

The Missouri Baptist

"Holding Forth The Word of Life"

Philippians 2:16

Volume LXXIII

St. Louis, MO • September 14, 2010

Issue No. 9

Camp Garwood News

Fall Paintball Retreat

October 29th-30th

This will be a similar arrangement to the Spring Retreat

Work on Girls' Dorm

October 9th

A lot of help is needed so we can make progress on this project and have the improvements finished by next spring.

Remember it takes Time, Money, and Prayer to have a good camp and you can help in any or all these areas.

Contact Bro. Chris Polk for more information on either of these events at cpolk@cablerocket.com

Clerk's Note:

Annual Church Letters

It's hard to believe that September has rolled around once again. Along with being the beginning of a new church year, this means that the annual meeting of our Association is just around the corner. An important part of the annual meeting is your church's annual letter.

Most of us don't know just how important it is for each church

to send in a completed church letter. After working nearly two decades in one of the BMA national departments, I've seen this information used time and time again. I, myself, have dug through the data from these letters dozens - if not hundreds - of times as the department tried to see how to best minister to and work with the local churches. This information helps our leaders sense the growth and overall health of our

Associations, as they seek to provide leadership and direction.

In addition to the benefits you provide by sending in your church letter, also note that the Missouri State Association voted that a church that fails to send in their annual letter for three consecutive years will be dropped from the Association. We lost six churches for this reason last year, and we have other churches that could be dropped this year if their letter is not received. So, sending in your annual church letter is a benefit to all.

When completing your 2010 church letter, please be sure to use one of the two current forms because the older forms do not

83rd Annual Meeting of the BMA of Missouri

The messengers of the churches of the Baptist Missionary Association of Missouri will meet at 9:30 a.m. October 23, 2010, at Bethel Baptist Church in Sikeston for the 83rd annual meeting. If necessary, the meeting will continue after the lunch break until all business is complete.

The host pastor, Bro. Jerry Adams is in charge of the morning worship program. Reports will be given from all our state departments along with our national departments as representatives are available.

Pray for a harmonious, progressive meeting.

always provide all the information we need. The best way is to use DiscipleGuide's on-line form (www.discipleguide.org/ChurchLetter) and fill out the fields that are applicable to your church. Then the completed form can be printed for local, state, and national Associations. For those who are unable or do not wish to use the on-line form, please use the form in the middle of the 2009 BMA of MO Minute book.

Church letters can be brought to the state meeting, October 23rd, or mailed (no later than October 11) to our clerk Don Burke, 704 Valley Rd, Potosi, MO 63664.

Be sure your church has its place in the record book. Let each church be heard in 2010 by sending in a completed church letter to the annual Association.

Don Burke, Clerk
BMA of Missouri

Ordination Service Ozark Heights Missionary Baptist Church near Potosi

Will ordain

Bro. Ronnie Eye

to the Gospel Ministry

October 16, 2010 at 10:00 a.m.

*Bro. Eye is the new pastor of
Bates Creek Missionary Baptist Church
also near Potosi*

**All Ordained help from our Sister Churches
are invited to assist.**

**A lunch reception
will be held after the service.**

Grief Support Group

Zion Baptist Church, 3485 Baumgartner Road, St. Louis, MO is sponsoring a six week Grief Support Group on Tuesday evening starting September 14 through October 19, 2010, from 6:00 to 7:30 p.m. The program is free and is open to anyone in the community who has suffered a loss.

Advance registration is requested. Please call Pastor Dennis Baker at 636-461-1625 or e-mail Zionstl@att.net. One never "gets over" the death of a loved one, but it does become possible to live through the grief that follows.

Please come join us

at our

75th Anniversary

Celebration

Sunday September 26th - 10:00 a.m.

at

Kewanee Missionary Baptist Church

12397 US Hwy 61

New Madrid, Mo. 63869

573-748-5449/573-748-5220

Pastor Bro. Dan Wisely

**Special Worship, Singing and a
Fellowship Dinner following Service**

+++ NEWS BRIEFS +++

Charity, Bismarck, has been feasting on the challenge from our pastor to be witnesses in our world, wherever we are. There have been many visitors this month. We have chosen a portion of our Mission giving to help students in Creve, Haiti receive an education and more important help them come to know our Blessed Saviour. This month we helped Bro. Meade realize his dream of going to Creve to work in their Youth Camp. Bro. Francois Norcilus had visited us last September and witnessed some of Bro. Meade's object lessons. He wanted his people to see and hear them. So in just a few short days Melvin had his shots, tickets and suitcases packed. Language barrier, yes, but an overflowing love for the people was greater. With only a week between making the decision and departure time, Melvin was moving pretty fast. He hit the ground running and after a very long rough ride was sharing God's love to the youth and pastors in Creve. He said they had over 300 campers and witnessed 8 of those coming to know Christ as Saviour. Bro. Francois said they were more rededications than he had ever seen in past encampments. Melvin has some awesome pictures and video. He didn't get into the earthquake ravished city but went directly into the northern city of Creve. He showed the video at Charity one day after his return and again at Bates Creek the following Sunday. Valarie Fish spoke at our Ladies Banquet, September 3, with 27 in attendance on Friday night. Ladies it is a real treat to hear her speak and she is willing to go wherever she is invited. We are all looking forward to the Retreat at Zeno's in Rolla October 8-9. Some of us are enjoying the Fellowship Choir and look forward to singing our Patriotic program at the District Association meeting at London Hill October 16 and the new Christmas Program at Bates Creek December 10 at 7:30 p.m. Our GMA is learning how to "Consider one another to provoke

unto love and to good works." Pray for us in Christ's Name. Lee Miller, Pastor
Carolyn Meade, Reporter

Antioch, Ellington, sends Christian Greetings to all our Brothers and Sisters in Christ. We are still being greatly blessed by the Lord. It was a joy to host the Logan Creek Association's fifth Sunday singing. The attendance was down some, but there several very ill members in some of our sister churches. We are getting ready to do some repair work on the outside of the church building. The men want to get it done before cold weather sets in. It is good to see God blessing some of our churches when the world is having so many troubles. We need to pray for our nation. Doyle Abbey, Pastor
Minnie Asberry, Reporter

