

BAPTIST BIBLE TRIBUNE

JUNE 2014 | VOL. 64 NO. 10



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DETROIT

linked
in



FALL
FELLOWSHIP
MEETING

**SEPTEMBER
22-24**

**Beacon Baptist Church
Taylor, Michigan**

WHILE YOU ARE IN TOWN:

[Detroit Tigers Baseball \(20 minute drive\)](#)

The Tigers are in town from Sept 22 thru the 28th.

[University of Michigan Football \(45 minute drive\)](#)

The Wolverines are in town Sept 20th and Sept 27th.

[Michigan State Football \(1 hour drive\)](#)

The Spartans are in town Sept 20th and Sept 27th.

[Detroit Red Wings Hockey \(20 minute drive\)](#)

Schedule not yet released as of May.

[The Henry Ford Museum and Greenfield Village](#) is one of the countries finest collections of artifacts, manufacturing history, and americana.

[The Detroit Institute of Arts](#) is one of the world's best art museums



WHERE TO STAY:

[Holiday Inn - Southgate, MI](#) \$99.99/night

[Hampton Inn - Southgate, MI](#) \$99.00/night

[Comfort Suites - Southgate, MI](#) \$94.90/night

[Fairfield Inn - Romulus, MI](#) \$109.00/night (top-rated hotel)

[Holiday Inn Express DTW - Romulus, MI](#) \$95.99/night

Be sure to mention the BBFI National Meeting when booking at these hotels to get the proper rates!

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ON THE TABLE
Examined lives

by Keith Bassham | Editor

If the story of Socrates is taken at face value, he was tried for teaching others, particularly youthful others, to learn for themselves and to ask challenging questions about “the way things are.” When told that he had the option to escape execution if he would stop such teaching, he replied, “The unexamined life is not worth living.” Thus, he refused a way out, and his fellow Athenians voted for a punishment of death.

There is a ring of truth in Socrates. When we examine our lives rather than merely live them out aimlessly, we are more likely to set and to achieve goals, to find right paths and to avoid wrong ones, and to leave others better off for having known us.

I could not help but think on this as I wrote a few words about the three people whose obituaries are in this issue of the *Tribune*. All three had lives that bore the marks of having been examined. Their destinations were set, and their goals were clear. Their respective paths, if not easy ones, were well lit by the Word they carried in their hearts. And they left plenty of testaments behind, all lined up and ready to tell their encounter stories.

My own lamplighter in the obituary page this month is Lonnie Smith. I had not been saved long, but I knew I was destined for ministry about six months into my new life. A few months after that, our church’s youth group joined another group from R. D. Wade’s church at Camp Rio Escondido, just a little ways out of Monterrey, Mexico. Our host missionary for the week was Lonnie Smith, Sr. and his family.

Most of the week was a blur. Mornings we spent working a camp project, afternoons we visited surrounding areas distributing flyers and Bibles, and in the evening we helped with evangelistic services. Nights were late and mornings came very early in Mexico, but by week’s end, an examination of my own life revealed that I was not mistaken about God’s call. My own destinations, both ultimate and intermediate, were set. With lamplighters like Lonnie Smith out in front, the path is easy to find and to follow. My great hope is that I may exert a similar influence on others, and that I might have the courage to continually examine myself, and to have a life worth living.

Regular readers know this, but the *Tribune* is about to go on vacation. We publish 11 months each year, omitting June. By delaying publication in May until after Fellowship Week, we close the gap between issues a bit, but this will be the last *Tribune* until you receive your next one in mid-July. In the meantime, we tune up the computers, install new software, finish up the books for the fiscal year, and take care of some other housecleaning. We also take some time off to gear up for the next volume, which will be our 65th.

See you in July.

BAPTIST BIBLE TRIBUNE

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Photos and report from National Meeting in Springfield, MO

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Christian and ministry fads fade, but the local church remains

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Two ministries celebrate milestones



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PRESIDENTIAL PERSPECTIVE

The church matters



by Linzy Slayden | President | BBFI

People ask, “Where is God working?” I answer — the place God is working is in the local church. That’s where the action is!

I love the local church. It’s the center of my life and has been since I trusted Christ as Lord and Savior when I was 21 years old. I wasn’t raised in church, but in my early Christian years I became convinced of the importance of my local church.

Today, some folks have lost sight of the importance of the local church. In fact, some have little or no attachment to the church at all, and seem to have no obligation for regular attendance. Their Christianity exists in part if not completely outside the local church.

The idea of believers living independently of the local church is totally foreign to the New Testament. Throughout the New Testament, the assumption is always the same: that the people of God are faithfully gathering together in a local assembly where the Word of God is being disseminated. This unified gathering is the heart of Christianity. Why would anyone who claims to love the Lord want to keep His people at arm’s length?

The widespread lack of commitment to the church shows up in many ways as well — the neglect of baptism and communion, the explosion of para-church ministries, and the forsaking of biblical qualifications for church leadership are just a few examples.

Let me give you five reasons why the local church matters in our world today.

1. It’s the place where sound doctrine is formulated. First Timothy 3:15 says that the church is the pillar and ground of the truth; it’s where doctrine is formulated and protected.
2. It’s the place where the presence of Christ is lived out. The church family does life together. The church family is in relationship together learning to forbear, love, and care for one another. We rejoice with those that rejoice and weep with those that weep.
3. Christ watches the local church. Revelation 2 and 3 speak of seven local churches in specific places with specific people. It is clear that Christ knows each and watches the local church.
4. Christ loves the local church. I know some folks who say, “I don’t really love the church.” Well, Jesus does! He gave His life for it.
5. It matters because Christ protects the church. Remember in Acts 9 when Saul was on the road to Damascus? In this confrontation with Paul, the Lord Jesus Christ reminds us that He takes it personally when someone attacks, or sows conflict, or walks away from the church. He protects the church because He’s committed to the church.

The recent May Fellowship meeting is a great example of this truth. Every message was centered on building the local church. The meeting was well attended. No one wanted to leave after the evening service, and there were all ages of folks who came for the week. It was a positive meeting to help build the local church.

WORLDWIDE MISSIONS

Student to missionary



by Jon Konnerup | Mission Director | BBFI

As is the case in all organizations, BBFI missionaries are aging and the key to the growth of our future mission force is found among the young people in our churches. The students in our churches need to be made aware of the opportunities around the world to serve God and that He can and wants to use them.

Students today are not like students of the past. Their world is different. In the past, the mentality was “do one thing and do it well.” Today they may have three or more different careers before they retire. This generation is also very relationship oriented and likes to be a part of a team. They look for advice and seek adult direction for service in the world. They listen to adults whose lives they respect, who admit their failures, who tell the truth, and who treat them with sincerity. They respond better when confronted with truth and challenged radically to make a difference.

Given these characteristics, we must encourage them to integrate missions into the world in which they already live; they don’t have to wait until they are approved missionaries. We must encourage our student ministry pastors to mobilize this generation by letting them be actively involved in ministries through their church today. Today’s students appreciate mentors who are veteran missionaries. The older generations have the information as to what problems to watch for and the new generations have the creative ideas to get the job done. The older generations have an abundance of wisdom and experience from which the younger generations need to draw.

Encouragement is necessary, but equipping the next generation to carry out the Great Commission is also vital. This equipping extends beyond their formal training; it begins at home and through their local church.

One of the ways that our office is striving to equip the next generation of mission-minded students is by serving local churches, their leaders, and their students. We believe that if more young people experience missions, then more young people will be inspired to be involved in missions both today and into the future. We are currently working with a team of mission-minded youth pastors to create online mission resources for youth leaders and their students, as well as different youth mission series for teaching on missions. We also want to provide free access to inspiring videos and stories about opportunities for young people to be involved in missions around the world. There are many opportunities for missions and we want young people to get passionate about reaching our world today so that they will be willing to go to the field tomorrow.

These younger generations want to be shown how to make a difference, not just that there is a need. They need a sense of direction to channel their strategies and efforts. All this said, we must work together to fulfill the Great Commission, and it can be done through the churches of the BBFI. Are we up to the challenge?

Reset with us



by Dan Lamb | Interim NCPO Director

Start ... Stop ... Reset was the theme for the National Fellowship meeting in Springfield. In my life I have many times done exactly that: started, stopped, and reset. I am sure you can relate.

The National Church Planting Office has been in existence since 2005. More than 100 church planters have gone through the church planting candidate school. I believe that the NCPO and each aspect of it is vital to the Baptist Bible Fellowship. As with any organization, there are times when it is necessary to make adjustments. This is precisely what the NCPO has done. We started with a great burden to help establish new churches. We stopped to reevaluate. We are excited to reset and continue being a part of establishing new churches. I want to invite you to join us. Our reset includes:

- The operations of the NCPO will now be under the oversight of the BBFI Mission Office.
- We will no longer be involved in financing church buildings.
- We will be enlisting: empowering men to follow God's call.
- We will be networking: connecting cities with men.
- We will be assessing: what are the potential church planters' strengths and weaknesses?
- We will be coaching: experienced pastors sharing their experience and wisdom with newly planted churches.
- We will continue a partnership with BBF Builders, the ministry of contractors coming alongside a church to help with the physical building.
- We will continue reaching out to ethnic groups with the Gateway program.
- We will conduct a candidate school: equipping church planters.

As you can see, we have really reset. We are serious about enabling church planters and new churches to reach our world for our Lord. We cannot achieve these goals without you.

We ask you to make the NCPO a part of your daily prayers. And we want you to make NCPO a part of your financial plans. In the months of July and August we want to raise \$75,000 for church planting. Would you prayerfully consider giving a reset offering to enable church planting? You can send your offering through your church.

Finally, as this *Tribune* goes to press, I am pleased to announce that John Gross, former pastor and NCPO Co-Director, has accepted an interim appointment as NCPO Director. John has a solid pastoral background (he was pastor of North Park Baptist Church in Houston, TX 36 years), and he was instrumental when NCPO was just getting started, serving as a co-director from 2002-2004. Let us give him all the support we can for the future of church planting.

For more information contact the BBFI National Church Planting Office at 334 E. Kearney St., #184, Springfield, MO 65803, or phone (417) 536-8826, or email office@bbfincpo.com

BBFI national officer nominees

This year, as we do every two years, the Baptist Bible Fellowship will hold an election for the officers who constitute the Executive Committee. The following is the section of the BBFI bylaws that governs the election.

Article VI, Section 2a. The President, Vice-President, Secretary, and Treasurer shall be elected biennially. These officers constitute the Executive Committee. The Directors will serve as the nominating committee and will present nominations at the National Fellowship by May. The ballot shall be approved in the May business meeting and made available to any pastor in attendance and qualified according to Article III ("Affiliation") of these bylaws. Voting pastors will identify themselves on the ballot and voting will begin immediately upon distribution of the ballots. Qualified pastors not in attendance may obtain a ballot from the BBFI Mission Office. Those ballots must be submitted to the BBFI Mission Office before July 1st of the year of the election. The Executive Committee shall oversee the counting of the ballots and release the results within one week after the votes are tallied.

