

The Missouri Missionary Baptist

“Holding Forth the Word of Life” – Philippians 2:16

Volume LXXXVI

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Issue No. 6

Dr. Philip R. Bryan: A Man in the Gap

By Dr. Philip Attebery, BMA Theological Seminary

The entire Baptist Missionary Association Theological Seminary family of administrators, alumni, faculty, staff, students, and trustees was saddened to learn about the passing of Dr. Philip R. Bryan, our institution's fourth president and current president emeritus.

The BMA Seminary's relationship with Philip Bryan began more than 60 years ago. Bryan, who passed away on May 20, 2024, attended the seminary as a student and completed the Bachelor of Divinity degree in 1962. Bryan also served as a part-time instructor before accepting full-time responsibilities in 1963. Bryan twice served as the seminary's dean-registrar (1967-75; 1979-83) before accepting the president's position in 1983. In 1999, Bryan retired from the presidency and returned to the classroom where he continued to serve as a Professor of Theological-Historical studies until his full retirement.

Bryan's academic accomplishments included earning several degrees in higher education. These included the A.A. from Jacksonville College, 1956; B.A., University of Oklahoma, 1958; B.D., BMA Seminary, 1962; M.A., Ph.D., Baylor University, 1966, 1973. His doctoral research concluded with a dissertation entitled *An Analysis of the Ecclesiology of Associational Baptists, 1900-1950*.

According to Dr. Charley Holmes, the seminary's fifth president, Dr. Bryan was a true Missionary Baptist. “Dr. Bryan's commitment to Landmark principles, such as local church autonomy and associational practices, were unmatched. He held strongly to the doctrine of eternal security of the believer and provided a much-needed source of wisdom and support for my

time as president.”

The first sermon that I remember hearing Dr. Bryan preach focused upon the text of Ezekiel 22:30 where the prophet pronounced the absence of someone to “stand in the gap” and prevent the Lord's destruction of Jerusalem. I heard this message about the time I was deciding to attend seminary. Dr. Bryan's emphasis upon the need for equipped men to stand in the gap further assured my decision to enroll at BMA Seminary.



Bethel, Lonedell, Welcomes Association

Pam Burke

Bethel Baptist Church of Lonedell hosted the 2024 BMA of Missouri Missions Symposium held Friday evening, May 17. Tony Kingston emceed the program, with both congregational and special music led by Bethel's praise team.

Bro. Juan Fernandez presented updates and plans for the mission work he is leading in the Granite City, Illinois, area. Using photographs along with his talk, Bro. Juan highlighted some of the activities he is currently involved in, including a prayer tent that he sets up in various sites to reach out to people and remodeling being done on his family's home to provide a location for fellowship and worship.



Photo by Judi Patton

• See MEETINGS page 3 •

Church Camp Time Drawing Near

Greetings from Camp Garwood! As we enter the summer months the time crunch has begun. At this writing we have eight Saturdays until camp week. We will hopefully finish the sheetrock this weekend and begin preparing the walls for tile in the restrooms. I've been posting pictures and updates of our progress on the Facebook page.

A couple weeks ago, the weekend of storms, Sis. Donna Hulvey stopped by camp on her way home from St. Louis. Her visit was such a blessing to us. It was fun having her try to figure out the old dining hall layout.



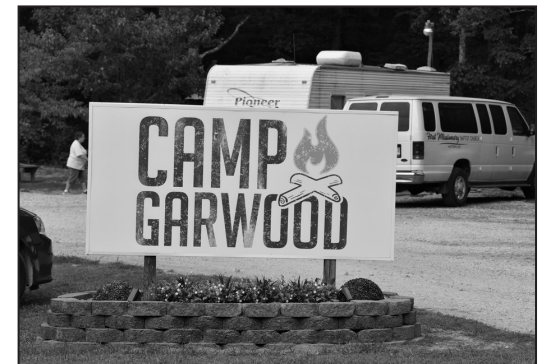
Where was the old cooler, dishwasher, stoves, milk machine, the little restroom, etc. We watched the storm pass and reminisced about how it used to be – no air conditioning, fans in the rafters, etc. I would love to have some pictures of the old dining hall/kitchen. Not just any pictures, but pictures that are in my mind. Specifically, the old aluminum pitchers sweating in the heat with iced Koolaid inside. And, more than the stuff, the people working through intense heat and humidity.

It sure looks different now. Our hut is where the old cooler, dishwasher and cooks quarters were. The new apartments are where the stoves and fryer were. The new dorm restrooms are about where the old serving lines and milk machines were.

I hope you guys like what we are doing. I think it will be very helpful going forward, making the old dining hall building which we now call Dorm 7 the most used building all year.

• See CAMP page 5 •

Dr. Bryan's years of faithful service and earnest contention for the faith should encourage others to prepare themselves as laborers for the Lord's harvest. Dr. Bryan was a brilliant, humble, and encouraging leader for both our school and the Baptist Missionary Association. Although he will be sorely missed, the BMA Seminary family remains grateful for the time we knew and served with him while he stood in the gap.



State Missions

Dear BMAMO churches,

I am submitting part of my mid-year report as my June article with a few additions at the end. I hope this article finds you doing well in the Lord.

Greetings in the name of the Lord from your Missions Director. This year has been very fruitful! This summer is going to be the highest volume of churches that I have visited since the beginning of the Missions Assessment approach. I have seven churches signed up for a Wednesday evening assessment, and at least two more trying to find dates. Going to the National Association meeting and having a booth was very productive. I'm very grateful and thankful for every church that has agreed to allow me to come and cast this vision.

As you know, we are not a denomination that works within a hierarchy, so we have no authority or power over any church, nor would we want any. Each church is autonomous. We try to lead and direct, we do not command or give ultimatums, and I personally love that approach. So again I humbly ask if you have not gone through this assessment or if it's been a couple of years, I would love the opportunity to help your church go through it. We have seen very good results from those churches who have, and it has certainly been an eye-opening experience here at Bethel.

