

## Teachers Needed

La Iglesia La Buena Esperanza (Graham Heights Church) is providing classes in English as a Second Language for 125 students. Additional teachers are needed. Training is available and knowledge of Spanish is NOT necessary. The only requirement is a caring, Christian heart.

## International Friends Workshop

### Teachers of English as a Second Language

A workshop for those interested in serving as teachers of English as a Second Language will be held at Germantown Baptist Church, 9450 Poplar Ave., Germantown, TN, on April 14 and 21. Cost is \$25 for materials. Contact Jason Boggs at 901-260-5774, Minni Garrett at 662-890-6046 or Evelyn at 901-756-9450 to make reservations.

## Mid-South Baptist Secretaries Association Changes Meeting Dates

The May and August meetings of the Mid-South Baptist Secretaries Association have been changed. Please note these changes on your calendar and make plans to attend.

### Thursday, May 17 • Noon First Baptist Church, Millington

Due to the overlapping meeting of the National SBC secretaries in Nashville on May 2-4, our associational secretaries will move their meeting to Thursday, May 17. Please make your reservation by calling 901-872-2264. Deadline for reservations is Monday, May 14.

### Thursday, August 2 • Noon Leawood Baptist Church 3638 Macon Rd., Memphis

Due to camp activities, this meeting will be held at Leawood Baptist Church. Please make your reservations by calling 901-324-7169. Deadline to make reservations is Monday, July 30.

**CHILDREN'S  
BIBLE  
DRILL**

Associational Bible Drill  
April 14, 2007  
Kirby Woods Baptist Church  
6325 Poplar



## Disaster Relief Training

Thursday, April 12  
6:30-9:30 p.m.  
Kirby Woods Baptist Church

This will be an introduction to Southern Baptist Disaster Relief course that is a prerequisite to all specialty training. Specialties will be offered at the W. Tennessee Regional Training scheduled for Saturday, April 21, at FBC, Milan, TN. The cost of the introduction class is \$5.00. For more information, check out the disaster relief page at [www.msba.org](http://www.msba.org), or contact Les Collier at 901-743-5067 or 901-387-8314, or [lcollier@cherryroadbaptist.org](mailto:lcollier@cherryroadbaptist.org).



## 20th-Annual Senior Adult Tune-Sharing Fellowship

Tuesday, May 8, 2007  
Audubon Park Baptist Church

All senior adult choirs are invited and encouraged to participate. Each choir may sing two selections. Lunch will be provided by Leonard's Barbecue, and reservations are required. Cost is \$6 per person paid in advance. Call 901-324-5541 for more information and to make reservations.



## Mid-South Baptist Conference Center

On April 1, I will officially become the Manager of Operations for the conference center. Many of you have congratulated me with well wishes and promises of prayer support. Some have questioned my sanity. Well, maybe the starting date is appropriate, but I don't think so. Seriously, I am grateful for each of you. I look forward, with great excitement, to this high honor to serve the association.

After 35 years of serving one church at a time, the last of which being 15 years at the wonderful Wells Station Baptist Church, I view this new challenge as a real privilege to serve all of our churches in the association.

My wife, Marcia, will be assuming the Office Manger's position around the end of April. We look forward to serving you, Mid-South Baptists, in every way we possibly can. Pray for us, and call on us anytime. We are here to serve.

In Christ,

Bro. Dale Gravatt  
Manager of Operations

## Opportunities Within Our Churches

### Pastor

Elliston Baptist Church  
Contact Hugh Garner, 4179 Elliston Rd.  
Memphis, TN 38111  
Hartland Baptist Church  
Contact James Shivers at 901-388-2040, or send resume to Hartland Baptist Church, 1820 Hartland, Memphis, TN 38128  
Rosemark Baptist Church  
9037 E. Kerrville-Rosemark Rd., Millington, TN 38053

### Children's Minister

Bartlett Hills Baptist Church (P/T)  
4641 Ellendale Rd., Bartlett, TN 38135  
Contact Leslie Tisdale at 901-386-9763 or [leslie@bartletthills.net](mailto:leslie@bartletthills.net)  
Labelle Haven Baptist Church  
6825 E. Holmes Rd., Memphis, TN 38141  
Fax: 901-547-1650 or [labellehaven@bellsouth.net](mailto:labellehaven@bellsouth.net)

### Youth Pastor

Broadmoor Baptist Church  
Contact Rev. Bo Grace  
P.O. Box 280649, Memphis, TN 38168  
McLean Baptist Church (P/T)  
815 N. McLean, Memphis, TN 38107  
Providence Baptist Church of Bartlett (P/T)  
4351 Germantown Rd., Arlington, TN 38002  
Range Hills Baptist Church (P/T)  
2741 Frayser Blvd., Memphis, TN 38127  
Richland Baptist Church (P/T)  
170 N. Oak Grove Rd., Memphis, TN 38120  
Contact Dr. Jerry Paul or Laurie at 901-683-2451 or [richlandbaptist@comcast.net](mailto:richlandbaptist@comcast.net)

