# The

# Missouri Missionary Baptist

"Holding Forth The Word of Life"

Philippians 2:16

Volume LXXXV

St. Louis, MO • February 8, 2022

Issue No. 2

## It's Time to Make Your Reservations

Committee on Arrangements

The 2022 session of the Baptist Missionary Association of America will meet April 18-20 at the University Plaza Hotel and Convention Center in Springfield, Missouri. Please make your reservations early. Call the local hotel directly to make your reservations. The local telephone number is included below. You must identify that you are with the Baptist Missionary Association of America and that you are booking reservations in the BMA block of rooms. Also, when making your reservations, be sure to let them know you want rooms in the block for the BMAA that begins on April 17, 2022. Your stay does not have to include the night of the 17th, but that will make sure you get the BMA block rate.

The University Plaza Hotel will serve as our headquarters hotel for the annual meeting in Springfield. University Plaza Hotel, 333 John Q. Hammons Parkway, Springfield, MO: (Single/Double, \$124 per night; King suite, \$159.00). Telephone reservations: 417-864-7333. Reservation cutoff date is March 19, 2022. The rates shown above will be available for three nights before and after the meeting if you would like to extend your stay in Springfield. All room rates quoted above are subject to all local taxes.

This information and additional news about the national association meeting can be found on the BMA website at www. bmaamerica.org. Check that website for news and updates about the meeting and reports from the national departments as they become available.

— BMA Arrangements Committee:

Jerome Cooper, Daniel Williams, and Jerry Fulton

Join Us at
Ohlman
Baptist
Church near
Bunker, MO
Sunday,
March 6, 2022

in the Morning
Service and get
acquainted with
Mickeal Quillman,
Jr. and his wife Sharon
who are preparing to
go to the Mission Field

2022 Renewal Retreat at Camp Garwood March 25-26, 2022

Especially for Pastors and other male church leaders!

# World Missions Day 2022 Jerry Kidd Missions Offering • February 27, 2022

# Why Is This Day Important to Our Work for The Lord? from Missionary Stan Scroggins' Newsletter

There are several reasons this date is so important for missionaries. **First,** it is a day to emphasize and PRAY for missionaries all over the world. These five years on the field have taught us how important your prayers are to us. **Second,** it is a day of giving for missions.

The question often asked is, "why should our church give to our national missions department when we directly support missionaries now?" Here are a couple of reasons: • We are an association of churches, working together to help spread the Gospel in the U.S. and around the world. No one church can do this all encompassing work by herself. But together, working together, we can do incredible, marvelous things. • And, no BMA missionary, anywhere in the world, can do their work without the support and advocacy the BMA Missions Department provides. Changemaker missionaries, Church planting, field assessment and preparation, financial accountability, missionary care, health insurance administration, retirement planning, even security training, and many other services are not free. These services make it possible for missionaries to be in and stay in the field. All missionaries are grateful for their direct church supporters, but we all know how important the services provided by the mission department are too. • Missionaries have three places to solicit support: friends, family and churches. The BMAA Mission Department has one, The Churches. Please, let's all come together and make this year's World Mission Day a legacy to be proud of and to remember.

#### From BROKEN to REDEEMED

By John David Smith, Director BMAAMissions

When I arrived in Cape Verde as a missionary on the island of St. Vincent to began ministry at the only Baptist church there, I did not expect that Pastor Manuel Ramos to retire and that I would fill his role. It was a small church with a congregation of fifteen, half of them children. Among the adults, there was a young man I noticed who came in after services started, sat in the back, and left during the closing prayer.

I didn't have the opportunity to meet him until one Sunday after service when he came and introduced himself as Claudino Gomez and explained that he was a new believer. He also said, "My common law wife, Francelina, is not a believer. Would you please pray for her?" It was clear that he loved her very much, and I agreed to pray for her. I also invited him to my house to talk about his new faith in Christ and we began meeting during the week for Bible study.

During one of our meetings, I asked Claudino if he wanted us to go talk to her and share the gospel, but he said no because she was very antagonistic to the gospel. So instead we continued praying as he studied the Bible.

Claudino grew rapidly in his faith and told me one day, "I can't continue in this lifestyle of immorality because it doesn't honor God." When he told Francelina they should get married, she didn't want to do it and refused to quit going out to parties. Later Claudino knew God wanted him to issue an ultimatum, so he told Francelina she had three months to change her lifestyle or he would move out. Despite his love for her, he had to follow through with his decision and didn't believe she would accept the gospel.

I had lost track of Claudino's deadline, so I was unprepared when late one night he came to my house weeping, telling me "the time is up" and that he had moved out of the house. I watched his profound sadness in the next weeks as he prayed for her. He knew it was her brokenness that caused her to continue in a lifestyle that did not honor God, but he went through with the ultimatum, difficult as it was.

In the meantime, the church had grown and Claudino had to sit up front during services, so he did not see Francelina come in one evening and sit on the back row. I was excited to see her, but there was no way I could get his attention that she was there, so instead I prayed, "Lord, let this night be the night of salvation for her."

God had been working in her heart, and during that service when the opportunity came to make a

• See Redeemed Page 3 •

# ተተተ ተተተ NEWS BRIEFS ተተተ ተተተ

Greetings to our fellow churches and friends, from Lower Doe Run, Ellington We are thankful for God's provisions daily. We have been blessed in many ways. We have been blessed to have known Brother Nick Morris for many years, as a teacher and as a deacon of the church. We will miss him greatly. (See the obituary in this paper) Please remember to pray for his wife and family as they adjust their lives without his presence. We are looking forward to a visit from Missionary Mickeal and Sharon Quillman at Lower Doe Run on February 20, 2022. We hope to be able to fellowship with you at the upcoming Association meetings. We pray all of our pastors and missionaries during these troubled times. God is Great and He is totally in control of this world. We are looking for our Lord's soon coming. Until we meet again! Melvin Meade, Pastor • Carolyn Meade, Reporter

Sunday, January 9, 2022, Charity Missionary Baptist Church of Bismarck celebrated the 44th anniversary of our first service on January 1, **1978.** We also presented our only remaining charter member, Sis.



with a plaque and a gold locket. Charity is very thankful for Bonnie's 44 years of dedicated service and her love for the Lord and our church.