For me as your Missions Director, I have put all my eggs in the basket of trying to help our churches become healthier, believing, hoping, and praying that healthy churches will reproduce. Once that begins to happen, I'm hoping and praying for the need for church planters and for churches planting churches. Please join me in this effort to pray for that very thing to happen.

It is an honor and a privilege to serve as your Missions Director.

In closing, next month we will look at Thom Rainer's last sign of a healthy church, which is evangelism. I am looking forward to that discussion with you.

Please pray for all the churches' summer outreach efforts: VBS, church camps - both Garwood State Camp and Meramec Jesus Camp, etc.

May the Lord richly bless His churches is my prayer!

Bro. Ben



MISIÓN BELÉN (Bethlehem Mission)

Juan Fernandez

pastorjuanfernandez@gmail.com • 618-581-8056

"If I say, 'I will not mention him, or speak any more in his name,' there is in my heart as if there were a burning fire shut up in my bones, and I am weary with holding it in, and I cannot." (Jeremiah 20:9)

The Lord is good, isn't He? He is good and his mercies are new every morning. While meeting with local leaders in some of the congregations in the Granite City area, they often ask me why another church plant? And why in Spanish?

"That is a very good question," is my reply. I enjoy sharing our vision, mission, core values and discipleship process about our ministry. We are not reinventing the wheel, we are following God's lead through His Word and the BMAA guidelines for healthy church planting, especially among our Spanish-speaking friends who are not saved yet.

In the mission that we have, every man is the pastor for his wife and family and that we have a training process for these men to become laborers for the kingdom. This is why Granite City needs a healthy church plant. We are not focusing on having worship services, but are looking for prayer network, men of peace, and fruits of the Gospel among our families, waiting on the Lord's timing to continue expanding His Kingdom.

Praising the Lord:

Spending time in prayer and fellowship with Charity Church. We are so blessed listening to the testimony of God's love among this family church. Our kids enjoyed so much their time to go in the children's area and obviously the yummy cookies, meal, etc. Thank you, Bro. Lee, for praying for us at the end of the service – your prayer and support is always refreshing. May the Lord allow us to come and visit again.

Visiting the Stony Point Church family. It was also a blessing to have Brother Claude and the families praying for us, showing us how much they care for our ministry and the families we are reaching with the Gospel. Thank you, Jesus, for each congregation in the BMA of MO who is always eager and willing to support us and encourage us to continue even in the midst of all the challenges that our ministry faces. We love you and can't wait to come and spend more time in fellowship and prayer.

Events on Our Calendar:

June 15th – Missouri BMA Brotherhood fishing tournament.

June 16th – Father's Day potluck, 12:00 to 2:00 p.m. Yes, two hours of steak tacos in our backyard. I have invited several young men to come and join us for the treat and a time of

Financial Report BMA Of Missouri Missions May 2024

Checking Account:

Balance April 30, 2024 \$ 28,331.86

Income:

Missions	\$ 1,469.09
WMA to Juan Fernandez	<u>413.65</u>
Total Income	\$ <u>1,882.74</u>
Total Available	\$ 30,214.60

Expenses:

Director, salary	\$ 450.00
Secretary, salary	200.00
Juan Fernandez, support	2,333.33
Director, mileage, etc.	317.66
Bro Mutual Ins – Zalma	972.63
WMA to Juan Fernandez	<u>413.65</u>
Total Expenses	\$ <u>(4,687.27)</u>
Balance May 31, 2024	\$ 25,527.33

BMAMS Revolving Loan Investment:

Balance April 30, 2024	\$ 117,316.22
Interest	<u>0.00</u>
Balance May 31, 2024	\$ <u>117,316.22</u>
Total in All Accounts May 31, 2024	\$ 142,843.55

sharing the Gospel among these men. To God be the glory!

June 17-21 – VBS at Lindsay Lane Baptist Church. We are inviting our friends to come and join us to learn about the Kingdom. We have our prayer tent in different spots in Granite City every day at 12:00, but on Wednesdays we are set up in the parking lot at Lindsay Lane from 3:30 to 5:30-ish. Such joy to share water bottles and music with our sound system. Pray for the flyers being handed out in our neighborhood, and for our volunteers that will come and help cover our surrounding areas in the community.

June 24-28 – VBS at our home in Granite City from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m., Lord willing.

Men's Bible Study Friday at 7:00 p.m.

Also, our Sunday noon outreach continues. Over the coming weeks we will use Wilson Park to have a time to share some of our lunch, cold water, watermelon, etc. Please pray that we have good weather and lots of hungry souls for the Gospel.

Sunday evenings at Lindsay Lane, we are meeting with our friend Valentin to go over 10 stories of hope with the Discovery Bible format. The Lord has blessed us with a time of expressing thankfulness, concerns, and His Word to teach, challenge and change us. We are reading scripture in Spanish and discussing questions and answers, which are many. We

• See MISIÓN BELÉN page 5 •

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WMA

Reminder of Deadlines 2024 Ladies' "Seasoned with Grace" Retreat

- July 31 – Submit a recipe for the retreat cookbook; email to Lisa Cox at Lnf_01@yahoo.com
- August 4 – Hotel registration at group rate; call 1-800-325-0720; Women's Missionary Auxiliary of Missouri Group #10079578
- August 23 – Registration for retreat; \$60 (includes Saturday lunch), checks payable to Missouri WMA; mail to Janet Widger, 5014 Hwy N, Salem, MO 65560; include phone number and any requests for gluten-free or diabetic-friendly meals
- August 23 – Donate items for the welcome bags (150 items); bring to camp or otherwise get items to Amy Asher at 615 W. Brelje St. Steeleville, IL 62288; email Amy (rabca@frontier.com) or Lisa Cox (email above) with questions
- September 6 – Donate table centerpieces and items for silent auction; get items to hotel as early as possible on that afternoon; or contact one of the following ladies ahead of time for help transporting your items: Amy Asher, Sara Buckley, Lisa Cox, or Janet Widger

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• From MEETINGS page 1 •

Melodi Miller, a member of Bethel and student at Southwest Baptist University, shared her plans for an upcoming summer mission trip to Zambia, which includes raising money for solar-powered wells to provide for pressing water needs.

