

BAPTIST TRUMPET

www.baptisttrumpet.com

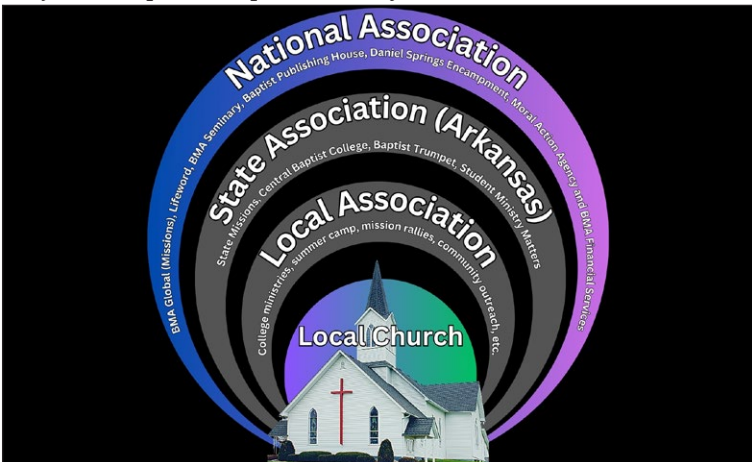
OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF BAPTIST MISSIONARY ASSOCIATION OF ARKANSAS

Volume 84 January 24, 2024 Little Rock, Arkansas Number 17

How Do We Associate? Series (Part 3)

Executive Editor's Note: The "Moving the Conversation Forward" article by Associate Editor Allan Eakin in the Dec. 20 issue introduced a series of articles we would feature at the beginning of the new year. The first of these articles — "How Do We Associate?" — appeared in the Jan. 10 issue.

In the Jan. 17 issue, we shared the stories of two of the ministries that are made possible because of the churches of the Baptist Missionary Association of Arkansas. We will return to the ministries from the state of Arkansas in a future issue. In this issue, we will share the stories of the two largest ministries — BMA Global (Missions) and Lifeword — that are made possible because of the national association of churches — Baptist Missionary Association of America (BMAA). *(All articles in this series are being made available and accessible to everyone at BaptistTrumpet.com. Look for the "How Do We Associate?" Series graphic.)*



Lifeword

By Donny Parrish,
Executive Director

At Lifeword, we tell the story.

Lifeword is essentially a media missions ministry. We use all sorts of media — radio, television, the Internet, digital print — to share the message of Jesus with the world. We desire to help our BMA churches fulfill the Great Commission by using every media platform at our disposal to tell His story.

On Sept. 4, 1965, Harold Morris, the BMA of America's first missionary, began a Saturday afternoon radio broadcast on KSTL in St. Louis, Mo., "to make Jesus known to the multitudes of our land." In November of 1965, Morris named his program The Harvest Gleaner Gospel Hour (HGH), and three

See LIFEWORD, Page 6



BMA GLOBAL

By Dr. John David Smith,
President

With humble beginnings and a great focus on God's mission, BMA Global began in 1950 through the efforts of the churches of the newly formed Baptist Missionary Association (BMA) of America (North American Baptist Association at the time). Six North American church planters and two international missionaries were elected that first year. All glory to God that through the years of faithfulness and focus on that great mission, BMA Global has grown to a ministry of over 400 missionaries working in 70 countries of the world. Hundreds of thousands have been reached with the gospel, disciplined, trained and empowered toward a church planting ministry that now includes well over 2,000 established churches, in addition to 400 current church plants.

In his insightful writing on the mission of God, Christopher J. H. Wright penned the following to a class he was teaching on the Biblical Basis of Mission: "I would like to rename the class from 'The Biblical Basis of Mission' to 'The Missional Basis of the Bible.'" He continued, "I wanted them to see not just that the Bible contains a number of texts which happen to provide a rationale for the missionary endeavor, but that the whole Bible is itself a 'missional phenomenon.'" The Bible, and especially the New Testament, is a product of God's mission as it was given by the Holy Spirit on the mission field and not in the classroom. The Bible is indeed the story of God from beginning to

See BMA GLOBAL, Page 4



Arkansas WMA State Project

By Kelly Williams, Arkansas WMA President

The Arkansas WMA met in November at Central Baptist College and selected the Quillmans and their work in Zambia as our project for the year. We are raising funds to help buy Bibles in the people of Zambia's own language. Some villages the Quillmans work with have only one Bible for the whole village. Mickael Quillman shared that they could buy a Bible in the language of the village for \$10 each.

What if every active church member of every active BMA church gave \$10 this year to buy a Bible? I think most everyone can give \$10 in a year. It would only take one cup of coffee and/or one hamburger eliminated from our lives to pay for a Bible.

Please consider giving through your local church so the people of Zambia might know Jesus by reading in their own homes in their own language what He has done for them.

You can send the funds to Pat Duncan, Arkansas WMA Treasurer, P.O. Box 30, Hardy, Ark. 72542. Just designate donations as "Arkansas State WMA project."

Summer '24

• • • • •

JUNE 3 - 6 STAND FIRM CAMP IN WEST TEXAS**

JUNE 11 - 14 GIRLS DISCIPLESHIP RETREAT

JUNE 16 - 19 COMBO STUDENT CAMP

JUNE 16 - 19 COMBO PRETEEN CAMP

JULY 7 - 10 PRE-TEEN CAMP

JULY 14 - 17 ARK-LA-TEX CAMP

JULY 21 - 24 STUDENT CAMP

Daniel Springs 2024 Schedule

By Jason Prewitt, Camp Director

Get ready for an unforgettable summer experience at Daniel Springs Baptist Camp (DSBC)! Our purpose is to provide a unique opportunity for all youth to connect with God and experience His presence through prayer, Bible study, small group activities and recreation. Our program is designed to help you grow in your faith and equip you to do the work of your ministry, and our promise is to do everything in our power to bring you closer to a personal relationship with Jesus Christ.

We are located in Gary, Texas on 54 acres and our facilities include 19 air-conditioned cabins and 4 air-conditioned and heated dorms, as well as small tabernacles for group activities. Join us for a summer of growth, adventure and fun as we discover what God has in store for us!

We are so excited about the summer 2024 camp schedule and all the

See CAMP, Page 2

In This Issue

- Discerning God's Direction (pg. 5)
- Five Laws of Spiritual Leadership (pg. 3)
- Spotlight on Missions (pg. 5)
- The Epic Story of Truth (Part 5) (pg. 6)
- Trusting God in the Seasons of Life (pg. 3)



Terry Kimbrow
President



CENTRAL BAPTIST COLLEGE PROFILE

Central Baptist College

1501 College Ave. • Conway, Arkansas 72034
(501) 329-6872 • (800) 205-6872 • www.cbc.edu
Twitter: @CentBaptCollege and @tkimbrow

CBC Professor Graduates With Second Doctoral Degree

Central Baptist College takes pride in our faculty and the work they do on our campus. As a result, we love taking opportunities to celebrate and commend their achievements, and we are very happy to congratulate Dr. Rachel Scott for obtaining her second doctoral degree.

Dr. Scott, Associate Professor of Biology, graduated in December from the University of Central Arkansas (UCA) with her Doctor of Philosophy (PhD) in Physical Therapy. Scott's dissertation, *Modified Predictors of Chronotropic Response to Exercise in People with and Without Obesity*, earned her a second doctorate. In 2006, Scott earned a Doctor of Physical Therapy (DPT) from UCA.

Before her appointment as associate professor of Biology, Scott worked full-time as a physical therapist (PT). As a PT, she worked in several different clinical settings, including pediatrics, orthopedics, sports medicine and neuro rehab.

Dr. Scott teaches Human Anatomy & Physiology I and II, Histology, Neuroscience, Medical Terminology, Research Methods and Zoology. Scott is also the faculty sponsor for the CBC Medical Professionals Society.



