

West FLORIDA BAPTIST News

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Volume XXVII

July/August 2017

Number 8

From the President



Dr. H. H. Strickland

The summer months have been filled with constant travel. I am grateful to the Lord that the wife and I have had some very enjoyable and productive trips. However, we are glad that we are home for a while. As I grow older, I tend to get road weary quicker than in times past. I really don't know why.

August is here and plans are already underway for the fall semester at WFBI. With the introduction of two new programs in place and a third under way, the expectations are running high. I am really thankful to the men who have worked so hard planning and putting together these new programs. Dr. Andy Barr and Dr. Shane Turner, along with Bro. John Swan, have really done a fine job in get-

ting these programs ready and approved. The work on the third program is still progressing and we hope to have it in place before the fall semester is out.

The summer session ended on July 21, 2017 with a very good attendance. I commend all the instructors who had a part in making the classes a success. The time of study allows some students to come when they might not otherwise be able. It also allows some of the students to accelerate their degree program and be able to complete the requirements early.

I have a very special prayer request to make for all those who have a part in this work. Our present facility is right at seventy-five years old. It has some structural problems, which no one has been able to help us solve. A water leak has damaged the front part of the building and to have it repaired would be extremely expensive and all that it would do

would be to prolong the situation.

Plans are now underway to purchase the property next to the school and build a new facility. I have already met with the owner of the property and while we think the price is far too high, he owns it and we need it. I too, have met with the planning office and I am preparing a preliminary drawing to submit to them so that we will prevent any problems in going forward with the project.

I have also contact a building supplier and he is doing the preliminary work on furnishing a steel building, 50 ft. by 150 ft. This would give us enough room to have all the classrooms we need plus having an auditorium for all the events for school. We do not have the luxury of having a sponsoring church near enough so that their facilities could be used.

It will be expensive for us but we know that the Lord can provide. Please join us in prayer that we will seek the will of the Lord and then be willing to follow His leadership.

Thank you all for you continued support of this ministry. We have more and greater opportunities than ever before.

May the Lord continue to bless you all.

**FALL SEMESTER 2017
REGISTRATION - AUGUST 18
CLASSES BEGIN - AUGUST 21, 2017**

From a
Woman's Point
 of View



By: Loretta Pritchett

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Finally, The Roof Is On!

It took until the end of June to get the roof put on. The wait nearly drove me crazy. Every time we had high winds to blow (up to 45-75 miles per hour) I just knew I would lose more shingles.

Not only did I worry about loosing the shingles, I also worried about a dry lighting strike and my roof going up in flames. My old roof was made of the old wood shakes, which have been declared obsolete.

Now that it is finished the neighborhood people have stopped by and asking who my roofer was. They all wanted their roof put on by him. Some even stopped and asked him if he would go to their house and give an estimate on their roof. This was a plus for me, as I had forgotten to include the shingles for my shed. He is bringing over four bundles this week and isn't charging me for them. God is so good.

However, worrying about the roof wasn't the only thing I was concerned about. Somehow my prescription for a medication had been dropped, and they kept telling me when I called to check on when it was shipping, they told me I needed the doctor

to write a new prescription. Funny thing about that I had been calling about this renewal for the last six months.

Just today July 5th, I was again on the phone with the doctor's office and being told they had ordered the medicine. I'll know more tomorrow when I check with the mail order people when it will be coming. In the meantime, the doctor decreased my medication so I would have enough to last until I received it. But this time, after six month's I can't take another delay.

Now some good news, the 4th was great. My boys took me to watch fireworks in Reno and we also had dinner at the Red Lobster. But we got caught up in traffic and didn't get home until after 1:00am which was well past my bedtime.

With all of the worrying I had done I forgot to place all my burdens with the Lord and allowed my system to get upset. I had not allowed the Lord to help me.

Psalms 55:22 says: "Cast thy burdens upon the Lord, and he shall sustain thee: he shall never suffer the righteous to be moved."

Even though we sometimes forget that the Lord can do all things, we need only to say thank you when things turn out good for us, as we allowed him to help us. The Lord will always be there for us.

Now enjoy the rest of July, and remember to allow the Lord into your life and have many wonderful things throughout the summer.

**Philosophy of
 Religion**

This article continues to explore the idea presented before. According to Freud, certain questions were presented regarding religious dogmas. "What is their primary motive, and more important, what is their consequential worth? What prompted the invention of these violent supermen of the ethereal spheres whom religious persons have labored to bribe, appease, emasculate, or exercise?"

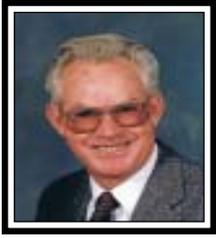
In order to find an adequate answer to these questions, one must attempt to understand the mind from which they were spoken. It is very evident that Freud was at one time associated with some false religious organization of the world. This display of delusion generally comes when one begins to question the workings of such religious organizations. This becomes very evident when one faces some crises and they seek spiritual help or understanding of the situation. It is then that they find out that what they have been taught, or led to believe, offers absolutely nothing. The tragic results of such delusion, generally leads one to associate all religions or beliefs as one in the same. This then results in total withdrawal from all beliefs.

The first question introduced is explored in two segments. The first is "what is their primary motive..." People have always been faced with the matter of motivation. In reality, this question provides a wonderful avenue to explore the idea of why do men believe what they do? It is a difficult matter to investigate the fundamental reasons for the dogmas that compose the criteria of beliefs. If one has no biblical bases or seeks never to understand or investigate the truths of the scriptures, then there will never be any real understanding.

Men who seek to achieve the understanding of religious dogmas through the relics of the world, they will never find true answers. The ideas of men relative to truth will never achieve a clear understanding. Satan has been and continues to be a master of confusion regarding truth of the Word of God.

The second part of the question states, "and more important, what is their consequential dogmas?" Men have always attempted to place the ideas of God is a light of unimportance. However, the consequence of rejecting the truth of the Word of God is more than most really realize. Here is where the line is often drawn. The real purpose behind the rejection of the truth is to eliminate the idea that men or accountable for every action they commit, even to the very thoughts of the mind. Unbelievers have always sought to have relief from the idea of accountability. This has been expanded into the teaching

(Cont. on page 3)



Glen Davenport

A JUST GOD

Text: I John 1:5-10

5 This then is the message which we have heard of him, and declare unto you, that **God is light**, and in him is no darkness at all.

6 If we say that we have fellowship with him, and walk in darkness, we lie, and do not the truth:

7 But if we walk in the **light**, as he is in the **light**, we have fellowship one with another, and the blood of Jesus Christ his Son cleanseth us from all sin.

8 If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

9 If we confess our sins, **he is faithful and just** to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

10 If we say that we have not sinned, we make him a liar, and his word is not in us.

Definition for "JUST":

dikaios (dik'-ah-yos); equitable (in character or act); by implication, innocent, holy (absolutely or relatively):

KJV - just, meet, right (-eous).

Introduction:

God is a "JUST" God. That means: He is impartial in treatment or judgment. He will do the right thing on every occasion with each and every person. There are NO PREFERRED customers. Each individual is treated in exactly the same manner and by the same standard.

Wouldn't it be great if we could keep our eyes and our minds on God even as He keeps His eyes and mind upon us? But we are so much like children. We often forget: some one is watching over us. Someone cares. Someone is praying for us.

V5 "God is light!" God is PHOS = light

My interpretation is: Everything is within His sight. He can see!

"In Him is no darkness at all" no skotos darkness

My interpretation: He has no blind spots. HE CAN SEE!

