

B A P T I S T B I B L E  
**TRIBUNE**

MAY 2016

WHAT IS THE BAPTIST BIBLE FELLOWSHIP INTERNATIONAL?

**BBFI**

PART I: **BBFI MISSIONS**

**p.6** Defining the Fellowship

**p.8** The BBFI Mission Office

**p.12** BBFI Global Fellowship Meeting



# F E L L O W S H I P W E E K

**MAY 2-5**

Join us on the campus of Baptist Bible College in Springfield, MO from May 2nd to May 5th, 2016. Our guest speakers include Tom Messer, Mark Hoover, and Jonathan Falwell. There has never been a more important time to be "All In."

## Monday

6:30p Session 1: Tom Messer  
8:45p Party in the Parking Lot



### Tom Messer

Trinity Baptist College  
Jacksonville, Florida

## Tuesday

9:00a Breakouts  
9:00a Ladies Meeting  
10:00a Session 2  
11:30a Business Meeting  
12:30p Alumni Lunch  
6:30p Session 3: Mark Hoover  
& Mark Milioni



### Mark Hoover

NewSpring Church  
Wichita, Kansas

## Wednesday

9:00a Breakouts  
10:00a Missions Morning  
6:30p Session 4: Jonathan Falwell



### Jonathan Falwell

Thomas Road Baptist Church  
Lynchburg, Virginia

## Thursday

10:00a BBC Commencement  
1:00p Alumni Golf Tournament

ALL IN FOR THE GOSPEL. FOR THE WORD. FOR THE CHURCH. FOR EACH OTHER.



ON THE TABLE

## Where no one stands alone

by Randy Harp | Editor

It seems every month as we are approaching our print deadline I have to ask our staff, “How are we going to fit everything in?” This issue may have been our greatest challenge to date. A couple months ago I began the process of setting themes for each of our upcoming issues. My thought for May was the theme “The Fellowship.” As we started working through the content and layout, I quickly realized there would be no way to adequately cover all there is to cover on the Fellowship in one issue. Add to that attempting to do justice on telling all that was experienced at the Global Fellowship Meeting in Seoul, Korea, and I just gave up. So, we decided to expand the theme “The Fellowship” into three total issues.

Each of these issues will focus on a different aspect of our Fellowship: missions, education, and church planting. In each issue we will also work toward clarifying exactly what the BBFI is and what it is not. For example, in this issue I wrote on the topic of our purpose for existence. I have researched through old archives of the Tribune as well as other documents to see what others throughout our history have had to share. There is remarkable consistency over the past 66 years on this topic.

With this issue we focus on the missions aspect of the Fellowship. This could not have been more enjoyable to focus on after seeing the direct results of our mission ministry during the Global Fellowship Meeting in Korea. I was not able to attend the previous global meeting in the Philippines, so it is impossible for me to compare the two, but I don’t know how a meeting could have been more encouraging. Our mission director Jon Konnerup, Korea BBF president Moo-Chul Moon, and host pastor Dr. Daniel Kim, along with the entire Korea BBF did an amazing job of organizing a meeting that, in my opinion, highlighted all the things we should focus on. First, missions was the highlight. Every sermon was on missions. Every song was on missions. Every testimony given was how missions resulted in life change. Hearing Dr. Kim’s emotional appreciation to the pastors of America for sending missionaries to Korea is something I will never forget. Second, this meeting showed what can happen when we partner together for the cause of Christ. In the recap video available on [www.bbf.org](http://www.bbf.org), John Barnes, missionary to Costa Rica, makes the statement, “I am not alone.” I love our motto for the BBFI, “Where no one stands alone.” Third, the fellowship was refreshing. There was a genuine spirit of encouragement. I greatly enjoyed meeting new people both from America and all around the world. It was a truly great experience!

We approached our reporting of this meeting slightly different. It is true a picture is worth a thousand words, but for this to be true, one has to understand the context of the picture. What I want people to read are the personal stories of their experience in Korea. There is no way to share the entire experience, but I pray that you will be encouraged as you see how God is at work through the BBFI.

## THE FELLOWSHIP: PART 1



### Defining the Fellowship

What is the BBFI? To find the answer, you need to look at the Fellowship from a historical perspective, a practical perspective, and a personal perspective.

6



### The Mission Office

What is the function of the BBFI Mission Office within the Fellowship? This overview highlights services and resources offered by the Mission Office.

8



### BBFI Global Meeting Report

A collection of photos and testimonies from those who attended the BBFI Global Meeting in Seoul, Korea, March 14-17.

12

#### COLUMNS AND DEPARTMENTS

- 4 BBFI Leadership Perspectives
- 10 In the Trenches
- 20 Baptist History
- 21 Urban Current
- 22 Fellowship News
- 31 Missionary Prayer Calendar



Don't miss any of the *Tribune's* digital offerings on our website [www.tribune.org](http://www.tribune.org). You can find old articles, a digital page-turn version of this month's magazine, and a link to sign up for the *Tribune* Update email.

The *Baptist Bible Tribune* (ISSN 0745-5836) is published monthly, except for a combined July/August issue, by the BBFI, 720 E. Kearney, Springfield, Missouri 65803. Periodical class postage paid at Springfield, Missouri, and additional entry offices.  
Executive Editor: Randy Harp  
Assistant Editor: Rob Walker  
Director of Office Services: Karri Joy Perry  
Email address: [editors@tribune.org](mailto:editors@tribune.org)  
Web site address: [www.tribune.org](http://www.tribune.org)

**SUBSCRIPTION RATES:** Individual subscriptions are \$15 per year anywhere in the U.S.; \$20 per year in foreign countries. Postmaster send address changes to: *Baptist Bible Tribune*, P. O. Box 309, Springfield, Missouri 65801, 417-831-3996, fax 417-831-1470.  
*By-lined opinions expressed in the Baptist Bible Tribune are those of the authors and not necessarily those of the editorial staff or the Baptist Bible Fellowship.*

## FROM THE PRESIDENT MISSIONS

The Global Fellowship Meeting in Korea showcased the mission focus of this Fellowship. In 1950, when the Baptist Bible Fellowship began, missions was a centerpiece of what they would be about. Individual churches banded together to provide financial support to make it possible to send families to the countries of their calling. There is something very ordinary about supporting a missionary month after month. Often the work is slow, with few results at first. It takes faith for the missionary to go and faith for the churches to support. Together they move in faith believing that no matter how difficult the work is, God will honor His word and build His church.

This was an amazing gathering of people from all around the world who care deeply about getting the Gospel out. It was reported that 500 international delegates joined with the many Koreans to fill the large 3,000-seat auditorium each night. For me, it was a living picture of what 65 years of collective missionary effort looks like. The room was filled with pastors and missionaries who were passionate about missions. These were first, second, third, and fourth generation leaders who could trace their salvation back to a missionary sent out by the BBFI. They are passionate about the Gospel and mission involvement. These leaders have the vision not only to reach the people in their countries, but also to send missionaries from their countries. The mission fields have now become the sending fields. The BBFI network has grown and our partners now come from all over the world. They own this vision of missions with us now. In so many ways this is an unstoppable mission movement.



**Eddie Lyons**  
BBFI PRESIDENT

## WORLD MISSIONS THE MESSAGE OF MISSIONS

Reaping the Gospel harvest is always urgent. For every nation a missionary has gone to, every pulpit a pastor has preached from, every individual who has been spoken to, the words “Go ye into all the world ...” have always been the motivation. It’s a charge as relevant today as it was 2,000 years ago.

In 1950, the founders of the Baptist Bible Fellowship took up this charge: *“The basis of The Fellowship of the New Testament churches was a missionary enterprise. We call ourselves a Baptist Bible Fellowship; unless we have fellowship and promoting foreign missions, we are not a New Testament fellowship.”*

- Noel Smith

The purpose of the Baptist Bible Fellowship International has the same urgency and relevance today as it did when we first came into existence — tell the world about the Gospel of Jesus Christ. By sending out those who have been trained in our schools, the efforts of the churches of the BBFI in world missions have made an eternal difference in the lives of many. Countless thousands have been saved and over 18,000 churches have been started outside the United States. And yet, there are still billions in darkness searching to find the one who can bring peace to their hearts and forgiveness of sins.

We must work together to

establish Gospel-proclaiming churches everywhere — churches that teach, preach, and live out the love of God, faith in God, the grace of God, and peace with God. This is why world missions is an important part of the Baptist Bible Fellowship International. As a Fellowship, we must unite around our passion to reach the world, inspire our people to go, and then support them as they step out in faith. How shall they hear without a preacher? And how shall they preach, except they be sent?



**Jon Konnerup**  
BBFI MISSION DIRECTOR

# BBFI LEADERSHIP

## CHURCH PLANTING NEW CHURCHES ARE SHOWING UP

Based on new statistics, America is creating new, dynamic churches faster than it is losing old ones. American church planters are reaching many more people than had previously been thought. According to a Nashville-based research organization, 4,000 new churches opened their doors in 2014, outpacing the estimated 3,700 that closed.

Church planting studies indicate newly planted churches are more effective than established ones at drawing in people who are not connected with a church. The research also shows that newly planted churches are well ahead of the average church in winning new

people to Christ because of their focus on reaching out to the unchurched.

New churches usually meet in a rented public space such as a school or YMCA. Meeting in such locations creates an enthusiastic pioneer spirit, which significantly enhances the attendance of new churches. Focusing on outreach becomes a primary source of growth for these gatherings. These churches offer a variety of activities to encourage children and youth attendance. It is generally the goal of newly formed churches to invest in planting another church within five years.

Surveys show print and media outreach is useful, but an

estimated 77 percent of church visitors say word-of-mouth and personal relationships are still the most effective method. (Facts and figures taken from LifeWay Research and an article in “The Texan”, February 2016)

Sure, church planting takes great effort and resources, but the reward of seeing the unchurched being reached should spark an excitement in each of us to be involved in a church-planting endeavor.



**John Gross**  
BBFI CHURCH PLANTING (APEX)

## BAPTIST BIBLE COLLEGE AN EMOTIONAL VISIT

**M**y dad was my hero. He used to tell me stories of his visit to the country of Korea. At a time when his siblings were part of the first year of classes at a fledgling school called Baptist Bible College, he was stationed on the *USS Wisconsin*. His ship was attacked many times and it was there he earned a Purple Heart.

What a privilege to be part of the BBFI Fellowship Meeting in Seoul and to stand before them and share how my dad came to Korea and shed his blood so the first BBFI missionaries could come and tell them about Jesus, the one whose shed blood would save them from their sins.

As the president of Baptist Bible College I was pleased to

lead a team from our college to represent us and sing during the services. The Korean people were very gracious and very thankful. Numerous times I was thanked — not for what I had done, but for what a graduate of BBC had done. From Dr. Daniel Kim, to his staff, to pastors from several other countries, they expressed their thanks for what BBC had produced — a missionary who came to their country and shared the Gospel with them.

With tears in his eyes, Dr. Kim said several times during the week, “If it were not for the missionaries, we would not be saved.” He also said, “The missionaries came to us and shared the Gospel, now it is our

turn to send the missionaries.”

I am proud my father helped secure the freedom to preach the Gospel, I am proud to be a part of a movement that has literally affected a nation, I am proud of past students who followed the words of Jesus to take the Gospel to the world, and I am proud of our current students who were a great blessing the entire week. Thank you BBFI for such a faithful legacy of sharing the Gospel.



**Mark Milioni**  
BAPTIST BIBLE COLLEGE PRESIDENT

# PERSPECTIVES: THE FELLOWSHIP

## BOSTON BAPTIST COLLEGE MOMS AND GRADUATION

**A**t this time of year you expect a college president to talk about graduates, but May is not only graduation month, it is also Mom's month. Beyond Mother's Day, all my life May has been “Mom's month” since both my own mom and my wife have birthdays in May. Our oldest son, David, is one of the graduates in Boston this month, so graduation and “mom” collide from a whole lot of different directions for me. Given that, some things just have to be said.

I recently attended a victoriously heart-breaking funeral for an amazing Christian lady, Alicia Armstrong Free, daughter of longtime Fellowship leaders, Mr. and Mrs. Ken

Armstrong of Emporia, KS. We lost Alicia so young to cancer, but at the celebration of her life, someone told of the graduate schools Alicia turned down when she learned her first child was on the way. That brilliant woman would never earn a master's degree or write a classic book. The funeral speaker looked at Alicia and Scott's children and said, “You are her books and her credentials!” What a treasure.

I love graduations. They matter more in our times than ever. But in the month of May, I can never have graduation without gratefulness. My own amazing mom, now in her 90s, could have had as many degrees as she wanted. I'm so glad she

wanted to pour herself into four kids — even her quirky youngest boy! I'm so thankful my four sons have been served all their lives by my godly, brilliant wife. She has all As in her graduate courses, but the degree she wants still waits to be finished while we finish building Christian young men in our house. I hope my sons understand what a treasure God has given them.

I love the smile when I put a degree in a graduate's hand. But when I peek back into the crowd, I see other smiles. And tears. Mom smiles and tears.



**David Melton**  
BOSTON BAPTIST COLLEGE PRESIDENT

## BBFI CONTACT POINTS

### Baptist Bible Fellowship Int'l.

bbfi.org  
info@bbfi.org  
facebook.com/bbfi.org

### Mission Office

bbfmissions.com  
info@bbfmissions.com  
(417) 862-5001  
facebook.com/BBFIMissions

### APEX (church planting)

apexnetwork.tv  
info@apexnetwork.tv  
(417) 536-8826

### Baptist Bible Tribune

tribune.org  
editors@tribune.org  
(417) 831-3996  
facebook.com/bbtribune

### Baptist Bible College

gobbc.edu  
info@gobbc.edu  
(800) 268-6000  
facebook.com/BaptistBibleCollege

### Boston Baptist College

boston.edu  
info@boston.edu  
(888) 235-2014  
facebook/pages/Boston-Baptist-College

BBF

BBFI

BBFI

What is the

BBFI?

