

The Missouri Missionary Baptist

“Holding Forth The Word of Life” *Philippians 2:16*

Volume LXXVII

St. Louis, MO • October 7, 2014

Issue No. 10

D.E.W. Fund Reminder

The DEW fund is “Re-DEWing” and our first quarter was finished October 31st. Each church’s DEW (Dollar Every Week) fund representative is there to pray, encourage, remind and gather for the DEW fund. The commitment of one dollar every week has improved and continues to improve Camp Garwood tremendously. Thank you to all who have committed to the camp with donations and prayers. Please send your church’s donations to:

Cathy Beardsley
PO Box 29
Canalou MO 63828

If there are any questions please contact me through facebook or by phone 573-380-9502.

Thank you again!

Cathy Beardsley

Random Thoughts of a Camp Director

What’s On His Mind???

I made my last 2014 mowing trip to camp this past Saturday, October 4th and started mowing at 9 a.m. finishing at 4 p.m., 7 hours later! That’s a lot of time to think. Time to think about the message for Sunday. Time to think about camp...New projects... Unfinished projects... Projects from days gone by...

This month I thought I might share with you some of those “random thoughts while mowing.” Hopefully its not too boring.

Mowing along the road to the ballfield, turn around and come back to hut turn around and go again. That’s one lap.

I notice where we diverted the water around the volleyball pit this summer has worked. It could use a little more attention but the sand isn’t being washed out like before.

Couple campers still here. Hope they aren’t pelted with paintballs at the retreat.

Mowing-mowing-mowing, ohh I like this song. (Could insert any one of a hundred songs. My itunes collection ranges from the Beach Boys and Ray Stevens to David Crowder and Wendy Bagwell)

Hummm. The water is diverted around the boys dorm. But it’s washing out the hill in front of the dorm. We need to fix that before winter. It’ll be a major washout by spring.

Wow the curtains on the tabernacle are holding up good with the straps this year. Awesome! Still need to get the other half fastened down.

Oh, yeah. Those lights on the boys dorm didn’t work camp week. Need to remember that...and fix it!

Mowing around the tabernacle, How can I not think about the messages we heard camp week. Great words of encouragement and challenge. (I said a Prayer for those who gave their hearts to Jesus. Praying they have now joined a church and are being fed the Word.)

Continuing to mow around the boys dorm...Dining hall...Tabernacle...Flagpole...First aid hut...Shower house...Bro. Meade’s camper area and across to the girl dorms. I notice the roofs. They still look good. Its been a few years since we (guys from Bethel, Malden, and Matthews) put those on. Bro. Al Hill came to work on the boys dorm with us. He was able to make it to church last week...he doesn’t have many Sundays left that he can. Praying for him and his family...reminds me of many others in our churches whose health has failed but their faith has not...

Behind the girl dorms now...a lot more rocks here than grass. They make a horrible racket when being crushed by my blades. I know this because I can hear them over the music coming from the earbuds crammed in my ears under the beanie. (Because it was 44

degrees when I started mowing) Which is also under the noise reduction ear muffs.

The slide sure looked fun...I should try it sometime...When no one is here of course.

Oops! There’s a bucket of bubble solution. Need to get that picked up before the first freeze. Those guys did great helping shut down after camp. They took down the bubble machine...Put up the table...Trash...Even the piles of rocks that were along the road...I really appreciate that!

I need to get the trash barrels strapped to the basketball poles...I’ll be getting them out of the creek again, like last year.

• See *RANDOM* Page 5 •

Annual Meeting of the BMA of Missouri

October 25, 2014 • 9:00 a.m.

Landmark Baptist Church

DeSoto, Missouri

From the President...

Our world has become a very troubling place to live. I think all Americans are sick and tired of war, and yet the battle continues. Our cities have become war zones with multiple shootings every night. Our churches are struggling to survive. Member after member is dropping out and pastors are seeking answers to ministry questions.

October 25, 2014 the Baptist Missionary Association of Missouri will convene with Landmark Baptist Church in DeSoto to consider the Lord’s business.

Pastor, will you come and set an example for your church members to be faithful to the Lord’s church and His business? Come and be refreshed as we see what God is doing in the churches of our association.

May our coming together encourage, inspire and exhort us to continue in the fight to win the souls of men.

Bro. Claude Evans

Please Note:

It is very important that each church be represented at the annual meeting by messenger and/or by letter. The letter forms are in the middle of the 2013 Minute Books which each church should have received from our clerk sometime this year.

Our By-Laws state the importance of cooperating churches being represented in Article III - Membership section 3.

“Any church not identifying with this Association either by messenger or letter for three (3) consecutive years shall be considered as having terminated her membership in this Association.”

If you need a copy of the Letter of Representation please contact our Recording clerk: Don Burke

704 Valley Rd. • Potosi, MO 63664.

Phone: 573-438-8899.

E-mail: potosipastor@hotmail.com.

Bethlehem Missionary Baptist Church Doniphan, MO

**Invites YOU to our 3rd Annual
Fall Festival**

Saturday, November 8, 2014

12:00 noon to 3:00 p.m.

**Fun for Kids of all ages,
Even Kids at Heart!**

Located on U Highway

(The Church In The Curve!)

For More Info call 573-707-3141

+++ NEWS BRIEFS +++

Mt. Zion, Ellington, reports how things are going with us. Since the passing of our pastor in April we have continued with Sunday School lessons. However since we are so few in number we have decided to close the church. Some members have already moved to a sister church and another member is making plans to move closer to her daughter and grandson. I have been a member of this church for 43 years. It has been heart breaking for me to give up everything I have loved for so long. We set the closing date for August 31st. On this date Bro. Brian Meade from Ozark Heights church in Potosi brought an inspiring message followed by a pizza lunch and cold drinks. At 2:00 p.m. the 5th Sunday singers came and we enjoyed uplifting music. It was a great time to visit with those that once were members including my daughter Elaine from Oklahoma City. Our church building and parsonage are now up for sale. We will be in touch later. Keep us in your prayers as we cope with this. Love to all,
Mary Marcher, Reporter