V6 If we say we have fellowship with Him

Fellowship - (*koinonia*) partnership; a sharer; an associate; hold communication, hold communion

"And walk in darkness"

Try to walk within His blind spots

"We lie" We are (*pseudomartur*)

It's untrue. It's an attempt to deceive by lying. We are false witnesses.

"And do not the truth" (*aletheia*)

We are concealing, covering up, not exposing the truth

V7 If we walk in the light (There are no blind spots) as He is in the light We have fellowship (we are partakers. We are partners) one with another and the blood of Jesus Christ, God's Son, cleanses (makes us clean) from ALL SIN!

I. God Is The One And Only Just God.

A. He is fair in all of His ways.

This is perhaps a hard thing to realize. We are torn because of the testimonies of professing Christians. We have a hard time believing that people are saved by grace through faith, and not according to works of righteousness. We're inclined to think 'everybody ought to think and behave even as I think and behave.

B. God does not over look sin. Sin will not go without punishment.

We must not over look our sins. We must recognize them and seek forgiveness even as we repent of those things that are offensive to God: remembering, God cannot let us go without chastisement or repentance. One or the other is mandatory.

II. God Demands Truth In Each And Everyone Of His Children.

A. We may lie to each other without getting caught, but it is impossible to lie to God without Him knowing it.

(Cont. on page 4)

that there is no eternity and when men die there is nothing else to face. Truths such as eternity, the resurrection, or judgment, are totally rejected.

For those who truly believe, these dogmas are most important. Every one of these dogmas has a great consequence. For the true believer, the resurrection is the base of all hope. If all that men have is what they achieve while living in this world, they have so little

hope. This is where men are divided. The believer has more than just what is achieved in this world. They have an eternity to look forward. They look forward to a life that is free from all the pain and distress of this life. A life with and give by their Savior. Lost men have no hope, however, the reality of what they have spent a life time attempting to deny, will become a reality a second following their death.



Dr. David Gonnella

What Is Your Plan?

There is an old saying that goes like this: “If you fail to plan, you are planning to fail.” While this saying is usually applied to business or sales, it also applies to the ministry.

Are you called of God to the pastorate or the mission field? When do you plan to enter into your ministry? What is your plan for training for that ministry?

Do you say within yourself, “The apostles didn’t attend a seminary, so why should I?” What do you think Jesus was doing with the twelve for three years? The apostles were training for the ministry that Jesus had designed for them. No doubt they received the best seminary training that any group of men ever received at the hands of the One who invented theology.

To plant churches, or to shepherd one of the Lord’s churches is an awesome responsibility. It should not be entered into lightly, but with all seriousness and careful training.

At *WFBI* you can learn the Bible and the ministry under men who have been where you intend to go. The knowledge and

experience of our faculty can give you a “leg up” in the ministry God has chosen for you.

Are you already a pastor? What is your plan for the day when you are no longer able to bear the load of the pastorate? Do you intend to just sit on the shelf or do you want to be useful to the Lord in your declining years?

A master’s degree or doctorate can qualify you to teach either full time or part time in a Bible college or seminary. You can have a real impact training the next generation of God’s servants.

We have daytime and nighttime classes so you can pursue your advanced degrees at your own pace. You can be useful to the Lord beyond your years in the pastorate. All it takes is the willingness on your part to make yourself usable.

Call our office to see how you can become useful to God in the manner in which He has called you, or how you can extend your usefulness to the Lord beyond His immediate plan for your life. Call today!

College Town Baptist Church Hammond, LA

College Town Baptist Church, an old line Missionary Baptist Church is looking for a like-minded pastor. It presently has an interim pastor who wishes to retire from pastoral duties due to age and health.

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

Our church was once a strong and financially self sustaining body, but our attendance is drastically lowered, therefore the new shep-

herd will need side-help to financially sustain his family. His support would increase as circumstances improved.

Hammond is near New Orleans, LA and is a growing mission field. Our church has fellowshipped in the ABA since its beginning and has great potential. Tree acres of landscaped land, a small but beautiful chapel and an unstained reputation.

Interested parties may call Bro. Elester E. Raines at 985.318.7475 or 985.351.8980 or Sister Wanda J. Hurd at 985.809.3540

(from page 3)

I’ll be a little technical here and say: neither you nor I can lie without knowing it in our hearts. There may be a little difference in saying something through ignorance rather than that of knowing the truth and stating otherwise: covering up truth.

B. We may wrest the truth, as the Apostle Peter said, but we cannot do it without some real wrangling in our hearts. There is a reason behind every lie. Spiritually speaking, we may not like the truth as it is revealed from within the Word of God. We may want to put a different twist to It.

III. God Has Provided A Way Out. (I John 1:9)

- A. If we confess our sins, (This is mandatory.)
- B. he is faithful (always prompt to keep His promise)
- C. and just to forgive us our sins, (He is within His rights to forgive a repentant heart)
- D. and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness. (forgiving and forgetting our sins)

Conclusion:

A JUST God is unable to overlook sin, but He is able to forgive sin. He reserved for Himself that right. It is our duty to comply with His demands.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Glenwood News

Ray Meigs, Director

Even though camp season was a little crazy, we rejoice in the fact of 36 young people saved and 2 surrender to the ministry this year.

The season was memorable because many firsts took place. About a week before our first campers arrived our cook called and informed me that she would not be available for the summer. After a frantic phone call to our sponsoring church, Dr. Berry Carter, we located Sis. Edna Osborne who agreed to come on board as our cook. She was a real life saver. As the season went on she became more comfortable with the operation and needs of the camp and did a great job! I look forward to having her back next year.

Also, the first day of camp, our daughter called from Nashville, TN. There was a problem with her pregnancy and they were putting her in the hospital. We quickly arranged for Karen to take the first flight to Nashville and two days later Asher Levi Mattingly was born at 28 weeks. He weighed 1 lb. 14 oz. At birth and was 14" long. Thanks to the prayers from people all over the country, he is doing well.

With Karen gone, our staff really had to step up their game and they proved they were up for the challenge. They showed a real servant's heart. I am so thankful for Matthew M., Ernie, Haley, Edna, Matthew L., and Michael for their debited service. They did a great job helping make the camp year successful.

Thank you so much for your support! Your prayers and monthly giving are essential to the smooth operation of this ministry.

Promise Land MBC

Hamburg, AR

Josh Luellen, Pastor

On July 16th in our monthly business meeting, Promise Land MBC voted unanimously to become the sending church for Missionary Trey Emory in our burden for a new church plant in Sterlington, L. Bro. Trey has been the Associate/Youth pastor at Promise Land for the last six years. Our church supports Bro. Trey in his burden and has full confidence and adheres to the doctrinal statement on the ABA.

Sterlington, LA is located in the northeast corner of Louisiana and is approximately five miles north of Monroe, LA. In 2013-2014 Sterlington was recognized in the top ten as one of the fastest growing towns in the nation and gain in 2015 they were recognized as the fastest growing town in the state. This town has seen a tremendous amount of growth in population while the numbers of gospel preaching churches are very low. The need of the gospel is very evident in this town and Bro. Trey has accepted the call from the Lord to fulfill that need.

Bro. Trey has the expectations to get on the field in Sterlington in March of 2018. This means that Bro. Trey will have a little over



Jack Story, Director

THE GREAT COMMISSION IS ALIVE AND WELL!

