

The Missouri Missionary Baptist

“Holding Forth The Word of Life”

Philippians 2:16

Volume LXXVII

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Issue No.12

Winterizing Camp Garwood

by Camp Superintendent *Chris Polk*
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Following is a step by step on how to prepare camp for winter. This year was a little different. Rather than doing this in one day it has been broken into a couple trips in order to leave some water on for the hunters. Usually it takes 5 hours or so from start to finish.

Camp Water shut down procedure

1) **Upper Girls Dorm**-Turn off well breaker, drain water heater to shower with water hose.

2) **Drain water tank** in well house. Disconnect slide water line.

3) **Old dining hall dorm** - Turn off supply to bank of valves, drain water heater, be sure power is off. Open all toilet and sink valves, flush all toilets, pour anti freeze in toilets. Tank and bowl. Antifreeze to sinks just a splash for p-traps.

4) **Open creek camper spigots,**

5) **Open all drain valves** in ground on Tabernacle side of dining hall dorm.

6) **Open tabernacle sprinkler valve.**

7) **Open outside spigots** both sides of dining hall. Drain water heater. Open all faucets. Don't forget mop sink in canteen. Disconnect ice maker water lines turn on and blow out condenser line pour antifreeze into condenser in line. Flush toilet pour antifreeze in tank and bowl.

8) **Open main line** drain valve in ground by creek spigot at bridge.

9) **Open camper spigots** on both sides of creek. And drain line for new camper sites. Open ball field spigot.


10) **Both creek shower houses:** drain water heater, open all sink faucets and drain valves. Open all toilet drain valves flush and add antifreeze.

11) **Check that pump 3** on ball field breaker is off.

12) **Lower girls dorm.** Open drain valves in ground in front of building. Drain water heater. Open sink faucets and add antifreeze. Open shower faucets and drain valves. Flush toilets and add antifreeze. Open spigot back of building.

13) **Upper girls dorm.** Open hot drain valve in ground in front of building. Connect air compressor regulated to 45-50 lb to water heater drain. Open water heater drain valve and open sink/shower faucet in each room until air comes out then close and move to next room. When air comes out of outside drain turn it off. Alternate to each room turning on and off faucets until confi-

dent enough water is out of pipes. Flush toilets. Pour antifreeze in tank and bowl. Open hot and cold drains outside. Pray.




from your editor and his wife.

As we celebrate the birth of our Savior and the joy He brings to our lives we are reminded of all of you who support this ministry with your prayers and finances as we try to communicate His love through this publication. May each of us take time this Holiday Season to thank God for His Salvation and ask Him to help us share the message with those around us who are seeking the peace and comfort that only Jesus can give. As the shepherds and wise men saw Jesus and then went to spread the good news, may we who know the Savior go forth to tell others of His Salvation.

“God bless you with His Love and Joy this Christmas” is our prayer.

Bro. & Sis. Hoffmann



dent enough water is out of pipes. Flush toilets. Pour antifreeze in tank and bowl. Open hot and cold drains outside. Pray.

14) **Open drain** for slide water line

15) **Upper shower house.** Drain water heater. Open faucets and sink water drain valves. Open toilet drain valves. Flush toilets. Pour antifreeze in tank and bowl. • See *CAMP* Page 1 •

Mt. Zion, Ellington has twenty 12 ft. padded pews available. For more information call 573-945-2175.

+++ NEWS BRIEFS +++

Hello once again from **Bethany, St. Louis**. Here we are at the end of November and wondering where the month has gone! We are so thankful that Bro. Hoffmann has recovered quite well since his hip replacement and was back with us the Sunday before Thanksgiving. We praise God for His hand of protection on one of our senior members Bro. Harliss Cooper during a stressful time for that family. He will be having some tests later to determine what treatment to take. We want to express our sympathy and prayers to the folks at Ohlman Baptist Church in the home going of a very faithful and long time member, Sis. Inez Akins. She was a mentor to this writer and a very gentle sweet lady. She will be missed by all those who knew and loved her. Heaven is a nearer and dearer place with her entrance into that blessed city! We are looking forward to the Christmas season. Our youth and others will be getting ready for our program which will be later in the month. Please continue to pray for our church and our community as all eyes are on the St. Louis area at this time. We are so thankful for the truths that are taught in God's Word about the times in which we are living. God is not finished with us here yet. Our hearts were saddened recently in the death of Kay Morrison's husband, John. Please keep this dear family in your prayers as they go on without him. We know God has grace, comfort and peace to give to His children. God bless each and everyone now and let's always be mindful of the fact that we still have loved ones and friends that do not know Christ as their Savior. The gift of salvation is the best gift ever given.
James Hoffmann, Pastor • Kathy Chapman, Reporter.

Emmanuel, Sikeston, hopes everyone had a blessed Thanksgiving with their families. We are proud to say that your youth blacklight members put on a wonderful program dedicated to missions. The program touched the hearts of many and a love offering was taken to send to missions in Honduras. We have temporarily relocated our nursery for construction. Bro. Jason along with members of the church have been remodeling our nursery with new paint, flooring, and many other improvements. The outcome so far is amazing. We are so blessed to have the talent and dedication from our pastor and congregation. The kids of the church are currently preparing a Christmas program for December 7th. We are excited about the outcome and that they will get to sing along with the piano this year played by Sis. Shelly Gray. We have continually been blessed with visitors each week and cannot wait to see what the Lord has in store for us as the year comes to an end. We pray that you all have a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. May the Lord's will be done and to Him we give all the glory.
Jason Redden, Pastor • Heather Hays, Reporter

Stony Point, Mineral Point, is hoping everyone had a blessed Thanksgiving and is wishing you a Merry Christmas from Stony Point. A short but powerful report this month. November 16th Melba Beck and Arnold Stivers followed the Lord in baptism and received the hand of church fellowship. November 23rd the church held our annual Thanksgiving dinner where everyone was given the opportunity to express publicly what they were thankful for in their lives. And finally on November 30th, Tommy Spry who was saved in November was baptized and became the newest of the Lord's additions to His church. God continues to shower blessings upon His people. Again, a very Merry Christmas to you all! See you next year, Lord willing.
Claude Evans, Pastor • David Hughes, Reporter

Abundant Life in Christ, Charleston, reports that the duct

work has been installed in our new building and they rejoice and praise God for the profession of faith of Zee during November.
Rodney Dunlap, Pastor