Nominees for 2014 BBFI National Officer Elections

President

*Jim Baize - Ocean View Church, San Diego, CA
Eddie Lyons - High Street Baptist Church, Springfield, MO*

First Vice President - Missions

*Tim Adrian - West Side Baptist Church, Hutchinson, KS
Lewis McClendon - Ventura Baptist Church, Ventura, CA*

Second Vice President - Education

*Doug Cox - Parkhill Baptist Church, Pueblo, CA
Fred Young - East Side Baptist Church, Independence, MO*

Third Vice President - NCPO

*Dan Greer - Community Baptist Church, The Woodlands, TX
Sean Sears - Grace Church, Boston, MA*

Treasurer:

*Michael Haley, Jr. - Cross Creek Church, Fountain, CO
Rob Hoffman - West Division Street Baptist Church, Springfield, MO*

Secretary:

*Paul Foster - River West Baptist Church, Tulsa, OK
Dan Jeffers - Park Street Baptist Church, St. Petersburg, FL*



DIGRESSIONS

Digressions incontestably are the sunshine; they are the life, the soul of reading. -Laurence Sterne

Supreme Court upholds practice of prayer in government meetings

In a 5-4 ruling announced May 5, 2014, the Supreme Court of the United States held that opening prayers in open government meetings are not in violation of the Establishment Clause of the U.S. Constitution. This applies, according to the court, even if the prayers are overwhelming Christian. In his opinion, Justice Anthony Kennedy wrote, "The inclusion of a brief, ceremonial prayer as part of a larger exercise in civic recognition suggests that its purpose and effect are to acknowledge religious leaders and the institutions they

represent, rather than to exclude or coerce non-believers."

When determining whether or not prayers must be generic or so general so that no one is offended, for instance by omitting references to Jesus Christ or the Holy Spirit, Kennedy said, "The First Amendment is not a majority rule, and government may not seek to define permissible categories of religious speech. Once it invites prayer into the public sphere, government must permit a prayer-giver to address his or her own God or gods as conscience dictates."

Teens reading less, but future depends on reading

Common Sense Media, a nonprofit specializing in reviews of all types of media, has compiled a group of studies showing a big decline in the reading habits of teens. There are the big hits, like *Harry Potter* or *Hunger Games*, so many teens do read, but there is a clear decline. According to the study, nearly half of 17-year-olds say they read for pleasure perhaps once or twice a year.

Many cultural critics attribute the decline to expanded use of digital media, but parents can do more than just shrug their shoulders and say that's the way things are. Jim Steyer CEO and founder of Common Sense Media says, parents can do a lot to promote reading. He says, "Kids with parents who read, who buy or take books out of the library for their kids, and who then set time aside in their kids' daily schedule for reading, tend to read the most," he says — whether it's on a book, an e-book or some other gadget.

In a study published in 2010, researchers found that the number of books found in a home was a better predictor of a child's level of achievement than a parent's education or occupation. The authors say, "Children who grew up in households which contained 500 books or more stayed in education on average three years longer than children who grew up in bookless households. ... This was found to be true across rich and poor countries, communist and capitalist, and in North America, Africa, Asia, and Europe."

Source: www.evidencedbasedmummy.com and www.common SenseMedia.org

Tour Israel via Google Maps Street View

Safety and pricing issues keeping you from visiting the Holy Land? Google has expanded its Maps Street View imagery to include many sites, including towns and villages you may not see in a typical "real" tour. Arm-chair tourists can give it a try by starting at this link: <http://www.google.com/intl/iw/help/maps/streetview/>



Top kids' Bible stories

Someone at the blog on www.OpenBible.info used Google Books to analyze 30 Bibles for kids and determined that 415 Bible stories have appeared in kid's Bibles over the past 180 years. These are the top seven in both Testaments based on the number of appearances in the books:

Old Testament Stories

1. Noah's flood
2. Moses' birth/found by Pharaoh's daughter
3. Joseph's coat/dreams/sold by brothers
4. Ruth
5. Creation of the world
6. David and Goliath
7. Capture of Jericho

New Testament Stories

1. Jesus' birth
2. Wise men visit Jesus
3. Jesus as a boy in the Temple
4. Jesus' crucifixion
5. Feeding of the 5,000
6. Jesus and the children
7. Jesus chooses his disciples



Source: For more information, including a link to a spreadsheet showing the complete lists, see www.openbible.info/blog/

In the NEWS of the WEEK

TABERNACLE BAPTIST CHURCH J. Raymon Tracy, Pastor Lebanon, Missouri

To The Tribune:

I am still rejoicing in the Lord for the wonderful meeting that we have been in the past week. This is the greatest fellowship meeting that we have been blessed with, by far. I see greater things ahead for all of us.

I want to take this opportunity to thank you for The Tribune and the fine way that it is constructed; it is a real blessing to my soul. I am going to start a subscription campaign in this church. I want my people to read the paper. I also want to tell you that I have vowed to my God to remember all of the faculty, the school, The Tribune and our Fellowship daily in my prayers. I thank God for every part of it.

I mentioned the meeting that I was in, in Richland, Mo., with Brother Ferrell Hutsell. He organized last fall with 10 or 12 members (the name of the church—The Independent Baptist church), and at the beginning of

the revival they had 25 members. God blessed in the meeting and several were saved and restored, with 28 additions to the church. The Sunday school was 24, May 9; 61 the 16th; 82 the 23rd. He baptized 16 the last day of the revival and has five more to baptize. This is a new church that WILL be supporting missionaries of the Baptist Bible Fellowship. The Southern Baptist Convention has fought him from every angle and tried to keep the church from obtaining any property, but God gave them a good lot with a nice building for the price of \$1500.00. Brother Hutsell is a fine man of God and has the highest kind of praise for you and the Tribune.

RAYMON TRACY.

P. S.—I tithe 10 per cent to missions of all the offerings that I receive for the radio program that I have, so, I am sending the Tribune \$15.00.

In two Sunday's there have been nine additions to the new Bible Baptist church of Statesboro, Georgia. On May 9 there were 199 in Sunday school, and May 16 there were 202. The new church is at present meeting in a tent. They request their friends to join their prayers with them that God will enable them to start building. Rev. C. G. Groover is the pastor.

The offering at Seventeenth Street Baptist church, Bowling Green, Ky., May 30 was \$70.00. The previous Sunday the church raised \$300.00 in regular and special offerings. May 30 there were 71 in Sunday school and six professions of faith in Christ. The church is now conducting its Vacation Bible school. The theme is, "The Life of Christ." Ralph Liles is pastor.

Elbert Hill has been elected superintendent of the Sunday school of Calvary Baptist church, Snyder, Texas. Dewey Lester is his assistant. T. Gerald Cates is pastor. Mr. Cates' Collie dog, "Princess" has seven pups.

Two Sundays saw seven additions to Grace Baptist church, Oklahoma City, Okla., J. C. Brown, pastor. The Daily Vacation Bible school of the church begins June 14 and will continue through June 25.

A Hammond organ has been installed in Bible Baptist church, Enid, Okla., Scotty Alexander, pastor. May 23 there were 335 in Sunday school with an offering for the day of \$431.57.

Central Baptist church, Lufkin, Texas, W. H. Fisher, pastor had 162 in Sunday school May 30 and an offering for the day of \$186.50.

Fellowship Baptist church, Okmulgee, Okla., R. T. Eichenauer, pastor, is having a Sunday school contest with Bible Baptist church, Veracruz, Mexico, Ray Morales,

60,000 HEAR GRAHAM AT METHODIST COLLEGE

[By Religious News Service]

LONDON.—Despite a pouring rain 60,000 persons gathered in the little Derbyshire town of Calver, 20 miles south of Sheffield, to hear the American evangelist Billy Graham at an outdoor meeting.

Some of the crowd stood in the downpour for five hours waiting for the rally to begin on the campus of Cliff College, a Methodist evangelical institution at Calver. Shortly after Graham began speaking, however, the rain halted and the sun came out.

pastor.

Faith Baptist church, Kansas City, Kas., Alfred E. Pontius, pastor, gave a dinner in honor of its Junior and High school graduates.

Detroit Baptist Tabernacle, Detroit, Mich., Harold A. Jessop, pastor, had 50 in Sunday school May 23.

Dr. F. S. Donnelson, director of missions of the Baptist Bible Fellowship, supplied the pulpit of Bible Baptist church, Maplewood, Mo., June 13. The pastor B. E. Rodgers, was holding a meeting in St. Charles, Missouri.

There were 93 in Sunday school in Bible Baptist church, Syracuse, Kas., May 30 and a total offering for the day of \$102.00. In three Sundays there have been nine additions to the church. Al Wells is pastor.

JEWELL SMITH ORDAINED IN HIGH ST. CHURCH

Jewell Smith was ordained in High Street Baptist church, Springfield, May 27. Smith was graduated from Baptist Bible College last month.

The ordination council was composed of Dr. G. B. Vick, pastor Temple Baptist church, Detroit, Mich.; W. E. Dowell, pastor High Street church; R. O. Woodworth, business manager of Baptist Bible College; Bill Savage, pastor Bible Baptist church, El Reno, Okla.; Victor E. Sears, pastor Twin City Baptist Temple, Mishawaka, Ind.; Dr. John Rawlings, pastor Lockland Baptist church, Lockland, O.; Curtis Goldman, Temple Baptist church, Albuquerque, N. M.; Faye Blakey, pastor Bible Baptist church Springfield; Dr. John Ross of Baptist Bible College; F. S. Donnelson, and Loys Vess of Dallas, Texas.

Smith is a native of Mayfield, Kentucky. He is a member of Temple Baptist church, Detroit, Michigan.

There were 257 in Sunday school in Central Baptist church, Sulphur Springs, Texas, May 23. The Young People's Department had 50. William Beall is pastor.

Kansas City Baptist Temple, Kansas City, Mo., had 769 in Sunday school May 23. Wendell Zimmerman is pastor.

From the Aurora Advertiser, Aurora, Missouri:

BY ANNA LOU GRIFFITH

The church parsonage at 1008 Jasper street in Aurora is occupied by Rev. Charles P. Workman, minister of the Aurora Baptist Temple, and possibly the youngest minister serving a full time pastorate in the city today. Although his youthful appearance is still quite boyish, Rev. Workman confesses that he is 26 years of age.

Rev. Workman is the second son of Mr. and Mrs. C. E. Workman of near Nixa and was born and reared on their James River farm, south of Springfield. He attended Central Point rural grade school located in those rolling hills and Nixa high school.

When 19 years old, Charley P. Workman felt a special call to devote his life's work to the ministry and proceeded in this desire by enrolling at Springfield Baptist Bible College, a school recognized by the state board of education, which he attended one year for special "prep" training.

During this time he lived and worked in and out of Springfield. He recalls that he was first attracted by the impressions of the city of Aurora while running a route, servicing water softening units which included the city of Aurora.

Evangelistic work with pulpit engagements has kept him quite busy, as he filled engagements all over the state, while maintaining a job.

Rev. Workman readily recalled his first sermon at the High Street Baptist church in Springfield, where he delivered his message in the young people's department before an estimated crowd of 200 young people. "I remember well my subject 'Zaccheus Up the Sycamore Tree,' and I was somewhat nervous,"

DR. GARMAN TO PARTICIPATE IN NAVAL DISCUSSIONS

PITTSBURGH, Pa.—The Rev. W. O. H. Garman, D.D., pastor Calendar Memorial church, Wilkinsburg, has for the second year in succession been invited by the president of the U. S. Naval War College to participate in the Global Strategy discussions to be held June 7-11 at the War College at Newport, R. I. Dr. Garman is chairman of the commission on chaplains of the American Council of Christian Churches. He is also president of the Associated Gospel Churches and president of Immanuel College of the Bible.

commented the young minister. But he added that his sermon was well received by that first congregation.

