

Gulf Coast BAPTIST News

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FROM THE PRESIDENT



Dr. H. H. Strickland

The fall semester continues to move along. Recently we completed four weeks in the semester for in

house classes. What a blessing it is to be back teaching the precious Word of God to students face to face. So much work has gone into the preparation at Magnolia Springs Baptist Church so that the facilities were ready for the new classes. So much thanks and appreciation goes out to all the members of this church for their tireless efforts so that the school can continue to operate.

As we make plans for the coming months, I am reminded of a statement that I heard sometime ago, when a family has lost virtually everything and they were moving on. The father spoke to the son and said, we don't need to look back. The son replied, "I wasn't looking back, just remembering back.

Regardless of what the future may bring for us, there is no erasing the tremendous accomplishments that occurred over the past thirty-three years. The many students that have been touched through the ministry of West Florida Baptist Institute. The opportunity to teach them the Word of God in a setting they had never experienced was, forever, a great blessing.

We have made many friends over the years and the fellowship had been sweet. If they were to forget, I will never.

The process of establishing all the needs for Gulf Coast Baptist College continues to be a challenge. However, unlike the challenges that I faced at West Florida, I have people that are doing the most important aspect, and that is the legal requirements. While I did the best I could, at the time, it was never really all right. I am so appreciative to all those who are working so hard to make the transition.

The biggest challenge that I face now is finding a suitable facility to house the print shop. There are several buildings that I have looked at but the cost is prohibitive for us. I must find a place before

the building is sold and we are forced to store the equipment. I have a tremendous confident that through this move, the school has a great future. However, the print shop is another issue. There are very few that have the vision that I shared years ago for this ministry. It is difficult to accept the idea that it will be closed. The Lord has been so good to us over the years and it would a be difficult the idea to accept that the Lord brought us this far only to see it close.

When I look over all the things that must be left behind, I remember what all it took to acquire the things so that the school could operate. Many of those items must be sold and disposed of. We simply do not have the space nor time to move it all. Some of it will not be need in the new facility. Many of the chairs, desks and shelving will not be moved.

I want to express my deepest appreciation to all the individuals and churches that have been so faithful to support his ministry over the years. You have stayed with us through all the difficulties and continue to support the work.

PRESS FOR SALE

A HEIDELBERG DI FOUR COLOR PRESS
IN EXCELLENT CONDITION

From a
Woman's Point
 of View



By: Loretta Pritchett
lorettapritchett@yahoo.com

As I was reading last months articles I enjoyed reading about the new school and how everyone was so excited about beginning classes.

By now the first month has passed and you are now experiencing October with more enthusiasm about your classes and learning all you can about the Bible and the Lord's coming.

As the time flies by you can see how much of the Bible is happening now and can visualize that the events mentioned in the Bible are coming true every day that passes.

The Book of Revelation is full of events that God has said will be coming in the end times. The most exciting passage I like reading over and over is found in Revelation chapter 21:1-7. However, John throughout the entire chapter

continues to talk about what will be happening there.

What a wonderful life we will have when we meet with the Lord. I know I am ready, Lord as your Savior, I pray you will soon.

November is just around the corner, and I pray you have a wonderful Thanksgiving Day. Praise the Lord for another day to serve Him and tell Him thank you for everything He has given you.

**PASTORAL
 COUNSELING**

DEFINING RELIGION

In this segment of the discussion on "Philosophy of Religion," it would be good to try and understand the ideas relative to who those are who do not accept the premise that there is a Supreme Being and that this Supreme Being is God. They generally use a compilations of definitions to satisfy their own purposes rather than present a simply presentation of beliefs or objections.

For instance, in his attempt to explain the matter of defining religion he remarks; "It is much safer, in a field like religion, with all of the emotional overtones which it possesses, to consider that any attempted definition has properties usually assigned to what is known as a simulative definition. ... Now simulative definitions have the following properties, by definition, and hence, what follows may be considered as a nominal definition of definitions."

1. Their aim is to clarify the meaning of terms by means of verbal equivalents.

2. Simulative definitions do not intend to describe the world outside of words.

3. There is an element of arbitrariness in all stipulative definitions at the point of their formulation.

4. It then follows that simulative definitions are neither true nor false.

5. There is a corollary which follows from the neutrality of definitions with regard to truth and falsity.

It is then concluded with this statement; "No definition ought ever to be used as a premise in an argument, the conclusion of which is claimed to be true.

The whole of attempting to define religion or any of its related subjects must, by nature, be defined in some manner. To stipulate that no definition can be used to establish the premise of understanding is grossly exaggerated. If an idea is not understood and there can be no definition given that is acceptable, then there can be no understanding of that idea. It appears that the whole matter of definitions depends upon who is offering the material.