Greetings from **Ozark Heights, Potosi**, to all our members and sister churches. August was a hot month but an amazing month, filled with many wonderful services. We wished Bro. Brian and Sis. Dawn the best on their anniversary August 1st. We had a lot of illness this month but enjoyed great attendance with many visitors and enjoyed many Spirit filled messages from Bro. Brian. Our mixed adult class has enjoyed some wonderful growth; Bro. Larry Cash and Bro. Gary Gillam are elated to have the opportunity to teach such a diverse group of Christian men and women. Something a little different as Bro. Aaron and Sis. Heather came forward with their young children and asked the church to pray for them as they make a commitment for their family to serve the Lord at Ozark Heights. They said they want to lead their family in the way of Joshua *"as for me and my house we will serve the Lord"*. Please pray God will use them in a great way in His service. We need to see more young fathers and mothers leading their families as examples in Christian service. We enjoyed another baptism this month, as a young lady, Sis. Addison, was saved at church camp and presented herself for baptism and after baptism was welcomed into the fellowship of the church. The fourth Sunday we enjoyed talent night with wonderful songs, poems and instrumentals followed with food and fellowship. Our theme for August was Watermelon with a contest at the end of the evening. Yes, we had a watermelon seed spitting contest. Many young and old melon eaters had practiced for the event but finally we found Bro. Gary's talent; he shared, proudly "it is not technique but just pure wind volume." Fun was had by all. The Fifth Sunday we give our pastor a day off. He used his day off to provide the emotion filled final preaching service for Mt. Zion, Ellington. We lift up the members of Mt. Zion in prayer as we ask the Lord to use them in a special way and to lead them into continued service. Bro. Todd Walters provide great messages for both our services in the absence of Bro. Brian. We also recognize Bro. Josh for the great job, filling in for Bro. Gary as song leader and Sunday school teacher in his absence. We have had many added to our prayer list and would ask you to keep us in your prayers. Bro. Larry Cash lost his step-father, Robert Junior Cantrell, recently. Keep the family in your prayers. Also, Bro. Bill Brokaw (my husband) has had some trying times with his legs and I would ask you to keep him in your prayers. Until next month, God bless and keep you safe and healthy.
Brian Meade, Pastor • Georgie Brokaw, Reporter

Charity Baptist Church, Columbia, says that it has been a while since we sent a report. A lot has happened. We have

had to say good-bye to two very much loved individuals. Bro. Walter Horak and Sis. Yvonne Ford. Bro. Horak was so faithful. He came every Sunday up until he was physically too sick to make it. He used to work very hard on the yard of the church, mowing and caring for the flowers. He also played a special on the piano every Sunday. He lived a long and productive, happy life. Bro. Ford's wife, Edith Yvonne, was one in a million. I'm glad she is no longer suffering from the cancer but feel sad for Jim now that he is without his wife after so many years of marriage. Also, to report is the resignation of Bro. Jim Ford as pastor effective 9-30. Our church is faced with the decision of whether to call a new pastor and continue on or close our doors and move on. We are so small now as to not even be a viable church. There are too few to do the work but we are praying for a miracle still. Whatever the Lord wills is what we want to do. Please pray for us. Bro. Danny Kirk has met with us and offered to do what he can to help. A new family has been coming lately and Joe has been helping Neil Bowers fill the pulpit. Joe has also set up a facebook page for us to try and reach new people. We are tired, weak and worn but still trusting in the Lord.
Judy Bowers, Reporter.

Landmark, DeSoto, reports that it has been a busy month, as every month seems to be. Time just goes faster as we age and we don't seem to get as much done. We have had several with illnesses with some spending time in the emergency room, and some ill at home. Just seems we cannot all get well and stay well. I would mention names, but I am sure that I would forget some. Just keep Landmark in your prayers when you think of illnesses. We want to extend our sympathy to Caines, as Bro. Wendy lost a Bro. last week. Denver and I went to Sis. Ford's visitation

and Bro. Gibson and Bro. Dale Hawkins went to the funeral. The Lord gave us good travelling weather and safety. We extend our sympathy also to Bro. Bowerman and his family with the loss of his sister, Sis. Ford. We had wonderful messages from Bro. Grady Higgs during our revival services the first of the month. There was no evidence of any new converts, but quite a lot of evidence of revival among our members. That is what revival is all about anyway. There were six of us that attended the Washington County WMA & Brotherhood at Temple, Belgrade. It was a good meeting and always enjoyable. There were five that attended the Meramec Annual meeting at Bethel. Those that went enjoyed the steak and chicken very much. We had six ladies attend the Missouri Ladies Retreat at the Drury Inn in Arnold. Sis. Fran Hoover from Southlake, TX did an excellent job teaching on the book of Ruth. We had a great time of learning, fun and fellowship. Then on the 28th, we had our local WMA & Brotherhood meeting. I believe the men had more than the ladies this month. That doesn't happen too often. There is a lady that has been attending our Sunday morning services for several weeks. She is a recent widow and is looking for a church home. We don't know if the Lord will have her to settle at Landmark or not, but you can remember Carol when you pray. We are getting ready for our Walk for the World. We will be having ours at St. Francois State Park @ 11:00 a.m. Oct. 18th. If you don't have a place to walk, come join us. We will be set up in Pavilion # 2. We plan to have a picnic lunch, so come, join us in our walk and bring some lunch to keep up your energy. Until next month or the Lord's Return.

Wayne Gibson, pastor • Sharon Page, Reporter

Greetings from **Bethany, St. Louis**: The month of Sept. just flew right by us. We started the new church year out with new teachers and officers taking their positions. We have been challenged and burdened at the same time for our Sunday School and our church. Our pastor and his wife took some time off for a visit with their family in Dallas. Bro. Danny Kirk filled in for Bro. Hoffmann and brought a very challenging message concerning our Jericho's that we have in our lives. Some of our ladies were able to attend the WMA retreat and it was a treat indeed. We were renewed, revived and had a ball too. We are thankful that Sis. Ruth Martin is able to be back in our services. Sis. Martin fell a few months ago and broke a hip but is doing great praise the Lord! Please pray for Sis. Debbie Morgan as she is on hospice. Please keep her family in your prayers at this time. Our young boys are getting excited about paintball and the fun they • **Continued on Page 4** •

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FINANCIAL REPORT BMA OF MISSOURI MISSIONS • September 2014

General Fund:

Balance August 31, 2014		\$	19,024.61	
Receipts:	\$	<u>4,033.03</u>	\$	<u>4,033.03</u>
Total Available		\$	23,057.64	
Disbursements:				
Director's Salary	\$	900.00		
Church Planting Expenses	\$	70.03		
Secretary of State	\$	15.00		
Office Equipment	\$	113.99		
Bank Fees	\$	3.00		
Director's Expenses	\$	<u>114.05</u>		
Total Disbursements	\$	1,216.07	\$	<u>1,216.07</u>
Balance September 30 2014:		\$	21,841.57	

Savings:

Certificate of Deposit	\$	67,217.55
Certificate of Deposit	\$	22,993.90
ING Direct Savings	\$	<u>21,149.01</u>
Total in CD's:	\$	111,360.46

From Our Director

I attended the Meramec Landmark Baptist Association annual meeting at Bethel Baptist Church in Lonedell last month. Pastor Ben Kingston was both the moderator and the annual speaker. He did a great job at both and then the Bethel members served a grilled chicken and steak lunch to the messenger body. Thank you Bethel!

