

West FLORIDA BAPTIST News

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Volume XXVIII March/April 2019 Number 5

FROM THE PRESIDENT



Dr. H. H. Strickland

The spring 2019 semester is moving along. It is hard to believe that we have only four weeks remaining.

In some ways it has been a most unusual semester. All of us have been heavily involved in trying to get all the building preliminaries done so that the process can move forward. The biggest hold up has been with the site work. We have all the necessary plans and some permits, but the bids on the site work have been extreme. However, we continue to meet with contractors in an effort to get the work done.

The present goal for the building is to get the unit erected. Once this has been done, then we will concentrate on getting help in completing the interior. This is where we are going to really need the

help of many. Several have offered to help us once the building is erected.

We have experienced a tremendous amount of sickness between the student and faculty this semester, but the classes continue to progress.

The Founders Day Celebration was a great success. The attendance was good, the fellowship was great and the preaching was outstanding. When I hear one of the graduates of WFBI present the word of God in the manner in which it was, on this occasion, it makes us all very proud of them, the Lord and what we are accomplishing through this ministry. The offering was over \$900.00. Coupled with what had already been given, the offering stands at \$2300.00. I anticipate more money coming in within the next couple of weeks.

Graduation is not very far off and we are already making our plans for this great day. The guest speaker will be Pastor David Gregg, and the services will be held at the Bethel Baptist Church in Pensacola. The total list of graduates has

not been completed but we know that there are several that are inline to complete their studies.

We all at the school, would like to give a special invitation to everyone to come and be a part of our graduation celebration. It will be held on Friday evening, May 3, 2019. The services begin at 7:00pm and a meal will be served following the services. We want to make a special invitation to everyone to come and be part of this great service. Each year we have had a great spiritual service and I anticipate the same this year.

My plans are already being made for the summer months. As usual, the wife and I will continually be on the road. We are scheduled to be in Norman OK the first week in April and then on to Tennessee State meeting on that Friday and Saturday. Please pray for us to have safe travel and always have great meetings.

Thank you so much for your continued prayers and offerings. May the Lord bless you all is my prayer.

GRADUATION 2019
MAY 3, 2019 - 7:00 PM
BETHEL BAPTIST CHURCH PENSACOLA, FLORIDA
Guest Speaker: Pastor David Gregg

From a
Woman's Point
 of View



By: Loretta Pritchett
lorettapritchett@yahoo.com

I have written about the gifts of love that Bro. Lee and I received over the many years we served the Lord before.

Along the way as I wrote before, we received many items from many different people in the churches we were privileged to serve.

I recall the first gift was from a man named Cecil who being on a restricted income, placed a dime in an envelope and addressed it to Bro. Lee with a note. The note explained that he was limited on money at this time, and this was all he had to give. What a gift of love coming from such a humble man.

Other items we received included such things as quilts, souvenirs from the state, plaques, and such items of food we both loved. All of these gifts were given out of love for our being there and serving the Lord. We never even thought about turning down any gift that we were given.

However, the biggest gift we received was the Gift God gave us by sending His only Begotten Son to die on the cross for our sins. If we accepted this gift by accepting Christ as our Savior, we would live forever in Heaven with Christ.

What a wonderful blessing we experienced each time Easter came and our Lord and

Savior arose from the dead. This Easter please thank the Lord for His wonderful Gift of Love.

Happy Easter!

**Philosophy of
 Religion**

Does Psychology threaten religion?: I was never able to really understand the conflict between psychology until I began to research and teach counseling in one of our classes. One particular book was really difficult to teach and keep the interest of the students. However, for those who were really interested, it was a challenge. In the first half of the text it taught the genealogy on counseling. Now I understand why so many modern psychologists have little respect for religion or those who attempt to study the effect that it has on people.

The one thing that was apparent was that the position that is taken in modern psychology was not the position that was held sixty or seventy years. This is especially true when it came to pastoral counseling or pastoral psychology. In the beginning, most people accept the fact that when there was a problem of life, they went to the one who was to know the answer as to how to solve the problem. As years went by, more and more people became involved and the movement away from pastoral counseling was very evident.

The events, which followed those early years, set the stage for the omission of, or the denial of most pastoral positions in this field. Organizations were formed to establish laws and procedures that were designed to eliminate the position of pastoral counseling. At first the position of a pastoral counselor was accepted as normal and that it filled a great need.

As the more and more unbelievers became into the picture, the more the pastoral counselor was omitted. The regulations that followed were designed to eliminate this position as well as the need for pastoral counseling. It was never a matter of need or qualifi-

cations, but rather it was determined that these men were simply not qualified to fill such a position much less give supportive answers.

In those earlier years, virtually all black ministers were excluded from the process. It was not until the turn of the century that ways were found to include these men in the process. The rules which were established, in which eliminated most pastors, due to the public educational requirements. Few, if any, religious schools were recognized as legitimate educational institutions. Thus, the men who attended these schools and earned their respective degrees were never recognized as legitimate counselors and were excluded from the authorizing bodies. Therefore, they were not permitted to receive a license to operate.

The conflict between psychology and religion was never a major situation. It was not until later that unbelievers made it a conflict. The matter was never about how much help can be given by individuals, regardless of the studies, it was always about the psychology of doctrine. The unbeliever took the position that religion played no part in the psychology of man. Therefore, man must rely on the psychology of science in order to acquire the help needed.

This quote may go far to explain the matter or give insight to the psychology. "Both psychology and theology attempt to explain the world for purpose of security and control. Each is motivated by the desire to bring some order out of the basic chaos. If one wishes to raise doubts about the religious ordering, he could do so as well with the psychological ordering. In neither case, would he be casting doubts on the empirical consequences which either discipline may claim. There is, after all, ample evidence that the accounts of theologians may threaten the accounts of psychologist, and vice versa."

It only has to be noted that the implications that both teaching may be right and both may be wrong. If creation of the world is not a matter if this or that. It is a matter of truth verse error. When there is a total rejection of a Divine mover. Creator, then it does give rise to the evolution of things. However, when the account of creation is accepted as truth, as given in the Bible, there is no other explanation to be accepted.



David Gonnella, Th.

Do You Really Want to be Sitting On That Pile When Jesus Returns?

How is the building project going? That is a bit of a sore question right now. As with many building programs, it has become more complicated and more expensive than we had anticipated.

The complications can be quite aggravating. All the permits needed are just part of the story. Getting officials who issue the permits in a timely manner is like herding cats.

Cost is another factor. Let's just take one item – the site preparation. The land we purchased is about a half-acre. It is almost perfectly flat and has few trees. Yet the first bid to prepare the site for building was a quarter of a million dollars! As of this date, we have received a low bid of \$105,000.00. If you know someone who would do it for less we would love to hear from them.

Exacerbating the cost factor is the fact that our fund raising efforts have fallen far short of goals. We are grateful for every penny that has been donated to our building program, but the fact remains that unless we receive a large sum in days to come, we will not only have to borrow, but we will have to borrow an amount beyond our ability to repay. In essence, we will be unable to build.

This threatens the very existence of our seminary. We cannot continue long in the building we currently occupy. It is in danger of collapse in the near future.

There is one source of money that could make a great difference. However, it involves touching one of the “sacred cows” of some churches.

We have, within our ABA, a good number of small churches - churches that occupy less than 20% of their seating capacity. Yet many of these same churches have building funds totaling tens of thousands, and sometimes over a hundred thousand dollars. These are churches that are not growing, and so will not be in a building program for a long time, if ever. The money just sits unused, decade after decade.

