

The Missouri Missionary Baptist

“Holding Forth The Word of Life”

Philippians 2:16

Volume LXXXIII

St. Louis, MO • March 10, 2020

Issue No. 3

2020 Missions Symposium & Mid-Year BMA of MO Meeting

From our Host Pastor...

New Testament Baptist Church in Sullivan, MO has been blessed with the opportunity to host the 2020 BMA of Missouri Mission Symposium & Mid-year meeting on Friday & Saturday, May 15th & 16th. We hope that you will make plans to join us!

The theme for our Mission Symposium will be “*Helping Our Churches Excel.*” This theme is based on I Corinthians 14:12b-“...seek that ye may excel to the edifying of the church.”

Come hear how God is using the New Testament Baptist Church and Missionary, Stan Scroggins to plant the New Testament Tigbawan Baptist Church in Tigbawan, Southern Leyte, in the Philippines and be challenged as we seek to work together to see our current BMA churches in Missouri excel and see new churches planted in Missouri in the future for the glory of God.

The Missions Symposium will be at 6:30 p.m. Friday, May 15th. There will be testimonies from Pastor Josh Wright, church member Mae Lahmann, missionary Stan Scroggins, and church planter JayR Suico. As well as congregational singing, special music and a challenge from Pastor Josh.

The Mid-Year Meeting will be Saturday morning at 9:00 a.m. Missionary Stan Scroggins will be preaching and a meal will be provided following the meeting in the church fellowship hall.

Here are a few area motels that would be suitable for your stay during the meeting:

Comfort Inn • 736 S Service Rd.
W, Sullivan, MO 63080
(573) 468-7800

Baymont by Wyndham • 275
N Service Rd. W, Sullivan, MO
63080 (573) 367-2211

Budget Lodging • 866 S Outer
Rd., St. Clair, MO 63077 (636)
629-1000

Please make your reservations as soon as possible while there are plenty of rooms available.

We look forward to seeing and enjoying our fellowship with many pastors, deacons, and church members of our BMA of Missouri churches. Please feel free to contact New Testament Baptist Church with any questions you may have about these meetings: (573) 468-3334.

Third Annual Renewal Retreat

5:00 p.m. March 27 - March 28, 2020 • All Pastors and Male Church Leaders are Invited • RSVP Ben Kingston by March 16th • (636)629-2526 or e-mail bethelbaptistchurch@live.com

Bethel INVITES YOU TO EASTER WALK 2020

- NEW sights & scenes!
- Over 100 Actors!
- Complimentary snacks!
- Tours every 15 minutes!



SHOWTIMES

Friday, April 3 thru
Sunday, April 5, 2020
6:00 - 8:30 PM

Handicap Accessible

BethelEasterWalk

LOCATION

Bethel Baptist Church
569 Bethel Church Road
Lonedell, MO 63060

Directions: From I-44 take exit 239 to Hwy 30E (8 miles). Turn left onto Bethel Church Road. 1/4 mile to Bethel on the left.



“Fresh Encounter” Spring Revival, March 22-25, 2020

New Testament Baptist Church, Sullivan, MO invites our sister churches to join us at 962 North Church St. in Sullivan.

Service dates, times and special speakers are as follows:

Sunday, March 22 at 10:30 am - Bro. Chuck Tedrow

Sunday, March 22 at 6:00pm - Bro. Tim Boatright

Monday, March 23 at 6:30pm - Bro. Dan Wisely

Tuesday, March 24 at 6:30pm - Bro. Wyatt Otten

Wednesday, March 25 at 6:30pm - Bro. Ben Kingston

Please contact the church with any questions you might have. Our phone number is (573)468-3334 or email: office@ntbcsullivan.com



NEWS BRIEFS



HELLO to all from **Oak Hill Missionary Baptist Church, Alton.** Praise the Lord! I like seeing the sun shining reminding us that Spring is coming! I know we need the moisture from either rain or snow and the Lord knows what we need more than we do. We should just be patient and wait for the Lord to bless! In February we watched the movie "Overcomer" which was a great, clean movie. The title says it all "Overcomer," with the Lord nothing is impossible "I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me." (Philippians 4:13) The only thing we have planned is our fifth Sunday Dinner on the 29th. Everyone is always welcome to come and eat with us we will be eating over in our Fellowship Hall. The last three times we have had services I was not able to attend because I had a little touch of the stomach flu, but Thank the Lord I'm doing and feeling GREAT! Until next month I hope I will have some good news to tell you but until then we will be praising and honoring our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. God Bless!!

Edward Casey, Pastor • Jennifer Williams, Reporter

Happy "almost Spring" from **Stony Point, a Mineral Point!** February 15th 25 couples celebrated Valentine's Day in a very special way, including a fine dinner complete with a professional photographer. Fun and games were enjoyed by all. The church selected Sunday, March 1st as "Every One Bring One on March 1st." The Lord blessed in a mighty way as we were excited to meet more than 20 new visitors to Sunday school and church services. Lesson learned... "yet ye have not, because ye ask not."

