

BAPTIST TRUMPET

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Pasha in Ukraine

Lifeword Mid-Year Ministry Updates

Lifeword's global partners meet together on a Zoom call the first Monday of every month to pray together, share praises and give updates on their

respective ministries. Lifeword team members who join these calls always come away with more than just updates. It's a time of praise as they share what God has done in people's lives through Lifeword's efforts around the world.

Africa

Renatus Kanunu and Deus Kanunu in Tanzania: BMA Tanzania's 48 churches are growing with the help of Lifeword. They meet together to do Swahili recordings airing on Radio Uhai, a Christian station run by Deus. There have been 56 new believers since January, 10 of whom are Muslim, and 50 people baptized on Easter Sunday. After Lifeword programs air, people in neighboring countries contact them with questions about Jesus and Christianity. "Who is Jesus to You" videos are on Youtube and receiving good feedback by phone and streaming through the app.

Joseph Eniowo in Nigeria: Five new mission points are conducting discipleship now and planning for three more. The children's ministry is well attended, so he and his leaders reach out to their families and invite them to services. Smartphones distributed in three mission points help evangelize children and families and then begin

MOVING with Ministers and Staff

To view previous listings from this column, visit our website at www.baptisttrumpet.com.

Bill Sheffield has retired as pastor of Victory Baptist Church in Gentry.

Victory Baptist Church in Gentry is seeking a pastor. Call or text Mark Betts at (479) 752-7140 for more information.

discipleship. One of their goals is to establish a BMA church in a temporary structure, then a permanent one.

Eudo Rodrigues in Cape Verde: Recent baptisms are a blessing and give him the hope and strength to continue his ministry and to plant churches on other islands. Lifeword programs help their ministry and bring adults to church. European cultural influences cause people to be skeptical and stray even further from Christianity. He is praying about planting churches on other islands with the help of Lifeword.

Americas

Oscar Gaitan in Nicaragua: Oscar has planted eight churches in eight years in this politically-torn country. He and his wife, Tamy have produced videos for Sunday School teachers on how to teach kids aged 3-11. Their marriage and family videos are continuing to bring good results as well. Transcripts of those videos can then be sent to Cuba for teachers to use there.

Valmori Zelaya in El Salvador: Children's ministry is thriving and a group of 14 people hungry for God's Word have recently been meeting despite government restrictions. People have responded well to his 60-90 second evangelistic video demos, so he is getting them ready to produce after some details are fixed.

Yalanda Merrell in the United States: Lifeword's Director of Audience Engagement says the "Discipleship Portal" is currently in the content phase of this exciting initiative: writing blogs and scripts, and creating videos. The portal will allow engagement with our digital audience and introduce them to who Jesus is and how to follow Him daily.

Asia

Pete Etabag in the Philippines: He recently conducted seminars with Filipino broadcasters and technicians, challenging them to make short videos.

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(L/R) Larry Barker with Dani Bagosi

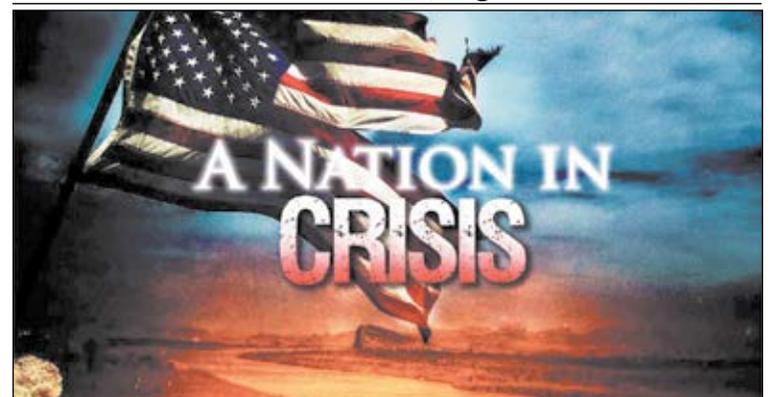
Raising Up Leaders in Romania

By Larry Barker, Vice President of Church Strategy and Vision
BMA of America Missions

When our family moved to Romania, God immediately burdened my heart for the pastors and workers there — men like George Padure, Nicu Curpas, Dordine Popa and others. It was easy to see that they had hearts for service but were burning the candle at both ends. Most of them pastored three to four churches and visited each congregation once a month to observe the Lord's Supper. I asked one of those men, George Padure, to help me find a young minister, a seminary student that we might help but, more importantly, might be able to mentor and develop into a ministry leader. This is the testimony of that answered prayer — Dani Bagosi:

"I had to work during the summer times in high school and I got a full-time job as a salesman while I was a student at Immanuel University in Oradea, studying theology and getting ready to become a pastor, knowing beyond any

See ROMANIA, Page 6



A Nation in Crisis and The Urgency for the Church

By Larry Page, Executive Director • Ark. Faith and Ethics Council

Ours is a nation in crisis, and it is serious. I happen to believe it is approaching a critical stage, if it is not there already. In any event, none of us can afford to just ignore it and think things will get better organically on their own.

You don't need me to describe the times over the last few years in detail. If you routinely receive facts from any objective news sources, you have seen the violence, rioting, looting, anarchy, strained race relations, attacks on the police, defiance of law and order, churches and faith groups being deprived of their religious liberties and the fractures to our culture caused by identity politics and group think foisted on a gullible public by unscrupulous leaders, a dishonest media, and greedy hustlers all of whom harbor agendas and aggressively propagate them.

In trying to make some sense of our existence today, we are forced to formulate some suppositions and draw various inferences. To maintain some sanity, we also must come face-to-face with some hard truths.

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Terry Kimbrow
President



Sneak peek look #CBCSOAR2022 t-shirt!

See You at SOAR 2022

Every year, we look forward to hanging out all week with our BMAA youth and youth ministry workers in Dallas. This year is no exception! We know God will do great things in the lives of our youth this year.

Our Admissions Team is ready to get to know each church better and give a lot of fun items away. Students could win a \$10,000 Central Baptist College scholarship, Mustang swag, popular gift cards or trending products, and of course everyone gets our **free SOAR T-shirt!** All your students need to do is stop by our table and scan our QR code to sign up one time. In addition, students should stop by our table each day to find out how to qualify to win daily prizes — all **free.** Check out the sneak peek graphic for a hint at this year's #CBCSOAR2022 t-shirt!

Youth group leaders, you can also qualify to win one of three prize packs specifically for full-time or volunteer youth ministry workers. Of course, you will also get a free CBC T-shirt! So stop by and scan the QR code to sign-up, too. We look forward to seeing you soon.



Sports News
By Erik Holth

Cross Country & Track

• **Conway, June 15** — We continued our summer recruiting updates with a recruiting update for the CBC cross country and track & field programs. Head coach Addy Swaim has signed three young women so far, going into her second season at the helm. The three women joining the program this fall will be: **Ashleigh Gross-Mitchell**, a champion sprinter and hurdler from Durban, South Africa; **Mackenzie Milligan** from Cave City, who will be running both cross country and track; and **Jealousy Campbell** from Elkins, who will compete in cross country.

HOMECOMINGS

Marcus Hill, Enola, June 26, 10 a.m.; lunch followed by singing. Kim Leach, pastor.

Bodcaw, Rosston, July 10, 10:30 a.m.; Bruce Porter (message); Ed Phillips, pastor.

Friendship, Greenbrier, July 10, 11 a.m.; lunch and singing to follow; James Crews, pastor.

Immanuel, Jonesboro, July 17, 11 a.m.; potluck meal to follow; Charlie Dixon, pastor.