If this describes your church, would you please pray about giving a large part of your building fund to *WFBI*, so we can build a facility that will allow us to train pastors, missionaries, and church workers? Your investment will make a great difference, and yield great dividends in eternity. And consider this: We might be training your next pastor.

Consider this also: Do you really want to be sitting on a big pile of unused money when Jesus returns? Or do you want to put that money to use in the service of Jesus Christ? You have it – we need it. Will you help?

SPECIAL INVITATION

Greenwood Missionary Baptist Church, 11228 Hwy. 38, Ward, AR 72176, in the Butlerville community, invites you to join us as we celebrate 160 years in God's service as an organized church on Saturday, June 8th, beginning at 11:00 a.m. Former pastor, Bro. Dwight West, currently the pastor of Florence Street Missionary Baptist Church, Broken Arrow, OK, will bring a message from God's Word.

Lunch will be served at noon. The afternoon service will feature a musical presentation by The Mattingly Family.

Contact information: Pastor Ron Fears, 501.206-6574, ronfears24@gmail.com

(or) Ronnie Johnson, 501.882-3719, ronja@att.net



Glen Davenport, Th.D.

YOUR SIN WILL FIND YOU OUT?

TEXT: Num 32:23

But if ye will not do so, behold, ye have sinned against the LORD: and be sure your sin will find you out.

INTRODUCTION:

I don't want to be political in my sermon; now or anytime, but I have had this on my mind ever since I listened to a man fight for his character and place on the Supreme Court of the United States.

I am not a judge in any respect of the word. I cannot assess guilt or innocence but I can listen and learn.

Judge Bret Kevenaugh is considered by many to be a top notch person, a perfect candidate for the office of a Chief Justice, but he has been tagged with a great sin: sexual assault.

From what I understand, he had a serious drinking problem during his teenage years; even before he was old enough to have a driver's license.

Though he claims to be able to control it, he still likes and drinks beer.

How was he to know his drinking would be his downfall?

Though he is extremely intelligent and has held some high ranking jobs, he may miss the most prestigious jobs of all.

More than thirty years have passed since the incident or the occasion for the crime for which he is being investigated. One would think time would heal or cover such deeds but, if the allegations prove to be true, then we will see; time does not erase sins nor heal the grief.

Regardless of how the investigation turns out, his life is marked forever.

I was stricken by his appeal. I heard him say he played football. He played basketball. He studied hard. He worked with the priests in church. He did lots of volunteer services. Yes, he must be a great man in many ways but he never gave up his beer.

His plea for acceptance was long, intense and emotional; even pitiful at times, but, so far, the allegation is dragging him down.

I got a lot of thought provoking ideas out of his testimony; thoughts I want to compare to spiritual things.

I. Things Careless living Can Do

A. While one lives out his life, taking no thought of tomorrow, Satan takes notes and, in the most inopportune time, he releases his most embarrassing notes.

1. Things once thought to be hidden or lost in time, can be brought out for public scrutiny.

2. Things once thought to be inconsequential, can become the most important issues of the day.

B. A thoughtless moment can spoil a lifetime of good deeds. Denial and explanations won't change the thought the devil has on their mind.

1. The devil is the accuser.
2. He is the destroyer.
3. He drives good people toward suicide.

II. All The Good One May Have Done Will Not Matter.

A. One will toot his own horn but nobody listens or cares.

The man in the introduction bragged -

1. I played basketball. I played football.
2. I went to school and made good grades.
3. I went to church and worked charities for the downcast.
4. I have practice law and worked in high places.

B. The sight played out in the public square and may resemble a scene in God's judgment hall.

1. A plea for mercy may not be heard.
2. The recital of good deeds may pass without reward.
3. No admission of guilt came forth.
4. One stood before the tribunal with nothing more than his own merits.
5. Supporters shouted out with words of support but one sinner cannot justify another sinner.

III. Judgment Day Is Coming.

- A. The Accuser will have his day;
- B. An innocent plea will not be accepted.
- C. A long list of 'good deed' will make no impression of the Judge.
- D. A plea for mercy will be too late.
- E. On the spot confessions will be too late
- F. Friends and finances won't matter.
- G. The Judge will not be in a 'forgiving' mood.
- F. Eternity sentence is moments away.

IV. What Can One Do?

- A. Accept the fact: you are a sinner in need of a Savior.
- B. Believe your Christian witness.
 1. The Scriptures are true.
 2. Condemnation is possible.
 2. Salvation is available.
- C. Confess your sins;
 1. ...based upon your own recognizance,
 2. ...not someone else's accusations.
 3. Clear your heart before God BEFORE it's too late.
- D. Seek forgiveness with a humble heart. Forgiveness through Jesus Christ is the only way out.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

World Wide Literature Supplies

Joel Merridith, Director

Personal Report : When the oncologist walked into the room, where we waited for her arrival, she had a big smile on her face and said that she felt like dancing a little jig after reading the results of a recent pet scan on Frances. The cancer showed signs of shrinking and no chemo would be needed for the present. In three months she will go back for further evaluation. God answers prayer! Thank you all for keeping her on your prayer list.

Warehouse News: The shipment for ICP was loaded and sent on its way on March 8. This container carried VBS materials, Bibles, Tracts, Hymn Books, Sunday School books and enough Character Code for Life literature to supply 4,000 young people.

The shipment to Negros, Philippines will wait until June at the request of those preparing to receive it. That will give us more time to collect more supplies that have been asked for such as *school supplies, marker boards, pianos, sound equipment and guitars*. If you have any of these items you would like to donate, please let us know.

Brother Jean Isma has asked us to hold off on his shipment to Haiti. There is much civil unrest there at this time. He is making a trip to Haiti to make arrangements there to receive the shipment and to assess the situation. Pray for him as he travels this month. Continue to pray for Sister Isma and her health issues. We will reschedule this shipment when he gives us the word.

Campbell's Comments: February went by fast! I was able to take my mother to her chemo treatment this month, and she is doing well. The treatments haven't been too rough on her. She will get down a few days after each treatment, but she'll be going full steam within a week or so. I ask that you pray for her and my family as she deals with this cancer. In March she will have her last two treatments, and we'll go from there.

As always, I continue to learn more about the ins and outs of this ministry as time progresses. The shipment we made for ICP was a learning opportunity as is every shipment we make.

I ask that you continue to pray for my future wife and myself as we are approaching the big day on May 11th. We understand God's purpose for marriage, and we wish to completely fulfill that purpose.

I am still raising funds for my salary, and I know that the Lord will provide! I have no doubt that if we faithfully serve Him, He will provide our every need.

If your church is a supporter of this ministry and would like an update I am available to come for a visit. I am available for Mission Rallies, Mission Conferences, Youth Rallies, etc. I can be contacted by calling 870-831-0755, at the warehouse at 870-853-5700, or by email at wwlp@sbcglobal.net.

Glenwood News

Ray Meigs, Camp Manager

Since September of last year, the youth department of Emmanuel Missionary Baptist Church has been collecting money for our Mattress Mania project. On Sunday, April 7, Camp Glenwood was presented a check for \$1,945.00.

This offering, along with others who have contributed, will allow the camp to purchase 90 new mattresses!

When Mattress Mania began, Karen and I discussed the project and we prayed for at least 50 new mattresses. Sixty would be beyond what we thought. "Now unto him that is able to do exceeding abundantly above all that we ask or think,

according to the power that worketh in us" (Eph. 3:20).

