angela Rice by e-mail at angela@bmamissions.org, or by phone at 501-455-4799.