

The Missouri Missionary Baptist

“Holding Forth The Word of Life”

Philippians 2:16

Volume LXXIX

St. Louis, MO • May 10, 2016

Issue No. 5

“It’s Worth It” - Highlights of 2016 National Meeting in Gatlinburg

by Editor Don Brown, via The Mississippi Baptist

Editor’s Note: I was unable to attend the National Meeting and thank Editor Don Brown for giving me permission to print his report that appeared in the May 1, 2016 issue of the *Mississippi Baptist*.

The 2016 Annual Meeting of the Baptist Missionary Association of America was held April 25-27 in Gatlinburg, Tennessee. 445 churches were represented with 245 sending only letters and 200 represented by 440 messengers attending. 182 visitors were recorded for a total attendance of 662.

These attendance numbers indicate a continual decrease in participation of both churches and messengers at our annual meetings. To have only 445 out of over 1200 churches to participate sends this writer a dire warning concerning the overall health of both our churches and our association.

The distance to this year’s meeting most certainly contributed to the limited attendance, but the decline has continued over the past few years. The rotation of meetings to be held in three strategic locations of Texas, Arkansas, and Mississippi should hopefully help with both attendance and participation.

Future Meetings

The Association accepted the recommendation of the Committee on Arrangements that the 2019 meeting be held May 6-8, 2019, at the Embassy Suites Northwest Arkansas Hotel and Convention Center in Rogers, Arkansas. The Embassy Suites will be our lead hotel. The 2017 meeting will be held in Arlington, Texas.

New Church

North Lake Baptist Church of Smithville, Missouri, petitioned the Association for membership.

Highlights

The 2016 meeting included ‘breakout sessions’ in various areas. Topics included Transformational Teaching, Resolving Conflict in the Church, Protecting Churches from Lawsuits, How Small Churches Can Make a Big Difference, The Importance of Women in Ministry, and Recruiting and Keeping Volunteers. Those attending these seminars stated they were very informative and inspiring.

Reports

Department and Commission reports were shortened this year to make room for additional program participation. Time was given during each day to meet and greet Department Directors, International missionaries, and North American missionaries.

Inspirational Time

President Jason Aultman gave his address on Monday evening from I Corinthians 15. He stated that, “All that we do, sacrifice, serve, etc. - **It Is Worth It All!**”

Gospel recording artist Larnelle Harris presented a concert on Wednesday afternoon that was truly a blessing. Harris is an awarding winning artist and led the messengers in worship and praise. His presentation of the gospel through his music proved to be a truly worshipful experience.

Dr. Johnny Hunt, pastor of First Baptist Church of Woodstock, Georgia, brought a message on Wednesday evening. He stressed points concerning salvation. He talked about the experience and blessing of being saved, the burden of being saved exhibited, and the business of being saved enjoyed.

Missionary Commissioning

After Dr. Hunt’s message the Missions Department presented its report. Executive Director John David Smith explained the expected shortfall in missions offerings and income for the 2016 fiscal year. Contingency plans were in place to care for such a situation and these have been implemented. A few office positions were eliminated and replaced with part-time employees.

REMINDER

5th Annual Men’s Spring Retreat Camp Garwood

Friday, May 13 starting at 7:30 p.m.
Saturday May 14, 2016

Contact the following for more information:

Dennis Baker 636-461-1625, 5146 Darkmoor Ln. Imperial, MO 63052, bbsafety4332@gmail.com

James Hoffmann 314-429-0714, jmhoff@charter.net

Claude Evans 573-562-7036, cbe34@hotmail.com



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Dr. Smith stated that finances must be curtailed in some areas but emphasized that no missionaries are being terminated or brought home. Policy concerning national missionaries being on indefinite salary will be addressed. He noted that the current policy of 65/35 funding has allowed the association to send more

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Last Minute Reminder...

BMA of Missouri Mission Symposium &

Mid-Year Meeting

Mission Symposium - 6:00 p.m. - May 20th
Mid-Year Meeting - 9:00 a.m. - May 21st

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

(Note: this is the correct address, previously printed address was incorrect)

Symposium Offering Goal - \$5,000.
for the Missouri Missionary Baptist Paper

+++ NEWS BRIEFS +++

Antioch, Ellington, is coming your way with late news. The weather is a good topic. It snowed on the first day of Spring and the rain missed us on Easter Sunday. That was OK. Our Sunday school hour is always enjoyed and a blessing. After class Sis. Brenda passed out Easter treats she had made for each of us. How thoughtful of her! Thank you Sis. Brenda. We had a great Easter service. The singing was good and we enjoyed Bro. Michael's inspiring message from God's Holy word. After which, we enjoyed a good dinner and fellowship. During the following week things changed. Sis. Maudeline's daughter, Charlene, was taken to the hospital where she had double bypass surgery and a pacemaker implanted. She is in rehab. Please pray for her. Sis. Maudeline has been ill with pneumonia. She needs prayer also. She is slowly getting better. Sis. Minnie isn't letting cancer keep her from coming to church. She sure has been a blessing and a faithful worker in the church and we love her. Bro. Charles Evans is in the nursing home and not feeling well. Keep him in your prayers. Though we are few in number we are enjoying God's blessings in good services and fellowship. It's in our plans to have a work time at church. The windows are in need of new shades. The outside needs a new coat of paint and a painter has been hired. Until next time God's blessings to all.

Michael Huddleston, Pastor • Mary Marcher, Reporter

Hello from **Bethany, St. Louis**. Here we are in the middle of one of the prettiest times of the year with all the flowers blooming and the grass is green and needing cut every other day! God's beauty is seen everywhere just as His blessings are sent to His children every day. We are saddened at Bethany with the resignation of Bro. Dunn as interim pastor. He and his sweet family were with us for seven short months and we fell in love with them. God blessed us during his time here and we pray that God will continue to bless his ministry. We have been praying and will continue to pray that God will lead the man He wants to lead us. On the 23rd. of May we hosted the Harper Family and were truly blessed. We saw many friends and family members as they came and worshipped with us. Bro. Hoffmann preached for us on the 24th. He and Sister Hoffmann attended the wedding of a grandson in Arkansas the 15th. We had a young mother and her niece visit in our evening service recently. Pray that the Holy Spirit will work in their lives and they will follow His guidance. We are looking forward to what God has in store for us. May God bless and keep each one and keep our country in your prayers.