The very first word in the Great Commission (Matt. 28:18-20) is GO. I can tell you that the Lord's churches take this command seriously. Each year since the MTL Travel ministry began in 2005, I have reported that "this year is busier than the last"...and it is true again for 2017. Already we have booked nearly 1000 airline tickets for individuals and church mission groups traveling to 6 continents to share the gospel. To give you a point of reference, in 2005, the first year of our ministry, we booked a total of 450 for the entire year. Now that number has more than doubled just in the first 6 months of 2017.

Booking airline tickets is just a part of the MTL ministry. The "L" stands for Logistics. Simply put, logistics means all of the details involved in getting a person or group from one place to another. It includes air travel, ground transportation, accommodations, meal planning, trip budgeting and more. This part of the ministry sometimes takes us on-site to do the work overseas.

2017 has already taken us literally around the world. In February Pat and I were working in Israel, Thailand and South Korea. In June I was again back in South Korea to help with preparation for the Outreach Bible Project that will take place during the 2018 Winter Olympics in PyeongChang, South Korea. August and September will find us in Spain working for the IMR group.

MANY THANKS TO THE MTL SUPPORT TEAM

Thank you for your continued and faithful support through prayer and also financially. MTL is a full-time ministry of Landmark Baptist Church in Anderson, IN. For ABA travelers, the need for travel assistance continues to grow. Through your support, you have a part in helping missionaries, pastors and churches throughout the world.

seven months of trying to rally support for this new endeavor. If you are interested in having him to share his burden with your church you can contact him at 870.853.7368 or the church office at 870.853.5941. All offerings can be sent to Sterlington Missions, 420 Ashley Road 70, Hamburg, AR 71646.



*Secretary/
Treasurer
Missions*

Bryan Sellers

SELLERS REPORT

Beginning Balance	\$1,063,490.36
RECEIPTS:	
Interstate Salaries	\$57,370.73
Foreign & National Salaries	\$49,930.09
Designated	\$29,625.04
Undesignated	\$23,604.09
TOTAL RECEIPTS	\$160,529.95
BALANCE FOR SALARY/EXPENSE	
	\$1,224,020.31
DISBURSEMENTS	
Interstate Salaries	\$68,278.05
Foreign Salaries	\$18,679.20
National Salaries	\$22,549.20
Designated	\$39,445.04
Salaries & Expenses of Sec-Treas. Office	
Office Salaries	\$12,167.37
General Office	\$2,568.57
Sec/Treas. Travel	\$140.50
Automobile Expense	\$286.97
Total Office	\$15,253.41
TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS	\$154,204.90
BALANCE CARRIED FORWARD	\$1,069,815.41
Surplus for July	\$6,325.05

The month of July was another busy month of travel promoting ABA Missions among several churches in Arkansas and Texas. On July 16th, I was privileged to attend a special service with Promised Land MBC of Hamburg, AR. The evening service wrapped up with the church voting to become the sending church for Bro. Trey Emory to Sterlington, LA. Please remember this church and new missionary as they partner together to establish a New Testament church in North Central Louisiana.

MISSION NEWS AND VIEWS

For this month, the missionaries reported 800 professions of faith and 63 baptisms. In Philippians 3:14, missionary Paul said, "I press toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus." Let us fervently pray for our missionaries and their families as they continue to run the race that is set before them. There is a prize to be won. Something to show for our lives in running this race.

Napoleon was a great general and military strategist. One day one of his soldiers came to him and made an unbelievable financial request. It was ridiculous that he asked the general for such a generous sum of money. The rest of the soldiers were absolutely speechless when Napoleon granted the soldiers request. Some of his lieutenants came to him and said, "General, we're amazed, we never dreamed you would give that man that kind of financial assistance." Napoleon said, "He honored me by the magnitude of his request."

We serve a great God Who can do great things! Let us not limit God, but ask Him for great things for the cause of missions this year.

FOREIGN MISSIONS

Monterrey MBM
Monterrey, Colombia, S.A.
Carlos Julio Mendoza, Missionary

Monterrey Mission members are faithfully serving the Lord. Pictured is our youth group praising our Lord God with a special in song.

In July, we made a trip to Bogota, the capitol of Colombia for our health check-up. Your prayers for us and the mission work in Monterrey have lifted us up to the Lord and he has blessed us and we are in good health and we are so very thankful.

We are sending a special greeting to Bro. &

Sis. Jones and we are praying to God for Sis. Jones that he will guide the physicians who are treating her so that her knees may be fully restored.

The radio program is still doing well and reaching out to the people. There are 20 different denominations from other churches and some have commented that our doctrine is quite different from theirs. We are praying that God will plant the seeds in their hearts and minds and they will come to know the true teachings from the bible so they may rightly divide the word of truth.

We always give many thanks to God for your continued support and prayers for the mission work in Monterrey, Colombia. May God bless Pastor H.H. Strickland, and family.



JULY 2017 AVERAGE ATTENDANCE IN MONTERREY, CAS.

<i>Candidates for baptism</i>	1
<i>Professions of faith</i>	2
<i>Visits Made</i>	10
<i>Soul Talks</i>	20
<i>Sermons Preached</i>	31
<i>Lessons Taught</i>	24
<i>Tracts handed out</i>	150

L.A.M.B.
Jim Gage, Missionary



Jungle Bible School meeting in Cum-aribo: We have been blessed with excellent bible teachers that have come to help us with the Jungle

Bible School. Bro. Gary Weindenbach travels often to help in Medical Missions. However, while he is medic, he is a great bible teacher. He taught the book of James.

Through the work of Bro. Ronnie Williamson and the Voice in the Wilderness, Bearing Precious Seeds has printed over 11,000 booklets on John and Romans in Currapaco and Piapoco languages. Our need now is to get these materials shipped to Colombia and then distributed to the Indian brethren. If anyone can help us, it would be greatly appreciated. The total pallet dimension is, 41X49X65 inches with a weight of 1,780 pounds. One company estimated the cost out of Miami @ \$1.64 Lb.

Colombia Ladies Retreat in Puerto Lopez: Puerto Lopez is the geographic center of Colombia. Last week, the new church hosted the Colombian Ladies Retreat. It was a wonderful time of Christian ladies' fellowship, spiritual refreshment and biblical teaching. After a day of instruction, they had a Christian Ladies slumber party at a nearby farm. The only hiccup to the outing were some invited night bugs and skeeters. Then, they visited a small zoo. But, who says that you can't enjoy your life as a Christian.

Colombia Missions Bogata, Colombia, S.A.

Gilberto Pinzón, Missionary,

PENIEL BAPTIST MISSION: Continues having great services, first time visitors and spiritual growth. The ladies are doing good job organizing the programs and social activities of the meetings. Thanks God for the virtuous woman of our churches.

The youth of our Mission participated in a camp in San Martin, Meta, Four hours away south from Bogotá.

God blessed with two professions of faith, three candidates for baptism and many rededicated their lives to work harder in their churches. Amen. Please pray with me for more young men to surrender their lives to preach the Gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ.

My wife, Mirna, participate in a conference for girls and other activities.

I, also had the opportunity of teaching about the youth and marriage.

Tithes and offerings were over \$1,100,000 (USD \$505.00). The Mission is giving \$250.00

to the missionary, \$50.00 to Santa Marta BM, \$25 to Bosa BM and \$15.00 to the ABA.

Average Attend S. School	30
Morning Worship	39
Evening Worship	18
Midweek Service	15
Professions of Faith	0
Candidates for Baptism	0
Lessons Taught	15
Sermons Preached	10

SPECIAL THANKS: To: Grace and truth for sending Gospel tracts, to BEAMS for sending a box of Bibles. God bless every ministry as they bless others with tracts and Bibles.