Video presentations were given from Bro. Mike Quillman and Bro. Josh Phiri concerning their ongoing work in Zambia. The service concluded with a state missions update and challenge from Bro. Ben Kingston.

The 96th Semi-Annual Meeting of the BMA of Missouri began the next morning, also at Bethel. Moderator Brad Banderman opened the meeting with a scripture reading.

Directors and representatives from the various state departments presented their respective reports. Business items of note included the following:

- Upon recommendation of the Missions Committee, the Association voted to provide whatever funds may be needed to complete Melodi Miller's summer missions project to provide two solar water wells for Zambia.

- Bro. Don Burke was elected as Editor of The Missouri Missionary Baptist paper, having served as Interim Editor for almost two years. Bro. Josh Wright was elected to finish Bro. Burke's unexpired term (2026) on the Publications Committee.

- The Association voted to commission a committee of five to develop a means of honoring pastors and pastors' wives upon their deaths. The following individuals volunteered to serve on this committee: Bro. Claude Evans, Bro. Bryan Buckley, Bro. Benjamin Kingston, Bro. Mike Jarvis and Sis. Janet Widger.

After the business meeting concluded, Bro. Ben Kingston presented a message. Then the host church provided a delicious meal for all in attendance.



• Updates from Our Churches •

Abundant Life in Christ, Charleston

We rejoice in the profession of faith and baptism of Kameron Bankhead and the baptism of Johanna Rosson who had made a profession previous to this month. We also had one other make a profession during May.

Rodney Dunlap, Pastor

Bethel, Sikeston

Greetings from Bethel, Sikeston.

We honored our mothers this month with special recognition during the morning service. One of our new converts, Sis. Samantha Slayton, sang a beautiful song and new convert, Bro. Kurt Knuckles, read a nice poem. We are so thankful they are taking part, using their God-given talents! The youth had made a potted flower for each mother and presented them to each one with a hug. We had a record number of visitors for that service. What a blessing that day was!

After the evening service we had a graduation celebration for Tristen King. We all had a good time of fellowship and congratulating Tristen for all his hard work in completing high school. Our prayers are for him to continue serving the Lord as he pursues whatever profession he chooses.

On the 19th we were blessed to have Bro. Eric Haden from Victory Baptist in Wickliffe, KY, come preach for us. Bro. Eric had recently surrendered to preach. He did an awesome job! We are so thankful that he obeyed God's calling on him to preach. We need more

young men to step up to the ministry! Please pray for this young man and his ministry. During the morning service of the 19th Sis. Laura Bush joined the church by baptism. She was given the hand of fellowship and welcomed into our church family.

We are working on our VBS. Our plans are to have it the week of June 23rd.

We had to call off church services on the 26th because of bad storms that came through and cut off most people's power. Our church didn't have any damage; we were just out of power, thank the Lord! We resumed services that Wednesday night.

Bro. Billy, Sis. Donna, Bro. Matt and Sis. Leeley Bolen attended the BMA of MO mission symposium and mid-year meeting at Lonedell. They reported a very blessed and productive meeting.

Please keep us in your prayers as we continue to pray for you.

*Billy Davis, Pastor
Joan Wood, Reporter*

Westview, Jefferson City

Greetings from the BMA church in Missouri's capital city.

One recent Sunday, we heard a presentation from the Coyote Hill Foster Care Ministries. This is an area of ministry that Westview is prayerfully considering.

We began collecting items for the BMMI Christmas Shoebox missions project. The month of May was "toy month" and June is "hygiene month." We have participated in this outreach project for the past several years.

We plan to have Bro. Ben

Kingston with us on Wednesday evening, June 19, to lead us in the BMAMO Missions Benchmark Assessment.

*Benjamin Kingston, Pastor
Rae Lynn Hearst, Reporter*

Lindsay Lane, Florissant

Greetings once again from Lindsay Lane Baptist Church! We have been so blessed since we last met with you!

Mother's Day the men folk fixed a most delicious breakfast for everyone. No one went hungry that day! Then we were fed from God's Word! What a blessing!

During the month our secret sisters were revealed and we shared a lunch and fellowship time. Then we observed the Lord's Supper that day also. We also rejoiced in the baptism of two new members. Sister Julie and Sister Terry came forward, and we welcomed them with open arms! Pray for them as they become disciples and for us that we will be there for them.

Our Co-Op group finished strong. All have enjoyed this time and we are looking forward to the fall session. Our VBS will be starting June 17 and will finish with a carnival on the 21st! We are anticipating a special day the 30th with an afternoon of singing – old hymns, new songs and just a time of praising the Lord! Of course it would not be a Baptist meeting without a lunch and time of fellowship first!

We've been blessed with visitors, who are greeted by smiles and sometimes hugs! We let them know they are welcomed!

May God bless until we meet again!

*Brian Meade, Pastor
Kathy Chapman, Reporter*

First, Potosi

Greetings from First Baptist Church, Potosi.

May has been a very busy month for graduates and graduate families. School concerts, scholarships given, choosing or confirming your

college or other after graduation decisions.

Our VBS registration is now open online. You can find the link on our FBC-Kids Club Facebook page. Registrations for Teen Camp, Kids Camp, and Jesus Loves Potosi are available. Summer Nights begin Wednesday evenings in June, and the youth are preparing for Super Summer June 17-21.

Some of our ministry opportunities are MomCo., U-Turn, and Overflow. It is amazing how God blesses us with souls saved and then following the Lord in baptism.