Lee Miller, Pastor • Janet Price, Clerk

Greetings to all from Bethel, Sikeston! We lost a dear Bro. in Christ this month. Bro. Paul King, Sr. went to his heavenly home on the 24th. He will be missed as he was a true servant of God. We have a lot of great memories of him. The 9th we had a special prayer service as there were a lot of special needs for prayer. It was a very humbling time of members opening up to their needs and burdens on their hearts. We have had a lot of sickness from covid during the month of January and are praying for a healthier and better February! All in all, in spite of all the sickness, we are having great spirit-filled services. We observed the Lord's Supper during the morning service on the 16th and had our regular business meeting on the 23rd. Some of our youth went to the "Youth Alive Conference" in St. Louis last month and reported having a great time. Thanks to Bro. Joe and Sis. Stephanie Mcelroy for taking them and being their sponsors. We look forward to our 5th Sunday night singing on the 30th as everyone is looking forward to a great time in the Lord!

Billy Davis, Pastor • Joan Wood, Reporter

Greetings from Ozark Heights, Potosi to all our Sister churches; as well as, brothers and sisters that can't be with us because of health. We are still having some of the virus issues but it hasn't stopped us from serving our God who is so worthy of our praise. We give thanks to God for His hand that has protected us throughout the year. First; as always, I want to tell our shut-ins how much you are missed,

loved and we wish you could be here joining as we assemble together in worship. Bro. Brian is doing a wonderful job as he continues to preach strong messages from the Lord. We enjoy Bible study on Sunday and Wednesday evenings. This month we are studying "My Doctrine" in Sunday evening worship and Wednesday evening Bible study we are doing a study of Hebrews. Bro. Gary preached on January 2nd so we could visit and have Christmas with our family in Arkansas. Our ladies meet every 3rd Thursday at 7 p.m. for WMA, we will be doing a study on Deuteronomy. Brotherhood meets on the 2nd and 4th Thursday of the month at 7 p.m. Our Brotherhood is on Part 2 of our study of the Authentic Man. You are always welcome join us in our studies. It is so wonderful to watch our young couples grow in the Lord. There is so much activity in the church these days with the children, which is such a blessing! Like several churches in our area we closed for the snow and extreme cold January 16th. But we provide a ZOOM broadcast each Sunday which allowed us to continue our worship together. We enjoyed Talent night January 23rd with many sharing in poem, song and praise. We were blessed to enjoy the talents within our church then the rest of us enjoyed the talent of eating some tasty food in our fellowship hall. It is proof positive at Ozark Heights, there is no lack of talent for Baptists to eat and we are most thankful to those who provided the meal and delicious desserts. Bro. Brian invites you to come and see what the Lord is doing at Ozark Heights MBC. Sunday School 10:00 a.m. Worship 11:00 a.m. Sunday Evening Bible Study: "My Doctrine" 6:00 p.m. Wednesday Evening Bible Study 7:00 p.m. WMA 3rd Thursday 7:00 p.m. Brotherhood 2nd and 4th Thursday 7:00 p.m. Saturday, February 12th, 9:00

a.m. Youth meeting to discuss plans for the year. Meeting is for 6th grade and up along with their parents. Saturday February 12th Our Valentine banquet will at 6:00 p.m. Dinner to be served by our youth group. Donations will be accepted for the youth fund. Talent Night February 27th. Bring your talents before the Lord and bring your favorite Mexican food dish for fellowship after. Our prayers go out to those who have been sick, our shut-ins and those unable to attend recently. Sis. Kelly Bacon is out of the hospital and at home recovering. Brian Kingston, Pastor • Gary Gilliam, Reporter

Greetings once again from Lindsay Lane Baptist Church, Florissant. We missed the deadline last month but we're back! As we have started another year, this could be the year our Lord returns. Are you ready? Bro. Brian has been preaching a series of messages on the I Am. The youth Alive conference was well attended and a blessing to the kids as well as the sponsors. The 26th Of December we celebrated the very joyous Christmas program put on by our youth and young at heart. Young Ben gave it a thumbs up! Sadly we had to dismiss services the first Sunday of the year due to the weather. January 9th. Bro. Brian started teaching his class. We are so grateful for his healing and pray that he continues enjoying his health again. Also, January 9th. Our hearts rejoiced when Bro. Mike McKenzie joined our membership. He has been in the ministry over 60 years. He has moved into his daughter Amy's home and has already been a blessing, filling in for Bro. Brian while he and Dawn took a vacation. January 16th, as pastor was preaching on being fruitful, young Ben left his pew, walked up to pastor and asked, "what does being fruitful mean"? Young Ben is 5 1/2 years old! Pastor very patiently explained it to him then asked the congregation, "How many of you would be brave enough to do what Ben just did?" We thank God for our teachers and preachers that teach and preach the Word! We are looking forward to see what God has in store. Stay warm, stay faithful, stay healthy, pray for your pastor, your church, teachers, neighbors and family. Till we meet again, May God bless.

Brian Meade, Pastor • Kathy Chapman, Reporter

HELLO to all from Oak Hill, Alton! We missed one Sunday, January 16th and one Wednesday January 19th because of bad weather. The 30th we had a great fifth Sunday dinner and enjoyed a good time of fellowship. We ask for your prayers for Oak Hill church and the Hamilton family regarding our dear brother, David Hamilton, who went home to be with the Lord

• Continued on Page 4 •

## The Missouri Missionary Baptist

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See the MMB online at bmamissouri.org

# STATE MISSIONS

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FINANCIAL REPORT BMA OF MISSOURI MISSIONS • January 2022								
General Fund:								
Checking Account:								
Balance December 31, 2021	l		\$	19,460.14				
January Receipts:								
Insurance (Garwood)	\$	2,000.00						
Missions:	\$	<u>2,528.51</u>						
Total Income:	\$	4,528.51	\$	<u>4,528.51</u>				
Total Available			\$	23,988.65				
January Disbursements:								
Director, Salary	\$	450.00						
Secretary, Salary	\$	200.00						
Juan Fernandez Support	\$	2,333.33						
Meeting/ Director exp.	\$	18.45						
Brad Miller Website	\$	1,350.04						
Total Disbursements	\$	4,351.82	\$	(4,351.82)				
Balance January 31, 2022:			\$	19,636.83				
Investment in BMA of Mississi	ppi R	Revolving Loan Fu	nd:					
Balance December 31, 2021:				109,575.95				
Interest:				552.38				
Balance January 31, 2022:			\$	110,128.33				
Total of all Funds January 31, 2022:			\$	129,765.16				

#### From Our Director...

Churches of the BMAMO: I hope you have enjoyed this Christmas and New year season. It is hard to believe that we have already put a month into the books of 2022.