It is quite clear that those who make every attempt to disprove the very idea of a God, relies upon such ambiguous terms as just quoted. They are a master at confusing the

idea. However, the simpler the terms the simpler the definitions the greater the understanding. The more complicated the terms the more complicated the definitions. Thus the more difficult it is to understand. It has never been a matter of definitions of understanding the terms that has confused the idea but the complicated manner in which it is often presented. The Word of God is not a complicated book to understand. It is a book, given by God through man, for man and to be understood. If one enters into the project of understanding the matter of God with a prejudice mind or mental block to the truth, it will not be found or understood. However, if the whole matter is approached with an idea of seeking the truth, it can be found and understood. The truth of God is only hid to them which do not or will not believe.

The next matter that is discussed under the subject, "The Definition of Religion," has to do with the a very common notion relative to the matter of personal attitude toward religion. So much of the beliefs regarding religion have been supported purely by feelings or emotion. Even in many of the organized religions of today, the matter of support comes from feelings or emotion.

It as been written by a number of early writers, that the nineteenth and twentieth



David Gonnella, Th. D.

Planning for the Spring Semester

Relocating a Bible College/Seminary is very much like starting a new school. We start with losing students from our former location and having to recruit in our new location.

The Lord has blessed us with some students at our old location continuing with us and new students where we now are. We do not have many, but enough for a good start.

A hearty "Thank You" to the members of Magnolia Springs Baptist Church for the way they have gotten behind the College in financial support, help in moving equipment and books, cleaning and preparation of the second floor of our office/educational building where the College is now located and in much prayer.

Also, a hearty "Thank You" to the churches of the Magnolia Baptist Association here in south Alabama. A majority of the churches in the association support the College on a monthly basis and special offerings have also come from local Association churches. This has helped sustain the College in this transition period.

Speaking of association, some have asked about our affiliations. As with Magnolia Springs Baptist Church, the

Gulf Coast Baptist College is affiliated with the American Baptist Association (not to be confused with the American Baptist Convention). The American Baptist Association is a fellowship of theologically conservative independent Baptist churches.

We are now in the process of recruiting students for the Spring Semester. We offer full time or part time courses by in person instruction, internet, Zoom and directed study. Our tuition rates and fees are kept low to help those with meager funds to be able to receive a quality education that is affordable.

Any person who is interested in pursuing an education in Theology, Bible, Christian Education, Christian Counselling, Chaplaincy and more may receive a catalogue by calling 251-653-7204. Any church interested in having Dr. Strickland or myself to come and present the college to your congregation may call the same number.

century Protestant theologians and philosophers of religion have taken this option more than any other. For example, Friedrich Schleiermacher believed that feeling was by far a more adequate criterion of a real definition of religion than was belief. It was not that religion had no contemplative element in it, but that religious contemplation was not a matter of objective facts.

Josiah Royce, the distinguished Harvard Idealist, supported Schleiermacher's analysis of the essential meaning of religion. Mr. Wells quotes him as stating:

"He saw religion as that which added enthusiasm to obedience to the moral code. There were beliefs which were a part of religion, and there were mandates which admonished appropriate behavior, but more than any of these, religion properly entailed feeling."

Royce further stated;

"A religion must teach some moral code, must in some way inspire a strong feeling of devotion in that code, and in so doing

must show some that code or that serves to reinforce the feeling. A religion is therefore practical, emotional, and theoretical; it teaches us to do, to feel, and to believe, and it teaches the belief as a means at its teaching of the action and the feeling."

Rudolf Otto also expressed almost the same identical perception regarding religion when he stated;

"In his judgment orthodox Christianity had committed a serious blunder when it has slighted, throughout its history, the non-cognitive element, and had substituted a narrow, one-sided rational theologizing. The expression *mysterium tremendum* identified a 'wholly (holy) other,' about which we do not so much speculate as feel "He concluded that; "certain feelings characterized the religious manifestations."



Glen Davenport, Th.D.

INTRODUCTION:

While sitting in the audience and observing the excitement of young preachers, the thought crossed my mind: Does God get through with us or do we get through with God? What happens to us when we wear out or get tired of the ministry wherein the Lord has called us.

There comes a time when our thoughts change and our zeal is not as aggressive as it once was, and that may be true with all of us. Even Paul had this to say concerning himself: (II Tim 4:6-7)

6 For I am now ready to be offered, and the time of my departure is at hand.

7 I have fought a good fight, I have finished my course, I have kept the faith:

If you should see or feel this day approaching, then you will have to make a decision. Will you go on or will you sit down and wait for further instructions from Heaven?

I will not have a single text for this message but I will refer to certain people and occasions.

I. Moses May Have Had Enough at One Point. Ex 32:32-34,

32 Yet now, if thou wilt forgive their sin; and if not, blot me, I pray thee, out of thy book which thou hast written.

33 And the LORD said unto Moses, Whosoever hath sinned against me, him will I blot out of my book.

34 Therefore now go, lead the people unto the place of which I have spoken unto thee: ...

II. Joshua May Have Had Enough at One Point. Josh 7:6-10

6 And Joshua rent his clothes, and fell to the earth upon his face before the ark of the LORD until the eventide, he and the elders of Israel, and put dust upon their heads.