Rev. Workman and his family came to Aurora in April, 1953, when he accepted the pastorate of the white frame Aurora Baptist Temple located in the one hundred block at Plum. He delivered his first message here, as full time pastor, last Easter Sunday of 1953.

During his one year pastorate the Sunday school has grown from an attendance of 30 to 90 attendants today. There have been 35 conversions and approximately 40 additions to the church, whose membership today totals approximately 115. The church has built and completed one 24x40 ft., new Sunday school room, and plans are now underway for an addition to the auditorium. A recent investment was the purchase of a bus for transportation of those desiring to attend services.

The attractive Mrs. Workman is the former Miss Wilda Wolfe, originally from Rogersville, whom Rev. Workman met in a welding shop in Bolivar, where both were in attendance at an evening service being conducted there by the High Street church of Springfield. A church wedding, with Rev. W. E. Dowell of Springfield officiating climaxed the romance which followed, when they were united in marriage in May of 1948.

On Christmas Eve, 1952, Rev. and Mrs. Workman received a joyous Christmas gift. They named this very special little bundle, Pamela Kay. And she is the sweet little blue eyed toddler that interests all callers at the parsonage today.

Hobbies? Rev. Workman doesn't have too much time for his hobby today—you see there's room for a cradle at the parsonage, but not a stable. Rev. Workman has a yen for saddle horses.

The modern hamburger is Rev. Workman's favorite food, but he's not hard to cook for, according to Mrs. Workman.

Rev. Workman liked Aurora before he came here, he enjoys his work with the people of the Aurora Baptist Temple and also serves the city today, as a member of the Aurora fire department.

[By Religious News Service]

WASHINGTON, D. C. — More than 5,000,000 persons have seen the Billy Graham evangelistic film, "Mr. Texas," and another 3,000,000 have seen his later production, "Oiltown, U. S. A."

This was announced at the national office here of Billy Graham Evangelistic Films, Inc., which also said that a total of 135,000 persons have made "decisions for Christ" after watching the movies.

The pictures now are being shown to an average of 28 audiences a night in this country, it was said.

GRADUATION AND FELLOWSHIP WEEK MAY 2014 MEETING REPORT

Photos contributed by:
Courtney Gerwig, Luke Turner, and Travis Walker

Reset was the key word for the 2014 edition of the BBFI May Graduation Fellowship Week held May 5-8 on the campus of Baptist Bible College in Springfield, MO. While some features were left roughly where they always have been, annual visitors and those who have not been on the campus of BBC for some time may have noted a number of resets.

For one, the week was scheduled earlier than anyone could recall. For several years, Fellowship Week has been held in the middle of the month, or sometimes later (the dates for next year are May 4-7, by the way, so plan ahead). Another reset for meeting attendees concerned the Tuesday format. BBC President Mark Milioni, concerned that the current meeting schedule did not allow for as many preachers as in the past, constructed a Tuesday “TED talk” venue (named for popular conferences featuring ideas presented in short segments — TED stands for Technology, Entertainment, and Design) so that nine preachers addressed the Fellowship on church, legal, theological, and other timely issues in 13-minute segments. Speakers for Tuesday were Paul Blue, Marcus Mackey, Griffin Jones, Eddie Bumpers, Jeff Smith, Ed Holland, David Middlebrook,

Wayne Slusser, and Gary Fuller. And, of course, this was in addition to the evening preachers and the missionary presentations on Wednesday. Milioni said of his choices, “We had speakers from all aspects of ministry — senior pastors, staff, well-known and new. When I was a pastor, learning and getting good ideas were very important reasons I wanted to come to Fellowship Week.”

The core of Fellowship Week remains unchanged, however. Classmates reconnect, new missionaries introduce themselves to the Fellowship, graduates begin transitions to new lives, and the Fellowship takes time to think about their past and their futures. BBC faculty and staff were everywhere, helping however they could. (By the way, BBC faculty and staff are often ignored when the thanks go out, but Fellowship Week would not be possible without them.) In those ways, this meeting was like every other May meeting held since 1951.

The evening speakers, BBFI President Linzy Slayden, AWANA President Jack Eggar, Pastor Mark Hoover, and BBC President Mark Milioni, all challenged the Fellowship to be more evangelistic, aggressive, and compassionate for the lost in the world. Milioni called to mind the moral and intellectual challenges for preachers of the life-giving Word in these days. Commencement speaker Keith Gillming sounded a call for faithfulness in a changing world.

BBFI missions is the focus on Wednesday of Fellowship Week. Beside the preaching, it is the opportunity for missionaries and the Fellowship to meet one another. New missionaries approved were Max and Jennifer Kennedy (Nicaragua), Aaron and Chrissie McNeff (Argentina), Jordan and Nikky Nisly (Philippines), Shane and Kayti Salmon (Thailand), and Michael and Cristy Wyatt (Japan). Two families were approved to





MONDAY





Restricted Access Nations. TEAM missionaries approved were Joshua and Brenda Casey (Belgium), Brennan and Libby Penner (Belgium), Daniel and Lauren Schlagel (Dominican Republic), and Hannah Yelinek (England). The BBFI also endorsed LT1 Elliott Barrowclough to be a chaplain to the U.S. Army National Guard.

Missionaries honored for their 50 years of service to the BBFI were Boyd and Donna Lyons (Philippines), Richard and Lynda Todd (Argentina), and Maudie Meek in absentia (Costa Rica). Those honored with their 30-year pins were Jeff and Judy Blanton (South Africa), Michael and Cindy Burgett (Japan), Rick and Joy Kelly (Guam), Bruce and Pam O'Neal (Philippines/Manna), and in absentia Carl and Bonnie Clark (Botswana), and Steve and Pam Workman (Botswana).

The music for the week showed versatility, and there was something for everyone. Nate Harmon can take a congregation from excited to devotional with just a few melodic notes and chords. Solos, groups, and even a choir kept things moving forward. A men's group made up of local worship and music ministers



was a highlight. The past few years, the Fellowship has been honoring those who have served in ministry for a very long time with a Fellowship

Faithfulness Award. The recipients in May were Kenneth (posthumous) and Norma Gillming, and Eli Harju, all of whom were beloved teachers in Fellowship schools. Thousands, and through their extended influence, millions have been touched by their ministries.

The BBFI handles some business matters in May, though the annual business meeting takes place in September. Among those items considered in May is the selection of nominees for national offices. When the Committee of Directors met Monday afternoon, May 5, they selected these nominees, which were passed on to the national business meeting the next day. (Complete list of nominees is on page 5)

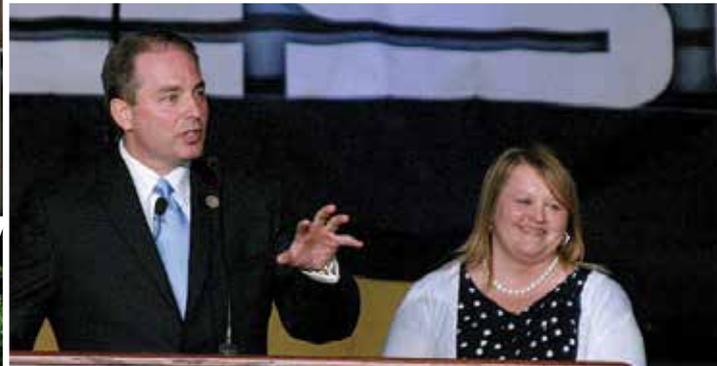
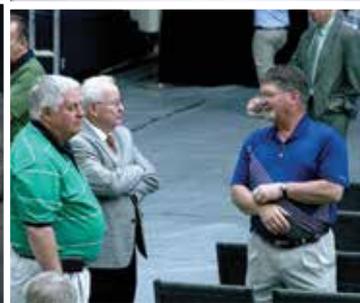
Pastors received ballots and marked them during the meeting. Those who did not attend may request a ballot from the Mission Office. Ballots must be submitted to the Mission Office no later than July 1 to be counted. New officers will take their places at the end of the September meeting, and they will serve a two-year term.

In the business meeting Tuesday, the pastors also received reports from the colleges, the Mission Office, and the *Tribune*. The Mission Office budget for 2014-2015 was approved. Pastors also approved a resolution affirming that the pastors of the Baptist Bible Fellowship will continue to maintain a strong biblical and moral stance in the face of cultural pressures (see the text of the resolution on page 30 of this magazine). BBFI Mission Director Jon Konnerup reported that our missionaries and the churches over which they preside had 119,778 people saved, and 155 churches were started.

Vice President Dan Lamb reported the status of the National Church Planting Office (NCPO) and gave some details concerning the future of that office (see the NCPO column in this issue for some of those details). Patrick and Courtney Shawhan are newly approved church planters.

New trustees for Baptist Bible College are Ed Holland and David Janney. New trustee for Boston Baptist College is Chris Edwards. The BBC May College Offering as the *Tribune* went to press was \$280,000.





President Milioni said he was pleased and thankful given the large offering received by the college earlier in the year.

At commencement Thursday, 54 undergrad and 15 graduate students received their degrees. Other significant meetings during the week included class reunions, a reception and meeting for the women (Stephanie Young Brown was the speaker and BBC's drama team provided entertainment), a President's Reception after the Monday evening service, and an Alumni and Friends Banquet held Wednesday afternoon. All were well attended, and the spirit prevailing over the entire meeting carried over into each event.

Local pastor Rob Hoffman and a veteran of Fellowship Week meeting planning in the past declared the week one of the best he could remember. Mark Milioni, the host, said, "Last week was not only a great win for BBC. It was a great win for the BBF." I believe many will agree.

UPCOMING MEETING DATES

SEPTEMBER 22-24, 2014

Beacon Baptist Church, Taylor, MI

Pastor Herb Gilbert

FEBRUARY 16-18, 2015

Orlando Baptist Church, Orlando, FL

Pastor David Janney

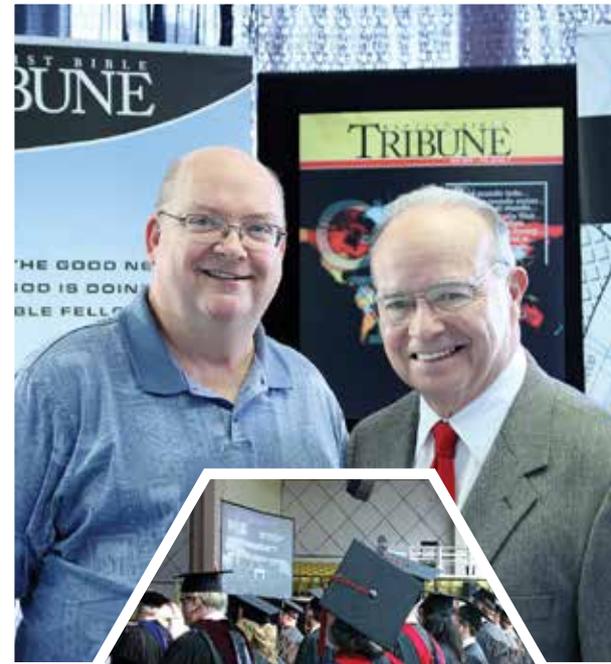
MAY 4-7, 2015

Baptist Bible College

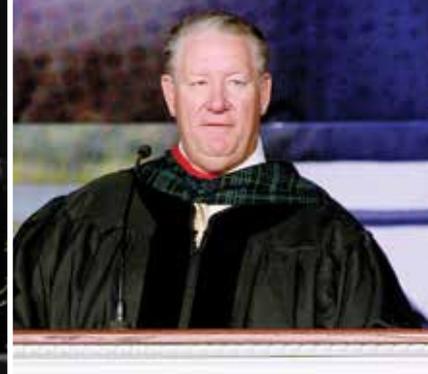
September 2015 - Temple Baptist Church
Albuquerque, NM (date not set)