Along with many others from our association, we

were saddened to hear about the passing of Sister Ford. There was a celebration of her life and her home going with Pastor Michael Hearst officiating. Please remember to pray for Bro. Ford and Bro. Bowerman as they seek God's sufficient grace.

The Coaching Workshop was a great success at Friendship Baptist Church in St. Clair. Four different churches represented with 11 partici-

pants. If another one of our churches wishes to host this two day training next year, please let me know and we can set up a time and place.

I look forward to our annual meeting to be held at Landmark Baptist Church in DeSoto October 25, as we come together and celebrate what God has done in the past associational year. Please send your messengers and together we can rejoice!



Coaching Workshop at Friendship, St. Clair

WMA Mission Story...

What God Can Do In Less Than 20 Years!

by Jackie Ricks, National WMA Editor

In 1995, I sat in a Writers' Conference and heard Bro. Larry Silvey tell about his trip to Ghana and their use of our used quarterlies of English Sunday School literature as well as their organization into the BMA of Africa. Their zeal inspired me. Ray Loven was the first BMA missionary on the field, before he had to leave for health reasons. The Paul Heuermann family also served for a few years before returning to the states in 2010.

John and Margaret Lindsey arrived in September of 1997 and are still serving part-time today. Margaret and John are currently in the states to care for her 97-year-old mother. Bro. John goes over to Africa several times a year to check on things. He does some training while there. In this manner, the African leaders are becoming more responsible for their work, just as in other countries where American missionaries have returned to the states.

The English literature was one of the foundational tools for spreading and teaching the truth of God's Word. Every one of the BMA churches there receive the literature at no charge. It helps tremendously with the spiritual growth of their members. Many Africans—even those not involved with the BMA of Africa—stand in line for hours to receive one of the books when a shipment arrives. The chance to get to understand the Word of God better is a precious commodity to them. As a former writer for Baptist Publishing House (DiscipleGuide), I have received many letters and e-mails from all over Africa thanking me for the literature. Many other writers have as well.

The BMA of Africa has about 170 churches and missions in Ghana, with an additional 70 or so in other African nations. The field is dynamic and constantly changing. However, it is a strong work and growing larger. In fact, the nation of Burkina Faso sent African missionaries to both the Republic of Congo and to Niger recently. Thousands of souls come to know the Lord each year on the continent of Africa through the efforts of our BMA workers allowing God to lead them.

In Ghana, new missionaries and church workers are trained in the Bible Institute. Dale and Celia Broom operate the Institute as well as help with the "Water for Christ" ministry. This ministry is led by Tim Tyler in Conway, Arkansas. Contributions from BMA churches fund the ministry. This ministry works with the leaders of the BMA of Africa to bring souls to Christ and into the BMA churches in Ghana. They drill fresh water wells in villages. Through that simple act, not only do the people have better, healthier lives, they also feel the love of Christ shared with them from perfect strangers.

Our missionaries are trained to use Chronological Bible Stories to help the Africans who cannot or will not read. The missionary tells and teaches the stories to the Christians there. Then they in turn learn it well enough to share it with someone else. And the cycle continues. Sometimes they even make up songs using the story so that they may sing as they work and remember the story better. In this way, they have a "Bible" built into their memories.

Please pray for our work in all of Africa. Besides our American missionaries, there are many national missionaries who carry on God's work. Not only do they need our prayers for spiritual guidance, they also need prayers for physical and health reasons.

We do have churches in Liberia, Sierra Leone and Guinea, where the Ebola outbreak is the strongest. BMA of America has sent "relief funds" to help them out. Thank you for your prayers.

• **NEWS From Page 2** •

will have at camp Garwood. Please pray for us at Bethany that we will be found not being hearers of the word only but also doers!

James Hoffmann, Pastor • Kathy Chapman, reporter.

Lower Doe Run, Ellington, reports that The Master Painter has displayed glorious Fall scenes throughout the Missouri hills and valleys. We exalt His Name above the heavens. Lower Doe Run is anticipating a praise event October 18, (I had the wrong date in last month's report.) A Fall Festival that includes games, crafts, food, fellowship and a hayride at the close. We have invited the Harper Family to contribute good old (and new) Bluegrass Gospel music as well. Come as early as you can. The church is undertaking major roof repair this month. We have more young people awaiting baptism. We send our sympathy of loss to the Jim Ford family of Charity in Columbia, the Dennis and Sue Leonard Family, and the family of Leona Hand of Oak Hill in Alton. I am reminded of the dash in the life of saints of God by a quote from Charles Swindoll that says, "the conversion of a soul is the miracle of a moment, but the making of a saint is the task of a lifetime." We appreciate our Pastor very much for the Spiritual messages, the care that he takes to include every member of the church, oldest to the youngest, in the service, and the obvious love that he has for the Lord and his people. We will have our Missionary Francios Norcilus and his wife with us October 12. We celebrated Irene's 93rd birthday last month and we will celebrate her brother George's 91st birthday the 22nd of October. God is good, all the time.

Melvin Meade, Pastor • Carolyn Meade, Reporter

Happy Fall y'all from **Stony Point, Mineral Point!** The Lord continues to bless His church. September 14th the church honored Sis. Rose Jarvis for her more than 6 decades of dedication to the Lord's work at Stony Point. It was a great day in the Lord and for Sis. Rose and the many family and friends who attended in her honor. We all were blessed and strengthened by her presence and testimony. We love you Rose! Bro. Claude and Sis. Bea attended the WMA retreat and came back energized and excited. The church was blessed with new carpet, paint and stained glass window coverings. A great big thank you to those who worked long hours on this project and the anonymous donor of the carpet and installation. And finally, the greatest blessing we can receive. Patty Bailey, who is receiving cancer treatments, was saved and followed the Lord in baptism. Sis. Patty, after receiving the hand of church fellowship, gave a stirring testimony of salvation and the hope she now has in Christ. We praise Jesus for His blessings and His love of His church.