## Defining the Fellowship

by Randy Harp

What is its purpose?

Are there biblical principles guiding the BBFI?

What is it that unifies the BBFI?

What is the structure of the BBFI?

How does one become a part of the BBFI?

Is the BBFI a denomination, a fellowship, or something else?

What are the benefits of being involved with the BBFI?

Has the BBFI changed since its beginnings in the 1950s?

What are the strengths of the BBFI?

What are the weaknesses of the BBFI?

What does the future look like for the BBFI?

**Above are just a few of the questions I have heard, and I have asked, over the past several years.**

To be quite clear, these questions have been asked for more than 66 years since the BBFI began. I am not going to pretend to be an authority on the subject, but I am burdened enough about it to try and understand it more for myself, and be able to explain it more clearly to others. In an attempt to accomplish this, we are setting aside three issues of the *Tribune* fully dedicated to the Fellowship. We may not answer every question, but we hope to bring clarity for those who seek it.

As an introduction to this topic, we will approach the BBFI from three different perspectives. First, we will look at the historical context of the BBFI. We will not dive into the history of the Fellowship, but rather look at specific times when our leaders sought to define who we are. Thankfully, we have 66 years of documentation on this topic in our *Tribune* archives. Second, we will look at a practical perspective of the BBFI. In other words, what is it we actually do. And third, I will share from a personal perspective what the BBFI means to me. I am sure there will be some consistency between my perspective and yours, but each person will see the BBFI at least slightly different.

### A HISTORICAL PERSPECTIVE

In the very first issue of the *Baptist Bible Tribune*, founding editor Noel Smith outlined the New Testament concept of a fellowship. He wrote,

*“Fellowship, like peace, is an effect, not a cause. If we are to have fellowship with one another, at least four things are obviously necessary. First of all, there must be sound character ... it’s strange how we overlook this. In the second place, the autonomy and dignity of the local church must be conceded. In the third place, there must be no central ecclesiastical body legislating for the local churches and committing them to every kind of worldly planning. In the fourth place, there must be a common, united desire to please God and promote His affairs on this earth. If you have those four things you can’t help but have fellowship, and everything else will be a matter of detail.”*

For the most part, those four statements were the rule and practice for the early Fellowship. It was not long, however, until a significant “matter of detail” would need to be clarified. When the Fellowship was nearing its tenth year, growth, expansion, and questions brought leaders to the conclusion that the original constitution was inadequate. Much of the controversy centered on the definition of a “Baptist church.” The specific issue of the day was on accepting alien immersion, non-Baptist baptisms. In the September 1959 meeting in Detroit, these matters were discussed. It was decided the Fellowship president and directors should study the matter, invite suggestions, make recommendations, and report their work at the next annual meeting. In the September

1960 meeting at Grace Baptist in Oklahoma City, a new constitution for the BBFI was adopted that continued the organization as a fellowship of autonomous churches, pastors, evangelists, and missionaries, not an ecclesiastical organization with a centralized authority and control over local churches and ministers. In other words, the new constitution provided for affiliation to any church or pastor believing in and adhering to the Word of God and the basis of the Articles of Faith. The September 16, 1960 *Tribune* headline stated, “WE WILL REMAIN A FELLOWSHIP.” In his presidential address, Art Wilson stated,

*“We found our major purposes to be three in number: 1. To carry on unitedly a world missionary program for the purpose of reaching for Christ and training as many souls as possible – hence our missionary department. 2. To operate a training institution for prospective missionaries, pastors, and other Christian workers for the purpose of more perfectly equipping them in their God-called endeavor – hence our college program. 3. To participate in fellowship meetings always and primarily for the express purposes of enhancing and advancing these two espoused causes and secondarily for edifying and strengthening of each other through the preaching of the Word at such fellowship meetings.”*

Other Fellowship leaders have sought to define and give a purpose to the BBFI. In 1983 BBFI president Verle Ackerman wrote,

*“The Baptist Bible Fellowship is a fellowship of pastors. The churches that they pastor have as their purpose the propagation of the Gospel throughout the world. We have no ecclesiastical hierarch dictating to our churches their mode of operation or program. Our doctrine is simply stated in and based on the Articles of Faith as presented by our Constitution and By-Laws. In carrying out our purpose of propagating the Gospel we agree to work together in a common effort as churches in missions and education.”*

*Tribune* editor Mike Randall wrote in the Special Golden Anniversary Issue in

January 2000 an article titled, “Why does the Fellowship exist?” In summary he wrote,

*“The three-fold purpose of the Baptist Bible Fellowship International is to (1) propagate the gospel of Jesus Christ and (2) uphold Bible doctrine [20 Articles of Faith] (3) through the local independent Baptist church.”*

BBFI president Bill Monroe wrote in a 2002 “Presidential Perspective”,

*“The BBFI is an international movement of Baptist pastors, whose fellowship is based on our Articles of Faith, and who are voluntarily associated with the purpose of fulfilling the Great Commission.” He goes on to state, “the test of our fellowship is the Articles of Faith. We leave other matters to a fellow pastor’s own conviction.”*

## A PRACTICAL PERSPECTIVE

Today’s BBFI is organized around three branches consisting of missions, education, and church planting. These are represented by the three vice-president offices of the Fellowship. Over the next three issues, we will highlight each of these three branches.

Noel Smith wrote,

*“There is no mystery about the progress of this Fellowship. In the first place, this Fellowship at the very outset deliberately determined that the missionary enterprise would be the center of its work. Missions would not be used as bait to get money. Missions would not be used for window dressing. Missions would be basic and*

*central ... with this Fellowship, missions is the thing. And when you make missions the thing you automatically solve a lot of the basic problems inherent in the effort of autonomous churches to successfully work together.”*

Any successful organization must have a means of perpetuating itself. For the BBFI, that is in the form of its Bible colleges. It is here pastors, missionaries, church staff, and committed laymen are trained and equipped to fulfill the Great Commission.

From the beginning, church planting has been the primary means of growing the Fellowship. In the February 2015 meeting, the BBFI launched its new church-planting initiative called APEX. The vision is for every BBFI church to be passionately engaged in planting, funding, and serving a new church.

## A PERSONAL PERSPECTIVE

I was saved in a BBFI church. I was baptized in a BBFI church. I was called to preach in a BBFI church. I attended a BBFI college to receive an education (and I found my wife as a bonus). My first job was at a BBFI church. I have had the privilege to pastor two BBFI churches and I now work for the BBFI as the communication director. What is the BBFI to me? I would summarize it as three-fold.

First, it is a network of leaders who challenge me to continue to grow both as a leader and as a Christian. Some of the strongest leaders I know are BBFI pastors and missionaries. I have seen peers start churches from nothing that are now running in the thousands. I have seen peers revitalize churches that were days from closing their

doors to being vibrant and healthy and changing the face of a community. These are leaders I have the privilege to rub shoulders with and learn from on a personal basis.

Second, it is an extended family. One of the strongest values I learned growing up was the importance of family. The BBFI is my family. The reason I sacrificially give to missionaries is because they are a part of my family. The reason I invest time and energy into helping my *alma mater* is because it is a part of my family. The reason I weep when I see pastors and missionaries weep over their communities and mission fields is because they are a part of my family. The reason I forgive is because they are family. The reason I focus on the majors and not on the minors is because they are family.

Third, it allows me to be a part of something bigger than myself. As a fairly new Christian I went through the Bible study *Experiencing God*. It was through this Bible study that I was burdened to commit my life to being a part of something more than just me. The BBFI allows this in very tangible ways. Jesus’ words in Matthew 28:19-20 clearly defines my personal mission, to make disciples of Jesus Christ throughout the entire world. If I were limited to only myself, this Great Commission would be impossible. But when I partner with other Christians committed to the same cause, there is no limit to what we can accomplish together.

So what is the BBFI? From a historical, practical, and personal perspective, it is a network of leaders, voluntarily committed together, based on our mutually agreed-upon Articles of Faith, for the purpose of making disciples of Jesus Christ all over the world.

## WHY THE BBFI WORKS BY W. E. DOWELL

There was the Baptist Bible Union long before there was a Baptist Bible Fellowship. That Bible Union failed. Now, after all these years, why has the BBFI succeeded, when the old Bible Union failed?

First, the men in the Bible Union were not wholly in agreement on the method and thrust of the movement. They could not agree, and the structure of their movement was weakened.

Second, these men represented several Baptist groups, and there was a certain amount of loyalty to the group they represented. They never could reach full agreement, and it was inevitable that the movement would ultimately fall apart.

The Baptist Bible Fellowship was different. It was formed with a

group of independent, Bible-believing Baptists with convictions as deep as the soul. These men had one purpose, one motive, and one goal. They believed in the absolute sovereignty of the local church. They were against any form of ecclesiasticism. Fred Donnelson’s statement was, “Every church the headquarters for missions.” Yet, they believed they could work together on a voluntary basis and build a school, establish churches, and fulfill Christ’s commission in building a program of world missions. This they have done, and are doing. This, God has been pleased to honor and bless. To Him be the Glory!

Excerpt from: *The Birth Pangs of the Baptist Bible Fellowship International*, W.E. Dowell, Sr. (Springfield, MO: Temple Press, 1977), pp. 56-57.

What is the

**BBFI** ?

## Part I: The Mission Office

by Jon Konnerup

The BBFI Mission Office was set up in the early 1950s to assist our Fellowship churches in sending the Gospel around the world. It is not our desire, purpose, or vision to ever take the place of the local, sending church as the mission agency set before us in Acts 13. We are simply here to assist the local church in any way possible.

Our mission is to come alongside churches to process funds for their missionaries and to assist with various aspects of caring for their missionaries. We do not usurp the authority of the sending church, but when called upon, we are available to assist them.

Following are the services and some of the benefits the Mission Office provides to the churches of the BBFI:

- Screening missionary applicants
- BBFI Contact Directory (online and in print)
- Contribution services
  - process and receipt contributions averaging \$3 million a month
  - expedite emergency funds from churches to missionaries
  - provide donor contribution reports
  - manage U.S. tax law compliance
- Promotional materials (posters, brochures, and videos)
  - mission conference supplies (faith promise cards, faith promise devotional, placemats for banquets)
- Support services
  - assist with mission conference bookings
  - provide information and assistance to field representatives
  - assist sending churches with missionary care
  - provide assistance and set-up for mission trips
- Website services
  - detailed missionary contact information
  - profile information of missionaries
  - downloadable missionary pictures and videos
- Other services
  - mailing labels for churches and missionaries
  - furlough list of missionaries
  - missionary e-mail list
  - monthly Missionary Connection newsletter

### PROCESSING FUNDS

The BBFI World Mission Service Center does not charge approved missionaries, colleges, or the *Tribune* for handling their contributions — they receive 100% of every dollar that comes in for them. Just like the individual missionaries, the Mission Office is financed by faith through the giving of churches, individuals, and missionaries.

In addition to monthly statements and annual reports, we provide the following services for missionaries sent out by BBFI churches:

### FINANCIAL SERVICES

- assistance with any foreign government requirements
- bank letters of credit — to open bank accounts
- letters of verification — to obtain work permits
- loans for vehicles, emergencies, and foreign churches
- retirement options from support
- assistance with quarterly estimated tax payments

### PERSONAL BENEFITS

- worldwide medical coverage including emergency medical evacuation
- life insurance
- disability program

### TRAINING/NETWORKING

- candidate school — preparation for the field
- annual Missionary Family Reunion

### WEBSITE SERVICES

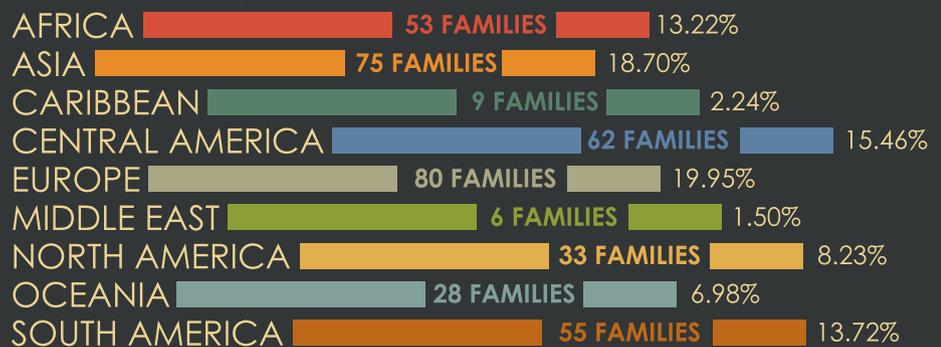
- access to current and archived statements and reports
- data that can be exported to prayer letters, labels, etc.

### OTHER SERVICES

- crisis action team
- mail and package services
- notary public services
- power of attorney

We strive to efficiently and effectively serve your missionaries as the bridge between those who give and those who go. Consider what the BBFI World Mission Service Center has to offer as you choose a service center for your missionaries.

### BBFI missionaries by location



## MISSIONARY CARE OFFERING (MCO)

When thinking about missionary care, there are several areas of importance to consider — some of which help keep missionaries on the field and enable them to use more of their finances for their ministries. Let me briefly describe five major areas.

**SECURITY TRAINING.** During our annual Candidate School, new missionaries receive concentrated training to prepare them to handle security issues they may face on the field. The MCO helps provide this training by a certified person at no extra cost.

**ANNUAL MISSIONARY REUNION.** Each year at the reunion, there is at least one missionary who is ready to throw in the towel, but by the close of this week of spiritual refreshment and rejuvenation, they are encouraged to persevere. Because churches give to the MCO, the cost to missionaries to attend the reunion is half of the total cost.