Kathy Chapman, Reporter.

Landmark, DeSoto, was privileged to have Bro. Jim Ford preach for us in the morning service April 3rd. It is always a blessing to hear God's message from a Godly man such as him. On the Sunday after Easter, many of our members and several visitors met at the home of our pastor and his wife. We had a good picnic dinner, then the younger, (and a few adults had an Easter Egg Hunt) They all had a great time and some received special things in their eggs. I believe everyone got some type of small prize. April 10th was set aside for a high attendance Sunday. It was a good day and we had several visitors. We didn't have as many attend as we had hoped, but on the 24th, we had 63 in church services. So, the Lord blesses in the Lord's time. Bro. Murrell Tutterow has made two prayer benches for the front of the sanctuary. They are beautiful! He is a multi-talented man. Thank you Bro. Murrell. April 22nd, our oldest member passed away. Sis. Maxine Livingston assured us of her salvation. So, she is at home with her Lord and Savior. She had just turned 90 March 17th. We will miss her. Sis. Brenda Shadowens has been very ill

and spent several days in the hospital. She is home now. I also, spent a couple of days in the hospital with a TIA. We all desire your prayers. So, much sickness and death all around. Until Next Month or the Lord's return,

Pastor, Wayne Gibson
Reporter, Sharon Page

Stony Point, Mineral Point, says, "Blessings to all." We are thankful that Pastor Claude & Sis. Bea were able to attend the BMAA National Meetings in Gatlinburg, Tennessee April 25-27. Steve Vollertsen & his son, Brian, presented themselves for baptism and were baptized May 5, 2016. We welcome them. We will be hosting the Missouri State Mission Symposium May 20-21 with Jeff Swart speaking. Flag pole dedication is planned for May 29 and honoring our high school graduates. God's blessings to all.

Claude Evans, Pastor
Debrah Coleman, Reporter

Greeting from **Ozark Heights, Potosi**. It's with deep sadness that we had to say good bye to our Pastor Bro. Brian & Sis. Dawn Mead. Although we hated to see them go we do understand that when God calls we must answer. The Church gathered for a farewell celebration Sunday the 17th after evening services in the Dining hall for cake and ice cream and fun was had by all. Also on the 17th was our monthly Devotional Service at Potosi Manner and it was a pure blessing for our little group to go and bring the Word of our Lord to those who don't get to attend a regular Church Service. We, like most congregation, have a lot of sickness these days and due to health issues we had to say good bye to Bro. Bill and Sis. Georgie. They decided to sell their home and move closer to their daughter and we are really going to miss them. We are asking that you keep our Congregation in your prayers as we go through the process

of finding the Pastor's God has already selected for us to have. We know and trust that He has a purpose and a plan for our Church in these last days and all we have to do is find the right path and follow it. We know and are confident that with His guidance and direction the path will be made clear. This is the day that the Lord has made and the path that our God has chosen for us to be in and we will rejoice and be glad in it.

Submitted by : Sis Gerri Lawson and Sis Irma Shoults

There are blessings at **Bates Creek, Potosi**, to report. Sis. Debbie Moses and her daughter Ashley Moses both joined Bates Creek by baptism. A noon meal was served and the double baptism followed. It was a day enjoyed by all. Several came out to the spring clean up. Some power washed, some burned leaves, some painted, some worked on flower beds but ALL served God by taking care of his house. Finally, we would like to send out a special congratulations to our only high school graduate this year, Mr. Ethan Wright. Bates Creek is so proud of this fine, young man. Way to go, Ethan!!

Sara Buckley, Reporter

Greetings to our sisters and brothers from **First Baptist, Potosi**. God is truly wonderful and continues to bless our work daily. An appreciation luncheon was given for all coaches and workers for the UPWARD program. Bro. John David Smith, Executive Director, BMA Missions provided the message for us April 10th. He reminded us of the sacrifices our missionaries make to obey the call of God. Once again, we hosted the Kairos ministry group. This group provides a special ministry to the inmates of Potosi Correctional Center. The Couples class will begin a new study in May; this class has really grown. Celebrate Recovery has been greatly blessed and continues to serve those with hurts, habits, and hang-ups. We are excitedly preparing for Vacation Bible School; the date has been set for July 5-8. Also on the same date, we will be hosting Sports Crusaders Basketball; those children involved in morning VBS and afternoon basketball will be provided a lunch so they will not have to leave the church. The Youth are planning their mission trip to St. Louis July 8-15. Many prayers are necessary for all of our programs to work and show the glory of God. Pray for us as we pray for you.

Jim Ainley, Pastor • Deborah Rauhut, Reporter

Greetings from **Bethlehem of Doniphan!** April has been another fast month! We are still searching for a Pastor so

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FINANCIAL REPORT BMA OF MISSOURI MISSIONS • April 2016

General Fund:

Balance March 31, 2016		\$	119,645.05
April Receipts:	\$	<u>2,251.75</u>	\$ <u>2,251.75</u>
Total Available		\$	121,896.80
Disbursements:			
Special Mission Com. Meeting	\$	573.25	
Assistant Director's Salary	\$	<u>450.00</u>	
Total Disbursements	\$	<u>1,023.25</u>	\$ <u>(1,023.25)</u>
Balance April 30, 2016:		\$	120,873.55

From Our Assistant Director...

I was physically unable to attend the National Association this year but rejoice in the good reports I am hearing about the meeting.

I hope you enjoy reading the report of the National Meeting that fellow editor Don Brown of Mississippi has shared with us.

Excitement is building as

we approach our Missions Symposium and Midyear meeting later this month. Pastor Claude Evans and Stony Point Church are making preparations and I know we will be welcomed and treated royally.

Pray for Bro. Jeff Swart and come prepared to be informed, inspired, and encour-

aged by God's Word.

As we gather for our Mid-year meeting on Saturday may we do so with a prayer that God will revive His work in Missouri and that we will be sensitive to His leadership in the decisions we make.

