

The Missouri Missionary Baptist

"Holding Forth The Word of Life"

Philippians 2:16

Volume LXXIII

St. Louis, MO • December 14, 2010

Issue No. 12

Announcing the BMAA 2011 Meeting and theme....

"Because Of All This..."

Greetings! I would like to invite every church in our association to be represented by attendance or official letter at the 62nd annual meeting of the BMA of America. The meeting is scheduled for April 11-13, 2011 at the Ray Clymer Exhibit Hall, MPEC Events Center, in Wichita Falls, Texas.

The theme for the meeting, "*Because of All This*," is based upon Nehemiah 9:38 and will emphasize the motivation for discipleship. "*And because of all this, we make a sure covenant and write it; our leaders, our Levites, and our priests seal it.*" Nehemiah challenged the leaders of Israel to reconfirm the covenant with the Lord, and they responded with a "sure" commitment.

I pray that this meeting will challenge our pastors and leaders to reconfirm their own commitment to follow Jesus' example of discipleship. This year's meeting has a unique air of excitement as DiscipleWay will officially be introduced. With such a great

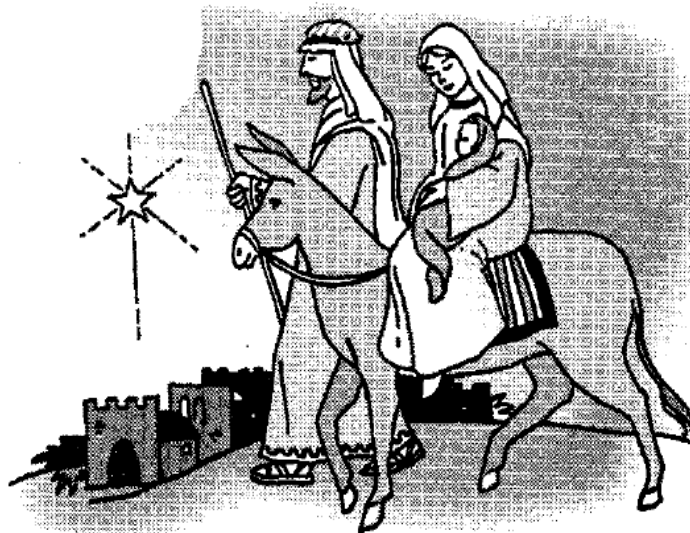
tool, we can all be better equipped to reproduce ourselves individually. That should eventually result in churches reproducing themselves by planting other churches.

Monday evening's session will focus on the meeting's theme. A concert by the Jacksonville College choir will precede the president's message. Please plan to give a special offering to help with their travel expenses. Tuesday will provide meeting opportunities for auxiliaries, departmental and agency boards and the Pastors' and Laymen's

Conference. Tuesday night's service will include the annual message by Grady Higgs. Business will be held on Tuesday afternoon and also Wednesday morning and afternoon. The annual meeting will climax with the Missions report and commissioning service on Wednesday night.

Remember that proposed constitutional amendments must be submitted in writing to the clerks of the association no later than February 1.

Please pray for the meeting, especially that every leader will be motivated "because of all this" to follow Jesus' example.



Our Christmas Wishes For You

May the songs of Christmas
Come softly to your ear,
And tell again the meaning
Of this blessed time of year.

May the bells of Christmas
Chime their tunes so bright and gay,
Ringing out their cheer and hope
On this glad Christmas Day.

May the peace of Christmas
Fill your heart with strength anew,
As you know what God gaveth
When He sent His Son to you.

May all the gifts of Christmas
Be a means of sharing love,
Like the gift of Christ, Our Saviour,
Sent with love from God above.

May the joy of Christmas
Dwell so deep within your heart,
That throughout the year to come
It never shall depart.

May the love of Christmas
Fill your heart and soul,
So peace on earth good will toward men
Will be your greatest goal.

Lois Ann Williams

My wife and I extend to each of our readers sincere wishes for each of you this Christmas Season. This poem expresses our desire for each of your lives. Thank you for the privilege of serving the Lord through this ministry, for the support you have given throughout the year and the generous Christmas gift.

James & Mary Hoffmann

**BMAA Department of
Missions Announces....**

Cooperation With Evangelistic International Ministries

The BMAA Department of Missions and Evangelistic International Ministries have entered into an agreement in which EIM will oversee the international pastors' conference ministry known as Barnabas Touch. The department of missions will also seek to facilitate the Shepherd Bag Ministry that EIM has carried out with great success for a number of years. BMAA Executive Director of Missions, Dr. John David Smith, commented, "EIM has proven itself as a useful and fruitful partner on many BMAA mission fields. We know that their conference ministry and Shepherd Bags will continue to be a blessing to many of our brethren around the world. We can accomplish more together than we can by ourselves." Smith went on to say that the Christmas shoebox project that the missions office sponsors will continue. EIM, directed by Bro. Rocky Goodwin, is a ministry of the First Baptist Church of Magnolia, AR.

Alive Conference

Pray for this youth conference which is the largest gathering of the youth of our churches in Missouri.

It takes place in St. Louis December 30 through January 1.

God bless our young people and strengthen them to stand.

+++ NEWS BRIEFS +++

Mt. Zion, Ellington, wishes you good health and happiness. Sis Rita Ruble has returned from a welcomed vacation. October 13th Sis. Elaine Purvis from Oklahoma City visited with her mother, Sis. Mary Marcher and attended church services. Also visiting was Bro. Melvin Meade and grandson Jimmy. We enjoyed having them and of course enjoyed Melvin's beautiful singing. November 5th we received word that Sis Flossie (Meade) Carlson of Topeka, KS, had suffered a heart attack and had gone to be with the Lord. She was 46 years old. Our love and prayers are with her children and husband and also her brothers, Bro. Albert and Bro. Melvin Meade and their families. November 14th we were blessed to have the Reeses with us again. We love this couple and wish them good health so they may continue to attend. Bro. Melvin was down our way deer hunting. He came to church and preached a good message to us. As usual the special singing was great. Here at the Senior Housing we finished the book of Exodus and started on Psalms. Bro. Emory and Sis. Connie are always willing to come here and hold Bible study. November 28th our men have been fishing again and we had a delicious fish fry dinner and good fellowship. Until next time – we wish you holiday blessings and a happy New Year. Our love to all!