Claude Evans, Pastor • David Hughes, Reporter

Greetings from **First Baptist Church, Potosi.** January and February sort of ran together for me, but members at FBC definitely have been very busy with all of our in house and outreach programs. We are looking forward to World Missions Sunday on February 23; we pray for our missionaries daily. Our 64th annual Friends' Day will be March 1 with Sunday School at 9:00 and worship service at 10:00. Lunch will follow and everyone is welcome to attend. UPWARD is midway through and by the time this reaches you they will have had their closing celebration on March 2. The guest speaker for this event will be Super Bowl Champion Mascot KC Wolf. The students and sponsors who attended WINTER JAM had a wonderful time even though they did not get home until 1:00 am. Once again, Fellowship Baptist Church, Hopewell Church of God, and Cadet Baptist Church provided the Celebrate Recovery meals in addition to Sis. Brenda Wilson's Sunday School Class and Sis. Violet Cooper's Sunday School Class. HOPE classes start up again this month. (Healing Our Past Experiences). #FBCKids Choir starts March 4 preparing for their performance on April 5. Our Youth are planning a trip to the St. Louis Aquarium on March 21. Time passes so quickly that it is time to prepare for Youth Super Summer, Jesus Loves Potosi, VBS, FBC Kids Camp, and Teen Jesus Camp. Then it is August and time for school again. Bro. Jim baptized a father and son the same day and then we ended the month with a whole family joining. We have had some very special services in the past two months. Friday night, March 13 is a Celebrate Recovery concert featuring the CR Band to celebrate four years strong. It takes a lot of people to keep these programs going. Please pray for us as we pray for you. Jim Ainley, Pastor • Deborah Rauhut, Reporter

Greetings! We have had an exciting start to our new year at **Ozark Heights Baptist Church!** Four children became believers in Christ! We also have had a new family join, and we

are baptizing 2 on April 19th! The Lord has been blessing, not just in number, but in the sweetness of our fellowship. We are in chapter 17 in the book of Acts learning about the early church and what we should look like! I believe one thing that has been central in all the things that God is doing right now has been our corporate prayer time that we do each Sunday night! It has been a great blessing and encouragement to us! From all of us at Ozark Heights to all of you God Bless and have a great Month!

Brian Kingston, Pastor

Bethesda, Park Hills celebrated Valentine's Day by having a fellowship dinner on the 16th. We had pasta, which the whole church enjoyed (including myself)! Please pray for one of our members and former pastor, Bro. Alan Dane. He was diagnosed with stage 3 cancer in September. He had five days of radiation in late October and began his first dose of chemotherapy in November. He just finished his 8th treatment of 12. After tests, the doctors will determine if he needs surgery or not. Bro. Alan Dane and Zach Dane have been filling in the pulpit while we are still searching for a pastor. Keep Bethesda also in your prayers. We have been watching, studying, and enjoying creation videos on Sunday nights. Ashton Dane, Youth Reporter

Abundant Life in Christ, Charleston. During February we were one of the sponsors of the 6th Man Shoot-out at the high school. This was an all-day event featuring 16 high school basketball teams with four of those schools being within easy driving distance of us. We also set aside a Sunday to honor our School Superintendent and our Elementary, Middle School, and High School Principals for their service to our community, during morning worship. All four graciously accepted the invitation to be in

attendance that day, and also answered our questions as to how we could partner with them to improve our schools and prevent some of our community's kids from falling through the proverbial cracks.

Rodney Dunlap, Pastor

We at **Landmark Baptist Church, DeSoto,** have had another blessed month. We are still seeking a bi-vocational pastor and fully believe that God has someone very special for us. This month we've heard messages from Bro. Dale Fish, Bro. Brendan Sanders, Bro. Bryce Wilson and Bro. Wayne Gibson. We enjoyed and were challenged by each one of them. We had a good local WMA meeting again this month with seven ladies attending. Visitors are in just about every service, for which we praise God. It is our hope that they have been blessed by attending services with us. We hope, with warmer weather on its way, we will see more people attending with regularity. We are thankful that Sis. Maurgerite Truelove is able to walk again without a walker. She had a back procedure and it seems to have went very well. There is still a lot of illness going around; not a lot of flu or such as that, but just general illnesses. Bro. Earl Denby is still very ill and covets the prayers of his Christian brothers and sisters. Bro. Delmar Holt is still in the hospital.

Until next month or the Lord's return,
Sharon Page, reporter

Happy Spring everyone, from **Bethel Baptist Church, Sikeston!** We are so grateful that Spring is right around the corner. Everyone is looking forward to getting outside after being cooped up inside for the winter! Thank you, Lord for the beautiful weather we have had these past few days! One of our members went Home to be with the Lord February 15th. We miss Sis. Nora Culberson who had been in the nursing home for the past few months and was unable to attend our services. We were blessed to have her when she was able to attend, Her favorite song was, "Heavenly Sunshine." She was a real blessing to all. Bro. Billy continues our study on 1st John on Wednesday nights, which has been a good study! The 16th Bro. Poirier and his wife, Ruth, were with us for the evening service. It was a real blessing as he updated us on the mission work that they are doing in Quebec, Canada, Haiti and Comeroon, Africa. He also preached a very inspiring message! The 22nd a southern gospel group called "Christian Love" sang for us. We were blessed with their singing. They were very good. They need our prayers as, prior to their coming here they had

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The Missouri

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FINANCIAL REPORT BMA OF MISSOURI MISSIONS • February 2020

General Fund:

Checking Account:

Balance January 31, 2020		\$	21,033.86
February Receipts:			
Offerings:	\$	3,829.66	
Ins. Reimbursement	\$	<u>5,086.72</u>	
Total Income:	\$	8,916.38	\$ <u>8,916.32</u>
Total Available			\$ 29,950.18
Disbursements:			
Director, Salary	\$	650.00	
Director, Mileage	\$	324.30	
Office Expense	\$	21.78	
Sym. Planning Meeting	\$	88.26	
Spec. Miss. Com.	\$	<u>732.33</u>	
Total Disbursements	\$	1,816.67	\$ <u>(1,816.67)</u>
Balance February 29, 2020:			\$ 28,133.51

Bank of America Savings Account:

Balance January 31, 2020		\$	1,101.12
Interest:	\$.02	\$ <u>.02</u>
Balance February 29, 2020:			\$ 1,101.14

Investment in BMA of Mississippi Revolving Loan Fund:

Balance January 31, 2020:	\$	105,749.33
Interest:	\$	<u>0.00</u>
Balance February 29, 2020:	\$	105,749.33

Total of all Funds February 29, 2020: \$ **134,983.98**

From Our Director and Editor...