SPECIAL NEEDS: Because my three children are studding in College, I need to get 8 new supporting churches which can give \$100.00 each per month... and/or increasing my supporting offerings. Please pray for this and help.

France

Jason Clark, Missionary

This month has gone by quickly and been a great start to our time back. In mid-July Limoux Baptist Seminary was started, one student and one teacher. I was able to meet with Mathieu daily Monday through Friday to teach and train him. We have been really encouraged by our time together in study and prayer. There have been two others who have shown a desire in participating in some of the classes as well. Pray for me, that God would lead in my teaching, and for the future that God would lead as I work with Mathieu.

Also, I have been deciding if I will continue to work with the basketball club. I have already decided that my role will be a lot smaller than previous years, but this may mean the closing of the basketball club, especially the kid's program. Pray that God would guide me concerning my involvement in the basketball program, which has been a great source of making contacts and building relationships.

We also invited some friends over to catch up with them. Angie does such a good job getting meals prepared, and the kids are a great help, getting the house ready and entertaining. There are so many people that we still want to have over. Pray for these opportunities, that God would open the door to share the gospel with the lost, and

encourage those who are saved.

With interest, we still have **\$866** left to pay on our tickets. Also, we plan on attending the International Missionary Retreat held in Spain this September. We will save money by driving, but with gas, tolls, and hotels, we will still be spending around \$400 for travel. This retreat has always been a blessing for the whole family. Would you or your church consider giving to these needs?

Belize

Ben Woodward, Missionary

We had a super fun game day with the kids in Cotton Tree, which included food, buckets of water and water balloons. We had 48 kids and a few older teens that wanted desperately to join in the fun, but had a hard time shedding their "too cool for school" image. I got to talk with them a little anyway.

Technically this is our July 2017 report, but I am including June's as well. I apologize for not getting a June report out on time. However, June was not without plenty of work and activity.

July brought many new contacts, and potential open doors to reach farther across Belize with the large Spanish speaking population.

Brother Juan Gallegos, Pastor and Missionary in Del Rio, Texas, & Acuna, Mexico, and President of *Seminario Bautista Del Centro* (Central Baptist Seminary), and Brother Robert Wallace, Business Manager and Instructor at Texas Baptist Institute, Henderson, Texas came to survey the need and potential for Spanish outreach and Spanish language seminary classes. We explored five villages and met with some people in *Cotton Tree Village, More Tomorrow Village and Franks Eddy Village*. There we found several opportunities to reach many Spanish speaking families in all three villages. Please pray that God will provide people who have a heart and desire to help us carry the gospel to them.

God brought Bro. Robert's wife and the daughter of a pastor in San Ignacio, Belize together in, of all places Henderson, Texas. Through this contact we were able to meet with 23 people (about 18 of whom are pastors) from various areas in Western Belize. Bro. Juan presented to them our Doctrinal

Statement and an opportunity to study through Central Baptist Seminary in Mexico via live video.

Although these people are not identified with the American Baptist Association of Churches they are eager to take advantage of this great opportunity. Through biblical training we are praying that these people will accept God's Word and our statement of faith. If so, we will have the resources of several to reach the Spanish population in Belize and establish New Testament Missionary Baptist churches.

In July we were blessed with an amazing week by an awesome team. Our mission team from **Cypress Ave. MBC in Marion, AR** and several from East Texas worked hard & loved on our people and us deeply.

They held a 3 day VBS in Cotton Tree with 130 kids attending. With the team were 5 preachers and all took an opportunity to bring God's Word to Cotton Tree, Mahogany Heights and a 3 night revival hosted by Teakettle Baptist Church.

We have been greatly blessed and look forward to their soon return to Belize.

Japanese Missions

Shin Mitsue Kamoda, Missionary

Grace be unto you, and peace, from God our Father, and from the Lord Jesus Christ! June is our rainy season. It rained a lot! We are thankful for showers of blessings from heaven. And we've taken advantage of sunny or cloudy days to go out and spread the Gospel.

We enjoyed a visit of our friends from the U.S., the Avery family, with their relative, Mr. Yamaryo. They are from a supporting church, First MBC in California. Their faithful testimony greatly encouraged us. Mr. Yamaryo has visited with us in the past and we are glad that he heard the Gospel once more. Though some members were absent, those who remained have enjoyed lunch and fellowship in the Lord.

People come in contact with us on different occasions. Some times sales persons come to our door. In June an insurance company agent and a sales person from a milk company came. I usually listen to what they have to say to promote their service or merchandise and ask them permission to share the Gospel and invite them to church.

I visited home renovation companies to obtain information of their service. I needed quotes to make repair on our home. When I have meeting like this, I often have opportunities to speak about Christ and His message. I met and spoke to a nurse. And When I participated in a fathers' meeting at the High School where our daughter Miki goes, I spoke with her home room teacher and shared with him what we do at our church. Miki is diligent to share her testimony at school. So, she was asked to contribute her testimony to a contest. While taking a walk, I saw a friend in our neighborhood, he asked me to join a circle to keep our neighborhood clean. I've given him my testimony before and he knows I'm a preacher. Responding to his invitation, I've joined the circle to keep our neighborhood clean and give more testimony.

A new student started attending my English Conversation Class. I always tell prospective students that I am a preacher and about our church work. If they like it, they join the class. Her name is Miekko Nariai. I'll share more about her, as I know about her more.

Eyes on Christ

Julie Schoeff, Director

We are very happy to announce that the Eyes On Christ Ministry was accepted as a Missions Ministry by the body at the Annual National Meeting. We were so pleased by the overwhelming response to the ministry by those that visited our booth. We were encouraged by those that expressed an interest in the ministry. Our spirits were renewed by the challenging sermons. We were presently surprised by the appearance of the Eyes On Christ signature sunglasses during the annual missionary sermon. Thank you Bro. Chase Reynolds!

Columbia 2018: Several missionaries visited our booth at the National Meeting seeking information about how arrangements could be made to have an Eyes On Christ team visit. We also had missionaries whom we have previously help request a return visit. As a result we are planning a trip to Columbia to assist missionaries Jim and Carmenza Gage in bringing physical and spiritual sight to the people living in the areas near the Jungle

Bible School through vision care clinics. We are currently planning a trip in April 2018. People interested in participating in the trip should contact Sis. Julie Schoeff. We not only need Eye Care Team members but also individuals at home willing to hold the rope by supporting the trip with their prayers and finances. Donations for the trip can be sent to First Baptist Church of Kingstowne, Alexandria, VA, the sponsor-ing church for the ministry. We are excited to once again minister in Columbia.

Why A Vision Care Ministry? The World Health Organization has identified the need for eyeglasses to be one of the top ten health issues that will effect the opportunities of over 600 million people world wide. The average pair of glasses in most developing nation will cost the average individual at least a year's salary. By the year 2030 it is believed this problem will surpass the effects of HIV/AIDS on the global economy. Good eyesight means the difference between working and not working, gathering food and not gathering food or being able to read and remaining illiterate (<http://www.globaleyesightnow.org/the-problem/>). This also presents a problem for missionaries when they are presenting the gospel or discipling their people. Addressing the problem of poor eyesight allows the missionary to more effectively minister and show the love of Jesus Christ.

SouthEast Asia

Jared, Kayla, & Luke Gaboriault

By the time many are reading this report, our family will be on some very long plane flights to Southeast Asia. We are very thankful for all of your prayers this past month while we were making all of the arrangements for our travels into two different countries in the next few months.

Please pray that the Lord will continue give us opportunities to share the life changing news of the Gospel with everyone we come into contact with. We look forward to beginning language school and reconnecting with friends and contacts, while we also explore new areas of ministry.