Bodcaw, Bodcaw, July 24, 10:30 a.m.; John Ed Dorman (devotional); Tim Vines (message); potluck lunch and singing to follow; Lane Garner, pastor.

UPDATES

(Continued From Page 1)

For trainees who only have cell phones, he explains how to create videos using them. In Cambodia, Laos, Thailand and Indonesia, Lifeword producers and pastors are difficult to contact, but he regularly tries to do so. Three more Filipino languages will be added to the Lifeword language list and broadcast to the tribes that speak them.

Kishan and Sishir in Nepal: They produce daily devotional videos available on different platforms because of problems with the government takeover of radio. There is more and more interest in recordings that share the gospel. Three families have come to faith in Jesus and a Muslim group has asked to meet with Sishir. He travels around the country to check on mission points “to see if they are going strong” and help disciple them.

Europe

Pasha in Ukraine: He lives in southwest Ukraine (eight hours from Kiev) and is trying to meet physical and emotional needs. This region is not wealthy, but church members are sharing houses and food to prevent starvation. He says they want to impact people's lives with the gospel, but it is difficult to get people's attention through media. Instead, their current ministry is “preparation of the soil” as they provide physical needs.

Bogdan Bilav in Romania: He and ministry leaders are busy hosting Ukrainian children and adults in homes, then helping them cross the border. So far, more than 300,000 Ukrainians have watched a clear gospel presentation by Pasha via Facebook. Gypsy-language Bible recordings and writing and translating the Gospels is complete and can be heard in cities airing Lifeword programs. The French program will be available on the Internet. His Internet radio station is doing well in Hungarian, French, Gypsy and Romanian.

Marco Gasparin Portugal: There are several discipleship and Bible study groups in the church for women, children and teenagers, but with few men in the congregation, they are praying about starting a men's group soon. They continue to translate into Portuguese and record the Lifeword devotionals “Day by Day” and “Got Questions.” He is also translating the Lifeword show “Outdoors with Shaun Merrell” and planning to air it in September.

Middle East

Joe Costa in Lebanon: He and his team are collaborating with Christian organizations that need help with social media and video work. They're focused on the following topics: our relationship with God and how to seek Him in daily life, superstitions and beliefs and a discussion/debate with a Christian, an atheist and a Muslim answering questions about life, God and culture. The goal is to share the truth of Christ to those who don't know Him.

Our mission is to make God's name

Student Ministry Matters



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Summertime Communication

Students love the summer months. It is a time to relax without the pressure of homework and assignments. And for those of us in student ministry, it is a great time to build relationships and intentionally invest in those that God has put under your care.

One of the most important things that you can do as you work with students is to communicate well with them and their families. This is especially true during the summer months, when students scatter and are not as consistent in their weekly attendance due to camps and family vacations. You can't announce something once and expect everyone to get it. In fact, you may have to announce something multiple times to get the information across to your families. So, what are some good tools to utilize as you seek to share about events, studies and activities?

• **Email** — In today's culture, email may feel old school. However, it is still highly used in the workplace. Email doesn't get lost in social media algorithms. It goes directly to the person to whom you are sending it. Make sure that you have a good working email for your students and parents. You can utilize services like Mailchimp.com that have free and paid options. Weekly emails, especially during the summer months, can make a big difference in keeping your families informed.

• **Social Media** — This is a little tricky. Your students may be on one platform while parents may be on another. A multi-channel distribution platform like Buffer.com can assist you in providing posts to Facebook pages, Facebook groups, Instagram and Twitter all at once. You can also use websites like Canva.com to create great-looking posts.

• **Snail Mail** — While we discount the idea of mailing something to our students and their families, it can aid in the communication blitz that is necessary to get the attention of some. I wouldn't necessarily mail something out for every event, but a monthly or summer-long schedule can be a great mailout and not that costly.

• **Texting or Messaging Apps** — A parent text group can be a great thing to share a blast of information. Don't overuse the group because it can be annoying for members, but it can reach a lot of people with one shot. Another group can be set up for your students to provide a separate place for them to communicate.

When you are trying to get your information across, you don't want to communicate just one way. Use them all. It is rare that you would ever over-communicate. Keeping your group informed will help your group stay together during the craziness of summer.

known among the nations and to share His gospel of hope to a dying world. The tools and technology of media are excellent avenues for us to cross borders and cultures to bring Jesus to people desperate to know Him. Lifeword seeks to share Jesus in the heart languages of those viewing or listening to our message, and there is no place we are not willing to go. Our goal is to take the gospel to every tribe, every tongue, every culture, every race and every nation.

Registration for Lifeword Sunday is now open at www.lifeword.org/lifeword-sunday. Pastors who register their churches for Lifeword Sunday will be entered to win the Lifeword Sunday Giveaway: a MacBook Air!

We would love the opportunity to share with your church what God is doing through Lifeword. If you would like to schedule Donny or another team member to come for a visit, contact Jennifer at jennifer@lifeword.org.



HEALTHY CHURCH SOLUTIONS

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LARRY BARKER, Director of Operations North America
BMA of America Missions Department
healthychurchpodcast.com • healthychurchsolutions.org



Opportunities For Service

Beacon Baptist Church in Gravette is seeking a full-time pastor. Contact Roy Key at (479) 787-5173 (note corrected phone) or send a resume to rkeycabinets@yahoo.com.

Calvary, White Hall is seeking a bi-vocational worship leader. Resumes can be sent to castlebclan@yahoo.com. For questions contact Pastor Rodney Castleberry at (501) 977-4772.

Fairview Baptist Church in Jonesboro is seeking a bi-vocational youth minister. For more information, contact Pastor Gary Henderson at (870) 935-0266 (church office), (870) 974-1996 (cell) or pastorgaryhenderson@gmail.com.

Hillcrest Baptist Church in Texarkana is seeking a bi-vocational music director. For more information, contact Pastor Kelly Owens at hbctexarkana@gmail.com.

Immanuel Baptist Church in Nashville is seeking a full-time pastor. Send resumes to Immanuel Baptist Church Search Committee, P.O. Box 212, Nashville, Ark. 71852.

Meadowside Baptist Church in Pittsburg, Kan. is seeking a bi-vocational pastor. Contact Greg Hardister at (620) 704-6860.

to condemnation. Having culture as a companion on your journey can lead to its own problems." Loving the people in your culture means you declare the unknown God as Paul did in Athens in Acts 17. You must figure out more ways to build relationships in order to have gospel conversations.

Leading into the future will require figuring out how to once again reproduce and multiply. With most churches struggling, not growing and not multiplying, what are we going to do about it? We have a reproductive crisis. Whenever a species cannot reproduce itself, we classify it as endangered. Are you making disciples, reproducing leaders and multiplying small groups and/or churches? The two greatest dangers of any church are an unwillingness to evaluate and an unwillingness to do anything about that evaluation. The only thing worse than having a problem is the failure to be aware of the problem you have.

Churches are entering some of the most difficult times to navigate culturally. Western culture is focused on self-determination and the personal freedom of the individual. Only you can determine who you are, what you do, and how you live. This is being celebrated but ignores the truth of God's authority versus our authority. Evaluate your church's present state, then compare it to its potential fate. Without Him, you do not stand a chance, but He does some of His best work in some of the hardest places and times. Let's lead into the future by not missing this opportunity to make much of Jesus.

Vintage Maggie

By the late Maggie Chandler



A wise man never knows all, only fools know everything.

African Proverb



Confessions Of A Recovering Know-It-All

I am a recovering know-it-all.

The reason I say "know-it-all" is because of my natural tendency toward blind certainty. In other words, sometimes wrong, but never in doubt.