I want to encourage you to pray for our national Missionary Bro. Juan Fernandez, I know He does His own article, but as your missions director, it is imperative that I encourage you to lift him and his family up, not just for the ministries that He is conducting, but on every level. One of the most disturbing principles in Scripture is the Golden Rule. Think about it, "do unto others as you would have them do unto vou." If you were Bro. Juan would you just want someone to pray for you occasionally and then only that you succeed as a missionary? No! You would want the people that populate the churches that support you to pray for every facet of your life. Such as: Finances, health, leisure, family, friends, spiritual health, possessions, as I like to say every facet of life. I know Bro. Juan and his family will be forever grateful if we pray like this for him.

Now what I have just illustrated is the very reason for the benchmark assessment, the assessment addresses how well you as an individual and a church are achieving this type of praying, and the pamphlet that accompanies it

helps us get this lifestyle into a discipline. Please use the pamphlet weekly to help you accomplish this discipline. If I can help in any way please let me know.

Pastor, if you would like me to come this summer on a Wednesday, please contact me and we will set it up. May the Lord richly bless you all.

Again pastors please plan to come and bring your men with you to the Renewal Retreat at Camp Garwood March 25 - 26, 2022!

The Retreat is free but you need to register all that are coming from your church with me at 636-629-2526 or by email <a href="mailto:bethelbaptist-church@live.co">bethelbaptist-church@live.co</a>. We need to hear from you by March 6th.

#### • Redeemed From Page 1 •

decision, Francelina almost ran to the front without Claudino even realizing it. Then he saw her at the altar, and his facial expression was indescribable. He joined her there and I knelt with them as she gave her life to the Lord that night.

Later Francelina was with a group of new converts "making a profession of faith," which was the tradition. After her baptism with other new believers that night, she asked to sing a song: "At the cross, at the cross where I first saw the light and the burden of my heart rolled away, it was there by faith I received my sight and now I am happy all the day. " Many tears were shed that night.

A few weeks later they were married, and it wasn't long before Claudino made known his call to ministry. They were the best I'd ever seen at leading others to Christ, drawing people to church, and creating relationships. They love people and are very fruitful in ministry.

The first church plant where they served was in Salamansa, a little fishing village, then they went to another fishing village on the other side of the island called Calahau. After that they planted a church in Santo Antao then returned to Saint Vincent where he is now interim pastor for that original church in Saint Vincent.

Just recently they went to the island of Sao Nicolau where they are now pastoring a church.

I am so blessed to have walked that journey with them from their own brokenness to their call to serve broken people, and I'm proud to call them brother and sister.

#### **Half Century Club Induction**



Half-Century Club Inductees: Back Row (L-R) Thom South, Gaylon King, Roger Pearce and Theresa Thurman Parker; Front Row (L-R) Judy Brown South, Judy Bates Wallace, Nancy Waller La Ferney and Lynette Burch Stanley.

This year CBC celebrated the graduating classes of 1971-1975. Eight individuals attended the induction: Thom South, Judy Brown South, Gaylon King, Judy Bates Wallace, Roger Pearce, Nancy Waller La Ferney, Theresa Thurman Parker and Lynette Burch Stanley. (Other inductees were not present for the ceremony.) Each of these attendees received a medal with the induction date. Judy Wallace (1971) shared several memories from her time at CBC. Each of these classes will receive a personal brick that will be placed on campus in the Legacy Walk.

## **Baptist Publishing House**

reminds everyone that the Spring Curriculum is now ready to pre-order.

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#### • NEWS From Page 2 •

on the 27th. On a positive note, my nephew Tyler and his wife Candice found out they are expecting a baby boy and they are naming him Jesse Wayne in honor and remembrance of his grandpa and my Dad, Jesse. We have two couples that are planning on getting married. June 4th Preston Nix and Mya Shields will be married. The second couple, Colby Kernodle and Kaylee Kemper, will be getting married in July. We hope and pray that their marriages are blessed by the Lord and that they have long and happy Marriages. The weather forecast for this coming week includes ice, sleet, and snow and we are praying that the Lord will just bless us with some moisture but that it doesn't get as cold as they are forecasting. Until next month when I hope I will have some more good news to tell you, We will be praising and honoring our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ! God Bless each of you!!

Edward Casey, Pastor • Jennifer Williams, Reporter

Between the holidays and weather, we did have to cancel some services at **Ohlman Baptist Church near Bunker.** When school is cancelled, we cancel our Wednesday night kids' program. It seems like it is happening frequently. Thanks to one of our men plowing the parking lot, we did have a Sunday

service when several others in the community cancelled. Our ladies, along with others from the community churches have been kept busy providing meals for families who lost loved ones. It's a blessing to see how they all come together to serve those who are grieving. We are looking forward to having the Quillmans with us on Sunday morning March 6th. Special prayer is requested for Bro. Danny Skaggs and Bro. Mike Lanham.