Greetings from **Ozark Heights, Potosi!** What a lovely day to end November but I am not looking forward to the rest of the winter. We hope every one had a nice Thanksgiving. It was great to have our grandson and his family in from Minnesota. They were as glad to be in Missouri for a few days, as well. I have so much to be thankful for; my husband's health is some better. So many have been sick; Sis Doris Dicus's husband has been in the hospital, please lift up the Dicus family in your prayers. We enjoyed our Harvest dinner November 2nd with Bro. Wendell Johnson bringing the music. We enjoyed a wonderful day of worship and thanksgiving for the blessings God has given throughout 2014. The men put together a work crew to help build a new porch for one of our members. A big thank you to all the men who worked to hard and donated time and effort. Bro. Gary and Sis. Debbie spent a couple weeks in Hawaii and we are glad to have them back in service with us. November 23rd Bro. Gary filled the pulpit while Bro. Brian was on a very deserved vacation. We miss our pastor when he is away but so glad he can get away for a couple Sundays. The choir has been busy the last several weeks working on a musical Christmas cantata; while our leaders in beginner church are working on their own Christmas program with the children. We love to watch the children provide their rendition of the birth of Jesus, they create lasting memories. Bro. Nick Dunn filled in November 30th as our pastor was away, and did a wonderful job in both services. Praise God for young men who will surrender their life to the ministry. Until next

month, our love and prayers go out to one and all.
Brian Meade, Pastor • Georgie Brokaw, Reporter

Greetings from **Bethlehem of Doniphan!** The first part of November started out busy but as the month went on the slower it got. November 8th, our Fall Festival had a great turnout! We served Hobo Stew, Hotdogs, Funnel Cakes and Fried Oreos. Plus several choices of drinks, such as: Water, Coffee, Kool-Aid and Sodas. We had several games to play such as: Cake Walk, Ring Toss, the Bunny Hop, Ker plunk and Yard Golf. Each of the games had prizes, like 2 Liter Sodas for the Ring Toss, different kinds of baked goods for the Cake Walk and some assorted prizes for the other games. We also had a \$25 gift card from Casey's Pizza that was donated to the church. There were 3 different items of "guess the quantities." Bro. Jackson Wheeler (Grandson of Bro. C.H. and Sis. Janice Colburn) was the winner of the \$25 gift card. Sis. Corine Dean won the jar of Smarty's candy; Karissa Tilley, my great granddaughter, won the large plastic egg that was filled with sacks of Sour Punch Candy; and Bro. Leon Peeler won the jar of Building Block candies. It seemed a great time was had by all who attended. Thanks to Bro. Matthew Green for taking the initiative to direct the Fall Festival for 2014. Thanks are given to God for allowing us to have seven youth and three adults able to attend the Youth in the Harvest November 14th at Zalma MBC. It was a lot of fun and good learning of the parables in the Bible by pantomiming or reading the Scriptures. It was an honor to work with some of the youth singing hymns while others worked on getting ready for their parables. Saturday, November 15th there was a wedding ceremony at our church performed by Bro. Russell Chitwood. You will have to put your thinking caps on for just a moment concerning this wedding. My uncle, Rodger Payne was married to my husband's sister (Bro. Bob) Linda McBride. So now, my uncle is my brother-in-law and my sister-in-law is now my aunt-in-law. Of course there was no kin on their part, (until marriage that is). The Third Sunday singing was held at Mt. Zion MBC in Poplar Bluff and I truly enjoy being with all of my brothers and sisters in Christ. It breaks my heart to see so few of our association's churches taking part. But it saddens me even more when Christians are asked to participate and they say no, not for a good reason, but just because they don't want to. If it breaks my heart to hear this, I wonder how much more it grieves the Holy Spirit and how much more it breaks God's heart. This isn't just the members of our churches but

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FINANCIAL REPORT BMA OF MISSOURI MISSIONS • November 2014

General Fund:

Balance November 1, 2014		\$	22,178.61
November Receipts:	\$	<u>1,305.60</u>	\$ <u>1,305.60</u>
Total Available		\$	23,484.21
Disbursements:			
Director's Salary	\$	900.00	
Office Equipment	\$	74.98	
Bank Fees	\$	3.00	
Director's Expenses	\$	10.80	
Love Offering Jim Hoffmann	\$	<u>2,000.00</u>	
Total Disbursements	\$	2,988.78	\$ <u>2,988.78</u>
Balance November 30, 2014:		\$	20,495.43

Savings:

Certificate of Deposit	\$	67,217.55
Certificate of Deposit	\$	22,993.90
ING Direct Savings	\$	<u>21,149.01</u>

Help Me...I'm Stuck!!

I remember a time last year when there were some new things happening in my life and ministry. I felt blessed, challenged, passionate, and excited because it seemed that God was up to something big in both my life and my wife's life. Yet despite these wonderful experiences, I just felt "stuck", unable to make the decisions that would affect our future. It was a paralysis of my own making as I contemplated different case scenarios, failures, consequences, and unknown factors. Eventually, I would bring this situation to my coach who would help me get "unstuck" and move forward. I came to realize that every pastor or leader needs a coach. How did my coach help me?

Let me share with you what happened to me through my coaching relationship:

1. With the right questions, my coach helped me **prioritize** my activities. There were several "good things" I could be doing, but I had to process and focus on what was important to our family while the rest could simply wait.

2. My coach helped me **clarify** what God was up to in my life. I had a vision of what I felt God wanted me to do, but I could not articulate it. Once I was able to put into words exactly what it would look like to accomplish the goal, hesitation on my part began to dissolve.

3. Sometimes, I can convince myself there is only one way to do something. My coach was great at challenging my assumptions and helping me to **think "outside the box."** Other viable options and possibilities grew out of our conversations.

4. We all have **blind spots** and as I entered into the possibilities of this new transition, I did not want to make a decision

based on something I could not...or refused to see. My coach helped me consider the things that were real, but not on my radar at the moment.

5. As I answered my coach's questions and created a step-by-step action plan, the Holy Spirit began the work of **affirmation** in my heart. I speak of affirmation that comes from prayer, clarification and prioritizing of the goal, addressing blind spots, and considering multiple possible options. As my coach led me through this process, I became "unstuck," taking the final steps to move forward and submit to God's leading. •

Carolyn and I are very thankful to the association for the Christmas offering. We wish you a Merry Christmas and I am praying that all of our churches will have a blessed year in 2015 as we serve the Lord together.

• CAMP From Page 1 •

16) **First-aid building.** Turn on drain valves by toilet drain water heater. Flush toilet pour antifreeze in tank and bowl. Open shower and sink faucets. Pray again.

17) **Close drain valve** on main line at creek, and all

camper spigots. Close drain valves at dining hall dorm.