**Sports
News**
By Erik Holth

Wrestling

• **Fort Worth, Texas, Jan. 17** — Competing for the second time in the 2024 calendar year, CBC was on the mat at Texas Wesleyan for a dual with the Rams. CBC got three individual wins, but fell in the overall dual 42-18. **David Corretjer** picked up a forfeit win at 125 pounds, **Alejandro Mas** picked up a forfeit win at 149 pounds and **Inson Guerrier** earned a win by fall at 165 pounds.

• **Conway, Jan. 20** — Competing at home for just the second time this season, CBC hosted the 2024 CBC Mustang Duals at A.R. Reddin Fieldhouse. CBC, Little Rock, Schreiner and Northeastern Oklahoma A&M were the four schools competing. CBC had five wrestlers on the mat, with **David Corretjer** competing at 125 pounds, **Alejandro Mas** competing at 149 pounds, **Isaiah Hendrix** competing at 157 pounds, **Inson Guerrier** competing at 165 pounds and **Kyle Bahl** competing at 174 pounds. Corretjer and Mas both won against their op-

ponents from Schreiner and NEO, while Guerrier and Bahl both beat their opponents from Schreiner by fall. Bahl's match was extremely exciting, because he overcame a 14-5 deficit to win the match.

Women's Basketball

• **St. Louis, Mo., Jan. 18** — Playing on the road for the first time in 12 days, CBC was inside the University of Health Sciences and Pharmacy (UHSP) Gymnasium for an American Midwest Conference (AMC) contest against the Eutectics of the UHSP in St. Louis. CBC (3-8, 2-4 AMC) trailed 38-26 at halftime, and dropped the contest 82-61 to UHSP (9-7, 4-2 AMC). **Olivia Lambrigtsen** led the way in scoring for the Mustangs with 17 points, while **Aliya Grotjohn** added 11 off the bench. **Taryanna McNary** led on the glass with 6 rebounds and **Rhys Anderson** handed out 6 assists. CBC was plus 1 on the glass, 31-30 and outscored UHSP's bench 23-20.

• **Columbia, Mo., Jan. 20** — Playing on the road for the second time in three days, CBC was at Silverthorne Arena for an AMC game against the Stars of Stephens

College (SC). CBC (3-9, 2-5 AMC) trailed at halftime and cut the deficit in the third quarter, but came up short, falling 88-55 to SC (12-5, 7-1 AMC). **Lydia York** led the way in scoring with 14 points, while being joined in double figures by **Caroline Citty**, who had 12. CBC was +13 on the glass (45-32) and made 20 free throws to just 14, but Stephens doubled the Mustangs on field goals made and outshot CBC from three 14-5.

Men's Basketball

• **St. Louis, Mo., Jan. 18** — Heading to the road for the first time in over a month, CBC looked to remain undefeated in AMC play against the Eutectics of the University of Health Sciences and Pharmacy in St. Louis at the UHSP Gymnasium. CBC (14-4, 5-0 AMC) never trailed, leading by as many as 19 before finishing with an 85-71 win over UHSP (1-15, 0-5 AMC). The Mustangs, who were missing seven players due to illness, were led in scoring by **Jonas Carlisle** and **Kyle Harding**, who both reached double-figures on the night. CBC was able to win with strong shooting, as the Mustangs shot 49% from the floor and went 14-16 at the free throw line, with 54 of their 85 points coming inside the paint.

• **Paragould, Jan. 20** — Renewing a rivalry at the Carter Activities Center, CBC played their final non-AMC game against the Pioneers of Crowley's Ridge College. CBC (15-4) led at halftime, and held off a charge from CRC (3-17), winning their sixth in a row 79-69. CBC never trailed and were led in scoring by **Kyle Harding** with 17. **Deshawn Corprew** and **Tonje Durham** also finished in double figures as the game was determined at the free throwline, where CBC made 21 and CRC made 11, which equaled the ultimate difference in the contest.

CAMP

(Continued From Page 1)

great camps that are going to take place:

• **Stand Firm Camp** — The first camp of the summer (June 3-6) will not take place on the Daniel Springs campus. Instead, we will be taking our team to West Texas to staff the Stand Firm Camp.

• **Girls Discipleship Retreat** will be June 11-14, Tuesday through Friday. This retreat, sponsored by National GMA, is for all girls in 4th-12th grade. It's four days of encouragement, powerful teaching and studying the Word, plus tons of fun activities! The Girls Discipleship Retreat is planned by girls, led by girls and designed for girls. If you've been searching for a way to



Dan Carson
Director

Student Ministry Matters

Phone: (479) 790-7808
bmayouthdepartment@gmail.com
www.StudentMinistryMatters.com



BMA of Arkansas Youth Department
1410 North Porter Rd. • Fayetteville, AR 72703



Music Matters

When we think about our mid-week youth meetings, we often think about music. If our group is large enough, we may even have a youth worship band, and I am totally on board with that. If you can get your students serving in youth group, they are only a couple steps away from serving the church body as a whole. You may not have the student talent to create a worship band or an adult volunteer to lead, so you may be using YouTube videos for musical worship. Whatever your situation looks like, it is important to understand that music matters.

Music is an important part of the Christian life and, as pastors and student ministry workers, we need to expose our students to the right music for worship. What makes music the "right music?"

• **The right music is about proper substance, not style.** For many years, "worship wars" was a major point of discussion. Adding drums or guitars to a worship service was seen as wrong by some congregations. To a large degree, I believe we are past that type of battle in local churches. There are still going to be disagreements but, by and large, churches found the style that best suits them. However, at the end of the day, it is about the lyrics of what we are singing rather than the style of the music.

• **The right music needs to reflect proper theology.** It is important that the music you are singing in youth group or during congregational worship is biblical. It is easy to hear things on Christian radio and think, "That will be great for youth group!" However, if we aren't careful, we will sing things that are only partially true. As student ministry workers, we need it to be rock solid. Music burns its way into our hearts. If we are singing about the wrong things, it will shape what we think about God. This is true with group worship as well as traveling music in our church vans and buses. We need to curate playlists that honor God and His Word.

• **The right music should be singable.** That isn't the case with all the things we listen to. However, for youth group or congregational worship, we should find music that is in a comfortable key for the group we are leading. We must think about age, gender and even musicality.

Music is a big part of our teenagers' lives. For some of us, that love of music remains. We sing at every opportunity we get. Let me encourage you to think about the music that is a part of your ministry. What we listen to matters because music matters.

If you are looking for a great conference about music and theology, check out the Sing! Conference in the Nashville, Tenn. area. It does an incredible job balancing the practical and theological concerns of music in the church.

Join the conversation at facebook.com/groups/StudentMinistryMattersCommunity.

help the girls in your church truly grow and thrive in their Christian walk, you won't want to miss this! You can go to nationalgma.org to learn more. Registration is \$180 per person through May 23 at 5 p.m. (includes DSBC T-shirt) and \$215 per person beginning May 23 at 5:01 p.m. through June 7 at 5 p.m. (does not include T-shirt).

• **Combo Camp (3rd Grade-College)** — Two exciting camps the same week for preteens, ages 3rd through 6th grades and students ages 6th grade to college will be June 16-19. Registration is \$180 per person through May 30 at 5 p.m. (includes DSBC T-shirt) and \$215 per person beginning May 30 at 5:01 p.m. (does not include T-shirt).
See CAMP, Page 4



HEALTHY CHURCH SOLUTIONS

P.O. Box 878 • Conway, Ark. 72033-0878
(501) 455-4977 • larry@bmaam.com

LARRY BARKER, By Larry Barker, Regional Coordinator
For Europe and North America • BMA Global

healthychurchpodcast.com • healthychurchsolutions.org



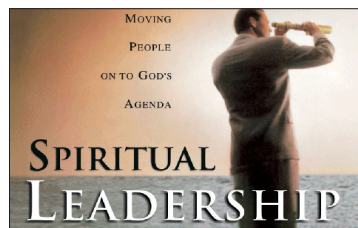
Five Laws of Spiritual Leadership

Henry Blackaby wrote, “God will always sanctify you before He sends you... When God’s people allow God’s truth to realign them to God’s will and God’s standard, then the power of God will be released through them the same way it was through the first disciples.” Oswald Chambers said, “I have to learn that the aim of my life is God’s, not mine.” Do not be impatient to begin your work, church plant, mission, ministry or new project before God has prepared and refined you. You are called first to be a Christ follower before engaging in anything for the kingdom. What you do for Christ should flow out of your relationship with Christ.