Terry Sharpe, Pastor • Janet Widger, Reporter

Greetings from Briar Missionary Baptist Church, Doniphan. It is with a sad heart that we have to share

this information with you. Bro. Joe Hollomon passed away this morning (02/01/2022) at his home after a brief illness surrounded by his family of 3 sons and his daughter as well as Sis. Elaine and several other family members. Sis. Elaine is in our hearts and prayers at this time along with everyone else in their family. Because of the higher Covid illnesses last month we were unable to have all of our association meetings so we are in hopes of being able to keep them this month. Youth in Harvest is scheduled to be held at Briar on Friday, February 11th at 7:30. The Prayer Breakfast will be on Saturday, February 19th @ 9:00 at the Corner Cafe on Hwy 21 North of Doniphan at the corner of K Hwy and 21. The 3rd Sunday Singing will be at Amity Missionary Baptist Church on the 20th of February from 2:00 to 3:30 in Doniphan, MO. This will be my last letter to the paper as my husband and I will be moving to Clarksville, TN about the 14th of February. We have been so blessed to have met so many Christian friends during the past 13 years. If we don't see you again on this side we will meet up with you in Heaven. We will be coming back at times to MO and we will be in touch with our friends and family. May God bless and keep us all. Please remember to pray for each of our churches and for the churches without pastors.

David Grubb, Pastor • Yvonne Hill, Reporter

## Healthy Church Solutions

#### **Decisions! Decisions! Decisions!**

Leaders are required to make decisions that could potentially cause their church to get off the course that God intended. Every decision must be saturated in prayer and stand firmly on the truth of God's Word. In John 16:13, Jesus tells His disciples, "When the Spirit of truth comes, He will guide you into all the truth." Your faith will be challenged as you choose to live by every word that proceeds out of the mouth of the Lord. You must consent to not only His presence but also submit to the actions He desires to take in your ministry. You are thankful He is there, and you want Him in the driver's seat.

The ministry of the Holy Spirit is to guide us into truth, but don't be upset when you are not sure what He is doing in your life. God has a plan. You will not always know what He is up to, but you know that you can trust Him. Don't become unsettled when your questions go unanswered. Read Hebrews 11 and know that, without faith, it is impossible to please Him. Resist the urge to ask Him to give you more than you need if that will cause you to trust Him less. The Lord desires us to trust Him daily, to cry out to Him for direction daily and to take up our crosses, denying self, daily.

How then do you make good and godly decisions, knowing that one wrong decision has the potential for a critical impact on your life, family and church? Your sinful decisions can even visit and impact generations after you. The world says consult counselors such as financial advisors, career guidance counselors and business coaching. All of these can be tremendously beneficial, but there is more to good decision-making than weighing all the evidence, comparing the pros and cons and taking the logical course of action. If all else fails, you could flip a coin and accept the 50-50 chance of being wrong.

Henry Blackaby says it well: "God doesn't want us to do what we think is best, He wants us to do what He knows is best!" Remember, the Holy Spirit guides into "all the truth." The primary reference here is to the writers of the New Testament. Jesus told the disciples in John 14:26, "The Holy Spirit... will teach you all things and remind you of everything I have told you." Jesus was referring to the four gospels and that they would be reminded of everything He had spent over three years teaching them. In John 15:26-27, Jesus said, "He will testify about me and you also will testify." The fulfillment of this truth is found in the Book of Acts.

John 16:12 continued, "I still have many things to tell you,

but you can't bear them now." Jesus said more truth was coming and let them know that this New Testament truth could be trusted. The Holy Spirit would also continue to guide into all the truth they were not quite ready for yet — the Epistles. Then He even told them that the Holy Spirit would guide them in how everything would come to a conclusion. John 16:13 says, "He will also declare to you what is to come" which is speaking of the Revelation. Jesus is saying that the Holy Spirit who inspired the Old Testament would also inspire the New Testament.

What a comforting declaration Jesus gave the disciples. They would soon have the complete canon of Scripture and Jesus was confirming its reliability. Only the Holy Spirit, since He is God, knows all that God knows, and thus is equally qualified to reveal divine truth to man.

Because He is the Spirit of Truth, the Bible is inerrant, God-breathed: "All scripture is inspired by God and is profitable for teaching, for rebuking, for correcting, for training in righteousness" (II Tim. 3:16). Yes, the Holy Spirit was coming to comfort, guide and be our constant helper but He was coming primarily so that Scripture, all truth, could guide us.

This demands a complete admittance of your total

dependence upon God by immersing yourself in His Word. When you fill your mind with Scripture, before long, you will find yourself thinking, acting and being directed by biblical principles. Out of your commitment to God's Word you are able to make good, godly decisions. You are also committed to prayer. Jeremiah 33:3 has been referred to as God's phone number: "Call to Me and I will answer you and tell you great and incomprehensible things you do not know." Make sure you are asking Him to guide you daily in every decision and not only when you are facing problems.

This prayer principle is not only for the church and church leaders. There is not a dividing line between sacred and secular because God is not restrained by man made artificial boundaries. Prayer will keep you focused on the one absolutely consistent factor in life — God. He is immutable, therefore God is unchanging over time and unable to be changed. God's Word is settled in Heaven forever. The Holy Spirit is the one who enables us to not be upset when we are unsure what He is doing. He is the one who empowers us to not be unsettled when our questions go unanswered. The Holy Spirit will aid us in trusting Him completely.

How tragic it is to face a major decision that desperately calls for God's wisdom, but you have grown unfamiliar with His voice. You have become disoriented to what is right and what is wrong because you have not been communicating with Him daily and consistently. Maybe you just wish you had more time to pray. Daniel had enormous government responsibilities, yet his habit was to have three dedicated times of prayer every day. Daniel had political enemies who desired to have him removed out of his position and even executed. How did Daniel face these attacks and this danger? He prayed, as was His custom.

God faithfully guided and protected him. Daniel had complete confidence in his rich relationship with God. You say you have complete faith in God, but you do not have a rich, deep daily walk with Him? Daniel's confidence came out of not only who God is, but out of Daniel experiencing Him daily. Daniel was talking to God regularly and he knew, whatever happened, God was with him. He came out of a seemingly hopeless situation victorious. I am not sure this is what happened, but I can just see Daniel being lowered into the lion's den and saying, "Leo, go over there and sit down and shut up!"

Larry Barker, Director of Operations North America BMA of America Missions Department P.O. Box 878 • Conway, Ark. 72033-0878

# Mision Bautista "Belen" St. Louis MO

"And let us not be weary in well doing: for in due season we shall reap, if we faint not." Galatians 6:9

Greetings from "Belen" we continue visiting homes for meeting, planting and praying with Spanish speaking friends as the Lord leads. Last month of December a young man contacted me via text, he had found my phone number in our Facebook page "Mision Bautista "Belen" de St. Louis Mo. Mr. E was desperately wanting to be ministered, he had moved from El Salvador recently in the search of the American Dream, he mentioned being a member of a church in El Salvador, Mr. E shared his Pastor's name and phone number, when I called the pastor, the pastor verified the information and explained Mr. E situation.