**MINISTERING TO MISSIONARIES IN TIMES OF GREAT NEED.** Due to the sensitive nature of these issues, we are unable to go into detail; however, we can report a number of missionaries in desperate situations have been helped, thereby allowing them to remain on the field. Their sending churches can help, but many times need the additional assistance we offer. The MCO gives us the opportunity to love on and encourage those in need — ultimately enabling them to stay where God has called them.

**MINISTRY TO MISSIONARY KIDS.** While this area is still in development, our goal is to develop materials that will not only help missionary kids, but their parents also. We want to come alongside the sending church to help them know how to care for their missionary's kids.

**SERVING SENDING CHURCHES.** Many pastors have asked for suggestions that would better prepare them to encourage and minister to their missionaries. We are formulating plans to assist pastors and sending churches to reduce the attrition rate as they minister to their missionaries.

Please consider what you can give to the MCO to help our missionaries in these areas and possibly more.

Funds processed by the Mission Office per decade

1950-1959 \$3,694,290

1960-1969 \$17,174,191

1970-1979 \$65,383,216

1980-1989 \$153,367,895

1990-1999 \$249,640,333

2000-2009 \$385,497,522

2010-present \$227,553,011

## ANNUAL CANDIDATE SCHOOL

Each year, pastors, missionaries, specialized professionals, and Mission Office staff discuss a variety of topics with those attending. The daily sessions are filled with classes specifically tailored to the various phases of the missionary process — whether it is for those who are going as TEAM, to individuals transitioning from TEAM to career missionaries, or those beginning deputation, to those receiving pre-field orientation after completing a year of deputation. The week culminates with a challenge issued by the mission director. The BBFI Missionary Candidate School is an integral part of the process of preparing missionaries for service.

Following are the topics discussed throughout the training:

### GENERAL

BBFI Mission Office  
BBFI philosophy  
Mission Policies/procedures  
BBFI medical plan  
Mission Office website

### FINANCIAL

Biblical basis for financial accountability  
Financial reports  
Online banking  
Personal budgeting

### PREPARATIONS

Deputation process  
Dealing with moving overseas  
Church planting  
Linguistics  
Crisis response and backing  
Educating children on the field  
Prayer letters

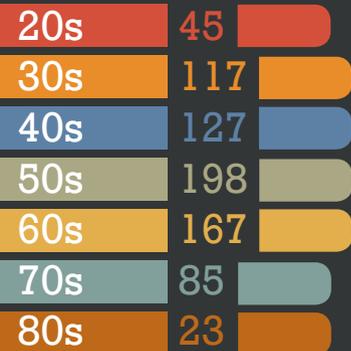
### RELATIONAL

Culture shock  
Interpersonal relationships  
Working with national leadership  
Counseling sessions  
Time with Mission Office staff

### SPIRITUAL

Accountability of the missionary  
Spiritual foundations  
Spiritual perspectives  
Spiritual life of the missionary  
What a pastor expects of a missionary

Number of BBFI missionaries by age group



## CHAPLAINS

For many years the Baptist Bible Fellowship International has had an agreement with the United States Department of Defense. The BBFI is an authorized ecclesiastical endorsing agency for chaplains serving the Armed Forces.

This gives an amazing opportunity for prepared, dedicated, and conscientious men to serve both God and country. Each branch of the military has its own specific requirements as to the chaplaincy. Once a man has chosen in which branch he will serve, he then must meet the requirements of the BBFI.

FIND OUT MORE ABOUT THE BBFI MISSION OFFICE AND THE RESOURCES AVAILABLE AT

# BBFIMMISSIONS.COM

# IN THE TRENCHES

## BBFI MISSIONS

### Pastor

Tracy Roby

Pastor | Overland Park Baptist Temple | Overland Park, KS

Our fellowship was founded by visionaries who understood that a commitment to missions was costly, yet vital. Fred Donnelson, “Mr. Missions,” was such a man. On his first missionary journey, he ministered in China during its war with Japan at a time when air raids and bombs were normal occurrences. On his second missionary journey, he and Mrs. Donnelson spent eight months enduring the physical and mental stress of a Japanese prison camp. During their third stint in China, the communists attacked. It was this man who made the famous quote in our Fellowship, “It looks as if we are taking off an old suit, badly worn and stained, and putting on a new one. I hope that the strong right arm of this new suit will be a missionary arm.” (Donnelson)

It is that commitment to missions that has kept me connected to the Baptist Bible Fellowship through the years. If you want to see missions in theory and in action, the place to

look is the Scriptures. But, if you want to see an outworking of the biblical philosophy of missions today, you should look to the Baptist Bible Fellowship. My family attended a BBFI church for the first time when I was in fourth grade. On the front wall there was a board with a sign that read, “Faith Promise Missions.” I asked my parents what it meant. They didn’t know, but it wasn’t long before we found out.

As a pastor for 32 years, my connection to Fellowship missions runs deep. Our churches have the remarkable privilege of getting to know, and fall in love with, our missionaries on a personal level. They feel the connection and commitment in fulfilling the mission. We know what our missionaries believe, how they have been trained, and what they are committed to accomplishing on the field. We consider this endeavor to be a family affair. I am proud to pastor a mission-minded church that

understands and desires to keep this passion a priority.

The Mission Office has tirelessly provided assistance in this process. It would be impossible to accomplish our goals if they were not there; yet they continue to serve only on the love offerings of our churches. The Mission Office staff does a wonderful job as a link between church and missionary. There is no way we could provide the missionaries all they need without the Mission Office. They have persistently raised the bar in accounting, reporting, support, and care. They also continually provide us with first-class materials in print and video to promote missions. It is an honor to serve with them in our command to take the Gospel to the world. God, the church, the missionary, and the Mission Office provide a great team to fulfill the Great Commission.

Donnelson, Mrs. Fred, *They called him “MR. MISSIONS”*, Springfield, MO, 1974.

### Missionary (veteran)

Tom & Gail Gritts

BBFI Missionaries | England

There we sat — two kids from Marshfield, MO, who had answered the call of God to go to the mission field. Our education was behind us. Internship was done. Deputation lay before us. But first, we desired to have the approval of the Baptist Bible Fellowship.

This stamp of approval gave us an identity. It said we would adhere to the Articles of Faith set by this group of pastors who cared deeply about solid Baptist doctrine. It defined us as church-planting missionaries who were going out in accordance with God’s Word to establish independent Baptist churches.

Along with this approval came a partnership in accountability. While we were already accountable to our local church that

was commissioning us to go to the field, the Baptist Bible Fellowship and our sending church partnered to provide us with accountability in matters of finance, doctrinal purity, and righteous living. The Fellowship provided their side of the partnership through the Mission Office and the faithful men and women who execute this service for the missionaries.

The approval of the Fellowship also afforded us a measure of security in that we had the backing of an organization that assisted missionaries with stateside necessities such as tax payments, health insurance, and retirement savings. In addition, the Fellowship offered tremendous resources for its missionaries to help purchase buildings and raise funds for special projects.

These benefits were something we took for granted at the onset. But now, after years on the field, we have learned not every missionary has access to all of the benefits afforded a Baptist Bible Fellowship missionary. We are so thankful for the forward thinking of the BBFI and the Mission Office in anticipating and providing for the needs of their missionaries.

We were approved over 30 years ago and joined this Fellowship — this family — of men and women who are Baptist, mission-minded, and independent, yet interdependent. It has been a privilege to be a Baptist Bible Fellowship missionary cooperating together with like-minded pastors for the work of the ministry and the propagation of the Gospel throughout the world.

## Missionary (deputation)

Shane & Kayti Salmon  
BBFI Missionary | Thailand

My wife and I are sent out of Cherry Street Baptist Church and were approved as missionaries through the BBFI in May 2014. Within the past year and a half Kayti and I have been to 117 churches, 98% of which are a part of the Baptist Bible Fellowship.

I truly believe I am a part of one of the best Fellowships of believers in the U.S.! On a personal level, my life has greatly been influenced by the fellowship — my father was saved in a BBF church while Parker Dailey was preaching, my grandparents attended a BBF church, my parents surrendered their lives to missions because of the influence of a BBFI missionary, Ken Board. Kayti's grandfather, Wendell Correll, was also the pastor

of a BBF church for over 30 years — the sending church for my parents! I mention this because I want to stress how much the BBFI can influence multiple generations as it seeks to glorify the Lord.

On a ministry level, I believe our Fellowship provides some of the most giving, praying, and encouraging churches! As a missionary, my desire is not only to get to Thailand as quickly as possible, but also to communicate the need for the Gospel throughout the world and in the United States!

The way the Fellowship continues to help me is three fold:

- **Providing a great network of mission-minded Baptist churches.** This network consists of pastors and local church families that strive to connect with missionaries.
- **Supplying a great resource for prayer and financial support.** Pastors and local church families prayerfully and financially support the ministry God has called my family to carry out.

- **Offering a variety of services through the Mission Service Center.** The Mission Office helped prepare us for deputation and the field through their Candidate School training. They also are a huge blessing through processing our funds at zero cost to the missionaries.

Through these great benefits, the Fellowship has enabled me to continue to raise my ministry funds quickly and efficiently while providing accountability — not to mention the great wealth of knowledge and experience regarding ministry from both our retired Fellowship pastors, current pastors, and ministry staff.

I am thankful I can be a part of a Fellowship that cares about communicating God's Word, discipling believers, maintaining Baptist distinctives, and fostering global missions! It has been said that Missions is "the strong right arm" of the Fellowship and I am a firm believer of this statement. I'm excited my family can be a part of a Fellowship that is centered on carrying out the Great Commission throughout the world and glorifying our Savior, Jesus Christ!

## Missionary (first year)

Esteban & Emily Alvarez  
BBFI Missionaries | Uruguay

Growing up as a preacher's son in Uruguay, I remember my dad and others talking about the *Compañerismo* (Spanish word for Fellowship). God, through the Baptist Bible Fellowship International, sent a missionary to Uruguay who led my father to Christ, discipled, and trained him until he became a national pastor. In a sense, I have been affected by the missionary work of the BBFI since birth. It has been many years since I first heard the word *Fellowship* and now, as a BBFI missionary to Uruguay, I can express my gratitude for bringing the Gospel to my family, and for the impact it has on our family as we minister to the people in Uruguay. As new BBFI missionaries, the Fellowship has helped us in several ways.

### ENCOURAGEMENT

While on deputation, my wife, Emily, was hospitalized in Springfield during Fellowship Week in 2014. As people received the news, we saw God send us help through a supporting pastor from out of town who took care of our boys

for two days, allowing me to spend time by my wife's side. We also received the visit of pastors, missionaries, mission directors, BBC classmates, and friends taking time to minister to our family. This Fellowship encourages us.

### CONTINUOUS TRAINING

While attending Baptist Bible College, we had contact with many pastors and missionaries and learned from their ministry experience. While on deputation, we learned as much as we could from every church we visited, trying to implement those things into our cross-cultural setting. Now, on the field, and thanks to technology, we can call a fellow missionary friend or a pastor in the States if we have a question about any aspect of ministry. This Fellowship trains us.

### EFFICIENT SERVICE CENTER

The Fellowship provides a special team of people who are willing to help you with every question you have as a missionary. Every individual who

works at the Mission Office makes you feel like your job as a missionary is the most important job in the world and that is why they want to help you. This Fellowship cares for us.

### GOSPEL-CENTERED FOCUS

The trials and challenges of a new work, whether it is a church plant in the U.S. or, in our case, in Uruguay, can be a distraction from our main objective, which is to bring people to Christ through the Gospel. When we hear or even see the things God is doing through the BBFI around the world (as we saw in the Seoul Meeting), we are encouraged to continue to proclaim this saving Gospel. This Fellowship focuses on the Gospel.

Every relationship God has brought into our lives through Baptist Bible Fellowship churches has strengthened our ministry and we are looking forward to serving many years together reaching this world for Christ

After two years of planning and prayer, God's people, from all parts of the globe, came together in Seoul, Korea to celebrate His work at the Global Fellowship Meeting of the Baptist Bible Fellowship International.

**A**ided by interpreters, 13 international speakers shared how God blessed them and their churches as a result of missionaries being sent from BBFI churches in the United States. They not only encouraged us to do more for world missions, but also expressed their eternal gratefulness to missionaries for revealing the free gift of Jesus to them.

Excitement permeated the entire meeting as we saw the fruit of our labors over the past 65 years. Over 2,000 attendees from the many churches in the Korea BBF along with 500 people from countries outside of Korea attended the meeting. One Vietnamese pastor shared how he was led to the Lord, disciplined and trained by a Cambodian missionary, who was disciplined and trained by a Filipino missionary, who was disciplined and trained by a missionary from the U.S.A.

I would like to thank Dr. Daniel Kim, pastor of BulKwangDong Bible Baptist Church, and his people for sacrificing their time and giving to help make this special occasion successful. Additional thanks goes to the preparatory committee of 15 Korean pastors and church leaders who were instrumental in organizing all the details from greeters to sound and video technicians. Their precise planning and efforts were evident by how seamlessly the services flowed and the care everyone received.

Missionaries and pastors from over 30 nations attended the 2016 BBFI Global Meeting in Korea. It was a joy to meet servants of God from Asian Baptist Clearinghouse, Korea BBF, Japan BBF, Brazil BBF, Philippines BBF and many other countries who have partnered with us by sending missionaries into nations from Asia to Africa, Latin America, and Europe.

The meeting's theme was "Lift Up Your Eyes and Look!" Every message encouraged us to look to God for direction and power, commit ourselves to see the world as God sees it, and keep moving forward until Christ's imminent return.