18) **Remodeled boys dorm.** Open drain valves in water heater room. Drain water heater. Open sink and shower faucets. Antifreeze sink drains.

19) **Open drain valves in**

camp office. Flush toilet and add antifreeze.

In the spring it's a little easier. Turn on the pump breakers and start shutting off valves where water is coming out.

Hope you all have a Merry Christmas!

A Great Year at DiscipleGuide

by Executive Director, *Scott Atebery*

God has been so good to DiscipleGuide throughout the past year. Most notably, we have been able to begin working on several new "church investment" initiatives.

One of those endeavors is called Activate, a coach-driven process for helping churches overcome stagnancy and decline. Activate involves sending a trained coach onsite to spend time with the pastor, church leaders, and congregation over the length of eighteen to thirty-six months. During that time, the coach will help the church become healthy, on mission, and multiplying. The process is completely customizable to each church. It is not a "cookie-cutter" program. Each church receives personalized care and coaching. We are praying that God will use Activate as a means of revitalizing churches and sparking revival in our nation.

Other "church investment" initiatives being developed for the near future include a pastor's helpline and an intentional interim program. The church investment initiatives are built upon the belief that every church has been given a Great Commission responsibility. By investing in churches, DiscipleGuide hopes to help each church pursue the Great Commission with greater fervor and vision so that more disciples are made among the nations.

Part of our church investment goals include increasing the effectiveness of the resources we provide for our churches. We continue to work diligently to improve our curriculum offerings. During 2014 we have spent time meeting with teachers to gather ideas for improving Sunday school materials.

In addition, our conferences are constantly being "fine tuned" to reinforce the principles and truths taught through our curriculum. Also, our Tuesday Talks simulcast trainings are providing resources for pastors and church leaders based upon the relevant needs of local congregations.

At the same time, our camp ministry at Daniel Springs in Gary, Texas, is undergoing some exciting transformations under the leadership of new Camp Director Jason Prewitt. We believe churches will be pleased with the updates we are making to facilities and programming for the coming years.

Also during 2014, we moved our offices to the BMA Global Ministry Center in Conway, Arkansas, where we enjoy working together with our BMA Missions department and Lifeword Media Ministries. Our DiscipleGuide staff has worked hard to create a smooth relocation process.

Throughout the transitions of 2014, God has provided for DiscipleGuide. We are thankful to have a balanced budget going into 2015! God is so good.

Please continue to pray for DiscipleGuide as we work hard to help churches make disciples.

Prayer Will Change You!

by Dr. Lee Roberson

"But they that wait upon the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run, and not be weary; and they shall walk, and not faint." Isaiah 40:31

We need submission to God. We need flexibility to follow Him. Prayer will change you!

Prayer will also change others. Go on, pray for that loved one! God can change him. He can change the haughty, the mean, the brutal. He can change the attitude of the lost.

Prayer will change situations. When Elijah prayed on Mount Carmel, the situation changed. When the disciples prayed for Peter in jail, the situation changed (Acts 12).

"If my people, which are called by my name, shall humble themselves, and pray, and seek my face, and turn from their wicked ways; then will I hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin, and will heal their land." II Chronicles 7:14

our pastors too. How sad is this? November 30th we had a visiting preacher, Bro. Matt Baker and his wife Sis. Holly. We had a fellowship luncheon at the church with them. It was such a blessing having the extra time to visit with them and the rest of our church family. From our church to you and yours we hope you had a very blessed Thanksgiving Holiday! May God bless us all!

Russell Chitwood, Pastor • Yvonne Hill, Reporter

Greetings from **Lighthouse, Malden**. “*And we have seen and do testify that the Father sent the Son to be the Saviour of the world*” (I John 4:14). What a joy it is to receive the Christmas message with a Thanksgiving heart. Amen! I trust that you all had a great Thanksgiving. My wife and I went to Dustin, OK, where I pastored almost 13 years and had a wonderful time with friends who are like family to us. Our God certainly is blessing the work here at Lighthouse. We baptized Mona Thomas (praise God!) and just this last Sunday her sister, Precious Thomas, came to the altar and got saved! Glory!! Then I went to the back to shake hands after the service and a boy, Michael Moore, came up to my wife and said he needed to get saved, also. Glory, glory to God! Amen! I guess you can tell this Preacher is just a little bit excited. We have number of new families attending and they have been an encouragement to everyone. Sunday evening, November 30, we closed the month out with a great Singspiration. During the month of November, Bro. David Cooper and former pastor, Bro. Richard Blagg, preached for us and both did a wonderful job. I always enjoy hearing other men of God preach. I pray that all of you will have a blessed Christmas and New Year. Jesus is the reason.

Randy Zinn, Pastor

Landmark, DeSoto, started the month off by observing the baptism of Nate Denby. That is a very good way to start off. We held our quarterly business meeting on the 5th. It is so good to be in a church that has little to no controversies in our business meetings. Sis. Gibson retired the 12th from her Real Estate job that she had been working at for quite a few years. We had refreshments that night before Bible Study in her honor. The Gibson’s spent a few days in Arkansas visiting their daughter and family. Denver preached both services at Landmark that day. We were beginning to wonder whether or not we were going to be able to go the way it was snowing. But, we had a good service with some former members visiting that morning. Denver also was blessed to be able to bring the messages at Berean on the 30th. Landmark WMA had their Christmas party, revealing Secret Sisters and drawing new names on the afternoon of the 30th. We had our annual Thanksgiving dinner at church the 23rd. Of course we had turkey and all the trimmings. We appreciate so much, Sis. Betty Harrison who plans all our dinners. We have so many prayer requests that I could share, but would forget some and there might not be enough room in this report for all of them. I will mention these, Bro. Earl Denby who is very possibly going to have to have another surgery, and Sis. Maxine Livingston who is going through some life changing events right now. Then let me mention these: Bro. Clifton Cooper, Sis. Dolores Miller, Sis. Mildred Hawkins and Bro. Loman Irvin. All of these are in nursing homes and unable to attend services. Since the next paper won’t come out until after Christmas, I want to wish everyone a very blessed Christmas Until next month or the Lord’s Return,

Wayne Gibson, pastor • Sharon Page, reporter

First Baptist, Potosi, extends thoughts of thanksgiving to our brothers and sisters in Christ. Thanksgiving month began with the baptism of Aaron Robert Wright (great-grandson of

The Christmas Story: Does It Still Matter?

by Rusty Wright • Probe Ministres

What does Christmas mean to you? Times with family and friends? Perhaps carols, cards, television specials. Maybe hectic shopping, parties, and eating too much.