In *Power Through Prayer*, E.M. Bounds stated, “We are constantly on a stretch, if not a strain, to devise new methods, new plans and new organizations to advance the church and secure enlargement and efficiency of the gospel... Men are God’s method. We are looking for better methods; God is looking for better men.” God is looking for spiritual leaders who will face and fight spiritual warfare and resistance with spiritual weapons. Begin in the prayer closet, not just seeking God’s help but also surrendering and discovering His plan and agenda. He desires to complete the work He began in you when you began walking with Him.

John 1:6 reminds us of this truth, “There was a man sent from God, whose name was John.” We are not told anything about John’s education, pedigree or gifts in the Scriptures. It was sufficient information to know that he was sent from God. God’s way has always been to send a man. When the world was about to be judged and almost destroyed, He sent Noah. When it was time to raise up a nation that would be God’s light and a blessing to all nations, He sent Abraham. When God’s people were hungry because of a famine throughout the land, Psalm 105:17 says, “He had sent a man ahead of them — Joseph.”

Think of the men God has sent with His calling on them and how He prepared them for the task. He sent Moses to the back side of the desert for 40 years. He had Joshua shadow Moses for 40 years. God gave favor to Nehemiah in a strategic position so that, when the time came,



He could send this man to rebuild the walls of Jerusalem. When it was time to send the gospel to the Gentiles, God sent Paul. Galatians 4:4-5 (HCSB) gives us the ultimate Man He sent, “*When the time came to completion, God sent His Son, born of a woman, born under the law, to redeem those under the law, so that we might receive adoption as sons.*”

God’s school of leadership preparation has five laws, according to Gary Rohrmayer:

• **He begins with the law of submission.** J. Robert Clinton says, “Spiritual authority... is delegated by God and differs from authority that is based on position or force. Leaders who have trouble submitting to authority will usually have trouble exercising spiritual authority.” Remember, absolute authority absolutely corrupts.

• **The law of integrity is next.** Integrity is “the quality or condition of being whole or undivided; completeness.” Spiritual leadership requires that you are the same person in private and in public. There is no duplicity.

• **The third non-negotiable trait of spiritual leaders is the law of responsibility.** You reject passivity and accept responsibility by proactively taking the steps necessary for a task, project and ministry. Spiritual leaders prove themselves in front of others through humble service and faithfulness.

• **Then the law of multiplication.** II Timothy 2:2 is often used as a discipleship passage to the fourth generation, but, in context, it is demonstrating leadership development. Spiritual leaders are focused on mentoring other leaders and intentionally investing in them so they can invest in others.

• **The fifth law is one that cannot be overlooked nor ignored — the law of resistance.** Henry and Richard Blackaby define spiritual leadership as “moving people on to God’s agenda.” Gary Rohrmayer added, “Every leader is going to deal with resistance on multiple

Reports from the Churches

Broadway Ave., Bay added one by baptism and two by statement; Rick Jensen, pastor.

First, Buckner gained one by letter; Andy Hawkins, pastor.

First, St. Charles witnessed two professions of faith, three by baptism and one by letter; Wayne McLean, Interim Pastor.

First, Waldo reports three professions of faith and one addition by letter; David Watkins, pastor.

North View, North Little Rock received two by letter; Mike Cantrell, pastor.

levels. Fathers experience resistance from a son. A teacher deals with the resistance of a student. Employers work through the resistance of an employee. Shepherds are reminded that sheep sometimes want to go their own way... It is not a question of if resistance will come, but how a leader will deal with resistance.” Are you prepared for handling conflict resolution?

That is why spiritual disciplines are so important. They are designed to slow you down enough to hear the affirming voice of God in your daily life. Matthew 6 has much to say about how to pray and fast. It does not say “if” you pray but “when” you pray. Then, in verse 16, after receiving the model prayer, again, it does not say “if” you fast but “when” you fast. Spiritual warfare (Ephesians 6) will require spiritual armor, spiritual weapons and spiritual prayers. Praying in the Spirit has been defined as “the means of praying the mind of God, under the will of God, by the continued assistance of the Spirit of God.”

Do not bypass the process of God building up your spiritual character. Robert Murray McChesney stated, “For your sermons last but an hour or two; your life preaches all week!” E.M. Bounds said, “The Holy Ghost does not flow through methods, but through men. He does not come on machinery, but on men. He does not anoint plans, but men — men of prayer!” The man makes the preacher, but it is God who makes the man. Bounds continues, “Preaching is not the performance of an hour. It is the outflow of a life!” God sends a man, and everything depends on his spiritual character.

Gary Rohrmayer said this about spiritual preparation, “Prayer is a continual state of personal surrender that leaves no room for self-reliance or self-confidence.” Are you willing to surrender everything to God as He works in your life and prepares you for His assignment?

Just Thinking...

By Dr. Tom Mitchell

(501) 804-6647 • temitchell1946@gmail.com





Trusting God in The Seasons of Life

I was just thinking about the seasons of life. The wise man Solomon wrote: “*There is a time for everything and a season for every activity under the heavens*” (Eccl. 2:1 NIV). We are three weeks into the new year of 2024, and across our country, from west to east, we have realized this is the season for wintry weather. But Solomon wasn’t referring to that. He was referring to what we call the “seasons of life.” This is not a study on Ecclesiastes but a reminder that we need to claim God’s truths and apply them daily in every season, every occasion and every relationship.

Dealing with Anxiety in a World of Frustration

No matter where we live today, we are in the midst of frustration. It may be dealing with inflation, the breakup of marriages, the heartbreak of losing a loved one or battling depression in these trying times. But God’s truths are for our encouragement in such times.

The apostle Peter wrote by inspiration, “*Humble yourselves, therefore, under God’s mighty hand, that he may lift you up in due time. Cast all your anxiety on him because he cares for you*” (I Peter 5:6-7).

Those words “in due time” could refer to a season of life. Our problem as humans is that, in almost everything, we don’t want to wait — we want relief from our troubles **now**! Scripture informs us that we can learn from waiting for “due time” to increase our faith. James wrote, “*Consider it pure joy, my brothers and sisters, whenever you face trials of many kinds, because you know that the testing of your faith produces perseverance*” (James 1:2-3). Once a believer overcomes his impatience in the midst of a trial, he is encouraged to know that he has persevered because God cared so much for him and that he was never alone.

Looking for Encouragement in All the Wrong Places

Too often, people, including strong Christians, find themselves facing seasons of discouragement and even depression. Sadly, in an attempt to battle those emotions, humans tend to turn to the wrong people, at the wrong time, in the wrong places.

God has given us His Word — His Truth — to help us through the trying times of life. He has also promised to hear when we call out to Him. An old song believers have loved for decades says that **prayer** is the key to Heaven, but **faith** unlocks the door. It is one thing to ask God to help. It is quite another to believe He will.

Asking God Makes a World of Difference

When I say “asking God,” I don’t mean saying a rote prayer someone wrote years ago. If a person is far from shore and is about to drown, he doesn’t pray, “Now I lay me down to sleep, I pray the Lord my soul to keep.” No! He cries out, “Help, I’m drowning! Save me!”

Here are some thoughts for you to ponder if you are in one of those seasons of life where nothing seems to go right and you feel you have nowhere to turn. Please, take my advice — turn to God. If you feel deeply discouraged, ask God to lift you up. If you feel as if everywhere you look there is darkness, ask God to give you His Light. If you seem confused at every turn, ask God to give you His peace that transcends human understanding. If you have reached a point of real despair, ask God to show you that He gives hope, not just for the moment, but for eternity.