Bethlehem, Doniphan, had a paper/pencil drive August 7. We passed out flyers and invitations in the community and had hot dogs, funnel cakes and ice cream; and gave pencils and paper to students going back to school. We appreciate the help of Bro. Eddie and Sis. Debbie with the project. There was not a huge response, but enough to make it worth while, and we have a couple that have started coming to church as a result of this effort! We also hosted the 5th Sunday Meeting August 28. The program was on Fruit of the Spirit; and the speakers were Bro. Dale Fish, Bro. Dennis Leonard, and Bro. Matt Johnson. Each of their presentations was very good. Bro. Larry Edwards, Sr. gave the devotional and Bro. Fish brought the message. We served lunch after the meeting. Do not ask the Lord to guide your footsteps if you are not willing to move your feet! Russell Chitwood, Pastor
Janice Colburn, Reporter

Landmark, DeSoto, is very blessed to be back. We had a wonderful summer beginning with Bible School and thank the Lord for supplying the children and especially the Coordinator

and teachers who took the time to plan and organize things. Then we had Jesus Camp at the Retreat in Richwoods. What a wonderful week and the Lord richly blessed the week with souls saved. Next on our agenda is our Homecoming the 3rd of October. Bro. John Dover, a former Pastor of Landmark and current Pastor of Friendship in St. Clair, will be bringing the morning message. That will be followed by a lunch in the Dining Hall. There will be more than enough food for all as always, so come hungry. The Harpers will be performing starting around 2:00 p.m. We ask that you make plans now to spend all or part of the day with us as we celebrate our 78th year. August 15th was Sis. Donna Crouch's last Sunday with us as she had to move away to care for family members. God bless her and we will miss her. Until next month, God bless each of you.

Wayne Gibson, Pastor
Kathy Hawkins, Reporter

Mt. Zion, Ellington, is glad to visit with you again. We surprised Bro. Emory with a belated birthday dinner, cake and love offerings. Our fellowship is always great. The Reeses are still not feeling well. We sure do miss them. We are praying they will be with us soon. August 7th some of our members attended the Logan Creek's Annual Association at Lower Doe Run church. The session went well and was enjoyed, as was the dinner. Our invitation was accepted to host the Semi-Annual meeting next year. August 8th we are enjoying Bro. Emory's inspiring messages. Our first time visitors were Nikki Vinson and her two young daughters. Sis. Connie enjoyed having them in her class. We were glad to see them. Bro. Albert and Sis. Diana are back from spending a week vacationing and relaxing and of course fishing in Lake Vermilion in Tower, MN. and we are glad to have them back. It was so glad to have Sis. Connie (Price) Nel visit with us. August 22, Sis. Irene

Thomason had all her family home for the Rayfield family reunion. Those attending church services were her sons, Larry and his two boys from Florida and her son Donald Lee and his family from Van Buren, MO. Rick Rayfield also attended. Bro. Emory brought a heartfelt message from God's Word. It was a joy to visit with all of them. Donald Lee has cancer and will start chemo treatments this week. Our love and prayers are with this family. The family is asking you to please pray for Donald Lee as his condition is serious. It is wonderful to know that Bro. Chris and family are where God wants them to be taking care of camp Garwood. All the work and preparation is worthwhile when precious souls are saved. Thanks, Bro. Chris, for being there for everyone. Until next time - If you find yourself wearing a spirit of heaviness try on a garment of praise. Love you!
Emory Shelton, Pastor
Mary Marcher, Reporter

Friendship, Harviell, sends greetings to all. We rejoiced in the salvation of three of our group at church camp being saved, as well as two other young girls in our regular Sunday services. We hosted the Youth In Harvest for the month of August where our Youth did a wonderful job doing a black light presentation to 8 different songs. After the Youth In Harvest we held a Back to School Lock-In with fun, games, food

and spiritual food as well. We baptized a teenage girl, the third Sunday of August who had been saved earlier. We have 7 ladies making plans to attend the WMA Ladies retreat. Bro. and Sis. Howard Dunlap will be married 50 years in September. (Reported by their Daughter.) The Lord is in the saving business and we Praise Him for that! God is Good, Yes He Is, He's Good ALL the Time!
Ernie L Cate, Pastor
Thelma Dunlap, Reporter

Ozark Heights, Potosi, says, "May God's blessings be upon you all, and greetings from Ozark Heights!" August 8th our Pastor left with a mission group traveling to Bolivia. Bro. Brian was so excited to be going on his 1st missionary journey. Bro. Gary Gilliam, Bro. Ron Eye and Bro. Bob Dement filled in while he was gone. We are blessed to have such great Christian men to step up when needed. While on the trip Bro. Brian assisted in distributing solar powered MP3 players with the gospel message downloaded. He also helped in giving eye exams and giving out prescription glasses. It sure makes us thankful to be living in such a great country, where we can help out those less fortunate. Bro. Ron Eye has accepted the call to pastor Bates Creek Missionary Baptist Church near Potosi. We will truly miss him, Miranda and their four little boys! August 22nd our church

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✝ From Our Workers ✝

From Our Director....

Through the summer months I have been preaching a series of messages at Lindsay Lane Baptist entitled "Psalms For The Summer". It has been a joy to go through those 150 Psalms and search for the ones that God would lead me to preach. Of course I hope my folks enjoyed them just as much as I did... for after all they were meant to be "Psalms for the Summer"...not "Bombs for the Summer".

In my journey through the Psalms, I also came across some really great verses. One was found in Psalm 84: "My soul longs, yes, even faints For the courts of the LORD; My heart and my flesh cry out for the living God."

I believe that to fully enjoy an experience you must have some passion for it.

To enjoy a ocean cruise, you must enjoy living on a boat. To enjoy a mission trip, you must have passion for lost souls and for people. To enjoy God's house, you must enjoy God!