Emory Shelton, Pastor
Mary Marcher, Reporter

Emmanuel, Sikeston, is busy growing and sharing the Lord. Bro. Roger Ross is leading a new Reach Out Ministry doing just what the name suggests. Bro. Ray Flippo is working with the Teen Church. The teachers that alternate in Children's Church include Sis. Donna Davis assisted by Sis. Jan Davis; Sis. Laurie Ross assisted by daughter, Heather; and Sis. Jennie Mills assisted by daughter, Joanna. We praise the Lord for this growth. A spaghetti supper was held October 29th. Funds raised

amounted to \$600 which were used to go toward the payoff of the fellowship hall. The supper was followed by a performance of the Harper Family. It was a wonderful time of praising the Lord in song. This event was well attended. A yard sale and bake sale was held November 6th. Almost \$700 more was added to the fellowship hall payoff. November 13th, anyone in the community that needed clothes could come and choose from the clothes left from the yard sale at no cost. It was great to share. Along with these events, during a regular November, Sunday morning service, heaven came down. As Bro. Billy gave the invitation five precious souls walked the aisle. These included Sisters Charlotte Vanover, Brandy Manning, Makenze Adams, Makenze Rogers, and Bro. Michael Rogers. Each one had previously been saved and came forward requesting baptism which was administered the next Sunday. God is so good! Sunday morning, November 21st, Sis. Stephanie Rohmiller was gloriously saved at the conclusion of the message. She is awaiting baptism. Also, Bro. Dale Palmer came forward requesting baptism, having previously been saved. He will be baptized December 5. His wife, Sis. Barbara had rededicated her life earlier in the month. Sis. Donna assisted by Sis. Joanna Mills is busy working on the Christmas Program. God is working mightily. We praise Him in Thanksgiving for His Bountiful Blessings. Billy Davis, Pastor
Vi Maclin, Reporter

Abe and Vi Maclin

Ozark Heights, Potosi, sends greetings to one and all. Where has November gone! We are so busy and time flies by. We didn't have a Harvest Day this year as we prepared for a revival. We had very good

attendance and wonderful sermons by Bro. Tony Crocker! Our church was really lifted up with prayer and music. Veterans were honored November 7th. We are so thankful for all of you who served in the military and to all the families that have loved ones serving now! May God bless and bring them home soon! Several of our ladies and our pastor attended the Seniors Conference in Branson November 16th–18th; bringing home good reports of the great preaching and singing with a good time for all. We are getting ready for Christmas. Sis. Sara has the choir rehearsing every week and they are really sounding good. It is so uplifting to hear the songs of Jesus and all the wonderful things He has done. The WMA enjoyed a great time in DeSoto, meeting at the Bistro Restaurant in the mall for our annual Christmas dinner. Seventeen in all enjoyed a great meal, exchanged gifts, and had wonderful fellowship. Thank to Sis. Sharon Lawson and Sis. Loretta Wilkinson for making all the plans and arrangements. Our own little Elisha turned 15 and was presented with a beautiful birthday cake by her mother Sis. Dawn Meade! We will be doing our Christmas baskets this Wednesday for all our shut-ins. Merry Christmas to all and May God bless us all!

From our teens: It is that time of year again and Ozark Heights Youth group wants to wish you a Merry Christmas and a wonderful New Year! Along with many other churches we are getting ready for Youth Alive once again. Hoping the Lord will bless us in this trip like always. We are excited to meet up with old friends and discover new ones. We are all ready to see what the Lord will do with us this year.

Brian Meade, Pastor
Georgie Brokaw, Reporter
ShaFawn M. Masson, Teen Reporter

Bethlehem, Doniphan, is happy to report we have accepted two new members by

letter. Bro. Eddie and Sis. Debbie Pickens presented themselves for membership November 7. We are very happy to have two such good workers! We hosted the Youth in the Harvest in November and presented the skit again that we did at Easter on the birth, crucifixion and resurrection of Christ. We are planning a revival January 3 -7, 2011. Please make plans to join us then; and remember us in your prayers as we prepare for this revival. Russell Chitwood, Pastor
Janice Colburn, Reporter

Stony Point, Mineral Point says, "Merry Christmas to everyone!" Lead by our youth, the church membership turned out in good numbers to participate in the Potosi Christmas parade. Nearly 700 gift bags containing a tract, a church business card, a toy and candy, were distributed throughout the parade route. Sis. Vickie Brand was involved in a very serious head on collision. After surgery, she is recovering in a St. Louis hospital. We ask you all for special prayer for Sis. Vickie. May we all be better witnesses for our Saviour, Jesus Christ in the New Year. Claude Evans-Pastor
David Hughes-Reporter

Briar, Doniphan, had a very busy month in October with blessings overflowing. It began with a wonderful revival. Three precious souls were saved on the last night of services. All

three that were saved were teenagers. Bro. Jerry Arnold, the pastor of the First Missionary Baptist Church of Pottersville, was the Evangelist. We were blessed each night with very good attendance and special music. We were also very thankful for the support of our sister churches and many visitors during the revival. We ended the revival with dinner and with the Harper Family singing for a special afternoon service. We could definitely say, "We entered into His gates with Thanksgiving and Praise!" We enjoyed participating in the Walk of Faith at Pine Woods at Ellsinore. Briar was blessed with an attendance of 22 from our church. The first Sunday evening in November we enjoyed a weaner roast and bonfire with lots of pickin & grinnin. Bro. Russell Chitwood along with his church family came and joined us in our time of fellowship. They are always a blessing to us. December 12th the men are fixing breakfast for everyone! Soon we will be celebrating the birth of our Saviour. We will have our special Christmas service December 19th beginning at 5 p.m. Briar will be hosting the Youth in Harvest in the month of January. Please continue to pray for the sick of our number. Especially Sis. Juanita May and Bro. Burl. Also very ill is Bro. Jim Trigg as he battles cancer. He began his chemo treatments in October and has been in and

• See NEWS Page 4 •

**The Missouri
Missionary Baptist**

Established by the Baptist Missionary Association of Missouri November 1937

The Missouri Missionary Baptist (USPS 355-500) is published monthly by the BMA of Missouri Publications Committee.

Subscription price is \$10.00 per year

11229 Midland Blvd., St. Louis, MO 63114

Periodical Postage Paid at St. Louis, MO 63155

POSTMASTER: Send address change to:

Missouri Missionary Baptist

11229 Midland Blvd.

St. Louis, MO 63114-1116

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DEADLINE for copy is the FIRST TUESDAY

of the month in which you want it to appear

See the MMB online at bmmissouri.org

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BMA of Missouri Website: www.bmamissouri.org

✝ From Our Workers ✝

From Our Director...