Missions:

It was a joy to be invited to be with the First Baptist Church of Matthews on World Missions Sunday and to also be able to join them for the Camp Garwood Breakfast Fundraiser that Saturday. It was a blessing to see several from other churches, even as far away as St. Charles, attend the breakfast which raised \$1,704 for camp.

My wife and I enjoyed the fellowship and hospitality of the folks at Matthews and were impressed with their generous support of Missions as they gave their entire offering that day to BMA of America Missions.

I also had the privilege of attending the meeting of the Meramec Association missions committee at Westview Baptist Church in Jefferson City February 29th. Host Pastor Mike Hearst and the entire committee made me feel welcome and asked me to give an update on BMAMO Missions and the Missouri Missionary Baptist paper.

One thing that has been very noticeable as I have visited these meetings and filled pulpits over the last few weeks is there seems to be an increased interest in reaching others with the Word everywhere I go. Especially is this evident in various meetings among our churches in Missouri.

It was encouraging to sit in an impromptu meeting following the Meramec Association meeting in Jefferson City, about the possibilities of Bro. Matt Barker being led of God to plant a new work within our state in the near future.

Perhaps this is the year we will see a vibrant new work in our state! Everyone seems ready to see this become a reality.

In view of this, I encourage **Pastors and Staff Leaders** to make plans to attend the **Renewal Retreat at Camp Garwood March 27-28, and the Missions Symposium and Mid-year meeting of the BMA of MO at New Testament Baptist Church in Sullivan May 15-16.**

Each of these meetings can and will be used of God to increase our interest and burden to do more for God!

These are challenging yet exciting times in which we live and we should cultivate an attitude of joyfully serving God and looking forward with excitement about what He is doing in and through His churches around the world. Please pray that we will experience a revival among our churches and departments that will have a God-honoring effect in our State and bring glory to God

Highlights of the Meramec Association Missionary Committee Meeting as Reported by Bro. Michael Hearst

The Missionary Committee of the Meramec Landmark Baptist Association met at Westview Missionary Baptist Church of Jefferson City, MO Saturday, February 29, 2020.

Presentations were given by Josh Wright on the New Testament Tigbawan Baptist Mission in the Philippines and by Jamie Haguwood on the Reaching and Teaching International Ministries. Matt Barker, invited special guest from Nixa, MO, spoke on church planting in Missouri. Jim Hoffman gave a report on the BMA of Missouri and the Missouri Missionary Baptist paper. The following highlights of Missionary Committee business are noted:

- Directed the Advisory Committee to investigate church planting opportunities in Missouri with Matt Barker.
- Gave Matt Barker a love offering of \$150 for attending the meeting in Jefferson City, MO.
- Give an offering of \$1,500 to the Missouri Missionary Baptist.
- Reinstate Faith Baptist Church of St Charles, MO as a member of the Meramec Landmark Baptist Association.

After lunch the Advisory Committee and others met with Matt Barker to discuss church planting in Missouri. The Advisory Committee approved \$2,000 to cover Matt Barker's expenses as he scouts out a field for a potential Missouri church plant during March, April and May.

for years to come!

The Missouri Missionary Baptist Paper:

When invited to speak about the paper at the meeting in Jefferson City I shared that our finances continue to be a great concern, but 3 different experiences this past month have given some encouragement.

- A church that has been without a pastor for a couple years sent 2 checks: 1 to missions and 1 to the paper. Each check was marked "offerings for 2018-2019. They had been setting aside their offerings while having no pastor and since they now have one they sent the entire 2 years at once!

• Another experience was a couple that live in the northern part of our state for the last 17 years, where there are no BMA churches, noted that they had not renewed their subscription since 2003 and sent a check for \$170 to cover the 17 years they were behind.

- The special offering of the Meramec Association, for which I am deeply grateful, was another encouragement.

When I told this story using the first two experiences at the meeting in Jefferson City I ended it by saying, "*Go thou and do likewise!*"

I appreciate all the support that keeps this ministry going. Thanks for supporting with finances, prayers, and actions!



• **NEWS From Page 2** •

lost their son, which usually sang with them. I know it had to be hard on them to go on with their singing. Of course, they are relying on God to get them through this loss! Sis Donna is practicing with our youth for an Easter program. We are so thankful for all she does. We covet your prayers as we pray for all of you. May the Good Lord bless and keep you!!

Billy Davis, Pastor • Joan Wood, Reporter

Ohlman Baptist Church, Bunker, reports that January and February weather caused us to cancel several Wednesday night Services. However, the Wednesday night services that we were able to have still averaged about 40 youth. While we seem to have a decrease in the teenage group, we are having an increase in the younger children. Many of these children come from broken homes and many times, Wednesday nights are the only time that they get to hear the gospel. Our Sunday morning attendance has shown an increase, with a few more coming in time for Sunday School. This is great to see. We have also had some of the parents of our Wednesday night kids come on a few Sundays. This makes the pastor and everyone else happy. We will be having **revival services April 20th through the 24th with Bro. Scotty Rayburn of Wiggins, MS as the evangelist. We invite all of you to attend.** Prayers are being requested for Sis. Shirley Hayes as well as her family. She is terminally ill and is on hospice. She is spiritually ready and has given explicit instructions for her home-going service when the time comes. While we can rejoice in her testimony, we do know that she will be missed by many.