We read passion in the Psalmist's voice in those first 4 scripture verses:

"How lovely is Your tabernacle, O LORD of hosts! Even the sparrow has found a

home, And the swallow a nest for herself, Where she may lay her young- Even Your altars, O LORD of hosts, My King and my God. Blessed

are those who dwell in Your house; They will still be praising You. Selah"

The Psalmist describes his passion in what I call the three "B's":

First, there is the BEAUTY of the house. God's house does not have to be a beautiful temple of marble stone and stain glass. It could be a brush arbor (some of you remember those), or a basement, or an old storefront building. When God's Spirit meets with His people and God is lifted up in praise, the place becomes beautiful! How about the place where you worship? Do you consider it a place of beauty because it has been set aside as a place of worship?

Second, the Psalmist proclaims his passion by stating how the BIRDS (swallows) are so fortunate to nest in God's

house 24/7. I am amazed at how some folks can stay away from God's house for such long periods of time. The church mouse may spend more time in God's house than I, but I want to take advantage of every opportunity that the doors of the church are open.

Finally, the song writer speaks of the BELIEVERS who are there praising God. It is a wonderful experience to be with a group of people who are singing unto the Lord. There is a unity of passion in their hearts as they worship God in song. At the same time, how dreadful it is when folks are closed mouthed, quiet, and disinterested in praise.

How is your passion for God? Guess what...others will know! They will know it by your adoration for the house of God, by your envy for those who are present there in His house when you cannot, and by the praise that comes forth from your lips when you have entered to worship.

"My soul longs, yes, even faints For the courts of the LORD; My heart and my flesh cry out for the living God."

Bro. Danny

From Our Missionary....

What an exciting past few months it has been for North Lake Church in Smithville, MO. The "Summer of Service" 2010 went great because of 150 workers from 11 different churches who gave of themselves to further the kingdom.

We are so thankful for the churches that came and helped us. Many lives have been touched with the gospel, with kindness, and with love. It is refreshing to see God bless through the faithfulness of His children in being the hands and feet of our faith.

We have just held our first baptism service. It was a great day in which we baptized four believers. Jasmine, Isaiah, Estelle, and Jacob publicly professed their faith in a local swimming area by following Christ in baptism. (See pictures.)

Please be in prayer for us as



we begin a new bible study group in a local apartment complex. The complex that we are targeting has thousand's of residents and many, I am sure, do not have a relationship with Jesus Christ. It is our goal to engage these people and begin to build relationships with them in hopes of sharing our relationship with Christ.

Please pray for James and Danielle Wilson as they will

lead this new group.
• Please pray as we are exploring two other areas to start home groups who study the Word of God together and build others up in the faith.

• Please pray that God brings us into contact with those who need Christ, and prepares them to accept the message.

Thank you for the prayers and support,

Jamie Jones Luke 19:10

• **NEWS From Page 2** •

group went to Potosi Manor and held worship services with several of the residents. Bro. Gary does a great job with his part of the ministry. August 28th the church was invited to Bro. Butch and Sis. Loretta Wilkinson's for a fishing rodeo (we went fishing no one actually rode a fish) where they fished, and enjoyed a wonderful fish fry and fellowship on their lovely lake. Some of us were at family reunions but we know all who went had a great time. Bro. Brian is now home, he had quite an experience in the traveling! But we are waiting to hear all that took place. We can't wait to see all the pictures.

From our teens:

School is back in session and it is time to begin getting back into the routine of the early mornings, classes, homework, and all that goes with it. The teens have been working on how to prepare outlines for devotionals. Bro Gary is working with us and preparing us to take our place in the Lord's work. Keep us in your prayers. Brian Meade, Pastor
Georgie Brokaw, Reporter
Shafawn Masson and Elisha McGuire, Teen contributors

Charity, Columbia, was blessed to host the 2010 Meramec Missionary Baptist Association Quarterly Meeting August 7th. Bro. Grady Higgs and Bro. Mike Hearst spoke. We were also blessed with hymns sung by Bro. David Griggs, Bro. and Sister Danklef and members of Westview Missionary Baptist Church in Jefferson City. Afterwards we all enjoyed Christian fellowship over a bounty of delicious food prepared by ladies from Charity and from Westview.

Jim Ford, Pastor
Karen Johnson, Reporter

Lower Doe Run, Ellington, hosted the annual meeting of the Logan Creek Association on the 7th. It was a good meeting and wonderful fellowship. Bro. Denver left for Bolivia on the 8th, with 3 other pastors from the Meramec Association. I'm sure someone will re-

port on that at a later date. I will say other than problems with the airline, I think everything went well for them. I know they enjoyed it very much. They finally arrived home on the 24th, a few days later than expected. We would like to thank the Meramec Association and Lower Doe Run Baptist Church for their contribution to the trip. It is greatly appreciated. While he was gone, Bro. Don Hoffmann took over the preaching duties. It is so good to have a capable preacher in the congregation. Sometimes our schedules don't mesh, but usually they do. Finally we were able to get Makenna Chilton baptized. Denver dug the hole a little deeper in the creek by the church and she was baptized there. Most of the people from the church were able to walk down. It was a very busy day as we had our 5th Sunday fellowship dinner, then baptism, then most of us went to Antioch for our 5th Sunday Logan Creek Association singing. But, we were blessed by all of it, and thank the Lord for the health and stamina to keep up. Denver Page, Pastor
Sharon Page, Reporter

Bethany, St. Louis, has been busy packing and wrapping shoebox Christmas gifts for the BMAA Missions Christmas Shoebox Project for delivery to children in Armenia and El Salvador. Our fifth Sunday Talent Time was held August 29th. It's always a joy to see the talents the Lord has given to our people. We had a homemade ice cream social following the service. We have been doing some remodeling/redecorating work in our sanctuary and it looks beautiful! The monthly ladies' meeting was held the 19th of August in our fellowship hall. Our new officers and teachers began their duties September 1st.