In the Seasons of Your Life — God is in Control

For many, the holiday seasons bring memories of loved ones who

See SEASONS, Page 4

BMA GLOBAL (Continued From Page 1)

end and the account of the mission that he is fulfilling on earth to eternity through His son, Jesus Christ. We are reminded that:

- The Bible is a missionary narrative from beginning to end.

- The Mission of God is the purpose for the existence of individual followers of Christ, churches and associations.

- Mission is not a line item in the church budget; it should be the church's defining purpose.

- Every passage in the Bible is a "missionary" passage.

Through this brief description of God's mission, we are reminded of the enormity, priority and purpose-giving nature of the command to make God's glory and love known to all nations... we are **Sent to the Nations!**

The mission of BMA Global is to see God's glory and love to the nations through church multiplication. Our values must reflect in writing and practice that everything we do leads to fulfilling our purpose/mission.

- **BMA Global is motivated by the mission of God.** God's mission (singular) is indeed all about His glory and love to all nations. Missions (plural) is everything we do, such as evangelism, discipleship, church planting, leadership development and all philanthropic efforts to fulfill that mission.

- **BMA Global practices discipleship-based multiplication of disciples, leaders and churches.** In following the example of Christ in His ministry, we seek to make disciple-makers who will then be leaders and the foundation for church multiplication.

- **BMA Global is local church-centric.** We believe local churches are both the source and the goal of New Testament missions.

- **BMA Global practices indigenous mission principles.** We invest heavily in the local leadership in order to partner for locally-led ministries that will not be dependent on us intellectually, emotionally or financially.

- **BMA Global seeks to be driven by Holy Spirit-led risk.** Mediocrity and status quo maintenance are the unrelenting enemies of excellence and fruitfulness. May we not bury our one talent, and when the Master returns, may He say to BMA Global, "Well done."

BMA Global seeks to fulfill its mission, as guided by our values, through three specific tasks — **send, start and support.** BMA Global comes alongside local churches to help **send** missionaries

to those places they are called to serve. The basic root word for missions is the word "send." We help the local church send missionaries by offering help with assessment, training, coaching, partnering with other churches, accounting services, missionary care, etc.

The essential nature of the local church in the missionary process compels us to **start** more churches that become the manifestation of Christ in those communities. Christ is glorified in and through His church. BMA Global plants churches!

The supporting of the missions enterprise includes supporting both personnel and missions structures. Missionary logistics that include leadership through directors and regional coordinators, financial services, security training and briefings and missionary care all help to make our missionaries' lives a little easier and potentially more fruitful on the field. Missionary care seeks to strengthen the lives of our missionaries in all facets of life — spiritually, emotionally and physically. As it pertains to the structure of missions, BMA Global is able to do more with less, many times with very low overhead and a dedicated, high-capacity team. Out of every dollar given to BMA Global, 85 cents goes directly to a missionary. A big portion of the other 15 cents pays for the support structures for missionaries. We are committed to the highest possible level of excellence while maintaining our focus on the mission field.

BMA Global has a rich history that is attributed to God's favor and the faithfulness of many churches, missionaries and leaders. As we give undying thanks for the past, let's look with unlimited expectation for the future — **God's glory to the nations through church multiplication!**

BMA Global is so grateful for the partnership with our churches to fulfill this great mission. Thousands have been saved and baptized this past year. We are currently planting over 450 new churches around the world as we have ongoing ministry in almost 70 countries. Thank you for your faithfulness in the support of missions structures, missionaries and future expansion. Speaking of expansion, the beginning of the year presents the opportunity to evaluate our present realities and dream about the future. Our goals are indeed vital to ensure that we stay focused on our stated mission and avoid stagnation.

BMA Global will focus on the areas of mobilization and missions' leadership in 2024. Mobilization deals with the connecting of

CAMP

(Continued From Page 2)

at 5:01 p.m. through June 12 at 5 p.m. (does not include T-shirt).

- **Pre-Teen Camp (3rd-6th grades)** — Preteen Camps are designed for boys and girls in 3rd through 6th grade. The music, Bible study, worship and recreation are geared toward helping preteens meet Christ and move forward in their spiritual journeys. This camp will be held July 7-10. Registration is \$180 per person through June 20 at 5 p.m. (includes DSBC T-shirt) and \$215 per person beginning June 20 at 5:01 p.m. through July 3 at 5 p.m. (does not include T-shirt).

- **The Ark-La-Tex Camp** — Ark-La-Tex Camp is a camp with an emphasis focused on campers five years old and up. Campers have a great time learning, worshiping and playing together. This camp will be July 14-17. Registration is \$180 per person through June 27

people to God's mission. We need to be more proactive in this area to make sure people understand the commission, a clear path to service and ongoing support on the journey of giving our lives to this non-negotiable cause. We are thankful that Sean Richards, former missionary to Papua New Guinea, has joined our team to provide greater focus and effort in this area of mobilization.

The other big picture emphasis for 2024 will be in missions' leadership structures. Recently, we transitioned from a single director of international missions to a group of 10 leaders who are regional coordinators. No one was hired specifically for this role; we have utilized existing personnel and sacrificial leaders who were already part of our global team. As we continue to find our rhythm in this new structure, we are already seeing major benefits and blessings as more leaders provide greater communication to field personnel, greater awareness and greater effectiveness in assuring that we are working toward our stated mission, vision and values.

Again, thank you for your partnership in the Mission of God. We pray 2024 will be noteworthy in goals that are achieved for God's glory. We are **Sent to the Nations!** We are BMA Global.

Executive Editor's Note: Due to space limitations, we are not able to print all the goals shared by BMA Global. You can find some specific goals for the areas and ministries of BMA Global at BaptistTrumpet.com/BMAGlobal2024. You can also find out more about the leadership structure in place at BMA Global.

SEASONS

(Continued From Page 3)

have gone on before. With such memories, while most are good, many are sad. The winter months can also bear heavily on people's emotions — especially those shut in because of inclement weather. That's when emotions are greatly affected — bringing despair, discouragement, loneliness and worry. Please be reminded that, as a believer in Jesus Christ, you are never out of God's sight nor His love. *"Though the mountains be shaken and the hills be removed, yet my unfailing love for you will not be shaken nor my covenant of peace be removed," says the Lord, who has compassion for you* (Isa. 54:10).

at 5 p.m. (includes DSBC T-shirt) and \$215 per person beginning June 27 at 5:01 p.m. through July 10 at 5 p.m. (does not include T-shirt).

- **Student Camp (6th Grade-College)** — Student Camp is a week for junior high, high school and college campers to have a great time learning, worshiping and building relationships. Student camp is fast paced and high energy to match the pace and energy of this age group. This camp will be July 21-24. Registration is \$180 per person through July 4 at 5 p.m. (includes DSBC T-



Ronnie Johnson is available for pulpit supply as the Lord leads, preferably on Sunday mornings. He has been pastoring churches for 21 years. Contact him at (870) 659-7774 or his wife, Barbara at (870) 659-7274.

County Line Baptist Church in Marvell is seeking a full-time pastor. Inquiries may be made to Tommie Shackelford at (870) 338-2873.

Franklin Street Baptist Church in Farmerville, La. is seeking a bi-vocational pastor. Resumes may be sent to Danny Eddy, 2511 Cedar Creek Drive, Ruston, La. 71270.

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

shirt) and \$215 per person beginning July 4 at 5:01 p.m. through July 17 at 5 p.m. (does not include T-shirt).

If you have any questions, contact the office at (903) 685-2433 or info@danielspringscamp.com. You can also find more information about each camp by visiting danielspringscamp.com/events. We are looking forward to hosting your group and seeing how God is going to change lives.

BMAA Meeting • April 16-18
Chateau on the Lake Resort • Branson, Mo.
For more information visit
BaptistTrumpet.com/BMAA2024

Baptist Trumpet

(USPS 043-720)

(ISSN 0888-9074)

Published by the Baptist Missionary Association of Arkansas; sponsoring Missions, Benevolence and Christian Education.