Claude Evans, Pastor • David Hughes, Reporter

Greetings from **Bethlehem, Doniphan!** The month of September came and went rather quickly and almost uneventful. We did do the regular events of the Youth in the Harvest and the Third Sunday Singing. The Youth in the Harvest was held at Briar Missionary Baptist Church this month and we enjoyed the fellowship with all the churches. The program was a description of a person with a verse or verses given by Bro. David Grubb; and we had to decide if this was from the Old or New Testament. Sometimes it seems to me that I just repeat myself from one month to the next but I feel it is very important and needs to be said over and over again. Even if your church doesn't have any youth at this time, it is still very important to take part and attend this meeting. For one, the youth need to be supported by showing they are important to all the churches in our association and not just two or three. Second, the youth are the future of our denomination. Without the youth, when all of us older members pass away this will be

the end of our denomination. I believe that if your church doesn't care enough for the youth of another church, why should God give you youth in your church? This is my personal opinion and not necessarily the opinion of my Pastor or the Church of Bethlehem. The Third Sunday Singing was held at Naylor Missionary Baptist Church. It was a blessing when their youth group sang. It is always a blessing to hear everyone who participates, but when youth are involved it is such an extra special blessing. Why is it that some of our churches are not represented at all of the monthly singings? Instead of only at the one held at their church? This is another opinion of mine. What does God think of our churches? What does God think of our denomination? What does God think of each of us as individuals? Just something to ask yourself! Again, this is an opinion of mine and not necessarily the opinion of the Pastor or of the Church of Bethlehem. We are planning a Fall Harvest November 8th from 12:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. Please bring your youth and come join us! There will be fun for children of all ages, including the young at heart! Until next month, may God bless us all! Russell Chitwood, Pastor Yvonne Hill, Reporter

Emmanuel, Sikeston, hopes that everyone is having and blessed start of the Fall season. We have received many blessings over the past few months. The Lord has allowed us to pay off our fellowship hall. In celebration we had a wonderful note burning service. Bro. Tom McCanness preached a wonderful service and afterwards Bro. Jason brought out his flame thrower and we burnt a copy of the note we had on the fellowship hall. It was a wonderful feeling and was very nice to spend time of fellowship together and with our sister church, Kewanee Missionary Baptist. We are excited to see what the Lord has in store for us now that we do not have that extra ex-

pense. We are now getting ready for our fall yard sale October 18th. The congregation has been bringing items from home and helping get ready. We will also have a bake sale with goods made by most of the ladies. The youth are finishing up their missions black light program. They have worked very hard and we are planning a performance October 26th. We would like to invite you all to join us and support the kids and their work for the Lord. We hope that each of you are receiving as many blessings as we are and hope that you have a wonderful month of October. GOD IS SO GOOD!
Jason Redden, Pastor • Heather Hays, Reporter

Oak Hill, Alton, says, "Hello to All." PRAISE THE LORD heaven gained another soul. The family of God gained a brother on October 5th when Austin Conner was saved. Austin is 13 years old and is one of our growing youth group. We like making the devil MAD, by taking another soul away from him. Saturday, October 11th, we are having our Walk of Faith Fish fry. We plan on eating at 5:00 p.m. and everyone is welcome. We set A goal of \$1,000 to be raised to spread the gospel on the radio in other Countries in 34 different languages. Another event we usually have in October is our hayride and wiener roast. This year we may have it in early November. We just lost the oldest member of our church, Sis. Leona Hand. We actually did not lose her, for we know where she is. She just got a head start on being in heaven before the rest of us. Sis. Leona will be missed by everyone. We would like to ask that you would say a prayer for Oak Hill and the Hand family.
Edward Casey, Pastor • Jennifer Williams, Reporter

First Baptist, Potosi, sends greetings to our brothers and sisters in Christ. September has been a month of new beginnings for those programs that took a summer break. Awana and Naomi and Ruth took off with good attendance and we began our new Sunday School series on our doctrinal statement. GMA's have had great attendance all month and the Ladies Tuesday morning community-wide Bible study began again. Also, we were blessed with four baptisms: Charlotte Hensley, Brody Jackson, Joshua Porter, and Doug Hurst. It is a blessing to observe new members as they grow in the Lord. One of our members, Robert Junior Cantrell, went on to be with the Lord. Bro. Tim Boatright and Bro. Tommy Miller filled the pulpit on Sunday evenings and were a blessing to hear. Mike Ward, Gideon representative, gave a presentation on their world-wide work. Everyone enjoyed the church picnic that was held at the park on a Sunday afternoon. The fellowship and the weather were wonderful. Thank you to Violet and Vern Cooper and Michelle Knobloch for their hard work. Students participated in "See You at the Pole" at the school at 7 a.m. and the our church hosted the community "See You after the Pole" at 7 p.m. Jaelyn Rowe shared about Caring Hearts Pregnancy Resource Center and the walk planned for October 4. Upward Sports registration will continue through the month of October. Everyone is excited about the outreach possibilities of this program.

Jim Ainley, Associate Pastor • Deborah Rauhut, Reporter

RND Quotes

www.josephhaimagic.com/rnd

I keep hearing conform, conform, conform, stoop to the world's level, speak their language and then we will reach them. Well, Jesus didn't call us to conform to this world, but to be transformed above it. He expects His people to be different. If we are no different, then what do we have to offer them?

Brother Ritechus N. Dignation



DiscipleGuide

CHURCH RESOURCES

DiscipleGuide Sets Sights on Getting Personally Involved with Churches in 2015

Every pastor takes home the burdens of his congregation. Most of the time, because of confidentiality, he has no one to talk to about the pain he feels on their behalf. Who does he call when he feels like he's at the breaking point? Where does he turn when he's the one who needs to get things off of his chest? Who will serve as the pastor's pastor?

What if there was a network of experienced pastors who could serve as a sounding board to men on the field? What if there was a pastor's hotline where any pastor, anywhere, at any time can call and get help?

Do you see the possibilities?

Imagine a team of trained and experienced leaders who could walk into a church that was experiencing decline and help a pastor discover solutions to the challenges they face. And, instead of just offering suggestions, this team would walk with this church as they push through to becoming healthy again.

DiscipleGuide Tuesday Talks Meeting Needs

DiscipleGuide Church Resources is making great strides in becoming the "go to place" for equipping and training for church leaders. One of the new exciting tools available to pastors, staff members and lay leaders is called Tuesday Talks.