He left thinking that God was leading Mr. E on a journey that will change his life forever, into a rich man and many more things this world offers. When I contacted Mr. E in person at 35 minutes south of Overland, Mo. during his lunch break. Mr. E was drunk. He said that being drunk wasn't right and other many things that he was doing. When I presented the message of Salvation he said he knew and he would like to follow Christ. I offered him to return next day once he was sober to start our discipleship process. I contacted Bro. Ben about finding a church building available to gather with Mr. E and start meeting and ministering to him. We met brother Tom, a Pastor with a heart and passion for the souls, he agreed to let us the building and set up a schedule.

Everything was on site until the time came to meet, Mr. E didn't show up. No contact for almost a whole week. Finally heard from him on a text, he text: "God has saved me" he had been in the ER with a diabetic stroke. He kept drinking and living a disorderly lifestyle that cause him almost to die. He said in his text he was ready to move on and follow Christ. Once again, I set up a time and place to meet with him. We did for over three weeks, I would drive south to meet and have one on one discipleship bible study and mentoring in aspects of his life, such as paying bills, new diet for his treatment, etc. Mr. E was responding well until an evening when he text again, he was going to visit his sister in Kansas city, MO and he won't be able to get together for next session, he asked for prayer and advice, he was just going to take a break from his job.

Mr. E and five other men work in this restaurant, they all live in the same home, so Mr. E had a burden to see his friends following Christ. Unfortunately, peer pressure was stronger than his commitment to follow Christ so after advising him not to travel, he did anyway. During his trip his car had a malfunction on his breaks and was involved, Mr. E wasn't hurt at all he just was stranded in the road. After this trip I didn't hear from him until last week when I text him that we were praying for him everyday at 12:00. He responded that his life wasn't worth time spent in prayer. That's why I am sharing with you, would you in the power of the holy spirit join me in prayer for Mr. E. Salvation? I am not asking anything beyond normal for a Christian who loves Christ and the neighbor, pray for Mr. E Salvation, Sanctification and Service.

Please join us in prayer every Day at 12:00 for this Ministry and the contacts that the Lord has provided to share the good news. There are no excuses for Mr. E about not following Christ, I know that God's love, the fatherly love, will bring him back home. These are the ministries we are developing daily to continue accomplishing and fulfilling the great commission!

- Prayer Network: every day 12:00 p.m. at Bethany Baptist Church.
- Evening Prayer and Bible Study: at Lindsay Lane in Florissant every Wednesday at 7:00 p.m. We record this message and broadcast live on Facebook, hoping to connect with Spanish speaking families in the area.
- FaceBook Live daily Bible reading: everyday 2:00 p.m. at Bethany Baptist Church.
- ESL outreach: Overland Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday 4:00-6:00 p.m.
- o We still need a couple to help take care of our two daughters and a boy, Anthony, whose mom has been attending since 4/2021 faithfully. This semester we have more students and would like to split them in small groups for better relationship building.
- ESL outreach: St. Charles: Monday and Friday 5:00 to 7:00 p.m.
- o Same situation, my wife Hannah is teaching and I watch our daughters, with a couple willing to come and watch them we can im prove the outreach by splitting the class in two and build better relationship for eternity.
- Sunday worship service, Sunday 2:00 pm in Bethany Baptist Church. We are preaching an expository message in the gospel of John. After the service these two young men who visited came and talked to me and prayed about recommitting his life to Christ. Praise the LORD! We hope they can follow up with the discipleship process and continue sharing their faith.
- Discipleship: Saturday 4:00 pm in Chesterfield, we have resumed our session with Nahum and Ermilanda. Nahum tested positive for COVID right after Christmas and he thought he was not going to survive and wouldn't be able to testify and glorify God for his healing. They have been facing many difficulties from their own family. Now Ermilanda is close to the date of the baby delivery, and they are extremely nervous for mom's health and baby as well. They asked me to share this prayer request that baby "Isaac" comes to be born into a godly Christian family and church family as well.

We hope you take time to pray for each one of the requests mentioned above and to pray for me and my wife to continue faithful and fruitful to the call we have received to be salt, light of the world also great laborers for the kingdom that makes disciples that make disciples. We are celebrating this coming 2/14/2022 by God's grace our 8th wedding anniversary, thank you for being part of our family to celebrate many more to come under God's lead, love and life, abundant life. We are sharing my wife Hannah's favorite Bible verse:

"These things I have spoken unto you, that in me ye might have peace. In the world ye shall have tribulation; but be of good cheer I have overcome the world." John 16:33

#### WMA & GMA NEWS

Articles for this column may be sent to

WMA Secretary: Norma Womble 7421 Hillsboro House Spg. Rd. Cedar Hill, MO 63016 e-mail - nrwomble@iuno.com

Send all WMA Offerings to: STATE WMA TREASURER: Connie Reifsteck

P.O. Box 190493 St. Louis, MO 63119 Send all GMA Offerings to: STATE GMA TREASURER Shelia Polk

P.O. Box 259 Matthews, MO 63867

# Ladies, Remember Our State WMA Meeting & Project

The Missouri State Women's Auxiliary Annual Meeting will be March 5, 2022 at First Baptist Church in Matthews, Missorui, starting at 10:00 a.m. Our Project is:

> **40% For National Meeting** 30% For General Fund 30% For Missouri Missionary **Baptist Paper**

PROJECT FUNDS need to be received by the Missouri WMA Treasurer Connie Reifsteck by February 15th, 2022!

Connie's Address is: P.O. Box 190493 St. Louis, MO 63119

#### He Wanted Peace

At age 23, Aaron Secrest found himself in a state of brokenness but didn't know where to turn or how to address it. As he sat in a jail cell looking around at the walls and examining the size of the room, he saw a vision of what his future might look like. He was facing several months in jail and the realization that continuing to live like he was meant he had nothing to hope for except more of being trapped in a tiny, sterile cell.