Last Christmas season I did some research on the three wise men or Magi that searched for the Christ child that they may worship Him and present gifts. The visit of these mysterious men from ancient Iraq would cause quite a stir in the small hamlet of Bethlehem. Some scholars feel there may have been more than three and these very important and

powerful men would have traveled with a huge entourage of hundreds. Perhaps the dark silhouettes, that we often see printed during this season, of three lonely men riding camels really doesn't capture this momentous event.

The Bible record tells us that these men had three gifts to give: "... they fell down, and worshipped him: and when they had opened their treasures, they presented unto him gifts; gold, and frankincense, and myrrh." Matthew 2:11. The gifts had a great deal to say about the Christ Child and about

His future ministry. The gold was a fitting gift for a King and the wise men realized that they were standing before royalty, the King of Kings. The frankin-

FINANCIAL REPORT BMA OF MISSOURI MISSIONS • November 2010

| General Fund | | |
|----------------------------|---------------------|---------------------|
| Balance October 31, 2010 | | \$ 20,518.96 |
| November Receipts: | \$ 3,911.73 | <u>3,911.73</u> |
| Total Available | | \$ 24,430.69 |
| Disbursements: | | |
| Director's Salary | \$ 750.00 | |
| BMAA Partnership | 1,500.00 | |
| Director's Expenses | <u>68.59</u> | |
| Total Disbursements | \$ 2,426.48 | <u>\$ 2,426.48</u> |
| Balance November 30, 2010: | | \$ 22,004.21 |
| Certificate of Deposit | \$ 65,879.00 | |
| Certificate of Deposit | \$ 22,794.67 | |
| ING Direct Savings | \$ <u>10,782.48</u> | |
| Total in CD's: | \$ 99,456.15 | |

cense, a wonderful fragrance used for incense points to the priestly and prayerful ministry of Christ. Myrrh was the perfumed resin or sap of a particular tree that was used in ancient times to prepare a body for burial. Of course this gift, given to One so young, prophesied His coming death as an adult for the sins of the world.

As I thought about those wise men's gifts, so symbolic, I realized that they are in a sense Christ's perfect gifts to us as well. Consider how the symbolism of those gifts relate to us:

From The Jones'

Dear Friends,

I am excited to announce to you that we will be getting an associate missionary this January. Justin Williams, along with wife Katie, and their two children, Caleb (6 years old) and Trinity (4 months) will be joining the North Lake team. I can't express how blessed we are to have them, and how excited we are about how God is going to use them. Please pray for this family as they prepare to make the move to

Smithville.

We had a great worship service this past week at the bank. Rebekah taught the children about listening for God to speak to you, out of I Samuel 3. I shared a message from Acts 21 called "Good Advice." There were 31 who attended, and it seemed everyone was blessed through the preaching, music, and fellowship.

We have two "Life Groups" that continue to meet each week on Wednesday and Thursday nights. The adults and children

1. Our lives are always better when we live obediently under the umbrella of the Lordship of Christ, the King of kings.

2. It is a joy to know that we can come boldly before a King who is also our great high priest. How encouraged we can be in this life knowing that Jesus offers intercessory prayers on our behalf.

3. The Bible says that the wages of sin is death... that will never change. But for those of us who believe in the gift of God's Son, Jesus' gift of dying on Calvary's tree became our payment for our sins.

Thanks be unto God for his unspeakable gift. 2 Cor. 9:15

It is Carolyn's and my wish that you and your family will experience the Christ of Christmas in a very special way this season. We thank you for the generous Christmas offering. May God bless our association in the coming new year!

meet on Wednesday, and the teens on Thursday. We see new faces often, and we know that we are ministering to those that need Christ as Savior. Pray that the Word pierces hearts in the days to come so we can share in the harvest.

Will you pray with us?

- 1) For the Williams' family and their move.
- 2) For homes to open to us for more "Life Groups."
- 3) For God to work in the lives of the teens we meet with each week.

Retirement Announced



Dr. Edwin Crank

Dr. Edwin Crank, President of Jacksonville College, informed the Board of Trustees of his plans to retire as president on December 31, 2011 at the May trustee meeting. Dr. Crank became president in June, 1988 after serving as chairman of the Religion Department from August, 1986 to

May 1988. He made his resignation official with a letter to the trustees at the September 26 meeting.

Prior to joining the faculty of Jacksonville College, Crank had served on the faculty of the BMA Theological Seminary and pastor of First Baptist Church, New Summerfield. He had served for a time as Business Manager of the seminary, also.

Dr. Crank received the Associate of Arts degree from Jacksonville College in May, 1956. He received the B.A. degree from Baylor University in May, 1958. He began seminary studies at Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary in the fall of 1958 and received the M.R.E. degree in January, 1961. He did graduate work at East Texas State University (now Texas A&M at Commerce) in the late sixties.

Dr. Crank received his Ed.D. in Adult and Extension Education from Texas A&M, College Station, in 1991 becoming the first president of Jacksonville College to hold a doctoral degree.

Dr. Crank told the trustees that Jacksonville College has been his life for the past 23 years. He said, "I have loved what I have done and am doing as president. The people with whom I have worked, the trustees that have worked with me, the students that have attended, the parents of the students, the pastors, and constituencies of the denomination that have given wonderful support and have made my work pleasant. I have loved it."

The trustees have released a notice to receive applications for the position of president. Dr. Crank asked the trustees to try to have a candidate in place by June, 2011 to provide for a six month transition period. He, however, did offer flexibility in the process.

Dr. Crank emphasized that he is only retiring from the presidency of the college, and will be pursuing other professional opportunities. "Jacksonville is our home. We love East Texas and plan to stay involved in the community in different ways."



The Williams Family
Justin, Katie, Caleb, & Trinity

- 4) The salvation of many.
- 5) The wisdom to share the love of Christ as authentically as possible with a lost world, who needs hope!

Merry Christmas to each of you from all of us! May you have a wonderful New Year too.

Mission

Symposiums

The Baptist Missionary Association of America Department of Missions will hold two regional mission symposiums in 2011.

They will be January 11-12 at Central Baptist Church, Conway, AR and January 18-19 at Keltys First Baptist Church, Lufkin, TX.

Plan to attend one of these and meet our Missions Staff, Missionaries, and their families. Pray for a spirit filled meeting.