Thank you to the youth of Emmanuel, along with all who contributed to this project. With over 300 beds at the camp, we still have a good bit to go but we are almost one third of the way!

Camp Glenwood is a ministry of Emmanuel Missionary Baptist Church of Bogalusa, LA. We are so thankful for the prayers and support of this great sponsoring church and her pastor, Bro. Pete Underwood.



*Secretary/
Treasurer
Missions*
Bryan Sellers

MISSION NEWS AND VIEWS

SELLERS REPORT

Beginning Balance	\$1,585,205.37
RECEIPTS:	
Interstate Salaries	\$49,972.28
Foreign & National Salaries	\$45,617.05
Designated	\$33,426.49
Undesignated	\$15,320.38
TOTAL RECEIPTS	\$144,336.20
BALANCE FOR SALARY/EXPENSE	
	\$1,729,541.57
DISBURSEMENTS	
Interstate Salaries	\$63,224.80
Foreign Salaries	\$22,690.60
National Salaries	\$26,339.20
Designated	\$33,426.49
Salaries & Expenses of Sec-Treas. Office	
Office Salaries	\$11,515.02
General Office	\$2,382.27
Automobile Expense	\$141.51
Postage Expense	\$599.95
Total Office	\$14,638.75
TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS	\$160,319.84
BALANCE CARRIED FORWARD	\$1,559,221.73
Deficit for March	(\$15,983.64)

In Acts 1:8, Jesus spoke words that would define the mission of His churches just before He ascended into heaven. "But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you: and ye shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth."

The vision for each New Testament church was to be both local and global from its inception. For a local church to be fully

functioning, it must have a global outreach. This worldwide mission focus must be a part of the DNA of a church from its birth. Jesus did not instruct His churches to phase in this global focus when they could, but put them on it from the very beginning. The local church is the hope of the world, designed by God to reach the world. Lord help us to make His churches a headquarters for world missions. This is both a commandment and a priority with our Lord.

It is imperative that you have your taxes done by April 15. It is also imperative that we receive all missionary recommendation forms by April 17th. Any forms received after this date will have to be addressed at the Messenger Meeting in June by a separate vote. You can find these forms on the website under the missions' tab and then reports. Copies of the forms have already been emailed to sending churches. You can always call the missions office and request a form to be sent to you.

For March, the missionaries reported 5,568 salvations and 1,767 baptisms. Please continue to pray and support these faithful missionaries.

Once again, please be in prayer for the next Secretary/Treasurer of missions that will be elected at our Messenger Meeting in June. Pray that God would clearly make known His will to His churches!

FOREIGN MISSIONS

Colombian Missions

Gilberto Pinzón, Missionary

PENIEL BAPTIST MISSION: Thank God, Viviana, 17, and Janeth, 22, received Christ as their personal savior. Amén. Please pray for their spiritual growth and baptism.

I was invited to preach an Evangelistic Campaign at The Porfia MBC, in Villavicencio,

Colombia. Thank God, there were 7 Professions of faith, one candidate for baptism and one for service. Please pray for them. God is so good.

Last February the 19th. Was my beautiful wife's Birthday, the love of my life. I thank God for giving me such a talented and compassionate woman. She really is the right help for me, my family and ministry. May God grant her many more years by serving Him. I love her from here to Costa Rica ... and much further.

SPECIAL NEED: I would like to attend the National and Florida State ABA meetings in June and July, and to do some deputation work. But I do not have the money for the expenses. Last time I attended the meetings was 3 years ago. Please pray for this and help me to raise \$2,000. To accomplish the trip. Thanks.

My son David is doing well at the TBI. Please pray and help to support his college studies.

Costa Rica Missions

Walter Goulding, Missionary

The Way MBC of San José has been through its ups and downs. The closure by the authorities as we were gathering for the third service at the new meeting place left a big dent, both in attendance and spirit.

One couple attended after a radio broadcast. They both had been my students years ago in Bible school, and had run out of congregations to try. They were not attending anywhere when they heard the broadcast and decided to attend. They joined at the first service.

A lady who was attending as result of the radio ministry saw them join, and asked how she could become a member. So she came for baptism.

The board of directors of TIFC – where I have had programs since 1963 – voted to give me two prime-time five minute spots per week. The expressed purpose is to offer me the exposure needed to reach prospects for the church that is being planted.

The radio broadcast is producing its fruits. I am receiving calls to my cell phone after almost every broadcast, expressing gratitude for the teaching and asking for directions to our services.

Yesterday the station manager asked me about the results. She was satisfied that it is producing the desired effect.

Solomon Islands Missions

Roger Watkins, Missionary
A Tumultuous Month

From the last report, the month of January was a stormy month, and February began with another cyclone forming south of the Solomon Islands that brought more wind and rain for a little over a week. The result was the loss of Galilee MBC losing their kitchen and table house and major structural damage to their rest house. This was a real setback for us in that we have no way to feed students for the seminary, resulting in us not being able to begin classes on February 25th. The new kitchen for the seminary is being built now, with the roof to be up tomorrow (I hope) and the siding and interior following, allowing us to be able to feed the students. Janet and I are now living under the classroom building allowing us to use the two classrooms and office space on the second floor for the seminary.

Now we are looking at beginning classes in April after the national elections are over on 3rd of April. It has been a hectic time for me especially as my age has hampered me in what I can accomplish in preparations here. We do have a local contractor hired to build and finish the kitchen, and we plan to use him to do finish work and painting of the buildings.

I have been talking to the pastors as they come and visit and they are still behind us and anxious to start classes again. At least this time the infrastructure will be much more accommodating for the number of students we will have which should be around 45.

We have helped a number of churches in their ongoing building projects and repairing their buildings from wind damage. From the last two storms of January and February, over 30 leaf homes and five lumber built houses have been destroyed in our district, and a very large number of homes and

buildings have lost their leaf roofs. But, the blessing is that Sago Palm leaf is readily available and it just takes time to sew new roof and siding panels to repair the damage.

This way, financially there is no cost, just labor. For us, we suffered no damage except for a little water damage from rain blown in under the eaves, which I have figured out a way to prevent it from happening again and have added it to the "to do list."

Financially, we have enough to get by for the time being, but we will need to spend more on paint and an electrical circuit panel to make our wiring safe. I estimate another \$6,000 will be needed over the next two months to finish what we need to operate smoothly. We could get by with what we have, but I hate to use half finished facilities that force us to improvise.

So, we are hanging in there, and have been slowed a bit, but it appears that all will work out well in the end. Thank you all for your prayers and support and patience. There will be times when our communications are down because of our remoteness, but so far our internet and phone service has only been off for periods of up to two weeks at a time in both January and February.

Romanian Missions

Mike Rogers, Missionary

Brasov: God continues to bless the work here in Romania. We have had more visitors and praise the Lord visitors turning into regulars! Our attendance continues to grow with both children and adults, we are now averaging in the upper teens and praying and working to reach more each week. With the coming of spring we are working on the outside of

the building and the church yard, adding gutters and painting, bringing in topsoil and planting grass and adding some flowers.

Please continue to pray for this growing work.

Codlea: We have had a couple of visitors in Codlea and we continue to hand out invitations and pray that God will bless our efforts more people with a desire for a relationship with Him and the work here. Please keep this work in your prayers.