James Hoffmann, Pastor
Carol McDonald, Reporter

Stony Point, Mineral Point, says, "It's Catch up time! Since our last report Stony Point has been far from asleep. We had Chris Brauch from First Bap-

tist Church in Arnold share a powerful testimony about the saving grace of our Lord in his young life that was nearly ended by violence on several occasions. We had our homecoming in August and were blessed with the singing of the gospel group Us and Him. A great meal was served and fellowship of old and new was enjoyed. There was a one day Bible school held at our mission at Emmaus. The Fellowship Choir performed for the church and blessed us with their message in song. The concrete work and landscaping is nearing completion on the parsonage. We have seen a sudden explosion in the number of children attending church. Also, the number of first time visitors. Yes, the Lord will build his Church no matter how much we get in the way. We have heard the call of our foreign missionary in Honduras for 1.2 million shepherds bags to be distributed to kindergarten children along with a Bible in their native language. This has been sanctioned by the First Lady of Honduras with the promise of uninhibited ability to tell the children the story of Jesus. Stony Point and several of the surrounding churches have responded with items for the bags and money. The church has set aside the evening service on the last Sunday of each month for assembly of the shepherds bags. The last Sunday of August there were 238 bags assembled at Stony Point. The Lord continues to bless us and we are thankful.

Claude Evans-Pastor
David Hughes-Reporter

Bates Creek, Potosi, comes to you this month rejoicing! Bro. Ronnie Eye has accepted the position of pastor. We are thrilled to welcome Bro. Ronnie, his wife, Sis. Miranda, and their four boys (Samuel, Taden, Tucker, and Ryder) to our church family. You can feel the excitement within our church. Bro. Eye will be ordained at his home church, Ozark Heights, October 16th at 10 a.m. As for other happenings, we had the annual Sunday School picnic in August. Good

food, fun games, and good fellowship followed the regular morning service. We were blessed to have most of Bro. Melvin Meade's family with us this past week. They came prepared with special singing at both services. Bro. Meade always brings a good sermon but this Sunday he also had a special presentation showing the work he recently did in Haiti. The pictures and video show the need for missionary work and continued prayers for Haiti. May God continue to bless the work there and here.

Ronnie Eye, pastor
Sara Buckley, Reporter

Kewanee, Kewanee, says, "Hello brothers and sisters." We were very blessed by the turnout at the "YOUTH IN HARVEST" August 21st. The Lord blessed us with approximately 80 participants. The theme was "Back to school fair." Our youth coordinators and volunteers held a "5th quarter" at the church Friday night, September 3rd, after the football game. A good time was had by all. The Church enjoyed the services presented by Bro. George Reddin (Executive Director of LifeWord) August 22nd, and we are looking forward to the Walk/Run for the World on Saturday, October 9th. We are very proud to announce our 75th ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION Sunday, September 26th and would love to invite all those that are able to come and celebrate with us. We will have a wonderful time, worshiping and praising our heavenly Father for all that he has done for us. We will hear the Word from Bro. Dan Wisely, have special singing, and of course the baptist-way dinner. We rejoice in the Lord for the 8 new additions to our church, and the many visitors that God has sent our way. Please, keep our church in your prayers as some are going through surgeries and other trials. Always remember we are to be blessed to be stressed. Dan Wisely, Pastor
Debbie Houston, Reporter
Pam Wisely, Assistant Reporter

First, Matthews, invites you to join us for our 70th Home-

coming Celebration October 17th, 2010. Bro. Jim Tollison will be preaching during the morning services at 10:45. We will enjoy a fellowship dinner after services and a singing at 2 p.m., featuring the Gospelairees. All former pastors are invited and everyone is welcome. Awana began another year September 1. We start at 6:30 every Wednesday throughout the school year. Please be in prayer that souls be saved and children learn more about the Word of God. Our youth have been trying to reach out to the community kids and inviting them to church. We had a "Back to School" bash last month for the youth. They enjoyed a Wii tournament, lots of food, and door prizes. September 19th, after a devotional from Bro. Lucas Polk, they plan to watch the movie, "Letters to God," in the Outback fellowship building. October 9th, the youth plans to attend the contemporary Christian concert in Poplar Bluff featuring Jeremy Camp, Sanctus Real, and The Afters. Pray for our youth in all our churches that they completely give their lives to God and for His will to be done in their lives. The GMA girls have been working hard on their mission projects. They recently put together shoeboxes for the BMAA Missions Christmas Shoebox Project. Some of the WMA ladies plan to attend the WMA Retreat in Rolla next month. We pray they have a safe trip and good fellowship with Christian ladies. We plan to participate at Matthews Community Day September 25. We will have a float in the parade and have game booths at the park. Bro. Chris plans to have the train there for the kids, and no, Bro. Terry Sharpe, will not be the conductor. Just kidding, Bro. Terry. We would love to see you there. Our GO team (Growth & Outreach) plans to have a booth offering free ice cream cones and gospel tracts. We pray for opportunities to talk to others about Jesus and invite them to services. Pray for Bro. Chris as he prepares the camp retreat for this fall. We were blessed to

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Moral Action

an Agency of the BMA of America

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"911"

I, perhaps like you, have been concerned about our nation: the immoral actions, the irreverence of people, the lack of manners, the unappreciative attitude, the downward spiral of economics, and the lack of spiritual devotion in the life of believers.

I was reflecting on September 11, 2001. We as a nation watched the horrible day unfold before our eyes in New York City, Washington, DC, and a field in Pennsylvania.

What was to be a plot of sinister terrorism to destroy our nation, became a world stage on which American and Christian workers came to be courageous and patriotic.

Right before our own eyes, we saw II Chronicles 7:14 come to life:

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

The September 11, 2001, attacks were a series of coordinated suicide attacks by Al-Qaeda against the United States. Two thousand nine hundred and ninety five (2,995) people lost their lives. The drama unfolded across the world. Expressions of care and attempts to help with any needs were absolutely wonderful. Americans came together for the good of others. When so many things went down, we say some things went up:

1. Our Christian sensitivity to what is truly important went up. We realized that our family and lives are more important than the "games we play everyday." Who could forget the twin towers in New York City crashing down and people jumping out the windows? Sensitivity was definitely up!

2. People were praying "God bless America" and flag sales skyrocketed to an all time high. The so-called "drought of patriotism" had ended and people were flying the red, white, and blue in all fifty states. Flags were definitely up!

3. Americans were not so cynical and curt to each other after the dark day of distress. Respect, care, courage, and compassion was the order of the day. Appreciation for our President, our congressional leaders, our Judges and elected officials was at an unprecedented level. Appreciation was up!