• **NEWS From Page 2** •
 out of the hospital. He and Sis. Trigg desire your prayers during this time. Bro. Jim Trigg is Sis. Sue Leonard's dad. May the Lord bless all in the coming of the new year.
 Dennis Leonard, Pastor
 Sue Leonard, Reporter

Bethany, St. Louis, reports that during the past month the Lord has called two dear souls to be with Him; Bro. Jack Lipovsek and Sis. Betty Washam. Bro. Jack had been a faithful member for over 63 years and had served as a deacon. Sis. Betty had been a faithful member for 20 years. Both will be missed greatly, but we look forward to meeting them again. We pray for comfort for their loved ones. We have celebrated Thanksgiving and preparations are underway for the Christmas Cantata and the Children's Program. Our Fall Fellowship early in November was a praise service followed by a hot dog roast. Our Christmas Dinner was held December 5th. The food and fellowship were wonderful. The Helping Each Other group visited the Butterfly House in November and will make a tour of Christmas lights in December. The youth group is making plans to attend the Youth Alive Conference the end of December. We are getting together gifts for deployed military men and women who are connected with our church. The ladies of Bethany will meet December 16th for their monthly meeting and Christmas party.

James Hoffmann, Pastor
 Carol McDonald, Reporter

Antioch, Ellington, sends Christian Greetings to all our Brothers and Sisters in Christ. Thanksgiving with all our big meals has come and gone for another year. How many of us and how many churches really gave thanks to God for our blessings? We all thanked him for the food, but what about all the other blessings? We had good attendance and too much food at Antioch on Sunday after Thanksgiving. We had wonderful fellowship, but I am afraid we didn't thank God as much as

we should have for all our blessings He has given us in the last year. Christmas will be here soon, so let's all remember to thank Him for His Son and all the blessings He has given each of us and for all the blessings He has given our country.
 Doyle Abbey, Pastor
 Minnie Asberry, Reporter

Charity, Bismarck, reports that God has showered us with blessings this month in the midst of grief and pain. Bro. Melvin Meade's only sister, Flossie, had a heart attack and died. She was living in Kansas at the time. A memorial service was held in Omaha, Arkansas, with her three children, two brothers and their families. It blessed our hearts to see friends from Grandview as well as Bro. Dale and Sis. Juanita Blount, Steve and Deitra Gilliam and family there. Bro. Brian Meade was in charge of the service. The Love of God was evident in every word spoken. Bro. Lee Miller had an altar prayer. So many have called or written their condolences. Thank you. The church held a baptism in Big River December 3rd, for Austin King, a great grandson of Bro. Johnny Davis, after a scrumptious lunch at the church. We enjoy the fellowship and studies in the Word in every service at the church. Come visit us anytime.

Lee Miller, Pastor
 Carolyn Meade, Reporter

First, Matthews, sends Christmas Greetings to all. We express our sympathy to Sis. Nan Akins and her family in the loss of her brother, Jock Kelso. Please remember this family in your prayers. Last month, we were delighted to have Bro. Rocky Houston and his family with us again. Bro. Rocky brought the messages for both services one Sunday and we enjoyed hearing him. Sis. Dora Polk is having a weekly Bible study at her house. The ladies are studying the Book of Ruth. We are thankful Sis. Dora invites us into her home and takes the time to prepare a meal each week. God is surely using her. We learn much about the Bible and enjoy time with each other.

The Matthews community will be having a live Nativity scene again this year. Some of our church members will participate in that as choir members or Bible characters. We invite you to come and drive thru Matthews December 17th or 18th with scenes beginning at 6:30 and 7:30 each night. December 7th, the WMA ladies plan to enjoy their annual Christmas dinner at Delmonico's in Jackson. They will reveal their secret pals and find out who has been giving them special treats this year. The youth and some of our adults are practicing for the Christmas play. They will perform the play, "The Best Christmas Pageant Ever," December 19th at 6 p.m. Everyone is welcome. The youth plan to attend the Alive conference in St. Louis. Please pray for the youth and sponsors as they travel and that God will touch their hearts. We wish everyone a Merry Christmas and remember: "Keep Christ in Christmas."

Chris Polk, Pastor
 Kari Hartlein, Reporter

Temple, Belgrade, has welcomed five new members by letter and one by baptism in recent months. Pastor Tom was also instrumental in the salvation of the husband of one of the members. Every service has been a source of encouragement since we welcomed Bro. Tom and Sis. Janice. We are all excited about what lies ahead for us and rejoice in being able to celebrate making the final payment on our parsonage making us debt free. (See Pictures on this page.)
 Tom McCanless, Pastor
 Ron Pierce, Reporter

First, Potosi, sends greetings of the Season of our Lord's Birth so many years ago, and yet He is alive in our hearts today. In November, our church recognized the veterans who served to keep our country free to worship. Veterans present were Wayne Werley, Larry Richards, Tim Middleton, Bob King, John Wilson, David Boyer, Paige Friedrich, Josh Friedrich, Vernon Cooper, James Simpson, Vernon Ma-



Pastor Tom McCanless and Deacon Ron Pierce ceremonially burning the note on the parsonage at Temple.



Some of those who attended the celebration of Temple being debt free.

son, Virgil Todd, Lowell Middleton, Dale Blount, Richard Heeter, Marvin Mercer, Jim Sheppard, Lawrence Dunlap, Gary Coleman, Tom Schutz, Jack Wall, Jack Coleman, Robert Simpson, Marty Boyer and Bill Simpson. There were fifteen ladies who drove to Ellington for the Tea and to hear Sis. Cindy Winters talk of the message of love and grace while serving under dire pressures of death. Anna Belle's SS class served a spaghetti supper Wednesday evening. We raised enough money to give 35 Christmas baskets through the Angel food program. A tree with names of bus children for members to take a name and buy a gift to send with their baskets. The Naomi and Ruth group went caroling and then had an

ornament exchange after warming up. In January we are planing a MINISTRY FAIR. The church celebrated the Lord's Supper this month. We celebrated the newborns: Colton David Heeter, Nov 14, Ada Nouwen Malloy, Nov. 21 and Isabella Noel Friedrich, Nov. 29. A baby dedication service was held this month for Tanner Tillman Clapp, Gideon Josiah Haguewood, Brenda Suzanne Yount, Jayda Ellen Rice and Zachary Austin Johnson. We welcome new members Daniel and Lanita Burgess into our fellowship by letter. You are welcome to attend our "Tell Me The Story of Jesus" Christmas celebration Dec. 19 at 6 p.m.
 Jamie Haguewood, pastor
 Beverly Simpson, reporter

Please join us for our
50th Anniversary
Zion Missionary Baptist Church
3485 New Baumgartner Rd
February 12, 2011 • 2:00 p.m.
A time of Worship and Celebration
Reception to follow
 The Missouri Fellowship Choir will perform, we are asking that all former members or in-active choir members join us to sing "Old Time Favorite" hymns.