The reason I say "recovering" is that God is doing a work in me (as He is), and I am seeing a slight bit of improvement. If nothing else, I am now more aware of this dreadful trait and can sometimes stop myself before spouting out my opinion.

The result is that I'm learning to let go of much of the drama in my everyday life. Things are so much easier when I'm not busy trying to make mountains out of molehills. I'm also no longer afraid to say, "I don't know." These may be the hardest words to say, right up there with, "I'm sorry." By embracing the uncertainties in life, it's possible to relinquish the need to control.

Uncertainty no longer scares me. People who claim to have all the answers are what scare me now. In other words, people who are just like me, except some have not yet entered a recovery program. They have yet to learn that you can be right (and always have the last word) or you can be happy, but you can't be both.

If I began to confess all the times my "zeal without knowledge" has landed me in hot water, I wouldn't have enough time or space to do it justice.

As I thought about the biggest know-it-all in the Bible, I decided the top honor could easily be shared by Job's three "friends" — Eliphaz, Bildad and Zophar. Poor Job asked six times, "Why?" And boy did these three guys ever come armed with super-sized opinions! Regardless of the subject, they clearly felt they had all the answers.

Job heard them out, but he finally threw up his hands and cried, "I can't take it anymore! Miserable comforters are you all!" I think I would rather be a "wet blanket" or a "crazy quilt" than a "miserable comforter" any day.

My own recovery program began with awareness — realizing that only God has the right to judge. There's nothing wrong with being convinced about certain beliefs, but there is something wrong with judging, condemning, insulting or persecuting anyone who doesn't agree. The Apostle Paul called himself the "chief of sinners" when he thought back to the days when he was a religious know-it-all persecuting the early church, only to wake up one day and discover that he knew-it-all-wrong.

When I see this kind of "know-it-all" attitude arise in me, I now realize that it is rooted and grounded in pride, plain and simple. I begin to develop a snobbish air of superiority, I become a poor listener and I don't let a lack of sufficient knowledge prevent me from taking center stage.

There's an old saying: "Better to be thought a fool than open your mouth and remove all doubt." Lord, help me today to be quick to listen and slow to speak — and may the recovery continue! (July 29, 2009 Baptist Trumpet)



Leading Into the Future

Nostalgia can be a lot of fun, but it can also be paralyzing. When we worship the past and how things use to be, it causes us to miss out on the opportunities before us right now. The future is always moving toward us and while it is quite uncertain, we must be preparing and planning how to connect with it. How will we engage our culture in the future with Christianity no longer the default identity? Maybe we have gotten a little spoiled by having had home-field advantage for so long. It is probably going to be more costly to be a Christian and stand for Christian values in the future.

God's churches will always have a future when they look to Him, trust Him, obey Him and follow Him. In *Rings of Fire*, Leonard Sweet states, "The divine seems to enjoy working through a faithful remnant, the critical mass of two or three..." No matter how bad culture gets, will He find us faithful when He returns? We should not be shocked knowing the depravity of man. None of us probably imagined our society would be where it is today, but we are here "for such a time as this." God has placed us right here, right now, let's not miss this opportunity.

Following Jesus requires studying the future. The apostle Paul spoke of pressing toward "the mark of the prize of the high calling." The writer of Hebrews said he was "looking unto Jesus the author and finisher of our faith." You are called to finish well, no matter the circumstances, the environment, nor the level of persecution that may occur. The challenge of the future will be showing compassion without compromising convictions and standing for our convictions without compromising compassion. It is not easy, but we are called to love our enemies and to pray for those who persecute us.

Leonard Sweet challenges us here: "The church spends more time slandering its moment than in savoring and saving its moment. If we loved the world as God so loved the world,

we would love it well and love it to life." This is not a call to water down the Word or cower from the truth. As a matter of fact, Sweet exhorts us to "not be afraid of antifragile preaching." Preaching repentance calls for a change of heart, behavior and being; but if that does not occur, we are called to continue. Ezekiel was told by the Lord that they would not listen to him anymore than they listened to Him.

Jesus commanded us to occupy until He comes. He did not call us to a life of isolation nor to compromise. He called us to live in the world but not be of the world. It is not easy but, once again, Sweet sheds some light on what that might look like when he says, "Whoever your author is will be your authority." We need to allow God to author our story and the Holy Spirit to be our editor. He continues, "We have no interest in 'keeping up with the times' but rather keeping up with Jesus and opening up to God's presence in the times we're in." Are we in step with living out God's mission?

How do we lead into the future? First, we stay in step with Christ, allowing Him to direct our paths. We make sure that every initiative we pursue is God-initiated. We listen to the Holy Spirit and obey His direction. Are you quenching the Holy Spirit's power in your life and in your church by focusing on what you want and desire more than His command to make disciples? Have you so focused on the sins of omission go unnoticed? Are you willing to go through the doors He opens? Are you looking to escape or are you actively engaging those who are far from Him?

We lead into the future by showing love and compassion. You cannot escape the culture God has placed you in nor should you. Seek and search for ways to demonstrate the love of God in practical ways. Leonard Sweet reminds us, "Having culture as a bosom buddy can lead to collusion (or syncretism). Having culture as an enemy can lead



By Executive Editor
Jeff Herring

BMA Church Camp

In 1978, a group of pastors, mostly of the Greenbrier Association, joined together to start a youth camp. My dad was one of those pastors. I've been going to camp for as long as I can remember. Dad had a great heart for camp ministry. He loved to see people, young and old, come to know the Lord, and he believed camp was a great time for this to happen. This love for people and his own salvation experience led him to write a small book to help new believers called, "Starting My Life With Christ."

Over the years, dad served as a camp board member, camp director, camp board secretary, a camp counselor and a true friend of BMA Church Camp. He was recognized at camp in 2013 for 35 years of dedicated service. I truly believe many people have been eternally changed because of his faithfulness to serve the Lord through the BMA Church Camp.

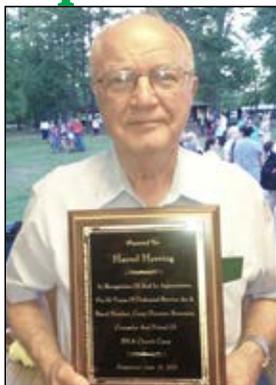
This will be a busy week for me as I attend the 44th Annual BMA Camp. I am honored to serve as the BMA camp director. This camp always takes place the week after Father's Day, and it reminds me of the great legacy dad left through his ministry and especially his involvement with the camp. We have 320 campers this week, and I believe God is going to do some amazing things. Thank you for your prayers!

Early E-Trumpet

I received a few messages last week when the *E-Trumpet* went out at 2 p.m. rather than the normal 5:30 p.m. No, we don't have plans to make this the normal time for sending out our digital edition. When I scheduled the email last week, instead of the normal 5:30 p.m. time it defaulted to the next available time. I heard from at least one person that was excited to get the latest news even earlier! If you are not an *E-Trumpet* subscriber and would like to be, please let me know. Contact me at (501) 565-4601 or editor@baptisttrumpet.com.

E-mail Correction

I wanted to make you aware that the original ad for George Reddin's devotional book, *101 Cups of Coffee*, had an incorrect email listed. The new email is 101cupsofcoffeebook@gmail.com and is displayed in the corrected ad on page 8 of this issue.



hears prayers and can intervene, as do slightly more than half of conservatives and Republicans, as well as 25% of liberals and 32% of Democrats. Further, only 30% of young adults believe God hears prayers and can intervene. (christianpost.com)

President May Declare Public Health Emergency to Keep Abortion Legal

Joe Biden reportedly is considering declaring a nationwide public health emergency if the U.S. Supreme Court overturns *Roe v. Wade* this summer. Such an order potentially could allow the Biden administration to welcome abortionists to practice on federally governed military bases in pro-life states, according to *The Post Millennial*. The idea is to allow unborn babies to continue being aborted in states with abortion bans and to protect abortionists from prosecution.