*Jon Konnerup*  
BBFI Mission Director

To watch services from each day of the meeting, go to  
[www.BBFIKorea2016.com](http://www.BBFIKorea2016.com)



# OWL



Baptist Bible Fellowship International

## GLOBAL MEETING 2016



*"Awesome!"*

*"Unbelievable!"*

*"Refreshing."*

*"I was reminded that I am not alone."*

*"Amazing blessing!"*

*"God honoring."*

*"Proud to be part of the BBFI."*

*"I can't wait until the next one!"*

*"We want to partner with you in the Great Commission."*

*"I didn't realize the BBFI had so much going on around the world."*

*"The leaders in our country must have a talk — we are not doing nearly enough in global missions."*

*"It is exciting to see the BBFI is truly international."*

*"I sure wish so many more could have been a part of this meeting, it changed my life."*



About two years ago, I was contacted by Jon Konnerup concerning the possibility of holding the BBFI Global Meeting in Seoul, Korea, in March 2016. When the BBFI Global Meeting was held in Cebu, Philippines, in 2011, I was there, and it was such an inspiration to me. So I did have a desire to have the same kind of meeting in Korea. But what was different from the Cebu Meeting was, in Korea, all the preaching would need to be interpreted from English to Korean! Dr. Konnerup and I talked about this, and came to the conclusion that if we reduced the number of speakers and the length of each preaching time, and if the manuscripts could be ready for the interpreters, then it would be possible and could even add a special blessing.

As the host church for this meeting, the people of BulKwangDong Bible Baptist Church were united in the Lord with one mind, giving themselves wholeheartedly for this meeting. In March 2014, the pastors of KBBF took a vote at the business meeting of spring Fellowship and unanimously decided to invite the BBFI Global Meeting in Seoul. Shortly after, we organized the Preparatory Committee with 15 pastors, and they took the responsibility of leading one sub-committee each. They also asked me to be the chairman and pastor Ryuh Hyun Taek to be my co-chairman. We served together with one heart for the great Global Meeting under the theme of fulfilling the Great Commission.

Upon the opening and closing of the meeting, the ceremony with the flags of 81 nations entered into the auditorium, with our young people carrying the flags. We also had presentations of Korean culture for 30 minutes before every evening service. Speakers from around the world challenged us to be witnesses to the uttermost parts of the earth. Many missionaries and pastors renewed their commitment and resolution to send out more missionaries.

One Indonesian pastor who attended the meeting with our missionary told me, with tears in his eyes, he surrendered to build a mission-minded, missionary-sending church when he goes back to his country. Christian media in Korea that broadcasted our meeting stated the Korea BBF will take the leading role in the future of world missions in Korea. And all through the meeting, the services were on live internet streaming for those around the globe to watch, so they could participate online.

In morning sessions, over 1,500 people were gathered, and in evening services we had 3,000 people together. During the invitation, many came forward to dedicate themselves and to make decisions.

When I think of this meeting, I can only say it was God's great blessing given to us in His wonderful grace. It was also His answer to our persistent prayer, which we lifted up to Him for the last two years.

I would like to express my gratitude to Eddie Lyons, the BBFI president, along with other officers and also Randy Harp, executive editor of *Baptist Bible Tribune*. I sincerely respect and appreciate Jon Konnerup, the BBFI mission director, and all those co-laboring in the Mission Office for their passion and dedication to carry out the Great Commission of our Lord.

God has wonderfully blessed all the sacrificial giving and service of the pastors, deacons, and the people of Bible Baptist Churches in Korea and gave us a great and successful Global Meeting. This Global Meeting is now over, but for us, this is the new beginning for world missions. The BBFI Global Meeting 2016 truly was an amazing opportunity for us to be "a fruitful bough by a well; whose branches run over the wall" (Genesis 49:22) ... "and that God wouldst bless us indeed, and enlarge our coast" (1 Chronicles 4:10). I give all the glory and thanks to God alone.

**- Daniel Wooseang Kim, D.D., Hum.D.**

Senior Pastor, BulKwangDong Bible Baptist Church  
Chairman, Board of Directors-Korea Baptist Bible Fellowship J. P.

**A**s I sat in the inspiring meeting in Korea, my mind went back to the early days of our BBF and I recalled the mission classes at Baptist Bible College. Fred Donnelson would sometimes sing “My Faith Looks Up to Thee” in the Chinese language, then take us on an imaginary journey into Chinese villages. We received inspirational instructions and a philosophy of missions that is still working today.

I remembered how anxious my wife and I were to rush to the field. When we arrived with our five children, we were met by Kim Dae Hyun, the first interpreter who had served with Ike Foster (who was in the States at that time). It was during that first year we were able to lead Daniel Woo Seang Kim to the Lord.

The words of Fred Donnelson rang in my ears — win souls, baptize, train, and trust them. He emphasized a lasting work must have trained national leadership. God chose Daniel Kim, a natural born leader, to walk beside me. Under his leadership, we trained other leaders who participated in the recent meetings in Seoul.

God then gave us more outstanding American missionaries and their wives and children; to name a few, Onsy Whicker, George Patrick, Frank Shivers, Worth Worley, and F. C. Lassiter. These mature men of

dedication and direction held the same philosophy and determined to follow our mission policies and reach a country with the Gospel. It was apparent to all that Daniel Kim was God’s appointed leader for the country, so we missionaries were willing to let God’s work be done in God’s way. Under the ministry of our American missionaries, many other leaders were raised up and took their places working together for the cause of Christ. No one man could take the credit for the movement that took place. It was not easy, but when we realized we were a Fellowship, not a denomination, we were able to allow for diversity, thus the mighty movement we witnessed in Seoul.

God continued to send dynamic, younger men from the States who willingly came alongside national leaders and fulfilled their role in the Fellowship.

Korea was among the first of our foreign countries to send missionaries to other countries. They also developed a tent-making ministry enabling trained professionals to support themselves as they evangelized countries where missionaries are not allowed. Even today Dr. and Mrs. Kim’s son, Sung Oon Kim, serves as a tent maker while conducting a successful business. My thoughts were: we have been a part of an unstoppable movement of God that showcased the vision of our



forefathers — Fred Donnelson, G. B. Vick, Noel Smith, W. E. Dowell, Eli Harju and others. What they envisioned has worked in many countries as was evidenced by the dedicated servants in Seoul. I watched as they accepted the challenge to continue with the methods and philosophy that have worked wherever they have been followed. I heard them say, “We know it has worked, now we are going back to our country to duplicate what we have seen.”

I would urge our BBFI pastors to focus on building a mission movement as a Fellowship, allowing for diversity yet concentrating on the job at hand — world missions. I would urge our colleges to use Godly dedicated men to teach, inspire, and motivate men who want to claim a country or a world for Christ.

These are some of the thoughts of an old man who realized from the start it was God who gave us a treasure in earthen vessels then made us ambassadors for Christ. All glory, honor, and praise belongs to Him.

**- Jack Baskin**



**L**inda and I are so grateful to God for enabling us to attend the Global Meeting this month in Seoul. We were inspired, challenged, and encouraged about the work of the BBFI around the world. It made us so proud to be part of this great movement.

To hear about all the missionaries who have been sent out by various BBFI organizations in Korea, the Philippines, Mexico, Japan, and so many other countries was exciting. It was good to get the big picture of what God is doing.

We loved meeting new people and reconnecting with people we had not seen in many years.

**- Randy and Linda Perkins**

*BBFI missionaries to Australia*





It's always an emotional journey when a missionary kid goes back to the country of their youth, but this trip was different than all the others for me. There was no mom and dad to meet me there; no entourage to cheer and hold signs to welcome me. This time I was a civilian.

I've never been able to enjoy the land of my birth with friends from America before, so this was a special time for me. There were three major highlights of the trip.

1. Kim Dae Huyn arranged for me to preach at two churches on Sunday, Victory Baptist Church in the morning and at 2:30 the Hang Dang Dong Bible Baptist Church, the first BBF church in Korea. This is the church dad built by hand and it was an emotional time for me as I preached and shared the history of the church.
2. I was privileged to give the BBFI Faithfulness Award to Kim Dae Huyn for 60 years of faithful service for our Lord. Kim is Korea's first BBFI convert, first ordained preacher, and first national pastor. I don't remember a time in my life where "Uncle" Kim was not a part of it.

He's always been there and been faithful.

3. I had the opportunity to lead two tours of Americans to see where the BBF started.

Right after the Korean War ended, W.E. Dowell sent Ike Foster, who was then a missionary in Japan, a check for \$300 and asked him to go to Korea to survey the possibilities for missionaries. Ike made the trip over and was devastated when he saw the ravages of war and the precious suffering people. God spoke to his heart and he understood the call to return to Korea to ease the suffering of the Korean people and win them to the Lord. Within a year of the end of the war, Ike returned to Korea.

He started an English class and taught the Bible to the Koreans that attended. Kim Dae Hyun became the first convert of the BBF. The Lord called him to preach, becoming the first ordained pastor of the BBF. He was the right arm of Ike Foster as they prepared a plan to reach Korea for Christ.

Ike purchased a small one-acre parcel, which contained a cemetery from the Lee Dynasty. Together with Kim Dae Hyun and the 8th Army, they built coffins and moved

the bodies. Ike and Kim disassembled army barracks and used these materials to build a Kansas farmhouse on the property where the first services were started with a handful of Koreans, American GIs, and neighborhood children. Soon after, a Sunday school building was built as well as another building housing the sanctuary and kindergarten.

Space doesn't allow to write about the witch women Ike confronted and defeated, or a village of 950 mad Koreans who swore they would kill him, only to have Ike show up to save the life of two newly converted children and win the town to Christ.

After 62 years as a missionary, 56 years in Korea, Ike passed away. The Korean people took the old Kansas farmhouse and turned it into a museum for Ike and Jane. They also remodeled the house and there trained young men and women to carry out the Gospel of Christ. I can't think of a better way to honor mom and dad than to take the house of the Kansas farm boy and use it for the cause of Christ.

- Paul Foster  
BBFI pastor

As I flew home from the BBFI Global Meeting, I thought about the impact the meeting had on me. Three words came to mind as I reflected on the conversations I had with our missionaries.

The first word was *encouragement*. Our missionaries were encouraged by the messages, testimonies, and just being around fellow missionaries and pastors.

Then there was *networking*. I listened as missionaries doing similar work met for the first time and excitedly shared ideas, plans,

and dreams. New friendships were made and new partnerships were created.

Finally there was *information*. It was great to hear what God is doing around the world through the Baptist Bible Fellowship. God is moving in a great way and we are a part of what God is doing!

As a pastor, I am more committed to encourage my people to give as much as we can to further God's goal to reach the world.

- Lewis McClendon  
BBFI vice president (missions)  
BBFI pastor

The BBFI Meeting in South Korea was a huge blessing and wonderful experience. We experienced the amazing culture of Korea in the services with Dr. Daniel Kim and the international speakers. It was as if we were in a multicultural mission conference. The zeal of the speakers with their unique challenges and passions for reaching the world moved my heart. The unifying goal of reaching our lost world was echoed in every language represented.

- LaVoid Ford  
BBFI pastor



Six hundred ladies from around the world gathered for the Ladies Meeting of the BBFI Global Meeting. Many voiced they were eagerly looking forward to the afternoon, which began with a fashion show of ladies from 20 different countries wearing their traditional native clothing. The women were spellbound as colorful and ornamental wear, which is traditionally worn during weddings or special occasions, were described. From flashing coins suspended from dresses in Laos, to the 150-year-old Romanian wardrobe inlaid with silver, to the *Chut Thai* worn by royal families during the Chakre Dynasty in Thailand, to Korea's vibrant *Hanbok*, all in attendance delighted in the beauty of unique cultures.

Next in the program was a panel of ladies who shared valuable tips from their many years of experience in the ministry. Missionaries

Luisa Dimakos (Greece), Ruth King (Japan), Tammy Salmon (Thailand), and Sung Soon Kang (pastor's wife of Jong Am Baptist Bible Church in Seoul), shared meaningful answers to stimulating questions such as "How do you cultivate a loving heart for God and people when you are hurting or feel betrayed?"

A devotional lesson was then given by Jenell Bender, missionary to Korea for 15 years. Jenell challenged the ladies to, instead of being a people-pleaser, be genuine and authentic in their relationships with God and others.

Tea and cookies topped it off as we shared sweet fellowship with beautiful ladies from the ends of the earth!



- Jill Wolf

BBFI Mission Office project manager

For months prior to this trip, I kept thinking about the stories my grandparents and family members used to tell me. To be honest, I wasn't sure what to expect when we arrived in Seoul. My grandfather, Alton Chiles, served in the Korean War during his time in the Army. When it was time for him to return to the United States, he said he'd "never come back to this country again." Little did my grandpa know, but God had big plans for him right there in Korea. In the 1960s, he returned to Korea as a BBFI missionary and planted Busan (Pusan) Baptist Bible College. For 10 years, my grandfather served the Lord in South Korea on the mission field.

During the BBFI Global Meeting, I met students, fellow pastors, and friends of my grandfather. From their stories, I was encouraged to know missionary Alton Chiles was loved by so many and his love for the Lord was clearly understood. It was heart-warming

to see lives that had been positively impacted by my grandfather's faithfulness in serving the Lord. And I now have a better understanding of how the same people impacted my grandfather's ministry.

While exploring South Korea, my eyes were opened and my heart became heavy. In my short time there, I experienced what God is doing in a country so hungry for the Gospel. One day before flying back to the states, we got to visit areas overlooking North Korea. While on the Odu Mountain, you could see South Korean mountains to the left and North



Korean mountains to the right. To me, life and death instantly ran across my mind. The view south had gorgeous trees and was pleasing to the eyes, while the view to the north looked bare and uninviting. After learning the differences in their ways of life and how many from North Korea struggle for daily survival, the urgency to share the good news of Jesus Christ had never been stronger. It reminded me to never take the life God has given me for granted and to live every day honoring Him.