I look forward to fellowshiping with our brothers and sisters throughout Missouri in this meeting.

BMA Town Hall Meetings

Northwest Arkansas BMA Town Hall Meeting June 2.

The first BMA Town Hall Luncheon and Meeting for 2016 will be held Thursday, June 2, at Calvary Baptist Church in Fayetteville, Arkansas. Pastors, staff members and their spouses are invited to attend the event which will begin with a catered luncheon at noon followed by an hour-long meeting at 1:00.

The meeting is a time for BMA directors to build relationships with area pastors and to listen to their concerns and suggestions.

Pastors in area associations will be contacted by phone and/or email in the weeks prior to the meeting to invite church staff members and their spouses and to get an exact head count for the catered meal. However, accurate contact information may not be available, so please contact Holly Meriweather at the BMA Global Ministry Center at 501-205-1127 or holly@bmaamerica.org for more information or to let us know who will attend from your church.

and honor their influence.

5. That Dr. John M. Adams, Executive Director, represent the BMA of America in Washington, DC at the Watchmen on the Wall Conference.

6. That our Baptist Missionary Association of America reaffirm and approve the five (5) Moral Action resolutions and that we sincerely pray for our nation and homes.

7. That we humbly request that these resolutions be printed in our BMA State Papers.

8. That Dr. John M. Adams stand as a nominee for Executive Director of Moral Action.

9. That the proposed budget be approved for 2016.

• BMAA From Page 1 •

missionaries to the field.

Dr. Smith addressed the current financial shortfall in a video report two weeks ago. This video is available by going to the missions website at bmamissions.org.

2017 Annual Meeting

The 2017 Annual session will be held in Arlington, Texas. Donny Parrish was selected to bring the 2017 annual message with Cliff Johnson as the alternate.

Doctrinal Statement Change and Recommendations Approved

Recommendations approved by the messenger body for each department and commission are listed below.

The doctrinal statement change presented at the 2015 meeting was approved by the messengers at the 2016 BMA of America meeting. The change is listed below.

Article III – CREATION

C. Man — As the crowning work of His creation, God created humankind (male and female) in His own image (Psa. 8; Gen. 1:27; 2:7). Consequently, every person from conception is of inherent dignity and worth and merits the respect of all other persons (Psa. 51:5; Psa. 139:13-16; Gen. 9:6; Matt. 10:2831; Jam. 3:9).

D. Marriage — God created marriage (Gen. 1:27-28; 2:23-24). Jesus Christ declared the Creator's intention for marriage to be the inseparable and exclusive union between a man and a woman (natural man and natural woman) (Matt. 19:4-6; Mark 10:6-9). Marriage testifies of the union between Christ and the church (Eph. 5:31-32; Rom. 1:25-27).

Department & Commission Recommendations Approved at 2016 Meeting

Moral Action Recommendations

1. That our local associations, our local, state and national WMA and Brotherhoods, and our local churches be encouraged to give a financial gift or budgeted monthly gifts to Moral Action. These funds will strengthen this ministry. We desire to do much more.

2. That our churches and pastors embrace and support our nation by participating and promoting the National Day of Prayer (NDOP), Thursday, May 5, 2016. Join other Americans in prayer for our nation. Meetings can be conducted at town halls, city halls, county courthouses, flagpoles, state houses and churches.

3. That all our BMA churches schedule June 26 and July 3, 2016; as the Moral Action "Freedom Offering" Sunday. This is an opportunity to honor and give memorials to our soldiers, both past and present.

4. That the BMA family celebrate September 11, 2016 as Grandparents Day

Lifeword Recommendations

1. That we adopt the proposed operating budget for 2016.
2. That Sunday, October 23, 2016 be set aside as Lifeword Sunday.

3. That the housing allowance be set at \$2,500 per month for the chief broadcast officer, production team leader, program director, and executive director.

4. That the executive director be paid a base salary of \$45,846, a housing allowance of \$30,000, one-half of Social Security/Medicare, health & dental insurance, retirement at 6% of salary and an auto provided. Note: The recommended compensation is based on an independent evaluation of the executive director position by Phillip Blount & Associates, an independent compensation consulting firm used by a number of Baptist groups. Compensation levels are determined through a three-step process— job analysis, job evaluation, and extensive market research. The recommended amount is at the 25th percentile level.

5. That Steve Crawley stand as a nominee for executive director.

Ministers Resource Services Recommendations

1. That Ron Chesser stand as nominee for Executive Director of Ministers Resource Services.

2. That \$18,000.00 of the Executive Director's salary be designated as housing allowance.

3. That the budget of \$257,404.14 be approved.

4. We urge each church to enroll her pastor and church staff in the BMA Retirement Plan at Ministers Resource Services.

5. We urge our pastors and their wives to enroll in the Ministers Benevolent Society and Auxiliary.

6. We urge each church to include Ministers Resource Services in her monthly budgeted offerings to the various departments and agencies of the BMA.

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• **NEWS From Page 2** •

please keep praying for us. We had another great Youth In The Harvest meeting at Briar. We are still working towards reaching the goal of sponsoring a Community Lifeword Radio Station. The goal is to raise \$1,500.00 and as of April we are at \$900.00. Keep praying! The Third Sunday Singing was at Mt. Carmel and as always it is so much fun being together with our brothers and sisters in Christ. Please pray for Bro. Bob Hill as he is recouping from surgery. Until next month may the Lord bless and keep us all!

Yvonne Hill, Asst. Reporter

Abundant Life in Christ, Charleston, reports: Our auditorium ceiling is now completed. Pictures can be seen on our facebook page. Rodney Dunlap, Pastor

HELLO TO ALL from **Oak Hill, Alton!** Not a lot of things happened at Oak Hill in April. My mother Edith Williams turned seventy years old on the 29th. The first Wednesday in May we will be supporting the Baccalaureate Services at Alton High School at 7:00 p.m. We have three young ladies Halley Kernodle, Ashley Brandon, and Dakota Shaw graduating from Alton High School May, 6th. We are having our graduation dinner on the 15th. This will take the place of our usual fifth Sunday dinner. Hopefully the men at Oak Hill will do something special like they have done in the past for all of the Mother's on Mother's Day. We would like to wish every Mother a very Happy Mother's Day. Please remember my brother Jesse Williams Jr. in prayer as he will be having surgery May 6th at Mercy Hospital in Springfield, MO. Please pray that his surgery goes well and that he will have a speedy recovery. Until next month, when I hope I will have some good news to tell you, we will be praising and honoring our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. God Bless!!