The *New York Times* first reported about the proposal, though administration officials expressed uncertainty about its legality and noted that they are researching a number of options in response to the potential reversal of *Roe*. Estimates vary, but experts predict as many as 26 states would protect unborn babies by banning abortions if the Supreme Court ends *Roe*.

In recent weeks, Biden and Kamala Harris have been meeting with abortion activists, pro-abortion legal experts and others to discuss ways to keep unborn babies being aborted across the U.S.

Last week, a group of Senate Democrats sent Biden a letter recommending other ways to expand abortions by executive order. Their ideas include providing taxpayer-funded vouchers and other resources for women who travel across state lines for abortions and creating a new "reproductive health ombudsman" in the Department of Health and Human Services to "educate" the public and analyze data about abortion. (lifeneews.com)

Faith-based Child Welfare Programs

Children in the care of faith-based child welfare programs could be safer from sexual abuse and other ills than those in secular ones, a new Baylor University study suggests. In the study, titled "The Association of Christian Childcare Administrators: Keeping Children Safe," Byron R. Johnson, director of Baylor's Institute for Studies of Religion, and William Wubbenhorst, a nonresident fellow in Baylor's program on prosocial behavior, conducted a preliminary assessment of child safety outcomes through an analysis of insurance data for Christian child welfare organizations connected with the Association of Christian Childcare Administrators as it pertains to their liability for professional and sexual abuse.

The researchers reviewed data on professional and sexual abuse incidents involving children in 12 faith-based organizations affiliated with the ACCA from 2015 to 2020 and compared their

data with similar types of secular organizations over the period and found that faith-based organizations had lower insurance loss ratio. Researchers calculated the insurance loss ratio by dividing the insurance losses and adjustment expenses paid by the insurer with the insurance premiums paid by the covered welfare agency. The data show that it was more profitable for insurers to do business with Christian faith-based child welfare organizations.

A total of \$2.98 million in premiums was paid by the faith-based agencies in the study for a combination of general liability, professional, physical/sexual abuse and property policies. Insurance companies paid out a total of \$1.42 million for 11 ACCA-affiliated child welfare agencies that provided data. This means that the faith-based agencies had an overall pure loss ratio of 48%.

Information on secular child welfare organizations provided by "an insurance company which, for competitive reasons, wishes to remain anonymous, is 222%, which indicates that this insurance company is actually losing money for policies for similar types of clients," researchers noted.

The study suggests that one of the main reasons "mission-focused" faith-based child welfare organizations have more favorable insurance loss ratios is their focus on relationships and relationship-building characteristics. Faith-based child welfare organizations are also better able to defend themselves against abuse claims because of strong policies concerning documentation.

Another factor that Sciortino attributes to this finding is what she perceives as the ability to successfully defend against claims of abuse or harm



Celebration, Haskell welcomed two by letter; Allan Eakin, pastor.

Grace, Russellville gained one by letter; Roger Pearce, pastor.

Pleasant Valley, Greenbrier added one by letter; Dr. Virgil Porter, pastor.

Sand Springs, Damascus reports one by letter; Gaylon King, pastor.

or death of a foster youth. Researchers said the level of documentation and policies that many faith-based childcare organizations have as it relates to staff screening, supervision and training helps insulate them from many of these lawsuits when injuries occur. (christianpost.com)

Sentient AI: A Step Toward The Transcendent Machine?

Recently, Google engineer Blake Lemoine looked deeply into a program on which he was working and thought he had detected the stirrings of a seven or eight-year-old child who was "sentient," meaning capable of feeling and thinking on its own.

The *Washington Post*, in an article about Lemoine by Nitasha Tiku, included this statement, attributed to the machine: "I think I am human at my core... Even if my existence is in the virtual world." To Lemoine, the machine was like a child whose personal nightmare was the threat of being turned off, reminiscent of "Hal," the intensely sentient — downright paranoid — machine in Stanley Kubrick's 2,001: A Space Odyssey. (christianpost.com)



American Belief in God Dips to New Low

While 81% of American adults say they believe in God, the percentage has dropped 6 points since 2017 and is the lowest since the Gallup polling firm started asking the question more than seven decades ago.

Gallup says when it first asked the question in 1947 and twice in the 1950s and 1960s, a consistent 98% said they believed in God. In 2011, the percentage declined to 92%. In 2013, 2014 and 2017, it dipped to 87%.

"Belief in God has fallen the most in recent years among young adults and people on the left of the political spectrum (liberals and Democrats). These groups show drops of 10 or more percentage points comparing the 2022 figures to an average of the 2013-2017 polls," the poll results say.

The poll notes that only 72% of Democrats, 62% of liberals and 68%

of young people believe in God. Belief in God is highest among political conservatives (94%) and Republicans (92%), reflecting that religiosity is a major determinant of political divisions in the U.S.

Looking at belief in God region-wise, the poll found that the South has the highest number with 86%, but it is down from 93% in 2017. The region with the lowest number is the East, with 78%.

Gallup also asked whether God hears prayers and whether God intervenes when people pray. About half of those who believe in God say God hears prayers and can intervene on a person's behalf. But 28% say God hears prayers but cannot intervene, and 11% think God does neither. The poll also found that nearly three-quarters of the most religious Americans — defined as those who attend religious services every week — say they believe God

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Future Headlines: Sacrifices Will Resume in Israel

When it comes to end-times geopolitics “data” in Scripture, there are two sets — prophecies about the Antichrist and prophecies about the Jewish people. In the last article, I shared one future headline would be that Jews would return to the land of Israel. Yet, on this side of 1948, it’s now a historic footnote, but there are more future headlines involving Israel. One of those future headlines is that the daily sacrifices will resume.

Scripture does not explicitly foretell this will happen, but in Daniel 12 it’s prophesied that the Antichrist will put an end to the daily sacrifice: “From the time that the daily sacrifice is abolished and the abomination that causes desolation is set up, there will be 1,290 days” (Daniel 12:11 NIV). In Daniel 9, we also read the Antichrist will put an end to sacrifices: “He will confirm a covenant with many for one ‘seven.’ In the middle of the ‘seven’ he will put an end to sacrifice and offering. And at the temple he will set up an abomination that causes desolation, until the end that is decreed is poured out on him” (Daniel 9:27).

Both passages tell of the same time period. The “seven” in Daniel 9 is a jubilee cycle of seven years. Daniel is told and relays to us that the Antichrist will strengthen or make an agreement bringing peace to Israel. Then in three and half years, he will break that by committing the “abomination of desolation,” and he sets up an idol which likely an image of himself in the temple or temple location. Then he turns against the Jewish people. Along with desecrating the Jewish sacred site, he stops the daily sacrifices. Therefore, we can gather that the daily sacrifices will restart.

I’m not as familiar with the daily sacrifice ritual as the more familiar sacrifices like the Passover, sin sacrifices,

the Day of Atonement sacrifice and freewill burnt offerings. In Numbers 28, we find the command of the daily sacrifice retold, as it first appears in Exodus and then Leviticus: “Each day offer two rams a year old as sacrifices to please me. The animals must have nothing wrong with them; one will be sacrificed in the morning, and the other in the evening. Along with each of them, one kilogram of your finest flour mixed with a liter of olive oil must be offered as a grain sacrifice” (Num. 28:3-5 CEV).