Perhaps one day, Lord willing, Korea won't have to be lined with fences and barbed wire. Pray the country would be unified again, for families to be reunited, and, most importantly, pray for those who do not know Christ to be given the opportunity to recognize hope on a whole new level.

- Courtney Chiles

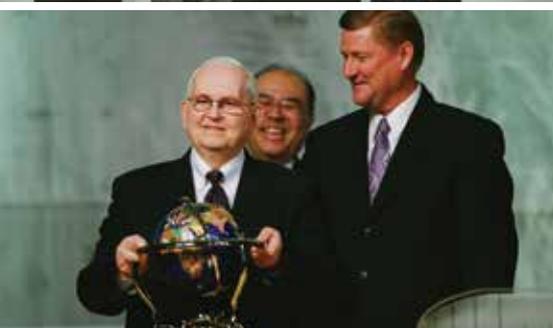
BBC student

The great thing about the Global Fellowship Meeting, it was a time of great fellowship. I was able to fellowship with pastors and missionaries from all over the world and had the opportunity to meet many wonderful, godly, and gracious Korean people. Ironically, some of the greatest fellowship I had was with other American pastors. We laughed knowing we had gone halfway around the world to have conversations we are too busy to have when we are at home entrenched in our own ministries.

The fellowship between the group from America and our hosts was also great to see. The American pastors, their spouses, and our students from BBC represented the BBFI very well — from engaging with foreign guests, to catching up with missionaries, to having fun with new friends. It was a great trip!

**- Mark Milioni**

*Baptist Bible College president*



The BBFI Global Meeting was a stimulating group of meetings within the meeting. I was blessed to minister in Korea during the 70s and 80s, and my return for this meeting brought a kaleidoscope of excitement. Each daily session was a clear display of God's work in multinational ministries.

As is true in many nations, Korean pastors now live in a first-world nation and lead powerful ministries, sending their own missionaries worldwide. Korea has taken her place as a world leader and Korean pastors are no exception. Missionary Lee in Indonesia, who was saved in the Cheonan church, and Pastor Pak, the second generation pastor leader of the Dorim Church in Incheon, are decisive, well-educated men spiritually capable of leading ministry on any level.

Role reversal took place at the meeting on a daily basis. My mind raced to think about a young Daniel Kim standing to translate for Jack Baskin, as I looked at missionary Mike Ivey standing to translate for Dr. Daniel Kim in a role reversal that was more than symbolic of the transition in national leadership. As fellow pastors and I reminisced about the ministry we had shared,

we admitted we were far more blessed than we realized in those days. In the 1970s Pastor Kim and I dug the footers for First Baptist Church by hand. During the BBFI Global Meeting the Korean pastors and churches provided vehicles, and food, and took incredible care of our group. It wasn't just that they had come of age, we talked of ministry on a level higher than we had ever achieved. We prayed, shared, and encouraged each other as colleagues.

We are watching God's hand move across Asia bringing this century's opportunity to impact the world to a new group of spiritual leaders. Japanese, Korean, and Philippine leaders joined South American pastors in looking for ways to minister to Syrians and the rapidly growing Islamic groups. When Korea was supplying the Middle East with a labor force in the early 1980s it opened the door for the Gospel to be carried into those nations. In the 1990s God used a labor force of Filipino people to share His message in the largest nation on earth. This global meeting challenged different national leaders to be the next great conduit of the Gospel.

**- Doug Cox**

*BBFI vice president (education)  
BBFI pastor*



**F**or Cathy and me, the opportunity to attend the BBFI Global Meeting was literally a dream come true! Being raised in a missions-hearted church under the ministry of Clifford Clark, I was exposed to the world outreach endeavors of the BBFI at an early age. Those founding missionaries would present their passionate burden for their fields and I would pray for them and envision visiting those far away places. It was an incredible experience to attend the Seoul meeting to witness and rejoice in our 65 years of fruitful ministry. The meeting was well planned and executed, with much attention given to detail. The preaching, music, cultural presentations, and international fellowship were exceptional.

- **David Klass**  
*BBFI pastor*

**M**y wife, Patsy, and I attended the Global Meeting in Seoul Korea and it was a great experience to hear and see the many reports of the work being done around the world.

While attending the meetings, the Spirit of God spoke to my heart the importance of the mission programs in our local churches. When joined in fellowship, as co-laborers in the harvest fields, we are a mighty force for the Lord. Truly the Baptist Bible Fellowship is a worldwide outreach!

- **Jack Hackworth**  
*BBFI pastor*

**W**hat a blessing to have been able to attend the Global Meeting. This was the country where I was stationed in 1978 while serving in the USAF, and where I heard the Gospel message and trusted Christ as my Savior. A big thank you to the Mission Office personnel for planning this trip, they did a great job making sure every detail was taken care of. The travel, accommodations, tours, and meeting structure was very well done!

The cultural presentation each night was a blessing, and the encouraging messages from the various speakers from around the world drove the message home to look up, out, in, and forward! The Korean people were very gracious hosts and it was a refreshing time together.

- **Richard Edwards**  
*BBFI pastor*

**A**ttending the Global Fellowship Meeting in Seoul was both enlightening and enjoyable. As with any BBFI meeting, the time spent with other pastors and missionaries was enjoyable. But, this meeting was special because we were able to meet national pastors from all over the world. Having lunch with Tanzanian pastors Abraham and Prosper (along with two missionaries) was a blessing. Also, being able to visit with missionaries who can't normally attend meetings was great.

Seeing the effectiveness of churches started by our missionaries as they have sent out missionaries from their churches in those countries truly demonstrated the vast ministry of the BBFI.

The music was also key to the meeting. Hearing songs we recognized, even though they were done in Korean, was heart-stirring. Singing congregational songs (some of us in English, some in Korean, and some in their other native tongues) was an experience that is likely to never be forgotten.

- **David Perdue**  
*BBFI pastor*

**T**he 2016 Global Meeting proved once again, missions is the crown jewel of our Fellowship. Over 60 years ago, BBFI missionaries began to arrive in war-ravaged Korea to share the Gospel and care for the Korean people. Now, a half century later, they have invited us back to say thank you for bringing the good news of salvation that is available in Jesus Christ.

The conference featured performances that showcased Korean culture. They included traditional music and dancers, a taekwondo drama of creation, the fall, redemption, and restoration, and a 100-voice children's choir. The Korean people have a rich cultural heritage and are wonderfully gifted. ...

I am grateful for the opportunity to attend this meeting. I was challenged, convicted, and encouraged to continue to preach, teach, and support the work of missions. I was reminded once again that the Great Commission is still in force and we need to continue to send out missionaries. It is our duty, our responsibility, and our privilege.

- **Greg Baxter**  
*BBFI pastor*

**W**e attended this great event knowing God is wanting to adjust our focus and perspective on His great harvest around the world. And He did! All the wonderful and heart-warming messages and testimonies combined to refresh and inspire us on "doing" the Great Commission in any part of the world. A greater understanding of the uniqueness of each culture and the strategies entailed therewith was another compartment in our hearts that was switched to a brighter mode because of these meetings. Then, of course, the great and unique Korean brethren hospitality. We can only say, "Wow!"

- **Paul Tabanao**  
*Filipino missionary to Cambodia*

**A**t the Global Meeting, the people of Korea had an opportunity to say thanks to pastors and churches in America who sent missionaries to tell them about Jesus. Daniel Kim said it well, "If Jack Baskin had not come, we may have never been saved." Other countries expressed the same gratitude. I felt totally humbled. I wasn't even alive when those missionaries first came, but they thanked me just the same.

Now, many of these Korean churches send their own missionaries to countries impossible for us to enter. If the BBFI has done anything right, it has been missions! That will long outlive us.

- **Greg Burdine**  
*BBFI pastor*

**W**hat an amazing experience it was for my wife and me to attend the 2016 BBFI Global Meeting in Korea. The presentations, performances, and messages were moving and our hearts were stirred to hear people from many nations worshipping the Lord together.

It was a firsthand look at what God is doing around the world, with an opportunity to make new friends and meet missionaries and pastors who sacrifice to share the Gospel and to encourage them as partners in the faith.

Much appreciation to the BBFI Mission Office for bringing everyone together to celebrate our Lord Jesus Christ. We plan to attend future global meetings and I would highly encourage pastors and other church leaders to attend.

- **Al Elmore**  
*BBFI pastor*

## JOHN R. SAMPEY: PROFESSOR, PASTOR, AND PRESIDENT

It is uncommon in this world for an individual to make an unselfish, life-changing decision to his own immediate disadvantage. Yet that is precisely what did happen in May, 1888. John R. Sampey (1863-1946), a recent graduate of Southern Baptist Theological Seminary in Louisville, KY, had been assistant instructor in both OT and Hebrew, and NT and Greek courses. The work load had become such that a second teacher was needed. That new teacher-designate was graduating senior Archie Robertson (1863-1934) of North Carolina, who had been invited to join the faculty. Having seniority, Sampey was given the choice of either the Hebrew and OT or the Greek and NT responsibilities. Although his personal preference was for the Greek and NT, he frankly told Professor John Broadus, “Robertson knows more Greek than I do, while I know more Hebrew than he does; for I have taught him all that he knows. Much as I would like to be with you in Greek and NT, for the good of the seminary I ought to take the Hebrew and OT.” This selfless act placed Robertson on the path that led to his becoming perhaps the greatest American NT Greek scholar ever (for a profile of Robertson, see “Archibald Thomas Robertson,” by Rick Shrader, *Baptist Bible Tribune* 49:6, pp. 14-16, January 15, 1999). Sampey in OT and Robertson in NT served side-by-side at Southern Seminary for a remarkable 46 years (until Robertson’s death in 1934, with Sampey continuing another dozen years). They formed the core of the second generation of professors at the seminary and between them taught more than 7,000 students.

A native Alabaman born in the midst of the American Civil War, and of Huguenot and Methodist-turned-Baptist stock, John was well-versed in Scripture as a youth. He was converted to faith in Christ at age 13, and was appointed Sunday school superintendent at 15 (in charge of some 30 children). He experienced a definite call to the ministry at 15.

He entered Howard College at 16, studied, among other things, Latin and Greek, and graduated A. B. at 19. From there, it was on to Louisville. As a senior, he was asked to teach classes left uncovered by the sudden death of one of the professors. Thus began a teaching career at the seminary that spanned six full decades.

For nearly a quarter century, Professor Sampey, besides carrying a full teaching load, also pastored rural churches in Kentucky, often more than one at the same time, and some of them more than once. He viewed such practical ministry among common people essential to keeping proper balance

and perspective. Throughout his long ministry (67 years), Sampey regularly engaged in evangelistic crusades — many dozens of them — in churches throughout the South and beyond. And he undertook three extended evangelistic mission trips to Brazil when in his 60s, and another of many months to China when in his 70s! There were hundreds of conversions reported in each of these foreign journeys.

At age 65, when most men are looking forward to retirement, if not already retired, Sampey succeeded the late E. Y. Mullins as president of the seminary, thereby becoming the fifth man to fill that office. The Sampey years, 1929-1942, were difficult. As the nation entered the Great Depression, the seminary was in debt almost a million dollars and the pledges in hand to cover it now worthless. Seminary enrollment also declined significantly due to the financial crisis. But by the time of Sampey’s resignation, the debt had been retired and enrollment had returned to and even exceeded pre-Depression levels.

And as if being professor, evangelist, occasional missionary, and seminary president were not enough, Sampey was chosen president of the Southern Baptist Convention three successive years, beginning in 1935.

Sampey was a prolific author, though most of his writing was for periodical literature, Sunday school curriculum, or for reference works (such as *Hasting’s Dictionary of Christ and the Gospels*). His published books include *Memoirs of John R. Sampey* (1947); *Southern Baptist Seminary: the First Thirty Years* (1890); *The Heart of the Old Testament* (1922); and *Syllabus for Old Testament Study* (1922), the latter of which is still worth consulting. He also served for almost half a century on the executive committee of the once-famous International Sunday School Lessons series.

Sampey was a committed inerrantist and theological conservative. During the battle between the liberals and the fundamentalists for the soul of the Northern Baptist Convention following World War I, Sampey spoke at a pro-fundamentals North American Pre-Convention Conference on “Jesus and the Old Testament,” (published in the volume *Baptist Doctrines* [1921]).

*For details of Sampey’s life, besides the autobiography, see Encyclopedia of Southern Baptists (1958), vol. II, pp. 1182-3; and A History of Southern Baptist Theological Seminary by William A. Mueller (1959), especially pp. 211-216.*

## Your sexual integrity in an urbanized world

**E**ven a semi-regular reader of this column, will be able to finish this line: *What's in the city today ... all together now, ... is everywhere tomorrow.*

This is true because the city functions as an amplifier and a distribution engine. Those morals and mores that used to inhabit the “big, bad city” now pervade our culture.

An urbanized culture is a matrix of devilish lies and demonic lures to destructive beliefs and behaviors on a scale and with an intensity that is astounding. Once upon a time, you had to go to the city to obtain pornography, find prostitutes, and locate gay bars. People fled to the city when they wanted to throw off the restraints and restrictions of familiarity and accountability.

This is why 40 years ago much of my congregation was bent pieces and broken parts of family units. Inevitably a suburban divorce landed one of the pair in the city. Singles gravitated to the city to work, to go to school, be free, to explore. What I was experiencing in the heart of the city just shy of a generation ago has become the cultural norm.