Missionaries need our prayers and support more than ever. It was so heart-breaking to hear of the state representative's family being murdered by the gangs in Haiti. It made me realize that sometimes I take the work they do and the sacrifices they make for granted.

Please pray for us as we pray for you.

*Jim Ainley, Pastor
Deborah Rauhut, Reporter*

Landmark, DeSoto

Hello from Landmark, DeSoto!

Spring is in full force, and we're ready to spring into action here at Landmark!

Bro. and Sis. Young just keep on blessing us with their enthusiasm for witnessing and reaching out to our community. We've been discussing different ideas about telling DeSoto residents that God is here for them, and we are too! We are looking at having a float in the Independence Day parade and at some point hosting a barbecue fundraiser. We'll keep you posted.

We have been blessed with visitors several times at our Sunday services, some of them repeat visitors. We are praying that they will join our church family.

We still covet your prayers for the sick and heavy-burdened in our congregation. Remember Bro. Young as he is dealing with an extremely

painful bone spur in his foot. Sis. Sharon Page has been hindered by very strong back spasms, but it hasn't stopped her from singing specials for the Lord and for us. So uplifting! She's such a trooper! We're also extremely thankful for Sis. Rebecca Young for sharing her musical talent with us. We just love her piano playing and singing.

We are looking forward to hosting the Washington County WMA and Brotherhood meeting on Friday, JUNE 14TH, starting at 7:30 p.m. I had a real "DUHH!" moment and posted the wrong date in last month's paper. Sorry for the confusion. Everyone is invited, and we sure hope to see you there. The address here at Landmark is 1215 Boyd St., DeSoto, MO 63020.

That's all for now. Hope and pray God keeps blessing all of you each and every day.

*Len Young, Pastor
Barbara Williams, Reporter*

Oak Hill, Alton

Hello to all from Oak Hill!

Our VBS (Vacation Bible School) was a success. We had a great time sharing the good news of Jesus with children. Our theme for our VBS was Camp Firelight. We closed out on Friday with a wiener/marshmallow roast.

We are very excited about welcoming another little boy next month. Preston and Mya Nix will welcome a little boy around July 17th. We enjoy spoiling and spending time with Westen Drake, Tristen and Reba Hope Drake's son.

I know we are excited and looking forward to this summer and opportunities that the Lord will make possible. We do not have any more events for the month of June. Until next month, when I hope I will have some more good news to tell you. Until then we will be praising and honoring our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ!

God Bless!!
*Edward Casey, Pastor
Jennifer Williams, Reporter*

*Not abandoning our own
meeting together,
as is the habit of some people,
but encouraging one another;
and all the more as you see the
day drawing near.*

Just the Crumbs Update

via Baptist Trumpet

Just the Crumbs Deploys to Texas

Lavon Haden, President, Just the Crumbs

The United States tornado season is staying extremely active across the midwestern and southern states, causing destruction or damage to houses, loss of life and flooding from the accompanying rains. As of May 21, Just the Crumbs (JTC) is set up in Plum Grove, TX, which suffered severe flooding. People are living in their cars and/or wading through knee-deep water to get to their houses. We will be feeding here as long as needed. Your prayers are greatly appreciated.

Another JTC team has been serving in the flooded area of Cleveland, TX, since May 10.

March 19 through April 2, Just the Crumbs fed residents and volunteers in and around Lewiston, OH, following devastating tornadoes there.

JTC then went to Slidell, LA, after very destructive tornadoes there. They worked from Crossways, the church Sam Husser pastors, from April 15-23, when the electricity was restored and residents chose to fend for themselves.

On April 30, a JTC team headed to Marietta, OK, to serve there. Needs were met, and we moved on to Sulphur, OK, where we could continue filling a need. We enjoyed serving with several BMA pastors and churches who got involved in the efforts in both locations. Of the lives lost, one was a BMA pastor's sister. Praise the Lord, we know of six people who professed faith in Christ.

Financial donations may be made through PayPal at justthecrumbs21@gmail.com; Venmo @justthecrumbs; mailed to 10 Wagon Trail, Sumrall, MS 39482; or BMAA Missions, P.O. Box 878, Conway, AR 72033. Designate funds for Just the Crumbs Disaster Relief Ministry. Every donation is humbly appreciated.

Story from a Volunteer

Danny Plunkett

Anne and I have had the privilege to work with Just the Crumbs Ministries as they deployed to Texas. Brandy, Jason and Joe have been mass feeding

over 300 meals a day. They have been deployed for five weeks and are currently in Plum Grove, TX. We were only able to help them for a few hours Saturday but were blessed just to be able to contribute a little.

The rest of our time volunteering was helping Beth and Alan in Cleveland, TX. They are feeding three meals a day to the volunteers of God's Pit Crew, who have been doing mud out (removing mud from their homes) for the flood victims for the past three weeks.

Thank all of you for allowing us to serve with you. Thank you to our home church, Williamsville Baptist Church in Kosciusko, MS (SBC), for supporting us to be able to support them.

Brandy Haden and Beth Burkes are great to work under. I encourage anyone wanting to help to contact them and volunteer to serve. Stories like the one below is why Just the Crumbs Ministries does what they do:

We took food to a man who had not eaten for two days. He is a guy (30-40 years old) that had his home, car and two work trucks destroyed in the flood. He builds tiny homes for a living. He also lost tools. What money he could gather up went to set up a little construction trailer to live in. He has not gotten electricity turned on yet and has not gotten a vehicle at this time, either. He said, "One day I was making my own way in life, able to pay bills, and the next day it is all gone." He was very thankful for the food.

Just the Crumbs Needs

By Mike Angus, Director of Communications, JTC/BMA Disaster Relief

Our immediate needs are:

- Prayers, donations, and volunteers;
- #10 cans of vegetables and fruits;
- Cutlery packages (fork, spoon, knife, napkin);
- Three-compartment to-go plates;
- Ground beef and assorted meats; and
- Monetary donations.