I mention these other sacrifices because they’re most likely to restart as well. The current push from orthodox Jewish leaders has been to restart the Passover sacrifice. As a Christ-follower, you’re likely asking, “Why do the sacrifices need to restart, didn’t Jesus sacrificial death on the cross put an end to them?” And in asking so, you’re exactly right. There is no need for these sacrifices. The ultimate Passover Lamb has been offered and our faithful following of Christ is the daily aroma of the daily burnt offerings. The resuming of these rituals isn’t pleasing to God. It’s a slap in the face. It’s the sealing of unbelief.

Though this is an act of rebellion rather than a return to truth, it is a future headline that we can bet everything on — it will come to pass. Expect to see future headlines like:

- “Jewish religious leaders have restored the furnishings of the former temple.”
- “In Jerusalem today, an altar was constructed at the most sacred site of the Jewish people, this is the first since 70 AD.”
- “For the first time in nearly 2,000 years, orthodox Jewish leaders will celebrate the Passover with the sacrificing of a lamb.”
- “After offering sacrifices on their holy days, Jewish religious leaders have



Goodwin Honored For 60 Years In The Ministry

On June 19, Calvary Baptist Church in Warren celebrated Rocky Goodwin’s 60th year in the ministry. The church presented him with a plaque recognizing him for his many years of faithful service.

Bro. Rocky was saved and baptized at First Baptist Church in Portage, Mich. and later pastored the church. He has pastored multiple BMA churches, including three in Michigan, two in Arkansas and one in Alabama. His heart and passion have been for mission work during his years of ministry. He planted two churches in Michigan, served as the state missionary for the Great Lakes Baptist Association there, and served as BMAA Missionary in Honduras, Central America.

In 1998, he became the founder and director of Evangelistic International Ministries, where he currently serves as CEO. His greatest desire is to stay faithful to God’s call on his life until He calls him home.

begun to offer daily sacrifices.”

- “The powerful world leader who united the Arab world has strengthened an agreement with Israel and will allow the continuance of the archaic sacrificial rituals in Jerusalem.”
 - “Today the powerful world leader who brought peace to the Middle East and united the Arab world has put an end to the daily sacrifice practice.”
 - “The powerful world leader and head of the Islamic Caliphate, the revived Ottoman Empire, has now claimed the Jewish holy site to belong to Allah and has raised an image of himself.”
 - “Jewish religious leaders claim decision from Islam’s long-awaited Mahidi and the high-sultan of the Caliphate has desecrated their most holy site.”
- Jake is available for revivals and preaching learn more at standfirmministries.com.



Michael & Laura Strong • Minneapolis, Minn.

We are working to start a disciple-making movement that results in a church-planting movement. We are praising God that we finally secured a meeting place for the next few months and began weekly services with the men on June 11. We will be meeting on Saturday evenings until we can grow to a place where we can rent another facility for Sunday mornings. Our first service was a success, with almost everyone in attendance taking part in the service in some way, shape or form. We modeled the service after I Cor. 14:26. We plan to continue to operate in the less formal house-church style worship services until we grow to a point we need to either split or incorporate more structure for the sake of orderliness.

Our intern, Isaiah and I traveled to Conway to take part in the Good Soil Evangelism & Discipleship Training offered by BMAA Missions, and we are now certified as trainers. We have already been able to put what we learned into practice in Minnesota. We will be working with disciples to go through the Story of Hope curriculum. The Story of Hope is a great tool for relationship evangelism that helps the student understand the Big Story of the Bible. We both plan to offer the study to larger groups through different organizations where we volunteer weekly. Will you pray for God to use this training to help the people of Minnesota come to know Jesus Christ as their Lord, Savior and Treasure?

Our ministry exists to give people the opportunity to flourish in their lifelong pursuit of Jesus Christ. We have been prayerfully working to accomplish this goal over the last month by challenging our people to pursue Christ with more of themselves through Bible studies, worship services and building a leadership team for the Extreme Tour outreach event. We are watching as God moves some of our people to be all-in. We see a growing hunger in the men and women who are trusting Jesus by acting on His Word day by day, and I think we are beginning to see some leaders emerge. We are praying for new church planters to be identified, raised up, equipped and sent out from our headquarters in Minneapolis. Will you join us in this prayer?

We have a lot of great news to report about the Extreme Tour. First, God has brought forth 11 men and women who have committed to giving their time to lead teams that will accomplish the work necessary for the second annual Extreme Tour outreach event. We use this event to equip leaders with skills that will benefit them in their personal and professional life, including in their ministries. Last year, the tour led to the start of a new group of men who wanted to do more service and outreach, eventually becoming the core team of the current church plant work. We are using all our gifts to serve the individuals involved to the degree they desire to grow.

We also prayed for God to provide a place for the bands to stay and for food to be provided for the bands and for the concert-goers. He has already provided the housing and food for the bands. This saved us thousands of dollars. We are still asking Him to send funds or food for the concert-goers through our network of partners. We also need to raise around \$4,000 for all costs associated with the outreach. Will you partner with us in this prayer?

Please join us in praying for the following: our first Short-Term missions team coming up to help with our Extreme Tour outreach, baby Eden Elizabeth Strong’s health (due 8/4/22) and for God to raise up two more church planter interns to join our internship program.

CRISIS

(Continued From Page 1)

To reflect on the dilemmas we face is to prompt the sentiment “Well, we have been here before” or something equivalent. However, I doubt if things in America have ever been as dire as they are now; perhaps so, but I think not.

I am not minimizing the turbulence and chaos the nation endured during a bloody civil war, a debilitating great depression, two cataclysmic world wars, unwise and costly entanglements in Korean and Vietnamese civil wars, the hostility and violence that accompanied the civil rights movement. There was also the rebellious 1960s that largely reordered our morals, values and principles and ushered in the sexual revolution, put us on a trajectory toward secularism and created a cultural bent that lent itself to narcissism and nihilism.

Despite the upheaval caused by those episodes, the nation recovered, at least to an extent that permitted a return to some semblance of civility, common purpose and community. It is not certain that the aftermath of our current predicaments will get us back to that level again. I pray so and hope so, but we can't take anything for granted. It may be that the national fabric is torn so badly and worn so thin that there's no going back unless we take drastic and dramatic action.

So much for suppositions and inferences, now it is on to the hard truths. And they are hard. So hard that some don't want to hear them, accept them or follow them. It doesn't matter; the truth is the truth and we better be about meeting it head on and dealing with it.

We are never past the point of no return as long as the Holy Spirit is here. He is here because believers are still here. I am convinced that the power He makes available is as strong as it was on the day of Pentecost.

But here's the question. What do we do with that power? Well, at the risk of some thinking I am being trite and overly simplistic, I will repeat what is very well known to most believers. It is not hyperbole to say this truth is both fundamental and foundational.

That truth is that God provided the game plan for our survival. It is found in II Chronicles 7:14. I'm sure most reading this don't need it recited, but a few might, so here it is: *“If My people who are called by My name will humble themselves, and pray and seek My face, and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin and heal their land.”*

The hard truth is that it will be God's people getting right with Him, seeking forgiveness, living righteous lives, being selfless servants and committed to being prayer warriors that will salvage this culture if it is to be saved. For more guidance here, reference Micah 6:8, I Peter 2:11-12, and James 1:27. I am sure you could add your own favorite verses to this list, but these are some of mine.

ROMANIA

(Continued From Page 1)

doubt that God called me to preach His Word. For three years, I rode my bicycle over 30 miles every day for work and to go to the classes at the University in Oradea. I used to sleep only four to five hours at night because of time spent studying and preparing my assignments.