All these and more are part of North American Christmas. But what about the first Christmas? Why is the original story—the baby in a manger, shepherds, wise men, angels—important, if at all?

May I invite you to consider eight reasons why the original Christmas story matters, even to you? You may not agree with all of them, but perhaps they will stimulate your thinking and maybe even kindle some feelings that resonate with that famous story.

First, the Christmas story is important because it is . . .

A Story that Has Endured

For two millennia, people have told of the child in a Bethlehem manger; of angels who announced his birth to shepherds; of learned men who traveled a great distance to view him.

That a story persists for many years does not prove its truthfulness. Santa Claus, the Easter Bunny and the tooth fairy survive in the popular imagination. But a twenty-century tenure at least merits our consideration. What deep human longings does the Christmas story portray? Why has it connected so profoundly with millions of people? Is the story factual? Curiosity prompts further investigation.

Second, the Christmas story is also . . .

A Story of Hope and Survival

Jesus’ society knew great pain and oppression. Rome ruled. Corrupt tax collectors burdened the people. Some religious leaders

the late Robert and Beverly Simpson). Bro. Jim Ainley has brought powerful sermons each Sunday and was brave enough to approach the subject of tithing. If God touched everyone else as he did me, a lot of members will put forth more effort in this area. Our Thanksgiving supper was a huge success; the food was delicious and the fellowship was great. We were the nursing home leaders this month. This is a very important ministry and it is a blessing to hear the residents sing the songs with us. Georgian Gardens leaders were Bro. Allan Joe Wilkerson, Michelle Knobloch, Phyllis Wilkerson, and Deborah Rauhut. Potosi Manor leaders were Michelle Knobloch, Debbie DeClue with granddaughter McKenna, and Deborah Rauhut. The GMA’s made shoulder cloths for mothers of babies at the Pregnancy Resource Center. While Thanksgiving is in the month of November, we should share our thankfulness everyday; for we have an awesome God!

Jim Ainley, Associate Pastor; Deborah Rauhut, Reporter

even sanctioned physical beating of Jewish citizens participating in compulsory religious duties.

Joseph and his pregnant wife Mary traveled a long distance to Bethlehem to register for a census but could not obtain proper lodging. Mary bore her baby and laid him in a manger, a feeding trough for animals. Eventually, King Herod sought to kill the baby. Warned of impending risk, Joseph and Mary fled to Egypt, then returned home after Herod’s death.

Imagine how Mary felt. Traveling while pregnant would be challenging. Fleeing to another nation lest some king slay your son would not be pleasant. Yet she, Joseph, and Jesus survived the ordeal.

In the midst of social and cultural challenges, the Christmas story offers hope and encouragement toward survival, hope of new life linked to something—someone—greater than oneself. One of Jesus’ followers said Jesus’ “name . . . [would] be the hope of all the world.”

So, the Christmas story is important because it has endured and because it speaks of hope and survival.

Reason number three: the Christmas story is . . .

A Story of Peace and Goodwill

Christmas carolers sing of “peace on earth.” Greeting cards extol peace, families desire it, and the news reminds us of its fleeting nature.

I encountered ten-year-old Matt from Nebraska in a southern California restaurant men’s room one afternoon. Alone and forlorn looking, he stood outside the lone stall.

“Could I ask a favor?” inquired the sandy haired youth. “The door to this stall has no lock. Would you watch and be sure that no one comes in on me?” “Sure,” I replied, happy to guard his privacy. Matt noted, “In a lot of nice restaurants the stall doors don’t have locks.” “I know,” I agreed. “You’d think they would.”

After a pause, his high-pitched voice said, “You know what I wish? I wish there could be peace in all the earth and no more arguments or fighting so no one would have to die except by heart attacks.” “That would be great,” I agreed. “How do you think that could happen?” Matt didn’t know.

“It seems that the Prince of Peace could help,” I suggested. “Do you know who that is?” He didn’t. “Well, at Christmas, we talk a lot about Jesus as the Prince of Peace,” I explained.

“Oh, I see,” conceded Matt. “I don’t know about those things because I don’t go to church. Do you know what it’s like to be the only boy in your town who doesn’t go to church? I do.”

“Well, I’m a church member,” I replied, “but really the most important thing is knowing Jesus Christ as your personal friend. When I was eighteen, some friends explained to me that He died and rose again for me and that I could begin a relationship with Him. It made a big difference and gave me a real peace inside. He can also bring peace between people.”

By now, Matt was out washing his hands as his father stuck his head in the door to hurry him along. I gave him a small booklet that explained more. “Thanks,” smiled Matt as he walked out to join his family for lunch.

Psychologist Daniel Goleman in his bestselling book Emotional Intelligence tells of boarding a New York City bus

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What “We’ve Always Done It That Way” Really Means

by Scott Attebery, Executive Director of DiscipleGuide

“We’ve always done it that way.”

There is a certain stereotype in the minds of pastors and church leaders when they hear that phrase. The stereotype I am referring to is of an out-of-touch, die-hard, traditional, older member who can’t see the ridiculous nature of basing decisions mindlessly upon patterns of behavior in the past.

Well, if that’s the case, I’ve become that out-of-touch stereotypical non-change agent.

For the past 20-something years, the Arkansas Razorbacks (my favorite team) has played LSU the day after thanksgiving. I have so many great memories of traveling with special friends to watch that game over the years. As silly as it sounds, that game –on that day- has a special place in my heart.

The other day, I read in the newspaper that the game has been moved to another date and a new team has been placed on our schedule for Thanksgiving weekend. Before I could realize what was happening, the thought was echoing in my mind, “But we’ve always done it that way.”

My next thought was, “I can’t believe I just said that!”

I tried to process what happened inside of me. I wasn’t necessarily clinging to tradition. And I wasn’t so stuck in my ways that I thought changing was irreverent or wrong. No, what was happening inside of me was an acknowledgement that I had an emotional tie to something. It was actually a compliment to my friends and all of the great memories we had made over the years at that game.

I cringed as my mind took me back to the years I pastored. Every time I heard “We’ve always done it that way,” I respectfully listened, but behind my smiles and nods, my mind was grasping to the stereotype.

I interpreted the phrase as “Pastor, you better do a good sales job if you want me to change.” It was a call to attack and force change.

However, those uttering the phrase, I believe, were really saying something more like, “Pastor, this has meant a lot to me in the past. I just want you to know this will be a difficult change for me.”

What I always assumed was an attack was actually a complement. Those members were actually trusting me with their feelings! It was a sign that they honored me and wanted me to help them through the change –not go to war over it.