Edward Casey, Pastor
Jennifer Williams, Reporter

• **BMAA From Page 3** •

BMA Seminary Recommendations

1. Affirmation of the proposed budget
2. Re-affirm the appointment of Dr. Charley Holmes as president
3. Each church observe Sunday, May 15, 2016, As Scholarship Sunday with
 - a. special prayer for our graduates
 - b. receiving a special scholarship offering to support the training of future BMA pastors and missionaries on that Sunday.

DiscipleGuide Recommendations

1. We recommend the adoption of the 2016 DiscipleGuide Budget.
2. We recommend that Scott Attebery stand as a nominee for the position of Executive Director of DiscipleGuide.
3. We recommend that the executive director be paid a base salary of \$49,646, a housing allowance of \$32,000, one half of Social Security/Medicare, health & dental insurance, retirement at 6% of salary and an auto allowance. Note: The recommended compensation is based on an independent evaluation of the executive director position by Phillip Blount & Associates, an independent compensation consulting firm used by a number of Baptist groups. Compensation levels are determined through a three-step process—job analysis, job evaluation, and extensive market research. The recommended amount is at the 25th percentile level.
4. We recommend that churches participate in DiscipleGuide's Kingdom Investment special emphasis on December 18, 2016.

BMA Foundation Recommendations

1. That the proposed 2016 operating budget be approved.
2. That the Executive Director's compensation be set at \$9,600.
3. That \$7,200 of the Executive Director's compensation be designated as housing allowance for income tax purposes.
4. That Charles Attebery stand as a nominee as Executive Director.
5. That members of BMAA churches prayerfully consider tithing their estates with a bequest directed to the BMA Foundation.

Missionary Advisory Committee Recommendations

1. We recommend Ashraf Sara for a three-year term as a church planting catalyst among Arabic speaking peoples in the U.S.
2. We recommend Jesse Garrido for a three-year term as a church planting catalyst among Spanish speaking peoples in California.
3. We recommend the approval of the proposed BMA Missions Employee Compensation Policy.
4. We recommend Joe Costa as missionary to the Middle East to be elected in April 2016.
5. We recommend that we endorse the ministry "We Are Free" and that it becomes a partner ministry.
6. We recommend Angel Colon as a North American Church planter to Vidalia, Louisiana.
7. We recommend monthly support for the Hispanic church planting effort in Louisiana with up to \$2,000.00, as per budget availability. (Angel Colon).
8. We recommend Carl and Dana Sookraj as self-supporting missionaries to Peru.
9. We recommend the election of Tatiana Tinoco and Susy Galvez from Peru as missionaries to India in partnership with the Peruvian association.
10. We recommend the proposal made by the missions office leadership concerning Larry Barker and North American

**Faithful Pastor's
Wife and Loving
Mother Called
Home**

Zelma Beauton Maddox Thurman, 95, of Harviell, Mo., passed away Sunday, April 24, 2016 at the Poplar Bluff Regional Medical Center.

Mrs. Thurman was born October 8, 1920 in Ridgley, TN. She worked as a homemaker and was a pastor's wife, serving several area churches in a span of 60 years. She loved her family, feeding birds, squirrels and Ms. Tigger. She attended Independence Missionary Baptist Church.

Oct. 6, 1934 she married Elder H.R Thurman in Hickman, KY. He preceded her in death on June 8, 2003.

She is survived by her sons, Ray Thurman of Potosi, MO., Jim Thurman of Jonesboro, AR., and Roy Thurman of Jonesboro, AR.; daughters, Peggy Reinbott of Harviell, MO., Sue Thurman Beller of Harviell, MO., Joy Davis of Jonesboro, AR., Marilyn Lee of Central Point, OR.; 25 grandchildren; and numerous great and great-great grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by her parents, Bennie Maddox and Hester Mae Barber Maddox; her son, Elder Gene Thurman as well as her brothers and sister.

Her funeral was Thursday, April 28, 2016 at the Fowler-Sullivan Memorial Chapel in Neelyville at 1:00 p.m. with Elder Ray Thurman officiating and Elder Bobby Brooks assisting. Burial was at the Antioch Cemetery



Sis. Thurman

Report from Jesse Hales,

BMA Missionary to the Dominican Republic

It has been an exciting and crazy month since we reported to you last. First, Bro. David Dickson (the famous field director in Latin America for the BMA) came to visit us. It is always encouraging and motivating to get to sit down and talk with him face-to-face. He has a lot of experience and wisdom from which to glean.

After he left we had the privilege of hosting a team from Central Baptist Church in Conway, AR who came to help hold a VBS at the Nagua church. This is the church Rebecca grew up in and we already knew most of the people on the team. It was a lot like having family to come help. It ended up being the biggest VBS the church had seen in a long time. Hearts were touched and the Gospel was presented every day, even to the mothers who came with their kids. The local teachers were very encouraged and picked up a few new ideas. One of the most encouraging things that happened as a result of their trip actually happened with one of the translators. He is a youth leader at one of our other churches here. During the trip he realized that God had been calling him to work with kids. He has since started working in the children's ministry at his church where before there was only one overworked and overwhelmed teacher holding down the fort. This is a clear answer to prayer that I am sure will have a lasting impact.

church planting. We recommend that Larry Barker serve as the leader of North American Church Planting with a monthly part-time stipend from the missions office.

11. We recommend the 2016 budget as presented by the Missions Department.

12. We recommend the re-election of Dr. John David Smith as Executive Director of Missions.

13. We recommend that the Executive Director's salary be set at \$44,000. Along with all director's housing allowances set at \$24,000.

Ghana Bound – A marathon of Shepherd Bags Shipments!