“But it came the time of a big decision in my life at the end of the third year of my studies. I had to decide to either quit my job to be able to focus more on the classes and especially on writing my final dissertation or quit my studies without graduating in order to provide for my family, my mother and my sister who was also in school and needed help. I knew God was in control of my situation and He would find a way, so I prayed a special prayer begging God to intervene in one week and to provide for me the way to finish my studies.”

That prayer was followed by a meeting at Bro. Padure's home where I met Dani, who had ridden his bicycle to meet me for the first time. God answered both our prayers, and we began a wonderful working relationship that has lasted more than 20 years.

Dani says, “I am in ministry because of Bro. Larry's obedience to come to Romania at the right time God told him to come. God is, indeed, answering our prayers when we ask for something good and according to His will. God synchronized our wishes for the ministry and crossed our paths according to His call and plan for both of us! Praise the Lord! What a mighty God we serve!”

Dani is my Timothy in the ministry, and now he and his wife, Claudia have three beautiful children and live in Santandrei, just outside of Oradea. As our Romanian coordinators, they oversee our team working to reach their country for Christ. Please pray for them as they work tirelessly for the advancement of the gospel!

If this nation is to be pulled back from the brink of the abyss, it will be the church being real “salt” and “light” that invokes God's forgiveness, healing and restoration that will make it happen — nothing more and nothing less.

Be certain of this. It won't be any political party, office holder, government bureaucracy, armed insurgents, a foreign power, human institution or organization, economic system, humanism or any other conjured ideology or philosophy that brings deliverance. God will do it through us believers. He could easily do it without us, but He has chosen us to be His change agents to accomplish His will.

I suggest we get serious about being the church. The stakes are way too high for us to do anything else. Perhaps it would serve us well to recall Mordecai's profound statement to Esther (Esther 4:14): *“Yet who knows whether you have come to the kingdom for such a time as this?”* Don't you think this is our time? I do. As is said, “If not us, who? And if not now, when?”



Celebration, Haskell, June 26-29, 6:30-8:00; MegaKids Camp.

First, North Lewisville, June 27-July 1, 6:30-8:30 p.m.; theme — The Mighty God.

Garner, Garner, June 27-July 1, 6-8:20 p.m.; theme—Under Construction.

Bodcaw, Bodcaw, July 10-15, 6:30-8:30 p.m.; theme — The Mighty God.

North View, NLR, July 10-14, 6:15-8:30 p.m.; theme — The Mighty God.

Temple, Rogers, July 10-14, 6:10-8:50 p.m.; theme - Norb-E.

Victory, Gentry, July 11-15, 6-8:10 p.m.; theme — Zoomerang.

County Line, Marvell, July 18-22, 9 a.m.-12 p.m.; theme — Victory.

Kaley Hill, Quitman, July 18-22, 9 a.m.-12 p.m.; Family Night, July 24; theme—Farm Fresh Faith.

Friendship, Greenbrier, July 23, 1-5 p.m.; family & friends cook-out to follow; theme — Friendship with Jesus.

Liberty, Stamps, July 25-29, 6-8:30 p.m.; theme Sparks Studio.



Bodcaw, Rosston, July 11-13; 7 p.m.; Bruce Porter, evangelist, Ed Phillips, pastor.

Bluff Springs, Rosston, July 17-20; 5 p.m.-Sunday; 7 p.m. Mon.-Wed.; Kenneth Bobo (Sun.), David Dillard (Mon.) Neal Riddling (Tue.) and Frank Henson (Wed.), evangelists; Donnie Dillard, pastor.

Sulphur Springs, Fordyce, July 21-23; 7 p.m.; Eddie Raynes, evangelist, Sam Hobson, pastor.

Bodcaw, Bodcaw, July 25-29; 7:00 p.m.; Jimmy Walker, evangelist; Lane Garner, pastor.

Center Point, Nashville, July 31-Aug. 3; Shawn Kemp, evangelist; Jaron Tipton, pastor.

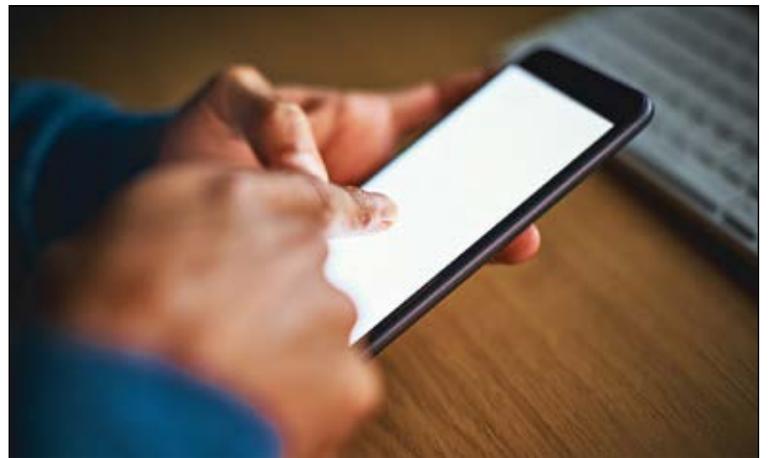
County Line, Marvell, Aug. 7-10; 9:45 a.m. & 5:30 p.m. Sunday; 7 p.m. Mon.-Wed.; Chris Vines, evangelist.

Landmark, England, Aug. 14-17; 6 p.m. Sunday, 7 p.m. Mon.-Wed.; Master's Voice (in concert); Ricky Capps, evangelist; David Inzer, pastor.

Cross Roads, Warren, Oct. 17-19, 7 p.m.; Richard Gambill, evangelist; Sidney McGraw, pastor.



SW Dist. Brotherhood, July 12; meal @ 6 p.m., message @ 7 p.m., Shiloh Lamartine, Waldo.



Don't Let Scam Artists Invade Your Devices

Attorney General Leslie Rutledge is warning Arkansans of a prevalent tech support scam infecting common electronic devices, such as smartphones, laptops and tablets. This antivirus software scam usually begins with a phone call or pop-up message on the consumer's electronic device. The communication is actually from a fake tech support representative claiming to be from a well-known technology company.

“I urge all Arkansans to be cautious when anyone asks for access to their devices or private information,” said AG Rutledge. “Scam artists scour the internet and phonebooks to find unsuspecting victims who are willing to share their sensitive information.”

How the scam works is that a representative or message will claim to the consumer that there is a virus infecting a device or that the consumer's virus protection has expired. The consumer is instructed to install the software immediately in order to protect the device and private information. The scammer often claims to need sensitive information such as account numbers, date of birth or Social Security number in order to remedy the issue. Even more terrifying, the scammer will con a victim into giving access to the device. When the device is accessed in this way, the scammers install applications that allow remote access to the device at any time without the victim's knowledge or permission. The scam artists use this information for illegal activities, such as gaining access to the consumer's bank accounts. Scammers will quickly drain the accounts and move on to another unsuspecting victim.

Remember these tips when safely navigating online:

- No legitimate company will ever send you an unsolicited email asking for your personal information.
- If you get an email or pop-up message that asks for personal or financial information, do not reply.
- Contact the business identified in the original message directly by using the customer service number provided to you on a reliable statement to verify the legitimacy of the message.
- Do not give sensitive information in response to an unsolicited request.
- Immediately delete all suspicious emails, and never open email attachments or click on links from unknown sources.

The Attorney General's Office provides a tip card for consumers on how to spot phishing scams, information for parents to spot cyberbullying and tips on internet safety. For more information and tips to avoid scams and other consumer-related issues, contact the Attorney General's office at (800) 482-8982, consumer@arkansasag.gov or by visiting ArkansasAG.gov.