Hope Survives Dark Days

Charles Reddin,
DiscipleGuide Adult Editor

Winter adult Sunday School curriculum from DiscipleGuide Church Resources will continue a one-year survey of the Bible begun in the fall, and it will offer churches an option not available from DiscipleGuide previously.

The overall title of the year of survey is "God's Library of Hope," based on Romans 15:4, which affirms that God inspired the Bible *"that we through patience and comfort of the scriptures might have hope."*

The four quarters find this hope in Jesus the Savior in four phases: "Hope Takes Shape" in early Old Testament times, "Hope Survives Dark Days" in the remainder of the Old Testament, "Hope Embraces the Savior" in the times of Jesus and the early years of the church, and "Hope Endures to the End" in later New Testament writings.

The winter unit ("Hope Survives Dark Days") traces God's work in preparing for Jesus' first coming even as the kingdom of Israel divides, the northern kingdom collapses, the southern kingdom struggles through alternate periods of revival and backsliding, the Jews go into Babylonian captivity, and they return to the homeland but stumble along under Persian domination. The lessons emphasize that the God Who kept the hope of the Savior alive under such adverse conditions can fill the lives of His people today with hope, no matter how dark their days.

The new option available to adult classes beginning in the winter gives them the choice of surveying the Bible in the King James Version (KJV), as in the past, or in the New International Version (NIV). The long-established adult student quarterly, the Compass, will continue to be based entirely on the KJV. The newer publication for young adults, the Compass Point, will

DiscipleGuide Provides Undated Bible Studies

By Bobby Hudgens, Research and Development Officer

DiscipleGuide has seen a trend in recent years toward Bible study resources that are undated. The major benefit, of course, is that they can easily be used in classes and small groups on Sunday evenings or other times during the week. We have responded to this need by making available a variety of undated resources. Our undated studies fall into two categories - undated books and undated downloads.

Undated Books

Compass Point is geared to young adults from college age upward and provides an interactive format of Bible study. It is marketed quarterly as a companion to other adult Sunday School literature. After the quarter ends the remaining copies of Compass Point become a part of the Compass Point Collection where they will be available for future purchase and use at other times. The Christian Living Series is primarily a topical series that is similar to the Sunday School quarterly. Each is a set of thirteen studies. Compass Point Collection and Christian Living Series are printed and bound books.

Undated Downloads

The advantage to downloadable resources is that they are formatted specifically for download, avoiding the costs related to

Moral Action an Agency of the BMA of America

Dr. John M. Adams, Executive Director
P.O. Box 305 • Mantachie, MS 38855
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Email: fbcjdmaj@yahoo.com • Web: www.fbcmantachie.net

Dear BMA Family,

Mrs. Adams and I wish each reader a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year 2011. We count it an honor to work with and for you in the cause of Christ.

Your support and prayers have encouraged us to do more for Him and His Kingdom. The year 2010 has seen many changes in our national and state governments. Some have been good and others not so good.

Our desire for 2011 is to make Moral Action a stronger influence, as we join thousands of other Christians who are working to make a better America.

Dr. John and Darla Adams

contain Scripture quotations from the NIV. The Compass Teacher will continue to use the KJV as its Scripture source, but teachers of classes that use another version can make adaptations as needed.

DiscipleGuide also offers options of Bible versions for children's student books. To assist churches in choosing their preference, the order blank designates "KJV" and "NIV" student books. Search (for students in grades 7-9) and Quest (for students in grades 10-12) do not have such a designation because they direct students to find the Scripture content in their own Bibles.

printing and shipping. This allows us to offer them at a much lower cost. You select a lesson or series of lessons, purchase and download one copy, and make photocopies for your class or small group. DiscipleGuide grants permission for these copies.

Compass Point Downloads are past Compass Point studies of 12-14 sessions that have been reformatted for download. They are based on the New International Version of the Bible.

Connect Small Group Resources are Bible studies designed for use in small groups. These meaty undated studies are grouped in four to six related topics that are relevant to the needs of small group participants. Student discussion notes and leader notes are sup-

Applications Requested For Position of President of Jacksonville Baptist College

The board of trustees for Jacksonville College is seeking applicants for the position of president.

Successful applicants will meet the following qualifications:

- Ph.D. or Ed.D. in higher education, education, or related field from a regionally accredited university.
- Record of successful demonstration of educational administrative skills in the areas of finance, budget, development, strategic planning, educational and facilities, and in educational accreditation.
- Exceptional personal qualities including integrity, honest, empathy, enthusiasm, creativity and flexibility.
- Ability to formulate and articulate a vision and positive directions for the college's future.
- Knowledge of and commitment to the Jacksonville College mission.
- Knowledge of and commitment to the churches of the Texas Baptist Missionary Association.

Responsibilities will include effective educational leadership, administrative management, public relations, board relations, fund raising, budget management, and administration of traditional and non-tradition academic programs. Additional responsibilities may ensue as the academic programs of the college grow and develop.

Salary and Benefits: Salary is competitive and commensurate with experience and other qualifications.

Date Position is Available: January 2011 or earlier as deemed appropriate.

Procedure for Application or Nomination: Applications will be reviewed in the order received and will continue until December 31, 2010, or until the position is filled. In accordance with applicable provisions of federal law, applicants for employment who are in agreement with the educational mission of Jacksonville College are considered without discrimination on the basis of race, age, sex, handicapping condition, national origin or genetic information. Applications are required and are available from the office of president, Jacksonville College. Send completed application, a current curriculum vita, and unofficial transcript(s) to:

Board of Trustees
Jacksonville College
105 B.J. Albritton Drive
Jacksonville, TX 75766
Phone: (903) 586-2518

plied for each session.

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*The Greatest Gift
is from Above --
It's God's Gift of
Love...*



WMA & GMA NEWS

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

Shelia Polk
P.O. Box 259
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

A Special Note of Thanks

To the ladies of the national, state, district, and local WMA'S:

Thank you so much for all the prayers, cards, phone calls, and encouragement during my illness. It was so comforting to know that so many were approaching God's throne in my behalf. Praise Him for His healing.