By: Fonda Norris, EIM Shepherd Bags Coordinator

I'm happy to add this update to my previous Shepherd Bags article that I reported on in many of our BMAA state papers in February. Since that report, Evangelistic International Ministries (EIM) has had yet "another" shipment of Shepherd Bags. We shipped 16,068 Shepherd Bags to Ghana, West Africa!

To say we've had a banner year in our Shepherd Bags Ministry would be an understatement. A more accurate statement would be we've had an extremely busy but blessed five months here at the assembly warehouse in Warren. BUSY in that we've had large shipments go out to three different countries from December 2015 to March 2016 as well as two churches taking the Shepherd Bags with them on their mission trips. BLESSED in that in addition to last month's shipment to Ghana, we've assembled and shipped a total of 55,150 Shepherd Bags in five months! That is a record in our 17 years of assembling bags! They are currently in the countries of Honduras, the Philippines, Mexico, Nicaragua, and now Ghana being used to preach the Gospel of Jesus Christ!! I marvel at what God can accomplish using resources He supplies through His people, willing workers to help and sometimes just a lot of hard physical labor.

We are looking forward to being able to go into schools and villages in Ghana this summer with our Overseas Bible School team and distribute many of the bags. It's always exciting to hear BMA Minister and EIM Founder Bro. Rocky Goodwin take the John 3:16 Frisbee (as shown in the photo while in Ghana) and the Gospel story/color book designed especially for our Shepherd Bags and speak to the children of God's love for them and present the plan of salvation using these teaching tools that we place in all of our Shepherd Bags. To date, we have had our John 3:16 Frisbees printed in five languages. When we see them flying around the school yards, remote villages, out in the bush of Africa or the jungles along the Amazon we ask ourselves, "God, where will You take Your Word?" Only heaven will reveal that awesome truth as we know "His Word will not return unto Him void."

Our unisex Shepherd Bags continue to be a great cost ef-

fective tool that not only blesses children and brings many happy faces, but it also opens many doors for EIM to go and make Jesus' name known among the nations.

Please continue to pray for the Shepherd Bags Ministry as we continue to be faithful stewards of all that God sends our way through your support. We take all monies donated for Shepherd Bags and use it to purchase items to go into the bags, have our EIM Gospel story/color books printed, and pay all shipping and in-country transportation costs.

We always remind everyone that we make bags all year long as long as God provides funds. As of now, due to the large number of Shepherd Bags shipments, we have depleted our funds so we are waiting to allow our funds to build back up. We're praying summer time brings many VBS offerings that will allow us to begin to get back to work soon.

If you would like to find out how you can be involved in the Shepherd Bags Ministry, visit our website at www.eimworldwide.org and go to the Shepherd Bags link. Or you can call us here anytime at 870-226-3626.

Our summer Shepherd Bags distribution trips are

From BMA Missionary Fil Kakilala in the Philippines....

To God Be The Glory

The world in which we live sometimes seems out of control and we wonder what will happen next. But that makes us realize with more certainty that God is in control, He is at work, and we want to continue to be a part of His plan.

God orchestrated all the details for all our family to be together for the marriage of our daughter Charisa to Avery Rodriguez on April 16 in New York City. We truly felt blessed.

While in the U.S. we were glad for the opportunity to attend

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already filled but if you are interested in taking a trip to hand out bags and bless children in Honduras, our next available trip is: November 28 through December 2. We book our trips early so don't delay and come with us and watch God work using a simple one gallon zip-loc bag.

Please continue to pray that we will be found faithful to what God has ordained for EIM to do and that is preach the Gospel of Jesus Christ to the lost all around the world.



Shepherd Bags in Ghana



John 3:16 Frisbees in Ghana

NEED A PROJECT FOR VBS?

How about allowing your students to take an active role in world evangelism?

With EIM's Shepherd Bags, children can reach other children with the gospel of Jesus Christ. These bags are placed in the hands of children in need around the globe.

For more information on how your church can get involved, contact Fonda Norris at 870.226.3626 or fnorris@eimworldwide.org.



www.eimworldwide.org

WMA & GMA NEWS

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Cedar Hill, MO 63016
e-mail - nrwomble@juno.com

Send all WMA Offerings to:

STATE WMA TREASURER:

Connie Reifsteck
P.O. Box 190493
St. Louis, MO 63119

Send all GMA Offerings to:

STATE GMA TREASURER

Shelia Polk
P.O. Box 259
Matthews, MO 63867

National WMA News

Women's Missionary Auxiliary President Ruby Poteet reported that there were 141 messengers and 40 visitors present for their annual meeting on Tuesday.

The program included a devotional by National Miss GMA and Amanda Hall, and prayer by National Junior Miss GMA Lydia Dunlap.

Dr. Ralph Izard, director of Baptist Medical Missions International, encouraged the ladies to help with the Christmas Shoebox project.

Missionaries Doug & Diane Lee thanked them for helping with major renovations, expansion and furnishing of the existing buildings at the BMA Bible College in Negros Occidental, Philippines through their 2015-16 project.

After the installation of officers by Jodi Rhea, the program included special music by the Lees and featured speaker, Fran Hoover.

For more information on National WMA, visit their website at nationalwmaofbmaa.net

God, Not Government

If people would spend just one fourth as much time seeking God as they do talking politics, with one third the depth of passion, we might actually lay hold on God, and then the solution to America's mess we are trying to solve through electing "the right man" would be found.

Brother Ritechus N. Dignation



Verses on Repentance

Exodus 34:9
Numbers 14:19
II Chronicles 7:14
Ezra 9:6-10
Jeremiah 3:25 14:7
14:20
Daniel 9:4-19
Jonah 3:8-9
Acts 3:18
I John 1:8,9

Resolutions Adopted at the National BMAA Meeting in Gatlinburg.