The weight of his hopeless situation awakened him to the reality that this was not what life was meant to be. There had to be more. He needed to find an answer. That answer came in the form of Bible studies with Pastor Ricardo: Fellow prisoners who attended them had a visible peace he didn't have.

He wanted that peace!!

So during the five months he was incarcerated, he attended Bible studies, and during that time God did something in his heart. Aaron began to wonder why someone like Pastor Ricardo would volunteer so much of his time to come and try to reach these men in the jail. He received no pay. He worked with men who were rough around the edges. He thought, "I'm in here for so many crimes, so why would he want to come visit a person in jail?" Pastor Ricardo's passion and love for these men changed him.

Aaron said, "That Pastor Ricardo would have compassion for prisoners caused my heart to open up and receive what they were trying to give me. If these people are exhibiting Jesus Christ to me, if this is what Jesus is like, I want to be closer to Him and learn as much as I can about what He taught."

Pastor Ricardo's burden for incarcerated men drove him to pursue those men in jail. He invested his time, his talent, and his treasure in people he didn't know, people society locks up and many times throws away, and He did it because He knew this was what God had done for him.

See, you don't have to be incarcerated to realize you aren't what you are supposed to be. You don't have to be a felon, drug addict, or alcoholic to have your eyes opened to your great need. God finds a way to expose you to your need for Him in many ways, and he loves to save and help broken people who are aware of their great need.

#### FEBRUARY ENLISTMENT MONTH FOR WOMEN'S MISSIONARY AUXILIARY

February is the month that has been set aside by the National WMA to encourage women to become active in their local church's women's ministry. Due to COVID, many of our churches and their ministries have experienced a decline in attendance during the past two years. Hopefully we will soon see an end to this pandemic.

The National WMA theme for 2021-2022 is "INTENTIONAL." Ephesians 5:15-16 says "Be very careful, then, how you live—not as unwise but as wise, making the most of every opportunity, because the days are evil." As we try to build our attendance back up, I challenge each lady of your women's ministry to be "intentional" in encouraging new ladies to attend your meetings by making the most of every opportunity.

#### Ways to be Intentional:

- Individually invite each lady in your church to come to your meetings or Bible Study (in person, by telephone, text, or email).
- Have the meetings or Bible Study times printed in your church's bulletin, Facebook Page, and website.
- Promote the topic of your meeting or study with colorful posters placed in strategic places in the church
- Be excited about your ministry and share the things you are learning in conversations with those ladies not attending
- Look for ways your group can meet the needs of all the ladies in your church
- Poll the ladies of the church to see what they would like to get from your ministry
- Have an informal get-together with finger foods to let the ladies of the church become more personally acquainted
- Have special events such as Mother/Daughter teas, Valentine's Banquets, painting parties, etc. to get the ladies interested in meeting together
- Make sure your meetings and Bible Studies are bathed in prayer and are structured to provide spiritual growth for each lady in attendance

Let's strive to enlist new ladies in our women's ministries during this new year. Brenda Hornaday, National WMA 1st Vice President

#### You Can't Have Your Own Truth!

by Donnie Parrish, Lifeword Executive Director DONNIE@LIFEWORD.ORG

Via Baptist Trumpet

In my lifetime, I've never known of one single event or happening to throw our society into upheaval as has the COVID pandemic It has altered everything we do in America. You could never have convinced me that a virus would close church doors or force our kids to stay away from school,, but it has. COVID has been devastating to families, churches, businesses and our country as a whole. I'm praying that God will deliver us from this plague very soon.

As devastating as COVID has been physically, there is another plague gripping our nation spiritually. The damage this plague has done to America, I believe, is even more damaging than COVID. I would call this plague "Individual Truth." It's the belief that I have the right to set my own standards for what is "truth" for me and so do you. We can each have our own "truth" and both be correct.

May I be blunt? This philosophy is nothing but a lie. In fact, it is satanic in its origin To have my own truth means that I can set the standard for what is right and what is wrong. It means that I can choose my own identity or my own gender. In fact, I don't have to be male or female if I don't identify that way. I can be a combination of the two, With my own truth, I can set standards of morality for me that will only apply to me. You have no right to question my morality. That is my truth, not yours. And if you decide to oppose my truth that makes you, in fact, a bigot.

This, my friends, is insanity. The sad reality is that "individual truth" has become as pervasive in America as the COVID virus. It's not a new way of thinking, it's just more pervasive You remember the first time that man decided to create his own truth, right? "Did God really say, "You must not eat from any of the trees in the Garden?" (Genesis 3:1 NIV) In other words, "Eve, God's not telling you the truth! Create your own truth!" Satan started telling mankind that lie in Genesis 3. Man bought it then, and he is still buying it.

As followers of Christ, we must stand for truth. We must start with our children. We must not be shy about sharing truth with friends who are both saved and lost. We can't be afraid of being called names, belittled or canceled by those who would war against God. But most of all, we must be careful that we aren't enticed by the same lie.

These are the facts: We cannot have our own truth because truth already exists! Jesus is The Truth! God's Word is The Truth! We must be bold in making that clear to a world dying to know The Truth.

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

# Jesus, the LORD of the Sabbath Matthew 12:1-21

by Dennis Baker

The disciples were gathering and eating grain from the fields because they were hungry. According to Deuteronomy 23:24-25 it was lawful to satisfy their hunger from their neighbor's field. However, according to the traditions of the scribes and Pharisees it was a breach of the Law to do it on the Sabbath because it involved work. To desecrate the Sabbath was considered disobedience to the entire law of Moses. Numbers 15:32-36, And while the children of Israel were in the wilderness, they found a man that gathered sticks upon the sabbath day. And they that found him gathering sticks brought him unto Moses and Aaron, and unto all the congregation. And they put him in ward, because it was not declared what should be done to him. And the LORD said unto Moses, The man shall be surely put to death: all the congregation shall stone him with stones without the camp. And all the congregation brought him without the camp, and stoned him with stones, and he died; as the LORD commanded Moses. The Pharisees were trying to make Jesus into a lawbreaker and accuse Him of wrongdoing.