### Music Minister

Forest Hill Baptist Church (P/T)  
Contact Rev. Tommy Snyder at 901-754-7455 or [tommysnyder@foresthillbc.com](mailto:tommysnyder@foresthillbc.com)  
Gateway Baptist Church, Atoka, TN (P/T)  
Contact Rev. Billy Skinner at 901-837-8087 or 901-840-4309  
Grace Baptist Church (Music/Youth)  
Contact Rev. Bill Harrald, 901-872-4294 or 901-849-0252

Oaklawn Baptist Church (P/T)  
Personnel Committee  
5714 Benjestown Rd., Memphis, TN 38127

### Pianist/Organist

Merton Avenue Baptist Church  
Contact Lee Carter at 901-458-4469

### Secretary

Covenant Baptist Church (P/T)  
Contact the church office at 901-853-0700

### Maintenance

Kirby Woods Baptist Church (P/T)  
6325 Poplar, Memphis, TN 38119

### Nursery

Life Church at Schilling Farms  
901-850-0012 or [Igreen@findlife.org](mailto:Igreen@findlife.org)

### Summer Teachers

Bartlett Baptist Church Kids Day Out  
Contact Martha Shaeffer at 901-387-0827.

Second Class Postage Paid at Memphis,  
Tennessee and additional entries.

Dated material. Useless if Delayed!



# The Mid-South Baptist

April 2007  
Vol. 2, Issue 3

## Mid-South Ministry Profile

### Brookside Baptist Church and Pastor John Bomar by Stuart McCollough

Brookside Baptist Church and longtime pastor John Bomar have a long and rich history in the Mid-South Baptist Association. But not content to sit back and live in memories of the past, the church continues to grow and transition to meet the needs of its members and the community surrounding it.

Brookside was founded in 1920 as Capleville Baptist Church and began meeting in a building that had previously been a broom factory. Pastor J.E. Daughtry, who was also a builder, constructed an auditorium and moved the factory building to the rear of the property to serve as educational space. An educational building was built in the 1960s. The church remained in the same location for 70 years.

After a church robbery in the late '80s, Capleville Baptist relocated to Germantown Rd. near Shelby Drive in 1990. The name was changed to Brookside Baptist, and the church remained at this location until recently selling the property in 2006.

As the membership of the church moved eastward and to the south, the members decided to relocate to East Goodman Rd. near Center Hill Rd. outside Olive Branch, MS. A multipurpose building is presently being constructed on nine acres of land. A dedication service has been planned for September 30, 2007, with Mid-South Baptist Association Executive Director of Missions Dr. Mike Day scheduled as special guest speaker.

During the building program, Brookside is meeting at Whispering Woods Hotel and Conference Center in Olive Branch. Even though they are in transition, the church continues to thrive and grow and offers many ministries to members – some of whom still travel from Memphis and surrounding communities.

With special ministries designed for children, youth, young adults and senior adults, Brookside offers something for everyone. A music ministry offering a blended worship style and recreation opportunities round out the ministries of Brookside.

Brookside also places great emphasis on missions – both local and global. They have sent mission teams to Europe, Asia, South America and Africa, and some 30-40 former members have served or are currently serving in full-time Christian service as pastors, missionaries, etc.

Pastor John Bomar came to the church on April 8, 1962. On Easter Sunday of this year, Bro. John will celebrate 45 years of service as pastor of Brookside Baptist Church. Other than serving at a small church in Ft. Worth, TX while attending Southwestern Seminary, Brookside is the only church Bro. John has pastored. With the average length of service for a Southern Baptist pastor of a healthy church in America today being about seven and one-half years (Lifeway Christian Resources), Bro. John's tenure is not only truly inspiring but a testament to the call God has placed on his life. Bro. John and his wife Peggy have two grown children, Mark and Rachel, who live in Olive Branch, MS.

As Brookside Baptist Church looks to the future, the members continue to strive to serve God where He has placed them. Excited about great things to come, they continue to be about the business of reaching men and women, boys and girls with the gospel of Jesus Christ and seeing lives changed for His kingdom.



Pastor John Bomar baptizes new Christian Joseph Smith at Brookside Baptist Church

The Mid-South  
Baptist





## A Word from the Executive Director of Missions

Dr. Michael Day

### Welcome New Camp Staff

This edition of the *Mid-South Baptist* is my opportunity to officially welcome Reverend Dale Gravatt and Mrs. Marcia Gravatt to the staff of the Mid-South Baptist Association. On April 1, 2007, Dale will assume his new duties as Operations Manager of the Mid-South Baptist Conference Center. Marcia will begin her service as Retreat Center Office Manager on May 1, 2007. The Gravatts will be moving into the on-site home that the Association provides for the Operations Manager at a later date.