Oh how I wish I would have realized it years ago.

After all, if I could get so emotional over memories from a football game, just imagine how emotional someone could be over tearing down a building where their children were baptized or ending a program their late spouse helped begin. These people are not anti-progress, they are simply in touch with the gravity of the situation.

If you are a pastor or church leader, the next time you hear “we’ve never done it that way before:”

- Consider it an honor that they trust you with their feelings.
- Ask questions and show them that you respect and honor their emotions.
- Remember that they are complimenting the ministry.
- Speak highly of the ministry in the past.
- Love them before you attempt to lead them. Your ability to lead change is directly related to your genuine love for your members. They need to know they can trust your heart.
- Continue asking for their input as you proceed.
- If you decide change must take place, consider having a public recognition of the past ministry that is changing. Sometimes people just need to express themselves before they can move on.

• STORY From Page 4 •

to find a driver whose friendly greeting and positive disposition spread contagious warmth among the initially cold and indifferent passengers. Goleman envisioned a “virus of good feeling” spreading through the city from this “urban peacemaker” whose good will had softened hearts.

The Christmas angel announced to some shepherds, “Don’t be afraid! . . . I bring you good news of great joy for everyone! The Savior—yes, the Messiah, the Lord—has been born tonight in Bethlehem, the city of David!” A crowd of angels then appeared praising God and proclaiming peace among people of good will.

The Christmas story brings a message of peace that can soothe anxious hearts and calm interpersonal strife.

Reason number four: the Christmas story is . . .

A Story of Family

Christmas is a time for family gatherings. This interaction can bring great joy or great stress. Estrangement or ill will from past conflicts can explode.

Joseph and Mary had their share of family challenges. Consider their circumstances. The historical accounts indicate that Joseph’s fiancée became pregnant though she was a virgin. Mary believed an angel told her she was pregnant by God. Now, how would you feel if your fiancé/fiancée exhibited apparent evidence of sexual activity with someone else during your engagement? Suppose your intended said that God had sanctioned the whole thing. Would your trust and self-esteem take a nose-dive? Would you cancel the wedding?

Joseph, described as “a just man, decided to break the engagement quietly, so as not to disgrace . . . [Mary] publicly.” But an angel appeared to him in a dream, explaining that the child was conceived in her by God, and told him to “name him Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins.” Jo-

• Remain sensitive to their feelings as you introduce change (it helps me to picture them as my mother or grandmother when thinking through issues).

seph followed instructions and cared for his family. His continuing commitment to Mary and Jesus played a significant part in the boy’s birth and early childhood. With God’s help, the family overcame major obstacles. And so can your family.

Fifth, the story is Christmas is also . . .

A story of Humility

When kings, presidents, and other rulers appear in public, great pomp often ensues. From a biblical perspective, God came first not as a ruling king but as a servant, a baby born in humble circumstances. His becoming human helps humans identify with Him.

Imagine that you and your child are walking in a field and encounter an ant pile with hundreds of ants scurrying about. In the distance, you see a construction bulldozer approaching. Suppose your child asks how to warn the ants of impending danger. You discuss various possibilities: shouting, holding up signs, etc. But the best solution would be if somehow your child could become an ant and warn them personally. Some ants might not believe the danger. But some might believe and take steps to ensure their safety.

Paul, an early follower of Jesus, wrote of the humility Jesus displayed by becoming human:

Though he was God, he did not demand and cling to his rights as God. He made himself nothing; he took the humble position of a slave and appeared in human form. And in human form he obediently humbled himself even further by dying a criminal’s death on a cross. Because of this, God raised him up to the heights of heaven.

The Christmas story speaks of family and humility. But is it true?

Reason number six why the Christmas story matters: it is . . .

A Story that Was Foretold

Jesus’ followers noted numerous clues to his identity, prophecies written many years before His birth.

The Hebrew writer Micah told around 700 BC of deliverance through a coming Messiah or “Anointed One” from Bethlehem. We know that “. . . Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea. . . .”

Isaiah, writing around 700 BC, foretold that the Messiah would be born of a virgin. He wrote, “The Lord himself will give you a sign: The virgin will be with child and will give birth to a son, and will call him Immanuel.” The name “Immanuel” means “God is with us.” Biblical accounts claim Jesus’ mother was a virgin when she bore Him.

Additional prophecies concern the Messiah’s lineage, betrayal, suffering, execution, and resurrection. Peter Stoner, a California mathematician, once calculated the probability of just eight of the 300 prophecies Jesus fulfilled coming true in one person due to chance alone. Using estimates that both he and classes of college students considered reasonable and conservative, Stoner concluded there was one chance in 10 to the 17th power that those eight were fulfilled by fluke. He says 10 to the 17th power silver dollars would cover the state of Texas two feet deep. Mark one coin with red fingernail polish. Stir the whole batch thoroughly. What chance would a blindfolded person have of picking the marked coin on the first try? One in 10 to the 17th power, the same chance that just eight of the 300 prophecies “just happened” to come true in this man, Jesus.

In a similar vein, consider reason number seven why the original Christmas story matters. It is . . .

A Story that Has Substantial Support

Can we trust the biblical accounts of the Christmas story? Three important points:

- Eyewitness Testimony. The Gospels—presentations of Jesus’ life—claim to be, or bear evidence of containing, eyewitness accounts. In a courtroom, eyewitness testimony is among the most reliable evidence.
- Early Date. Dr. William F. Albright, one of the world’s leading archaeologists, dated every book of the New Testament (NT) before about AD 80. {17} There is no known record of NT factual authenticity ever being successfully challenged by a contemporary.

• See *STORY* Page 8 •

WMA & GMA NEWS

Articles for this column

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Decorate Yourself!!

For several years now, I always do a Christmas time article on how to create memories with your family; and to firmly establish the Biblical message of Christmas into your celebration time as a family. I still encourage you to do this; but I want to address this year about how to have the right attitude at Christmas. Decorate yourself with a good attitude. A Biblical attitude. What better way to celebrate the birth of Jesus Christ, than to show His attitude and character to all you meet. Have a holly jolly Christmas. And when you walk down the street, say hello to friends you know, and everyone you meet.

Hospitality is in the Bible. Being kind is in the Bible. So is turning the other cheek, a merry heart is good medicine, love your enemies, don't be covetous, and let your words edify others. The list goes on and on. Maybe the best Christmas present we could give to others this year is to show them a biblical response, and Christ-like attitude. I know you may have a co-worker who is a bah-humbegger. You may have a friend who is a Grinch and tries to steal the Christmas joy from you. Somewhere in the extended family, there will be a Maytag washing machine. They always have to be stirring up family dirty laundry, and serve well in the role of agitator. Don't let these joy suckers have power over you. Let your Christmas light and joy from Jesus just keep on shining. Here are some things to consider when decorating your self with a Christmas attitude.