The following **Moral Action** resolutions were passed unanimously Tuesday afternoon, April 26, at the BMA of America Meeting in Gatlinburg, Tenn.:

Resolution #1 — Godly Citizenship

Whereas, God has given us a unique political system by which political dialogue is used to identify issues important to our nation; and Whereas, the Bible urges individual Christian involvement in the political process; and Whereas, Christians are to be submitted to the lordship of Jesus in all aspects of their life, and; Whereas, there is a new openness and awareness of Christian responsibility to influence the direction and character of our nation, Therefore, be it resolved, that we, the Baptist Missionary Association of America reaffirm our historic commitment to Christian citizenship; and Therefore, be it further resolved, that BMA churches evaluate, discuss and be meaningfully involved in shaping the destiny of our great nation; and Be it therefore resolved, that the messengers of the Baptist Missionary Association of America assembled in Gatlinburg, Tenn., April 25-27, 2016 call on all to exercise our Godly citizenship.

Resolution #2 —

Abortion on Demand

Whereas, abortion on demand was legalized by the United States Supreme Court on January 22, 1973; and Whereas, the Bible clearly establishes the sanctity of human life in that God created humans in his own image, And no conception of a person can occur beyond his direction or permissive will; and Whereas, an unprecedented assault against human life is escalating against preborn humans and other persons, such as the elderly, infirmed and deformed, for whom some arbitrary, humanistic measurement has found that they are unable to possess "quality of life;" and Whereas, some presidential candidates hold to a publicly stated "litmus test" for federal judges, especially candidates for the U.S. Supreme Court, insisting that they be pro-abortion; Therefore, be it resolved, that we the messengers of the Baptist Missionary Association of America, meeting in Gatlinburg, Tenn., April 25-27, 2016; do strongly stand in opposition to this continued murdering of unborn children and any attempt by Congress or our President to enact a pro-abortion agenda; and Further, be it resolved, that we call upon all committed Christians to vote for political candidates who firmly stand against abortion on demand and will support and work for legislation and/or a constitutional amendment which will prohibit abortion; and Further, be it resolved, that we encourage the people of our churches to inquire whether or not their physicians perform abortions on demand or give referrals for abortion, and that we commend those of the medical profession who abstain from performing abortions or making abortion referrals; and Finally, be it resolved, that this body, upon approval of this resolution stand in prayer during this session, asking God to convict the hearts of the justices of the Supreme Court of the United States, that they will overturn "Roe vs. Wade."

Resolution #3 — Evils of gambling

Whereas, gambling in our nation has left pain and destruction in the lives of countless people, especially children, the poor, and the elderly; and Whereas, many state governments have believed the lie that state-sponsored gambling will improve their economy and provide funds for education, despite evidence to the contrary; and Whereas, state governments by approval of the so-called benefits of gambling become a predator rather than a protector of it constituents; and Whereas, the commercial advertising of gambling further increases the negative effects; and Whereas, often the tide of gambling has been turned in American history by God's people who knelt in confession and stood in conviction; Be it therefore resolved, that we, the messengers of the Baptist Missionary Association of America, assembled in Gatlinburg, Tenn., April 25-27, 2016; call on all Christians to exercise their influence by refusing to participate in any form of gambling or its promotion; and Be it finally resolved, that we urge our political leaders to enact law restricting and eventually eliminating all forms of gambling and its advertisement.

Resolution #4 — Israel/Jewish People

Whereas, we promote the reaffirmation of the United States government to support and help protect the Jewish nation of Israel, God's own people; and Whereas, we believe Jehovah God attested both the existence and the continuing existence of the Jewish people and by the proclamation of the Gospel of Jesus Christ; and Whereas, we pray for genuine peace in the Middle East; and Whereas, we Christians believe that the present state of Israel maintains a divine right to the land given to Abraham; Therefore, be it further resolved, that the messengers and churches of the Baptist Missionary Association of America meeting in Gatlinburg, Tenn., April 25-27, 2016, urge the United States government to maintain a recognition of Israel and support unequivocal her right to exist as God's people.

Resolution #5 — Vote your Bible Values

Whereas, we recognize the need to elect Godly leaders to political offices in the 2016 election year; and Whereas, politicians are always anxious to appear to be strong supporters of God and his kingdom; and Whereas, some corrupt politicians try to use religion for political ends; and Whereas, these types of political leaders are guilty of selling faith for corrupt power; Be it therefore resolved, that we born again believers in Christ, work to elect good and Godly men and women who share our biblical values and who support our church policies of morality; and Be it therefore resolved, that we urge these Godly political representatives to take care of the public trust; and Be it therefore resolved, that the Baptist Missionary Association of America meeting in Gatlinburg, Tenn., April 25-27, 2016 work diligently to elect good and Godly men and women to public offices in the United States.

Resolution #6

Marriage

One Man And One Woman Whereas, the ongoing battle by Satan to dissolve the institution of holy marriage; and Whereas, the media, the liberal press, social progressives and the liberal churches seek to diminish the importance of true marriage; and Whereas, Christians affirm God's plan for marriage and sexual intimacy as one man and one woman legally married for life; and Whereas, any other relationship that involves sexual intimacy is considered outside the bounds of God's law; Be it therefore resolved, that we promote Godly marriages and urge the churches and messengers of the Baptist Missionary Association of America meeting in Gatlinburg, Tenn., April 25-27, 2016 to recognize the importance of the institution of marriage.

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

**How Can A Christian Know When
He is Doing God's Will?**

Colossians 3:15

by Dennis Baker, Brotherhood President

And let the peace of God rule in your hearts, to the which also ye are called in one body; and be ye thankful. The answer is the peace of God in the heart and in the church. When a believer loses his inner peace he knows he has in some way disobeyed God.

Paul encourages the believer to "Let the peace of God rule in your hearts." The word "rule" is an athletic term, which means, "to preside at the games and distribute the prizes." In the Greek games, there were judges or umpires who rejected the contestants who were not qualified, and who disqualified those who broke the rules.

The peace of God is the "Umpire" in the believer's heart and in the church. When we obey the will of God, we have God's peace within, but when we step out of His will (even unintentionally), our hearts will be troubled and not at peace with God.

We must beware of a false peace in the heart. Jonah deliberately disobeyed God, yet he was able to sleep in the bottom of the ship in a storm. Jonah 1:5, Then the mariners were afraid, and cried every man unto his god, and cast forth the wares that were in the ship into the sea, to lighten it of them. But Jonah was gone down into the sides of the ship; and he lay, and was fast asleep. Just to say "I have peace about it, is not sufficient evidence that you are in the will of God. We must pray, surrender to His will, seek His guidance in Scriptures. The peace of heart alone is not always the peace of God.