4. The national poll groups report showed that church attendance swelled during those weeks after 9/11. People saw the real need to read their Bibles and attend worship in the House of God. Church attendance was up!

5. Matthew 11:28 states, "Come unto me, all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest." Americans needed God for peace and rest. Prayer was on the agenda daily because of fears, concern for safety with uncertainty. Prayer was up!

In human tragedy and upheavals, America has turned to God. HE HAS ALWAYS BEEN THERE FOR US! So, in my reflection, I ask the question? Wouldn't it be wonderful if it wouldn't take another tragedy or upheaval for people to turn to God?

A statement by Billy Graham shouts out a truth "If God does not judge America, He may have to apologize to Sodom and Gomorrah."



Some of the many boxes in the warehouse

Let's Go Shopping

by Ralph Izard, M.D.

Today, the temperature is 102 degrees and the humidity is high, so Christmas presents don't readily come to mind! But when a van arrived at the warehouse to deliver over 100 shoeboxes, I thought about the boys and girls in El Salvador and Armenia who had never received a gift or heard about Jesus Christ. So, I decided to go Christmas shopping.

When I arrived at my favorite Dollar Tree store and began to look for the suggested items to go into the shoeboxes, it became evident that with multiple items in many of the packages, I could

86,400

by Joseph Harris via www.miniedition.net

What if someone promised to deposit \$86,400 into your bank account each day? You would ask for the catch. The catch is, all money left over at the end of the day would be lost. But remember, the next day, another \$86,400 would be deposited again. Would you try to spend the entire amount each day in order to keep from losing any of it?

Actually, this does happen to everyone each day...sort of. Every 24 hour period contains 86,400 seconds of time and time is a priceless commodity. The time you do not invest wisely each day is gone forever.

How much time do you spend with God each day? We must not only make the time, but it must be quality time in the presence of God. Real prayer takes time. Reading the Bible and waiting for God to speak from His word requires time. In this fast paced modern world, it is all too easy to never have enough time in important areas of life. Family time often suffers, and personal relaxation away from stress and cares of life is often non-existent.

As always, the Bible has a word and example to follow. Paul himself is a good example to follow. He worked full time in the ministry and supported himself by making tents. A study of his life and missionary journeys will reveal that he was extremely busy with little time to spare, yet he stayed in communion with God. Personal time with God ranked high on his list of priorities. His fellowship with God helps explain his positive attitude in suffering and his tireless determination to press toward the mark. He received strength by consistently spending time with God for renewing and refreshing.

Perhaps William Longstaff said it best with these well known words:

Take time to be holy,
The world rushes on;
Spend much time in secret
With Jesus alone;
By looking to Jesus,
Like Him thou shalt be;
Thy friends in thy conduct
His likeness shall see.

actually pack 2 or 3 shoeboxes for about the same price as one shoebox. Then, after a side trip to Wal Mart I was all set.

When I began to check out at Dollar Tree, the cashier asked me what the items were for. I explained to her about our shoebox project of sending to our missionaries the Christmas Shoeboxes which contain gifts and a Bible, giving the missionary the opportunity to tell the boys and girls about the greatest gift of all, Jesus Christ. She wanted to know if I was a missionary and I answered "yes." I told her that she could be one too. We are all missionaries when we participate in projects that carry the Good News of Jesus Christ to those that are still waiting to hear.

The cashier asked if her Sunday school class could be part of the project, and I readily answered "yes" again and gave her directions to the warehouse and the telephone number for the BMAA Missions office. If you have not gone shopping yet, and you want to be a missionary, you still have time to add your box to the 15,000 that are being sent to the missions office at 9219 Sibley Hole Road in Little Rock, Arkansas 72209. For further information call Jamie or Doris at 501-455-4977.

When you place a Bible in the shoebox you know that the Word of God is going into a home, more than likely for the first time. The Lord has given us the following promise: "So shall my word be that goeth forth out of my mouth: it shall not return unto me void, but it shall accomplish that which I please, and it shall prosper in the thing whereto I sent it." Isaiah 55:11

Editor's Note:

Bro. Izard wrote this article a few weeks ago and since that time, according to BMMI Secretary Doris Dickey, today (September 9th) they have received over 12,000 shoeboxes at the warehouse. More are coming in daily. The response has been great and is appreciated by those who will be distributing them in El Salvador and Armenia. If you have not helped and want to be involved, call Sis. Dickey today.

WMA & GMA NEWS

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

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Matthews, MO 63867
Phone 573-471-8885
Email: sheliapolk@yahoo.com

Send all WMA Offerings to:
STATE WMA TREASURER:

Cathy J. Fox
2142 Sunset Dr.
Poplar Bluff, MO 63901

Send all GMA Offerings to:
STATE GMA TREASURER

Norma Womble
4498 Cindy Lane
Barnhart, MO 63012

Final Information

Important Information

The **2010 MO WMA Ladies Retreat** at Zeno's in Rolla, MO will be occurring in just a few days. Below is a basic schedule, keep in mind that some adjustments may need to be made.

Friday, October 8, 2010

2:00 p.m. - Check in to available hotel rooms

Early check in to the retreat. (Hallway outside of Rolla Room)

2:00 - 4:00 p.m. - Free time. Feel free to participate in any of the following:

1) We have routed a one mile walk for those of you who may want to "Walk for the World" while you are in Rolla. Wear your LifeWord Walk for the World T-shirts if you have them.

2) Design and make your own jewelry. Lanita Gillam-Burgess with U-design Jewelry Co. will have a table available. You can purchase items already made or design and make your own jewelry. Lanita will be donating all proceeds to Camp Garwood. This will be an exceptional way to have something to remember the retreat and support an excellent mission outreach.

3) Just relax and visit with other ladies from Missouri.

4) Start shopping at the "Silent Auction" to benefit Camp Garwood. (Rolla Room)

4:00 p.m. - Session 1 will begin. (This will be in the restaurant area.)

6:00-7:00 p.m. - Dinner break

7:30 p.m. - Session 2 (Jerene Reddin, speaker) Restaurant area.