Tuesday Talks is an online, interactive broadcast that is produced live from BMA Productions Studios in Conway, Arkansas. Each second Tuesday of the month at 10:00 am, Tuesday Talks addresses different areas of ministry needs. Knowledgeable people who are actually

Can you imagine how many pastors might stick it out and refuse to quit—if only they had someone to talk to, someone to help? Can you envision the churches that would be spared the agony of losing yet another pastor and as a result feeling like they can never get out of "rebuilding" mode?

That's the kind of personal investment we want to make. By the end of 2015, DiscipleGuide aims to provide every BMA pastor with a pastor's hotline and the availability of an onsite ReNew Team to invest in churches that want to turn around. We want to make a difference in the lives of the men who invest their lives into Christ's body. Of course, such a bold endeavor will require great resources.

For most churches, this is the season for budgeting. While you are planning your church's associational giving for the upcoming year, would you consider including DiscipleGuide in your budget? Consider it an investment into pastors.

working in that respective field of ministry bring great advice and insight into how church leaders can do a better job. An open chat line gives viewers and opportunity to ask questions and get real-time answers.

Donny Parrish, Conference Ministry Director at DiscipleGuide, hosts Tuesday Talks. "Although we're just in the beginning stages of Tuesday Talks the feedback and results have already been great! We've had a great response from people watching both the live broadcast and the recorded replay."

Dr. Henderson Continues to Bless!

DiscipleGuide's "We Believe" series, featuring the writings of Dr. E. Harold Henderson, have been well received. The four-quarter series, a part of the Compass adult Sunday school curriculum, began in the Fall with a study of foundational beliefs of BMA churches.

It's not too late for churches to join in the series this winter for the second quarter in the series entitled, "What We Believe About God."

For over 38 years, Dr. E Harold Henderson wrote BMA adult Sunday school literature. His writings helped shape the theological foundation of our association. In 1996, Dr. Henderson passed away, but his writings are still blessing churches to this day.

If you have adult Sunday school classes who are not currently using the Compass quarterly, ask them to consider trying the "We Believe" series this Winter. This is the perfect time to make the switch.

For more information, or to order, call DiscipleGuide at 1-800-333-1442 or go to discipleguide.org.

Tuesday Talks has highlighted ministry topics such as "How to use Social Media to Reach Your Community" with Brandon Cox, Director of Pastors.com. Veteran Student Pastors Shawn Hammondtree and Michael Treat shared in September on "How to have a Real Student Ministry." On October 14, Larry Barker, Director of North American Church Planting



Dr. Henderson

• RANDOM From Page 1 •

Mowing...mowing...mowing...keep right on mowing, down through the camper sites. I sure hope I don't hit a rock through one of those camper windows. No whammys...No whammys...Phewww made it again!

Gotta get that power rake again for these rocks along the creek and slide...and try to get some grass in here by next Spring...need to do more work on the slide first though...I don't like the bump they were talking about at the transition.

Do I need to mow the hill above the ball field??? Naa. It can wait till spring...I have to mow back in the woods for the paintball retreat.

Boy this ball field is rough...but they played ball on it...and it's growing grass like crazy...maybe we can finish the backstop and get some lights up next year.

Still mowing...dozens of laps...songs...thoughts...and prayers later. We find ourself back in the woods mowing for the paintball retreat. It's not perfect but knocking down the brush at least gives them a chance to get a paintball through to the opponent. Maybe I can come back and run the tractor...I have one more Saturday before the retreat.

I wonder what my kids are doing?

Ok, let's start mowing our way back along the creek...new camper sites...not complete...need to finish those.

I'll need to drain the water in a couple weeks...time sure flies...seems like I was just turning the water on.

Oh! Crud. Where did that rock come from?! I didn't see it. Feels like it bent a blade...got a new vibration. (Not a Beach Boys song)

The ole train is parked on the ball court...I need to haul it home to work on the cars...I Hope I can make the trail a little smoother next year...we've sure run the wheels off that thing. It ran every day non stop during recreation...almost could justify running two the way they line up for it. Nope. Nope. You'd have to get a second atv to pull it...worry about drivers...nope...plus there's plenty of other things to do.

Mowing on. The Concrete held the new swing in place. The teens had a place to swing and they used it. Great! It was a twisted mess last year. Shoot! Another rock. (On average I get three mowings out of a set of blades, that's why I'm always saying, "You can pick up rocks.")

Gotta clean up this fire pit too. Careful...Caarrefuulll. Don't knock a window out of the truck as you mow past... One little spot left at the end of the boys dorm...Mow it, then load up.

Glad we have this dorm done...Still a few small leaks to fix...But what a job that was...Getting it all gutted and back in for camp...I'm glad we went ahead with the dirt work and drainage pipes underground.

Ok...Load up and head home...Just in time to make the associational gathering at Bethel.

I actually dusted off and drove straight to Bethel. Better a little dusty and late than never, I suppose.

So, there's some of my random thoughts while mowing. When mowing at camp you really do say, SQUERREL!

Have a blessed month. *Chris Polk*

for BMA America will talk about churches that have plateaued or in decline and how the BMA is prepared to help those churches.

To view Tuesday Talks tune your web browser to www.bmalife.com/tv. The training is provided free of charge by the ministry of DiscipleGuide Church Resources.

A TRUE MINISTER

God's man in
God's place, doing
God's work, in
God's way, for
God's glory!

Do your duty, that is
best; leave unto the
Lord the rest.

WMA & GMA NEWS

Articles for this column
should be sent to **EDITOR**

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Phone 573-471-8885
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Send all WMA Offerings to:
STATE WMA TREASURER:

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2142 Sunset Dr.
Poplar Bluff, MO 63901

Send all GMA Offerings to:
STATE GMA TREASURER

Norma Womble
4498 Cindy Lane
Barnhart, MO 63012

SUNBEAM PROJECT 2013-2014

The Sunbeams of the BMAA collected \$2,904.05 for the National Sunbeam Project for the year 2013-2014. Our project was Shepherd Bags. Trophies were given to the top three contributors at the National GMA Camp in Gary, Texas in June.

We feel this is a very worthwhile project. EIM reports that 1 in 3 bags results in the salvation of a soul. We are excited to be involved in such a ministry.

2013-2014 Trophy Winners

First Place

Myrtle Springs Baptist Church, Quitman, TX - \$952.52

Second Place

Lynchview Baptist Church, North Little Rock, AR - \$803.57

Third Place

Denver Street Baptist Church, Greenwood, AR - \$516.50

Our project for the year 2014-2015 continues to be Shepherd Bags. If your group of Sunbeams would like to get involved, please start collecting for this goal. Your offerings need to be received by May 31, 2015. Trophies are given to groups raising \$500.00 or more and certificates are given to groups raising \$100.00 or more. Please make your checks payable to the National WMA and designate National Sunbeam Project in the memo of your check. Send your money to:

Mrs. Pat Duncan
PO Box 30
Hardy, AR 72542

I am challenging 50 Sunbeam groups to raise \$200.00. Our goal is \$10,000.00. Please accept the challenge and help us meet this goal.