Serving Him Joyfully,
Vi Maclin

Attention: Missouri WMA

Be Glad To Do The Things We've Heard

Just a reminder to support our project for this year:

- 10% Youth Fund
- 20% General Fund
- 30% Smithville Mission
- 40% Missouri Missionary Baptist Paper

The goal for each WMA group is \$200 and the deadline to have your offering in is February 1, 2011.

Send your project money to:

Cathy Fox
2142 Sunset
Poplar Bluff, MO 63901

Project committee:

Carolyn Edwards, Juanita May, Connie Reifsteck

A Special Request

For A Special Ministry

Dear Editor,

I am writing this letter in regards to the wonderful ministry of Bro. Travis Plumlee. As you know, Bro. Plumlee has devoted his life to helping our churches by healing our families. He travels well over 55,000 miles a year speaking at conferences, revivals and youth camps. Through his ministry hundreds of relationships have been transformed and thousands have come to know Christ. Bro. Plumlee does not charge a minimum fee for coming to our churches and sharing his expertise and Biblical wisdom. He simply does this out of his love and dedication for the Lord and the families of our churches. Bro Plumlee depends totally upon the Lord and His churches to provide his needs. His entire income consists of love offerings and CD sales.

Bro. Plumlee recently conducted a marriage conference at our church. At my request, he shared some of his ministry needs with a few of our church leaders. One of his greatest needs at this time involves transportation. Since he travels so many miles a year, he must have a dependable vehicle. Due to the recent economic downturn, his love offerings have fallen off drastically. However, the miles have continued to accumulate on his car. Due to the mountainous area of his home, he really needs a four-wheel drive vehicle, especially in the winter months. There were a couple of

Family Ark Ministries

Travis Plumlee, Director

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

Email: kingofthemountain@mvtel.net

WebSite: travisplumlee.com

Rededicate Your Life in 2011

In many revivals and summer camps people come forward and rededicate themselves. This means that the person is sure of their personal salvation in Jesus Christ but, they have turned away from their walk with the Lord on a daily basis and living a life that is pleasing to Him. So, they make a commitment to change the course of their life in thought and action for the glory of the Lord.

This would be a great New Year's goal for 2011 for many people. This article is not for everyone. Some of you are saved and living for the Lord. Your goal this year is to grow and live more for Him. To find ways to serve him even in a greater capacity than ever before. So, all of us Christians have room to improve. We should never become so prideful that we think there is no room for change, growth or improvement.

Having said all of this, let me refocus on the heart of this article. **You and your relationship with Christ.** Do you need to rededicate yourself to Him? This means that you have the assurance in your heart that you are truly saved. If you have doubts, talk to a pastor or mature Christian about what the Bible says of salvation. You should know all the way to the core of your heart that you have believed Jesus Christ is the Son of God and has been raised from the dead into heaven. That Christ alone has paid for the sins of all the world. Romans 5:8 That all people are sinners. Romans 3:23. The only way for you to have a relationship with a perfect holy God is to ask Jesus to save you from your sins. Accept the gift of grace and forgiveness. You can't work for it. You simply believe in it, and respond to it. Romans 10:9. If you are truly saved, then perhaps you need to get back walking with the Lord on a daily basis.

You have slowly drifted away. It usually is a slow drift so that you don't recognize how far you have drifted from the love of your life. You don't pray like you should. You don't study the Word like you should. You don't go to church like you should. It seems that there are many things in your spiritual walk right now that you don't do, but you know you should. You actually desire to be closer to God. You have an inner longing for His mercy and love and peace and joy to come over you.

You very well may be locked into a lifestyle that is not pleasing to God. No, you are not the worst person in the world. There are many others that do worse. But our relationship with Christ is never about comparing ourselves to others. It is not based upon man's standards, but God's. You come to God on His terms, or you don't come at all. We don't set the standard. He does. The standard of truth is the Bible. II Timothy 3:16. It is not "A" standard of truth, but it is "THE" standard of truth whereby we might all know how to live our lives so that we give God glory and honor. That is why we were all created. Revelation 4:11.

Make this a year that turns your life around forever. Draw closer to God and He promises to draw close to you. James 4:8. You need to repent of your wicked ways. Oh everyone sins. Don't act like you having nothing to repent of. Maybe God has

occasions last year when he could not return home from a conference due to the road conditions near his home. This, of course, required even more expense to stay in a motel for the extra days.

In response to this need, some of us in the churches that have

benefited from Bro. Plumlee's ministry are seeking to raise enough money to purchase a truck suitable for his ministry. Since this truck will be used in his ministry travels, a \$3,000 hunting truck will not do. Our goal is to raise enough money to purchase a new four-door,

allowed you to be miserable to the point of breaking you so that you will turn to Him. Don't be surprised by who is allowing this trouble. If a Christian is living wrong, God will discipline His children whom he loves. Hebrews 12:5-8. Name sins specifically in prayer to God. It is easy to ask God to forgive you of your sins. It is much harder to pray and ask God to forgive you of... and you name each specific sin. But you must do this. He knows your heart also. You must truly desire to be free of this lifestyle. Confess your sins and repent. It is going to be hard. But we are commanded to love God first and foremost. I John 2:15-17. Matthew 22:37-40. You may say, but I can't do this on my own. Good. You are exactly right. This is the starting point. You must admit to God that you are not capable of doing it alone and rely on Him. Humbling yourself is the first step. James 4:6

Here is the good news on this rededication of your life course. If you need strength to overcome this, Jesus will give it to you. Philippians 4:13. If you need wisdom to know what to do about certain parts of your life, God will give it to you. James 1:5. If you have setbacks and fall again, just keep getting back up. Romans 8:37. Eventually, while we won't be perfect, we will be victorious!!

Finally, remember that God wants you back. He loves you more than you love yourself. He loves you unconditionally, regardless of what you have done. Romans 8:38,39. Even though you have slipped away from Jesus, He has never slipped away from you. Hebrews 13:5. Call upon the Lord. Jeremiah 33:3. Jesus is waiting on you. Rededicate your life right now to Christ and have a blessed 2011!

four-wheel-drive truck before the winter weather sets in. This will also allow him to get out from under his current smothering car payments on his high-mileage car. We have currently located a dealer who can provide such a truck for approximately
• See **TRUCK** on Page 8 •

Meramec Banner

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

Attention Meramec Association

It has been about two years since we have started this page as part of the Missouri Missionary Baptist and it has been a good experience as far as this editor is concerned.