MARCH 13-17, 2016 - International meeting
in Seoul, Korea

SEPTEMBER 2016 - Friendship Baptist
Church, Owasso, OK (date not set)



SEE
ADDITIONAL
PHOTOS ON
PAGE 23





THURSDAY

NEW MISSIONARY

approvals

CAREER MISSIONARIES



Max & Jennifer Kennedy - Nicaragua
Sending Church: Central Baptist Church
Tyler, TX
Phone: (903) 561-6361
Email: max@kennedys2nicaragua.org



Aaron & Chrissie McNeff - Argentina
Sending Church: High Street Baptist Church
Springfield, MO
Phone: (417) 862-5502
Email: amcneff2@gmail.com



Jordan & Nikky Nisly - Philippines
Sending Church: Westside Baptist Church
Hutchinson, KS
Phone: (620) 662-6262
Email: jordannisly@gmail.com



Michael & Cristy Wyatt - Japan
Sending Church: First Baptist Church of Meadowview
Mesquite, TX
Phone: (214) 391-7176
Email: japanmissionaries@gmail.com



Shane & Kayti Salmon - Thailand
Sending Church: Cherry Street Baptist Church
Springfield, MO
Phone: (417) 889-1999
Email: salmons2thailand@gmail.com

T.E.A.M. MISSIONARIES

Joshua & Brenda Casey - Belgium
Host Missionaries: Tim & Barbara Downs
Sending Church: South Side Baptist Church
Springfield, MO
Phone: (417) 773-1118
Email: joshuabrendaleicasey@gmail.com

Daniel & Lauren Schlagel - Dominican Republic
Host Missionaries: Wesley & Melina Lane
Sending Church: Grace Baptist Church
Winchester, KY
Phone: (859) 744-3091
Email: dj_schlagel@hotmail.com

Brennan & Libby Penner - Belgium
Host Missionaries: Tim & Barbara Downs
Sending Church: Capitol City Baptist Church
Des Moines, IA
Phone: (515) 289-1419
Email: brennan@thepenners.be

Hannah Yelinek - England
Host Missionaries: Bill & Vicki Hoving
Sending Church: Canyon Creek Baptist Church
Richardson, TX
Phone: (972) 231-4753
Email: hyelinek@cedarville.edu

BEING THERE

by Steve Van Winkle

FADS AND IDEAS MAY COME AND GO, BUT THE LOCAL CHURCH IS ALWAYS GOING TO BE THERE

I am naturally contrarian. Show me something popular or riding the wave of fashion and at best I'm a late adopter; typically, I just mock it mercilessly. I like to think I'm an aficionado of classics.

Pet Rocks, one glove, mullets, alternative-anything and the Macarena have never been associated with my name. I told my daughters not to bother bringing home anyone wearing skinny jeans. Suspicion of anything loved by the crowd is hardwired into me and keeps me from having to hide pictures of myself from my kids.

While nothing has ever been "far out" to me and no jeans washed in acid have ever been found in my closet, my most intense loathing is reserved for fads of the "Christian" variety. The majority of these are something we all smile about after the fact, but, looking back, there have been plenty of them.

I was reminded of one after last Sunday's service when Cheryl and I were getting ready to leave church and couldn't find our 15-year-old son, Hayden. After a quick, fruitless search, I asked her, "He came with you, right?"

No. He did not. Cheryl thought I was bringing him and I thought he was already gone; welcome to our own personal "Home Alone" moment.

When we returned to the house, Hayden was waiting for us in the driveway, sporting sweats and a classic teenage bed head while holding a hand over his freshly opened eyes as a shield from the light of early afternoon. He looked like he had just awakened from a multi-decade cryogenic freeze.

He was also unhappy about missing church, and told us he thought we were either trying to teach him a lesson on oversleeping or he was the victim of an elaborate practical joke. When I explained it was nothing more sinister than a failure of communication, he just stared at me like I had dropkicked his puppy across the yard.

Probing Hayden's thought process is always entertaining, so I asked him how he concluded this was a practical joke. It was

elementary; seeing my Bible on the table and Cheryl's teacher's bag still in the house, he determined we couldn't have been in church because we wouldn't have left those things.

He said this to the pastor who forgot his son at home.

I have many Bibles and Cheryl wasn't teaching, but the scene he described reminded me of the countless people who, seeing something similar, broke out in a cold sweat or called their pastor in the middle of the night to make sure they hadn't been "left behind." When I asked Hayden if he thought the Rapture had happened, he paused in horror and told me it hadn't come to mind, but, from now on, that'd be the first thing he'd worry about.

I'm decidedly dispensational and believe in the Pre-Millennial return of Christ, but who doesn't remember the eschatological fads of the late 70s early 80s? Starting with *The Late Great Planet Earth* through its spawn of Revelation-themed films, prophecy and end-times fanaticism has come and gone with each standard-issue Mid-East "crisis" or best-selling novel on the subject.

Anyone still have a WWJD bracelet?

Is there a t-shirt with a smiling vegetable in your drawer? Anyone know a single Christian in America who was able to resist slapping a Jabez plaque on their wall encouraging the reader to "enlarge their territory"? The crass commercialism of Christian fads is shameless, but there is also no shortage of believers willing to fund the enterprise.

The majority of Christian phenoms are harmless and eventually whimper away to their final resting place in the 99.9-percent-off bin of Christian book stores. Yet, there has also been a substantial list of fleeting fads that have cast much larger shadows.

I saw it first in the mid 90s when scores of

men made pilgrimages to Boulder, CO. Sitting in a football stadium, they took in men's-themed talks, made promises, and committed to breaking down barriers of all kinds. After, they came home to their congregations with glazed eyeballs, preaching the gospel of the Seven Promises.

Finally, they declared, revival would come to America through "sacred assemblies" of guys. We were told this movement would turn a generation of men around, heal racial divides, and finally rid Christianity of the scourge of denominationalism that has divided churches for millennia.

It was basically an afterthought by 2000. While it still hobbles along, it just faded away.

But, Promise Keepers became a national sensation and swept through churches across America, often with a vehemence that unsettled pastors and congregations. The "Prom-

THE CRASS COMMERCIALISM OF CHRISTIAN FADS IS SHAMELESS, BUT THERE IS ALSO NO SHORTAGE OF BELIEVERS WILLING TO FUND THE ENTERPRISE.

ises" were everywhere, and despite concerns about doctrinal integrity on some points, the movement frequently overshadowed the work of local congregations.

Don't get me wrong, I'm not a PK basher. I say this to point out that no matter what it was, what it was predicted to become, or the good left in its wake, it has gone from filling stadiums and "Million Man Marches" to struggling to fill a large church auditorium. I dare anyone to find a Promise Keeper book on a store's shelf these days.

It's not alone, either. The "Weigh Down Workshop," and all things "Purpose Driven," or enjoined for "40 Days" fit the profile. They

BUT THE LOCAL CHURCH, THE VISIBLE BODY OF CHRIST, REMAINS.

capture interest, are hailed as the missing link to vibrant Christianity, and then are dumped in used bookstore donation bins by the truckload because of market-fatigue or heresy.

Each time another fad rises, someone pens the epitaph for the local church as antiquated and displaced. My bookshelf has plenty of titles warning that the local congregation may have had its day, but today it has become irrelevant and tired by comparison with the ubiquity and vibrancy surrounding the current “next big thing.” One ominous warning was consistent through them all: Time will pass by the local church unless it adapts or changes.

Yet, no one remembers the brainchild behind the Christian diet fad. *The Prayer of Jabez* was countered by the book *The Cult of Jabez* and other scathing criticisms. WWJD has been so thoroughly lampooned it can't be uttered with a straight face. National movements and ministries for men, women, and family have risen and fallen.

But the local church, the visible body of Christ, remains. It remains no matter how popular an occasional Christian movement becomes; it remains no matter how many times George Barna mines statistics pointing to its demise. It remains.

Why? I imagine there is a host of reasons, but I read something a couple years ago that I believe encapsulates the spirit of every possible answer. It was a retweet from Baptist pastor John Piper who said succinctly: “When you're sick in the hospital, your favorite podcast pastor will not visit you. Love the guy laboring for you in person.”

This is the indomitable spirit that sustains the local church: It is primarily and uniquely personal. What many prognosticators or enthusiastic devotees of fads rarely factor into their predictions of doom is that

the local church is buoyed above the parade of pretenders because it is uniquely human.

The local church is architected by its Founder to throw people into a caring, accountable community with the energy of a supercollider. Their under-shepherd is called to be a member of that same community so he can know and be known, so he can tailor the teaching and messages to the people under his care, and so he can be observed and emulated by those he seeks to mature.

It's so he can be there, as Piper's retweet reminded me.

Try getting your favorite mega-church pastor to come and organize a vacation Bible school or to make a meal for someone in your church recovering from surgery. When someone is hurt or lonely, a group of people from the national ministry's marketing headquarters is not going to come and listen or pray. It's the local, visible church that lovingly supports its people and community with immediacy and consistency.

Ministry is so very human, so very there.

The lowest face-value ticket price to this year's Super Bowl was \$800, and that bought the worst seat in the stadium. A friend in church watched the Final Four this year from a row that required several sherpas and a tank of oxygen to reach. In 1990, I watched Nebraska beat Oklahoma at Memorial Stadium wearing a garbage sack to protect against the driving sleet and icy, gale-force winds. I loved every minute of it.

Why do people pay obscene amounts of money to sit in the seat farthest away from the game in miserable weather when they could watch the exact same event with their friends in a much more comfortable chair, viewing a much better picture, while enjoying stereo sound with the ability to rewind the TV in their living room?

Because, being there is different. Being there is better; being there is human.

Humanity is the unappreciated quality God built into the local church. It's up close; it's there. It's Paul reminding Titus the people in his church are prone to laziness (Titus 1:12) and not to entrust ministry to anyone without observing them for a time (1Timothy 5:22). It's the sterling testimony of Phoebe as a servant in her congregation being recommended to the church in Rome (Romans 16:1) and the record of Epaphras's fervent prayers for the Colossians as “one of their own” (Colossians 4:12).

Whether it's Peter coming to his church family first after his divinely-aided liberation, or the human warmth of the hands laid on Timothy upon his separation to ministry, or Paul customizing his message to the too-religious philosophers after actually being on Mars Hill, the humanity of ministry is woven throughout the New Testament. Biblical ministry cannot be digitized or only empowered annually from scattered venues charging fees.

Rest assured, when the next “Christian” book blaming the local church for emotional tyranny or the next Hollywood feature with a Christian message monopolizes the evangelistic fervor of believers everywhere, the local church will plod on, continuing to do what it has always done: Be there.

It's not that the occasional fad does no good; they can and do. Sometimes they awaken us to a demographic with unmet needs, or they get a necessary conversation started. Yet, long after the paperback novellas are yellowed and Hollywood producers no longer find profit in niche films, the local church will continue its march through history, just as God designed it to do.

The local church: Sometimes weak, sometimes strong, sometimes flush, and sometimes wrong, but always ... there.