Thank you, and may God bless you for all you do to keep this ministry on the ground, feeding and serving those in the disaster areas. We are located at 1680 Road 3549, Cleveland, TX 77327.

• From CAMP page 1 •

At the time of this writing we have made 30 trips to camp. We started working on the dorm back in January. It has occupied all of our time. I've only been able to do a few odd jobs that are outside Dorm 7.

As we enter the summer months there are dozens of other jobs that need to happen before camp. And I mean more than just brooming out cobwebs. If you have skills to tackle some of these jobs consider this your invitation to step up. Our camp theme this year is "Answer the Call." Maybe this is your opportunity to do just that.

Here's my to-do list. It's not complete, but will convey the idea that eight weekends aren't enough. If you can't do the things or spare the time, could you pray for us? We need your prayers. We need assurance from the Lord that we are doing what He wants us to do.

Maybe you can send camp extra financial support. As we try to finish the remodel and maintain other areas of camp, our finances are once again becoming tight. We are nearing the end of this project. Help us finish strong.

Blessings to you. While camp being so near does cause a time crunch, we look forward to seeing everyone and what the Lord does through the camp ministry this year!

Chris Polk



• From MISIÓN BELÉN page 2 •

praise the Lord for Valentin's effort to follow up every week as he shares his learning with his friends and family. May the Lord continue challenging him in becoming more like Christ.

Coming up:

Prayer 5:00 a.m. We are asking everyone to join us in this prayer effort as we continue reaching out into the streets of Granite City. We are praying the Lord's blessing in our community with open doors and new groups for Discovery Bible Studies, prayer walk every day 9:00-10:30 a.m. and 7:00-8:00 p.m., Bible reading from 12:00-2:00 p.m., and questions and answers 2:00-3:00 p.m. Pray for new venues to set up our tent. Our kids recently joined swimming lessons during the summer, pray for meeting parents during the meet times and for the fall activities we can join and reach out to connect with more families in Granite City areas.

Thank you for keeping us in your prayers. Feel free to reach out at 618-581-8056 to schedule a time to come and visit with you for prayer and ministry update. We want to be a blessing for you and your congregation and our many Hispanic families in the area. Lord, send us more laborers!

In Him, Juan, Hannah, Victoria, Eleanor, Juanito

~ Upcoming Events ~

MO Brotherhood Fishing

Tournament - June 15; 8 a.m.-Noon;
Council Bluff Lake

VBS - June 24-28; 6 p.m. nightly;
Abundant Life in Christ, Charleston

MO GMA Retreat - June 28-29;
Camp Garwood

SOAR '24 "All In" - July 3-5; Loews
Arlington Hotel; Arlington, Texas

Revival - July 8-12; Kewanee,

Kewanee; Clif Johnson, evangelist

Jesus Camp - July 21-24 for grades
K-5; July 24-27 for grades 6-12;
Meramec Retreat Center

BMA of Missouri Camp - July 29-
Aug. 2; Camp Garwood

WMA Sponsored Ladies' Retreat -
Sept. 6-7; Drury Plaza Hotel Cape
Girardeau Conference Center

Send event info to mmbpaper@gmail.com.

Central Baptist College News

Traditional Enrollment

For traditional high school students and college transfer students, now is the time to apply for fall 2024. Scholarships are still available. To schedule a personal on-campus visit, go to cbc.edu/visit. There you may also visit the campus virtually and find more information about the value of Central Baptist College.

After new students complete the easy application process, each student will receive a scholarship award package to review and accept. Apply by July 1 and enjoy our free application fee!



Once students have been accepted, they will be invited to register for a CBC Connect Day (orientation). Dates for Connect Days are June 12th and July 30th. At Connect Day, students will meet new and returning students and pick up their fall 2024 schedule.

Visit cbc.edu/apply to apply or contact Admissions at admissions@cbc.edu or 501.329.6873.

PACE/Online Studies Enrollment

PACE/Online Studies is accepting applications for the upcoming fall 2024 semester. Block 1 starts on Monday, July 15. The deadlines for Block 1 are:

- Registration Deadline: Monday, July 8
- Financial Aid & Payment: Wednesday, July 10

If you have any questions about PACE, please contact Corley Shumaker at cshumaker@cbc.edu or 501.205.8940.

Summer Classes

Registration and payment deadline for the second summer session is June 21st. Classes will be June 24th - July 25th. Summer courses are available for both current and non-current CBC students. A schedule of courses, tuition and fees, and payment information can be found at cbc.edu/calendar. Start the application process at cbc.edu/apply.

Building a Prayer Culture

Larry Barker

Healthy churches are praying churches. First Timothy 2:1 says, “I exhort therefore, that, first of all, supplications, prayers, intercessions, and giving of thanks, be made for all men.” Prayer is to be a priority. The challenge in prayer is to live with intentionality, and not just good intentions. Have a scheduled plan for a time and place to pray but also live a life of unceasing prayer. As you study Jesus’ life, it’s obvious He did not allow anything to interfere or distract from intimate fellowship with the Father. There is no substitute for disciplining ourselves to seek Him in prayer and allowing Him to teach us how to pray.

Tom Landry, Hall of Fame NFL coach of the Dallas Cowboys, was asked how he developed a winning team from a group of such unique individuals. He replied, “My job is to get people to do what they don’t want to do in order to achieve what they have always wanted to achieve.” If the goal for your church is to glorify God, experience revival, and live with a renewed commitment to Great Commission ministry, the pathway requires disciplined, intentional, and unceasing prayer. Charles Swindoll states, “Achieving anything requires discipline – determined, deliberate, definable actions with a clear goal in mind.