Northeast Thailand is in need of prayer. We have been told that Tropical Storm "Sonca" recently passed over the Issan region and basically stalled over the Sakon

Nakhon Province for two days leaving this area and the surrounding provinces very flooded. The Thai people that we lived among while there are generally quite poor, and live in houses ill equipped to keep flood waters out. Please pray for these people. Praise the Lord we have not heard any reports of church buildings suffering significant damage at this time.

Bulgaria

Jim Black, Missionary

Our return to the states for furlough/deputation has been delayed.

Our travel plans hit a snag when it became evident that Bulgaria was not going to issue a passport for Praise.

We are involving an attorney and are praying for a speedy resolution. Realistically it could take six months to a year.

Plan B—Rather than all of us returning together in June as originally planned, Hannah returned alone on June 30. She is staying with our daughter Julie and her family in Lewiston until she begins classes at the University of Idaho in Moscow in late August.

Sherry returns for one month, beginning July 21, and Jim will make the trip two weeks later, also staying for a month. Our friends Vasco and Albenia will stay at our apartment with Praise, during the time that we are both away.

Please pray for all of us as we travel, as we are separated for a time, and specifically for Hannah, that she will thrive in her new surroundings.

We traveled with Hannah though parts of Western Europe the last week of June. We saw amazing sights and stayed with three families that we ministered to in Sofia.

A New (to us) Vehicle. In June, friends that were posted at the US Embassy in Sofia, left for a new assignment. They gave us their 2009, Ford Galaxy, seven passenger, turbo-diesel, euro spec van. Wow!

One of the goals of our upcoming deputation was to raise funds to replace our vehicle. God has already supplied the need in a way that only He can do!

Special need—Summer air travel is expensive! Sherry's return in April for her father's funeral, combined with the airfare to get Hannah settled in the US, has added up

to more than \$4700. Any help with this expense would be most appreciated.

St. Petersburg, Russia

Jodie Vesely, Missionary

We have been to several churches over the past couple of months, including Lifeline in Mansfield, TX, Central in Bedford, TX, Longview Drive in Henderson, TX, Longview MBC, Greater Heights in Angleton, TX, Creekmont in La Porte, TX, Southview in Rosharon, TX, New Home in Wetumpka, AL, First in Inwood, WV, First in Ranson, WV, Longbranch MBC, and Veal Switch in Hughes Springs, TX. We are thankful for all of the offerings received. We were blessed on our longest journey to be able to use a large SUV from the Flanagan family to help us all to fit together with our luggage for our two-week road trip to the East coast. On this trip, we were blessed to see some of God's beautiful creation along the Smokey Mountains, Blue Ridge Parkway, and Shenandoah National Park (pictures from this trip are below).

Praise: We are especially thankful for \$1,000 given from our sending church, Greater Heights! We have reduced the amount we are trying to raise for our children's education needs.

Need—Our Children's Education: We still need about \$400/month or about \$5,000 for the year for each of our children to participate in one Russian extracurricular activity and for Haddee to attend international school. This is our biggest need for the summer. Please pray that we can raise the funds so our kids can continue to be a part of a good school, to be a part of the Russian culture and community, and so that we can continue developing these relationships.

If you feel led to help as a church or individually, you can give in a few different ways. One is to mail a check to our sending church. Their address is Greater Heights Baptist Fellowship PO Box 1356 Angleton, TX 77516.

Please note "Vesely – schooling" on the memo line. Another is to give via PayPal at PayPal.me/jodievesely. Just send an email to jodievesely@gmail.com to explain that the donation is for our children's schooling need. Another is to sign up for reoccurring donations through Clover Donations here: <http://clo.do/6vpc/>. Please prayerfully consider helping us in this manner.

Thailand

David Leak, Missionary

Please continue to keep me in prayer as Brent, Dtwam, & Owen leave for furlough in August. Brent has asked me to teach the SS Class in his absence, until their return in December. I am grateful for the opportunity and my Thai Tutor; Khruu Nate, who is helping me in preparation for teaching these classes. I am thankful to the Lord for her & her passion to serve Him!

After Brent & Dawm return from furlough, deputation in Canada & the US in December of this year, I will be making a survey trip to the Isaan Region. I plan on taking about 2 weeks; Lord willing. I must find a place to live first; then a meeting place for a Church plant. I have been praying about renting a place that could double both for a home & meeting place. Please keep this before the Lord on my behalf. My Visa must be renewed in May 2018, & my Passport must be renewed here in Chiang Mai @ the US Consulate @ least 6 months prior to expiration in February 2019. As a matter of good stewardship, these are 2 major things that I **must** deal with during the 1st half of next year, before leaving for the Isaan Region.

I have **very prayerfully** pursued the study of the Thai language here on the field since I returned to Thailand this term; **as I did my first term**. Unfortunately; health issues have plagued me both terms. I am grateful for the way the **Lord** has led me in this pursuit & I thank each of you for your continued support. I am excited & looking forward to the return to Isaan for the Lord to begin to plant indigenous, Scriptural NT Baptist Churches through me. I have been praying for some time that the Lord will raise up Thai Pastors & congregations in rapid succession, so that I may move on to the next location **ASAP**, for **Him** to replicate the process. I do ask each of you to please keep this move before the Lord; that I will have His leading as I go on the survey trip to know exactly where He wants me to be initially. While Brent is gone; Khun Joe will be preaching. I will be assisting him during the weeks & weekends until Brent does return. Khun Joe assists me greatly in practicing speaking Thai; particularly when we meet for worship; please pray for him as he preaches.

Interstate Missions

Lighthouse Ministries

Toby Cribbs Sr., Director

My wife and I attended the Florida State Association of Missionary Baptist Churches that was at Ocala, Florida and the Georgia State Association of Missionary Baptist Churches at Glennville, Georgia. Both meetings were very uplifting.

As of today we have received 741 of the Enrollment Forms that have been sent to Chaplains. This makes 886 packages that have been sent out, a total of 21,907 Enrollment Forms. Month of July we sent 26 Packages to Oklahoma, two to Utah and 22 to Virginia and 2 to Vermont.

WALKER STATE PRISON ROCK SPRINGS, GEORGIA

We are about half way through Bible Analysis The men are seeing and learning things that they did not know.

NEW CAR: We are still praying that churches will help us on the PRINCIPLE amount of the car payment. This month we paid \$100.00 on the PRINCIPLE.

LOCAL JAIL MINISTRY

Polk County Jail, Benton TN.—June 26th Sunday night 24 were saved in the services that the Sheriff holds each Sunday night. Our study time is going great in each Pod

Pickens County Jail, Jasper, GA.—The men are eager to come to study time and to learn more about the Bible.

Fannin County Jail, Blue Ridge, GA—We are now in chapter four in book of Romans. The men are excited about study in Romans so they are inviting others to come out.

CityReach, Detroit

Jonathon D Smith, Missionary

Here is your COMPLETE 2017 CR Detroit Report! Please feel free to use and share this report on FB and with your churches!!

CityReach was hosted by International Missionary Baptist Church in Warren, Michigan which is in the Detroit Metro area!

Pastor Jerry Jorolan and his family along with Student Pastor Ryan Champion did a fantastic job hosting us this year! We were honored to work with them!

There were 220 CityReachers that stayed at beautiful Oakland University, in Auburn Hills, Michigan. We were also blessed with the most incredible weather that we could ask for! God was very good to us ??

We had 8 Ministry Teams working simultaneously all over Warren, Michigan and at times were working near the famous 8 mile area! We saw several professions of faith including a Hindu woman that turned to Christ on our last day of ministry! ??