EASTER REPORTS

from around the Fellowship

We just had our service, 81 people came today! People were really involved. Afterwards, during communion, people just started asking each other to forgive each other and confessing their wrongs out loud. Never been to a communion service like that, but man it was awesome!

Chris Ballinger
Missionary to Mongolia

The Spirit in our three services was almost palpable. I wish we could have Easter-type excitement every week. Attendance was 270, 411, and 267. Nine people were saved in the services. So proud of all of our volunteers that helped pull this off, and so humbled that God allows me to be a part of what he is doing here in Fountain.

Michael Haley
Cross Creek Church, Fountain, CO

We had 230 this morning. Two families and one lady joined, and two came for salvation. We received a \$9,000 offering.

Ron Abbott
Calvary Baptist Church, Bowie, TX

We have about 60 regular attenders in our church, and our town has about 1,000 people. We hosted about 500 people for a community egg hunt, and we shared the gospel with many who attended. On Easter we had 99 people, but some left because there was no room to park. Our auditorium sits around 175 comfortably, but we only have parking for about 50. I am working on the best way to remedy this problem. This was the greatest attendance we have ever had on a Sunday.

Ben Robinson,
First Baptist Church, Midway, PA

We had 2,503 in attendance, 24 saved, two baptisms, and 12,000 Easter eggs dropped from a helicopter.

Jim Baize
Ocean View Church, San Diego, CA

We had 126 for Easter with a lot of visitors. The Spanish congregation that shares our facility with us had 228 in their morning service, so we had 350 on site! The Spanish church baptized 12 on Friday night. God has blessed us with a great church to partner with to reach our community!

Walt Hatch
Hilltop Baptist Church, Chula Vista, CA

Two Mormon missionaries attended our first Easter service of the day. They said they "wanted to see what was happening in churches on this day." I was thrilled they were there on a day that celebrated the greatest event of human history, and they heard a crystal clear presentation of the gospel. Three people made a profession of faith.

Steve Switzer
Calvary Baptist Church, Taylorville, IL

We had an attendance of 329, with three adults trusting Christ as Savior. Average attendance for first quarter was 192. Best Easter weather we've ever had!

Greg Burdine
Faith Baptist Church, Adrian, MI

We had 450 in attendance. We baptized 10 and three were saved. Many guests came because of our flyer that went out to 5,000 homes in town.

Nathan Burch
Aurora Baptist Temple, Aurora, MO

We had our first Easter since starting back in January. We had 408 in three services.

Joey Candillo
Grace Church, Independence, MO

We have been looking forward to this Easter for a few years! We moved into our new facilities three weeks ago and the timing was perfect. We had 2,177 on Easter Sunday in two services. Our new auditorium seats 1,000 and we had a few scattered seats available in each service. Even better we had 57 people commit their lives to Christ and come to our Welcome Center to talk to our hosts and receive a Bible to get them started in their walk.

In the three weeks since we have opened our new facilities we have seen 122 people commit their lives to Christ!

Ben Feldott
Cape Cod Church, Falmouth, MA

We had 3,000 at our Easter Experience at the high school football field, and we baptized 35 after they accepted Jesus that day.

Brian Moore
Crosspointe Church, Yorba Linda, CA

We had our second highest attendance ever with 606, one baptism, and two saved.

Terry Kizer
Alliance Baptist Church, Ft. Worth, TX

We ministered at the prison where 177 attended the Easter service the day before our Easter service at church. Forty-three men responded to the call for salvation. Pray for them as we follow up with them.

John Clapp
Bible Baptist Church, Alva, OK

1,336 total people in four services (one Saturday and on Sunday), 42 households filled out our communication card as first-timers, 18 adults indicated on our communication cards that they were saved, and 14 signed up for baptism next week (which brings total close to 40 who are getting baptized next weekend).

Sean Sears
Grace Church, Boston, MA

Normally, I do not speak on Easter Sunday, but Second Baptist in Midland, TX, was without a pastor. The church has been through some rough days since the last pastor retired, and I think God arranged for me to be there on this day because it was terrific. In their new plant in the north, fewer than 100 were in attendance, but a man and woman both prayed with me to accept Jesus Christ. At the main church service, with maybe 150 there, there were five adults who trusted Jesus Christ. I thank the resurrected Christ for the opportunity!

Jerry Thorpe
Retired pastor

Here in Darmstadt, Germany, we had 40 in attendance. We baptized eight after the service, one of those being my 15-year-old daughter! We also had a lady in her early 50s rededicate her life. It is really something when you see a German actually come forward in the service.

William Busch
Missionary in Germany

Two big anniversaries in the Philippines

By Jon Konnerup

Just before spring came, I was off to the Philippines to help with the celebration for two big anniversaries.

The first event was to celebrate the 50th Annual Mission Conference with Mt. View Baptist Church of Angeles City. The church celebrated their 50 years of missions with uplifting music, pictures through the years, and a show of appreciation to the missionaries who brought the gospel and taught Faith Promise years ago.

Howard and Eleanor Quinlan, approved in May 1957, started this church, and from the beginning taught the people the importance of the Great Commission. Over 300 have graduated through their Bible college, of whom many are in the ministry today as church planters in the Philippines and around the world. In fact, nearly 70 pastors trained through this ministry were present at the historic celebration.

John and Pam Quinlan have, for nearly

36 years, continued leading these churches with an emphasis on evangelism and church planting. They have seen this church give faithfully of their finances to missions and give their best young people as missionaries to various parts of the world. God is blessing this church and their efforts. This year they promised to give a little over \$1,100 USD a week to missions. In fact, the first Sunday after the conference they gave over \$1,600 USD for missions.

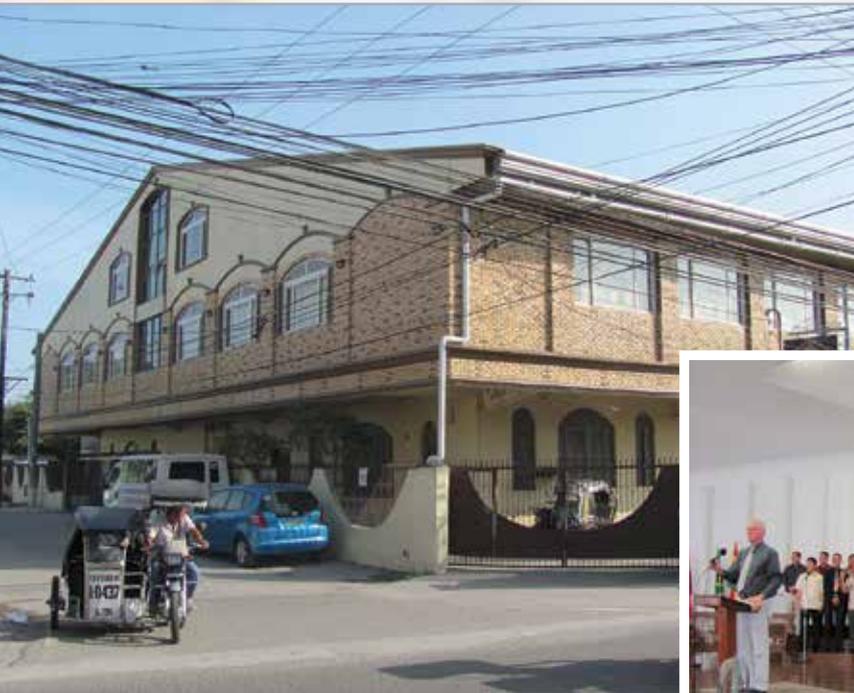
It is wonderful to see that our missionaries are faithful to teach churches in foreign lands to observe all things according to the Scriptures. These churches then take up the task for missions, and God takes what we all do together and blesses it and uses it around the world. When you invest in the lives and works of our missionaries, your investments keep on giving and going around the world over and it pleases our Lord and His name is glorified!

The second event we celebrated was the

60th anniversary of Bethany Baptist Church in Manila. Following is an abbreviated history of the leadership and God's hand upon this church:

December 7, 1951, a U.S. Army veteran, Joseph Vella, together with his wife Marguerite, sailed for the Philippines to be missionaries. They began inviting people to Bible studies in the carport of their home. The fledgling mission work grew and was eventually called Bethany Baptist Tabernacle.

The mission work increased in number and within a year relocated to a two-story apartment and made plans to organize the church. So, on February 14, 1954, five BBFI missionaries came to Bethany, including Frank Hooge, who acted as secretary and a new missionary to the Philippines, Loral Douglas Woosley who acted as the moderator.





Unfortunately, not long after the organization, the Vellas had to leave for the U.S. due to Mrs. Vella's serious illness.

Under the leadership of Pastor Woosley, the members of Bethany continued to grow. When he had to take an extended leave of absence, Pastor Reyes was called to Bethany. He was a faithful deacon and among the first batch of graduates in the Baptist Bible College, and he was much loved by the members as a dedicated pastor and an outstanding Bible teacher. He was succeeded by Gerardo G. Nable. By God's grace and the people's faith, many more opportunities opened for Bethany to fulfill the Great Commission, with the opening of the L.D. Woosley Bethany Colleges, the introduction of annual World Mission Conferences, and more men and women following God's call to foreign missions.

Today the ministry takes advantage of opportunities to minister to public and private school students, teachers, and administrators, as well as parents through the Values Instruction

Class Ministry, Campus Ministry, Teachers in Service Training and Parenting Seminars. Annual revival events such as the Youth Quest and Soul Winning and Leadership Conference, as well as evangelistic events such as monthly evangelistic meetings, Campus Connections, and year-end Sunday School Children's Department evangelistic meeting are also in place to seize every opportunity to reach as many people as we can in our Judea with the precious message of Salvation.

Indeed God has given Bethany a wonderful heritage. Pastor Nable is praying that many more men would continue to rise up from the ranks and likewise answer God's call to lead His people into a closer and more intimate relationship with Him. Praise the Lord for Bethany Baptist Church.

Today, Bethany Baptist Church is a major force in world missions, sending out over 35 missionaries. They are tent-making missionaries and faith-based missionaries supported by Filipino churches spread throughout parts of the world, from the

Middle East to Vietnam. What a joy it was to participate in their 60th diamond anniversary and be the main speaker for their 14th World Mission Conference.

Nearly 300 pastors and 50 missionaries attended their mission conference, which is designed to challenge and encourage their members to do more for missions. And to think, many of you had a part in this by sending our missionaries there to begin with. During the meeting, they gave tribute to the early missionaries who went to the Philippines with the BBFI, and as they showed their pictures they expressed their loud appreciation.

When our missionaries go and we support them, lives are impacted for eternity. We really don't know all that God is doing around the world. But as we partner with our brothers and sisters everywhere it is amazing to see the awesome work of God. Isn't it wonderful to know we have thousands of others like Bethany Baptist Church and Mt. View Baptist Church working right along with us — for the same purpose — to reach people with the saving knowledge of Jesus Christ?



HISTORY

BAPTIST

RICHARD MAJORS – *Protected by giants*

Richard Majors was born in Pennsylvania in 1722. At an early age he came under a deep conviction of sin. In an attempt to silence his conscience, he increased his pursuit of worldly pleasures. However, this only intensified his feelings of sinfulness. He then turned to skepticism to quiet his guilty conscience, but, skepticism plunged him into darkness and despair and intensified his sense of alienation from God.