In *So You Want to Be Like Christ?* Swindoll continues, saying, “God will never adjust His agenda to fit ours. He will not speed His pace to catch up with ours; we need to slow our pace in order to recover our walk with Him.” Churches should listen closely to the seven letters in Revelation 2-3 because of its emphasis on corporate repentance if our goal is to be His church carrying out His agenda. The key is determined prayer that seeks the Father’s will and heart no matter how long it takes. It is through prayer you will receive God’s perspective and plans for your ministry. There is no other way and there are no shortcuts.

In *Experiencing Prayer with Jesus*, Henry and Norman Blackaby remind us that, “Once Jesus heard from the Father in prayer, He lived out His life with a determined purpose to obey everything set before Him . . . Prayer in our lives is purposed by God to change and shape us to His will and purpose so He can accomplish His redemptive will through us.” Our goal is to pray like Jesus prayed, and the quicker you move from your will to His the quicker God will show you what you need to know. Dr. Charles Stanley stated well, “It is on our knees that the greatest good is done, and it is on our knees that we will face the greatest assaults.”

Building a prayer culture begins with you. Oh, you mean the pastor or the deacons, or the church leaders, right? No. It means you, whoever you are. The goal is intimacy with Christ and the means to reach that goal is the discipline of prayer. Consider going on a 24-hour prayer retreat to recommit your time and energy to deliberately seeking and pursuing God. A prayer retreat has been defined as, “A time you set aside to go away to be alone with God.” Plan your retreat and utilize this time to draw back closer to the Lord and seek His plan as you willingly adjust your will to His. Email us and request materials on having a prayer retreat. [Contact: Holly Meriweather, holly@bmaamerica.org]

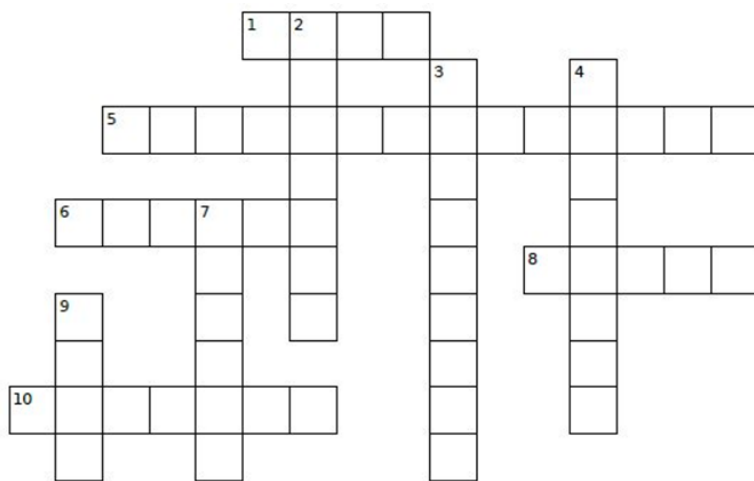
Next, have a prayer weekend with your church leaders. Invite someone in to teach on building a prayer culture. Gary Rohrmayer describes this type of event as “a focused time of passionate teaching on prayer, consulting with church leadership in the area of prayer, coaching prayer team leaders on how to expand the prayer ministry, and engaging the whole church in the act of prayer.” Train your people in leading your church through a prayer initiative such as *21 Days of Courageous Prayer*, *21 Days of Dangerous Prayers*, and *21 Days of Victorious Prayers* by Rohrmayer or Bill Elliff’s *Prayer With No Intermission: 40 Days of Unceasing Prayer*.

We have prayer resources to help you personally and your church. One of our goals is to provide you and your church resources to be spiritually healthy. Check out this free prayer resource at www.AllAmerica.org/resources. They have PDFs of a leader guide, community guide, church guide, small group guide, and more. All are comprehensive frameworks that help you plan strategically to see the Great Commission fulfilled in your area with tools, expertise, and resources that help you.

Paul, in First Timothy 2:1, reminds us of the priority of prayer by saying “First!” Charles Swindoll shares this, “First, before you slide out of bed. First, before you take a shower to start your day. First, before you make your way to work. First, before any appointment. First of all, pray, pray, pray.” It has been stated well, “Prayer should not be our last resort but should always be our first response!” If there is something we can pray with, about, or for you, please let us know!

Who Said That?

What person in the Bible made each of the following statements? If you get stuck, there are hints on page 8 of this paper. (If you are interested in sharing this with anyone else, feel free to make copies.)



Down:

2. Promise me that you will go to my homeland and relatives and get a wife for my son.
3. I give half of my possessions to the poor.
4. Who knows if you have come to this position for such a time as this.
7. Let me inherit a double portion of your spirit.
9. Wherever you go I will go. Your people will be my people and your God my God.

Across:

1. I have learned to be content whatever the circumstances.
5. He told me everything I ever did.
6. You meant evil against me, but God meant it for good.
8. I have never eaten anything that is impure or unclean.
10. I see the heavens open and the Son of Man standing at the right hand of God.



From a recent post on the National WMA blog
 (<https://www.nationalwma.org/blogs/>)

Walking My Path With Purpose

Cindy Allen

As we begin a year of thinking about living a godly legacy, I think we have to realize that there may be some changes we have to make in our lives.

I mean, I am a good person: I go to church, I read my Bible, I attend Bible study. But is that enough?

As I look at my life and think about the type of legacy I want to leave for those who will follow behind me, I see some areas of improvement. One of those areas has to do with the lack of intentionality in my Christian walk.

In Ephesians 2:10, we read how God created each of us for a specific purpose.

But we all also have purposes in common, things God expects all Christians to do. Love the Lord your God with all your heart. Go ye into all the world and make disciples. Love your neighbor as yourself.

Get the picture? Most of these things do not just happen, we have to purpose them in our hearts, then in our lives.

If we look at Jesus and His life, we see it was very intentional. In the Great Commission we are told, "Therefore go and make disciples of all nations." (Matt 28:19 NIV) This literally means "as you are going make disciples."

Let's look at some examples of Jesus as he was going and see how they can apply to our lives.