Since God designed our sexuality to be powerful, it stands to reason that in view of the above we are especially vulnerable in this realm. An urbanized culture is a sexualized culture.

Writing to the church at Corinth, Paul communicates with a local assembly in a city known throughout the Roman world for its sexual abandon. Many in the church came from backgrounds of diverse, perverse sexual practices. All of them were impacted by their city's hyper-sexualized culture.

Across Paul's inspired writings, he expounds God's design for human sexuality. His design provides, in the mystery, beauty, potency, and ecstasy of wedded union, a living, repeating picture and sample of believers' ultimate union with Christ for eternity.

In 1 Corinthians 6:11, Paul reminds the sin-soaked, sex-saturated Corinthians of their fresh start in Jesus spiritually and positionally. Integrity references soundness, completeness,

wholeness. It describes something being as it was imagined, designed, and created, in this case, our sexuality.

Sin separates, disintegrates, and destroys. It brings brokenness, disorder, and dysfunction. A lack of sexual integrity means an absence of that which is sexually sound, complete, whole as God intended.

In addressing sexual integrity then, we are speaking of finding and keeping our sexual soundness, completeness, wholeness, footing, balance, order, function as men and women of God.

Paul teaches in 1 Corinthians 6 that our sexual integrity is inseparably linked to several things.

First, he points to the healthy regard for our sacred stewardship (verses 12 and 13). Sexual integrity can't only be about control, whether we speak of mind, will, or body. Dietrich Bonhoeffer said, “The essence of chastity is not the suppression of lust but the total orientation of one's life toward a goal. Without such a goal, chastity is bound to become ridiculous.”

The big idea here is that reason and power are at play. The Lord is the master, the owner, the possessor. His authority provides the basis for order, which produces function aimed at reaching an objective. In the power of God's Holy Spirit, (verse 19) we submit to our Lord's, read “Master's, authority.” It's not merely about sin management. Grasping God's purpose in our sexuality and teaching this to our children is urgently necessary. Failure to have a healthy regard for our sacred stewardship can lead to a broken fellowship with God.

Secondly, we need a healthy fear of sexual brinkmanship. Brinkmanship is the art or practice of pushing a dangerous situation or confrontation to the limit of safety, especially to force a desired outcome. This is pretty much where our culture lives sexually. This is why Paul says in verse 18, “flee immorality.” Sin produces the opposite of sexual integrity. We

flee sin because it actively works disintegration. Needless exposure to sexual content, allowing your children to be sexualized in demeanor, dress, by education or entertainment, is playing with fire.

It follows that having a healthy regard for the sacred stewardship of our bodies is balanced with this healthy fear. Flee what is harmful or destructive. Failure here can lead to a squandered discipleship.

Thirdly, there must be a healthy embrace of our body's ownership. Not only does Paul use the term Lord (verses 13 and 14), but he says we are not our own because we've been purchased (verses 19 and 20). Every believer is bought and paid for. God's presence is not an ethereal notion but actual reality in our bodies. His power is available to operate in us. We are enabled to submit to God's authority, realize His order, and experience the function He intended with His glorious objective in view. His plan is that we physically and bodily, glorify His ownership, honoring His role as Master. With our sexual integrity, we give weight to the presence of the One who owns us physically. Failure here will result in a misused body.

We are called to guard our sexual integrity in this intensely urbanized culture. This is not only possible, it's necessary to adequately witness to Christ's love for us, His church, and our trust that this relationship will be consummated in glory.



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

NICARAGUA

## BBFI MISSIONARY REGIONAL RETREAT

By Steve Bender, BBFI Associate Mission Director

The first-ever BBFI Regional Retreat was held February 1-5 at Montelimar Resort in Nicaragua. Intentionally planned to be a small, intimate gathering of missionaries in the region, the retreat was designed to inspire, encourage, and instruct. Sixteen missionaries and their children from five different countries attended.

A relaxed schedule allowed time for travel safety instruction in the mornings and a time for spiritual inspiration and encouragement in the evenings led by Lewis McClendon, Tim Long, Jenell Bender, Jackie Long, and Karen McClendon. Ample free time was scheduled during the day allowing everyone to relax and be physically refreshed.

While the adults were being ministered to, their children and teens had their own special retreat. A group of volunteers, Sydney Bender from Springfield, MO, Bob and Becky Wyatt, and Ben and Raelene Walker (missionaries on deputation returning to New Zealand) from Ventura Baptist Church invested in the lives of these young missionaries.

Donors gave special financial gifts for the express purpose of letting missionaries “just have fun.” These funds allowed the missionaries to ride horses and four-wheelers on the beach or enjoy the many other amenities offered at the resort. Several opted to enjoy the solitude of the Pacific Ocean or relax in a hammock outside their bungalow.

Thanks to each donor who gave and continues to give to the Missionary Care Offering, this retreat was free of charge to the missionaries. The only expenses to the missionaries were travel costs. In addition to the annual BBFI Missionary Family Reunion held in the U.S., the goal is to have at least one smaller, more intimate regional retreat in a different location each year to invest in a valuable resource of the BBFI, our missionaries.

Based on the responses we have received, it is clear this first regional retreat accomplished its purpose:

*“I came to the retreat with no preconceived notions. The attention to our missionary personal needs was excellent. Personally I was able to see the mission office staff in a team setting; the volunteers from Ventura BC were such a blessing and my fellow missionaries reminded me we are not alone, but part of a great family.”* Glenn McGhee

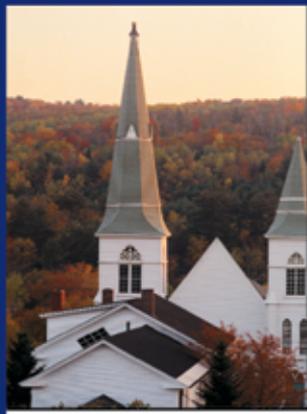
*“WOW! Honestly, it was so much more than what I had expected.”*  
John Barnes

*“This retreat has been phenomenal! I am so thankful for all who took the time to prepare and give to make this happen.”* Jenny Carpenter

*“I am so thankful for this retreat; God knew exactly what we needed ...”*  
Sarah Robertson



Need Church Insurance?



Mel Himes  
&  
Associates  
Insurance  
Agency, Inc.

Deltona, FL

(386) 574-3030

(800) 329-3031

www.melhimesinsurance.com

Since 1972, Mel Himes, Jr. has been helping churches, Christian day cares and schools protect the “ministry” God has given them.

- Property • Liability
- Bus • Auto • Health\*\*
- Workers’ compensation
- Life\* • Dental\* • Vision\*
- Disability\* • Retirement\*
- 403b Plans\*

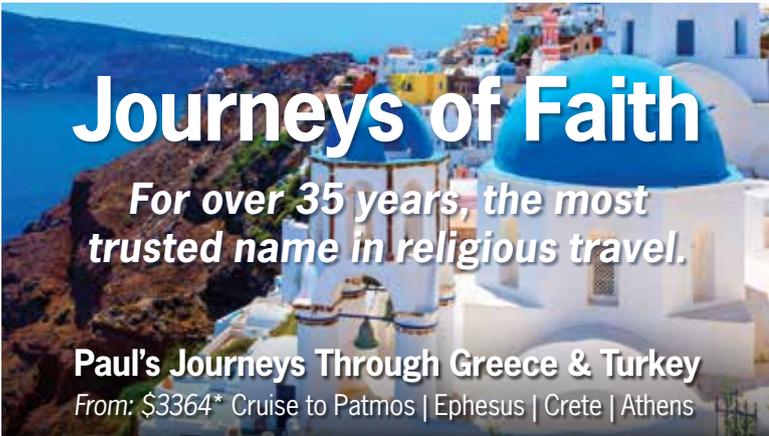
Free Insurance “✓-Up”

Endorsed By BBFI



\*Underwritten by Kansas City Life Insurance Company  
\*\*Written through CGA, a wholly-owned subsidiary of GuideOne Insurance

www.guideone.com



# Journeys of Faith

*For over 35 years, the most trusted name in religious travel.*

## Paul's Journeys Through Greece & Turkey

From: \$3364\* Cruise to Patmos | Ephesus | Crete | Athens



## Walk Where Jesus Walked

10 Days. NYC \$2595\* LAX \$2985\*  
Galilee | Bethlehem | Jerusalem



## Enchanting Italy

From: \$2974\* Rome | Assisi | Florence | Verona | Pisa | Venice



## 500 Years of Reformation – Tour Germany

From: \$3575\* Berlin | Wittenberg | Torgau | Leipzig | Erfurt | Rothenburg | Augsburg

Planning to take your church on a journey of faith? Call **Friendship Tours** and tell us when and where. Leave the rest to the experts to deliver a high quality trip of a lifetime.

**FREEs:** 1 FREE for every 7 paying for all tours. Israel Tours are 1 FREE for every 5 paying.

**Custom Group Tours | Expert Guides  
Attention to Detail | Pastors Always Travel Free**



**Friendship Tours**  
LEADER IN CHRISTIAN TRAVEL SINCE 1981

**(800) 213-9155**  
**www.friendshipTours.com**

CST #2069059-40

SPRINGFIELD, MO  
**BBFI ELECTIONS**

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 in 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.*

Nominations will be received at the meeting of the National Directors Monday during the May Fellowship Meeting. A ballot will be approved by the Directors, and it will be made available to eligible pastors in the plenary business session during the May Fellowship Meeting.

Pastors attending the May meeting can cast their ballots at that time, or they may choose to mail the ballot to the BBFI Mission Office, so long as it is submitted before July 1. Likewise, pastors who are unable to attend the May meeting may request a ballot from the BBFI Mission Office and return it by mail by July 1.

A copy of the complete bylaws is available electronically at [www.bbfi.org](http://www.bbfi.org) on the link "About Us."



**1,000 OFFERING ENVELOPES**

**\$65.95 (FIRST 1,000)**

1,000 ~ \$65.95, 2,000 - 5,000 ~ \$61.95 PER THOUSAND  
Imprinted with your CHURCH INFORMATION or CUSTOM DESIGN at no additional charge.  
Price does not include shipping. Your choice of 1 of 6 standard colors.

**NOW OFFERING BUSINESS CARD MAGNETS**  
100 - \$39.95 • 250 - \$65.50 • 500 - \$84.95 • 1000 - \$129.50  
CONTACT FOR DETAILS  
TOLL FREE: 877.865.8551 • 417.865.8551 • FAX: 417.865.8208  
1721 W. COLLEGE STREET • SPRINGFIELD, MISSOURI 65806  
WWW.LIBERTYPRESSPRINTING.COM • E-MAIL: LIBERTYPRESS@SBCGLOBAL.NET

## EASTER REPORTS FROM AROUND THE BBFI

### TERRY KIZER — ALLIANCE BAPTIST CHURCH | FORT WORTH, TX

*My neighbors came. I have been praying for them for years (thank you John Arnold for that challenge) and they came for the second time. They have a son who has battled drugs for several years and he came with them. Dean and I met at the altar and we hugged, prayed, and cried together. Then Taylor, his son came and we hugged, cried, and prayed. Honestly, I don't know what else happened during the second service, I just know my friend came and God touched him and his family.*

### BOB STEPHENSON — GRACEWAY BAPTIST CHURCH | SPRINGFIELD, MO

*Total weekend attendance was 1,182. New record. Several prayed to receive Christ.*

### NATHAN BURCH — AURORA BAPTIST CHURCH | AURORA, MO

*We had 511 in one fire-code-violated service. Eight connect cards turned in from potential prospects.*

### CHRIS STEPHENS — BROADWAY BAPTIST CHURCH | SWEETWATER, TX

*Had the Tracy Dartt family. Thirty attended sunrise service, 207 in morning service with a 12-year-old girl and an 86-year-old lady saved.*

### JIM GOODMAN — STILLWELL BAPTIST CHURCH | CLARKSVILLE, AR

*Over 200 in Sunday school. Celebration Worship service — lost track at 300. Two came to Christ. And had a young man come whose mother had come to me earlier in the week crying because he had told her he was an atheist and did not believe in God but would go with her to church because it was a family thing to do. Sunday morning, though he was not saved, he responded to the invitation and looks very close to coming to Christ.*

### DAVID ETTER — MOUNTAIN STATES BAPTIST CHURCH | DENVER, CO

*We set a three-year attendance record with 101 attending in our new facility, including more than 30 first-time visitors. Three people raised their hands desiring to receive more info about salvation, and we'll follow up accordingly.*

### DANIEL DENNIS — THOMAS ROAD BAPTIST CHURCH — PHOENIX, AZ

*We had 610 for Easter. 162 in the garden service at 7:30 a.m., 194 in the 9:00 a.m., and 264 in the 10:00 a.m. service. We had nine new families.*

### BY THE NUMBERS...

- JIM BAIZE** - 214 (in auditorium that seats 150, with no parking lot at all)
- STEVE SWITZER** - 521, four saved, eight baptisms
- JASON PETERMANN** - 416, three saved, over 100 volunteers
- DOUG DAMERON** - 3,000, 100 saved, 85 first-time guests, 30 baptisms, 400 volunteers
- SEAN SEARS** - 2,439, over 300 volunteers (35 gallons of coffee)
- KEITH HARRINGTON** - 3,234, 25 saved, 500 volunteers
- MIKE HALEY, JR.** - 630, five saved, 34 first-time families
- JASON HENDERSON** - 1,200 (including Orlando mayor and three city commissioners)

COMPLETE YOUR DEGREE ON-LINE AT

## LOUISIANA BAPTIST UNIVERSITY & SEMINARY

Degrees in Bible, Christian Education, Christian Counseling, Christian Communications and Leadership.