PTO – Personal Time Off. There will be no joy, but sheer exhaustion and irritability if you don't take some time off each day for quiet time. You may think you have so much to do that you don't have time for this. But if you neglect this, you will become irritable. Every little thing people say or do will rub you the wrong way. Even Satan, as a roaring lion, has no trouble overtaking an exhausted saint. You don't have to do everything for everyone. Remember, we are celebrating the birth of the savior of the world; whose name is Jesus. Not you. Learn to rest. Find a hiding spot once a day and just meditate, pray, read your Bible, take a hot bath, listen to some music etc... But you better build in time to come apart or you will fall apart.

LET GO. Let go of everyone else you can't control. Who might that be? Every one else you know. You can't control others. Quit trying to imagine in your mind a perfect get-together. Stop trying to think if you say or do something, then this person will respond the way you want them to. You can only control your response. You have no control over their response. They may be Christians also. They may totally respond in the wrong way. It still does you no good to respond back with an unchristian response. When you do that, you are no better than they are. I don't mean that you allow people to walk all over you. Abuse should not be an acceptable behavior. However, about 90% of stuff you could just let go and let God have it; and start whistling a happy tune. When people tick you off this holiday; don't let them get you. Just quote a scripture, or go read your bible for a minute. Pray and let God have them. Christmas time is too short a time to let these people ruin it for you. They are trying to do this to you. Some people enjoy pushing people. Don't let them have the victory. Don't let it bother you.

BE JOYFUL. You do control your thoughts. We are to take every thought captive unto the Lord. II Corinthians 10:5. We are to have a rejoicing attitude as followers of Christ. Philippians 4:4. So guard what you think about. Think positive.

Philippians 4:8. Learn to be content with all that God has blessed you with and focus on these things. Philippians 4:11. If you can't think of things to make you joyful, then make a list.

Write down some things that you should not only be thankful to God for, but things or people that make you happy. Then when the bad attitude comes; hit eject on the negativity DVD and put in your new DVD of good thoughts and blessings. If you can't have a happy thought, then pray to God. Ask Him to give you good tidings of great joy.

If you have Christ in your heart; you can be happy every single day for eternity!

PICK SOME FRUIT AND EAT IT. I'm not meaning apples and prunes. Although eating some of these, and staying regular over the holidays, probably would make you happier. Ha! I'm talking spiritual fruit. The kind found in Galatians 5:22, 23. Pray specifically to God, asking for very specific fruits to be abundant in you. Do you need more peace because you worry too much? Do you need some joy because of depression or discouragement? How about praying for some relative to have gentleness and goodness this Christmas time when you get together? You can pray for this to bring about a spiritual harvest of change. Bottom line is: if you want to have a holly jolly Christmas this year; then decorate yourself with the attitude of the one whose birth we celebrate. Jesus! Jesus! Jesus!

“Christ was born in the first century, yet He belongs to all centuries. He was born a Jew, yet He belongs to all races. He was born in Bethlehem, yet He belongs to all countries.”

George W. Truett

The Door Is Always Open

Oscar and Tamy Gaitan's door is always open to anyone who desires to support the mission work in Nicaragua in any way. The same held true years ago when Tamy's mother, Karen Smith, went to Nicaragua to teach. She found Paul and Mickey Robinson and John and Shirley Ladd very welcoming to her. In fact, she lived with John and Shirley for a while. At that point, Nicaragua was a growing mission work within the BMAA. Then, due to the political situation, we had to withdraw the American families from there. Now it seems to be open and thriving again.

Oscar and Tamy married in 1998 and have lived in Nicaragua the whole time, Oscar, having grown up there. They have two children: Lidia Sarai, who is 10, and Ostali Natanael, who is 1. The children go with their parents and help in the mission work as well.

In 2004, Oscar was asked to be the coordinator of missions for the country of Nicaragua. At that time, they began with Action centers (or what we might call cell groups) in different parts of the country. They have opened at least one church plant each year, and sometimes two. This year, however, God has blessed them with four new church plants. They currently have 26 churches in Nicaragua—17 churches and 9 new church plants that are less than 5 years old. They begin a church plant with an action center or cell group and grow and multiply from there.

Nicaragua also has a Bible Institute with two extensions to train their leaders. One is in the area of San Francisco Libre; the other is at La Esperanza, on the east coast. This is a much needed asset anywhere. Without proper training, it is difficult for those who have never known anything about true Christianity to understand what they need themselves, much less to provide it for others. The classes are taught by men from Nicaragua.

Years ago, the Robinsons and Ladds began a clinic ministry in Nicaragua. There is also a clinic ministry operating in a remote area of Nicaragua today. That allows the people to get general medicines much closer to home. This is in San Jorge, San Francisco Libre. BMMI teams also come on a regular basis to perform needed medical and dental work in these areas.

Different churches from Arkansas, Mississippi and Texas have greatly supported the ministry in Nicaragua. These people have sent groups to work on construction of church buildings and other ministry needs such as conferences. These groups help not only with the work, but also in establishing contact for them and spreading the gospel to different areas of Nicaragua.

Oscar and Tamy say, “We are always glad to have visitors and if you ever need a place to serve in missions, we would love for you to consider Nicaragua. Our home is always open to those who desire to support mission work in any way.”

submitted by **Jackie Ricks**
National WMA Editor

*You are writing a Gospel, A chapter each day,
By the deeds that you do And words that you say;
Men read what you write -- Whether faithless or true.
What is the Gospel according to YOU?*

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

God's Love

by Pastor Roy Callahan

When you think of God's love what comes to mind? God's love encompasses so much. One thing that comes to mind is his adoption of all who come to him. In 1 John 3:1, "*Behold, what manner of love the Father hath bestowed upon us, that we should be called the sons of God: therefore the world knoweth us not, because it knew him not.*" To know that God not only will forgive us of our sin, as John 3:16 says, but also makes us "sons of God". How great is that!

As Men in our churches we need to pass on to others the great importance of this message. Today many of our young men are wondering out in the world trying to find meaning, or propose. Because we are "sons of God", we need to show our young men how important it is to be called "sons of God".

Because Satan is a "roaring loin," he is hunting for the souls of our young men. We, as the Brotherhood, need to do all we can to defeat Satan. The way that can only be done is by showing them the love of God through our own lives. By our action, our witness, our young men will see God's love. When they are exposed to God's word in action, and through the working of the Holy Spirit in their lives, they will have the opportunity to become "sons of God".