In Luke 19, we are introduced to Zacchaeus. Jesus was going on His way, surrounded by people, and Zacchaeus climbed a tree to see Him. Jesus could have just walked on by, glancing around at the crowd, but He took time to really look at the crowd and notice people. This intentionality changed Zacchaeus' life forever, and the life of everyone in his household.

Do I really look at the crowds around me? If I am honest, I dash through the grocery store, avoiding as many people as possible. Oftentimes, even at church, I choose the path of quickest escape, not noticing those around me. Those who might need a word of encouragement or a hug. To live life on purpose means to really look at others and see who I can positively impact, "as I am going."

In John 4, we meet the Samaritan woman. Jesus went out of his way to meet this woman. He took a path no one would have chosen. Imagine doing that in this day and age. I am way too busy to go out of my way to intercept someone who is in need of God's love. My goodness, I have things to do.

But Jesus looked at it differently.

Way back at the age of 12, he told Mary and Joseph, "wist ye not that I must be about my Father's business?" (Luke 2:49 KJV) Do I have this same attitude? Am I about my Father's business?

The story of Lazarus has a different twist. Jesus was intentional, but because of intentionally delaying his visit, his friend died. (John 11)

Who would make that choice for a friend?

But as always, Jesus had a purpose. "Did I not tell you that if you believe, you will see the glory of God?" (John 11:40 NIV) Sometimes the intentional choices we make that honor

Master's Builders Return to Flippin, Arkansas

On May 6th, the Master's Builders began job #189 at Faith Chapel Missionary Baptist Church in Flippin, AR. We returned to Flippin to help build classroom wings along each side of the sanctuary and fellowship hall. The Builders helped Brother Johnny Shew on this new church building in April of last year. The siding and the windows that were on each side of the sanctuary had to be removed, organized, stacked, and made ready to be used again on the outside classroom walls. Once the Master's Builders completed that task, then the framing could begin. The two side wings contain the kitchen, bathrooms, classrooms, storage



space, and office space. The Builders were able to reinstall all the outer windows on both wings and set several doors. We had rain and storm warnings several times while working, but God blessed us in so many ways, and the work continued. So thankful that Brother Johnny, Darvin Barrett and several other men from Faith Chapel, worked alongside our men every day. Also, we had our Haitian friend, Gesnick Metelia, come back to help on this job after working with us at Oak Ridge Baptist in Cassville, MO, in April. He is very tall, strong, and such a big help to the Master's Builders! He has such a sweet spirit and a willingness to work hard for the Lord!

Karen Shew, and the ladies from Faith Chapel, fed us wonderful meals each evening, and the men also helped one evening with a delicious fish fry. This is always a favorite with

our group. Thank you to everyone in the Faith Chapel church family who were so kind and caring to us. The food AND the fellowship were wonderful!

We were blessed once again to work alongside the great folks from Goodall Construction as they set the trusses and roofed the two new wings. We had the privilege of meeting them and working with them on the sanctuary/fellowship hall built last April. It's so good to work with people who also love the Lord and are committed to His Kingdom.

Our next job will begin on June 3rd in Brookeland, TX, at Brookeland Baptist Church. If you are in the area, come by and visit us or jump right in and work with us. We'll be glad to see you there! If you have questions about this ministry or if your church has building needs, please contact: Mike Green at 972-935-3877, David Axe at 903-918-0729 or Eddie Sikes at 479-462-1675.

Reporter - Nelda Malone



God bring about hardship for others. Maybe you have a child who has used up all their chances, or a friend who may not wake up until they hit rock bottom. Those situations are hard to be in but if we do what is best for the honor and glory of God, we will always make the best choice.

I want my legacy to be one that points to Jesus. "As I am going" I want to leave footprints that will show a godly path.

To do so, I must live on purpose for God. I must make choices, often hard choices, that I may not want to make. I have to go out of my way, get out of my comfort zone. To be honest, most people in my comfort zone love Jesus as much as I do. Sure, I can impact their lives but am I really impacting the world, even my little corner of it?

Sometimes it is scary. Sometimes it is hard. Sometimes it requires a lot of effort. But when we look at Jesus' life and the difference He made, and consider that we can make a big difference too, isn't it all worth it? Can't we all do better at living our life on purpose for God?

Prayer: God, forgive me for the times I have fallen so short of living a life on purpose for you. Please, Lord, send someone else to impact the people I did not impact that were in my path. Help me, God, to be more like Jesus. Open my eyes to the crowd around me, nudge me to go out of my way for your glory, help me to make hard decisions that lead others closer to you. God, bless my efforts and move my heart to do better. In Jesus' name, Amen.

Scripture: Ephesians 2:10; Luke 19:1-9; John 4:1-42; John 11:1-44

Respond: Every morning, pray specifically for God to open your eyes to people who are in need of His touch. Then during the day, keep your eyes open for those people. Be sensitive to the Spirit as He points you in different directions. Look at disruptions as opportunities, not interruptions. The world needs love and Jesus charged us to show them love. But they are probably not going to walk up and say, "Hey, I need some love." We are going to have to look for them, just like Jesus did.

A Visit with Audrey Tilley

Bettye Wilson

Mrs. Roy (Audrey) Tilley is the oldest living member of The Master's Builders. She was born October 12, 1926 and married Roy Tilley on June 9, 1946. He was a master electrician and worked for the Arkansas Power and Light Company (Entergy). Roy had done electrical work on mission churches. After retirement he and his friends became involved with a new ministry opportunity.



The Master's Builders began as a vision of BMAA men banding together in a building program for the Lord and His people. They were able to recruit several prospects, and in April, 1991, The Master's Builders became a group associated with the Baptist Missionary Association of America.