### WHY CHOOSE LBU?

- ▶ **LBU** is Theologically Conservative.
- ▶ **LBU** has 42-plus years of experience as a proven leader in non-traditional education.
- ▶ **LBU** has over 30 adjunct and full-time professors holding doctorates in their fields who are committed to offering a first-class off-campus program.
- ▶ **LBU** offers Bachelor, Master and Doctorate degrees that may be completed by means of the Internet.
- ▶ **LBU** offers an affordable interest-free payment plan.
- ▶ **LBU** has outstanding alumni around the world.
- ▶ **LBU** allows you to begin anytime, work at your own pace.

*Committed to providing Excellent, Affordable Education Anytime, Anywhere, Around The World.*



LOUISIANA BAPTIST UNIVERSITY & SEMINARY  
3601 Westport Ave. | Shreveport, LA 71129 | 318-686-2360  
[www.lbu.edu](http://www.lbu.edu)



BUFFALO, MO

## BOB BAKER RETIRES AFTER 42 YEARS IN MINISTRY

Bible Baptist Church, along with several guest preachers, gathered on March 13 to celebrate both the 15th anniversary of Bob Baker as pastor of the church and his retirement after 42 years in ministry. Bob Baker preached on

the older leader, Moses, and the young leader, Joshua, who would follow him. The message emphasized the theme that we are never too old to be of use to the Lord, even in retirement we should still faithfully serve Him. In the evening, the church held a retirement party and celebration.

Over the course of 42 years in ministry, the Bakers served churches in Ohio, Maryland, and Missouri. While pastoring in those locations, Bob also served as BBF state chairman in Ohio, Maryland, and Missouri.



An **Important Message**  
from the people who care

Share the **IMPORTANT MESSAGE** with people as the Gospel unfolds in this simple tract

For information or to order:  
The Reapers/Thomas Ray  
P.O. Box 867505, Plano, TX 75086  
Phone 972.509.9240  
Email: tray1701@verizon.net  
www.thereapers.com

BBFI NATIONAL FELLOWSHIP MEETING  
**SEPTEMBER 19-21, 2016**

2016  
**BBFI**  
CAPE COD

CAPECODCHURCH.COM/BBFI

**The KJV Store** The #1 source for King James Version Bibles

KJV Bibles   Spanish Bibles   Reference Books   Church Supplies   Gifts & Accessories

CLASSIC WIDE MARGIN STUDY BIBLE

Looking for the perfect gift?

**FATHER'S DAY ✓**  
**MOTHER'S DAY ✓**  
**GRADUATION ✓**

**NAME IMPRINTING AND CUSTOM THUMB INDEXING AVAILABLE!**  
Make this gift even more special with personalized imprinting for only \$8 per line and custom thumb indexing for \$15.

**KJV Classic Wide Margin Study Bible (with C.I. Scofield Notes) - Lambskin Edition**

The Classic Wide Margin Study Bible (With C.I. Scofield Notes) has been one of the most sought after bibles for the last several decades. A "classic" truly is available once more, and is now available in soft, buttery Lambskin leather. This luxurious lambskin leather bible is "lined to the edge" the way the good Bible publishers used to make it, and features a sewn binding for extreme flexibility that will lay flat when open on a desk or pulpit.

- Buttery Soft Black Lambskin Cover
- Quality, flexible Imitation Leather-lined to the Edge
- Sewn Pages for extreme flexibility
- Complete 1917 Edition Study Notes by Dr. C.I. Scofield
- Complete Old Scofield references in center-column
- Clear readable typeface

**Reg. Price: \$109.00**

Watch the video preview on our website!

**www.TheKJVstore.com**      **1-800-310-0327**  
Call us today to request a free catalog

Follow us!

MANILA, PHILIPPINES

## BBC ASIA GRADUATION

Nearly 800 students were recognized at the recent graduation ceremonies held in Metro Manila. In attendance representing the Baptist Bible Fellowship International were BBFI Vice President of Education Douglas Cox and BBFI Treasurer Rob Hoffman. Mick Bowen, Faith Baptist Church, Knightdale, NC, was the main speaker at the commencement exercises. The graduation events included regional chapels called Sharpening Your Axe Seminars. Over 1,500 students gathered in four locations based on their campus assignment. Guest speakers were Greg Dixon and Phil

Cunningham. Dixon, former senior pastor of Indianapolis Baptist Temple, now leading a mission organization called Advance, challenged the students to reach their world by becoming church planting missionaries. Cunningham, staff pastor at First Baptist Church, Woodstock, GA, shared his story of brokenness and how God can restore us when we repent and re-engage in ministry. BBC Asia is the largest Bible college in Southeast Asia with over 1,500 students, providing a recognized four-year degree program. BBC Asia also launched the School

of Missions, Martial Arts School of Leadership, and the School of Practical Ministry to provide targeted training to reach an ever-changing cultural landscape.

*"I was incredibly blessed recently to join with the graduates of BBC Asia in Manilla. Missionaries Greg and LuAnn Lyons and their family have mentored a team of Filipino leaders who are world changers in every sense of the word. If God tarries, these passionate preachers and gifted ministry leaders will see a wave of Gospel revival sweep throughout the Pacific Rim and the Asian world. ... I consider BBC Asia one of our greatest Gospel investments."*

- Rob Hoffman



SPRINGFIELD, MO

## UPCOMING BBC CLASS REUNIONS

### CLASSES OF 1959-60

Tuesday, May 3, 7:00 AM  
 IHOP on North Kansas Expressway  
 Contact: Mrs. Branson (Jorene) Howard  
 (417) 865-1559 or (417) 818-2326

### CLASS OF 1971

Tuesday, May 3, 7:00 AM  
 Ziggies Café at 2515 N. Glenstone  
 Contact: Bill Carter at rhfbrc@yahoo.com

*"The Graduation weekend was quite an event in itself. ... The demographic of the graduating seniors was reminiscent of the calling of the early disciples. Roger Baltazar, a member of the Philippine National Police gave an outstanding valedictorian address to classmates ranging from young adults to successful business people who have answered God's call. The graduation week came to a close with the launch of the twenty-sixth new church borne out of this ministry."*

- Doug Cox

INCOME TAX PREPARATION

- For all taxpayers
- Specializing in Minister/Missionary taxes



www.marvinmillercpa.com

- Foreign Bank Account Report Preparation •
- IRS Tax Problem Resolution •
- Prior Year Tax Filing •

(417) 799-0316

MARVIN@MARVINMILLERCPA.COM



IT'S  
NOT A  
SPRINT

# IT'S A MARATHON

---

Don't rush through God's Word in three years. RBP's Sunday School curriculum utilizes a lifelong systematic discipleship program that intentionally builds stronger church communities.



Teach more effectively. Order your free evaluation kit. [Regular Baptist Press.org/marathon](http://Regular Baptist Press.org/marathon)



MANILA, PHILIPPINES

**GLOBAL MISSIONARY CLEARINGHOUSE LAUNCHES IN MANILA**

By Greg Lyons, BBFI missionary to the Philippines

The Global Missionary Clearinghouse (GMC) provides an on-ramp for multi-national world changers to be part of the missionary highway. With hundreds graduating from Bible colleges in Asia, the need is great to make a way for these young people to get to the field!

GMC is partnering with Central Missionary Clearinghouse (CMC) in an effort to take advantage of current technology, culturally relevant opportunities, and a growing missionary force in engaging the lost around the world. Under the leadership of



Larry Maddox, CMC has provided a platform, resources, and consulting to strengthen the foundation of GMC. Forming this partnership enables both organizations to increase their worldwide footprint and maintain overhead efficiency for local churches and missionaries being served.

GMC launched with 18 charter missionaries going to eight fields. GMC welcomed the first directors during the launch event: Mark Johnson, U.S.A. Director, and Norberto Mostrales, Asia Director.

God continues to raise up a new army of world changers from the mission fields of our world. The work of the Baptist Bible Fellowship International has been a catalyst in developing significant ministries across the globe and in Asia in particular. The effort of decades of evangelism and church planting by missionaries is now bearing fruit in a growing mission movement from non-western nations.

*From left: Greg Lyons, Larry Maddox, Eddie Lyons, Mark Johnson, and Norberto Mostrales cut the ribbon at the launch of the Global Missionary Clearinghouse.*

FORT WORTH, TX

**NORTH TEXAS BBF MEETS**

Alliance Baptist in Fort Worth hosted the North Texas Baptist Bible Fellowship March 10. The meeting featured a panel discussion of practical insights learned at the February Church Revitalization Conference held at Crosspointe church in Yorba Linda, CA. Panelists included pastors Terry Kizer, Paul Blue, and Bradley Speer. Rick Blue preached a message from Daniel 6 challenging those present to identify with Daniel as one who was “distinguished ... because an excellent spirit was in him.”

**WITH THE LORD**

SILOAM SPRINGS, AR

**DARLYN ANN DEVORE**

Darlyn DeVore departed this life to be with our Lord surrounded by her loved ones on January 13, 2016 in Siloam Springs, AR, at the age of 75. Darlyn was born September 19, 1940, in Joplin, MO, to Fred Hoover and Maxine Ella (Bilbro) Zimmerman.

Darlyn graduated from BBC in 1965, and along with her husband, Ralph, served as BBFI missionaries to Peru from 1965-1973 and to Mexico from 1973-1979. After returning from the mission field, Darlyn labored beside Ralph as a pastor's wife until his retirement in 2013. Together they served Faith Baptist Church (Ottumwa, IA), Baptist Temple (Grand Prairie, TX), and Liberty Baptist Church (Siloam Springs, AR).

She is survived by her husband, four daughters, and ten grandchildren. Services were held at Liberty Baptist Church in Siloam Springs, AR, and officiated by Michael O'Donnell, Darrell Kepler, and Ed Chavis.

**TRIBUNE CLASSIFIEDS**

69¢ per word (\$12 minimum). All ads subject to approval of the *Tribune*.

**The Bible Rebinder** Don't Retire Your Bible — Rebind It! Fifteen years experience rebinding and repairing Bibles. Contact Joe Gleason, 2256 E. Nora, Springfield, MO 65803, for prices. (417) 693-3137 or thebiblebinder@gmail.com.

**Free income tax preparation** for clergy and religious workers. Federal and state returns prepared and e-filing available. Faith-based ministry. [www.ClergyTaxes.com](http://www.ClergyTaxes.com) or [Clergy/Taxes@aol.com](mailto:Clergy/Taxes@aol.com).

**Church pews for sale** Contact Seminole Baptist Temple (Springfield, MO) at (417) 881-4200 for details.

**Church Bus/Shuttle Sales & Service** Coach Master's, Inc. provides "Transportation Solutions that WORK!" Call us today at (308)234-8111 for all your bus and shuttle transportation needs. Visit our website [www.coachmasters.com](http://www.coachmasters.com).

**Alliterated Outlines** Ephesians, Jude, Jonah-James, and other outline books, send for free outlines and price list. Bob Smallwood, 311 Harlan Lane Rd., Villa Rica, GA 30180 (770) 459-3120

**Religious books for sale** List sent email [dudley1@fidnet.com](mailto:dudley1@fidnet.com) Evangelist Bill Dudley, 1116 Lacy Dr., Lebanon, MO 65536, (417) 532-2665. [www.dudleysusedbooks.com](http://www.dudleysusedbooks.com).

To place an ad, call (417) 831-3996 or email [editors@tribune.org](mailto:editors@tribune.org).

*Advertising in the Tribune does not necessarily imply the endorsement of the publisher.*

ALASKA

**Anchorage Baptist Temple**  
6401 E. Northern Lights • Anchorage, AK 99504  
(907)333-6535 • www.ancbt.org  
Pastor Jerry Prevo

ARIZONA

**Thomas Road Baptist Church**  
5735 W. Thomas Rd. • Phoenix, AZ 85031  
(623)247-5735 • Pastor Daniel Dennis

ARKANSAS

**Trinity Baptist Church**  
204 Trinnen Lane • Berryville, AR 72616  
Pastor Derryl DeShields

CALIFORNIA

**Calvary Baptist Church of Oakhurst**  
At the corner of Highway 49 and Redbud (location only)  
(559)641-7984 • Pastor Bob Wilson

**The Baptist Tabernacle**

1329 South Hope St. • Los Angeles, CA 90015  
(213)744-9999 • Pastor Dr. R. L. Hymers, Jr.  
www.sermonsfortheworld.com - sermon manuscripts  
www.baptisttabernacle.com - church website

**Ocean View Church**

2460 Palm Ave • San Diego, CA 92154  
(619)424-7870 • www.oceanviewchurch.com  
Pastor Steven Boschen

CONNECTICUT

**New Testament Baptist Church and School**  
111 Ash St • East Hartford, CT 06108  
(860)290-6696 • Pastor Michael Stoddard

DELAWARE

**Southside Baptist Church**  
4904 S. DuPont Hwy (US 13 So) • Dover, DE 19901  
(302)697-2411 • Pastor Chris Kondracki

**First Baptist Church**

6062 Old Shawnee Rd • Milford, DE 19963  
(302)422-9795 • Pastor David Perdue

FLORIDA

**Palm Springs Drive Baptist Church**  
601 Palm Springs Dr • Altamonte Springs, FL 32701  
(407)831-0950 • Pastor Scott Carlson