If you do not have Sunbeams and would like information about the material, please contact me at jaslaminack@cox.net. I would be happy to share this information with you.

Sherry Laminack, National Sunbeam Promoter

Repentance

Repentance is made up of three things:

1. There is a change of mind.

We wish to do good instead of wishing to do evil.

2. There is a change of heart.

Instead of loving sin we have now *"set our affections on things above."* We love Jesus Christ and His commandments. This can never come about by an act of will, but only by an act of God. Psalm 119:97; Ezek. 18:31; II Peter 1:4; Philippians 2:13

3. There is a change of life.

Thereby we show that our repentance is real and true.

Why I'm Concerned About Evangelizing My Son

by *Scott Attebery*

I have a parenting struggle to confess. I am uncomfortable about my young child being asked if he would like to make a decision to trust Christ as his Savior and Lord.

Please, don't label me a heretic just yet. This is a real issue that I imagine other Christian parents have dealt with and I am hoping to generate some helpful conversation on the subject.

First, let me clarify my position:

1. I ABSOLUTELY want my son to be saved "by grace... through faith" (Ephesians 2:8).
2. That, I believe should be manifest by a profession of faith in Christ (Romans 10:9-13).
3. Which is in response to the presentation of the gospel (Romans 10:14-17).

Now here is where my concern lies. As a former pastor, I have spent time counseling people who made a profession of faith as a young child and then, later in life, struggled with assurance of salvation. While I fully acknowledge that struggling with assurance is not unique to people who make professions at an early age, it does seem to be more common than not.

Of course, when a person struggles with assurance of salvation from an early profession of faith, there are two possibilities: 1) the person IS saved or 2) the person IS NOT saved.

Those who are saved may struggle because they have difficulty recalling their state of mind at the point of their conversion. Those who are not saved may share the same struggle, or come to realize that their life is not bearing the fruit in keeping with repentance (Matthew 3:8).

That leads me to my concern: I want to guard my son, as best as I can, from making a false profession of faith.

I admit up front, that I do not have control of my son's heart and that I cannot prevent him from making a false profession. For that matter, I can't make him place faith in Christ either.

However, in the same way that I am intentional about how he hears the gospel, I want to be intentional about how he doesn't hear the gospel. I'm not trying to be a control freak; I'm just trying to be responsible.

My son's heart is a precious treasure of which I have been given stewardship. For that reason, I want to guard his heart—not from the gospel—but from a non-age-appropriate presentation of the gospel.

However, that begs a lot of questions that I cannot answer with objective facts. Rather, these questions require prayerful wisdom and insight. For instance, at what age will my son be able to adequately understand the gospel and place faith in Christ? Certainly it is different with every child—but how will I know? What a massive responsibility!

This leads to questions regarding children's ministries, vacation Bible schools, camps, etc. Shouldn't the leaders communicate to the parents how they will and won't share the gospel with children under their care? For that matter, shouldn't parents be asking? How would a ministry set such guidelines in the first place if all children mature at different rates?

I certainly don't have all the answers. And perhaps I'm an over-protective parent. But when it comes to my son's standing before God, I would rather err on the side of caution. So,

Willing

*O Lord, help me to be willing -
To receive what Thou givest,
To lack what Thou withholdest,
To relinquish what Thou takest,
To surrender what Thou claimst,
To suffer what Thou ordainest,
To do what Thou commandest,
To wait until Thou sayest "Come."*

here are a few ideas that have been rolling around in my head on the subject:

1) It's never too early to share the gospel. The issue lies in how you share it. I try to be very intentional about sharing the good news in the way most appropriate for my son at the given time. I believe that learning the gospel through repetition over time is valuable and helps assure that my child understands concepts fully as the sharing increases in detail.

2) I do not want to give my son false assurance. If my son (at an early age) makes a profession of faith in Christ, I would rather respond by saying, "I'm so thankful that you have taken steps toward Christ" rather than "Congratulations, you are saved now!" If he is saved, he certainly isn't going to be unsaved by my hesitancy to give him false assurance. On the other hand, if he isn't saved, yet I claim that he is, I am adding to his confusion and struggle later in life.

3) Because of that, I believe that as a parent, not only does responsibility of evangelizing my son belong to me, but the responsibility of guarding my son from non-age appropriate evangelism belongs to me as well. Non-appropriate evangelism would include things like overly persuasive language, pressuring for a decision, assuming knowledge that the child does not possess, etc.

I know there must be a lot of insights and questions I am missing here. So, assuming you don't think I'm a heretic, would you share your thoughts?

- What have you learned from your experience as a Christian parent?

- How are you guiding the conversation in order to avoid false professions while inviting dialogue?

- Has your church's children's ministry ever discussed this issue with you?

I'm looking for wisdom and help here... so please, share! Contact me at scott@discipleguide.org or message me on Facebook or twitter @scottattebery

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

Brotherhood Report
4th Annual Men's Fall Retreat

by **Dennis Baker • Brotherhood President**

With the closing days of summer and fall approaching it was a great blessing to experience the beauty of Camp Garwood and attend the 4th Annual Men's Retreat. There were thirteen men and young men in attendance. It was a blessing and an encouragement to see fathers attending with their sons. It was also a blessing to see and experience the spiritual growth of these young men as they volunteered to give devotionals and pray in public.

Bro. Lucas Polk and his team did a great job preparing the Friday evening meal of pork steak, potato salad, and cole slaw. Breakfast was eggs, biscuits, gravy, bacon, and sausage.

The program for Friday evening dealt with the "Hard Question of Life-Grief and Bereavement." We examined the feelings and emotions behind grief, the difference between healthy and unhealthy grief, and how we can support those struggling with grief.

The winners of the archery contests were Jacob Lewis-Men's Deer Shoot, Lucas Polk- Target Shoot, Levie Sutton-Youth Deer Shoot and Youth Target Shoot. Everyone seemed to enjoy the friendly competition, bragging about their skills, and teasing each other. Every year the skill level seems to be getting better. No one lost any arrows this year.

I would like to encourage the men of the churches of the Baptist Missionary Association of Missouri, if you do not have an organized brotherhood, to start a brotherhood in your local church. The purpose of the brotherhood is to promote Christian fellowship, biblical education, and mentoring.