Here is a break down of what we saw happen in each of our ministry teams

Totally Free Car Wash

444 cars washed!!!

-Countless quality gospel centered conversations.

-prayed with people of all nationalities.

-We saw many connections from people who had impact from other CityReach teams!

Bless/Blitz: CityReach Detroit BLESS/BLITZ Team knocked on 3,518 doors, talked with 800 people, prayed in 268 homes and shared the gospel hundreds of times! They also distributed a total of 7500 doorhangers across the city!

Clovis, NM

Jack Spencer, Missionary

If you haven't heard, I will be leaving the mission in Clovis, NM this month to take the pastor position at Ward's Creek MBC of Simms, Tx. The mission will continue and the sponsoring church is actively searching for a missionary. Please be in prayer for the mission and the sponsor that God will bless. And pray for us as we continue serving the Lord. The Clovis mission will still need your financial support, so please continue blessing them. Thank you for your faithful support.

Heartland Baptist Mission

Central Georgia Area

Mark Thornton, Missionary

Please join us in prayer as we are now on deputation raising designated funds for a new

Church plant in central, Georgia. The name of the Mission is Heartland Baptist, and is sponsored by Tifton Missionary Baptist Church in Tifton Georgia. If you would like me to come present this new work to your church, please call my cell, 912-552-4811. My email address is mandmthorn6465@gmail.com. Our mailing address: Please forward all correspondence to PO Box 1753, Perry, GA 31069-1753.

Thursday Night Bible Study: Bible study at the RV Park continues to go well. During June we had an average of 12 attendees with a high of 17 for the month. Continue to pray for the people of this park. There are currently about 200 families that permanently reside here, and many others that are traveling through.

ABA Meeting: I just want to thank all those who came by our booth and encouraged us during this year's meeting in Daytona. It was also good to have all my children and my daughter in law attending this year with us. They all have been a great asset in the mission and have worked hard behind the scenes. Mona wasn't able to attend and I ask that you please continue to pray for her. She is still recovering from a fall she had back in May in which she re-injured her knee. This is the same knee that she had a joint replacement less than two years ago.

Land hunting: We continue to look for land around Central Georgia. Real estate seems to be running on the average of 100k per acre in most prime locations. However, we have found a 5-acre tract for \$20,000 per acre right next door to the new courthouse in Perry. Another option we are looking at is maybe purchasing a house with acreage on a main highway to be converted into a worship center. As for now, we are content meeting at the RV park and we are certainly looking forward to establishing a great Church here in the Perry area.

Designated funds through the ABA: At this year's National Meeting I was approved for designated funds. My sincere thanks goes out to all of our churches for their confidence in this new Georgia Church Plant. I pray that your Church will consider us for financial support if possible.

Building fund Offering: I want to thank our sponsoring church for taking a "Vacation Bible School" offering of \$1,135.67. This money has been set aside for our Building Fund. We have also been approved for the Georgia Mission Development quarterly offering. The GMD money will also be deposited in our building fund account.

Missionary Ambassador Ministries

Christopher Cartwright, Missionary

Reaching souls through the airwaves: We continue to get reports of souls being saved and people who listen to the radio programs from various parts of Nicaragua. It is a blessing to hear from the stations where the gospel is being heard within the country. Right now, we hear of reports coming in from roughly a quarter of the country from Leon to Masaya, and through the recordings that are sent to individuals as well. May the Lord continue to use the radio programs that they will be a blessing as well as an effective tool for witnessing and sharing the gospel to a lost and dying generation.

During all this time, I could teach my Guatemalan friends who have been faithful in basic Baptist doctrine and how to grow spiritually. Right now, we have been reviewing the Baptist doctrines which are essential for spiritual growth, and we use two books for that.

Scott Bourland, Missionary

Showers of Blessing: It was a great joy to see Tami follow the Lord in baptism. She had already been saved, but needed scriptural baptism. She and Brad, her husband who already had scriptural baptism, joined the work.

Michelle came to us from a drug rehabilitation center where one of our members works. She was saved earlier in the month and followed the Lord in baptism. Pray for her as she begins her discipleship journey.

Building Permit Obtained: With a few minor adjustments made in the review process our plans were approved and we have our building permit in hand.

Time Line: 1. August/September-get grading, bio-retention, and other excavating work complete.

2. September/October-Get foundation, under slab rough in, and slab completed.

3. April 28-May 12-Macedonian Builders The Barn is down: We want to express our thanks to the group that came from Mt. Zion in Malvern AR and Mt. Moriah in Bonnerdale AR and helped to take down the barn.

Outreach: While the group was here we conducted several outreach efforts. There were free car washes and oil changes, pop up park ministries, and lego camp.

Later in the month our people hosted a back to school event and we have already had visitors in our services from these efforts.

We love to do these events, but we are constantly reminding our people that it is their witness in their daily life that will be the most effective. Pray for all of us to be bold and wise in our witnessing efforts.

Debt Free

We rejoice that to this point everything has been done debt free and we make that our continuing goal. Please pray with us that God's provision would continue to flow through his people.

Korean Mission/DC Metropolitan

Missionary Youngbae Kim

I greet you in the precious name of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. Every member of my family is doing well through the grace of our Father God. I pray that you all have peace and grace in the Lord!

We have been busy recently with having a church-wide retreat, our annual church picnic, and a leadership camp, maintaining our soccer team ministry, soul-winning, training our small group leaders, engaging in these small group meetings, etc. I have also been busy with attending meetings and being involved in activities within the Korean community here. In particular, I have also been teaching the Bible in out-of-church settings, such as a nearby McDonald's and also as a class instructor at a secular seminary and guest speaker at a seminar. These opportunities have allowed me to meet and reach more people with the Gospel.

During the past year, we had many first time visitors and some returning to attend

our services. We've also had two young men surrender to preach, and they either attend or plan to attend seminary. Four precious souls were baptized and joined the Lord's church. Bro. Hyoyeon Cho, a sixty-two year old Presbyterian man, became a Baptist after three years of continued fellowship through biblical doctrine teaching. He said he could not worship at his former church after knowing Biblical truth and left there to join our church. He no longer recites the Apostle's Creed, believes in Calvinism, or accept the hierarchical church system. The church he was attending is the largest (approx. 5000 in membership) Korean church in this area. He had attended there for thirty years.

Every member in our mission is strong in the truth and in the Lord's church. We are continuing to work in soul-winning, street preaching, and city outreaching to lead more people to Christ.

We are especially focusing on training our small group leaders to serve in their small group.

They lead their group to pasture and have responsibilities. They pray for their group members, care for and keep in contact with them, foster an environment

MISIÓN BAPTISTA EMANUEL

Houston, Texas

Gabriel Sánchez, Missionary

On Sunday the 18, the ladies from the Mission organized a delicious breakfast to celebrate Father's Day. A total of 10 fathers showed up to be partakers of this breakfast. Our kids, during their Bible Class prepared and presented us with a tie made of construction paper that was very well decorated with beautiful words and some stickers.

HELPING A MISSIONARY : On June 8, my wife and I traveled to Francisco Villa, México to help missionary José Leos to perform four baptisms. Many of the Baptist churches in México allow only an ordained Pastor to perform baptisms. Brother Leos had four persons that had made their profession of faith in Christ as their Lord and Savior, and were ready to obey in the ordinance of baptism. After traveling for about four hours,

we arrived to a river and there the baptisms were performed.