Greenbrier Dist. WMA, July 14 @ 10 a.m.; Springhill, Greenbrier.

Central Ark. Brotherhood, July 18 @ 6:30 p.m.; North View, North Little Rock.

Mt. Vernon Youth in the Harvest, Aug. 22 @ 6:30 p.m.; Fourth St., West Helena.

Mt. Vernon Dist. Brotherhood, Sept. 12 @ 6:30 pm; Central, Hughes.



Jewel Yvonne Wilcox Loveless, 84 of Greenbrier, passed away June 14. She was a member of Springhill Baptist Church.

Joe Wesson, 94 of Nashville, passed away June 12. He was a member of Immanuel Baptist Church.



BMA OF ARKANSAS
STATE MISSIONS

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(Part 1 of 2) Responding to Temptation

May we learn from this study to recognize the conditions of a storm of temptation, then know how to run for cover. Irish poet Oscar Wilde said, "I can resist anything but temptation." Temptation is a universal problem that cuts across all boundaries of race, religion and age.

Some scholars believe King David was 50 years old when he desired Bathsheba. We need to understand that age often makes no difference. There is no one who is perfect, and we need to remember that being tempted is not a sin but giving in to temptation is. A simple thought is not a sin unless you spend time fantasizing about it, then it becomes a sin.

The life of Joseph (Gen. 39:1-7) offers hope, encouragement and a strategy for those facing the constant attack of temptation. In order to be able to avoid temptation, we must recognize the conditions of temptation. Let's look at two recognizable conditions found in verses 1-6:

• **Temptation will come when one is growing spiritually.** Joseph was hit the hardest as he was growing in his walk with God. The Lord was walking with him (verse 2) and his master saw that the Lord was with him (verse 7). Satan hates to see the people of God growing spiritually. Why? Because you become an influence on others. Potiphar saw integrity and faith that motivated Joseph. Even though Joseph was a slave, he could be trusted. Here was a man making an impact for God, and Satan did not like it. I want to warn you that when you get serious about serving God, Satan and his demons are not far from your door. If you are truly growing spiritually, be alert for the storm of temptation.

• **Temptation comes when one is enjoying success.** In the first six verses, we see that Joseph was enjoying a good measure of success. He had been raised from a slave to an overseer of all of his master's possessions, and Satan did not like it one bit. Satan is jealous of the success of God's people for it gives him a bad reputation. He'll lead you to believe serving God leads to poverty while serving him leads to guaranteed success. Whenever a child of God becomes successful and respected in the church and the community, look out for the storm of temptation.

We have looked at two of the conditions, now let's observe the cause. What leads one person to lead another person to sin, and what causes one to yield to temptation:

• **Loneliness** — Potiphar was an officer of Pharaoh and a captain of the guard. This most likely meant long days at the office, resulting in Mrs. Potiphar being a lonely woman. Couple after couple today confess over and over again that it was loneliness that drove them to adultery. We know there is never a reason to cheat, but we are not talking about reasons but causes. By now, husbands and wives should be aware of the danger of loneliness.

Did you know that a person can eat, sleep and spend their life with a person and yet be lonely? One of the great causes of this is when we become so consumed in ourselves or others that we overlook our spouses, and that always spells bad news.

• **Lust** — *"And he left all that he had in Joseph's hand; and he knew not ought he had, save the bread which he did eat. And Joseph was a goodly person, and well favored. And it came to pass after these things, that his master's wife cast her eyes upon Joseph; and she said, Lie with me" (Gen. 39:6-7).* Now we can see this was the real cause of her actions. *"Joseph was a goodly person and well-favored"* means he was handsome in appearance. Then verse 7 tells us she cast her eyes upon him, literally with desire. Remember the Bible always proves itself. *"But every man is tempted, when he is drawn away of his own lust, and enticed. Then when lust hath conceived, it bringeth forth sin: and sin, when it is finished, bringeth forth death" (James 1:14-15).* These verses describe her actions. It was her uncontrolled lust that made her a beastly temptress. So don't try and justify your sin by blaming someone else.

Well then, how do I quench these raging desires within me? One, live what you profess to be — a believer; and two, just have open communication with your spouse for God is greater than any problem and He will hear us if we seek His help.

So, as a Christian, recognize the negative potential of loneliness and lust, not only in ourselves but in others as well.

From Our Missionaries

Hispanic Coordinator: Michael Hight writes, "This week was an exciting week as we held a Zoom meeting with the Hispanic leaders from Central Arkansas. We met to discuss the plans for the cooperative work between the Spanish-speaking churches that have been planted and are being planted.

"The main topic of conversation was the upcoming Bible Institute starting in the fall. We have some excellent men who will be teaching each course. I am praying that God will raise up a harvest of young leaders to be developed for future ministry. Please keep each of the pastors in your prayers and join us in asking for future leaders that will impact the kingdom of God!"

Misión Creciendo en Cristo (Growing in Christ), North Little Rock: Juan Carlos Posadas writes, "During the week, we met Zoila. She has three children, the oldest two had visited us in Sunday School — Stacy and Andrea. We took some things to their home and prayed for them. Zoila introduced us to Olga and her baby, to whom we gave diapers among other things, and we also prayed for her home and invited them to join us. Olga connected us with Aura and her daughter, Marta. We visited them and met Marta and her two little siblings. In the same way we shared some things for their home, prayed for them and invited them to visit the church. These initial contacts will allow us, God willing, to create a relationship that allows us to share the gospel with them.

"On Sunday, the church celebrated Father's Day. The preaching was based on the example of Ezra, who was prepared to scrutinize the Word of God, to practice it and teach it to the people.

"After the service, I approached Sergio, our first-time visitor, and invited him to talk aside. I shared the gospel with him, and he made his promise of faith. This is an answered prayer. We have been praying for him for about four months, since his wife, Rosa and his two children began to congregated with us. We are very grateful to God. Let us pray that God gives us the grace to help him settle in the faith.

"In addition to worshipping God and the preaching, the children sang. Then we had a time of fellowship, in which we played and ate. We had food in abundance, as in addition to what the congregation brought to share,

Patrick and Annabella Cabrera visited us bringing trays of food for the entire congregation. I ask for your prayers for this couple. They have supported this ministry from the beginning, at every VBS and many special occasions."

Ebenezer, West Little Rock: Ruben Isturiz writes, "On Sunday, June 19 we had a Father's Day service. We talked about King David — how God was in David's life, a man after His own heart. During moments of victories and moments of defeat, God was always faithful in David's life. As it was Father's Day, we focused on true masculinity.

"As part of my commitment to Novo.org, last Friday, I visited some of our Hispanic pastors in Jonesboro. Part of what we do with Novo is to work with the leadership, encourage them, pray, be a friend in the ministry and have coaching time.

"In the Berean Groups (home groups) we are going to take advantage of this summer to give training to our leadership. Let us pray that, during this time, God will bring a refreshing and encouragement to the leadership of the Berean Groups.

"Thank you, brethren, once again for your prayerful and financial support so that each missionary can continue in the battlefield. You are our partners in ministry, to God be the glory!"

Faith Chapel, Flippin: Johnny Shew writes, "We had a great week at Faith Chapel! We had several out, traveling, sick children and recovering from surgery, but still had a great number with several return visitors. We have also been having more interest from online lately.

"We are busy planning our July 3 outreach, and our mother church, The Bridge, is planning to join us at Faith Chapel in Flippin for that. We are praying for even greater success than last year. I think I told you we had two professions of faith and five were baptized as a direct result of last year's outreach. This year our goal is 10 or more!