**Tabernacle Baptist Church**

6000 West Colonial Dr • Orlando, FL 32808  
(407)295-3086 • Pastor Steve Ware

**New Testament Baptist Church**

2050 South Belcher Rd • Largo, FL 33771  
(727)536-0481 • Pastor Matt Trill

**Trinity Baptist Church**

800 Hammond Blvd • Jacksonville, FL 32221  
(904)786-5320 • Pastor Tom Messer

**First Coast Baptist Church**

7587 Blanding Blvd • Jacksonville, FL 32244  
(904)777-3040 • Pastor Richard Edwards

**Harbor Baptist Church**

428 Tomoka Ave • Ormond Beach, FL 32173  
(386)677-3116 • Pastor Ronald L. Todd

**First Baptist Church of Coconut Creek**

5100 W Hillsboro Blvd., Coconut Creek, FL 33073  
(954)422-9611 • www.fbcocc.com  
Pastor Adam Alley

**Calvary Baptist Church**

123 Thunderbird Dr • Sebastian, FL 32958  
(772)589-5047 • www.calvary-baptistchurch.com  
Pastor Clifton Cooley

**New Life Baptist Church**

35000 Radio Rd (at Poe St) • Leesburg, FL 34788  
(352)728-0004 • newlifebaptistchurch@earthlink.net

**Suncoast Baptist Church**

410 Warrington Blvd • Port Charlotte, FL 33954  
(941)625-8550 • www.suncoastbaptistchurch.com  
Pastor Chip Keller

**Grace Bible Baptist Church**

1703 Lewis Rd • Leesburg, FL 34748  
(352)326-5738 • www.gbbconline.com  
Pastor George Mulford III

**Orlando Baptist Church**

500 S. Semoran Blvd • Orlando, FL 32807  
(407)277-8671 • www.worldchangingchurch.com

**Spring Hill Baptist Church**

3140 Mariner Blvd. • Spring Hill, FL 34609  
(352)683-5685 • www.springhillbc.com  
Pastor Raymond Rouse

HAWAII

**Lanakila Baptist Church**

94-1250 Waipahu St • Waipahu, HI 96797  
(808)677-0731 • Pastor Steven C. Wygle

ILLINOIS

**Sauk Trail Baptist Temple**

4411 Sauk Trail • PO Box 347 • Richton Park, IL 60471  
(708)481-1490 • Pastor Bruce Humbert

IOWA

**Heartland Baptist Church**

3504 N. Grand Ave • Ames, IA 50010  
(515)268-1721 • www.heartlandbaptistames.com  
Pastor Randy Abell

KANSAS

**Millington Street Baptist Church**

1304 Millington St • Winfield, KS 67156  
(620)221-4700 • Pastor Jeff McCaskill

**Friendship Baptist Church**

2209 E. Pawnee • Wichita, KS 67211  
(316)263-0269 • Pastor Steve Day

KENTUCKY

**Florence Baptist Temple**

1898 Florence Pk • Burlington, KY 41005  
(859)586-6090 • Pastor Wayne G. Cox

**Oak Hill Baptist Church**

2135 Oak Hill Rd • Somerset, KY 42501  
(606)679-8496 • Pastor Gary Phelps

MARYLAND

**Riverdale Baptist Church**

1177 Largo Rd • Upper Marlboro, MD 20774  
(301)249-7000 • Pastor Brian C. Mentzer

MASSACHUSETTS

**Temple Baptist Church**

540 Manley St • West Bridgewater, MA 02379  
(508)583-5190 • www.templebaptist.info  
Pastor Bill Smith

**Bridgewater Baptist Church**

20 Summer St • Bridgewater, MA 02324  
www.bridgewaterbaptistchurch.info  
Pastor Doug Denny

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 Glensford Dr • Fayetteville, NC 28314  
(910)868-5156 • www.bbcfnc.org  
Pastor Sean Harris

OHIO

**Ashland Ave. Baptist Church**

4255 Ashland Ave • P.O. Box 86  
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

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 Jack Alumbaugh

**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

**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)675-3154 • www.talleyroadbaptistchurch.org  
trbc@satx.rr.com • Pastor Myres DREW

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**

Rt 60 E. at Huntington Mall • Barboursville, WV 25504  
(304)736-8006 • Pastor Jerry Warren

INTERNATIONAL

BELGIUM

**Grace International Baptist Church**

Bruges, Belgium 8200

---

Church ads are available to any  
BBFI church for \$10 per issue. To  
place an ad, call (417)831-3996.

---

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

**Tracy Dart • The Dart Quartet**

PO Box 422, Greenbrier, TN 37073  
Phone: 707.344.4140 www.dartmusic.com

**Alan Harris • Alan Harris Ministries**

309 West 24th Street, Connersville, IN 47331  
Phone: 765.220.1629 www.alanharrisministries.org

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)

# As the mango, so is BBFI

By Jun Lumagbas | Pastor | Bible Baptist Church | Cebu City, Philippines

The Philippines is known for many things. One is the well-loved and much-enjoyed mango, that oblong-shaped vitamin C-packed sweet fruit. The most luscious and most sweet mango can be found on our island, Cebu. (I am biased, for another island north of us makes the same claim.)

We all know a mango has one large seed at its core. But once this seed is planted, only God knows how many mangoes it reproduces in its lifetime. Once the seed sprouts and in time (usually five to eight years) becomes a fruit-bearing tree, some 300 to 400 fruits can be reaped in one harvest season.

The sweet mango could well be a picture of our Fellowship. Planted in around the world, as missionaries sent from U.S. churches, our Fellowship has seen one seed grow, and in time, sprout and bear fruit — not just a few but by the hundreds and thousands.

BBFI missionaries were sent to the Philippines just as the Fellowship was beginning in the 1950s. Hardy men with pioneering zeal and great faith crossed the Pacific Ocean on steamers to land in Manila. From there, they spread to the Philippine archipelago like mango seeds planted in different soils: L. D. Woosley in Makati, Joe Vella in Manila, Fred Null in Mandaluyong, Bob Hughes in Cebu City, Lloyd Baker in Legaspi City, Damon Woods in Baguio City, Leslie Funk in Tacloban City, David Steffy in Butuan City, and the list goes on.

Like the mango seed planted in any soil, the Fellowship missionaries began to see their works sprout and in time the growing tree began to flower and soon the fruits started to be harvested. Within a decade of its founding

in 1957, Bible Baptist Church in Cebu City was on its way to constant cycles of fruit, more fruit, and much fruit. BBFI missionary Bob Hughes turned over the work to a national Filipino Pastor Dr. Armie Jesalva. This highlighted this first decade. Before the church called him, Dr. Jesalva trained and practiced pediatric medicine.

By the mid 70s a Bible college was training and raising men and women for the Gospel ministry. In time, graduates began to fan around the islands and more seeds of churches were planted. These first-generation churches laid



the foundation of a fellowship of churches that would soon unite and get behind a missions program in and outside the country. They also would soon raise enough men and women who would themselves enter Bible college and receive the same training and character-building as the first generation of students.

By the 80s, a vibrant youth ministry called Katipunan Youth Alive (KAYA) began reaching a growing population of young people. These youth were disciplined, trained, and raised to be the leaders and movers of the growing work. Of these youth would come Filipino missionaries to foreign fields: Paul Tabanao, Lomer Hope

delaCruz, Roy Montero, Jenefred Semblante, Josephine Nadela Mendez — missionaries in Cambodia; Jun Coronel and Elias Bancale — missionaries to Ethiopia; Peter de Jesus — missionary to China; Mark Maglasang — missionary to India; and Jonathan Guinarez — missionary to Vietnam.

By the 90s, this one seed that sprouted and started to become a fruit-bearing tree had its branches spread out. In its Jerusalem, Bible Baptist Church opened 36 extension churches around the Metro Cebu area. In its Judea and Samaria, the church sent out local missionaries

who then started works in cities, town, and villages in the islands. In its uttermost part of the earth, the church sent its first missionaries to the foreign fields of Indonesia and Cambodia. All in all, since the 70s, Bible Baptist Church has started and organized 890 churches in the Philippines and abroad.

But it is not just Bible Baptist Church Cebu City. The seed planted by the pioneering BBFI missionaries in the 50s

and 60s in their own localities have since grown and now are steady and sturdy trees bearing fruit in their season.

It is said there are 400 varieties of mango around the world. That very well could be said, too, of the BBFI. In around 160 countries, the seed of BBFI works have been planted. These all are the varieties but they all share the same core: the core of the BBFI remaining up to today is soulwinning, church planting, and missions.

We do know a mango has but one seed in its core. But, perhaps in eternity, God will tell us just how many mango fruits all over the world have come out of that one seed planted in 1950.

MAY 2016

# PRAYER CALENDAR

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<p>1</p>  <p>MISSIONARY <b>Dwayne &amp; Valerie Keefe</b> <i>Australia</i></p>	<p>2</p>  <p>CHAPLAIN <b>Cpt. Cody &amp; Maribel Coolidge</b> <i>U.S. Army National Guard</i></p>	<p>3</p>  <p>MISSIONARY <b>Ray &amp; Gerri Redmon</b> <i>Korea</i></p>	<p>4</p>  <p>MISSIONARY <b>Beau &amp; Valerie Moore</b> <i>Portugal</i></p>	<p>5</p> <p>Newly Approved Missionaries</p>	<p>6</p>  <p>Baptist Bible College Graduates</p>	<p>7</p>  <p>T.E.A.M. MISSIONARY <b>Josh &amp; Teah Lane</b> <i>Dominican Republic</i></p>
<p>8</p>  <p>MISSIONARY <b>Tim &amp; Missy Helton</b> <i>Peru</i></p>	<p>9</p>  <p>MISSIONARY <b>Bob &amp; Betty Stamper</b> <i>Retired</i></p>	<p>10</p>  <p>MISSIONARY <b>Oliver &amp; Gloria Williams</b> <i>Peru</i></p>	<p>11</p>  <p>MISSIONARY <b>Frank &amp; Karon Auterson</b> <i>Ethiopia</i></p>	<p>12</p>  <p>MISSIONARY <b>Don &amp; LuJean Stone</b> <i>Hong Kong</i></p>	<p>13</p>  <p>Louisiana Baptist University Graduates</p>	<p>14</p>  <p>MISSIONARY <b>Greg &amp; Nina Hunt</b> <i>Canada</i></p>
<p>15</p>  <p>MISSION OFFICE <b>Contributions Department</b></p>	<p>16</p>  <p>MISSIONARY <b>David &amp; Hope Reinhardt</b> <i>Chile</i></p>	<p>17</p>  <p>Boston Baptist College Graduates</p>	<p>18</p>  <p>T.E.A.M. MISSIONARY <b>Wade &amp; Shannon Cooperrider</b> <i>Nicaragua</i></p>	<p>19</p>  <p>MISSIONARY <b>Kevin &amp; Kim Davis</b> <i>Wales</i></p>	<p>20</p>  <p>MISSIONARY <b>Brent &amp; Sheila Moeller</b> <i>South Africa</i></p>	<p>21</p>  <p>MISSIONARY <b>Michael &amp; Pamela Hillhouse</b> <i>Burkina Faso</i></p>
<p>22</p>  <p>MISSIONARY <b>David &amp; Uldine Steffy</b> <i>Retired</i></p>	<p>23</p>  <p>Workers in Restricted Countries</p>	<p>24</p>  <p>MISSIONARY <b>Stephen &amp; Lynn Spore</b> <i>Vanuatu</i></p>	<p>25</p>  <p>MISSIONARY <b>Russ &amp; Faye Ivison</b> <i>England</i></p>	<p>26</p>  <p>MISSIONARY <b>Jonathan &amp; Sarah Robertson</b> <i>Costa Rica</i></p>	<p>27</p>  <p>MISSIONARY <b>Jim &amp; Sybil Eberhard</b> <i>Kenya</i></p>	<p>28</p>  <p>MANNA Worldwide</p>
<p>29</p>  <p>MISSIONARY <b>Lionel &amp; Carol Martin</b> <i>Portugal</i></p>	<p>30</p>  <p>MISSIONARY <b>Bill &amp; Vicki Hoving</b> <i>England</i></p>	<p>31</p>  <p>MISSIONARY <b>Don &amp; Joy Williams</b> <i>France</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*

VBS  
2016

DR. VANGUARD'S VOYAGES



Bogard Press  
800.264.2482 x 5112  
vbs.bogardpress.org

# THE CONQUERORS

IN ALL THESE THINGS WE ARE MORE THAN CONQUERORS THROUGH HIM THAT LOVED US.  
ROMANS 8:37

For videos and handouts from the 2016 Curriculum Conference go to [www.conference.bogardpress.org](http://www.conference.bogardpress.org)



From Theme & Lesson Decor



From Lesson 3



From Lesson 1

bogard press 2016 Curriculum Conference f p t v

## 2016 BOGARD PRESS CURRICULUM CONFERENCE

### Video of the conference

Click on the links below to watch the videos.

Educational	VBS	SPLAT/SPLASH	Handouts
<a href="#">Multi-Generational Ministry</a>	<a href="#">Director</a>	<a href="#">What Is SPLAT?</a>	<a href="#">Multi-Generational Ministry</a>
<a href="#">Youth Ministry &amp; Teen VBS</a>	<a href="#">Bible Characters Decor</a>	<a href="#">How To Use SPLAT</a>	<a href="#">After VBS, Now What?</a>
<a href="#">After VBS, Then What?</a>	<a href="#">Theme &amp; Lessons Decor</a>	<a href="#">What Is SPLASH/ How To Use It</a>	<a href="#">Director</a>
	<a href="#">Music</a>		<a href="#">Theme &amp; Lessons Decor</a>
	<a href="#">Crafts</a>		<a href="#">Crafts</a>
	<a href="#">Lesson 1</a>		<a href="#">Lesson 2</a>
	<a href="#">Lesson 2</a>		<a href="#">Lesson 3</a>
	<a href="#">Lesson 3</a>		<a href="#">Lesson 4</a>
	<a href="#">Lesson 4</a>		<a href="#">Lesson 5</a>
	<a href="#">Lesson 5</a>		

### Download Resources

Click on the links below to download the files.

bogard press  
4605 N. State Line Ave., Texarkana, TX 75503  
800.264.2482 • 903.792.2783  
info@bogardpress.org