Toy Sisk, Pastor • Janet Widger, Reporter

Greetings from **Briar Baptist Church, Doniphan**. A few months back we started a project of mailing a copy of our bulletin to our shut-ins, with one person on the list. Now we are to 6. We feel this is a great ministry to letting the community know what is going on. Yes, it is going to shut-ins but most of them have family and friends who check in on them. Our youth visit the shut-ins at least once a month and they have been told they do enjoy reading the bulletins and it makes them feel like they still are a part of the church. Which we do believe they are! Our youth have another project they do by saving Best Choice labels. They save them for a year and then turn them in for the Springhill School of Hope. If your church doesn't have a project of saving the labels, we would appreciate it if you could save them for us. Sis. Lydia and the youth are planning another mission trip to the Navajo Indians this summer to help a program similar to our VBS programs. It is called the Backyard Bible Club. In the past couple of months Satan has really been wreaking havoc on Briar Church with lots of our members or members' families having health issues; Sis. Sue Griffin, Bro. Robert Hill, Bro. Darrell Grubb and Sis. Brenda Whitwell just to name a few. Please pray for these members as some are still going thru their issues and some are further along with their recovery. We sure do miss our family when they are not in church with us. We have finally finished our Wednesday evening study on Revelation and now we are going thru Proverbs. It is truly a blessing to study God's Word and to learn more about our God, Lord and Savior! May God continue to bless us all! Continue to pray for our country, our leaders, our Pastor's and the churches without Pastor'.

David Grubb, Pastor • Yvonne Hill, Reporter

Hello from **Faith Baptist Church, St. Charles!** March is upon us which means Spring is near! We are looking forward to the beauty it brings. Seeing the budding of new life in nature reminds us of the importance of our own continued growth in Christ as individuals and as a church. One way we are working on growth at both levels is through our **Five Minutes With Faith** devotionals on our Youtube channel,

or on Spotify as podcasts, for those who prefer that outlet. As a church, we are trusting God to take the little messages of hope and encouragement that go into the videos and reach souls that are lost, backslidden, struggling, or needing Him in some other way. We know that many people spend most of their "free" time on their phones. If we can get the Gospel on those phones, we trust what it says in Isaiah 55:11 about God's word not returning to Him void. As individuals, it is helping each church member who participates in preparing a devotional by sharpening the tools with which they can spread the Gospel. Two recent devotionals have focused on prayer. In the video posted on February 28th, Pastor Justin exhorts listeners to not hinder their prayer life and gives examples of common obstacles. For example, Proverbs 28:9 says, "*He that turneth away his ear from hearing the law, even his prayer shall be abomination.*" The advice given is to not neglect the Word. Another devotional was posted on March 3rd, in which Sis. Diane explained prayer journaling and how it can be a mighty tool for one's prayer life and relationship with God. At one point, she remarked that a prayer journal can be like a love letter between the journal keeper and God. She presented two different methods to keeping a journal, but indicated that there is no wrong or right process. Live and in person, we are still a church focused on hearing Biblical teaching. The series on Sunday evenings has been about prayer and its different aspects; the need for praying specifically, in needs, in praises, in

repentance, etc. On Wednesday evenings, the adult Bible Study has been going over Jesus' parables. We are thankful that our Pastor has been studying them out and encouraging us also to study them deeper. Of course, we can't forget our theme of being "Fired Up" this year. It truly feels like it is becoming a reality for more and more of the church body! We're looking forward to what God has in store for us!

Justin Arrender, Pastor
Annalise Wagner, Reporter

First Baptist Church of Matthews recently had a pancake breakfast to benefit Camp Garwood. We received a total of \$1,704. and appreciate the generous donations. Chris Polk, Pastor
Kari Hartlein Note & Picture



Some of the GMA's and Workers at the Camp Fundraiser Breakfast

*If GOD could
close the lions'
mouths for Daniel,
Part the Red Sea for
Moses,
Make the sun stand
still for
Joshua,
Open the prison for
Peter,
Put a baby in
Sarah's arms,
Raise Lazarus
from the Dead,
Then He can
Certainly take
care of YOU!*

**HAVE FAITH IN
HIM!!**



Waiting, Talking & enjoying fellowship

Everyone had a great time and enjoyed some GOOD food while helping Camp Garwood have some much needed funds. Thanks to Matthews First Baptist Church for their hospitality and to everyone who came and gave a generous amount for our camp!



DiscipleGuide Changes Explained

by Paul White, Chairman
BMA of America Coordinating Council

I am sharing the following information to try and explain what will be proposed for consideration at this year's national meeting concerning the breakup of the various DiscipleGuide ministries. Although several recommendations will be presented this year, we have been blessed to experience exceptional cooperation from everyone who is involved.

While change is often difficult to understand, it is sometimes necessary for the good of the whole. One of our greatest challenges is to keep you, the people, informed about what is actually taking place.

At the national meeting in April, we will be voting on recommendations concerning five areas of ministry. The areas that we will deal with are Publications, Daniel Springs Camp, Conferences, News Services and the BMA Service Team. Please keep in mind that this explanation is a synopsis, and is by no means exhaustive or an exact wording of the actual recommendations.