It was understood that this page would contain items of interest to the Meramec Association Churches in particular. When I do not have articles from your churches I have to put other items to complete the page some of which might not be of concern to you.

With the involvement of many churches in both the Meramec Association and the BMA of Missouri I have placed the "Church News" articles together in each issue.

It was understood that this page would contain your mission news (financial and director's report), other announcements, meeting reports, and articles submitted by churches or individuals in the Meramec Association.

I am encouraging you to submit articles that would help make this an informational and inspirational page for your association. Please contact me if you have any questions or ideas that would help improve "your page."

Your cooperation and support is appreciated as I look forward to making this a useful publication for all who are concerned.

The Greatest Gift

You ask what I'm wanting for Christmas,
What gift I would like to acquire
A gift that would thrill my whole being
And satisfy every desire.
Well, just such a Gift has already
Been given - and it is my own;
For no greater gift could be given
And no greater love could be shown
Than when God the Father gave Jesus,
His only, His well-Beloved Son,
To suffer in my place on Calvary,
To pay for the sins I had done.

O Gift over all gifts transcending!
O Gift dear and precious, divine!
Unspeakable Gift God has given
To all who believe - and He's mine!
And since this great Gift I've accepted,
To me God has given, beside,
A life never ending, eternal;
A promise with Him to abide.

He gives sweetest peace 'mid life's conflict,
In days filled with peril and fear;
Gives joy day by day in His service;
In sorrow gives comfort and cheer.
His presence is with me each moment,
He satisfies full my needs;
Gives grace for each test; bears my burdens,
And gently my footsteps He leads.
What gift could I ask, then, beside Him?
Could man such a gift e'er afford?
Oh no! God in mercy has given
The greatest Gift - Jesus, my Lord!

Georgia Knick Home

Winter

As the snow falls gently against my window I give thanks, O Divine Spirit, for the cycle of the seasons and for the ever changing beauty of the universe. A mantle of purity is spread over the drab earth, and the evergreens bow humble in their vestments of white. The noises of men cease; a new stillness envelops the world, and Thy voice speaks to me through the elements.

Surely the Power that can create a billion snowflakes, in numberless variety and of perfect symmetrical form, to sparkle for a moment in the sunlight and then vanish, is also mindful of me and the length of my days.

As I look upon this beauty, I think of Thee as the source from which it all comes, and I am drawn closer to Thee. Give me faith to believe that the order which sustains the ever varying pageantry of nature will also uphold me. Lord of Life, make me quiet long enough to hear Thee speak above the murmur of my desires, the clamor of much speaking, and the confusions of mankind. Breathe into my life the peace and purity of the snow. Amen.

Robert Merrill Bartlett

Christmas In The Old Testament

To Adam it was revealed that Christ (The Seed) would be born of a woman, and that it would be a virgin birth (Genesis 3:15). Isaiah repeated this centuries later (Isaiah 7:14).

To Abraham God revealed the nation through which Christ would come...the nation of Israel (Genesis 12:3).

To Jacob was told Messiah would come through the tribe of Judah (Genesis 49:10).

God told David through his family the Savior would be born (II Samuel 7:12-14).

Daniel was told the exact

Meramec Landmark Baptist Association Financial Report • November 2010

| | | |
|--------------------------------------|-----------------|-------------------|
| Balance October 31, 2010 | \$ | 5,528.23 |
| Total Receipts: | \$ | <u>3,510.00</u> |
| Total Available | \$ | 9,038.23 |
| Disbursements: | | |
| Director's Salary | 1,100.00 | |
| Brotherhood Mutual | 493.33 | |
| Jamie Jones Partnership | 500.00 | |
| Bank Charges | 2.00 | |
| Director's Expenses | 112.67 | |
| Ted Hurley Love Offering | 300.00 | |
| Meramec Youth Event | <u>1,000.00</u> | |
| Total Disbursements: | \$ | 3,508.00 |
| | \$ | <u>(3,508.00)</u> |
| Checking Balance, November 30, 2010: | \$ | 5,530.23 |

Revolving Loan Fund Balance

As approved by the Association, a \$90,000 Loan Payment was made to the Farmers and Merchant Bank for the Meramec Retreat Center.

December 1, 2010.....\$28,725.41

From Our Director...

The Jones Family continues to make progress at Smithville. A new missionary associate, Justin Williams, and his family will have moved on the field by the end of December. I know that he and his wife, Katie will be a big help to them as they continue to reach out to the people of Smithville.

Our hearts were saddened at the death of Pastor Ted Hurley's dear wife, Jennifer. Her funeral at First Baptist Church, Bourbon was well attended and there were many testimonies given concerning her faithful life and how she was a hard working ministry partner to Bro. Hurley. Let us continue to hold this pastor, his family, and this church up in prayer.

We have reduced the debt on the Meramec Retreat Center to less than \$88,000 with funds from our Revolving Loan Fund. I hope that your church will accept the challenge to pay off the remainder of the balance within the next two years. Remember, each church giving \$153 dollars per month for the next two years will eliminate the debt entirely.

Carolyn and I thank you for the wonderful Christmas gift and we extend to you our warmest greetings for a wonderful Christmas season and a new year!

New Year's Wishes

What shall I wish thee? Treasures of earth?
Songs in the springtime, pleasure and mirth?
Flowers on thy pathway, skies ever clear?
Would this insure thee a happy new year?

What shall I wish thee? What can be found?
Bringing thee sunshine all the year round?
Where is the treasure, lasting and dear,
That shall insure thee a happy new year?

Faith that increaseth, walking in light,
Hope that aboundeth happy and bright.
Love that is perfect, casting out fear,
These will insure thee a happy new year!

Peace in the Saviour, rest at His feet,
Smile on His countenance, radiant and sweet,
Joy in His presence, Christ ever near,
These will insure thee a Happy New Year!!

Unknown

time of His coming (Daniel 9:25).

Micah was given the place of His birth (Micah 5:2). If Christ had not come, centuries of prophetic expectation would not have been fulfilled. Christ's coming to Bethlehem is also proof the Bible is the Word of God.

BMA Theological Seminary

Charley Holmes, D.Min., President
1530 East Pine St. • Jacksonville, TX 75766
Phone 903-586-2501 • FAX 903-586-0378 • Email bmatsem@fash.net
Visit our Web Site: <http://www.bmatsem.edu>

To The Churches of the BMA of Missouri

Thank you for the recent generous gift of \$720. Your gift to the seminary for the International Student Scholarship Fund is truly an investment in the future of missions.