As we approach the time of Christmas may we remember the greatest gift of all, that of God's son, Jesus, coming down to earth and giving His life for us. As the Brotherhood of Missouri our job is to help our young men see there is hope in Christ. May we endeavor to show the hope, the love, the victory that we have in Christ to our young men.

To add to this theme...

**You Can't Pass on What
You Do Not Possess**

by Travis Plumlee, Family Ark Ministries

I will preach it. I will teach it. I will proclaim it. I will write about it every year. I am compelled to tell everyone that the most important job you will have in this life is parenting. You, the parent, must pass on your faith in Jesus Christ. You must leave a legacy. Even grandparents must leave a legacy of holiness and Christ-centered living to the younger generation. It has been this way since the beginning of time. All other institutions can help in the spiritual growth or education of your children. But it is solely the parent's ultimate job to teach the Bible and faith in God and Jesus to their children.

You can't drop your kids off at church, or take them to church and expect the church to be the sole instrument of teaching your children about the ways of the Lord. You are the main instrument God will use to impact your child's life. And if you are going to hold your kids accountable for living a life pleasing to God; then you must set the example. Kids have always learned by example. The way you talk to others. The way you treat your parents. The way you treat your spouse. The way you respond to the teaching and preaching at your church. The way you serve God by serving others. The way you respond in anger. Where is the validity if you smoke, drink and curse but tell your kids not to? How are you a moral beacon to your children if you tell them it is wrong to lie, but they hear you lie to your boss? They hear you lie to friends or family about being busy because you don't want to see them. You lie and tell a person you need a child's ticket when in fact, your child is now old enough to have to pay the adult fare.

It all adds up. You may not realize, that little things mean a lot. And over the years, all the little lies, the little short cuts in morality – all go towards an accumulative effect of teaching your children about moral living.

So, don't be shocked when they act immoral. It may not be in the same way you act immoral, but you have taught them that you have to do whatever it takes in life to get what you want. Christian parents should teach their children that living for Jesus means sacrifice sometimes. It means not getting what you want, or not doing what you want sometimes. It means sticking to your biblical convictions. It means being willing to forsake the pleasures of this world. It means willing to die for the cause of Christ. How many children in our nation live with parents who show them a deep abiding faith where the parents would die for the cause of Christ? Where are the parents who will give everything they have to get their children in a right relationship with Jesus Christ?

You can't pass on what you do not possess. There are kids that can grow up in ungodly homes and Christ can still shed His grace upon them and they can live glorious lives for Jesus. There are parents who fail to do what is right in the eyes of the Lord, and God still will give you chances to turn things around later in your kids' life. Many older people did not do what they should have when their kids were growing up. Rather than beat yourself up over your past; which does no good, you can read the bible and pray in the present and future with your kids and grand kids. It is never too late to start living as an example in front of your kids.

In the Bible, Moses parents did a great thing for God just by being found faithful. Hebrews 11:23 "By faith Moses, when he was born, was hid three months of his parents, because they saw he was a proper child; and they were not afraid of the king's commandment." This shows

**We Have Rebuilt the Middle Wall
of Partition**

by Tony Cleaver

For he is our peace, who hath made both one, and hath broken down the middle wall of partition between us... Ephesians 2:14 These Apostolic words reference the separating wall that kept the Gentile from the strictly Jewish area of the Temple. Archeologists have found inscriptions of threat of death to those Gentiles who would pass this boundary called the soreg. Paul rejoices in the fact that in Christ Jew and Gentile have been made one. However our congregations today have rebuilt that dividing wall in many ways.

The wall of separation has been rebuilt on cultural, racial, ethnic, even age lines. The most segregated time in America is 11 o'clock on Sunday morning. "Those" people do not talk like we talk, do not dress like we dress, do not have the same standards as "we" do, and certainly their behavior - especially those millennials - does not meet our expectations.

The barricade of division has been reconstructed on political ideology. If you do not vote like "we" vote, then you are not welcome in our church house. After all "we" know what is politically correct and expediently best for "our" country.

The soreg has been modernized to emphasize educational status. We in "our" group do not favor those of lesser educational standing. We are not too keen on having members who have not participated in higher education as "we" have.

The blockade that divides has been updated to exclude "those who are not part of the original church founders or families." The members of long standing exclude those newer members to the congregation. After all "we of long standing" have our place.

The obstruction between peoples is commonly erected on financial rank. "Our members" all have a certain income level that excludes those below us. This works both ways. The poor man is asked to take a lower seat in a wealthy church. The rich man is mistrusted in a poorer group of Christians.

Adiaphora - those non-essential items, those things the Word does not forbid nor command surrounding the Christian faith-is a barrier of hostility reinforced many times over in churches. Shall we have an instrument other than the piano? What about hymn books-if at all and if so what shape shall the notes be and will it be soft or hard back? Which English translation of the Bible shall we use? How many services are there each week? What time are the services to be held? How shall we enforce the unwritten dress code? How shall we grow?

Brothers and sisters of our churches: let us reread and recommit to the words of this passage of Scripture. Let's not rebuild that wall after Christ has paid the ultimate price to take it away. It is His death, burial, and resurrection that enabled God to make us one body regardless of middle walls of partitions that we construct to keep us divided.

Godly parents who were not afraid to stand against the government or society; but stood by their biblical convictions. By faith, they did what was right for their child in the eyes of the Lord. In I Samuel, Hannah gives her child Samuel back to the Lord for His glory. 1:28 "Therefore also I have lent him to the Lord; as long as he liveth he shall be lent to the Lord. And he worshipped the Lord there." Yet, in chapter 3 of I Samuel, Eli knew his sons were running wild. And he did not discipline them. God then judged Eli's house forever. It was not for a year. It was forever. This shows how serious God is about how we raise our children for Him. 3:13 "For I have told him that I will judge his house forever for the iniquity which he knoweth; because his sons made themselves vile, and he restrained them not."

• See PASS Page 8 •

Evangelistic International Ministries

by Director *Rocky Goodwin*

I would like to share the activities of Evangelistic International Ministries. It is easy to report when God has been so good and lives have been changed by the power of the Gospel. As I have said many times, that is the purpose of the existence of our ministry is to win people to Christ, teach them the Word of God and to strengthen the believers.

Over the past few months we have been asked these questions many times. Is EIM a part of the missions program of the BMA of America? Are we a member of the BMA? As founder and director of EIM for 18 years I feel that we should be known by now by our BMA churches and brethren as to our affiliation with the BMA. In order to answer these questions for those we meet with in the BMA that don't know I'd like to answer your questions.