Publications & Daniel Springs

When we, as an association, step out on a new and untried venture, it is normal to have reservations in doing so; but what will be recommended concerning Publications and Daniel Springs Camp is something we lived with for many years before the formation of DiscipleGuide. In fact, if you go back to the 2004-2005 Statement of Principles of Cooperation, you will find that this year's recommendations concerning our Statement of Principles of Cooperation for Baptist Publishing House and Daniel Springs Camp are nearly the same as they were back then. If the recommendations presented concerning the first two are adopted by the body, it will not be something new. It will be going back to a tried and proven way that will serve us well into the future. These were stand-alone departments then, and certainly can be again. For these departments to stand on their own will not weaken nor diminish their ministries' structures, nor change their core values.

Conferences & News Services

Last year, the association voted to move the responsibilities of these two entities to the BMA Service Team (formerly referred to as the LLC) for one year. After visiting with the department leaders involved, their overwhelming conclusions were that the BMA Service Team was the perfect location for these two important ministries. Therefore, there will be a recommendation for these two ministries to be placed under the BMA Service Team.

BMA Service Team

Neither the BMA Service Team nor LLC is directly tied to DiscipleGuide. Sometime back, the association voted to create what was then known only as the LLC (Limited Liability Cooperation) to assist in streamlining operations in the Conway office through sharing employees and assets, thereby minimizing costs and maximizing return on investment for support services and functions.

While the term LLC tells of a way of organizing your business, it woefully fails to reveal what it does. So we will be voting on making the BMA of America Service Team, its purpose, governance and special duties part of our Statement of Principles of Cooperation to help inform our people of what it is and what it does. You will be hearing the title BMA Service Team a lot in the future if this proposal passes.

The position of BMA Service Team director is a hired position in cooperation of those executive directors who work out of the Global Ministry Headquarters in Conway. These departments share the cost of the BMA Services Team, and the directors have hired John Meriweather to serve as director of the BMA Service Team and be the go-to man concerning these responsibilities.

Central Baptist College Named to Victory Media's 2020-2021 Military Friendly® Schools List

Central Baptist College announced that it has earned the 2020-2021 Military Friendly® School designation.

Institutions earning the Military Friendly® School designation were evaluated using both public data sources and responses from a proprietary survey. More than 1,000 schools participated in the 2020-2021 survey with 695 earning the designation.

The 2020-2021 Military Friendly® Schools list will be published in the May issue of G.I. Jobs magazine and can be found at www.militaryfriendly.com.

Methodology, criteria, and weightings were determined by Victory with input from the Military Friendly® Advisory Council of independent leaders in the higher education and military recruitment community. Final ratings were determined by combining the institution's survey scores with the assessment of the institution's ability to meet thresholds for Student Retention, Graduation, Job Placement, Loan Repayment, Persistence (Degree Advancement or Transfer) and Loan Default rates for all students and, specifically, for student veterans.

CBC President Terry Kimbrow said, "It is an honor to earn the Military Friendly® School designation for the 11th year in a row. Central Baptist College has a long tradition of working with students who serve or have served in the military. We are devoted to helping veteran students realize their goal of obtaining their college degree. We will continue to do whatever it takes to honor their service to our country."

Military Friendly's National Director Josh Rosen stated, "Our ability to apply a clear, consistent standard to colleges creates a competitive atmosphere that encourages colleges to invest in programs to provide educational outcomes that are better for the Military Community as a whole."

For more information about Central Baptist College's student veteran programs, visit CBC's website at cbc.edu/military or contact Pam Sims, Associate Director of PACE Enrollment for Military Relations at psims@cbc.edu or 501-205-8807.

About Military Friendly® Schools:

The Military Friendly® Schools list is created each year based on extensive research using public data sources for more than 8,800 schools nationwide, input from student veterans, and responses to the proprietary, data-driven Military Friendly® Schools survey from participating institutions. The survey questions, methodology, criteria and weighting were developed with the assistance of an independent research firm and an advisory council of educators and employers. The survey is administered for free and is open to all post-secondary schools that wish to participate. Criteria for consideration can be found at www.militaryfriendly.com.

About Central Baptist College:

CBC offers an Associate of Science degree in Military Technologies with locations in Conway and in North Little Rock at Camp Robinson. To admitted students, CBC also offers the following benefits to our service men and women: Full time veteran advisers on staff, process enrollment certifications for VA GI Bill Education, Federal Tuition Assistance, tuition discounts of up to 25% for qualifying soldiers and dependents of veterans and active duty servicemen and women, free evaluations of AARTS/SMARTS military transcript, and participation in the Yellow Ribbon Program.

In addition to the Military Technologies Associate's degree, CBC offers over 40 degree programs. Twelve of these degree programs are offered in the (PACE) Professional Adult College Education program and in-class, online and hybrid format options are available. The PACE program offers the working adult the opportunity to continue working full time and obtain their college degree. In celebration of the 20th Anniversary of the PACE program, Central Baptist College is offering a one-time, 20% tuition discount for new students enrolling in the Spring 2020 semester.

Central Baptist College is a four-year, private, liberal arts college founded in 1952 by the Baptist Missionary Association of Arkansas. For information about CBC, visit cbc.edu or call 501-329-6873.

About Victory:

Founded in 2001, VIQTORY is a service-disabled, veteran-owned small business (SD-VOSB) that connects the military community to civilian employment, educational and entrepreneurial opportunities through its G.I. Jobs® and Military Friendly® brands. VIQTORY and its brands are not a part of or endorsed by the U.S. Dept. of Defense or any federal government entity. Learn more about VIQTORY at www.viqtory.com.

The Coordinating Council has studied the proposed recommendations, and we are in agreement.

May God continue to bless the ministries of the BMA of America. Thank you.

God is Everything to Me!