He finally found forgiveness and reconciliation with God at the cross. His study of the Scriptures convinced him that believer's baptism by immersion was the only true baptism. Acting upon that conviction, he was baptized by Baptist Pastor Isaac Steele of New Jersey in 1764.

In 1766, Majors moved to Virginia, and he soon discovered his neighbors were living in spiritual darkness. Since there was no Baptist preacher in his area, and believing he was not qualified to preach, he purchased some printed sermons and invited his neighbors to his home to listen to their message. The readings were highly successful. Some of his neighbors were so affected by the sermons they decided to buy copies for their personal enlightenment. However, they soon determined the printed sermons did not compare in content or quality with the sermons read by Richard Majors. It was obvious that Majors was sharing his own thoughts on the Scriptures.

In 1768, Majors was ordained as the pastor of Little River Church in Loudoun County. Through Majors untiring labors, in just two years the church was the largest in the Association. During the early years of his ministry he was subjected to intense persecution. On one occasion the enemies of the Baptist convinced the Davis brothers, known as the giants, to attend one of his meetings and give him a thorough thrashing. The Davises, however, decided that before they attacked Majors, they would listen to what he had to say. His sermon so impressed the brothers, they became devoted to Majors and warned that if anyone attempted to do him bodily harm, they

would suffer the consequences.

While Majors was preaching at Bull Run, VA, the authorities issued a warrant for his arrest. A mob armed with clubs was determined that Majors would be arrested and thrown in jail. As the mob approached, the Davis brothers threatened to do bodily harm to anyone who attempted to serve the warrant or lay a hand on the preacher. The leaders of the mob, fearing the Davis brothers' wrath, decided to retire. However,

a particularly dangerous situation occurred when the husband of a woman Majors baptized threatened to kill him. He attended one of Majors' meetings with the intent to shoot and kill the preacher as soon as he said something the man found objectionable. However, God had other plans. The man was so overcome with conviction that he could not remain on his feet. He was later baptized by the man he intended to murder.

Richard Majors was known for his loving and affectionate spirit, and he was renowned for his consistent and untiring labors. The law of love ruled his heart; his reproaches and warnings were always given in love. Much of his success as a minister can be attributed to his love and compassion for his fellow

man. He traveled extensively and frequently preaching the gospel of love and forgiveness. He endured the severest hardships without complaint.

In the later part of his life, Majors was so honored and esteemed that he became concerned that perhaps he was not being faithful in preaching the Word of God. He often thought about the Scripture, "Woe unto you when all men speak well of you." Unable to shake off these impressions, he accidentally heard a man accuse him of the most vile and immoral crimes. At first he was extremely agitated, but he soon realized this was proof that he had not compromised the Word. About 10 years before his death, his health began to fail, however he remained faithful to the Lord, and at his death he was greatly lamented by the people he loved and who loved him.

As the mob approached, the Davis brothers threatened to do bodily harm to anyone who attempted to serve the warrant or lay a hand on the preacher.

by Thomas Ray



Where your tomorrow is being shaped today

The world you grew up in is not the world you are going to grow old in.

“With fragile growth in Europe and the United States, the shift in an economic balance towards the east and south is happening with unprecedented speed and scale — and it is happening through urbanization. Quite simply, we are witnessing the biggest economic transformation the world has ever seen as the populations of cities in emerging markets expand and see their incomes rise as never before...” So says Richard Dobbs and Jaana Remes in their *Foreign Policy Magazine* (Fall 2012) cover piece titled “The Most Dynamic Cities of 2025: An Exclusive Look at the 75 Powerhouses of the Urban Revolution.”

Dobbs and Remes continue: *“More than ever, cities matter. Today, just 600 urban centers generate about 60% of global GDP. Though 600 cities will continue to account for the same share of global GDP in 2025, this elite group will have a very different membership. Over the next 15 years, the urban world center of gravity will move farther south, and even more decisively, east.”*

Be sure you get that last word: east. All this information comes from McKinsey Global Institute, whose Cityscope database has yielded a unique index of The Most Dynamic Cities of 2025 — 29 or 40 percent of which are in one country: China.

Here’s the contrast: *“Almost half of global GDP in 2010 came from only 362 cities in the developed regions with more than 20% of global GDP coming from a 187 North American cities alone.”*

Fast forward to 2025 though, and 1/4 of these developed market cities will no longer make up the top 600. By 2025, 99 new cities are expected to enter the top 600 all from the developing world and overwhelmingly — 72 new cities — from China. By 2025, the world’s top 600 cities will be home to an estimated 220 million more people of working age and account for

more than 30% of the expansion and potential global workforce.”

China’s urbanization is thundering along at an extraordinary pace; it’s happening at a hundred times the scale of the world’s first country to urbanize — Britain — and at 10 times the speed,” point out Dobbs and Remes. *“Over the past decade alone, China’s share of people living in large cities has increased from 36% to nearly 50%. In 2010, China’s metropolitan regions accounted for 78% of its GDP. If the current trends hold, the Middle Kingdom’s urban population will expand from approximately 570 million in 2005 to 925 million in 2025, an increase larger than the entire current pop of the United States!!!”* (Exclamation points mine)

CONSIDER THESE FINDINGS . . .

- Of the top 10 of the 75 most dynamic cities, six are in China.
- Although Shanghai had no skyscrapers in 1980 it now has at least 4,000, more than twice as many as New York.
- Although Hefei is one of China’s lesser-known and smaller cities (by Chinese standards), disposable income growth in the metropolis of 4.9 million is on track to be seven times that of London this year.
- With the opening of its third airport by 2015, Beijing is expected to surpass London as the world’s busiest air hub. Beijing Capital International Airport’s terminal three is already larger than all five terminals at London’s Heathrow combined.
- In the last five years, China has built 20,000 miles of expressways finishing the construction of 12 national highways a whopping 13 years ahead of schedule and at a pace four times faster than the United States built its interstate highway system. Over the last decade, Shanghai alone has built some 1,500 miles of road, the equivalent of three Mannhattans.
- The Chinese bought 14.5 million cars in 2011, a

figure that could increase to 50 million annually within a decade.

- From 2005 to 2010 alone, the Middle Kingdom built 33 airports and renovated or expanded an additional 33 at a cost of nearly 40 billion. The dizzying pace is set to continue over the next three years when China will build another 70, including a mega airport in Beijing — the city’s third — that will have as much as double the annual passenger capacity of Atlanta’s Hartsfield-Jackson, currently the world’s busiest.
- China’s newest bullet train slices through the air at a maximum speed of 311 miles an hour, capable of traveling from Beijing to Shanghai in less than three hours and four and a half times faster than the average speed of trains plying Amtrak’s busy Boston, Washington, Acela route.
- Technical mecca Shenzhen was the city where China famously created its first special economic zone in 1980. Then, it was a former fishing village near Hong Kong; now it is a 14-million-person metropolis.

How shall we then live? Learn Mandarin? Anybody still wondering where that 200-million-soldier army from the East referenced in the book of Revelation originates?

Our “new world” does not require a new message. Every training institution and sending agency should be all over this data. This shift of population and power, not to mention economic muscle, ought to inform how we pray, give, train, and send.

“The earth is the Lord’s and the fullness thereof, the world and they that dwell therein.”



by Charles Lyons, Pastor
Armitage Baptist Church,
Chicago, Illinois
charles.lyons@armitagechurch.org

Rekindle. Reconnect. Recommit



by Mark Milioni | President | Baptist Bible College

My wife and I are proud graduates of the Baptist Bible College class of 1988. When we crossed the stage in the W.E. Dowell Field House and received our diplomas, we never imagined the impact our years at BBC would have on our lives. We were excited to begin a life of ministry, but quickly learned that ministry is hard. Plans fail. People hurt. Prayers waiver. But God is faithful and always reminds us why we started — to show lost people how to be saved.

We were privileged to be a part of Fellowship Week 2014 and the 1980s reunion. It was great to see old friends and to make new ones. We found that many of them have learned the same lessons. Ministry is hard. Plans fail. People hurt. Prayers waiver. God is faithful. It was a great evening of reconciliation. Many left with a rekindled love for BBC and a new desire to be a part of her future.

To rekindle, reconnect, and recommit is the goal of the BBC Alumni and Friends Association. We want our alumni and friends from around the world to rekindle their love for BBC, reconnect with each other, and recommit to preserving BBC for future generations.

The Alumni and Friends Association exists to “enhance the student life of our current student body.” We do this by playing an active and visible role on campus through student activities, conferences, and through a major project which we fund each year. In 2013-2014, we supplied campus-wide WIFI and air conditioning units for Vick Dormitory. These projects were greatly appreciated by the students and also helped with our recruiting and retention efforts.

Will you help to enhance student life as an active member of the Alumni and Friends Association? We need you to:

1. **Become an active member of the BBC Alumni and Friends Association.** Visit www.bbcalumni.org to enroll and to update your contact information. There is a \$25 fee which covers our costs.
2. **Give financially to our 2014-2015 project:** providing our dorms with new Tempur-Pedic mattresses. Our mattresses are in dire need of replacement, you may have slept on them when you were here! We are excited for this opportunity to replace them with new, high-quality, comfortable mattresses. We need your help. We need 200 of our Alumni and Friends to give \$200 to fully fund this project. Will you help?
3. **Give yourself! Be actively involved in our campus events,** in our reunions, and in the life of our students. Plan now to join us for move-in day August 18, the New Generations Conference in October, and our 65th anniversary celebration at our May 2015 Fellowship Week, or even for one of our weekly chapel services.

We need you and we want you to be a part of the BBC Alumni and Friends Association! This is your school, be proud of it and be a part of it.

Heroes



by David Melton | President | Boston Baptist College

Memorial Day is about heroes. The kind who wear camo and engage the enemy. Graduation is also about heroes. They may not be in camo, but there is still an enemy to be engaged.

As a kid growing up, my dad and mom took us to many military cemeteries. They were teaching us kids a lesson about heroes. I distinctly remember my first trip to Arlington. When we went to Hawaii, our trip was incomplete until we had been to Punchbowl, where so many Pearl Harbor casualties were laid to rest. I'm sure that planted a seed in me that made both of our Boston study trips to Normandy so personally poignant.

I'm thankful for the brave men and women, and their families, who have served our nation and have sacrificed beyond words. But at graduation, I see heroes too, just with a slightly different nuance. I remember a dad telling me that his son was the first in their family to graduate from college. He said, “The guys in our family usually earn our living with our hands.” I knew what he meant. They were tradesmen. Heroically that dear man had born the weight of the beam, had furrowed through many a New England winter day with tired muscles. He did not work so hard to get rich and famous. His had a nobler goal — to provide for his own, the way scripture commands a dad to do.

On graduation day I see heroes in regalia. I know the stories of almost every Boston student. We have few who don't scratch and claw and work and borrow just to manage college finances. We have students who come to us well prepared for the academic rigors of higher education. But we have others who are just relentless to make up for lost time and opportunity, having to hone their skills in the classroom and burning the midnight oil. Along the way, they heroically fight off discouragement, difficulty, and not a few heartaches and disappointments. Oh, sure there are some who go through college and it seems like a cakewalk, but most have a challenging path. I'm moved to acknowledge their accomplishment.