7 And Joshua said, Alas, O Lord GOD, wherefore hast thou at all brought this people over Jordan, to deliver us into the hand of the Amorites, to destroy us? Would to God we had been content, and dwelt on the other side Jordan!

8 O Lord, what shall I say, when Israel turneth their backs before their enemies!

9 For the Canaanites and all the inhabitants of the land shall hear of it, and shall environ us round, and cut off our name from the earth: and what wilt thou do unto thy great name?

10 And the LORD said unto Joshua, Get thee up; wherefore liest thou thus upon thy face?

III. Elijah May Have Had Enough at One Point. 1 Kings 19:3-4; 7-8

3 And when he saw that, he arose, and went for his life, and came to Beer-sheba, which belongeth to Judah, and left his servant there.

MAY NOT BE THROUGH WITH YOU YET

4 But he himself went a day's journey into the wilderness, and came and sat down under a juniper tree: and he requested for himself that he might die; and said, It is enough; now, O LORD, take away my life; for I am not better than my fathers.

7 And the angel of the LORD came again the second time, and touched him, and said, Arise and eat; because the journey is too great for thee.

8 And he arose, and did eat and drink, and went in the strength of that meat forty days and forty nights unto Horeb the mount of God.

IV. Jonah May Have Had Enough at One Point. Jonah 4:7-11

7 But God prepared a worm when the morning rose the next day, and it smote the gourd that it withered.

8 And it came to pass, when the sun did arise, that God prepared a vehement east wind; and the sun beat upon the head of Jonah, that he fainted, and wished in himself to die, and said, It is better for me to die than to live.

9 And God said to Jonah, Doest thou well to be angry for the gourd? And he said, I do well to be angry, even unto death.

10 Then said the LORD, Thou hast had pity on the gourd, for the which thou hast not laboured, neither madest it grow; which came up in a night, and perished in a night:

11 And should not I spare Nineveh, that great city, ...

V. What Are We Going To Do When We Have Had Enough?

A. Moses went on to lead the people unto the place of which I have spoken unto thee: ...

B. Joshua got up, brushed the dust from his clothing and went on to serve God for many years.

C. Elijah arose, and did eat and drink, and went in the strength of that meat forty days and forty nights unto Horeb the mount of God.

D. Jonah got a lecture from God concerning self-pity.

E. David set an example when he asked to be renewed. Ps 51:9-13

9 Hide thy face from my sins, and blot out all mine iniquities.

10 Create in me a clean heart, O God; and renew a right spirit within me.

11 Cast me not away from thy presence; and take not thy holy spirit from me.

12 Restore unto me the joy of thy salvation; and uphold me with thy free spirit.

13 Then will I teach transgressors thy ways; and sinners shall be converted unto thee.

Conclusion:

The day will come when we can no longer serve God as we did in our youth, but the day need not come when we say we have had enough.

Let's be careful to serve God as long as He gives us strength to do so. Let's let God determine the time and occasion to say He is finished with us. Don't quit. Be like Simon Peter: II Peter 1:13-15 13 Yea, I think it meet, as long as I am in this tabernacle, to stir you up by putting you in remembrance; 14 Knowing that shortly I must put off this my tabernacle, even as our Lord Jesus Christ hath shewed me. 15 Moreover I will endeavour that ye may be able after my decease to have these things always in remembrance.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

2022 Thanksgiving Mission Offering

Goal: \$325,000

Set by the Standing Missionary Committee of the
American Baptist Association

On or before November 27, 2022

Searching for a pastor: Greeley Missionary Baptist church in Greeley, CO is actively searching for a pastor. More details to follow.

Seeking a Pastor in Colt, Ar: New Prospect Missionary Baptist Church in Colt, Ar is currently seeking a pastor. For more info please contact Tommy @ 8702707060 for more info thanks and God bless!

Grace MBC in Corning AR is seeking a pastor. This is a full-time position with a parsonage available. Contact Paula Cate, 870-215-1287.

Big Sky Missionary Baptist Church in Montana is seeking a pastor. Interested parties may contact me for their contact info. wadillard@gmail.com Posted by W. A. Dillard



*Secretary/
Treasurer
Missions*
Roger Stewart

MISSION NEWS AND VIEWS

STEWART REPORT

Beginning Balance	\$2,418,753.84
RECEIPTS:	
Interstate Salaries	\$67,315.15
Foreign & National Salaries	\$79,859.99
Designated	\$39,782.25
Undesignated	\$27,866.45
TOTAL RECEIPTS	\$214,823.45
BALANCE FOR SALARY/EXPENSE	
	\$2,633,577.68
DISBURSEMENTS	
Interstate Salaries	\$76,776.25
Foreign Salaries	\$27,438.29
National Salaries	\$25,870.00
Designated	\$40,027.25
Salaries & Expenses of Sec-Treas. Office	
Office Salaries	\$13,484.53
General Office	\$1,373.41
Automobile Expense	\$689.81
Sec/Treasurer Exp	\$399.93
Total Office	\$15,947.68
TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS	\$186,059.47
BALANCE FORWARD	\$2,447,518.21
SURPLUS FOR SEPTEMBER	\$28,764.37