Family: We praise God for the birth of our third grandchild Charles, born March 7, 6lb

9oz. Congratulations to Ryan and Abie on the new addition to the family. Pray for us as Juli spends some time helping with the grands and for me as I continue with the work here.

Japan Missions

Shin Kamoda, Missionary

Greetings in Christ's Name! What a blessing it is to have the brethren from the U.S. to our services! Pastor Jim Nixon (Lighthouse Landmark M.B.C.) preached on Missions, Missionary Jonathan Morgan preached on Evangelism and I preached on Grace Giving. Brother Kunihiko Oba (Calvary B.C.) interpreted for the brethren and shared his testimony of God's work through him. We are all encouraged by their ministries and renewed our commitment to serve Christ locally and beyond our borders. Our members contributed to testimonies, special music, prayers and services to our guests. They voluntarily promised to give to missions, beyond tithes and offerings.

Missionary Jonathan Morgan and his family are going to begin their ministries in Romania in July. We are excited to hear about the spiritual needs of that nation and pray for Romanian people and the missionaries serving there. Our people were touched by his presence and the messages he preached in Sunday School and Worship service. We, as Christians, are called to preach the Gospel to all nations. We are happy to associate with him, his family, and their sending church, Landmark M.B.C.

Spain

Daniel Estrada, Missionary

We do not have words to express our joy in the Lord, and gratitude to our King Jesus for the things that He is doing in Spain.

"... And the Lord added to the church daily such as should be saved." Acts 2:47

We can say it is God's work and He is adding people to the church as He wanted it.

The Lord is adding more souls to the church. In the last month we have had several first time visitors. Five ladies came to church in one day. Pray for them as they continue attending church.

We continue having Bible lessons every week by skype with Brother Marco. Please, pray for him as he seeks God's will and move

himself to Spain in the near future.

Praise God, we received our long period residence card. It is a big victory in Jesus. Now, we do not have to be worry about paper work in Spain. Our God is amazing and great in the way of doing things for His children.

Bulgaria

Jim Black, Missionary

In February we rented a commercial space in Sofia and began holding services two times each week. Transitioning from casual home settings to meeting at established times has required some adjustment. Much of what we take for granted, having grown up in a “church” culture, is all new to this group.

Praise update: USCIS notified us that they have received our visa request for Praise. Processing time is currently taking between five and ten months.

Trip to Malaga Spain—In late January I was blessed to spend a few days with the Estrada family in Malaga. I helped Daniel with some plumbing and electric issues both at their home and at the building where they meet for services. I also took with me several Bibles in Arabic to hand off to a missionary working in Northern Africa.

We were without a car for much of the winter as it did not want to start when the temperatures dipped much below freezing. It looks like the Ford dealer finally has a handle on the problem and has a part on order from Germany. We have become quite adept at getting around by public transportation. It’s been a long winter and we are more than ready for Spring to arrive.

We are grateful for all of you that are teamed with us through your prayers and offerings.

SE Asia

Rusty Teer, Missionary

Children of the King know how to party! We use every holiday we can to teach something good. Patrick’s day is a great opportunity to share Patrick’s testimony of how the Bible teaches each person must repent of their sins and choose Christ for themselves. Patrick’s Christian family didn’t make him a believer even though people here would say he was a “Christian”. It’s assumed we are “Christian” because we are white westerners raised in a “Christian” nation. We

use these holidays to introduce to our students and parents, sitting in the background, the differences between religion and repentance/faith.

It’s also a good time to share about how we don’t worship 3 gods, but 1 God in 3 persons.

Some in our evening class attend Christian schools but don’t care to really understand anything that they may hear. The parents are unconcerned, too., but in our class some really listen. Please keep praying. April begins “summer break;” it was 102 degrees yesterday. We still teach kindergarten and pre-K. Our classes there will increase as they want each class taught 2 times per week. Our home class lost one and grew by 3 at the same time. Mr. Fluke needs special prayers as he is at a temple making merit as a monk for his family during the break. Miss Nua and her family were here for my birthday! They are adjusting to private Catholic school back in the area where they grew up in Issan. They will need many prayers as they hear things that are different from what we taught them here. Thanks for praying with us that all our students, teachers, and their families will have a relationship with the Truth that sets them free. Thanks for working together with us through your prayers and support! We can do nothing without Him.

Thailand

David Leak, Missionary

While in Chiang Mai for my Visa, I entered my PIN # in error; twice @ an ATM. Consequently; the ATM locked my card. The next day, I went inside the bank & talked to an Officer. She told me that because I opened my account originally with my old Passport #, that I would have to travel to Udon Thani, open a new account, & even perhaps, lose the funds in the current account. I was devastated; to say the least. Another expense in airfare; plus the fact that I had 6 months rent-ready to pay, in the account @ the time. She told me; “There’s nothing else I can do to help you.” I left out of the bank & began to pray. Suddenly...there was a bright light...OK; just kidding. I just read Acts recently & it’s stuck in my mind. Anyway; I did begin to pray; suddenly I remembered a lady that goes to Antioch BC in Chiang Mai works at the same bank! I called Brent; his #

wasn’t available, so I called Khun Dtawm, Brent’s wife. Long story short; Tim, the Church Secretary met me @ the Church building that afternoon, & showed me where the bank was. Khun A; the lady I mentioned, looked at my new Passport #, my bankbook, & then unlocked my ATM card! I was so overjoyed @ how the Lord works! He knew even when I opened the account in Udon that eventually I would have this issue; He is so very good! Needless to say, I was relieved too! Thank you all as well; for I know that I am the recipient of so many of you praying for me, & I’m always so thankful for each of you and all you do for me, & Thailand!

I made another trip to the prison, & found out I need yet another document from the Foundation. For now; because of issues with the hold on the Branch Office being opened, & trying to avoid any issues/problems with Immigration, I’ve chosen to wait & return until it is all completed legally. With that said; the owner of the townhouse I’m now renting, has decided to sell it. I found out when I saw a banner hanging out front about 3 weeks ago. I’ll explain more in my next report, but please pray for me. I’ve talked to the owners of a corner townhouse, 3 townhouses from me. A much more excellent location; which I began praying about when I first moved in. I’ll have more in my next report. It also has signage installed; there’s just some changes in the signs that will need to be made; of course, but for traffic & allowing people to notice the Church more easily; it’s an ideal location!

These circumstances have really caught me off guard; I’m seeking the Lord & His will/direction on how to proceed. Thank you all!

South Pacific

Walt Emry, Missionary

Emergency Trip

As I mentioned in my last report, my wife, Maggie had to make an emergency trip back to the U.S. because her father was rushed to the hospital. Maggie is still in the states. Her flight back is scheduled for April 11th. Her father, Lester, is doing much better. Thank you for your prayers. When she returns our two daughters will be coming back with her

for a visit. This will be their first trip to the South Pacific.

Visa: Please pray for us as we are dealing with visa issues, and Vanuatu changing their laws concerning visa holders. We would like to have two year resident visas, but so far have only been able to get temporary visitors visas. In February we left Vanuatu and went to the Solomon Islands and we were able to renew our visitor visas, and in this process God is making it even clearer to us that we belong in Vanuatu. Thank you Lord!

Baptism: There was one more young man that has accepted Jesus Christ as his personal Saviour. Then three weeks ago the church at Kokoreko, Farumaury M.B.C. asked me if I would baptize him. His name is Herve (English is Harvey) he is 15. He likes to be called Stallone, because he is a boxer and he LOVES Sylvester in the Rocky movies?