This ministry depends on the financial support of the churches of the Baptist Missionary Association of Missouri. I want to encourage the churches to support this ministry financially and please pray for this ministry. The offerings will help pay for the door prizes and the food for the Spring and Fall retreats.

Men, We Can Do This!!!

When I asked National Brotherhood Secretary/Treasurer Robert M. Bynum for an update on our national project and scholarship fund, I was disheartened to hear that the figures remained the same as previously reported:

National Project (Bolivian River Of Blessings), \$520; Arthur Smith Scholarship Fund, \$1,536.88; Galileans, \$200; and General Fund, \$614.53.

It has been almost five months since this goal was selected at our national meeting, but that still leaves us seven months to get behind this project. Pardon the pun, Men, but "let's blow it out of the water." **We can do this!**

Our project is 65% Bolivian Riverboat, 25% National Galileans and 10% General Fund.

Please do what you can to promote this project in your men's group, church, district and state associational meetings. One way to do that is to show the short (less than 15 minute) video, "The Arrington, Rivers of Blessing Bolivian Riverboat Ministry," which is available online at <http://vimeo.com/74457593>.

Offerings for the National Brotherhood Project should be sent to: Robert Bynum • 43 Bear Pen Creek Rd. • Laurel, MS 39440.

by *Pat Spriggs*,
National Brotherhood Project Promoter,
dspriggs1107@comcast.net

BMA Theological Seminary....

2014 Annual Report to Local Associations

Dr. Charley Holmes

"Earnestly Contending"

Beloved, when I gave all diligence to write unto you of the common salvation, it was needful for me to write unto you, and exhort you that ye should earnestly contend for the faith which was once delivered unto the saints. Jude verse 3 (KJV)

"I don't believe Jesus really died on the cross; He merely passed out or went into a coma for a while and then revived."

"It does not matter if someone was baptized in a Pentecostal or even a Church of Christ; if they want to join our Baptist church, we should not require them to be re-baptized."

"Any Christian can baptize a new believer whenever it is convenient; church authority in the ordinances is not required."

These statements, if heard by a BMA pastor, deacon, or Sunday School teacher, would take them aback (I hope). I heard them and I was taken aback because I heard them in the context of BMA churches in the last 12 months. For several generations Baptists in general have been described as being "a mile wide and an inch deep." Having heard the quotes above and taught new preachers for almost 20 years, I am convinced that the "inch" evaluation is true.

One might make that observation and despair, but I find the opportunity for teaching historic Baptist doctrines exciting. When most Baptist groups have watered down or simply ignored teaching doctrine, what an opportunity to shine like a bright light in a dark room! Fortunately for me and the rest of the BMA Seminary faculty, that opportunity is a mat-

Moral Action and Resources

Dr. John M. Adams, Executive Director

Looking for a good catalog of "helps" related to Morality and Patriotism? Visit our website: www.macbma.net

Our "link" can also be located on the BMA Life webpage and, also, on the various departments of the BMA.

Categories at www.macbma.net include:

1. **Dr. Adams' personal notes and article archives;**
2. **Moral Action purpose statement (why we exist);**
3. **A bibliography about the Executive Director;**
4. **The Moral Action Board of Trustees;**
5. **Action Alerts;**
6. **A fast search engine on biblical questions located on "got Questions?org;**
7. **Click on "Bible Gateway" to search for a word or passage in the Bible;**
8. **A great search site is "Scribd" (www.scribd.com) which includes a personal digital library for new books and articles;**
9. **Locate a free copy of "What One Person Can do To Fight Pornography"**
10. **Locate the section "Issues Dealing With Sexuality" and "Church Safety and Security" This is a great resource for pastors and churches.**
11. **A great concern of Dr. Adams is the "Reconstructing American History" Click on the download file to read this startling report of our country's history.**

Take time to read Dr. Adams' article on "What Happens if We Christians Do Nothing." The church should encourage its members to be actively involved in Moral and Social issues facing our society today!

Our contacts are located on the webpage, as well. You can locate me with concerns or questions.

Also, if in the area, come by and visit the Moral Action Display at 6080 Hwy 363, Mantachie, MS (Tupelo area). We are here to serve you.

ter of our purpose statement as approved by the BMA of America. The BMATS purpose statement as seen in our catalog is: "The purpose of the Seminary's divisions of undergraduate and graduate studies is to provide accredited undergraduate and graduate theological education for equipping individuals for Christ-centered service and leadership roles; to support the educational needs of the churches and agencies of the Baptist Missionary Association of America and other groups who share a like commitment to the authority of Scripture; and to serve as a resource center for critical thought and research in a context which nurtures the historical, doctrinal character of the churches of the Baptist Missionary Association of America."

At the end of the statement we see the seminary is instructed to uphold and promote the historical nature of our churches. The best way to promote our historic nature is to study and teach our doctrinal statements. The tendency of doctrinal statements for churches and associations in the past 300 years is toward minimization (fewer items are addressed and in less detail). In the last year, I visited in a Baptist church that expressed the faith for public consumption in less than 150 words. A famous Baptist theologian over a hundred years ago said of Baptist churches that "a little creed" (doctrinal statement) indicates a "little faith." Our faculty heartily subscribes to the BMA doctrinal statement with its appendices as approved by the national association. This semester doctrine is being stressed even in my sermon preparation class. At the end of each class we take about 20 minutes to review an item or doctrine of major importance to Baptists. The passages of Scripture cannot be fully preached without some exposure to an overall biblical theology such as the one expressed in our doctrinal statement and its sister document, the New

• See **SEMINARY Page 8 •**

Master Builders Working

August 25th, The Master's Builders began interior work on the new 120' x 60' building at Old Liberty Baptist Church, Conway, AR. The Builders framed all the walls of the sanctuary, 4 classrooms, pastor's study, nursery, and 4 bathrooms. They also installed sheet rock, installed a baptistery and stairs, built a stage and steps, and built a sound booth.

There were 19 RV's parked near the church with 3 of them being from the Arkansas Nail Benders who came to give a helping hand. First time workers with The Master's Builders were, Leon and Sabra Murphree of Bee Branch, AR.

The ladies auxiliary also worked 3 days at LifeWord to help prepare Christmas shoe boxes for shipment. I had never realized what has to be done to get the boxes ready to ship! We all had a such a great time!!! The fellowship with the workers there was so special! So please, please, if you live close enough to be of help with this wonderful ministry, go by and help them out. You will be blessed by doing it.