It is with great pleasure that I share my report for September 2022. God truly blessed Gena and me, the Missions' Office, and the missionaries of the ABA last month. My wife and I enjoyed the privilege of visiting South Side MBC, Star City, AR; the Cumberland River Association hosted by Langdon Street Baptist Church, Somerset, KY; West Somerset Baptist Church, Somerset, KY; Parker's Mill Road Baptist Church, Somerset, KY; Bogata MBC, Bogata, TX; and, Sweet Home MBC, Prattsville, AR. My sincere thanks to the brethren who made us feel so

welcome while showing us great kindness and hospitality.

The missionaries of the American Baptist Association reported for September **443 professions of faith** and **39 baptisms**. These numbers bring our fiscal year totals to **2017 professions of faith** and **260 baptisms**. We give God all the glory!

I want to extend a very special thanks to Calvary MBC, Deltona/Osteen, FL, and Pastor Rick Scarlett, for an incredibly generous offering given to the ABA Missions' Office in September. It was this offering which allowed us to end the month with a \$28,764.37 surplus. Praise the Lord!

The **2022 Thanksgiving Mission Offering** poster, cover letter and return envelope have been mailed to the churches. Upon receipt of these materials, we are asking each church to set aside a time to receive a special offering on or before November 27th, 2022. Will you help us? If you would like a complimentary Thanksgiving Mission Offering presentation to show to your church family, please reach out to us at the Missions' Office and we will happily send you a digital copy. And, if for some reason, you have not received the Thanksgiving Offering materials please contact us for your copy.

Lastly, I would like to mention the opening of the **Bogard Press/Baptist Book Store Time Capsule** which occurred on Wednesday, September 28th. The time capsule was buried in the fall of 1972 and now, 50 years later, its contents were revealed in an outdoor ceremony directed by David Butimore, Chairman of the Baptist Sunday School Committee. Of greatest interest to us in the Missions' Office was an ABA Missionary Poster from 1972 in pristine condition. We hope to have a copy of that poster displayed in the Missions' Office for your viewing enjoyment very soon.

FOREIGN MISSIONS

L.A.M.B. Ministries

Colombia, SA

Jim Gage, Missionary

El Sembrador Missionary Baptist Church baptized Jose Faustion, Silva and his wife, Aurora Carddinas.

Jungle School: Gilberto and Xiomara Bautista are to help in the Jungle Bible School. Also, assist Carmenza and me with our missionary activities at El Sembrador. For now, they will be staying at the Institute installations.

Darin Lovett was a great help: Gant Lake MBC sent Bro. Darin Lovett to help with missionary activities. For a month, it was like Elijah having Shlisha help out. I wish it were permanent.

50 Years, A spiritual Milestone: It seems like yesterday when, from Anaheim, California, the Grace MB Church elected ABA missionary, James H. Gage, began missionary work in Colombia. The results has extended throughout other South American Countries. God has since blessed with many of the Lord's Churches established. Pastors and Deacons ordained, but more than anything, precious souls have been saved. Praises go to our Lord for His bountiful blessing. May God continue to bless as we celebrate 50 years of the initiation of the work here

Colombia, S.A.

Carlos Julio Mendoza, Missionary

First day of campaign Wednesday, with Pastor Robert Bedford, from Madison BC FL. Attendance 26, visits 5, By zoom 6 families. Bro. Cesar led the services, Bro. Cairo played the piano, and Sr. Rocco operated the computer.

Second day of campaign, Thursday, Attendance 31, visits 6, by zoom 15 families.

My wife, daughter and grand daughter sang a special for the Lord and God.

The third day of the campaign, Friday, attendance 19, visits 2, by zoom 18 families.

Last day of the campaign, Sunday, attendance 34, visits 4, professions of faith 1, by zoom 10.

Kenya/Uganda*Chuck Fernandez, Missionary*

This is one of those reports with great news about the gospel being preached to unreached people groups in the 10/40 Window. The 10/40 Window is the rectangular area of North Africa, the Middle East and Asia approximately between 10 degrees north and 40 degrees north latitude. The 10/40 Window is often called "The Resistant Belt" and includes the majority of the world's Muslims, Hindus, and Buddhists.

Approximately 5.27 billion individuals residing in 8,867 distinct people groups are in the 10/40 Window. 6,180 (69.7%) of these people groups are considered unreached and have a population of 3.26 billion.