It's just a great time of year to think about heroes. Heroes may carry a gun across enemy terrain, or rush off to work in the predawn hours, or refuse to quit in their ministry preparation. The term hero may be overused and misused by some, but it should never be underused. Missionaries who have served for 50 years — like the Todds and the Lyons — heroes. Servants like Bob and Ann Baird who I was so privileged to see in Springfield — heroes for sure. Those training now to engage the enemy of our souls — lots of heroes there, too — just like at Normandy or Arlington or the Punchbowl Cemetery on Oahu, and like the great parents who took me there, and taught and showed me what being heroic really is.

Fellowship Week photos (continued)



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FALMOUTH, MA

Ben Feldott and Cape Cod Church open grand new building

By Keith Bassham

For many, the recession of 2008 closed doors of opportunity. For Cape Cod Church and Pastor Ben Feldott of Falmouth, MA, the door swung open, placing an otherwise unaffordable piece of property within their grasp. Taking charge of ten acres and 400 parking spaces in Cape Cod is miracle territory, but just a couple of weeks before Easter, the miracle became a reality for Ben and the church.

Opening weekend saw 1,400 people in attendance in the single service. Ben says, "We ran out of everything — parking, kids' space, bagels, seats — everything!"

Next they went to their two-service schedule, and three weeks after opening, on Easter, 2,177 people attended. That day 57 people committed their lives to Christ and went to the church's new Welcome Center to receive a Bible and some beginning discipleship.

The new building occupies 40,000 square feet and shows off a large glass front to people who drive by. Ben says church is a big mystery to some people, and he wanted glass to show there was nothing to hide. As he told a local reporter, people can see what's going on inside.

Behind the glass is a large gathering place for informal conversation and meeting, and then there is a 1,000-seat auditorium, 500 on the floor and 500 stadium-style. Ben is especially proud of the Kids Town and The Park (nursery) that expanded from a former 1,300

square feet to about 6,000. The first weekend they registered 225 kids, and more came into the auditorium.

According to local media, Cape Cod Church will have the second largest building on Cape Cod. The total project is worth about \$8 million. Congregational labor was estimated to be about \$1.8 million of that, and the church gave \$3.2 million. A bank loaned \$3 million.

The opening day and Easter Sunday were huge by any standard, but especially so when you consider that Ben and his wife Tammy began the church 21 years ago in part of a rented plumbing building. One of my earliest reporting duties for the *Tribune* was coverage of a story about Ben and the church on Cape Cod, and subsequent reports have always shown growth and vision. In fact, it was like Ben Feldott was always thinking about what was next — the next building, next location, next step for the church. If you are around him, and he starts talking like that, take him seriously.



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OWASSO, OK

Friendship in Owasso, OK, commits more than \$400,000 to missions

Pastor Linzy Slayden reports that Friendship Baptist Church of Owasso, OK, held a tremendous Faith Promise mission conference this

year. The five-year theme is “Building on the Past — Reaching Our World Today and Tomorrow.”

Special missionary guests included Ira and Angela Walton (Gateway Project), Charles and Tressa Rouch (Zambia), Brandon and Rachel Ivey, (Philippines), Fabio and Deborah Oliveira (Brazil), and Steve Harney (Cool Kids Ministry).

Slayden says, “The attendance was great, the music was anointed, the atmosphere was exciting with faith and hope and purpose.”

An added plus for the conference came when the church’s Mission Intern/Children’s Ministry Director Stephanie Wheeler arranged for Steve Harney to hold assemblies in the local schools on character building and anti-bullying using the same techniques as his children’s evangelism presentations. The missionaries were presented gifts, handmade quilts, and a Make-A-Difference Love Offering from the church.

This was the church’s 22nd annual Faith Promise mission conference, and the church set a record Faith Promise offering of \$424,198 at the time of this report.



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GALION, OH

Ohio church "back home" after losing sanctuary in flood

Nearly a year after Gospel Baptist Church experienced four feet of mud and water during a downpour in June 2013, the church's sanctuary was re-opened for Palm Sunday 2014, just in time for Easter.

Pastor Monty Trammel and the church said, "We were back home," after months of rebuilding and remodeling. The service that Sunday had 400 attendees, 50 of them first-timers. With the help of a loan, gifts from friends and other churches, and the combined effort of local businesses and contractors, Gospel Baptist Church enjoys a beautiful and "like-new"

building. Trammel said, "There aren't enough words for my appreciation. It was a community effort, and it took everybody."

Property improvements included some engineering such as an expanded drainage area and an improved pond to hold more water should the area have such a rainfall again.

A video detailing the damage and the rebuilding is available on Youtube.com under the title, "Gospel Baptist: Victory Over Adversity."



OWASSO, OK

More than 200 seniors attend jamboree

Friendship Baptist Church in Owasso, OK, hosted its fifth annual Senior Adult Jamboree April 28-29, 2014, with more than 200 attendees. Loran McAlister, senior adult pastor at Friendship, reports the event, filled with a mixture of music, comedy, and preaching, was enjoyed by people from churches in Oklahoma, Missouri, and Kansas.

Guest preacher for the 2014 Jamboree was Pastor Tom Porter of Temple Baptist Church in Titusville, FL. Porter has been involved with senior adult ministries 35 years and has been an encourager and help for churches wanting to establish senior programs.

The music was provided by the Gary Keffler family, now in their 30th year traveling as a



family and using their singing talents. Friendship members Danny and Deanna Calhoun also provided music.

SULPHUR SPRINGS, TX

Texas BBF elects Marcellus



Pastor Mike Marcellus (right) of First Independent Baptist Church in Austin, TX was named chairman and state director of the Texas Baptist Bible Fellowship in their spring meeting held April 21-22 in Sulphur Springs, TX. He succeeds former TXBBF president Larry McAden (pictured on left). Guest preachers for the meeting were Steve Van Winkle and Tony Isaacs.

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SAN DIEGO, CA

San Diego church reaches out to homeless



Ocean View Church (formerly Midway Baptist Church), located in South San Diego, used their church facilities and campus to host a homeless and disadvantaged outreach event on Saturday, May 3. The event, staffed by volunteers from over a dozen gospel-preaching churches in the south part of San Diego, spent many hours of planning, praying, and gathering of supplies. Jim Baize is the pastor of Ocean View.

Several other groups also participated to provide clothing, food, shoes, health exams, haircuts, and encouragement while the gospel was being presented. According to Baize, the sponsoring group held a similar event in a local park but when the cost became more than they could afford, Ocean View was more than happy to accommodate them.

Pastor Baize reports the following results:

- 16 responded to the gospel
- 71 received prayers
- 105 guests registered (there were others who did not)
- 341 volunteers
- 41 referrals to churches who participated

The participants received a total of 450 meals, over 1,647 items of clothing and shoes, 191 care packages (canned food, sleeping bags, etc.), 37 hair cuts, 300 food items distributed through Mikey's "Feed the People," eight dental exams, and many others visited tents and displays where they received other services. Baize says Sand Ysidro Health Center and their mobile units were a blessing as well.

Baize said, "The volunteers were Jesus' hands and feet on that day! We are looking forward to future outreaches."

MEXICO

Lonnie Smith, Sr.

Long time BBFI missionary to Mexico, Lonnie Smith, Sr., left this life April 2, 2014. Born June 7, 1930, he and his wife Margie had been missionaries in Mexico since 1956.

Missionary Smith began his Mexico ministry in Tampico. Three years later, at the request of the Mission Office, he moved to Monterrey where he established a strong central church and preaching stations. As the preaching stations matured, they became churches and began new missions themselves. As a result, Lonnie was instrumental in starting more than 100 churches. He was known as an encourager and a builder.

Active until just a short time before his death, Lonnie is survived by his wife of 64 years and two sons and their families. A private memorial service was held April 7.

SPRINGFIELD, MO

Edith Baker

BBFI missionary Edith Marie Baker, 78, entered the Father's presence May 14, 2014, after a prolonged illness. Born June 6, 1935, in Salina, KS, She enrolled at Baptist Bible College, Springfield, MO, in 1953, where she met her future husband, Lloyd Baker. They were married June 3, 1956. Edith served alongside her husband in the ministry, living in the Philippines for 53 years.

She is survived by her husband, Lloyd, two children, and six grandchildren. Services were held May 17, 2014, in Springfield.

SPRINGFIELD, MO

Grant Stokes

Retired pastor Grant Wayne Stokes, age 88, passed from this life May 13, 2014. Born November 5, 1925, in Springfield, MO, Grant pastored numerous Baptist churches until his retirement. After his retirement Grant worked several years for Greenlawn Funeral Homes.

He is survived by his wife, Esther, a son, seven grandchildren, and several great-grandchildren. Services were held May 17, 2014, in Springfield with James Sewell officiating.

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540 Manley St., West Bridgewater, MA 02379, 508/583-5190
www.templebaptist.info *Pastor Bill Smith*

NEBRASKA

• **Plains Baptist Church**, 2902 Randolph St., Lincoln, NE 68510, 402/435-4760. *Pastor Raymond Smith*

NEW JERSEY

• **Open Bible Baptist Church**, 2625 E. Main St (RT. 49), Millville, NJ 08332, 856/863-0226, Email:gardner07@comcast.net *Pastor Danny Gardner*

NORTH CAROLINA

• **Northside Baptist Church**, 333 Jeremiah Blvd., Charlotte, NC 28262, 704/596-4856 *Pastor Brian Boyles*

• **Mid-Way Baptist Church**, 6910 Fayetteville Rd., Raleigh, NC 27603, 919/772-5864 *Pastor James L. Upchurch*

• **Trinity Baptist Church**, 216 Shelburne Rd., Asheville, NC 28806, 704/254-2187 www.tbcasheville.org
Pastor Ralph Sexton, Jr.

• **Central Baptist Church**, 6050 Plain View Hwy., Dunn, NC 28334, 910/892-7914, www.cbcdunn.com
Pastor Tom Wagoner

• **Berean Baptist Church & Academy**
517 Glenstord Dr., Fayetteville, NC 28314, 910/868-5156,
www.bbcfnc.org *Pastor Sean Harris*

OHIO

• **Bible Baptist Church**, 990 W. Main, Mt. Orab, OH 45154, 937/444-2493
Pastor Charles Smith

• **Ashland Ave. Baptist Church**, P.O. Box 86, 4255 Ashland Ave., Norwood, OH 45212, 513/531-3626
Pastor Jerry E. Jones

• **First Baptist Church**, 1233 US Rt. 42, Ashland, OH 44805, 419/289-3636
Pastor F. R. "Butch" White

• **Calvary Baptist Church**, 516 W. Sunset Dr., Rittman, OH 44270, 330/925-5506 *Pastor Tim LaBouf*

OREGON

• **Tri-City Baptist Temple**, 18025 S. E. Webster Rd., Gladstone, OR 97027, 503/655-9326 *Pastor Ken McCormick*

RHODE ISLAND

• **Ocean State Baptist Church**, 600 Douglas Pike, Smithfield, RI 02917, 401/231-1980 *Pastor Archie Emerson*

TEXAS

• **Central Baptist Church**, 2855 Greenhouse Rd., Houston, TX 77084, 281/492-2689 *Pastor Larry Maddox*

• **First Baptist Church of Meadowview**, 4346 N Galloway Ave., Mesquite, TX 75150, 214/391-7176
Pastor R.D. Wade

• **First Baptist Church**, Hwy. 64, Wright City, TX 75750, 903/839-2700
www.firstbaptistwrightcity.com *Pastor Rohn M. Boone*

• **North Park Baptist Church**, 4401 Theiss Rd., Humble, TX 77338, 281/821-2258 *Pastor Randy Harp*

• **Berean Baptist Church**, 302 N. Town East Blvd., Mesquite, TX 75182, 972/226-7803 *Pastor David Mills*

• **Cypress Creek Baptist Church**, 21870 Northwest Freeway, Houston, TX 77429, 281/469-6089 *Pastor Carl Hughes*

• **Talley Rd. Baptist Church**
3120 Talley Rd., San Antonio, TX 78253, 210/862-3108,
www.talleyroadbaptistchurch.org
trbc@satx.rr.com, *Pastor Larry Bruce*

VIRGINIA

• **Faith Baptist Church**, 3768 S. Amherst Hwy., Madison Heights, VA 24572, 434/929-1430 *Pastor Brian Hudson*

• **Central Baptist Church**, 13910 Minnieville Rd. Woodbridge, VA 22193, 703/583-1717, office@cbcwoodbridge.org, *Pastor Brad Weniger*

WEST VIRGINIA

• **Fellowship Baptist Church**, U.S. Rt. 60 E. at Huntington Mall, Barboursville, WV 25504, 304/736-8006 *Pastor Jerry Warren*

INTERNATIONAL

BELGIUM
• **Grace International Baptist Church**, Bruges, Belgium 8200
913/871-8901 VOIP, www.gibc.be
Pastor Tim J. Downs

Participation in the Baptist Bible Fellowship International is open to any Baptist pastor of a supporting Baptist church believing in and adhering to the Word of God, on the basis of the BBFI Articles of Faith. For listing on this page, a Baptist church is one that declares in legal and/or faith documents it is Baptist in doctrine and practice. A supporting church is one that financially supports BBFI missions or colleges.