JEFF HERRING, Executive Editor
editor@baptisttrumpet.com

P.O. Box 192208 • Little Rock, Arkansas 72219-2208
Telephone (501) 565-4601 • Fax Line (501) 565-NEWS
(Note: An answering machine on the 565-4601 line will take messages after regular working hours — Monday-Thursday)
www.baptisttrumpet.com

ALLAN EAKIN, Associate Editor
associateeditor@baptisttrumpet.com
(mailing list changes & billing inquiries)

Subscription Rate: \$39.00 per year (87¢ per issue)
Church Plan Subscribers: \$36.00 per year (80¢ per issue)

Published weekly except for the week of New Year's and one week in April, May, July, September, November and December. Periodical postage paid at Little Rock, Arkansas. Editorial offices at 10712 Interstate 30, Little Rock, Arkansas 72209. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to the *Baptist Trumpet*, P.O. Box 192208, Little Rock, Arkansas 72219-2208.

Opinions expressed in signed articles are those of the writer and do not necessarily reflect those of the editor or the churches of the BMA.



Scan this QR code with your smartphone to access our website.



Like us on Facebook for late-breaking up-to-date news

Spinning My Gears

a young pastor's perspective

Derrick A. Bremer, Pastor
Denver Street Baptist Church

derrick@dsmbc.org • (479) 544-7153
P.O. Box 1669, Greenwood, Ark. 72936



Discerning God's Direction (Part 1): Developing an Appetite for the Word

As a new year begins, many adjust to writing a new date on their checks. A question frequently arises during this season concerning how Christians can discover and pursue God's will for their lives. We set out on our newest adventure along the 12-month calendar by setting goals and discussing our dreams and ambitions. Those who are spiritually maturing set goals about deepening their walk with God and becoming more effective laborers for His glory. These questions are at the heart of what gets my gears going. They long for a practical response. Reassuringly, such an answer is available for us.

First, we must understand that growing closer to God is not an issue of checking off a simple to-do list. Instead, it is embarking on a personal journey that intertwines with the fabric of our life's circumstances. Recognizing spiritual growth as a personal journey makes measuring progress, effectiveness and success challenging. I wish a simple metric were available to gauge our spiritual health, but it's complex. Multiple variables need to be considered all at once. We are familiar with dashboards, whether we realize it or not. When we get into our car in the morning, a slew of dials and lights greet us to help monitor and control our vehicle's performance. That instrument cluster is a type of dashboard. To answer how a person may deepen their walk with God in 2024, we need to reorient what measurements will help us grow this year.

Our first metric concerns developing a greater appetite for the Word. The Bible is the means through which God communicates to us. No special revelation outside of the Bible is an authority for our lives. I think of measuring our appetite for

the Word like watching the RPM gauge on my car. If we want to go anywhere, our car's RPMs cannot be 0 (that means the car is off). To grow closer to God, we must be faithful in allowing Him to speak to us.

Additionally, the RPM gauge can indicate undue stress on a vehicle. When this happens in a car, the engine works hard for disproportionately little outcome. If we let our RPMs enter the red zone and stay there, we would expect some mechanical disaster. In the same way, by allowing our consumption of Scripture to increase without practical application, we anticipate an eventual burnout of discouragement.

Since our appetite for the Word closely resembles how the RPM dial is used in a car, let's use the same acronym to elaborate on three steps that help us accomplish our first goal. Instead of rotations per minute, let's think about **reading, praying and memorizing**.

• **Reading the Word** is not just the result of a healthy appetite but also a means to obtain a healthy one. The first several sections of Psalm 119 have consistently encouraged me during my pilgrimage with God. The psalmist has passion and pleasure in nothing more than the Word. Before one can say the Lord's testimonies are their delight and counselor, they must petition God to open their eyes to the wondrous things in God's Law. Simply making the time and effort to enjoy reading the Bible is a practical step toward increasing our appetite for the Word.

• **Praying the Word** is a powerful spiritual discipline at the Christian's disposal to nurture their desire for Scripture. Previously alluding to Psalm 119:18, it is worth noting that this is the first prayer I make when I get up in the morning and begin my

Spotlight On Missions

Send offerings to BMA Missions
P.O. Box 878 • Conway, AR 72033-0878 • 501.455.4977 • www.bmamissions.org

Michel & Ruth Poirier • Quebec, Haiti, Africa, Dominican Republic

"Fear thou not; for I am with thee: be not dismayed; for I am thy God: I will strengthen thee; yea, I will help thee; yea, I will uphold thee with the right hand of my righteousness" (Isa. 41:10)

• **Quebec**—We closed November and December 2023 with three professions of faith and several life dedications to serve Christ. Looking back on what we have done for our Savior during the last year drives me to do more for my Savior in 2024. We don't know what the future holds, but we know who holds the future for us.

I thank the Lord for bringing us people who want to win souls and participate in reaching those without Christ—like a young man who comes to our church from Ivory Coast who was waiting for the bus to get to church. While waiting, he talked to people at the bus station and invited a woman and her son to attend the church meeting. They came to church and

Bible study. Nevertheless, countless Scriptures guide me throughout a typical day. Why is praying the Word necessary instead of simply praying spontaneously from the heart? Both types of prayers are beneficial to our relationship with God. Praying the Word specifically is imbued with the assurance of God's will as it has been revealed in His perfect Word. Spending time praying God's Word back to Him reshapes our thoughts and attitudes as we yearn to digest increasingly more of the Word.

• **Memorizing the Word** is the most neglected practice among adults. Regardless of the children's and youth discipleship ministries in our churches, ministries like Sunbeams, Girls' Missionary Auxiliary (GMA) and Galileans direct students to memorize Scripture. For some reason, adults frequently neglect Scripture memorization. Recently, I was challenged by a fellow laborer for the Lord to memorize the entire book of I Thessalonians for its practical direction for ministries. Taking the challenge in hand, the blessing of storing this book in my heart is astonishing. My interest and enthusiasm for the Word is piqued and vibrant. My compassion and eagerness to serve my congregation is renewed. My desire for obedience in my life has increased tremendously. I urge readers to incorporate memorization into their Word-related disciplines.



Children in the Dominican Republic

have been coming every Sunday since. Others did the same thing—bringing people to church.

Most visitors we get are immigrants from different countries—Brazil, Portugal, Africa, Haiti—with all kinds of doctrines. Some are teachable, and others have their minds made up in a way they don't want to change. We never know who will come through those doors on Sunday, but we are glad to have them.

• **Haiti**—The work of Segur in (Port au Prince) is growing, even in difficulty. The gangs now let people travel in the street by paying a fee. The price of gas and food doesn't help our people's situation. The Lord allows us to assist in feeding the poor and the homeless who hang around the church. We were able to offer a dinner plate at Christmas for about 200 children of the church and, for the adults on Jan. 14. We expect to feed 300-400 people. We have a group of young men who give their life to Christ for the work of the ministry. We are working on getting fiber optic internet for consistent quality. This will enable us to teach without interruption.

• **Africa, Cameroon**—The work is doing well, even during difficult times. We love to go and help by giving encouragement and guidance. In Cameroon, the difficulty is to have stability in facing adversity from the Church of God denomination. They have visitors who come with strange doctrines, and this presents a difficulty for the leader. We teach the right doctrine every week, and pray that it will give good fruit among our leaders.

• **Africa, Ivory Coast**—The group of 75 people is doing well and learning more and more every week how to be like Jesus. They are faithfully serving God and are excited to grow in the knowledge of the Lord. The leaders are faithful in participating weekly in the online teaching. We have a good

response of their service to the Lord and are excited to see their willingness to serve the Lord.

• **Dominican Republic (DR)**—The group is doing well, despite the difficulty of getting to church on Sunday. There was a bad storm last month in the DR and the pastor of the capital, John, could not get to Boca Chica because his car was badly damaged. For that reason, December was dry for the people of Boca Chica. The group is made up of around 25 children and several adults. Last Saturday, pastor John was able to go back and offer teaching to the children with a teacher from his church. We are glad about that, but there is no possibility of going to church on Sunday because no one has a vehicle to take the people to church.