While we are excited to share this great news, please keep in mind that we cannot share names, locations and photos with specifics due to safety concerns for those involved. What I can tell you is that God has opened a door of opportunity for our Ministry through some of the Landmark Baptist Pastors we have worked with over the years to be instrumental in teaching, training and evangelizing this unreached country.

Spain*Daniel Estrade, Missionary*

We have been through some illnesses and tests and the Lord has given us the victory. During the month of July Eloisa had surgery and everything went well by the strength of the Lord Jesus. But also, after we came back from the hospital, in our City on the mountains behind our home there was a large fire. Praise the Lord the good hand of God was upon us.

Also, Bro. Maykol and his son were sick with some kind of virus, but now doing better.

Also, Emmely had the driven test and praise the Lord passed it well. It was a good time of give testimony of the power of God and goodness of his grace.

We thank God, because in everything His almighty hand has been working in an amazing and outstanding way. All glory to God in good and bad times He is there.

BARCELONA MINISTRY TRIP... God allowed us to visit again Ripollet, Barcelona in order to teach and preach the Word of God during the third weekend of July. Thank God

everything went just right and we could see the benefit and powerful hand of God working in all things. We visited two churches and even had the chance to attend a funeral and give some words of encouragement to the family that lost their loved one. Also, we taught a Saturday morning seminar with some men of the church. What a blessing to be able to help this church in these different ways.

Sweden work... We keep praying and having contact with two families there. They are doing well and we keep talking and chatting when it is time to see how they are doing. Please, pray for their spiritual condition and growth. We are praying that we will be able to visit them again by October or November of this year.

Romanian

Missions

Mackrill, Missionary

Greetings from the Mackrill family! We pray this finds you all well! Last month we were busy with church camp along with the usual ministry doings in Zarnesti and also our humanitarian efforts.

Last month Amy and I celebrated our 12 year wedding anniversary ! I am so thankful to God for the years that He has blessed us with and pray He blesses us with many more!

We want to thank each one of you for your faithful prayers and support. The Lord continues to bless us here as we continue to seek to honor Him in all that we do.

Faith Baptist Church Zrne'ti: Last month we continued to have wonderful services in Zrne'ti. Our Sunday evening services and Wednesday evening bible study and prayer times have been wonderful. We have been studying Acts on Sunday evenings and Genesis on Wednesday evenings. Last month we had church camp together with those who have been attending our services in Zarnesti. We had an amazing time and while there were able to witness to other families who were staying at the same location we had church camp.

Humanitarian work: Last month we had the wonderful privilege of blessing another special Ukrainian family with new furniture for their apartment. This family has recently moved here permanently from Ukraine to the

city center. Because of your generous offerings we purchased a new bed, couch and othe refurnishings for their apartment.

We also continued our monthly Romanian humanitarian efforts, helping families in the greater Brasov area. Helping not only needs but also taking the time to share the gospel. Thank you for your prayers and love offerings toward these efforts.

Thailand*Danny Jones, Missionary*

The past few months have been a physical endurance race. The day after returning from the ABA meeting in Orlando, I saw a surgeon who told me that I had a tumor on my thyroid that had almost doubled in size from a month earlier. Suspecting thyroid cancer, I had surgery just a few days later. They were able to remove not one, but two separate tumors. However, the pathology report showed that both were benign (Praise the Lord!). Unfortunately, I developed a severe hematoma after the surgery, a large pocket of blood that pooled around my neck and the incision. The hematoma grew so large that it ruptured the incision.

I just saw the surgeon this week who informed me that I will have to have a second, corrective surgery to repair the damage caused by the hematoma. These issues have exacerbated my heart arrythmia and have caused me to swell with fluid. Although I am now back on my feet and working again, I am still dealing with the residual effects of the past few months.

Thailand Update: Because of my surgery, my trip to Thailand has been postponed. Regardless, the work there has not ceased. Bro. David Norris, civil engineer and church treasurer at Westwood Missionary Baptist Church has finished the detailed building plans for the seminary building in Udon Thani. My parents traveled to Thailand this month (I would have been traveling with them). In my absence, they are taking the plans to apply for a building permit and all the necessary legalities to begin breaking ground. I plan to travel there in December or January, Lord willing, with a small building team. Vanuatu with them.

Interstate Missions

Lighthouse Ministries

Toby Cribbs Sr. Director

LONG STATE PRISON, LUDOWICI, GA: We held our first service on September twenty-fifth. It has been two years since we had been there. We had about 30 out for the service. We lost our piano player, drummer, guitar player, and our quartet. It was good to hear that they had gotten out. There were only three men we knew.

FANNIN COUNTY JAIL, BLUE RIDGE, GA.

I am the only one going to this jail. I have a service for all three pods. I leave Christian literature for the women. The men were glad to have Bible Study time again.

Three men from Hillcrest BC came up to our home and built me a HANDICAP RAMP.

Thanks again HILLCREST BC.