8:30 p.m. - Special prayer time

9:00 p.m. - Special called meeting of MO WMA Officers (room to be announced)

Saturday, October 9, 2010

Early birds can Walk for the World.

7:30 a.m. - Breakfast (Rose, VIP, & Tea rooms - we will be in this area all day)

9:00 a.m. - Session 3 (Jerene Reddin, speaker)

10:30 a.m. - Break (final check-out of hotel rooms)

11:00 a.m. - Session 4 (Jerene Reddin, speaker)

12:00 noon - Lunch

1:15 p.m. - Silent Auction will close

1:30 p.m. - pay up for auction items to begin.

Session 5 (Jerene Reddin, speaker)

3:00 p.m. - Have safe trip home!!

Ladies come prepared to have a wonderful time. Due to over-booking, we will have to adapt and adjust as needed. The owner of Zeno's and his staff are doing everything they can to compensate for this and accommodate our group. How we react and respond can have either a positive or a negative influence. Remember our theme is "Leaving a Trail Behind You" - Lessons on Influence and Legacy. How will the employees of Zeno's and

Family Ark Ministries

Travis Plumlee, Director

P.O. Box 163 • Mountain View, Arkansas 72560

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WebSite: travisplumlee.com

If There's No Peace - Stay Put!!

Life is full of choices. And the choices we make determine our course of life. Christians always want to have the Lord lead them in their decisions. However, sometimes it is difficult to know what course God would have us follow. What path does He want us to take? Should I go here? Should I stay? Should I do this or that? These questions are so consuming, to someone who is caught in the pathway of a fork in the road. What's a person to do?

In this article, I will share some things we know from the Bible about determining God's will. The first thing I want to do however, is share something I practice in my own decision-making process. If I don't have an internal heart peace about my decision, then I just stay put. If it is not clear, then I don't drive around in a fog. It is easy to make a wreck of your life driving in a fog. God and Jesus are the authors of peace. Confusion and doubt are from the enemy. So, I have to have an internal peace in my heart if I am going to do something. That does not mean that there is not anxiety or concern about the situation on the outside. Let me give you a personal example.

A few years back, God called me into the ministry and I was having to decide whether it would be full-time or part-time and keep my job that afforded me a paycheck each week. The Lord led me to quit my job and do a full-time ministry and live off of love offerings and nothing else. Of course there was the issue of a house payment, car payment, food, family etc... I had to trust God. While I was nervous about the decision to walk away from my job on the outside, I had total peace from God on the inside. I had a peace that passed my own ability to understand it. Yes, I was concerned about how we would make ends meet. Yes, my wife and I both were nervous about the decision. However, that was only on the external fleshly side. We both had a peace and blessed assurance from God on the inside. If I have to make a decision, and I am confused, or my spirit is vexed on the inside, then I just don't make the decision. Or I guess I am making a decision to stay put. I don't move without a peace from God that I am making the right decision for His glory.

What God asks you to do will not always be what you think you should do. It will not always be what makes the most sense, offers the most money or gives you the most comfort and security. What God ask you to do may cause other Christian friends and

others in Rolla remember us? My prayer is that we leave a very positive Christian influence.

Keep Jerene Reddin in your prayers as she prepares to come and speak to us. Pray for those who will lead us in joyful music, that the music will lead us to worship. Pray for each other as we travel to this retreat that we all will have safe travel.

On behalf of Terri Adams (Chairman), Paula Reece and myself, thank you for your support and prayers as we have tried to plan a memorable retreat.

Janet Widger

even family to criticize your decision. Your own family may call you nuts. But you have to do what God leads you to do or otherwise you will be a Jonah. There is no more miserable place for a Christian to be, than out of the will of God. It doesn't matter if it is a prestigious school you chose. It doesn't matter if you got a scholarship to this school. It doesn't matter if this job offers you much greater income. It doesn't matter if you feel better, and it will help your kids more if you make this decision. The only thing that matters is that it is what God desires for you.

Sometimes, God may send

you to another school and He will perform a miracle of finding the tuition. Sometimes, God will cause you to keep your low paying job because He has you planted where he wants you, and needs you to be. He will meet all your needs. We get into trouble when we think it is up to us to make a living. It is up to us to get a job, make a move or find a school. It is always about God. It is dangerous for you to run ahead of God and do what you think makes sense. God's ways are not man's ways and very frequently it won't make any rational sense. Scripture tells us this.

Scripture also tells us in Philippians 4:6,7 to "Be careful for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving, let your request be made known unto God. And the peace of God, which passeth all understanding shall keep your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus." See, there is that inner peace. And you don't get this by asking everyone you know what you should do. You don't get it based upon your strong feelings and what you "think." It only comes by spending a tremendous amount of time seeking God in prayer. God speaks to you, not other people. God speaks to you, so don't listen to your own heart. Listen to what God puts on your heart. Don't be true to yourself. Proverbs 3:5,6 "Trust in the Lord with all thine heart, and lean not unto thine own understanding. In all thy ways acknowledge him, and HE shall direct your paths."

God also will never contradict His word to fulfill His will for your life. If it is in the Bible as wrong, then God will not lower his standards or go against his already spoken word to make you feel better. Obedience is the only choice. Pray deeply. Study the Word. Let God lead you. He will give you peace in your spirit. If there is no peace- STAY PUT!

BMA of MO
Annual Meeting
October 23, 2010
Bethel, Sikeston

Meramec Banner

News of one of the oldest local associations in the BMA of Missouri

Dear Deacon Chairman

A Reminder about DiscipleGuide's 2010 Pastors Oasis

I hope this letter finds you and your church family enjoying the very best of the Father's blessings. On behalf of Donny Parrish, Kevin Clayton and the entire DiscipleGuide staff I want to say "thanks" for the faithful service you give to Christ and His church. The churches of the BMA of America are blessed to have men like you assisting pastors in the work of ministry.

Not only has God blessed His churches with faithful laymen like yourself, He has also given us wonderful, God-called pastors who faithfully and unselfishly lead His churches. Many times we take for granted the sacrificial service they render to the Father and to us. We may never know, this side of heaven, how many times our names are called-out to God in prayer by our pastor-shepherd as he "stands in the gap" for us. I, for one, am very thankful to have a God-called and God-anointed man to call my pastor.