The lady who is in charge of assembling the group for activity and listened to a message on the radio from a strange group who called themselves the Church of Prophecy. I told her, "This is a dangerous and false doctrine they teach; do not go there!" She said, "I did not go, but I need spiritual food, and I am hungry for learning." I offered to teach her about a Christian's stability in the Lord, and she is excited about that. But this doesn't fix the problem of attending church on Sunday. Pray for this cause, and for these needs in each area:

• **Quebec**—Growth with our new convert and my helper, Michel Barton, for health.

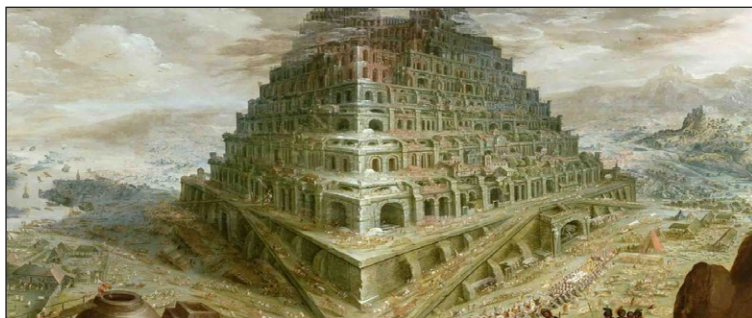
• **Haiti**—Security, food and the possibility of having a good internet connection for teaching.

• **Africa, Cameroon**—Stability in their walk with Christ.

• **Africa, Ivory Coast**—Encouragement to keep serving the Lord.

• **Dominican Republic**—A vehicle for going to church for the 45-minute trip from the capital.

We thank you for your prayers and sacrificial giving to our ministry and for the work in our churches.



The Epic Story of Truth (Part 5): Disobedience, Disinheritance And the Lord's Portion

In continuing this overview of the single narrative running throughout Scripture — the true epic story — we are bouncing back to Genesis. We began with Creation and, after Adam and Eve were punished and the earth was cursed, God declared that a Promised One would come. This Promised One would defeat Satan and bring about the restoration of not just mankind, but the world. That led us to Revelation 19-22, where that hint in Gen. 3:15 is fleshed out.

Next, we returned to Genesis and saw how, in the years after leaving the Garden of Eden, humanity continued in sin, which led to God's judgment through the flood. His judgment wiped out mankind, but that horrific wrath was held at bay by God's mercy for 1,600 years. Then, as God restored the earth through Noah and his family, God hinted to a future apocalyptic judgment. This led us to flip back to the end of the New Testament in II Peter and Revelation to see how God will destroy this earth by fire and will restore it. In this new creation, the earth returns to the Garden of Eden (not the Garden of Gethsemane like I had in a typo last week).

We return now to Genesis to further look at the complete narrative of the Bible and following the flood the people returned to sin. That sin and disobedience builds to a crescendo, causing God to send judgment again. Today this judgment is referred to much less than the flood, but it impacts us daily. We still face the fallout of that judgment.

Following the flood, the descendants of Noah began to repopulate the earth. Not only were they to repopulate the earth, they were instructed to spread out and geographically repopulate the earth.

Noah's descendants, the earth's new inhabitants, disobeyed. Their account is found in Genesis 11.

Instead of spreading out, the inhabitants of earth remained together, migrating from the region of Turkey (as we know it today) to Mesopotamia and what is Iraq today. Rather than turn to God, they turned to worship the sun, moon and stars, as well as other gods. In their sin, they followed the lead of a possible king in that day, Nimrod, who called upon them to build a tower that would reach the heavens. This would give them access to God on their terms, as well as make a name for themselves. Their tower is referred to today as the Tower of Babel.

The account in Genesis 11 tells that God brought judgment upon them by coming down, scattering them throughout the earth and giving them different languages. They had previously spoken one language because they were essentially one family. In Gen. 10:25 (NIV), God's judgment was summarized by saying, *"the earth was divided."*

"The Lord came down to see the city and the tower the people were building. The Lord said... 'Come, let us go down and confuse their language so they will not understand each other.' So the Lord scattered them from there over all the earth, and they stopped building the city. That is why it was called Babel — because there the Lord confused the language of the whole world. From there the Lord scattered them over the face of the whole earth." (Gen. 11:5-9 NIV).

It is from this historical moment that nations and languages were birthed and that is all we're told in this Genesis account. But in Deuteronomy we're given more details, and these details are essential to understand the dynamic at

play in our world today, as well as the mission of Christ followers to make disciples from all nations.

Deuteronomy means "a copy" or "repetition." The idea behind the name is that before the Israelites go into the Promised Land, Moses gives them the law again. That makes the book a summary of the previous four books of the Bible. In the summarizing of Tower of Babel event, Moses provides more insight, and he ties in Genesis 11 with Genesis 12. Moses said: *"Remember the days of old; consider the years of many generations... When the Most High gave to the nations their inheritance, when he divided mankind, he fixed the borders of the peoples according to the number of the sons of God. But the Lord's portion is his people, Jacob his allotted heritage" (Deut. 32:7-9 ESV).*

This retelling of the Tower of Babel event and calling of Abraham is mind-blowing. Moses is saying beyond just scattering people and giving them different languages, God disinherited or gave away mankind to the sons of God. Then He took His own portion, His own inheritance, which was Abraham and his descendants. In other words, all of humanity was the family of God and heirs to His promises, but through the judgment at the Tower of Babel, God disinherited all of mankind. He gave them to the sons of God (angelic beings) and those became the Gentile nations, but God then created a new family that would be heirs to His promises.

There's a lot to take in with the additional understanding Moses gives us. The idea of the nations being given over to prince angels seems farfetched, but this would then help us understand what is going in Daniel 10 when the angel Gabriel tells of the battle between the angelic Prince of Persia and Prince of Greece.

Like every other judgment given in Genesis, God drops a hint of a future fix. This deeper understanding of the Tower of Babel and the disinheriting of the nations is why Abram is promised that the nations would be blessed through him and his descendants.

Dive into the Epic Story yourself by reading Genesis 11-12 and Deuteronomy 32.

Note: One thing you will find as you read this is that most translations have the phrase "sons of Israel" rather than "sons of God," but the ESV and translations that say "sons of God" are using the oldest and likely more accurate ancient manuscripts.

— *Jake is a state missionary and would love to share about the work in Northwest Arkansas and encourage your church to stand firm. (standfirmministries.com)*

LIFEWORD (Continued From Page 1)

years later, it became a department of the BMA with Morris as its first director. From that single radio broadcast and the original vision of Harold Morris to reach the world through media, Lifeword is now broadcasting in 157 languages on multiple media platforms. It is estimated that 2 billion people around the world can hear and understand Lifeword every day.

Our mission statement pretty much sums up our ministry: "Lifeword exists to help make disciples through the creative proclamation, production and promotion of biblically-sound media that communicates in the heart language of every tongue, tribe and nation."

Lifeword's USA leadership team consists of Executive Director Donny Parrish, Director of Operations Luis Ortega, Director of Internet Strategies Jon Dodson and Director of Audience Engagement Yalanda Merrell. Lifeword Studios USA is located on the BMA Global Missions Center campus in Conway, Arkansas. In reality, Lifeword is located all around the world. With over 250 Lifeword Team members worldwide working to produce gospel content introducing people to Jesus, Lifeword is truly a global ministry. These Lifeword team members worldwide are creators, producers, technical personnel, videographers, editors, on-air personalities and all types of media people, all talented and committed to using media to introduce Jesus to their culture.

Lifeword is constantly on the lookout for media content providers. Most of those content providers are members of BMA churches. People who are gifted writers (bloggers) or have an idea for unique video/audio programming that will capture the attention of a secular audience are all encouraged to connect with us. If you are interested, visit lifeword.org/registration to register to become a contributor.

Lifeword is on track to be in over 200 languages in the next 3-5 years. In the past year, over 45 million people have logged on to Lifeword.org to discover the truth about Jesus, 25 million of those people for the very first time. Over 300 million social media accounts have viewed Lifeword content in the past 12 months.