I want to thank you for supporting international students who have left home, family and familiar surroundings to better equip themselves with tools to take back to the people of their homeland who are so desperately in need of the gospel message.

You financial support is greatly appreciated; however, your prayers are a necessity for the survival of BMA Seminary. Especially at this point in time, please pray for us as we are engaged in the reaffirmation of accreditation process with both Association of Theological Schools (TS) and Southern Association of Colleges and Schools (SACS). We want our students to graduate with the best tools for their ministries, as well as the highest accreditation standards available.

May God bless you for your faithful support of His work!
Sincerely,
Charley Holmes

Official Press Release From BMA Seminary Regarding Michel Luzare Lous

Michael Lazare Loua and his family moved to Jacksonville, Texas from Dallas in 2006 to attend BMA Seminary. He earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in 2008 and a Master of Arts in Christian Education degree in 2009. Michel was hoping to return to Guinea to establish a school and outreach ministry to this predominantly Muslim nation. Michel was the first person from Guinea to receive a Masters degree.

Michel had made previous trips to work on a house for his family and make preparations for a school. Several churches had helped him with this project. He was trying to raise funds to take his family back to Guinea. According to sources, he apparently became involved in the political problems in Guinea, which led to his imprisonment and execution.

There are many reports floating around on the internet about Michel Loua's death; however, the true details surrounding his death may never be known.

Mrs. Loua received news of her husband's death on Monday, November 15. According to Mrs. Loua, his body is being held in the capital until the riots and violence, due to the recent election, subsides. Family members in Guinea plan to take his body back to his home for burial.

At this time it is not feasible for Elisabeth and her family to go home, due to the impending birth of a child and safety issues which now exist because of the volatile climate of the country. Michel and Elisabeth had three children, one boy and two girls, in addition to the child soon to be born.

The seminary has a benevolence fund for students and their families who have unexpected emergencies. Individuals and churches can send funds to the Seminary designated for the Loua family. Gifts should be sent to Dr. Holmes' attention, made out to the BMA Seminary Benevolence Fund. You may write a note to include in the letter that the gift is designated for the Loua Family. Dr. Holmes will make sure the funds get to Elisabeth and her family.

Mail contributions to: BMA THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY
Attention: Dr. Charley Holmes
P.O. Box 670
Jacksonville, TX 75766-0670

Mississippi Director of Missions and Revolving Loan Fund Resigns

Dr. Rayburn Freeman, the Director of Missions and Revolving Loan Fund of Mississippi, submitted his resignation, effective March 1, 2011.

Bro. Freeman will have given over 16 years of faithful service together with his loving wife Faye Freeman.

Bro. and Mrs. Freeman served in a pastoral capacity in Mississippi, and then served 18 years as BMA of America Missionary to the Philippines before returning to work in Mississippi. They raised three boys, Ted, David, and Sam while missionaries in the Philippines.

Resumes for the position of Director of Missions and Revolving Loan Fund may be submitted to:

Director Search Committee
% Harold Floyd
19 Pat Holifield Road
Laurel, MS 39443

• **TRUCK From Page 6** •
mately \$30,000.

As a friend and fellow laborer of Bro. Plumlee, would you or your church be willing to give a love offering to help provide him with a brand new truck with no payments? You may send this to the "Family Ark Ministries Truck Fund" of Brister Baptist Church. In order to purchase the truck in a timely manner, we really need your offering as soon as possible. However any offerings in the future will definitely be applied to the truck expense! Detailed records will be kept and Bro. Plumlee will get a list of all who have donated to provide this truck. If you have any questions, please contact me. Thank you for your friendship and support of Bro. Travis Plumlee.

Sincerely,
Eric Goble, Pastor,
Brister Baptist Church
3711 Hwy 79 South
Emerson, AR 71740
870-547-2411
goblejuly13@hotmail.com

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.

Chris Beshea, a member of First Baptist Church, Springhill, LA is available for preaching appointments as the Lord leads. His contact information is 720 10th Street N.W., Springhill, LA 71075. His cell phone number is (318) 218-5965. -11-

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. -10-

James Mills recently resigned as pastor of Highway Baptist Church in Judsonia, Arkansas, where he had served for the past 11 1/2 years. He is available for pulpit supply, revivals, or pastoring as the Lord leads. Contact him by phone: 501-281-1246 or by email: jamesmills@indco.net. -10-

Perrin W. Seay is available for all preaching appointments including pastor, interim pastor, revivals or filling the pulpit for the pastor. He can be reached at 314-402-0906 or 314-631-4040 or by email at papaseay@yahoo.com. -12-

Churches Seeking Pastors

Eastgate Missionary Baptist Church is seeking a bi-vocational pastor. The church is located in Walla Walla, Washington. They have a parsonage that is rent free.

Brad Faulk a missionary to the Northwest is located 40 miles West from Walla Walla in Pasco, WA. This area is in desperate need of the gospel. Chris Winkler is the interim pastor and plans to be at Eastgate for a year to continue serving in ministries in this church.

Churches and ministers, if you know of a minister that is called to serve the Great Northwest and in Walla Walla, Washington, please call Chris Winkler at 253-509-8139.

If interested in visiting Walla Walla or want to come, write a letter and send an audio/video of your sermon to the address of Chris Winkler, 7630 S. Yakima Ave., Tacoma, WA 98408.

Temple Baptist Church in Little Rock, Arkansas, is looking for a Pastor. You may submit a resume directly to the search committee at tbcpastorsearch@yahoo.com. You may also contact the church office at (501) 565-4966.

50th Wedding Anniversary

Bro. Worthy and Sis. Wanda Shank will celebrate their 50th wedding anniversary, January 3, 2011. Married in Orange, TX in 1961, they have four adult children, Christy Lanier, LA; Janeen Macon, T; Steve Shank, TX; Jewel Shank, MO. Bro. Shank has pastored churches in Texas, Oklahoma [3] and Louisiana [2]. He is currently pastor at Katie Missionary Baptist Church, Elmore City, OK. He also served as a state missionary in Missouri for a few years. Upon retirement



Bro. Worthy & Sis Wanda from secular employment, Worthy and Wanda moved to Fox, Ok where they spend time gardening and remodeling their retirement home. A reception will be hosted by their daughter and son-in-law, Marlin and Janeen Macon, Tuesday, December 28, 2010, from 2:00 to 5:00 p.m.