In June five couples loaded their trucks with plumbing and electrical supplies, and pulling RVs went to their first project in Dolores, CO. They worked for three weeks helping Bro. Ray White with the building of a fellowship hall and work in the sanctuary. That was the beginning of an adventure that brought blessings and experiences Audrey still remembers

today. She was the leader of the ladies, called the JOY group, for many years. She is loved and cherished by all who worked alongside her, and others who feel like they know her because they have heard of her faithfulness.

"During the 18 years working with The Master's Builders only two projects were missed, and that was because Roy had open heart surgery," Audrey recounts.

"Raising Roofs for Christ" is our motto, and mission churches our priority!



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Air conditioned dormitories - Located just 30 minutes from St. Clair
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Hints for "Who Said That?" Puzzle

Here are scripture references to help with each clue in the crossword puzzle on page 6.

Down:	Across:
2. Gen 24:4	1. Phil 4:11
3. Luke 19:8	5. John 4:39
4. Esther 4:14	6. Gen 50:20
7. 2Kings 2:9	8. Acts 10:14
9. Ruth 1:16	10. Acts 7:56

Former Pastor Laid to Rest

via Boyer Funeral Home website

John Earl Brown, 86, of Leadwood, passed away May 22, 2024. He was born April 22, 1938, in Gibson, TN, to the late John Herman and Ruth Earlene (Bogle) Brown. John was a member of the Stony Point Missionary Baptist Church. He loved mission work, especially on foreign soil. Through the years John was the pastor of several churches in Jefferson, St. Louis and St. Francois counties.



He was preceded in death by his parents; son, John Raymond Brown; bonus son, John Ernest Handlang; and brother, Joe Don Brown.

John is survived by his wife of 65 years, JoAnn (Worley) Brown; two children, Tammy Guggenberger (Joe), and Kevin Brown (Monica); bonus son and daughter, Roy Brakefield (Althea) and family; six grandchildren, Joe (Monica) Guggenberger II, Sydni (Dustin) Dowd, Kristian Brown, Nicholas (Therese Kulas) Brown, Noah (Laura Serier) Brown and Mackenzie Brown; great-grandchildren,

Isaiah Dowd, Grant, Austin and Miles Guggenberger, Isaac and Lucy Dowd; bonus great-grandchild, Kevin Gray; three sisters, Ruby Nell (Doyle) Conder, Wonnie Watt and Delilah Hand; sister-in-law, Carol Brown; precious friends, Rainy, Becky and Shirley; along with several nieces, nephews, friends and neighbors.

The funeral service was May 25 at the Stony Point Missionary Baptist Church.

Ministers & Ministry Opportunities

Entries are published at the request of the individual or entity listed and should not be considered as an endorsement by the Missouri Missionary Baptist or the BMA of Missouri.

Pine Ridge Baptist Church, Laurel, MS, is in search of a pastor. The chairman of the pastoral search committee can be reached at: David McComb, 601-310-4121 or De_mccomb@hotmail.com. (0524)

Ozark Heights Missionary Baptist Church, Potosi, MO, is in search of a pastor. You may contact Bro. Gary Gilliam at 314-550-7260 or 573-438-7207. (0624)

Ministers and ministries must be associated with the BMA. Entries for available preachers and for churches seeking pastors or staff will be published for three consecutive months; others will be limited to a single issue. Listings may be resubmitted quarterly, subject to editor approval. Send entries, including the name of the church of membership, to mmbpaper@gmail.com.

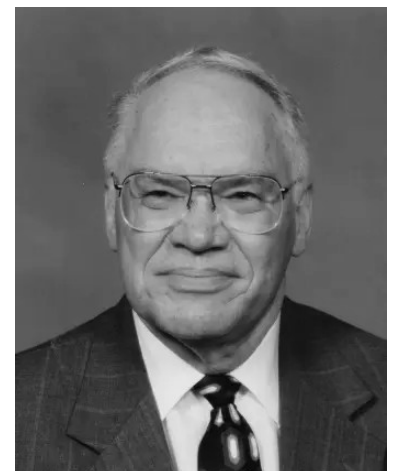
BMATS President Emeritus Called Home

via Autry Funeral Home website

Dr. Philip Ray Bryan, President Emeritus of the BMA Theological Seminary, passed away May 20, 2024. Philip was born November 9, 1935, in Marfa, Texas, as the oldest son of Harry and Frances Bryan. He lived for more than 50 years as a resident of Jacksonville.

Philip married Ida Janice Finley on June 9, 1961, and the couple was blessed with three sons, Jeffrey, Joel, and Jon.

Philip was ordained to the gospel ministry in 1956 by the Missionary Baptist Church at Norman, Oklahoma, with pastorates in Oklahoma, New York, Texas, California, and Mississippi. He also served as dean of the Southeastern Baptist



College in Laurel, Mississippi. Philip was best known for his continuing relationship with the BMA Seminary through his teaching and administration.

Philip is survived by his wife of almost 63 years, Ida Janice (Finley) Bryan who resides in Lebanon, Ohio; his children, Dr. Jeffrey Alan Bryan (Jacquelyn) of Lebanon, Ohio; Dr. Joel Arthur Bryan (Shannon) of Muncie, Indiana; and Jon Foster Bryan (Tami) of Greenville, South Carolina. He was also blessed with five grandchildren: David Bryan (Dalal) of Puyallup, Washington; Laura Hall (Rev. Jerry David) of Swannanoa, North Carolina; Wende Woolard (Aaron) of Fort Riley, Kansas; Luke Bryan of Indianapolis, Indiana; Sydney Bryan of Muncie, Indiana; and Andrew Bryan of Tyler, Texas. His great-grandchildren include Stanley, Bennett, and Jocelyn Hall; Michael Bryan; and Wesley Woolard. Philip is preceded in death by his parents, Harry and Frances (Foster) Bryan, and brother, Harry Lynn Bryan.

Funeral service was held May 31 at Autry Funeral Home in Jacksonville, Texas.

*Precious in the sight of the Lord
is the death of his saints.*