Much is being done to share His story at Lifeword. But there is still so much to be done. While broadcasting in 200 languages is a lofty goal, there are presently over 6,000 languages spoken on planet Earth. And, while an audience of 2 billion people around the world is amazing, still one-fourth of the

world has never heard the story of Jesus. That's over 2 billion people.

Lifeword is perfectly positioned to take the message of God's great salvation to the edge of lostness. We live in a media-driven world, and Lifeword is working hard to take the gospel to all four corners of planet Earth in each heart language. We covet your prayers and financial support while working to fulfill His Great Commission.

In 2024, we hope to fully implement our new discipleship tool — "Follow" — releasing it to all social media platforms and supporting each feature virtually and with Lifeword personnel. We will target the spiritual needs of the Spanish-speaking immigrant population of North America with gospel programming that speaks their cultural language. We will expand our social media presence around the world with more video and digital print content reaching into specific cultures with the gospel. We will explore the use of artificial intelligence and other virtual methods to use as a response tool for those interacting with our content. We will attempt to expand our financial base across the BMA of America and cultivate financial relationships online. We will target 7-10 new languages to add to the 157 that Lifeword presents the gospel in daily.

Your church's reach can be worldwide through the ministry of Lifeword. By giving to support the work of Lifeword, your church can impact a generation for Christ. When you partner with Lifeword, you can truly say, **"We tell the story!"**

There are several ways to partner financially with the ministry of Lifeword. Monthly support from BMA churches is the lifeblood of Lifeword's financial plan. Individuals can support Lifeword monthly by visiting lifeword.org/donate. Our Faith Inner Circle (FIC) is a special giving opportunity for individuals to increase our gospel footprint around the world, especially in countries closed to traditional missionary outreach. FIC Members are sent a monthly update via newsletter detailing how their donations are making an impact. To become a member of Lifeword's Faith Inner Circle, visit lifeword.org/lifeword-faith-inner-circle.

Another way you can join in Lifeword's mission is by helping share the content we produce. Visit lifeword.org and check out the large number of shows, blog posts and more that are available. Be sure to check out the gospel presentation available in 157 languages by clicking on the "Who Is Jesus To You?" banner. When you find something that encourages

See LIFEWORLD, Page 7



BMA OF ARKANSAS
STATE MISSIONS

Missionaries

Juan Carlos Posadas, Misión Creciendo en Cristo, NLR; (501) 712-8752
 Ruben Isturiz, Misión Ebenezer, West Little Rock; (501) 707-5388
 Johnny Shew, Faith Chapel, Flippin; (870) 421-1984
 Bryan Clay, Faith Journey, Benton; (501) 522-0079
 Roberto Marcelletti, Misión Gracia Soberana, NW Ark.; (936) 202-7988
 Jake McCandless, Epic Life, Pea Ridge; (501) 472-9079
 Michael Hight, El Faro #2 Hispanic Mission, Cabot/Jacksonville; (501) 326-0198

MICHAEL HIGHT, HISPANIC COORDINATOR; (501) 326-0198
DONNA WEBB, ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

E-Mail: bmaofarkfrontdesk@gmail.com • Phone: (501) 565-4601
 Office Location: 10712 Interstate 30 • Little Rock, AR 72209
 Mailing Address: PO Box 195514, Little Rock, AR 72219

www.bmaARmissions.com
Facebook.com/ArkansasMissions



PAUL WHITE
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
arstamis@comcast.net

A Warning to the Herald

"For Christ did not send me to baptize, but to preach the gospel — not with wisdom and eloquence, lest the cross of Christ be emptied of its power" (I Cor. 1:18-19 NIV).

Are some guilty of watering down the gospel — reducing it to simply an escape from eternal punishment without repenting or turning from sin? We hear a lot about calling upon the name of the Lord and being saved, but surely, true salvation will be witnessed by a true change of heart. A belief that does not possess any of the traits that accompany relationships reflects a profession lacking possession.

We know the message of God has not changed, but that doesn't mean the way it is communicated by some today may lack the power that it possesses. In doing so, are we being completely truthful when we fail to share the reasons they need to be saved and the tremendous price that had to be paid for sin?

John 3:16 states that God loves mankind. We are told in His Word that He desires that none should perish and yet some do. Why? Because they fail to come on His terms. Could it be a failure on our part, trying to avoid being offensive in an earnest attempt to be included? In earnest, we have sinned against a holy God and when we face our sin, conviction brings the reality of our broken relationship with the Father and the Holy Spirit draws us to the foot of the cross, not that we might go to Heaven, but that we might find forgiveness and restored relationship with our Creator. Heaven is presence with God. A pastor was once told that his gospel message offends some. His response was, "Then I failed, because the true gospel should offend all. For all stand condemned guilty before a holy and just God." May we preach the whole counsel of God in love. Part of that message includes the impending wrath God has against sin.

Jesus said, "If you want to be one of my disciples, take up your cross and follow me." Merely accepting Christ as Savior in word only — without dying to ourselves, surrendering our will to His and repenting — will not get a person saved. Repentance is the evidence and fruit of one's salvation, and a changed life is the proof of repentance. Even the dying thief on the cross believed Jesus was the true son of God when he said, "Remember me, Lord."

The writer of Hebrews stated, *"For the word of God is quick, and powerful, and sharper than any twoedged sword, piercing even to the dividing asunder of soul and spirit, and of the joints and marrow, and is a discernor of the thoughts and intents of the heart"* (Heb. 4:12). Our message is powerful. May we join the Apostle Paul in stating, *"I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ: for it is the power of God unto salvation to every one that believeth; to the Jew first, and also to the Greek"* (Rom. 1:16).

From Our Missionaries

Ebenezer, West Little Rock: Ruben Isturiz writes, "Last week, our attendance was low due to the weather, but this week our attendance was within normal in Ebenezer. It was a week of much assistance to brethren who had difficulties due to the weather, especially the newcomers to Arkansas. With the tornado warnings, plus the snow, it is difficult for them to know how to function in this type of weather. At Ebenezer, we try during our Celebration Service to open a space where the brethren spontaneously give thanks to God for His goodness. Last Sunday was

a significant time of thanksgiving: some were able to move to a house where their children can live better; a family left a trailer, where the cold was intense to live in an apartment; the healing of Neymar; Avelina with better health; and a brother was finally allowed to buy a house. Each family was able to give thanks to God. These thanksgivings made me meditate and be thankful. In spite of the winter storm, God worked for good in Ebenezer. Sometimes we don't see God's movements, but I could see God's protection in this time. May His name be glorified! Glory to God alone!

Faith Chapel, Flippin: Johnny

Shew writes, "It was great to be able to gather together in the name of Jesus this week! I don't know about you, but when I go a week without meeting with our brothers and sisters and worshipping the Lord and studying His Word, life is hard! It seems as if the devil tries to put his hands on everything. The brutal cold and snow made it necessary to cancel services on the Jan. 14, but we met on Jan. 21 and had a good number. It was wonderful and refreshing, and we all rejoiced in the Lord! Thank You, Lord!"

"As I write this early Monday morning, we are getting freezing rain and the schools have all closed again. It is slick out there! But the forecast for after today is above freezing the rest of the week, so we thank God for that.

"I am looking forward to some training in Conway at Central Baptist College on Saturday, put on by Larry Barker and Healthy Church Solutions. It will be good to see the rest of the missionaries and everyone else there.

"We are still waiting on drywall for the new building. One of the finishers came by and said they are beginning to catch up. We are praying this weather doesn't set them back more. I want to thank you all again for your prayers and support! We could not do this without your faithfulness and letting God work through you!"

Faith Journey, Benton: Bryan Clay writes, (1/14) "My wife and I got the pleasure of speaking in Rondo at First Baptist Church. I was asked to bring the devotional to the Mt. Vernon District meeting. This meeting is made up of women from surrounding churches in their area that meet every quarter.

"We enjoyed getting to know these dedicated ladies and learning about how a women's district meeting is organized. It is a long-standing tradition and one they are proud to share with others.