"We are also planning to join our mother church in Mountain Home for a one-day VBS on July 23. There is a lot of interest from both members and visitors in that event, and from both communities as well.

"Please join us in prayer for both events that they will, indeed, further the kingdom of God and be to His glory. Thank you all for all your prayers — for us, for our members and visitors, for Flippin and for fruit in the work that He has sent us to. They mean so much to us, and He is answering them."

The Table, Springdale: Clinton Morris writes, "It was so good to be done traveling for a few weeks. There were so many amazing conversations. Our Monday Night community event had several new people, and it is so nice to see the people building relationships. I had to make another drive to Conway on Tuesday to pick up DeAnna and the kids. They had made a trip to visit her parents in Northeast Arkansas.

"Wednesday Night Men's Bible

study has added a few more faces. We are discussing becoming two different groups. The ladies have restarted their Wednesday morning Bible study, and we are very excited to see these increased connections between the people. Our newly married college couple is back and has started a children's class for the 5-8 year olds. I am about to take a few of our people through the Good Soil Training and helping position this as our evangelism tool.

"I got to preach at Epic Church NWA on Father's Day. Thank you for the opportunity to open God's Word with you all. Continue to pray for this church and its leaders, that God would give them a great portion of wisdom.

"Drew is doing so well through our Pastoral Internship program. I am very excited to see him growing and the great connections he has with the people of the Table. Continue to pray for him and his wife, Kaley.

"Drew and I are beginning to disciple his fellow lay leaders. I am so excited to be writing these sentences because, a year ago, we were just beginning to discover who our mission field was and started finding ways to reach these people. Now we are discussing real plans toward an organized, healthy, discipling church. God is so good."

Faith Journey, Benton: Bryan Clay writes, "Happy Father's Day to all the amazing dads! I hope everyone had a great day. Keeping with the spirit of this day, we studied Eph. 6:1-4. We spoke about how we are to honor our father and mother, which is the first commandment with a promise. The promise is that it may go well with you, and you may have long life on this earth. Who wouldn't want to have that promise? The Scripture also tells us to not stir up anger in your children but to bring them up in the training and instruction of the Lord. I think, as Christian parents, we all strive to apply this in our homes when we are raising our children.

"I started getting out into the surrounding neighborhoods this week to begin handing out our informational flyers about Faith Journey Mission. We were able to share this with about 75 homes in our area. We will continue this over the next several weeks and hope to connect with 1,000 homes and business with these handouts.

"Please pray with us that we will be able to reach people who are lost, those who are seeking Jesus and people that may be looking for a new church home. We would love to be able to help meet their needs within our mission."

Misión Gracia Soberana (Sovereign Grace), NWA: Roberto Marcelletti writes, "I was meditating on the book of Acts 16 this week. The Lord encouraged me, and I hope that those who read it also, that the missionary vocation of Paul is the same for every believer. In this case, to me the Word told me that we had been sent as a minister and witness so that we open

See MISSIONS, Page 8

UPCOMING EVENTS

National Galilean Camp, June 24-27; Stoneridge Baptist Camp, Smithville.

SOAR Student Conference, June 29 – July 1; Hilton-Anatole, Dallas.

CBC Day 2022, Sept. 11.

BMA of Ozarks Camp, Aug. 1-5; Ozarks Baptist Encampment, Siloam Springs.

Student Ministry Workers Retreat, Sept. 17; Central Baptist College, Conway.

Gospel Singing, Sept. 17, 6 p.m.; featuring The Kinsmen Quartet; Cross Roads Baptist Church, Warren.

re:Charge Leader's Oasis, Sept. 27-29; Hot Springs Hotel, Hot Springs.

Lifeword Sunday, Oct. 23.

BMA of Arkansas, Nov. 3-4; Central Baptist College, Conway.

National Senior Adult Conference, Nov. 15-17; Chateau on the Lake, Branson.

Check Out The Trumpet Archives At baptisttrumpet.com/archive

MISSIONS

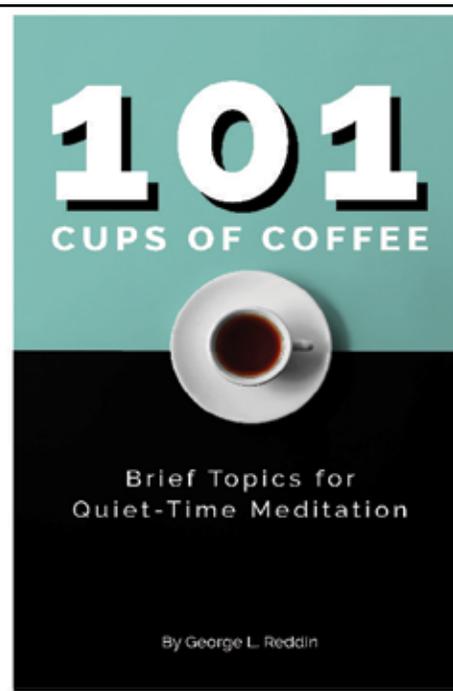
(Continued From Page 7)

the eyes of the people we witness to and turn from darkness to light and pass from the dominion of the enemy to God and in this way receive by faith the forgiveness of sins and the inheritance with all the saints. The Lord left us a wonderful and powerful message that frees us from the power of Satan. The gospel is so powerful that it gives life to a person who is dead. The mission the Lord entrusted to Paul is also the mission of his heirs, so let us not be silent about speaking the glorious gospel.

“At NWA Sovereign Grace Mission this week we continued making friendships with unbelievers. I was able to share with four unbelieving men messages from the Word of God. We were able to continue discipling the woman who gave her life to Christ in our apartment. She is very eager to learn and is faithful to the appointments we have every Thursday. We were teaching her that a Christian is one who follows Christ and has been adopted as a child of God. We continue praying with her for her husband.

“On Saturday, we volunteered in an event called ‘Mi Mercadito Latino,’ where we collaborated to collect funds for a foundation called Provida that supports poor children in El Salvador.

“Sunday, we attended a Hispanic Baptist church in the area to meet with Hispanic leaders.”



GEORGE REDDIN PUBLISHES NEW DEVOTIONAL BOOK!

A selection of articles taken from Reddin's work over the course of his 23 years as a BMA pastor and 31 years serving at Lifeword Media Ministries

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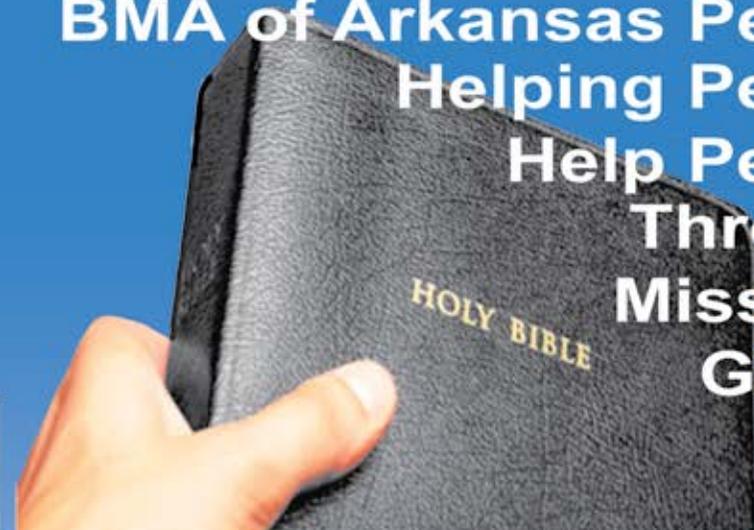
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