Another evidence of peace involves peace with others in the church. The nature of our relationship with God involves other believers. If we are out of the will of God, we are certain to bring discord and disharmony in the church. Jonah though he was at peace, when actually his sins created a storm!

When a Christian loses the peace of God, he begins to go off in directions that are out of the will of God. He will turn to the things of the world and the flesh to compensate for his lack of peace within. He will try to escape, but he cannot escape himself! It is only when he confesses his sin, claims God's forgiveness, and does God's will that he experiences God's peace within.

Finally, when a believer is happy he will be thankful. The believer out of God's will is never found giving sincere praise to God. When David covered up his sin he lost his peace and praise. When he confessed his sins the joy of his salvation returned. Psalms 32:1-5, "Blessed is he whose transgression is forgiven, whose sin is covered. Blessed is the man unto whom the LORD imputeth not iniquity, and in whose spirit there is no guile. When I kept silence, my bones waxed old through my roaring all the day long. For day and night thy hand was heavy upon me: my moisture is turned into the drought of summer. Selah. I acknowledged my sin unto thee, and mine iniquity have I not hid. I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the LORD; and thou forgavest the iniquity of my sin. Selah."

Are You **DE**Wing it?
Give a **Dollar** **E**very **W**eek
to Camp Gawood

**The
Master's
Builders Work at
Daniel Springs
Camp**

The first week in April was the time set for The Master's Builders to begin their annual job at Daniel Springs Camp in Gary, Texas. Jason Prewitt, camp director, had plans for the men to tear out the concrete cinder block dividers in the bathrooms in 5 dorms and to build new walls and doors for each bathroom. There was a lot of precise sawing going on!! They also cut and installed vinyl planks for the floor in each shower, installed a door between the rooms in the workers' dorm to give some privacy, constructed 2 lifeguard stands and built 32 shadow boxes for each dorm to display scriptures, pictures, info etc. They also built a GaGa Ball Game Pit and placed it (and one previously built) on the grounds.

This was the 141st job for the Master's Builders. There were 13 RV's parked in the parking lot, with 3 men staying in the workers' dorm, and 1 that drove back and forth each day, for a total of 17 men.

While at Gary, we attended the Dedication Service for the new building at Bethel Baptist in Clayton, Texas. The Master's Builders helped in the construction of this building in September of last year. It is a beautiful building with precious members! They have been such a blessing to our group!

Our Builders family is still mourning the loss of our dear friend and fellow worker, John May. And while on this job at Gary, we loss another dear friend. Robert Ramey, our almost 90 year old Master's Builder, was called Home. Robert was with us as we worked at Bethel last year and was there working with us a Daniel Springs. He enjoyed the work so much and we enjoyed being with him. Robert was not present for "circle up" prayer Tuesday

**Camp Garwood
Semi-Annual Report Financial
October 1, 2015 - April 30, 2016**

General Fund:	
Balance Forward	\$ 9,197.61
Total Received	27,676.53
Disbursements	11,617.97
Total on Hand	25,256.17

Food Fund:	
Balance Forward	\$ 0.00
Total Received	300.00
Disbursements	586.98
Total on Hand	(286.98)

Insurance Fund:	
Balance Forward	\$ 0.00
Total Received	0.00
Disbursements	4,421.53
Total on Hand	(4,421.53)

Shed Fund:	
Balance Forward	\$ 1,650.00
Total Received	0.00
Disbursements	0.00
Total on Hand	1,650.00

Paintball Fund:	
Balance Forward	\$ 0.00
Total Received	695.00
Disbursements	690.19
Total on Hand	4.81

Tabernacle Fund:	
Balance Forward	\$ 737.50
Total Received	22,762.50
Disbursements	23,500.00
Total on Hand	0.00

Dorm Fund:	
Balance Forward	\$ 0.00
Total Received	14,783.00
Disbursements	0.00
Total on Hand	14,783.00

Total all funds:	
Balance Forward	\$ 11,585.11
Total Received	66,217.03
Disbursements	40,816.67
Total on Hand	36,985.47

morning, but he WAS present with our Lord. What an inspiration and blessing he was to us all. We miss John and Robert, but are so thankful for the precious memories we have of each. Remember the families of these men, especially Barbara May.

The work will continue, as The Master's Builders plan to be at Crossroads Baptist, Winnsboro, Texas, on May 9, and on to Summers Baptist, Summer, Arkansas, on June 13. REMEMBER!

If you want to keep up with us, you can! Like us on our Facebook page, The Master's Builders.

If you feel the Lord is leading you toward this ministry, if you have any questions, or if your church has building needs, you can contact our Office Coordinator, Bro. John Mangum at 318-205-5155 or his cell 318-607-4100 or our Field Coordinator, Eddie Sikes at 903-725-6549 or his cell 479-462-1675.

Nelda Malone, Reporter

• *FIL* From Page 5 •

the National BMA Meeting in Gatlinburg, Tenn. It was great to see long time friends and be encouraged and challenged. We went away from the Smoky Mountains refreshed and ready to serve.

We thank God for the expanding work in the northern region of the Philippines. The Corpuz Family, our national workers, covet your prayers for the work in Laoag, San Nicolas, and beyond. They stretch their time and resources to the limit for the spread of the gospel and would love to have you be a part of this ministry by prayer and giving. The Corpuz family have shared a list of specific needs you might consider: KJV Bibles, 2 sets of computers & books for the student center, 1 aircon for the hub, hand me down clothes for infants/adults, and a church van for fetching people.

We are very excited about the brand new mission started in Estancia, Iloilo on the island of Panay. Pastor Remy and his wife Chita Bulohabo have seen God's hand of blessing with souls saved and lives changed. They are just beginning their set up and have many needs. The list includes a sound system and projector. They are requesting Bibles, and other children's books.

Please remember the other mission points in the Pacific including the churches in Hawaii, Micronesia, Samoa, and Singapore. Our travel to these mission points comes out of our work fund, so you can help in this area.

We truly appreciate your love and support for missions. We pray God's Best for you.