Topeka, Kansas

Evert Ledbetter, Missionary

August was another good month. The Lord is truly blessing our ministry here. We saw our monthly average attendance hold at 15. The Lord added one to our membership by baptism, which we were very thankful for. We have had 4 regular attending visitors almost every Sunday. Pray the Lord keeps working on them for their needs. This month we were very blessed to have an opportunity to grill hamburgers for the staff at a local elementary school. The staff consisted of 50 employees. We used our trailer and our new gas grill, and had a tailgate for the teachers. We were blessed to be able to provide hamburgers, chips, and labeled bottle water. The principal of the school was very supportive of us being there. We look forward to a continual ministry with this school. We also had another neighborhood block party at one of our members' homes. This gave us an opportunity to meet their neighbors and their friends. We saw 30 people come out for this event.

Twin Lakes,

Jerry Baker, Missionary

During the month it became more and more

evident that we must not forget that "stressed" is simply "desserts" spelled backwards! However, looking back over the calendar I am reminded that EVERY day was not stressful for us.

Bro. Rusty Denny and the members of Two Grey Hills Baptist mission welcomed us with open arms when they hosted the New Mexico state associational meeting on the 4th and 5th. How refreshing it was to fellowship with God's people and I was privileged to preach the missionary sermon that Thursday evening.

Bro. Brant Lane, some of the Macedonian Builders, and a few other friends came through and stopped for a visit during the month. We immensely enjoyed the opportunities of fellowship with them. They had no idea of the "load" Connie and I were carrying nor what their visit meant to us.

But the Lord knew exactly what we needed and when. We are very grateful for the friends throughout the years who "somehow" always arrived just in time for us.

Antioch

Dexter, MA

Geroge Dever, Missionary

In August, we had the privilege of Brandon and Diana Rutherford and their two children with Cameron, a youth worker visiting with us and building skate ramps to reach the kids in the community. During the festival, we set the ramps in front of the church house. Setting up the ramps in front of the church allowed for opportunities to talk about the Lord and introduce folks to skating boarding.

We have been setting up the ramps at a park in Dexter. We have had kids bring their boards, scooters, and bikes to ride the ramps. We have had a family come out about every time we set the ramps up. Please pray that we can be the witness they need to lead them to Christ. Please pray with us to find a permanent indoor place to set up the ramps.

Also, in August, our pastor and his wife, Shawn and Rachel Findley, visited us and brought a gift, a van. This van is a blessing due to having one of our vans stolen and eventually having to sell for scrap. We are blessed with a sending church that sees the need and responds to it.

Hope Mission

Scott Bourland, Missionary

Each year in September we celebrate the Hope Heritage Days. It involves some special events a lot like you would experience at a county fair, a lot of good food (but not so good for you), and many vendors.

We set up a booth where we gave away popcicles and had a drawing for free mums. We had a lot of good conversations. A total of 16 different people from the work here took turns running the booth.

Several conversations stemmed from them seeing people they knew and it was a great moment for them to share about their church. We also had many conversations with people we had never met before and will be able to do some follow up through the contact information given for the drawing.

God's Amazing Provision: After the purchase of the building, we owed \$220,000. God allowed us, through the generous offerings of his churches and the giving of the local people in Hope, to pay \$25,000 the first month bringing the balance down to \$195,000.

This month God showed his goodness again and through his churches, Calvary, and the people in Hope another \$13,500 was given toward the debt, bring the balance down to \$181,500. The people in Hope are giving \$4,000 per month toward the loan and are hoping we will be able to give extra along the way. We are so grateful for all those who are and will help us eliminate this debt as soon as possible.

Once this is taken care of, we will then be able to take the next step and transform from shopping center to church. Please pray for God's provision and for wisdom in decision.

EDITOR'S NOTE:

Notice this edition of the News is much shorter than normal. This is due to the lack of missionary reports. Normally, there are more reports than can be placed in the paper, however for the past few months, it has been difficult to get enough information to fill the pages. Thus it was necessary to delete one sheet for the news.

It has always been our desire to publish as many reports as possible.



Dean Grigsby

Business Manager Report

We live in a dangerous world, especially for our youth. The Bible commands us to: **“Train up a child in the way he should go: and when he is old, he will not depart from it.”** (Proverbs 22:6)

Many parents feel like a man sitting on the banks of a river, praying. He heard a man screaming for help, drowning. Being a good swimmer, he jumped in and brought the man ashore. In that moment, he heard another cry. He jumped into the river again. As soon as he reached the shore, he heard a third man screaming, and again he jumped in and rescued him. After the eighth time, totally exhausted, he cried out to God, “Lord, please show me what is happening upstream!”

Many of our youth are drowning in the tumultuous ways of the world, and we have become exhausted trying to rescue them downstream amid failure. Upstream is where we as parents and godly leaders need to focus; upstream is where we need to begin training our children in the ways of God; upstream is the most effective place to teach godly principles required to avoid failure.