The appeal of Jesus was threefold. First, If David (future king) and His soldiers could eat the consecrated bread that was only to be eaten by the priest and be guiltless surely He could break man's tradition and be guiltless. Second, the priest worked on the Sabbath day. They were not condemned because they offered sacrifices on the Sabbath in obedience to the law, Numbers 28: 9-10. Third, Jesus appealed to a prophet, V 7. Hosea 6:6, For I desired mercy, and not sacrifice; and the knowledge of God more than burnt offerings. The Sabbath law was given to Israel as a mark of her relationship to God. It was also an act of mercy for both man and beast, it gave them much needed rest. Exodus 20:8-11.

Any religious law that is contrary to mercy and the care of nature should be looked upon with suspicion. God wants mercy, not religious sacrifice, or legalism. The Pharisees who sacrificed on the Sabbath to obey their Sabbath laws though they were serving God. When they accused Christ and His disciples, they thought they were defending God.

The appeal of Jesus contained three "greater" statements that focus on Himself as Priest, Prophet, and King. Priest, Verse 6, But I say unto you, That in this place is one greater than the temple. Prophet, Verse 41, The men of Nineveh shall rise in judgment with this generation, and shall condemn it: because they repented at the preaching of Jonas; and, behold, a greater than Jonas (Jonah) is here. King, Verse 42, The queen of the south shall rise up in the judgment with this generation, and shall condemn it: for she came from the uttermost parts of the earth to hear the wisdom of Solomon; and, behold, a greater than Solomon is here.

In declaring Himself "Lord of the Sabbath" (V 8) He was

# Missouri Missionary Baptist Paper First Quarer 2021 - 2022 Financial Report October 1, 2021 - December 31, 2021 Balance: October 1, 2021 \$ 11,392.37 Receipts: October - December \$ 3,748.81 Total Available: \$ 15,141.18 Disbursements: \$ (5,681.03) Balance: December 31, 2021 \$ 9,460.15

affirming equality with God, for God has established the Sabbath, Genesis 2:1-3, He proved His claim by healing the man with the paralyzed hand. Also, He argued that if a farmer could care for his animals on the Sabbath, shouldn't we care for man, made in the image of God?

The Pharisees responded to the challenge of Jesus by plotting to kill Him. They had accused Him of blasphemy when He healed in paralytic in Matthew 8:1-8, and of the lack of separation when He ate with Matthew's friends, Matthew 9:11-13. But according to the Pharisees, what Jesus did in chapter 12 was much worse. He had deliberately violated the law of God! He had worked on the Sabbath by harvesting gain and healing a man.

Jesus responded to the Pharisees' hatred by withdrawing. He did not openly fight against His enemies but fulfilled the prophecy of Isaiah 41:1-4, Behold my servant, whom I uphold; mine elect, in whom my soul delighteth; I have put my spirit upon him: he shall bring forth judgment to the Gentiles. He shall not cry, nor lift up, nor cause his voice to be heard in the street. A bruised reed shall he not break, and the smoking flax shall he not quench: he shall bring forth judgment unto truth. He shall not fail nor be discouraged, till he have set judgment in the earth: and the isles shall wait for his law. His enemies were but broken reeds and smoking flux. Note the double mention of the Gentiles (VS 18 & 21). A hint that Israel would reject her King and the kingdom would go to the Gentiles.

Matthew recognized Jesus as the fulfillment of Isaiah 41:1-4. 1) Jesus is God's Son/Servant, 2) He is chosen and loved by God, 3) He pleases God with His obedience, 4) He bears God's Spirit, 5) He will rule over the nations, 6) He is humble and nonviolent, and 7) He has included Gentiles in His redemptive plan. Matthew's identification of Jesus as "Servant" is intricately connected to Isaiah 53.

# News From Camp Garwood

Chris Polk • PO Box 271 • Matthews MO 63867 Cell 573-380-1975 • Email:campgarwood@gmail.com

Greetings from Camp Garwood! We're watching a winter storm roll through this week. Praying everone stays safe and warm! Wish I could go ride this one out at camp...Maybe next time.

As far as camp goes February is the calm before the storm. Spring is quickly approaching and with it comes a lot of activity.

# Please mark your calenders for these upcoming events. And be praying for each event!

**February 19th** Pancake breakfast at Matthews Missionary Baptist Church. 8-11am. Proceeds go to Camp Garwood.

**March 12th** pound-ina-purse. Kewanee Missionary Baptist Church. Another great opportunity to support camp.

**March 24th** Bible Trivia night. Matthews Missionary Baptist Church. \$10 Entry fees are used to raise funds for camp. Get a team together and come join the fun.

March 25-26th Renewal weekend. The first retreat of the year will be here before we know it. This retreat is for Pastors, Deacons, Lay leaders. Men who serve in the church. This is a very spiritual gathering aimed to enhance your walk with the Lord. Make plans now to join us. Bro. Ben Kingston will have more detailed information about the weekend plans.

#### **April 8-9th** Spring Retreat

We are reviving our annual Spring Retreat. The past couple years have deprived us of this opportunity but no more.

Those who want will be able to play paintball. But this is not a paintball retreat. We'll have activities for everyone. Bro Ethan Deutsch from Faith Baptist Church will be bringing a message on Friday night. We'll have a meal on Friday night 7ish. Breakfast on Saturday 8ish.

April 18-20th National meeting. Springfield MO.

**April 29-30th** SEMO Association retreat at Camp

#### May 6-7th Men's retreat. This By Mike Strong

is Bro. Baker's retreat to plan but I believe the Corn Hole will return along with a crawfish boil. This retreat is for men both young and old. We encourage you to invite any men to come.

May 13-14th Mission Symposium and Semi Annual meeting. Bethel Baptist Church, Lonedell will host these meetings.

With all the camp activities quickly approaching. Now is the time to get your Adult Screening completed. Remember anyone 18 or older who is spending the night on camp property is required to complete the adult screening process. Go to our website bmamissouri.org you'll find the camp tabs in the upper left hand corner.

We're looking forward to seeing everyone. Please pray for the camp committee and myself as we plan the details for this years camp activities.