Name Sake: In the South Pacific it is common to have a baby named after someone. In the Christian community it is usually after a Missionary or an important person in the family's life. I have had three babies named after me, his name is Samuel Walter. The first two were twin boys; they are in the the Solomon Islands on the island of Malaita. Their names are Walt and Walter, How about that for twin boys!

ICP

Bill Johnson, Director

He called it "a one day Bible school." After they had received new clothing articles, Paul gathered the children of the home into two groups. Rita and Priscilla taught the younger ones, while Jacob and I took the teens for a short walk to the church where we had three hours to help them learn more about God.

The younger ones learned about the value of honesty and integrity from the *Character Code for Life* series. The teens learned three ways to know that our God is real, from Module 1 of *God's Character and Me*.

Rita and I were in Myanmar to help with the distribution of *CCfL* literature and to plan for future printing. I was honored to perform the wedding ceremony for Jacob's Wedding to Priscilla.

Churches in Myanmar continue to gladly receive the *Character Code for Life* curriculum materials. The pastors and teachers attended the training sessions in March. Seven

churches were represented in the training sessions.

The sessions explained the use of the materials and introduced basic concepts of Sunday school and teaching methods. The teachers were eager to help the children of their churches learn about salvation and how to live for Jesus.

Following the two-day training, each church was given enough curriculum materials for all their children.

Gold Coast, Australia

Chris Miller, Missionary

Towards the end of January we enjoyed a visit from Larry Clements. He has wanted to visit the church here on the Gold coast for sometime but it just hasn't worked out until now. He preached for us the Sunday he was here. It was a blessing to have him.

I have been involved in teaching Religious Instruction in the local schools for several years. I had a young lady approach me the other day and tell me that I had been her religion teacher many years ago and that she is now teaching classes herself. It was very encouraging.

Philippine Mission Development

Wayne Stringer, Director

February has been a busy and exciting month as the work on Project #12, in Pampangang for Magalang MBC, winds down and they begin to put the finishing touches on the building. It will soon be time for the dedication of another Beautiful Building for the Honor and Glory of the Lord. As things are looking now, we should be in position to begin construction on Project # 13, Good News Missionary Baptist Church at Clark, by the time of our trip in May.

For years the churches in our Fellowship, American Baptist Association in the Philippines, have been taught there was no need of a building. So many rented, others constructed inferior buildings on lots that did not belong to the church. Most were in hard to get to places or remote areas, lots were donated, but never owned by the church and often had to vacate. The people reached were those in the same area, the same status level, these were the people the members and pastors felt comfortable reaching out to, they were their equals. I realize these need the

Gospel, and I'm thankful for the many that were reached, but the fact remains, they did not feel comfortable or confident reaching out to those they considered a class above them, those educated and with jobs. They did not invite them to their services because they felt inferior, they either had no building or it was second-rate. Therefore, there were very few self-supporting or indigenous churches, many souls reported saved but few baptisms. Many do not understand the class differences in the Philippines because we live in America, where we consider everyone equal.

What I am about to say, I pray is taken the right way, because God must get all the glory; In the past fourteen years I have seen a shift in the attitude of Filipino pastors and churches. They have come to realize the church building is a tool that can be used to advance their ministry. The churches helped by PMD have encouraged others to take pride in their own building and improve it. We are seeing churches growing not only spiritually, but numerically, and financially because the members are proud not only to be a Child of God, but part of a church that cares, sending the message to the community we are real, we are here to stay, we want to be a part and we have the truth. PMD has only helped with twelve buildings, we pray for many more, but these twelve have encouraged other churches all over the Philippines to begin planning and improving their own situations. Praise God!

During the Month of February we were privileged to be with Rocky Springs MBC, Jacksonville, TX; John Town MBC, Bogota, TX; New Shady Grove MBC, Carthage, TX; Long Branch MBC, Long Branch, TX; Faith Promise Mission Conference at Nevells Chapel, Mt. Pleasant, TX; and Barthelme Missionary Baptist Association Mission Rally, Crosett, AR.. We received \$4,089.75 for the project, \$388.00 Philippine travel fund, \$2,005.48 Salary.

Again, Thank you for your prayers and financial support for this great ministry and for our individual salary and the many love offerings, without you this ministry would not be what it is today. Thank you, may God Richly Bless. **God loves you and so do we!**

Interstate Missions

Lighthouse Ministries

Toby W. Cribbs, Sr., Missionary

MACEDONIA CALL: We are in need of a missionary or missionaries to come and help in this ministry. If you are interested you have to believe that the King James is the preserved word of God and to adhere to ABA Doctrines. You can call 423-496-7116 or 423-548-0078. Email tobycribbs@yahoo.com.

We enrolled 11 new students 4 finished Old Testament, 7 finished New Testament and 6 completed the course. Five finished course two. We now have about 883 students.

We mailed out 1115 gospel tracts and 446 gospel booklets in our Studies.

We are currently sending Studies into about 284 Jails and Prisons.

ONE NEW PRISON: CCCL Lincoln, NE.

MISSION CAR: Still in need of Churches and God's people to help pay on the PRINCIPLE of the car. Mark check PRINCIPLE PAYMENT. We owe about \$9,000.00.

MINISTRIES HELPING MINISTRIES: MT Pisgah Baptist Church Printing Ministry Oliver Springs, TN. Supply us Bibles (FREE 8800)

Shadow Of The Steeple Ministries, Clarksville, GA Gospel Booklets FREE (Thousands)

West Florida Baptist Institute ,Pensacola, FL. (Reduce Price Books)

Bogard Press Texarkana, TX.(Overruns Sunday School Books (FREE)

Polk County Jail, Benton, TN.-I am back in full swing. Teaching in the Book of James.

Fannin County Jail—Blue Ridge GA .Back here full time. Still teaching on New Testament Commandments.

Walker State Prison, Rock Springs, GA— I have the privilege to stay in each of the four pods as long as I want too. This month taught on Promises of God, Love of God and Why Are We Here. We travel,85 miles one way each Wednesday. Leave house at 11:00 AM and back about 6:00 PM.

Long State Prison, Ludowici, GA.—God puts all things together. Had a new one out this month and he gave his testimony on how he finally realized that John 1:1-2 that the WORD was JESUS. I preached on the Value of the Word of God and that the WORD was God and is God. We had 30 men out the service. Every third Sunday evening hold a two hour service. Travel 380 miles one way.

If you want me to come to your church and present this ministry, call 423-496-7116 or 423-548-0078

LOGOS Missionary Baptist Church

Bruce C. Betts, Pastor

First, I'd like to say how grateful I am for those who have participated in our building project even from the beginning. Because of you the past 10 years God has done marvelous things in Hattiesburg, MS. I really appreciate the prayers and the giving through the years. Thank You!!!

Here we are 2019 on the cusp of completing this multimillion-dollar church building for the honor and glory of God. I sent out a plea and a challenge to many pastors and churches at the first of the year and the response was great. To date we have received 35,000.00 for our building. Those monies have helped us tremendously with the progress of our building. We had to bring somethings up to code and make some changes, but God supplied. Finish work is very expensive especially when we must contract it out. That's why we must continue to support our various mission builders in our work. They are a tremendous blessing to our churches. The men and women who sacrifice so much that the gospel can be spread throughout the world really and truly should be commended and faithfully supported so this work can continue.