We teach our children a lot of things, many of which are important. But nothing is more important than training them to live according to God’s Word. **“And these words, which I command thee this day, shall be in thine heart: And thou shalt teach them diligently unto thy children, and shalt talk of them when thou sittest in thine house, and when thou walkest by the way, and when thou liest down, and when thou risest up.”** (Deuteronomy 6:6-7)

At Bogard Press we provide literature to help you lead your youth in Bible studies. While designed for class environments, these trusted studies can also be sent home with parents and children for family time in God’s Word. The challenges before us are real. We may feel exhausted, but I am thankful our God is greater than the challenges before us and has promised to never leave us nor forsake us.

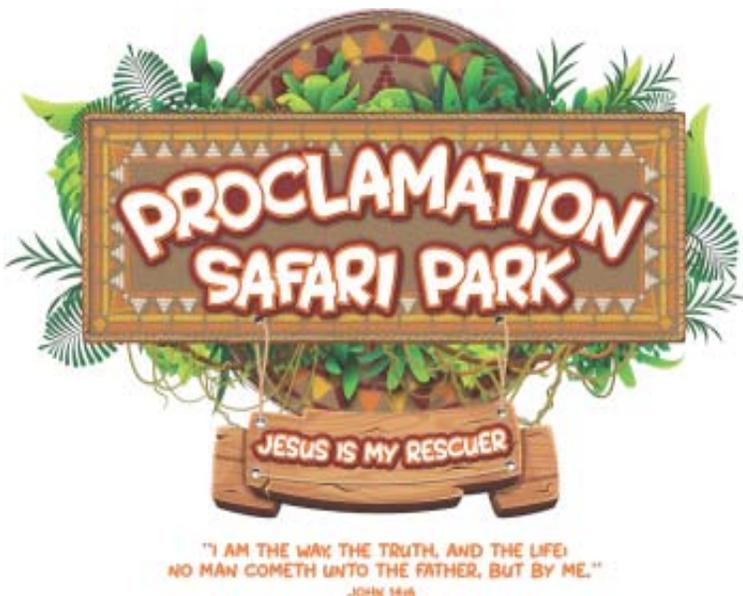


Mark Clements
Editor in Chief

“I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me,” (John 14:6).

It is not too early to begin thinking about and preparing for Vacation Bible School next Summer. VBS has proven to be a consistent avenue for reaching new people with the gospel message. The program also provides an opportunity for church members to work together, employing a variety of gifts and talents, to create an environment where God’s Word may be poured into the hearts of students.

We are very excited about our 2023 Vacation Bible School, “Proclamation Safari Park,” available in October. This



VBS will guide students to discover that Jesus alone is their rescuer. As students learn about how some endangered animals are rescued, this immersive experience will show them that they also need to be rescued by Jesus.

Daily lessons will teach students how Jesus came to rescue them by learning about His birth, by seeing how Jesus set the right example when He was a child, by learning how to follow Jesus, by learning how Jesus guides and protects them, and by understanding how the resurrection of Jesus guarantees victory for those who trust in Him. By studying the life of Christ, students will learn that He alone is their rescuer. Our prayer is that many souls will come to faith in Jesus Christ as a result of this Vacation Bible School.

Make plans to join our 2023 VBS Seminar from 8:00 am-12:00 pm on February 25, 2023, at Northern Hills Baptist Church in Texarkana, Arkansas. This event will also be live-streamed on our Facebook page. Presenters have already been lined up to come and share their insights on how to prepare for a successful VBS. We pray God’s churches will help many people come to say from their hearts, “Jesus is my rescuer.”

**FINANCIAL REPORT
WEST FLORIDA BAPTIST INSTITUTE
July/August 2022**

GENERAL FUND					
BALANCE BROUGHT FORWARD		\$ -0-	EXPENSES:		
			Utilities	\$ 1,615.24	
INCOME:			Misc.	1,264.73	
ALABAMA			Office	8.00	
Magnolia Springs -Theodore, AL	440.00		Instruction	2,950.00	
Schillingers Rd. BC -Mobile, AL	300.00		TOTAL EXPENSE	\$5,840.47	\$5,840.47
Victory BC -Mobile, AL	314.00		NEW BALANCE		\$645.99
GEORGIA					
Northside, BC -Vienna, GA	200.00		BOOKSTORE FUND		
Traders Hill -Folkston, GA	200.00		BALANCE BROUGHT FORWARD		\$ -0-
FLORIDA			Income:		
Oleno BC -HighSprings, FL	200.00		Bookstore Sales	\$ -0-	
Calvary BC -Panama City, FL	100.00		Press Sales	\$ 904.73	
Sunlight BC -Pensacola, FL	100.00		Contributions:		
Mics:			Landmark, Madison, FL	\$ 200.00	
TOTAL	\$1,854.00		Total Income	\$1,104.73	\$1,104.73
DESIGNATED FUNDS:H.H.Strickland			TOTAL AVAILABLE		\$1,104.73
Magnolia Spring BC -Theodore, AL	800.00		Expenses:		
Frankfort BC -Russellville,AL	200.00		Utilities	\$915.08	
Newark BC -Elkton,MD	200.00		Postage	-0-	
Cumberland Cove BC -Monterey,TN	50.00		Print Shop	\$1,837.95	
First Baptist BC -White City, FL	200.00		Supplies	\$-0-	
TOTAL	\$ 1,450.00		TOTAL EXPENSES	\$2,753.03	\$2,753.03
COMMITTEE OF 100			NEW BALANCE		\$ (-1,648.30)
Terry Alexander - Pensacola,FL	20.00				
Kitchen Sales -Pensacola, FL	-0-		BUILDING FUND		
TUITION/REGISTRATION			Calvary BC -Panama City,FL	\$500.00	
Registration	\$ -0-		TOTAL INCOME	\$500.00	
Tuition	\$ -0-		EXPENSES:		
Transfer	\$7,500.00		Regions Bank	\$701.29	
TOTAL INCOME	\$6,486.46	\$6,486.46	Building Fund	\$8,000.00	
TOTAL AVAILABLE		\$6,486.46			