"Afterwards, we were invited to join them for a great home cooked meal of fried chicken, beans, potato salad, rolls and some amazing desserts! Thank you, First Baptist Rondo, for letting me come speak

and get to know this special group of faithful ladies.

"If anyone has a speaking engagement for your church or organization that you need filled, please let me know. I would love to come share what God is doing at Faith Journey mission and the lives of others in our community."

(1/21) "How about that winter weather this week! I hope everyone was safe and warm around the state. Our study this week was on waiting on the Lord, and this type of weather is a great reminder that sometimes God wants us to slow down and wait on Him.

"We talked about some things we should be focused on while we wait on the Lord, such as being faithful in what He has already given us, continuing to seek Him through prayer and reading the Scriptures and growing our faith and trust in Him as we are learning to be patient while we wait.

"We are continuing to pray for those in our mission who are recovering from surgery and those who have been ill. We look forward to having all our folks well and back in our presence to worship the Lord."

Misión Gracia Soberana (Sovereign Grace), NWA: Roberto Marcelletti writes, "This week, we continue to sow biblical principles through our Grace Groups in the cities of Pea Ridge, Rogers and Springdale. This is an ongoing and intentional work. Hispanics predominately come from a Roman Catholic background and those principles are deeply rooted, so when the Lord in His grace brings salvation, we begin a radical change of theology.

"On Thursday, we traveled with a group of brothers to Denton, Texas, to a conference on 'The Sufficiency of the Scriptures.' During the trip and during the time in Denton, we were able to get to know each other better and intentionally getting to know each other better strengthens the bonds of our brotherhood in Christ.

"On Sunday, we were able to gather despite the weather alerts. Although some were unable to come, we worshipped God and listened to His Word."

Epic Life, Pea Ridge: Jake McCandless writes, "This week was our best week so far! We had a total attendance between Con-

LIFEWORD

(Continued From Page 6)

you, share it with your friends via social media. You can also connect with Lifeword by following its social media pages and sharing the content when it is published. Here are a few of the places you can find them:

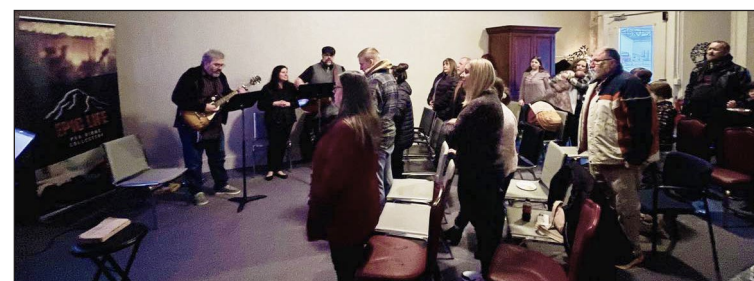
- facebook.com/lifeword
- twitter.com/lifewordmedia
- tiny.cc/lifewordyoutube

You can also invite a Lifeword team member to share about the ministry at your church. Contact Director of Church Connections Jennifer Harrell at jennifer@lifeword.org or (501) 329-6891.

nection Groups and our monthly Collective Worship Gathering of nearly 60! This includes 38 different people. There were 11 first-time guests — 10 at our worship night and 1 at the Garfield Connection Group. Beyond the numbers, we are seeing everyone begin to 'get it.' The first-time guest in the Connection Group was brought by someone who had recently been reached in that group. Through our Woodbridge Connection Group, a member invited me to lunch to meet a coworker of his. This is the second co-worker he has reached.

"Interestingly, this successful week came with us 'letting go' and trusting God more than we have throughout this past year. After joining South City Church for training last week, we were reminded that we're 'playing the long game' and can't force conversions and transformations, so we backed off. We quit worrying about making ministry plans and just lived out our own walks with the Lord and His transformation in us. Our Worship Night was the first gathering we hadn't run Facebook ads for over the past six months, and it was our largest. It sounds obvious, but it is about trusting the Lord, not our 'wisdom!'

"Our Prayer Collective Group is also on fire and meeting regularly, which is the ultimate thing we can do! Pray for us as we have multiple leaders starting their training this week with the KC Underground. We will also have our first official leader training the first Sunday in February."



Epic Life, Pea Ridge Collective Worship Gathering

Deaths

Bobby Morgan, 85 of Guy, passed away Jan. 18. He was a veteran and member of Mt. Olive Baptist Church.

Lena Mae Norman, 82 of Arkadelphia, passed away Jan. 18. She was a member of First Baptist Church in Gurdon.

Samantha Ann Christopher, 42 of Jonesboro, passed away Jan. 14. She was a member of Temple Baptist church.

Donald Dale Cullum, 91 of Searcy, passed away Jan. 11. He was a deacon at Park Avenue Baptist Church.

Edna Ruth Stephens, 99 of Gurdon, passed away Dec. 9. She was a member of First Baptist Church.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Gospel Singing featuring Mark Lanier; Jan. 28, 10:30 a.m.; Union, Rosston; Joe Brown, pastor.

Gospel Singing featuring The Silvey Family; Jan. 28, 5:30 p.m.; Union, Rosston; Joe Brown, pastor.

Gospel Singing featuring Shawn Drewett; Feb. 11, 10:30 a.m.; Union, Rosston; Joe Brown, pastor.

Gospel Concert featuring Destined to Glory; Feb. 11, 5 p.m.; New Liberty, Emmett.

DISTRICT CALENDAR

Jonesboro Dist. Brotherhood, Feb. 13; Nueva Esperanza Mission, Jonesboro.

Greenbrier Dist. WMA, Feb. 15; 10 a.m., lunch to follow; Bethlehem, Greenbrier.

SW Dist. Brotherhood, April 2; 6 p.m. meal; 7 p.m. program; First, Taylor.

SW Dist. WMA, April 2; 6 p.m. meal; 7 p.m. program; First, Taylor.

United District WMA, April 6; Grace, Russellville.

Central Ark. WMA, April 13, 10 a.m.; Park Place, Bryant.

United District WMA, July 13; Hattiesville, Hattiesville.

World Missions Sunday, Feb. 25.

CBC Gala, March 1; featuring Dr. Jack Graham; Antioch, Conway.

BMA of America Annual Mtg., April 16-18, 2024; Chateau on the Lake, Branson.

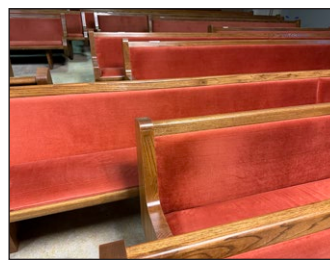
SOAR 2024, July 3-5; Live! By Loews Convention Center; Arlington, Texas.

Student Ministry Workers Retreat; Sept. 14; Central Baptist College; Conway.

BMA of Arkansas Mtg., Nov. 7-8; Central Baptist College, Conway.

Need Printing?
Trumpet Printing can help.
Call (501) 565-0479

Check Out The Trumpet Archives At
baptisttrumpet.com/archive



Free Oak Church Pews

Pews in a variety of sizes (106 total) are available to anyone who can use them. The largest number of the same size (20) are 21' long. Other sizes range from 7' to 28'. For more information, contact Ben Temple at ben@aclr.org or (501) 472-4915.

JOIN US FOR YOUTH GROUP DAY

January 27, 2024
10:00 AM

WOMEN'S GAME: 1:00 PM

MEN'S GAME: 3:00 PM

cbc.edu/youthgroupday



GAMES TOUR
FREE LUNCH
GIVEAWAYS
MUSTANG BASKETBALL

Sunday, February 25 is World Missions Day

BMA GLOBAL

JERRY KIDD MISSIONS OFFERING 2024

With 400+ ChangeMakers planting over 400 new churches in 65 countries, you can be part of funding new churches worldwide!

Celebrate BMA Global's growing church planting ministry and God's global mission.

Register your church at
bmaglobal.org
to order promotional materials, and receive a free pastor polo.

SENT

To The Nations

On Sunday, February 25, pray for our missionaries and lead your church in giving to the Jerry Kidd Missions Offering. We value your partnership!