I want to thank Bro. Doug Curtis and Stephen Gent for coming and spending a couple of days with us to run the power lines for the sound system. Bro. Doug made a double trip. He also came with Bro. Tony Harp to survey for the upcoming CityReach+ in September (25-29). This will be my first time being involved in a CityReach+, LOGOS and myself are excited and looking forward to the evangelist opportunity here in Hattiesburg. I believe this will help our

church's outreach effort tremendously. Everyone knows us and have been watching our church building come together through faith. We want to introduce them to the same God that has been showing them His power and commitment through our building project. The patient, consistent, never failing, always providing God that we all know and love. I believe this from my heart that people are watching to see if this is really God at work or another crazy religious fanatic using the Lord's name to advance his own agenda well, if it was all me I would have quit a long time ago. Sure, I won't tell you that it hadn't been frustrating at times, but I know what He has called us to do. I say us meaning LOGOS and all of you who have prayed and contributed to this project year after year. It will be completed, and it will be a strong testimony of the faithfulness of God.

I am asking for your continued support for the completion of our building. We still need about 120,000 dollars to finish. The upcoming CityReach here in Hattiesburg, with your help will be hosted in our building. I believe this is possible if all that love the Lord and the work here in Hattiesburg will purpose in their hearts to get it done. I believe it will get done. I've seen God up close work with just a few imagine what He can do with all of us. These monies will cover finish work such as base boards throughout, restroom tiling and installation of already purchased toilets and urinals, lighting for the sanctuary, carpeting throughout the building, 800 seats for the sanctuary, and the remaining balance for the sound system. We still need help with the suspended ceiling in the sanctuary. We have the materials and still need help installing it. Maybe a builder in the Lord's work may read this letter and want to come and install it for God's glory. This was not included in our 150,000 estimate before but we are believing God for His provision. My faith in God is all I have so if I can't exercise it for God's purpose then there is no need to have it...

Bloomington Missions

Scott Bourland, Missionary

Our hearts are thrilled to share with you the salvation of Dan. Kevin had the opportunity to start working with Dan through a mutual friend and in time Dan came

to call on Christ. He is now in discipleship training with Kevin.

The light at the end of the tunnel: We are getting so close to being done with the building. We only have finishing touches on the inside, with the bigger projects remaining outside.

1. Parking Lot lights
2. Paving and stripping
3. Sign
4. Landscaping

Finances: Our goal from the very beginning has been to be debt free. We all know how much this advances a works ability to stand on its own two feet.

We secured money to finish the project, but have been holding it and hoping we would not need to use it.

At the time of this writing, when we forecast the remaining expenses, we would end this project with about \$80,000 of debt. Of course that is incredible and we praise God for it, but we still have not obtained that debt free goal.

Please pray with us that God would open the doors he intends in meeting this goal.

Last summer we went through a tough time where one family moved away and four other families stopped coming. Attendance fell sharply due to these departures.

This month we saw some of those individuals return to services and we are praying that they will return faithfully and surrender to the discipleship process.

Benchmark Baptist Fellowship

Alan Schoeff, Missionary

We had another Baptism!! No, that is not a typo; not it is not some cut and paste mistake. I know, it looks a lot like the first line from my last report. But, that is just how God has been working. At 70+ years old, John Joseph "Jack" Gibson is the oldest person I have had the privilege to Baptize. More importantly, God snatched him from the brink of hell. Raised as a Catholic, Jack has been coming to church with one of our member families for some time, more off than on. They continued to share the gospel; planting, ploughing, and watering. But a few weeks back, he sat with me in my office, bowed his head, and accepted the one true Savior, Jesus.

Having been raised in the Catholic faith as a child myself, I was able to connect with and identify his struggle. He did not have peace with whether or not his mother was in Heaven or Hell. I shared my own past and that as difficult as it might be, he needed to not worry whether his mother had settled her salvation, but would he settle his own! And that morning he did.

We did have another loss in the month. Sadly, one of our members moved to Tennessee. Now, we have nothing against TN, but we sure do not like to lose members. We are seeing our members become more bible centered and this is due directly to the new study we started for our midweek services. We are reading through the bible and then coming together to discuss that weeks readings. This is an exciting challenge for me and we are all growing together in Christ.

We do still need your prayers. While we are growing spiritually, we are struggling to grow numerically. Julie and I pray daily that God will build HIS church, and that he will use us to do it. We are seeing guests come; they stay a few weeks, but we cannot seem to get them to stick around. We have several outreaches planned for the Spring and Summer months. Please pray with us as we reach out into our community that the Lord of the Harvest will bring us souls that we might grow.

Part of the work of a missionary is deputation. If one has never been on deputation, it is hard to explain how it is a blessing and a curse. If one has been on deputation, no explanation is needed. It seems that every time I head out to present the work I return home with a nasty head cold. But not this time! Instead, I left home with the head cold and returned without it. I do not know who I gave it to, but thanks for taking it from me. In a whirlwind 8 day trip, I was able to present our work to: Calvary MBC, Minden, LA (Pastor Doug Gregg), Hyde Park MBC, West Monroe, LA (Pastor Jeff Luellan), and at the Louisiana Missionary Baptist Institute & Seminary (President Jim Crain). Additionally, we were honored to attend Nevill's Chapel BC, Mt. Pleasant, TX (Pastor Glenn Griffith) for their annual Faith Promise Missions Revival.

Colorado Church Planting

Everett Ledbetter, Missionary

Two steps forward and one step back. It seems that as we make progress in one area, that we get hit with another setback in another area. Last month, I was excited to report that we reached our housing support goal of \$1100 per month. This was a huge blessing, however we were hit with some other news.

Our sending church has been blessed to be able to meet our salary and insurance needs from a special fund that had been set up. This fund is running out, and it has become necessary to recommend me for salary through the ABA missions office. The ability to request salary is a blessing, but it also creates a problem for us. According to our mission policy, I will not be able to work a side job like UBER (20 hours a week) to make up the housing shortage. Therefore, we will be \$1100 per month short of where we need to be in order to remain on the field. Your urgent prayers are greatly appreciated. This area needs the gospel so much, and we are making great progress.

Time for some good news. After applying to become a volunteer Police Chaplain, the department has asked me to come in for an interview. On March 14th, I will be interviewing with them. I am super excited about the opportunities and doors to minister that this will open.

Join me in prayer that I will get this opportunity. I have never served as a Chaplain before, but I am excited for this opportunity.

It has come to my attention that there is some confusion concerning our name. So, let me try to clear this up. Colorado Church Planting is the name of our ministry. We use this name to promote our work throughout our association of churches. Pathway Baptist Church is the name that we use locally. Our website, our facebook page, our tracts, and all promotional material that we use locally, has the name Pathway Baptist Church on it. I hope this clarifies the situation.

Mission Bautista Emanuel

Gabriel Sanches, Missionary

The month of February was another

month filled with blessings for Emanuel. Brother **Daniel Gonzalez** joined our church. He has been faithfully attending our services accompanied by his wife for the past six months, but it was not until this month that after sitting with him and concurring in our biblical beliefs that he decided to join the membership of Emanuel.

COUPLES NIGHT: In times when “everybody” is busy, many of us do not make the time to go out just with our wife. So, brother Benito Lopez and his wife Linda decided to help us by organizing a dinner for couples. We invited the Betel Mission where brother Michael Torres is the missionary. A total of 10 couples from Emanuel and 4 from Betel participated. What a great job the Lopez’s did! A simple but a complete Bible based program which tested our biblical knowled-ge and at the same time allowed us to work as a couple.