CHURCHES SEEKING A PASTOR

Bethlehem Missionary Baptist Church is in search of a pastor. We are a small church but are interested in growing and serving the Lord in our community and surrounding area. We are located 6 miles east of Ola, Arkansas.

Please contact Kenneth McCoy at 479-747-3760/email kenneth@arkwest.com or Don McCoy at 479-747-3403 for more information and to set up and appointment.

Landmark Missionary Baptist Church in Bedford, Indiana is seeking a pastor. We are a conservative King James only church. If you are interested please email us at landmarkbaptist47421@gmail.com

Liberty Baptist Church, Collins,MS. seeking pastor. Contact Ricky Lott 601-543-4561 or rickylott4@gmail.com

Landmark MBC of Amite, La. is in search of a pastor. Located about 40 miles east of Baton Rouge and about 50 miles north of New Orleans along the I-55/I-12 corridor. We are a conservative country church, traditional in worship, doctrinally sound, with a big heart for missions. Church and annex sit on 3 acres debt free. We associate locally within the First Trinity Missionary Baptist Association. We are calling for a seasoned Missionary Baptist pastor of same mold. KJV only. If interested or for more information, please contact:

Joseph Holden, Deacon
985-517-8582
biglefty27@gmail.com
Franklin Parker, Deacon 985-507-2884
williamfparker@hotmail.com
Melissa Wallace, Church Clerk
985-286-9324
mrwalla59@gmail.com

PRINTING NEWS

Printing News:

The process of moving has proven to be a tremendous task. As I have written in the president's article, most of the material that is necessary for the operation of the school has been moved and is in place. In-house classes are underway and doing well. However, moving the print shop has not even begun. The biggest problem is finding a suitable building. Several facilities have been located but the cost is prohibitive. The income for the shop will not sustain two of three thousand a month for rent or payment. This is a ministry and was never designed to be a money making project. I have often been asked why I do not charge more for our materials and the answer is that we are a ministry designed to provide materials a minimal cost.

The shop has always had sufficient income to sustain itself. Supplies have always been available and equipment has been purchased when necessary. We have always been able to produce what material was needed. Our

inventory is high and because of that I have had to reduce the number of books that are produced in the original printing. This has become very productive since we are moving to a digital printing of most of the materials and only using the press when it is necessary. I do not think that we could ever move entirely away from a press. Some things must be printed on the press.



ten-year cycle will be completed. My sincere thanks goes to Bro. Juan Gallegos for his faithful work in doing the translations.

One of the best books that we have produced has been the series by Dr. David Gonnella. The productions of the Trail of Blood, both in Spanish and English, are still being produced and sold. I have kept the cost of these two books low so that anyone who would like to have a copy can afford the price.

I am so grateful to each individual and church that has been so faith in their support of this ministry. Without you continued support the work could not continue. Every dollar that is given to this ministry goes into the work. No one receives any compensations for the books or working in the shop.

I ask that you pray with us that we can find a suitable facility to move the shop and others will come and share the work with us. I really need some to come and learn the process so that it can continue after I can no longer do the work.

May the Lord bless you all.

New Production:

A new Spanish quarterly has been produced and is ready. This leaves us with only one quarterly in the New Testament and the

Publication

wfbi News is published by-month except July by the West Florida Baptist Institute and is owned solely by the West Florida Baptist Institute.

Subscription is free and a copy may be obtained by writing, e-mailing or calling the

office of WFBI. To be placed on the mailing list, simply call, write or email: 1-850-455-4417 or 1-850-455-7474 (fax). E-Mail at wfbi2@yahoo.com or sign up online at www.wfbi.net.

Articles should be in the office no later than the 10th of the month so that they might be included in that months edition. Mission reports are alternated so that all may have the opportunity to be published.

H.H. Strickland; editor

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