Blessings to all: Chris

#### Made Be Broken

by Valerie Fish

The phrase was coined by Heraclitus Ridens, a poet in the 1600s and then made popular by writer Jonathan Swift in the early 1700s — Promises and pie crusts are made to be broken.

A simple internet search gives us the origin but not the motive for such a philosophy. Pie crusts are, indeed, made to hold pie fillings and, if never cut or broken, would make eating a pie a little more difficult. Made properly, a pie crust holds the dish together and serves a practical, aesthetic and tasty purpose. We actually look forward to the breaking of a pie crust!

But a promise broken is none of those things! A promise broken is painful and not at all desirable. From disappointment to devastation, the emotional and physical implications of promises broken are almost always negative. The Hebrew language doesn't have a word that exclusively translates "promise." In the Old Testament, the word sometimes translated "promise" is also translated as "word," "speak" or "say." Literally, your word is your bond!

According to some online experts, this phrase was coined in the 1500s among merchants which allowed for legally binding agreements before the advent of written pledges. Someone may have made it official in the world of academia. but words as promises originated with the first

#### Faithful Soldier Called Home

Orville Glenn "Nick" Morris, son of the late George Loren Morris (a former pastor) and Elsie Mae (Brooks) Morris, was born in Ellington, Missouri, or July 12, 1944. He departed this life at Poplar Bluff, Missouri, January 11, 2022, at the age of 77. March 28, 1963,



Orville Glenn "Nick" Morris

in Ellington, Missouri, Nick was united in marriage to Mary "Alice" White and to this loving union four children were born. Nick was a deacon at the Lower Doe Run Baptist Church near the Webb Creek area of Clearwater Lake. He enjoyed teaching Sunday School and Church Service, hunting, fishing, and building houses. Nick's greatest joy was spending time with his family and friends, reading his Bible and testifying his faith.

Nick was preceded in death by his parents, six brothers, Jim (a former pastor), Dan, and four infants, and four sisters, Virginia, Mildred, Mary and Jean.

Nick is survived by his loving wife of 58 years, Alice Morris of Ellington, Missouri, two sons, Douglas of Paoli, Colorado, and Scott of Green River, Wyoming, two daughters, Karen (Morris) Hogman and husband Lee of Mascoutah, Illinois, and Nicole Morris of Fayette, Missouri, two sisters, Martha Coombs of Ellington and Betty Rayfield of Macon, Missouri, 5 grandchildren, Hannah, Adam, Joshua, Kristen and Elissa, and 2 great-grandchildren, Ari and Camden. Nick will be deeply missed by his church, and a host of relatives and friends who mourn his passing. During his last visit to our church service, Nick testified to his faith and called out a heartfelt warning to the lost and the need to be saved.

Pastor Melvin Meade

time God spoke "Let there be light!"

When God speaks, His words can be counted on — they will never be broken. If you read again through the first words of God in Genesis 1, you will see that everything God spoke into existence still remains. The earth spins on its axis and revolves around the sun because God gave His word — and it was so. Then John recorded the powerful message — "In the beginning was the Word (the promise) — and the promise was with God and the promise was God... and the Promise became flesh..." (John 1:1, 14).

Jesus was the promise of God in the flesh — a binding obligation God took upon Himself to provide redemption and salvation from the chaos of sin in this world. God told Noah after the flood, "While the earth remains, seedtime and harvest, cold and heat, winter and summer, and day and night shall not cease" (Gen. 8:22). Then He gave the message through Jeremiah that His covenant to the descendants of David could only be broken if they could figure out a way to break His covenant with the

appointed movements of the

day and night, seasons and planets (Jeremiah. 33:20,25-26). People can break promises — and they often do - but when God speaks His Word, His promise, you can have the assurance that He will always, always, always keep His promises!

#### *AVAILABLE PREACHERS*

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

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

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

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

Douglas Brand, a member of Fellowship Baptist Church in Potosi, MO is available for pulpit supply or as the Lord leads. He also has experience in music ministry. Contact him at (573) 315-0931 or dbrandministries@gmailcom.

If you are a preacher and a member in good standing of a Baptist Missionary Association of America church and would like your name added to this column please contact the editor using the information on page 2.

#### Master's Builders Annual Retreat

The Master's Builders annual retreat was January 11-14, 2022 at Daniel Springs Baptist Encampment, in Gary, TX. There were 22 of our group that attended. Our retreat gives us a time to reconnect and just enjoy our time together. We enjoy a few days of food, fun and fellowship. We stay in Daniel Dorm and it offers us wonderful facilities that meet our every

We had our annual business meeting while there and learned of the upcoming jobs for 2022. It looks to be a busy year if all goes as planned. These are the projects, as of now, that we are looking at: Celebration Baptist, Haskell, AR, for Feb 28- March 18; Faith Baptist, Flippin, AR, April 4-14; Oasis Church, Levelland, TX, May 2-13; Jacksonville College, Jacksonville, TX, in June; Park Avenue Baptist, Searcy, AR in September; Daniel Springs Camp, TX, in October. As we all know by now, these plans can change. We are trusting God

Thank you to Jason Prewitt for all he does at Daniel Springs and to Morgan Sandifer for being available to help us with everything we needed. We love her smile and her devotion to God. Thank you to our dear friend, Randy Decker, who we invited to come fellowship with us and he also brought our devotional on Wednesday night. We love and appreciate him

There were so many of our group who were just not able to make the retreat this year. We missed you so much. Our prayer is that we can gather together this year and do the work that we have the privilege to do, if it's the Lord's will.

If you have questions about The Master's Builders ministry or if your church has building needs, please contact:

Eddie Sikes at 407-462-1675 Mike Green at 972-935-3877 David Axe at 903-918-0720

Also, Like Us on Facebook at "The Master's Builders" (arbor logo)

Nelda Malone- reporter

Kenneth Gibson Seminary Student Grant Fund First Quarer 2021 - 2022 Financial Report October 1, 2021 - December 31, 2021						
	Balance: October 1, 2021	\$	12,021.43			
	Receipts: October - December	\$	0.00			
	Total Available:	\$	12,021.43			
	Disbursements:	\$	(0.00)			
ቅ	Balance: December 31, 2021	\$	12,021.43	ī		