MISSIONARY JUAN RODRIGUEZ : I have known brother Juan since we both were in High School and were lost. But now we both are in Christ and serving him. He is the missionary pastor of the Getsemani Missionary Baptist church in my hometown in Mexico. This month he took two weeks off from his work at the church to come and visit us. We had the privilege to hear him preach two Sundays at Emanuel. Our people are always delighted when we have a faithful missionary sharing his experiences in the work and presenting the Word of God to us. Thank you brother Juan.

CONSTRUCTION UPDATE : We have finally received a letter from the Harris County Appraisal District (HCAD) informing us that an religious organization exeption was granted to us. What excellent news! However, the exemption is only good until April 2020, three years from the day when the land was purchased. After this, if the construction has not been completed, the exemption will be removed and we have to start paying property taxes.

Unfortunately, as a misión we cannot complete the so much desired construction in the time frame assigned to us by the HCAD,

therefore we continue reaching to you for help. Please help us with any amount.

Flagstaff Church Planters

Shawn Taylor and Hunter Welchman, Missionaries

“I’ve seen you move. You move the mountains. And I believe, I’ll see you do it again. You made a way, when there was no way. And I believe, I’ll see you again.”

These words have been our cry lately and we now God is in control. Because of all that is going on in our country, our burring desire to go to Flagstaff has only grown and our burden for these people has escalated drastically. We yearn for the day when we can call Flagstaff home, befriend people, and tell them about our Savior. Pray for us that we remain confident in God’s provisions and we keep the faith knowing that His plans are greater.

Our deputation schedule has remained steady throughout January. We have spread out our appointments into other surrounding states and because Taylor is now 35 weeks pregnant; she is not making the long trips with Shawn for now. We are so thankful for these churches allowing us to come and share about Flagstaff.

We are so excited to announce that more support has come and we are nearly 30% funded. Our new partners are Garvis and Wanda Forrest, Living Faith MBC, and Donaldson, MBC. Thank you so much for joining us on this journey.

To help meet our housing needs, we have set aside one Sunday, February 17th, for a special one-time gift offering that will completely go toward our housing cost. We would love to see many churches partner with us for this one event.

Antioch Missionary Baptist Church

Foxcroft, Maine

George Dever, Pastor

Christmas has come and gone. December 16th, we had a Christmas play and then went to the local health care home to sing to the residents. We had a great turnout and the staff said that the residents really enjoyed it. On Dec. 21st, we held our annual Christmas party (Candyland Themed) and played Family Feud. Everyone seem to have had a great time

and plenty of candy I received a call from my sister that my father was very ill. So I left on Christmas Eve to go to California and see him. He has been diagnosed with pancreatic cancer. The doctors give him just a short time. It was very hard for me to leave him. If I am able I will be going back again before he passes.

Returned to Maine and the weather outside is frightful. We received 20 plus inches of snow yesterday, with temps at -24 degrees with windchill. Our pellet stove is working on 5 to try and keep the house warm. Needless to say we are burning through 4 bags of pellets daily. My son and I spent well over 4 hours snow blowing and shoveling out the driveway and yard.

I am heading to Missouri to share the mission work with Landmark BC in Smithville, MO. and Northern Heights of Kansas City, MO. I will then be heading to Texas to share with Creekmont BC in LaPorte, TX and then to the Faith Promise Conference at Nevill’s Chapel in Mt Pleasant, TX. Please remember me in all my travels. I am very happy to say I have some great men that have stepped up and taken on the responsibility of services in Dexter, while I am away. It blesses my heart to see the growth in these men.

I want to thank those who have sent in special offerings to help with the cost of the new furnace and fuel expense. We still have an outstanding balance of \$4000 to finish paying for the furnace and the propane that we have had delivered so far this winter.

Clovis Landmark Missionary Baptist Church

Danny Kennedy, Missionary

Praise the Lord! February has been a marvelous month here in Clovis. We have been blessed with an average worship attendance of 23, with a high attendance of 25, and 13 first time visitors. I say again, Praise the Lord! Thank you for praying for our visiting families. We also have another visitor who has begun worshiping with us each week. We found out through one of our member, whom we dearly love, has a cousin who lives in Clovis and is looking for a church home. Mandy reached out and this sweet lady has been in every service since.



Dean Grigsby

Business Manager Report

Most people think of church leaders as pastors, deacons, missionaries, officers, and teachers. While these hopefully are leaders, God has other leaders he has added to His churches. I believe anyone who is doing what the Lord has called them to do within a local church body is a leader. Unfortunately, because many in the Lord's churches are not fulfilling their purpose in the body, many leaders who have taken up the slack are tired and worn out.

Creation gives a great example of leadership that we should consider: sandhill cranes. These large birds fly great distances across continents in their migration. To accomplish this task, they exhibit three extraordinary qualities of leadership. First, they rotate leadership. No bird is always in front. We should be praying for more laborers for the harvest. We should also consider that maybe God has added leaders already and be willing to give new leaders opportunities to serve.

Secondly, only cranes that can handle turbulence lead. What a blessing it is to have people in churches who help in times of trouble; those who directly assist others or who are always praying for us as we experience times of turmoil. We need to be leaders who see difficult times as opportunities to help others experience God's grace in ways they never thought imaginable.

Finally, all during the time one bird is leading, the other cranes are honking out affirmation. While much of the honking we hear is not always positive, I am thankful for those whose words and encouragement always seem to ... *minister grace unto the hearers*. Ephesians 4:29 This is a leadership role in which all of us need be involved.

Being leaders in the Lord's churches is exhausting, demanding, and difficult. But we are not alone, nor do we have to trust in our own strength and ability: *Faithful is he that calleth you, who also will do it.*

I Thessalonians 5:24



Kyle Elkins
Editor in Chief

In May 2013, a show based in Waco, Texas aired on a national cable channel. A husband and wife would search around the Waco area until they found the right house they wanted to renovate. They would purchase the mostly dilapidated house in the Waco area and would restore it for people willing to pay a certain price. The show had its typical dramatic moments where the unexpected obstacles or potential deal breakers would arise. However, no obstacle or potential disaster was ever too much that a solution could not be found.

The show grew to reach amazing popularity. The couple formed a well-known company whose name is easily recognized by most people involved with home improvement and interior decorating. The city of Waco grew to be one of the most visited cities in Texas, so much so that on weekends Waco has one of the highest hotel occupancy ratings in the United States.

Not to take anything away from this husband and wife and the work they do, but like anything else, even newly renovated homes will eventually need to be repaired. Every dilapidated house at one time was brand new. That is the nature of all things on this earth.

We have a God who is in the renovation business if you will. But God does more than simply renovate that which is old. He creates something new, something that did not exist before. Paul wrote in 2 Corinthians 5:17, “Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new.”

To be “in Christ” means to be totally recreated in a spiritual sense never to have to be renovated again. It is to become something you were previously not—a new creation in Christ. The verb for “passed away” speaks of an event that happened in the past and refers to the condition of the unregenerated life of the unsaved that has passed away. The phrase “become new” speaks of a total makeover that God does for the person who repents and puts his faith in Jesus as Savior. The emphasis of this phrase is that the new life has come to stay and continues.

The new life in Christ means the believer is free to live the way Jesus wants him to live. What a wonderful Savior we serve who offers the gift of eternal life and a house, “whose builder and maker is God.”