At my lowest • He is my Hope!

At My darkest • He is my Light!

At my weakest • He is my Strength!

At my saddest • He is my Joy & Comfort!

WMA & GMA NEWS

Articles for this column may be sent to

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e-mail - nrwomble@juno.com

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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

To All Ladies....

Dear Ladies:

We are less than 2 months away from our National meeting! Check our National WMA of BMAA Facebook page or our website at nationalwma.org for the meeting schedule.

The business meeting will be Monday, April 27th and the Women's Conference will be Tuesday, April 28th at Heritage Baptist Church, 1000 Butcher Rd., Waxahachie, TX which is just 10 minutes from Farley Street Baptist Church where the National BMAA meeting will be held.

You will also find the pre-registration information I need from those who plan to attend the conference and luncheon. April 15th is the deadline to pre-register. I have to get the number of those attending the conference to the church so they will have enough chairs for everyone and to the caterer so she will have enough food. Lunch will be \$15 at the door. The menu is chicken spaghetti, green beans, salad, roll and dessert.

I am really looking forward to these meetings and I hope you are too! You can e-mail me or text me. Please let me hear from you before April 15th! Thank you,

Jodi Rhea, National WMA President

e-mail • jodigrhea@live.com phone • (501)472-9490

How Shoeboxes Help Our Pastors

by Angela Rice

Do you ever wonder what happens when our missionaries receive Everlasting Smiles Shoeboxes? Let me share this exciting news with you:

The first shipment of shoeboxes arrived in El Salvador to Pastor Rigoberto Cruz on December 18. The very next day, Pastor Rigoberto and his team began loading trucks and distributing boxes to the different mission churches in their areas of ministry.

Then the churches hold special children's events for the community where they give them out. Although the shoeboxes bring people to the programs, the pastors focus on the plan of salvation for the children families that come.

December 22, Pastor Rigoberto gathered together his own community of Montelimar for a children's event to give out shoeboxes. With over 1,200 people in attendance, there was standing room only. The event included clowns, fun games, music, and a drama portraying the life and death of Jesus. The finale was a message of the good news of Christ, and several people accepted Jesus. A fireworks display ended the evening.

While I was celebrating Christmas with family and traditions, Pastor Rigoberto and his team were out in the community each day of the holiday season spreading the love of Christ with the shoeboxes you sent.

Police and delivery truck drivers were given gifts for their children. Gifts were given to children on the streets and to more than 300 children who spent Christmas in the children's hospital. Nurses and doctors there received gifts for their children and the team spent time in prayer with families of the patients. Gifts were given in mission churches and areas where churches are in the process of being planted.

Every day I received a report of how the ministry was going and how God was blessing the people of El Salvador through your generosity.

"We are reaching places where the children have never been blessed in such a great way as today" is how Christmas Day was described. "The smiles of the children are priceless." Our pastors and leadership team in El Salvador spent time in a small village that most would consider poor. They walked from house to house to deliver gifts to the children and to spend

• See **HELP** Page 7 •

BMAA Missions Debuts New Broadcast

by Holly Meriweather

World Missions Day 2020 (Feb. 23) at 8 a.m., a new BMA Missions broadcast was introduced. Hosted by Yalanda Merrell, the monthly show is called **mission:world.tv** and will feature BMA missionaries and what they are doing around the world. An extension of mission:world magazine, it can be viewed on BMA Missions' Facebook page and will be downloadable to share updates with your church.

The four-minute-long episodes will highlight a missionary and country each month, giving viewers an inside look at BMA Missions. Sign up to receive the videos by email (and become a mission:world magazine subscriber if you're not already) by going to missionworld.tv.

Yalanda Merrell

Although she had walked the aisle at the age of seven, she wasn't saved until her freshman year of college. But another eight years passed until she fully surrendered her life to Jesus, then three more until she began intentional discipleship. It's a familiar story for many, and one that Yalanda Merrell doesn't mind telling, especially if it will point someone to Jesus.

Telling stories is what Yalanda is all about, and she has done that professionally - first as a reporter and anchor for KAIT in Jonesboro. Then after eight years, she left the world of broadcasting and television, to work as a recruiter for University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences (UAMS).

Yalanda came to the attention of the LifeWord team in 2018 after Director of Operations Luis Ortega and Executive Director Donny Parrish visited the church that she and her husband, Shawn attend in Northeast Arkansas - Herman Baptist Church



Yalanda Merrell

in Bono.

It Turns out that Yalanda is not only a talented broadcast journalist but a writer as well.

The Lifeword Cloud had just been implemented and print content was needed, so Yalanda was asked to join a team of writers. Her daily devotionals and blogs have been published on lifeword.org ever since. After enthusiastically offering to do more, anything that was needed, BMA Missions took her up on the offer, and the new broadcast is a result!

A Glimpse at What we Will be Studying in Our Summer Bible Classes



Written by:

-Bro. Jake Vandenberg
Pastor, Walnut Road Baptist
Spring Hill, LA

-Dr. Greg Parsons
Professor, BMA Seminary



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"I've been teaching Sunday School 40 years. It is the best material I've ever used."
-Sunday School Teacher, Louisiana

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-Sunday School Student, Texas

"Our church loves the Baptist Expositor. They think it is the best curriculum ever."
-Pastor, Mississippi

Trust in the Salvation of the Lord

Psalm 13:1-16
by Dennis Baker

This psalm was probably written by David during the difficult years of exile from King Saul. During his exile David confessed that, "there is a step between me and death" (I Samuel 20:3). By God's grace, David turned his suffering into songs that help to encourage the believer in times of trials. The Lord allowed David to pour out his anxiety before him. But by the end of the psalm, David's prayer ends with God giving him a correct perspective of the situation. In this brief psalm, David deals with his feelings, his enemies and his faith.