September 22nd we helped with building a larger sanctuary for South Forrest Baptist Church. South Forrest is a mission church for the BMA of Mississippi.

The Builders put tin on pre-built trusses, framed all the outside walls, framed the walls for classrooms, pastor's study, and bathrooms on the first floor, built stairs, a balcony, and framed walls for several storage rooms (future classrooms) on the second floor.

• SEMINARY From Page 7 •

Hampshire Confession, as approved and published by the BMAA. Pray for the administrators and teachers that we can be as wise and kind as we are doctrinally sound. As you saw in the opening quotations, we deal with many Baptists who have been influenced by Wesleyan theology, Finneyism, and Pentecostalism. Even when doctrinal tensions arise, we must "earnestly contend."

The seminary's doctrinal basis compels us to continue pursuing what Baptists have described as the regulative principle. Simply stated, the Scriptures regulate everything we do. We only teach or do that for which we have a clear example or directive. From a pastoral standpoint, it means following Jesus' example of ministry. Jesus preached to the multitudes, taught smaller groups, and mentored individuals. We teach that present day ministers should follow this example.

We should present the Word as Jesus did. He read it aloud; He explained it; He applied it. His model was a continuation of the practice of the Old Testament prophet Ezra. This also becomes the apostolic model as seen in Paul's ministry with Timothy. Read it to the multitudes, explain it the multitudes, apply it to the multitudes--true exposition of the infallible, inerrant Word.

To smaller groups or classes, we teach men not to ignore the teaching of the deeper things of God and distinct Baptist doctrines.

We also teach and model for the younger men discipleship--the practice of mentoring individuals in developing the skills of Bible study, prayer, worship, stewardship, witnessing, serving, and leading. This is perhaps the most neglected ministerial skill. However, it is highlighted at the BMA Seminary.

This current semester we continue the pursuit of being regulated by the Scripture with students from 11 states and 7 foreign countries. In the last twelve months we have interacted with a total of 164 students. The current semester we are encouraged with a new crop of 36 first-time students. Our off-campus programs continue to expand with the refurbishing of the Conway extension at CBC in Conway, Arkansas. Brian Rickett is the new director and is complemented with a new professor, Dr. Andy Snider. Bro. Rickett's wife, Janet, is establishing a program for seminary student wives. Brother Rick-

We spend two weeks at a church, accomplishing what we can to help with building projects. The church supplies one meal a day and we always enjoy fellowshiping with the members and it is very hard to say goodbye when it comes time to leave!

This has been a very busy year for The Master's Builders. We will begin work at Abundant Life in Christ Missionary Baptist Church in Charleston, Missouri October 13. We will have worked eight jobs in 2014, and this will be the 133rd job that The Master's Builders have worked since they were organized. Funds are still coming in for a new tool truck. Thank you to all who given for this need. Please make this a prayer concern for your church. Any offering can be sent to Office Coordinator, John Mangum at 871 Rough Edge RD, Ruston, LA, 71270.

If you have questions about The Master's Builders or would like to join us on a job, you can contact Office Coordinator, John Mangum at 318-202-5155 or (cell) 318-607-4100 or Field Coordinator, Eddie Sikes at 903-725-6549 or (cell)479-462-1675.

Thanks for the help and support we get at the sites.
Nelda Malone-reporter

ett and Dr. Snider encourage our pastors and others to visit with them in their new office or attend a class session in order to acquaint our churches with the seminary's ministry in Arkansas.

We are also happy to report increased cooperation with Southeastern Baptist College in Laurel, MS, currently under the direction of Bro. Danny Pitts (BMATS grad 1981). In the last two years, Brother Pitts and the BMA of Mississippi missions director, Brother Larry Geraldson, have actively facilitated the seminary's ability to engage with most of their state missionaries and several Mississippi pastors. We are thankful for their efforts and look forward to more cooperating ministries.

Further opportunities for

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 in three consecutive issues unless the editor is otherwise instructed.

Cory Matthews, a member of Central Missionary Baptist Church of Union, MO, is nearing completion of his Masters in Seminary and is available for pulpit supply or to serve in a pastoral role. Contact him at 817 Melinda Dr. Union, MO 63084. Phone: Home 636-259-0405; e-mail - corydmatthews@gmail.com. -7-

Allen Casey, a member of Springdale Baptist Church in Fenton, is available for preaching appointments. Contact him at 636-349-5524. -7-

Billy Davis, a member of Bethel Missionary Baptist Church in Sikeston, is available for pulpit supply or as the Lord leads. Contact him at 573-48-9652 (home) of 573-521-8028 (cell) after 4:00 p.m. -8-

Caleb Houston, youth pastor of Kewanee Baptist Church, is available for weekend youth events, pulpit supply, and preaching appointments as the Lord leads. Contact him at 573-521-7826 or calebhouston@yahoo.com. -8-

Ron Beardsley, of Sikeston, is available to be used as the Lord leads. Contact him at 573-380-3842. -10-

Pastor Searches

Friendship Baptist Church, 909 Bethel Mine Rd., Caseyville, IL 62232-2249 is searching for a pastor. If interested please contact Bro. Tim Mims at 618-581-6418. Leave a message and he will return your call as soon as possible.

Greenwood Baptist Church, 1400 Greenwood Church Road, Fulton MS 38843 is searching for a senior pastor. Please send resume to church address, greenwoodbma@gmail.com or contact Thomas Brown at 662-862-9375.

studies off the main campus continue to develop. The seminary now has three (3) degree programs being offered entirely online: Associate of Divinity, Bachelor of Arts, and Master of Arts (Religion).

Potential off-campus students are encouraged to investigate our website at bmats.edu or call 800.259.5673 and speak with Dr. Attebery about opportunities in that area.

Earnestly contending for the faith costs a great deal and expenses constantly rise, just as they do for individual churches. However, good stewardship from our trustees and support from our churches and individual friends enabled us to operate in the black. The audit for the latest fiscal year has just arrived and it shows that we finished the year with a 3 percent op-

erating surplus. While we are thankful for the modest surplus, 3 percent is a thin margin. Additionally, the summer months after the closing of the fiscal year on May 31 have been even thinner.

Our trustees request that clerks read this letter to associations that we cannot visit personally. They ask that you consider making an offering from the association's surplus, if you have an increase this year.

Finally, have special prayer for our students, our graduates serving in churches and on the mission field, our teachers, and our staff. Pray that we will continue to earnestly contend for the faith and to train young men to follow Jesus' pattern for ministry: *Preaching to many, teaching a few, and mentoring one on one.*