(Sources: Constitution and Bylaws of the BBFI and The BBFI Contact Directory)

EVANGELIST ADS are available to any evangelist listed in the Fellowship Directory for \$10 per issue. To place an ad, call (417) 831-3996.

Thomas Ray • The Reapers
PO Box 867505, Plano, TX 75086
Phone: 972.509.9240 www.thereapers.com

Tracy Dartt • The Dartt Quartet
PO Box 422, Greenbrier, TN 37073
Phone: 707.344.4140 www.darttmusic.com

Alan Harris • Alan Harris Ministries
309 West 24th Street, Connorsville, IN 47331
Phone: 765.220.1629 www.alanharrisministries.org

Church ads are available to any BBFI church for \$10 per issue.

To place an ad, call (417) 831-3996.

The following resolution was presented and approved at the BBFI May Business Meeting.

Resolution On Proclamation Of

Biblical Truth In The Face Of Immorality

WHEREAS, our churches have witnessed a ruinous decline in the moral, ethical, and spiritual standards in our nation in the first years of the 21st century, and

WHEREAS, this decline is in evidence at all levels of society: popular culture, media, government, and even among religious bodies, and

WHEREAS, those who are followers of Jesus Christ are enjoined to be salt and light in their culture (Matthew 5:13-16), and

WHEREAS, prophets in the Old Testament were noted for confronting both spiritual and governmental authorities with the moral demands of God, and

WHEREAS, Jesus and the Apostles, John the Baptist, and the Apostle Paul were outspoken on behalf of God's Word in the face of rejection and even punishment, and

WHEREAS, we are also encouraged by Baptists in our history who have been faithful to God's Word and have followed the examples of the prophets and the Apostles, declaring biblical truth in the face of opposition and ridicule, and sometimes suffering great personal loss, and

WHEREAS, today popular culture, media, and government have all shown a willingness to suppress the proclamation of biblical truth when it conflicts with their respective views, and

WHEREAS, Christian leaders cannot be faithful to their Lord and at the same time keep silent on issues of morality and righteousness currently being debated in our culture, and

WHEREAS, the Baptist Bible Fellowship International has included language in the Twenty Articles of Faith which states in Article V,

"Since God created mankind into genders distinctly male and female, we believe that the only legitimate marriage is that between a man and a woman. He has commanded that no intimate sexual activity be engaged in outside of marriage. We believe that any form of homosexuality, lesbianism, bisexuality, bestiality, incest, fornication, adultery and pornography are sinful perversions of God's gift of sex. We believe that God rejects any attempt to alter one's gender by surgery or appearance," and

WHEREAS, Christians are expressing neither love for sinners nor faithfulness to God when they intentionally suppress the truth on these matters,

Therefore, be it RESOLVED

that the pastors of the Baptist Bible Fellowship International meeting in Springfield, Missouri, May 6, 2014, urge our entire Fellowship to be thoroughly and enthusiastically evangelistic, reaching out in love to the lost in their respective communities, and taking people from the kingdom of darkness to the kingdom of light through the preaching of the Gospel, and,

Be it further RESOLVED

that pastors have a responsibility to preach the whole counsel of God, so that as we lovingly and passionately evangelize those in our communities, we at the same time must speak prophetically to current moral issues addressed by God's Word, including, but not limited to, homosexual behavior and other immoral sexual practices, same-sex marriage, and pornography, and,

Be it finally RESOLVED

that those affiliated with the Baptist Bible Fellowship International are urged to uphold the highest standards of morality themselves, and to hold out those standards for their churches, their communities, the culture, and the nation as salt and light.

Resolutions passed in the meetings of the Baptist Bible Fellowship International express sentiments, points of view, and concerns. They are in no way binding on any pastor or church affiliated with the BBFI, nor is any action required of them based on a resolution.

JUNE 2014

PRAYER CALENDAR

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<p>1</p>  <p>MISSIONARY Tom & Regina Franklin <i>Dominican Republic</i></p>	<p>2</p>  <p>CHAPLAIN Lt. Ken & Gwen Amador <i>U.S. Navy Reserve</i></p>	<p>3</p>  <p>MISSIONARY Thomas & Lisa Reesor <i>New Zealand</i></p>	<p>4</p>  <p>T.E.A.M. MISSIONARIES Elmo & Kathryn Compton <i>Peru</i></p>	<p>5</p>  <p>MISSIONARY Mike & Caroline Tester <i>Hong Kong</i></p>	<p>6</p>  <p>MISSIONARY Karen Kolb <i>Guatemala</i></p>	<p>7</p>  <p>MISSIONARY Lonnie Jr. & Martha Smith <i>Mexico</i></p>
<p>8</p>  <p>MISSIONARY James & Lisa Mantonya <i>Brazil</i></p>	<p>9</p>  <p>MISSIONARY Rose Yarnell <i>Retired</i></p>	<p>10</p>  <p>MISSIONARY Lance & Melanie Gotcher <i>Phillipines</i></p>	<p>11</p>  <p>MISSIONARY Raquel Avila <i>Peru</i></p>	<p>12</p>  <p>MISSIONARY Dan & Patty Peters <i>Hungary</i></p>	<p>13</p>  <p>Workers in Restricted Countries</p>	<p>14</p>  <p>MISSIONARY George & Luisa Dimakos <i>Greece</i></p>
<p>15</p> <p>Mission office staff</p>	<p>16</p>  <p>MISSIONARY Brian & Rachael Weed <i>Nicaragua</i></p>	<p>17</p>  <p>T.E.A.M. MISSIONARIES Jacob Lyons <i>Phillipines</i></p>	<p>18</p>  <p>MISSIONARY Earl & Joyce Koon <i>Australia</i></p>	<p>19</p>  <p>MISSIONARY Sabrina Shangle <i>Ireland</i></p>	<p>20</p>  <p>MISSIONARY David & Candyce Homer <i>Taiwan</i></p>	<p>21</p>  <p>MISSIONARY James & Lori Bradley <i>Mexico</i></p>
<p>22</p>  <p>MISSIONARY Bob & Sandy Piatt <i>Japan</i></p>	<p>23</p>  <p>Baptist Bible College faculty & staff</p>	<p>24</p>  <p>MISSIONARY Jose & Carol Esquibel <i>England</i></p>	<p>25</p>  <p>MISSIONARY Richard & Lynda Todd <i>Argentina</i></p>	<p>26</p>  <p>MISSIONARY Rich Moeller II <i>Scotland</i></p>	<p>27</p>  <p>MISSIONARY Ray & Wanda Hoover <i>Ethiopia</i></p>	<p>28</p>  <p>BBF Builders</p>
<p>29</p>  <p>MISSIONARY Mitch & Elizabeth Calmes <i>Tanzania</i></p>	<p>30</p>  <p>MISSIONARY Lance & Leah Patterson <i>Phillipines</i></p>					

As is the business of tailors to make clothes and cobblers to make shoes, so it is the business of Christians to pray.
Martin Luther



Be an iWitness by Brian Langley and Jason Lawson

You Can Be An iWitness

A mixture of evangelism and apologetics, this practical book instructs Christians on how to share the gospel with people of various religious backgrounds: Catholics, Jehovah's Witnesses, Mormons, Jews, Muslims and Atheists.

Be An iWitness encourages every Christian who has been an eyewitness of Jesus Christ to become an iWitness. The book begins with the Great Commission that Jesus gave to His first disciples – to go into all the world making disciples. The premise of the book is that every disciple can become involved in evangelism and outreach. The book provides an abundance of biblical truth for anyone attempting to be an evangelist, or an iWitness. An explanation of the true Gospel of Jesus Christ is presented in understandable terminology along with Scripture references. Counterfeit gospels are presented and confronted – the only plan of salvation is defended.

You can become an iWitness, and learn how to share the gospel with people of various religious backgrounds.



Print (0892114428) . . . \$10.99

eBook (Bogard Press App) . . . \$6.99

Why Baptist Churches Die by Mike Raines

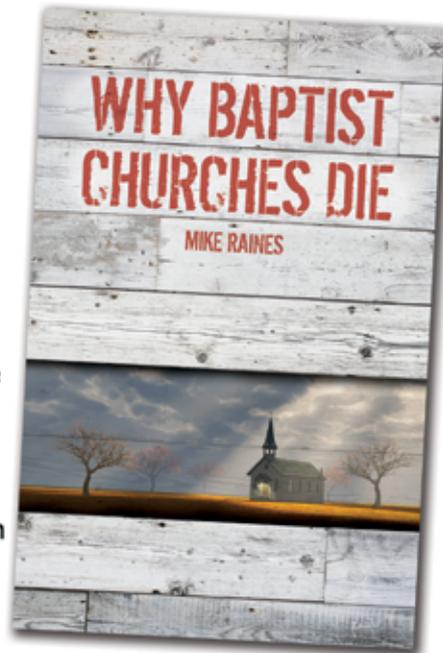
Having been privileged to pastor five Missionary Baptist Churches and now one mission, I have struggled to understand the plight of our people. How we have witnessed the closure of too many churches in the past two decades. It has led me to examine my own heart and life. At times it has caused me to doubt what I have held so dear to my heart as to how I understand the Word of God.

With that said, I move to express a very broad diagnosis of our ailments that have rendered us weak and failing.

To be released
June, 2014

Contents of the Book

- 1 The Word We Love To Hate
- 2 What Submission Looks Like
- 3 The Word We Love To Love
- 4 A Word About Our Worship
- 5 The Need To Grow
- 6 Setting the Stage for Growth
- 7 The Benefits of Growth
- 8 The Lost Key
- 9 The Grounds for Discipline
- 10 The Application of Discipline
- 11 Leading the Lambs to the Shepherd
- 12 Strike the Balance Just One More Time
- 13 The Word We Love But Know So Little About
- 14 How This Love Came Down to Us
- 15 The Balanced Church Life



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