In verses 1-2, David pours out his heart concerning his inward struggles and feelings. God had promised David the throne of Israel, yet he saw King Saul doing evil things and it seemed like God was not judging him. Yet David was doing good things and he felt like God had abandoned him. The phrase "How long, O Lord" indicates that David was disturbed by what the enemy was doing, but he was more concerned about what the Lord was not doing. When we are in trouble and pray for help, but none comes, we tend to feel deserted. David felt like God was ignoring him and that God's alienation was final. He also, felt that God was hiding His face from him instead of smiling upon him.

Feeling like he was abandoned by God, David tried to devise ways to overcome the enemy, but nothing seemed to help. Faith is living without scheming; not leaning on our own experiences and skills and trying to plot our own way. We must not deny our feelings and pretend that everything is going well. It is not sin to ask, "How long?" But, we must realize how deceptive our feelings are, and that God is greater than our hearts and can lift us above the emotional storms of life.

David learned to replace the question "How long, O Lord?" with "My times are in your hands." Psalm 31:14-15. This is a lesson that we must all learn.

Verses 3-4 speaks of David's outward struggles with his enemies. When the mind and body are weary, it is easy to be discouraged. David requested that the Lord "Consider and hear me." David felt that God had hidden His face from him, and he wanted God to turn His face toward him again. A second request, "hear Me," was that the Lord would answer him and send some kind of encouragement. David felt he had been deserted and that his prayers were accomplishing nothing. A third request, "enlighten my eyes" involved spiritual explanation and physical and emotional vitality and strength.

David was concerned about his own needs, but he was more concerned with the glory of God. God had chosen David and had commanded Samuel to anoint him King. If David failed, God's name would be ridiculed. "Don't allow the enemy to gloat over me." The word "moved" in verse 4 means "to waver, to be troubled. If David began to waver, the faithful people of the land would think that God was unable to fulfill His own promises.

Verses 5-6 declares David's Faith. The word "but" indicates a transition from fear and questioning God's promises to faith. David's feelings had been on a roller coaster, but God was still on the throne, and His character had not changed. God's mercy (steadfast love) was all David needed, for it would never fail. God's people don't live on explanations; they live on promises, and those promises are as unchanging as the character of God.

Relying on the Lord leads to rejoicing in the Lord and His salvation. The word "bountiful" focuses on the goodness of God and His generosity in dealing with His people in grace.

"Where no oxen are, the crib is clean: but much increase is by the strength of the ox." Proverbs 14:4

If you're reading along on these articles, hopefully you dealt with "bitterness" in January and achieved an attitude of "forgiveness" in February.

Now, I'd like to add some practical advice in life and church life in particular. I hope you will allow me some latitude here, and know that there is no better, nor more dedicated cheerleader of Brad Banderman than myself.

With that said, I have publicly stated many times that 20 years ago when Brad started out, his personality and antics, shall we say, rubbed a few people the wrong way - in particular a few of my pastoral friends. More than once they would say to me "Boy, I am glad you have him." They would chuckle, of course, and I knew they were not complimenting me or Brad.

But here was the truth: as "obnoxious" as Brad could be, he was an amazing Youth Director. So, after a few years of listening to that and the annoying chuckle that followed, I chose to respond to one of them and I said "I am glad also, because if you had him you would have ruined Him." Needless to say, that ended the conversation. To that gentleman's credit, after working closely with Brad a few years later in an associational ministry, he told me, "Ben, I was wrong about Brad; that guy is something and the Lord has blessed you with a real treasure."

In speaking with my former Pastor, John Smith, he revealed that he had been told the same thing about me years ago. I guess the apple doesn't fall too far from the tree!

Now, what is the point of all this? Look at the verse again: No ox = clean crib; ox = no clean crib. But, did you catch it? There is much strength by the ox..... wait for it..... To get the strength of the ox you must put up with, and yes, shovel some manure.

There it is! One of the most amazing spiritual truths I have ever realized and put to work in the ministry!

It doesn't matter who they are, if they are a human (ox) they

are a sinner and have nuances and hang ups and quirks that will drive you batty on occasion. They also have a spiritual gift: the Holy Spirit, the Word of God, a God-given personality, and a God-given burden for their church and ministry. If we will disciple them, lead them, guide them, and get out of their way, they will grow a great work for and through God.

So, the next time you think, "I am going to ring that monkey's neck," remember the verse. Gotta shovel some poop to get the hard work that only the ox can do. May your fields be fruitful and your cribs...well, you get the idea.

• **HELP From Page 6** •
time getting to know families in the community better.

Pastor Rigoberto said, "We do not have a church in this area, but we have had professions of faith because we have been visiting for a few months. We want to use the toy boxes and the medical brigade (BMMI) to establish the mission."

So what happens for our missionaries as a result of giving out boxes? On the Sunday following shoebox distribution, Pastor Rigoberto's church in Montelimar was packed with people sitting in chairs outside the church. Many new relationships were made, and with each box containing the plan of salvation, people were pointed to Christ and to our churches.

Whether from our friends who packed them in the States or the ministry team that delivered them in El Salvador, each shoebox was given with love and showed the love of Christ to others. Please pray for the pastors in El Salvador as they continue to serve the people in their communities and follow up with those who have begun attending their churches.

Are You Interested In following Faith Baptist Church on social media?