GREAT IS HIS FAITHFULNESS!: No doubt, the Lord has been extremely good to the Misión Emanuel. Since we have start-ed preparing for our construction project, we have been completely depending on His provision. Every time I have the opportunity I make known our need for financial support for this project. One day my sponsoring Pastor and I were at the Baptist Book Store in Texar-kana. Pastor Hitt introduced me to brother Sammy Whatley and his wife Rebecca, accord-ing to him he have know them for quite some time. I took the opportunity to share with him our vision, and without hesitation he wrote a check and handed it to Pastor Hitt. Praise God, He uses His people to fulfill His purpose!

Colorado Church Planting

Everett Ledbetter, Missionary

Well, it is good to finally be at home and off the road, but things did not slow down for us. We were blessed with three different groups during the month to come and help us in the ministry. Two of the groups were from Liberty BC in Shreveport, LA. The other group was the Terry family that came and ministered with us in our city. Because of these groups helping us, we were able to do several outreach efforts that we just do not have the man power for.

We were also able to begin the discipleship process with a young native American couple. Back in May, we were able to lead the young lady to the Lord. Pray for us as we work to share the truths of God's word with this couple. There are many challenges ahead of us, but with God all things are possible.

Ministry and Salary Support: We cannot do this ministry with out the partnership of our sister churches and her people. This is a much needed field for the gospel, but it is also a field that is not inexpensive. We are so thankful for the churches that have chosen to support us on a monthly basis, but we are still in need of more support. We are also in need of monthly ministry support. This support enables us to do outreach and provide a Sunday morning meeting space.

We would be glad to visit with any church wishing to here more about partnering with

out ministry here in Colorado. I plan to be in Arkansas the end of September if any churches are interested.

Impact Coming to Colorado: I.M.P.A.C.T. Explorers will be working with us October 5-8.

We are beyond excited for this opportunity. Explorers is designed for the adult to minister in a local community much the same way as our summer I.M.P.A.C.T. We will work in the community for two full days and worship together on a nightly basis. We have a room block with the Candlewood Suites for \$119 per room, this price also includes the cost of the meeting room. Reservations can be made by calling (303)227-3505 and using the group code "IMM."

Travers City, MI

Bryan Marler, Missionary Helper

May was a month full of both celebration and heartbreak.

God truly is a faithful provider. He provided both employment and housing to my sister here in Traverse City, which means that I will have family close by. This is a great blessing.

My Sunday School class and the Men's Bible Study are both going well. We are talking about the nature and origin of the Local, New Testament Church right now in the Bible study. This is a challenging topic for some, but a necessary one if we are to have a foundation of men in our church that are grounded in the truth of God's Word. That study will continue through the month of June.

Our family did a fair bit of traveling at the end of the month in order to be at both the funeral of a dear brother in Christ as well as the wedding of my best friend. I had the opportunity to speak at the wedding and proclaim the truth of God's plan for marriage and the pattern that is established in Genesis chapter 2.

Bro. Philip and I continue to meet every week to study, pray, and go out and knock on doors together. I'm praying that God would bless these efforts. We put out a lot of door hangers this month.

It's been a nice time of fellowship and laboring together. I thank God for that.

New Beginning Ministry

Jack Slay, Director

The Lord has opened another door of opportunity for this ministry! The middle of this month I will be traveling to Rockford, IL. to attend an RU training class. What is RU? I'm glad you asked. RU is a biblically - based recovery program designed to rescue, recover, and restore those individuals who have drug and alcohol addictive behaviors with power of the hidden life found only in Christ Jesus. We are excited about this new phase of ministry. Not only will we be able to reach adults and teens that have struggled with breaking the chains of addiction. We will also be able to reach the children of these parents. RU offers a kids club for the children, of which my wife will take the lead roll. As part of the training seminar that I will attend, we will be provided with a package that can be distributed to drug court Judges. In this package will be all the information that the Judge needs about the RU program. Through various sources, we have already been informed that the drug court Judge in our county is looking for a faith based alternative to AA. Its our prayer that our program will be that alternative. Our plans are to start our first meeting in September, However; we will be fully dependent upon the leading of the Lord. I hope that you will pray with us about this awesome new ministry opportunity. We are looking forward to sharing with you the great things that the Lord will do in the future. Before I get off of this subject we would like to say thank you to Pastor Mike Withem and the wonderful folks at First Baptist in Ranson, WV for the more than generous love offering to help cover the expenses of going to Rockford, IL. You guys rock!!!!

With this new addition to our ministry, comes a new need for bibles. At present, we are currently out of bibles. However: Sugar Creek MBC in Ironton, OH. and Hopewell Baptist Church in Cunningham, TN. have graciously donated enough money for me to purchase 4 cases of good quality bibles. There are 12 bibles in a case, that will give me a total of 48 bibles. Between 4 jails and the RU class these will not last very long. If your church has a youth group, a mens group, or ladies auxiliary looking for a project, please prayerfully consider helping us with this need. Thanks for your help.



Wayne Sewell

Business Manager Report

The messengers of the churches met in Daytona Beach, Florida the third week of June. It was a quiet and peaceful meeting. The report of the Baptist Sunday School Committee was given to the messengers on Thursday morning. There was a line item that the Baptist Sunday School Committee asked the messengers to vote on as a separate item of business. That was a 5 percent increase in the price of literature. The messengers approved the line item by a large majority. The increase will be seen with the winter quarter of literature. I do appreciate the messengers understanding of the cost of production of literature.

The fall literature mail out began on July 5th. I want to encourage everyone to place your literature order early. There is a repeating order provided for those churches who want the order shipped at the start of the mail out. These orders can be changed by a certain date each quarter. It allows your church order to be among the first orders shipped. If you have questions, please call our 1.800.264.2482 toll free line and speak with one of the telephone staff. They will be happy to explain the repeating order system to you. This is a great way to make sure your orders go out early in the quarter.

Let me also encourage your church staff to check your literature order when you receive it each quarter. Sometimes we do make a mistake on an order. If you would check the order upon its arrival, that would give you peace of mind. If there is an error, that would give us the time to correct the error and get you the material in time for the start of the quarter. We do want to serve the churches. It is most helpful if you will check the order and call if there is a problem. Most orders come the last 4 to 6 weeks of the quarter. That volume is sometimes a challenge for the staff, especially if a holiday falls near the end of the quarter.

We are working with SWEPCO Electric and an independent company contracted by SWEPCO to reduce the cost of heat and air. The nice part is that SWEPCO pays for most of the cost. They have found some problems with the duct work. They have repaired and sealed several leaks in the duct work. We have already realized better distribution of the air in the building. Some of the cool air was escaping into the area above the tile ceiling. It is too early to know how much it might save the business.

Many of the state associations are held in the fall of the year. It is time to start scheduling those meetings. Each year we attend as many state meetings as we can schedule and give reports on the work in Texarkana.

I want to thank the messengers for electing me as Business Manager. This will begin nineteen years for me as Business Manager. I appreciate the confidence placed in me. Please continue to pray for me and the staff in Texarkana as we serve the churches of the American Baptist Association.

Dr. Wayne Sewell



Kyle Elkins
Business Manager

The editorial department is happy to have been able to produce several new products and a repurposing of an older product. These are produced with the prayer that churches and individuals who study the Bible with these materials will experience personal, spiritual growth.

Study Material

Gifts from the Cross is written by James M. Jones. This book examines thirteen biblical teachings and presents how these truly are gifts given to us by our Heavenly Father through Jesus Christ. The key words are atonement, reconciliation, redemption, propitiation, imputation, justification, sanctification, predestination, repentance, faith, grace, resurrection and eternity. Each chapter explains, defines and clarifies the distinct meaning of each word. At the end of each lesson is a series of discussion questions.