How can we express our appreciation, thanks, and love to our pastors. There are many ways but I want to mention just one. October has been designated as "Pastor Appreciation Month" across our nation. It is a special month set aside to let our pastors know how much they are loved and appreciated. In recognition of Pastor Appreciation Month, DiscipleGuide Church Resources has scheduled our annual Pastors Oasis for Oct. 6-8, 2010. Pastors Oasis is three days of inspirational teaching, outstanding music, relaxation and wonderful fellowship. The location for this year's Oasis is the beautiful Chateau On The Lake in Branson, Missouri. The event itself only costs \$75 per person (\$85 after September 3rd or \$95 if you stay off-site). Registration includes all worship sessions, The Jesus Painter, The Burchfield Brothers, John Waller and an appreciation dinner with Artist Jason Crabb. You may register on-line at www.DiscipleGuide.org or download a registration form and mail to the DCM office. Make reservations at Chateau on the Lake by calling 888-333-5253 to secure the group rate of \$125 by September 3.

Because your pastor would never ask the church to send him and his wife to the Oasis, we are asking you, as the Chairman of Deacons to lead your church in sending them. Would you please use your leadership and influence to lead your church to present this trip as a gift to your pastor? A gift such as this will mean more than anything you can do for your pastor.

Thanks in advance for honoring and blessing your pastor and wife in this special way! We look forward to hearing from you.

*Kirk Shelton, DiscipleGuide Pastoral Ministries
& Church Growth Consultant*

DiscipleGuide Conference Schedule

October

6-8 - Pastors Oasis
Chateau on the Lake • Branson, Missouri

November

2-12 - Holy Land Trip
Leave from Dallas, Texas
16-19 - National Senior Adult Conference
Hilton • Branson, Missouri

December

28-30 - Merge (AR & TX Youth)
Daniel Springs Camp • Gary, Texas

Central Baptist College Enrollment Exceeds 700

via The Baptist Trumpet

For the first time in the history of Central Baptist College, enrollment has topped the 700 mark. According to a report released by the Office of the Registrar on Friday, overall fall enrollment officially closed at 725, up 100 students (a 16% increase) over the fall 2009 enrollment of 625. Final enrollment figures include a 19% increase in traditional student enrollment with 467 students (a 28% increase in new and transfer students) and 258 students in PACE (Professional Adult College Education) with another registration in that program set for September 10.

"This is our fifth consecutive year to post a record fall enrollment," said CBC President Terry Kimbrow. "Of course, this kind of growth brings numerous challenges—housing, parking and financial resources to mention a few. But I welcome these problems and, in fact, have anticipated them." A new 10-year master plan, just completed last month by Rik Sowell Architects, Inc. of Conway, is guiding future growth at the institution. The plan is based on a future enrollment of 1,500.

Last year, CBC opened a new Science Center to support three new Bachelors degrees: Biology, Biotechnology and Health Sciences. The center includes two Biology labs, two Chemistry labs, a Research lab, faculty offices, chemical storage and a large state-of-the-art classroom.

The institution is also in its second year of pursuit of accreditation from NCATE (National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education).

Meramec Landmark Baptist Association Financial Report • August 2010

Balance July 31, 2010	\$	4,807.64
Total Receipts:	\$	<u>3,862.05</u>
Total Available	\$	8,669.69
Disbursements:		
Danny Kirk	1,100.00	
Director's Expenses & Mileage	508.03	
State of MO	10.00	
Brotherhood Mutual	609.16	
Grady Higgs Travel	300.00	
Jamie Jones Partnership	<u>500.00</u>	
Total Disbursements:	\$	3,027.19
Checking Balance, August 31, 2010:	\$	<u>5,642.50</u>
Revolving Loan Fund Balance	\$	118,671.25

From Our Director...

Pastor Jim Ford and the Charity Baptist church family in Columbia were wonderful hosts for our last Meramec association meeting. Some of the highlights were the special singing, the messages from Bro. Mike Hearst and Bro. Grady Higgs, and of course, a wonderful meal provided by Charity. The business meeting went well and the fellowship was superb! Bro. Ford stated it had been 10 years since the association had come to Columbia. I certainly hope another invitation comes from these dear folks a lot sooner!

Our Meramec boys are back from their mission trip to Bolivia. Brethren Jamie Haguewood, Brian Meade, Denver Page, and Brad Banderman were blessed with some additional time on the mission field due to unforeseen circumstances. We hope to set aside some time in the near future to get a personal report from these guys on what God did with them on the River of Blessings medical boat. I just want to extend a special thanks to the churches of the Meramec association for the financial support given to these men and for their mission projects. Each one of them went on the mission field at great personal cost and we must pray that God will provide the eternal dividends!

We will have our annual meeting at Bethel Baptist, Lonedell Friday, September 24 beginning at 10:00 a.m. Church Planter, Jamie Jones will be preaching the annual message. Part of our business will be to hear from our camp committee on how we can eliminate the debt on the camp property. Please represent your church with messengers at this important meeting.

Two new intercollegiate sports were added this fall, Men's Wrestling and Women's Golf, bringing the total athletic offerings to 12, all competing in the NAIA (National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics).

"There is no doubt these things had an impact on our growth," commented Kimbrow. Aggressive recruiting played a large part also. "We have also continued to build our reputation as a viable four-year institution in the state. We have extremely qualified and committed faculty and staff. I just think our time has come," Kimbrow continued.

Central also offers Bachelors degrees in Bible, Business, Music, Church Music, Psychology & Social Services, Youth

SOAR 2011

July 4-6

at the

**Marriott Rivercenter
San Antonio, Texas**

**Watch for details in the
months to come**

**Pray for God's Spirit to
continue working among
our young people**

Ministry, Missions, Organizational Management, Management Information Systems, Leadership and Ministry and General Studies, 13 minors and Associate of Arts degrees in several emphases. For a complete list of academic offerings, log on to www.cbc.edu.