**FINANCIAL REPORT
WEST FLORIDA BAPTIST INSTITUTE
January/February**

GENERAL FUND		
BALANCE BROUGHT FORWARD		\$2,718.62
INCOME:		
ALABAMA		
BaptistChapel BC	-Grand Bay, AL	1,650.00
Schillinger Rd.	-Mobile, AL	150.00
Magnolia Springs	-Theodore, AL	400.00
GEORGIA		
Northside, BC	-Vienna, GA	200.00
Traders Hill	-Folkston, GA	70.00
FLORIDA		
Galilee MBC	-Milton, FL	40.00
Okeechobee BC	-Okeechobee, FL	192.32
Calvary BC	-Panama City, FL	100.00
Landmark BC	-Pensacola, FL	320.00
Oleno BC	-HighSprings, FL	200.00
Sunlight BC	-Pensacola, FL	100.00
Landmark BC	-Monticello, FL	200.00
Mics:		
Kitchen Sales	-Pensacola, FL	60.00
TOTAL		\$3,852.32
DESIGNATED FUNDS:H.H.Strickland		
Baptist Chapel	-Grand Bay,AL	700.00
Frankfort BC	-Russellville,AL	200.00
Galilee BC	-Milton, FL	150.00
Newark BC	-Elkton,MD	200.00
Cumberland Cove BC	-Monterey,TN	100.00
First Baptist BC	-White City, FL	200.00
TOTAL		\$ 1,550.00
COMMITTEE OF 100		
Terry Alexander	-Pensacola, FL	20.00
TUITION/REGISTRATION		
Registration	\$	300.00
Tuition	\$	9,150.00
TOTAL INCOME		9,450.00
TOTAL AVAILABLE		\$14,852.32
		\$17,570.94

EXPENSES:			
Utilities		\$	1,542.76
Misc.			4,896.84
Office			71.57
Instruction			7,310.00
TOTAL EXPENSE			\$13,821.17
NEW BALANCE			\$3,749.77
BOOKSTORE FUND			
BALANCE BROUGHT FORWARD			\$ 838.15
Income:			
Bookstore Sales	\$		279.09
Press Sales			350.01
Contributions			
Landmark BC Pensacola			45.00
Landmark BC Monticello			200.00
Total Income			\$245.00
TOTAL AVAILABLE			\$3,134.10
Expenses:			
Utilities			\$347.35
Postage			\$303.75
Print Shop			\$-0-
Supplies			\$438.92
TOTAL EXPENSES			\$1,090.02
NEW BALANCE			\$622.23
BUILDING FUND			
Baptist Chapel-Grand Bay,AL			600.00
Landmark BC -Pensacola,FL			200.00
Magnolia Springs-Theodore,AL			100.00
Frankfort BC-Russellville,AL			200.00
Oleno BC -HighSprings,FL			200.00
Landmark BC -Monticello,FL			200.00
Calvary BC -Panama City,FL			500.00
Traders Hill BC -Folkston, GA			50.00
Anonymous			600.00
TOTAL INCOME			\$2,650.00
EXPENSES:			
TOTAL			\$4,024.12

CHURCHES SEEKING A PASTOR

Northside Missionary Baptist Church of Ocala, Florida is currently seeking a full-time pastor. Applicant must believe that the Holy Bible is the inspired and infallible word of God, meet all the qualification of 1Tim. And Titus, preach and teach only from the King James Version, be a part of and in good fellowship with the American Baptist Association, be in complete conviction/agreement with the ABA Doctrinal Statement. Applicant is asked to submit a resume that includes educational background, previous positions, and reference contact information via email to Paul Merritt at secretarynmbc@gmail.com
Christi Merritt, Secretary

Liberty Baptist Church, Stephens City, VA is seeking a pastor. The Lord has blessed Liberty with 30+ years of faithful service from Pastor Battles. If you have been called by God to pastor a friendly, loving church, and if you are interested in helping us reach the lost in an area that is experiencing rapid growth - both in numbers and in diversity of race, we invite you to contact us at 540-869-6595, or send your resumé, biography, and contact information to: searchcommittee@l-b-c.org

South Louisiana Church Seeks Pastor: College Town Baptist Church of Hammond, LA is an old line Missionary Baptist church that is seeking a like-minded pastor. It presently has an interim pastor who wishes to retire due to age and health issues.

We are looking for a pastor with shepherd qualities. Preferably one with some Bible training, able to feed the sheep, willing to seek out the wanders and lost sheep, user of the King James version and one who loves to meet and fellowship with people.

Hammond is about 65 miles of New Orleans and the church has three acres of park-like property, a small but beautiful sanctuary, no indebtedness and an unstained reputation. It once had a nice size congregation, but attendance is drastically lowered. Therefore, a pastor would need to be bivocational. Pastoral support would increase as circumstances improve.

Interested men of God may contact Bro. Patrick Henagan at 52022 Fontana Lane, Independence, LA 70443 or Bro. Elester Raines at 48987 Galafora Rd. Tickfaw, LA 70466. If they prefer they may call 985.351.8980 or 985.069.0028.

PRINTING NEWS

News:

The work in the print shop is slowly moving along. I have spent most of my time engaged in the operation of the school. In addition, there have been several pieces of the equipment that has needed some attention. One of the new printers has gone down for the count. When it was purchased, it was thought that because of its age it would make a great addition to the line. However, after spending far too much money on repairs, it has been determined that it is fruitless to put any further money into it. One technician told us it was not worth repairing. Now we are faced in trying to replace it. I am currently looking at purchasing a refurbished unit rather than buying a used unit. Sometimes when you

buy a used unit people are not willing to tell you all the facts about the machines. Since we do not service contracts on any of the machines, we must pay to have someone come in and work on them.

Production:

We have been able to produce one new book in the past month. It was entitled "The Synagogue" and was written by Dr. Glen Davenport. It is well written and presents an overview of the Synagogue. We have had the privilege of producing several books that were written by Dr. Davenport and we are looking forward to others in the future.

SPECIAL NEEDS:

We are still praying for someone to come and help in the print shop. One who is considering coming would need to raise his support because the shop is not able to pay a full-time worker. However, it would give someone, such as a student,

the opportunity to learn the printing process. They would be able to travel and represent the work. As the years pass by, the trays of books are getting heavier and heavier. I need a fresh set of arms and legs. There are many different missionaries ministries, then why not one for printing?

I still spend a lot of time in the shop and really enjoy being able to produce good Biblical material. The things that we see accomplished is rewarding. There are two areas that give my joy in what is being done. First, is the production of the Spanish materials. Second: is to be able to help the churches of our association and the writers among us. I also enjoy traveling among the Spanish speaking people and representing their material.

Will you join together with me in prayer to see more great things accomplished through this ministry?

<p style="text-align: center;">Publication</p> <p><i>wfbi</i> News is published each month except July by the West Florida Baptist Institute and is owned solely by the West Florida Baptist Institute.</p> <p>Subscription is free and a copy may be obtained by writing, e-mailing or calling the</p>	<p>office of WFBI. To be placed on the mailing list, simply call, write or email: 1-800-455-9324, 1-850-455-4417 or 1-850-455-7474 (fax). E-Mail at wfbi2@yahoo.com or sign up online at www.wfbi.net.</p>	<p>Articles should be in the office no later than the 10th of the month so that they might be included in that months edition. Mission reports are alternated so that all may have the opportunity to be published.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">H.H. Strickland; editor</p>
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