Fil, Lisa & Justine Kakilala

Mississippi & Arkansas Churches Seeking Pastors

First Baptist Church of Shady Grove, Laurel, Mississippi, is searching for a pastor. Any interested individuals should send a resume to Pastor Search Committee, c/o First Baptist Church, 4514 Highway 15 North, Laurel, MS 39440 or e-mail to fbcs shadygrove@yahoo.com. Phone inquiries should

BMAA Seminary News

BMA Seminary's Fiftieth-Ninth Commencement

The Baptist Missionary Association Theological Seminary of Jacksonville, Texas will hold its 2016 commencement exercises on Saturday, May 14 at 2:00 p.m. in the seminary's Dorman Memorial Chapel. BMA Seminary is located at 1530 East Pine Street in Jacksonville.

The event is open to the public.

This year's graduating class will be the seminary's fifty-ninth. Graduates will receive Associate, Bachelor and Master's degrees during the ceremony.

Dr. James C. Blaylock, Library Director for the BMA Seminary's Kellar Memorial Library and Pastor of the Corinth Baptist Church of Jacksonville, Texas, will present the commencement address. Blaylock has been involved in Gospel ministry since 1960, including 50 years of service with the seminary's library and 45 years as a pastor in Cherokee County, Texas. In February 2016, the BMA Seminary faculty chose to recognize Blaylock's work in keeping records and archives by naming an 18th Century Sefer Torah after him.

Blaylock has been selected to Who's Who in Religion four times and to Who's Who in the Southwest three times. He has authored several books including *The History of Buena Vista Baptist Church*, *The History of First Baptist Church of Maydelle*, and *Glimpses from the Past*.

Blaylock earned the A.A. degree from Southeastern Baptist College of Laurel, Mississippi and both the Th.B. and M.R.E. degrees from the Baptist Missionary Association Theological Seminary. He also earned the B.A. from the University of Texas at Tyler and the M.S.L.S. degree from the East Texas State University. In 2011, BMA Seminary awarded him the Doctor of Divinity degree.

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

Shines to Retire

Dr. Jim and Carol Shine of Jacksonville, Texas will retire from 30 years of service to the Baptist Missionary Association Theological Seminary.

The Shines moved to Jacksonville in 1974 so that he could enroll in BMA Seminary's Master of Divinity program. He completed the degree in 1978 and both Shines returned in 1986 to begin working for seminary.

Mrs. Shine worked as an assistant in the seminary's business office from 1986-1996 and 1998-2007. She served as business manager from 2007-2009. Since 2009, she has served as assistant to the seminary president. In appreciation for her years of service, the seminary will award her the honorary Master of Arts in Church Ministries degree during its 2016 Commencement Exercises on May 14.

Dr. Shine accepted a teaching position as Professor of Biblical Studies in, and has served since 1986, as the seminary's primary professor of biblical Greek language. In addition to his M.Div. from BMA Seminary, Shine's educational accomplishments include a B.A. from Central Baptist College, Conway, Arkansas and the M.A. (English) from Stephen F. Austin State University, Nacogdoches, Texas. Following significant Ph.D. studies at Baylor University, the BMA Seminary awarded him the Doctor of Divinity in 2006.

The Shines married in 1964 and have two daughters: Kelly and Keri. Individuals wishing to send congratulatory cards or letters may send them to the BMA Seminary at P.O. Box 670, Jacksonville, Texas 75766.

Lisa Satterwhite, Dean's Assistant

be made to Don Brown at 601-426-3293.

Landmark Baptist Church in England, Arkansas is seeking a pastor. Resumes may be sent to: Pulpit Committee, P.O. Box 177, England, Ark. 72046.

AVAILABLE PREACHERS

The following names are listed as a service to our churches in keeping you informed as to preachers that are available. The publishing of a preacher's availability for preaching appointments or pastoral work should not be considered as a recommendation by the *Missouri Missionary Baptist*. Names are published at the request of the individual and will be published until a request is received to remove it.

Joseph Duckworth, a member of Kewanee missionary baptist church is available for Preaching or however the Lord leads. Contact him at 573-521-8039.

Rocky Houston, a member of Kewanee missionary Baptist church is available for pulpit supply or as the Lord leads. Contact him at 573-521-6385.

Caleb Houston, youth minister of Kewanee is available for weekend revivals, youth events, and pulpit supply. Contact him at 573-521-7826 or calebhouston@yahoo.com.

Brad Akers of Belgrade, is available for pulpit supply or as the Lord leads. Contact him 573-766-1405 or 573-701-1850 or by e-mail at bakers001@centurytel.net

Denver Page, a member of Landmark Baptist Church in DeSoto is available for pulpit supply as God leads. He can be contacted by home phone 636-942-3503 or cell phone 314-283-7243.

Richard Smith, from Matthews, is available for pulpit supply or however the Lord leads. Contact him at 573-931-0455 or through his Pastor, Chris Polk at 573-380-1975.

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

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

Dennis Leonard, from Potterville MBC is available for pulpit supply or as the Lord leads. Seeking God's direction. May be contacted at 417-284-1277 (home) or 573-561-6414 (cell).

Sam Wisdom, a member of Ohlman Missionary Baptist Church at Bunker, MO is available for pulpit supply or however the Lord leads. Contact him at 573-689-2750.

Summer '16 Compass to Focus on the New Testament Message and Messengers

DiscipleGuide is pleased to continue offering Compass Bible study users a survey of the entire Bible through our "Big Picture" series. For the past several quarters, Compass has surveyed individual books of the Bible in an attempt to give readers a bird's-eye-view of Scripture. As with any genre, book, or passage of Scripture, a lifetime could be given to explore the depths of God's truth. The goal is to provide believers with a better understanding of the whole of Scripture. Sometimes

seeing a large map helps you navigate specific terrain.

The summer quarter will focus on the message and messengers of the Gospel of Matthew through Second Thessalonians. Special emphasis will be given to the heart of Christ's saving message and how rapidly it travelled throughout the world after his resurrection. Lessons centering on epistles will highlight the gospel foundation, purpose, and mission of the local church.



For more information or to order Compass, go to discipleguide.org or call 800.333.1442.