Their Facebook profile is:

<https://www.facebook.com/FaithBaptistSt.Charles/>

Their YouTube channel

doesn't have 100 subscribers yet (they're working on that!) so they don't have a fancy name. You can type in the following link:

https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCNs_w_bfi794jE0WKKoV_Yw,

or you can search:

"Faith Baptist Church St Charles MO" on the main YouTube page. Their logo has three crosses!

Let them know what you think!

David's circumstances didn't change, but the Lord changed him, and that occurred when David stopped looking at his feelings and his foes and by faith started looking to the Lord.

The question about the time of God's intervention remains, but David reaffirmed his trust in the faithfulness of God. "I will sing" reaffirms the assurance that God would deliver him from his inward struggles and the outward dangers of his enemies. David resolved to tell the people about it.

News & Views From Camp Garwood

Drink The Melted Ice Cream....

I'd like to tell you our story from the first week of February.

Friday, 7th, Deekota didn't have a good ob-gyn visit.

Saturday, 8th, After leaving the Trail Life derby races the church van was rear ended while sitting at a stop sign. While at the hospital, Caleb developed complications. A tic that affected his speech.

By Sunday, 9th, Caleb's condition worsens to the point his "tic" is non stop. So we spend all night in Cape ER.

We get home 5 a.m., Monday 10th, to find the refrigerator had quit and everything was melted. We had planned to go with Kota to her return ob-gyn visit but Children's hospital called and scheduled Caleb at the same time as her appointment.

Tuesday, 11th, Caleb's condition worsens because the meds make him so dizzy he can't stand up. Through the whole process Caleb is not as worried about his condition as he is of going to the Dr. and hospitals.

Wednesday, 12th, Caleb's Dr. at Children's hospital says he will improve but it will take a while. A long while, 3 months would be an optimistic recovery time.

While we were in St. Louis receiving fairly good news with Caleb, Kota in Conway was not. Sadly she lost the baby.

At this point we recognize, OK this is a rough week. But, God is in control. We know this. We never wavered in this. There is much comfort knowing that in all this madness **God is in control.**

Early in the week there were some posts on Facebook that made it sound like we were struggling. The posts were intended to help and had our best interest at heart, the wording just made it sound like we were loosing it. But we really hadn't. Oh we've cried. We hugged. But we also talked with each other more than we have in a long time.

The week before this all started we had a study on prayer. We certainly prayed that week. We prayed over Caleb like never before. And still my prayer life needs improvement. But our faith has never wavered.

When we got home at 5 a.m. and found water everywhere from the refrigerator, we got a couple hours sleep. Then, when we got up **we drank the melted Ice cream** for lunch. That night Laura made meatloaf, Caleb's favorite, with the thawed meat for supper. Looking into the refrigerators problem we unplugged it and plugged it back in and it's been working ever since. Thank you Lord!

Caleb and I have played video games together. I've missed so many opportunities to spend time with him over the years, But, Not that week. He's not out of the woods and I'm not done spending time with him.

When these things happen in life we can shake our fist at God, or we can look for what God is doing. We don't always get answers, but, it's not enough to simply say, sometimes the answer is no. Because, God is always in control whatever is going on is a plan, It's God's plan. Not mine, not yours, HIS.

History, In world events and in the events of your life, is HIS story.

Romans 8:28 "And we know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose."

Camp Garwood Activities in 2020:

Pastors & Leaders Retreat • March 27th-28th

Paintball • April 17th-18th

DEWr Retreat • June 19-20

State Camp • July 27-31 - History is HISStory; Cor 1:16

Chris Polk, Camp Director • PO Box 271 • Matthews MO 63867
Phone: (573)380-1975 • e-mail: campgarwood@gmail.com

Be a "Camp DEWr" in 2020

A "Camp DEWr" is an individual who gives \$ 75.00 or more to camp in a year. It is a great way for YOU to support camp.

"Camp DEWr's" receive a free T-shirt and will have a special retreat weekend open only for DEWr's **June 19-20, 2020**. DEWr's get special recognition camp week.

It is time to apply for your membership for 2020 to the camp! If you were a "Camp DEWr" last year you must renew you status for 2020. Therefore if you renewing or joining for the first time send your \$ 75 or more to Sis. Laura Polk at P.O. Box 271, Matthews, MO 63867. For more information call her at (573)472-1038, or email her at campgarwood@gmail.com.

A "Camp DEWr" weekend is a special retreat. We'll have special guests and activities planned.

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.

Douglas Brand of Farmington, member of Fellowship Baptist Church in Potosi, MO; is available for pulpit supply or as the Lord leads (have experience with Music Ministry). If you have any questions, you can contact Mike Jarvis (573-854-9075) or Larry Lovvorn (417-766-4077) for references. Contact Doug at 573-315-0930 or 573-315-0931, email dbrandministries@gmail.com

Matt Barker of Nixa, is available for pulpit supply or as the Lord leads. Contact him by phone (501-408-9500) or by e-mail: mattbarker1988@gmail.com

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.

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

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

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

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.

*Only two defining forces have ever
offered to die for you;
Jesus Christ & The American Soldier.
One died for your SOUL
and the other for your FREEDOM!
Thank God for Both.*

BMA Seminary Dinner

-Heritage Baptist Church, 5:00 p.m.

-Tuesday, April 28

-Tickets \$35/person

-Lifetime alumni members
receive a \$5 discount.

-Contact Seminary to purchase tickets
1-800-259-5673

*Music by the BMA Seminary Singers
(Held in conjunction with the BMAA
National Meeting in Waxahachie, TX)*

Featured Speaker:
Dr. Philip Attebery



*In honor of his 20th year
serving as our Dean*