Yes! We are a member of the BMA of America. Our Sending church is First Baptist Church of Magnolia, AR. I personally have been BMA all of my adult life. I was saved and ordained to the ministry in a BMA church and always pastored BMA churches. I hope this answers some of your questions. And now to the report.

I realize that many do not like numbers so all I will say is that God has reached down and touched the lives of countless thousands. Heaven has gained many souls because of churches that have given to the ministry of mission evangelism as well as individuals that have gone with us and shared the Gospel to those that we've ministered to. It is impossible to know exactly how many people have responded to the invitation to accept Christ as Savior. But I realize that it is our responsibility to share Christ and to make known the path that leads to Heaven and it is their responsibility to respond to the invitation.

• STORY From Page 5 •

• Manuscript Evidence. Over 24,000 early manuscript copies of portions of the NT exist today. Concerning manuscript attestation, Sir Frederic Kenyon, director and principle librarian of the British Museum, concluded, "Both the authenticity and the general integrity of the books of the New Testament may be regarded as finally established."

The Christmas story is notable for its enduring messages of hope, peace, goodwill, family and humility. It was foretold by prophets and has substantial manuscript support. But there is another reason for considering the story of Jesus' birth, perhaps the most important.

Reason number eight: the Christmas story is . . .

A Story of Love

Jesus' followers taught that His conception and birth were part of a divine plan to bring us genuine peace, inner freedom, and self-respect. They believed the biblical God wants us to enjoy friendship with Him, and meaning and purpose. Alas, our own self-centeredness separates us from Him. Left to our own, we would spend both time and eternity in this spiritually unplugged state.

Jesus came to help plug us into God. Mary's baby was born to die, paying the penalty for our self-centeredness, which the biblical documents call "sin." If I had a traffic fine I could not pay, you could offer to pay it for me. When the adult Jesus died on the cross, He carried the penalty due all our sins then rose from the dead to give new life.

Jesus explained, "God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him will not perish but have eternal life." {19} God can become your friend if you believe in Him, that is, if you trust Him to forgive you. He will never let you down.

Perhaps you are becoming aware of the importance of the Christmas story in your own life. Might you like to receive Jesus' free gift of forgiveness and place your faith in Him? You can celebrate this Christmas knowing that you are a member of His family. Perhaps you'd like to talk to Him right now. Ask Him to forgive your sins and trust in Him right now. Receive the greatest gift of all - Jesus as your Savior.

The Shepherd Bags Ministry has proven to be anointed of God and we all stand amazed at how God uses such a unique tool to get the Gospel out. Thousands of lives have been touched by the Shepherd Bags Ministry. To all of our friends who have participated and supported us we say thank you.

The Teaching Ministry also known as The Barnabas Touch Ministry has been one of excitement and joy for all of those that have participated. Only eternity will reveal the great things that have been accomplished because preachers have gone and shared the Word of God with their brethren in different countries. Thank you men!

Our Feeding Program has enabled us to go into places that we never dreamed that we would go. God has given us a tool to open the door for the Gospel to be preached. At this time we are feeding between 20-25,000 children per day. To God be the glory.

God keeps opening doors for EIM to minister. I will ask that each one pray that we will be sensitive to the leadership of the Holy Spirit as we enter those doors remembering that EIM is a full-time Mission Evangelistic Ministry.

Are You
DEWing
it?
Give a Dollar
Every Week
to Camp Gawood

• PASS From Page 7 •

As a whole, I see the fabric of our faith unraveling. I don't blame the little kids or the teens. They are living out what they have been taught, or the absence of teaching at all. God puts the responsibility squarely on the parents. God will give you the wisdom, the strength, the power and the peace to carry out His plan for your kids. He even has sent you a wonderful counselor to help you in the Holy Spirit. We must be on fire, zealous, and passionate about bringing up the King's kids for His glory. Parents must teach the next generation the ways of the Lord. And grandparents must also pass on a legacy. Let us do as God instructed us. By faith... By faith... By faith...

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.

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. -11-

Rocky Houston, from Kewanee is available for pulpit supply or however the Lord leads. Contact him 573-521-6385 (cell) after 3:00 p.m. -11-

Don Adams, from Kewanee Baptist Church, is available to preach. Contact him by calling 573-380-9215 or by e-mail at TLAdams_hotmail.com. -11-

Perrin W. Seay, from Emmanuel, Lemay, is available for pulpit supply as the Lord leads. Contact him at 411 Passport Lane, Apt. A, St. Louis, MO 63129 or by calling his home 314-200-8362 or his cell phone 314-402-0906. -11-

Allen Casey, a member of Springdale Baptist Church in Fenton, is available for preaching appointments. Contact him at 636-349-5524. -11-

Denver Page, a member of Landmark Baptist Church in DeSoto is available for pulpit supply or as the Lord leads. Contact him at home 636-942-3503 or by cell 314-283-7243 -11-

Brian Buckley, currently serving as youth pastor at Bates Creek Missionary Baptist Church in Potosi, is available for pulpit supply. Contact him for appointments at 573-439-9319 or (cell) 573-854-2251. -11-

John W. Beardsley, has sent an update with his correct contact information. His mailing address is 49 West St., Sikeston, MO 63801-7111. Phone 573-703-3860. -11-

Billy Davis, from Kewanee and a member of Bethel MBC in Sikeston is available for pulpit supply as the Lord leads. Contact him: cell (573)521-8028 or home (573)748-9652. -11-

Cory Mathews, a member of Central Baptist Church in Union is available for service as God leads. Contact him at 817 Melinda Drive, Union, MO 63084; or phone 636-259-0405; or e-mail corydmathews@gmail.com. -11-

Leonard Knight, from Bethesda, Park Hills, is available for pulpit supply as God leads. His phone number is 870-932-2966. -11-

Caleb Houston, youth pastor at Kewanee Baptist Church is available for weekend youth events, pulpit supply, and preaching appointments. Contact him at 573-521-7826 or calebhouston@yahoo.com. -11-

Ron Beardsley of Sikeston, is available to be used as the Lord leads. Contact him at 573-380-3842, -11-

Pastor Search

Charity Baptist Church, mailing address: 1803 N. Charleston Cir. % Neil Bowers, Columbia, MO 65202. physical address: 1401 Ballenger Lane. Call Neil Bowers, associate pastor, at 573-474-1030. email is Neil.Bowers@centurylink.net. As of this date we have no senior pastor. Pulpit is being filled by Neil Bowers and Joe Ginter.