Greater Metropolitan St. Louis Area
LifeWord Walk/Run
For The World
October 2, 2010
Arnold City Park
 (Jeffco Blvd. & Bradley Beach Road)
On the Banks of the Meramec River
Bandstand Pavilion

Pot Luck/Brown Bag Lunch at Noon

The Harper Family
Concert at 2:00 p.m.

Coffee/Donuts/Hot Chocolate 8:30 a.m.
Questions?? Call Connie Reifsteck
314-832-6245

Canadian Missionary
Travels To Haiti

By Michel Poirier • via The Baptist Trumpet

During my recent trip to Haiti to disburse funds given by BMA people to help with the relief effort, I also had the opportunity to visit the people there who had received Christ in March and to see if they were going to church. Even with so little, they had big smiles on their faces and their hearts were overflowing with joy.

Within the first few days, I visited a friend of mine, Pastor Norcilus, and brought some financial relief for a family that had a great need for food and other items. In the afternoon I went to Bethel Baptist Church, which had been severely damaged during the earthquake, and gave them some financial assistance to rebuild the walls. The pastor was so excited to get the repairs going for the Lord!

Wednesday morning, I went to find some land to put houses on for the people that we know need a house, and was able to actually purchase some land. It is very difficult for the people of Port au Prince to decide to move outside the city, but it has to be done.

In the afternoon, I met with another friend of mine, Pastor Paul Harrigan, and we had a great time of fellowship. He took me to some places that were badly hit during the earthquake and told me the story of people from his church who were killed and their bodies are still trapped under the fallen building. One of his members who lost her husband in the quake was in desperate need of a home. She was living with only a plastic sheet over her head and no walls around her.

Knowing that so many have great needs like her, I had to stop and pray, asking God to give me wisdom to use the resources of God's people wisely.

We arrived at the place where they make transition houses, saw the floor model and went inside the office to talk about the possibility of purchasing a couple of them. A one bedroom home is \$2,160, plus shipping and assembling; and a two bedroom home is \$2,995, plus shipping and assembling. I purchased three houses and gave the one bedroom home to the widow lady. The pastor was so glad, he was shedding tears of joy as he received the news of the house.

Knowing that the new homeowners would not have any

furniture, I went and purchased the bare necessities for them. I was thinking how much we are blessed in North America — we have lots of food and all we need to live in our beautiful homes.

On returning to his home, Bro. Harrigan also told me that there was a great need for Bibles for his people. Now that to me is a great need and I will try to do something on this end!

When I went back to my room around 5 p.m., the sun was starting to set but I had company waiting for me — Patrick and his wife, Simone. She wasn't feeling good so I asked Patrick what was wrong with her, and he told me that she had not eaten all day. He went on to tell me that they had two other couples in the car and they had not eaten yet either. I made them all come in and fed them what I had — leftovers that were in the fridge. That's one way to clean the refrigerator out!

I also gave these three families money for groceries. Food is so expensive there, but I don't have room to get into that.

I did not sleep that night, and was not prepared to see or hear what I would be facing the next day. At 8 a.m. we were on our way to an orphanage I had been told about, and getting there was very difficult due to the road conditions. Finally, upon arriving, I met with a family that has taken in 55 children who were orphaned in the earthquake. They sang French gospel songs for me, and it was beautiful to my French ears!

I asked the couple that takes care of them if they had any chairs, games or toys of any kind for the children, and they said "no." When I asked them how they fed them, they said "with the generosity of street people." But they had not eaten that day and "it would probably be the next day before they would have the option of eating," said the lady in charge. I saw the gravity of this cause and I went home that night, knowing that the next day I would be on a plane returning to a country of plenty.

The next day at the airport in

AVAILABLE PREACHERS

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

Ray Thurman, is available for pulpit supply or to serve as a interim pastor as God leads. You may contact him at 573-438-2195. -7-

Tim Bell, a member of Bethel Missionary Baptist Church in Sikeston Missouri, is available for pulpit supply. Contact him at 573-471-5063 or 573-475-0517 -9-

Rocky Houston, a member of Kewanee Baptist Church, is available for supply or however the Lord leads. Contact him at 573-748-5879 after 4:00 p.m. -9-

Jerry Jolly has resigned the pastorate of the Highland Hills Baptist Church at Highland AR effective June 20. He is available for revivals, conferences or Sunday preaching appointments as the Lord leads. He can be reached at 1-870-932-8293 or 1-870-930-4309 or jerryjolly@suddenlink.net. -7-

Allen Casey is available for pulpit supply. He is a member of Springdale Baptist Church in Fenton and can be reached at 636-349-5524. -8-

Jeff Richards is available as the Lord leads. He is a member of Friendship Baptist Church in St. Clair. Contact him at Home - 636-629-6280 or Cell - 573-210-4965 -8-

Bob Ayers is available to be used as the Lord leads. He is a member of Oak Hill Baptist Church in Alton and can be contacted at 573-255-3065. -9-

• **NEWS From Page 4** •

have Bro. Rocky Houston and his family with us recently as he filled in for Bro. Chris. Bro. Rocky brought good messages. We pray for him and his family as they serve the Lord. We pray that God continues to work in all our lives. Give every day to Him, and you will be blessed.

Chris Polk, Pastor
 Kari Hartlein, Reporter

**Want to Make a Gift
 That Keeps Giving?**

The LifeWord Foundation provides that opportunity. Your gift is never spent. It is invested and only the earnings are used to help carry the gospel around the world.

Your gift keeps on giving until the Lord returns.

For more information, call the LifeWord Development Office at (501)472-2183.

Port au Prince, one of the guards I spoke to was not saved and was telling me that his family was converted but not him. I spoke with him for 10 minutes, trying to persuade him to repent of his sin and to trust Christ, but with no success. I gave him the address of my dear friend, Bro. Harrigan, and he said the church was only a few blocks from where he lived.

The Lord took care of the situation, and I went home that day praying that the Lord would protect the people of Haiti and somehow give them the courage to go on in life and to trust Him for all their needs.

I did my best to disperse the money according to the needs of each family. The hardest thing to do was to choose which ones to give to. Thanks to all of you who gave toward this trip.

Michel Poirier, ostervald@axion.ca