God's Gift Graciously Given is written by Doris Scarlett. This book is divided into three parts. Part One is the Pre-incarnation of Christ. This section examines Jesus from eternity past through the Old Testament. Part Two is the Incarnation of Christ. This part investigates the Scriptures relating to the "Mystery of Godliness," how that Jesus is God in the flesh. Several chapters of Part Two examine key names given in the Scriptures to the Lord Jesus. Part Three deals with the Post-incarnate Christ. These chapters deal with Jesus' role as the Great High Priest, His coming kingdom and the eternal ages. A glossary is provided to help better understand certain terms used in the book. A Worship Him section is found at the end of each chapter. This encourages the student to worship God for what He has done. Several appendices appear at the end of the book. This three hundred eighty page book will reveal Jesus as He is presented in the Word of God.

Several years ago, Doris Scarlett wrote *Prayer-Closet Praying*. Upon the request of this editor, Doris Scarlett has written a study guide to accompany her book. Those interested in growing in their prayer lives will find the study guide to be an excellent source for personal examination. The study guide follows the outline of the book, but also provides the student with places to write answers to thought-provoking questions and scenarios. Both books have gone to press, but at this time neither of Doris Scarlett's books is ready for purchase.

FINANCIAL REPORT
WEST FLORIDA BAPTIST INSTITUTE
May/June 2017

GENERAL FUND					
BALANCE BROUGHT FORWARD			\$34,556.20		
INCOME:					
ALABAMA					
Magnolia Springs BC	-Theodore, AL	340.00			
BaptistChapel BC	-Grand Bay, AL	100.00			
Baumhauer Rd.	-Theodore, AL	100.00			
Schillinger Rd.	-Mobile, AL	50.00			
GEORGIA					
Northside, BC	-Vienna, GA	100.00			
Traders Hill	-Folkston, GA	100.00			
FLORIDA					
Galilee MBC	-Milton, FL	40.00			
Bethel BC	-Milton, FL	200.00			
Okeechobee BC	-Okeechobee, FL	207.41			
Calvary BC	-Panama City, FL	100.00			
Landmark BC	-Pensacola, FL	90.00			
Landmark BC	-Madison, FL	200.00			
Mics:					
Kitchen Sales	-Pensacola, FL	24.00			
TOTAL			\$1,651.41		
DESIGNATED FUNDS:H.H.Strickland					
Baptist Chapel	-Grand Bay,AL	700.00			
Eastern Avenue	-St.Cloud,FL	600.00			
Frankfort BC	-Russellville, AL	220.00			
Charles Glenn	-Traskwood, AR	100.00			
Galilee BC	-Milton, FL	150.00			
Newark BC	-Elkton,MD	200.00			
Cumberland Cove BC	-Monterey,TN	50.00			
Johnsontown BC	-Hedgseville,WV	200.00			
First Baptist BC	-White City, FL	200.00			
TOTAL			\$ 2,220.00		
COMMITTEE OF 100					
Terry Alexander	-Pensacola, FL	20.00			
			\$3,891.41		
TUITION/REGISTRATION					
Registration		\$ 250.00			
Tuition		\$ 11,450.00			
TOTAL INCOME		11,700.00	\$15,591.41		
TOTAL AVAILABLE			\$50,347.61		
			\$53,865.91		
EXPENSES:					
Utilities		\$ 2,483.56			
Misc.		5,930.25			
Insurance		-0-			
Instruction		6,519.81			
TOTAL EXPENSE		\$14,419.81	\$14,419.81		
NEW BALANCE			\$ 35,413.99		
BOOKSTORE FUND					
BALANCE BROUGHT FORWARD			\$ 3,223.87		
Income:					
Bookstore Sales		\$ 1,821.95			
Press Sales		988.20			
Contributions					
Pinehaven		100.00			
O'Leno BC		200.00			
Landmark (Pensacola)		30.00			
Total Income		\$3,130.15	\$3,103.15		
TOTAL AVAILABLE			\$6,325.02		
Expenses:					
Utilities		\$1,024.61			
Postage		\$345.61			
Books		\$203.99			
Supplies		\$2,760.23			
TOTAL EXPENSES		\$4,334.44	\$ 4,334.44		
NEW BALANCE			\$ 2,019.58		
GENERAL FUND BALANCE					
			\$35,413.99		
BOOKSTORE FUND BALANCE					
			\$ 2,019.58		

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

Pilgrim Baptist Church is seeking a Pastor. The Pastor has to be Mission minded and believe the King James Bible is the only true and living word. Must adhere to the churches' doctrines, covenant, rules and regulations. We are a small, loving congregation. The pastor would have to be employed. Only God called, God fearing, mission

SPANISH-SPEAKING MISSIONARY NEEDED

We are seeking a Spanish-speaking Missionary for our Hispanic Mission in Tulsa, Oklahoma. There are many Spanish-speaking people in this area and we want to reach them with the gospel of Jesus Christ. The man would need to speak at least some English, be sound in Missionary Baptist doctrine and be a U.S. citizen. If the Lord impresses upon you to contact us you may call, write or e-mail us. Rose Lawn Missionary Baptist Church 6610 East Latimer Place Tulsa, OK 74115 Church: 918-836-2790 Pastor: 918-224-4393 E-mail: rncveigh@cox.net. Please pray for us. Thank you.

minded, soul saving men who preach and teach from the KJV are encourage to send resume via email to kjones6443@bellsouth.net along with recent photo.

PRINTING NEWS

Printing News:

The presses have been silent for most of the month of July due to my travels. Since the wife and I have been away, things have really been on a hold. We have represented this ministry at the National meeting, the Florida State meeting and then in Mexico. We both have become quite road weary. However, the joy of visiting with friends and supporters of the ministry is a great joy.

There is so much waiting our attention that it is difficult to know where to start.

Some time had to be spent in trying to get the shop back in order. Several items have been purchased and they need to be put in the right place.

We really enjoyed our trip to Mexico. Bro. Oscar Torres served as our host. He picked us up in Del Rio, and drove us to Saltillo, where the Mexican National

Meeting was held. The response to our materials was good. I had the opportunity to speak to the meeting. I simply want to encourage them concerning what was going on in the production of the Spanish materials.

At this point, other than the Spanish literature, WFBI Press is the only ministry or press producing materials for our Spanish brethren. It really bothers me to even think what would happen if we were forced to close the production of the materials. Our Spanish brethren would go back to where they were when we began publications in 1989. That would really be a sad day. That is the primary reason that we have been praying so much for someone to come and join this ministry. The Lord has given us so much and how sad it would be to see the presses go silent.

New Equipment:

Over the past few weeks we have been able to purchase two new pieces of equipment. We have tried to change

the way that we bind some of the books. We have tried using a wire binding in place of the GBC plastic binding and so far it is working out really well. The only problem we have faced is the time it takes to do the hole punch. We were able to purchase an electric closer, which I thought was the whole thing, and it has helped. However, we need to purchase an electric punch so that the process will go much easier and faster.

Also, a new small cutter has been purchased and is now on the floor. This cutter sells new for more than \$9,000.00 and we were able to get it here for around \$1,000.00. This all has been possible due to a very generous contribution that was made to the shop. I praise the Lord for the concern and love for this ministry

I thank you for everything that you have done for us. Please keep me and the wife in your prayers and also that the Lord will call someone to come and work in this ministry.

<p style="text-align: center;">Publication</p> <p>wfbi 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 month's 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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