I am delighted to welcome both Dale and Marcia to our staff. I believe Dale is the right man for the right time in the life of the Mid-South Baptist Conference Center for several reasons. **First**, he is known and respected as a servant-leader in our Association by virtue of 15 years of service as Pastor at Wells Station Baptist Church, as a former Moderator in the Association, and a member/leader of more committees, workgroups and task forces than we have space to mention here. Dale and

the Administrative Manual Task Force, and the Administrative Leadership Council. I am impressed by his commitment to help churches start new churches, develop their leaders, and involve their members in God's mission in the world. **Fourth**, he knows the issues to be faced and resolved in regard to the Conference Center and is committed to assisting the Association in determining the very best ways to manage and utilize the Conference Center as a resource for the churches of the Association. Dale will be a valuable helper to the *Resource Development Team* as they assess the work and

### MSBA STATISTICS

	2005	2006
Number of Churches Reporting	70	74
Resident Membership	69,785	71,596
Baptisms	2332	2054
Bible Study (Sunday School)	27,287	24,857
Worship Attendance	25,969	27,534
Cooperative Program	\$2,521,415	\$2,490,640
Undesignated Receipts	\$68,722,042	\$74,065,692
Association Gifts	\$488,699	\$542,327

Marsha will lead the way in establishing the Mid-South Conference Center as a service-oriented, user-friendly setting for camps, retreats, conferences, banquets, and other types of activities. **Second**, he knows the MSBCC property and operation by virtue of several years of service on our "Camp Committee" and through many years of personal investment in the ministry of the Camp. He has the "heart" for the Conference Center and the "head" for managing the varied aspects of this ministry resource. **Third**, Dale knows our Association and supports the current priorities and future direction of MSBA as demonstrated by his involvement in the Blue Ribbon Task Force, the Constitution and Bylaws Task Force,

ministry of the conference center and make recommendations concerning future usage of the facility. **Finally**, (this one may sound a bit selfish), I believe we are gaining a colleague in ministry who will focus on his primary task, but do all that he can to support the larger work and ministry of the Association and the churches. I am convinced through conversations that John Allen, Team Leader for the *Resource Development Team*, and I have had with Dale, that he will shoulder his part of the load and more. I believe his presence will be a blessing to the Association staff and to our member churches.

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE GRAVATTS TODAY!

— Bro. Mike

### Bellevue Baptist Church to Host Evangelism Explosion Clinic

What: Evangelism Explosion Leadership Clinic

When: July 23-27, 2007

Purpose: To equip church leaders with the tools necessary to implement an effective, intentional and proven evangelism training ministry and to train new teachers for churches that currently have an EE ministry in place

Who should attend: Pastors, ministerial staff and key lay leaders

For more information: Evangelism Explosion International – 888-567-3543 or [www.eeworks.org](http://www.eeworks.org)  
Bellevue EE Ministry - 901-347-5210

### Important Dates for April

- 2 Pastors' Conference - Bellevue B.C. 11:30 a.m.
- 6 Good Friday
- 6 Baptist Hospital Auxiliary Baptist Women's Hospital - 10:30 a.m.
- 8 Easter Sunday
- 9 *Mid-South Baptist* articles due
- 9 Pastors' Conference and Pastors' Wives' Fellowship - Bellevue B.C. – 11:30 a.m. *Children's Home Appreciation Luncheon*
- 10 Administrative Leadership Council MSBCC - 7:30 a.m.
- 12 TBCH Quarterly Meeting - Bartlett Campus – 10:00 a.m.
- 14 Associational Children's and Youth Bible Drill and Speakers' Tournament Kirby Woods Baptist Church
- 14 Associational WMU Leadership Meeting
- 16 Pastors' Conference - Bellevue B.C. 11:30 a.m.
- 19 Annual *Sisters Who Care* Event
- 23 Pastors' Conference - Bellevue B.C. 11:30 a.m.
- 28 State Children's and Youth Bible Drill and Speakers' Tournament FBC, Millington
- 30 Pastors' Conference - Bellevue B.C. 11:30 a.m.

### Welcome New Pastor

The Iglesia La Buena Esperanza Baptist Church is excited to welcome their new pastor, Rev. Hernan Gimenez, who with his wife Jennifer, will begin their ministry on April 1. Rev. Gimenez is from Venezuela and received his training in Argentina. He has served churches in Venezuela and California. Welcome Pastor Gimenez and family!

### Way to Go!

The Crosspointe Baptist Church AWANA club in Millington, TN, consists of 150 clubbers and adults. They had a contest between the boys and the girls to sponsor a club overseas. Club members brought in their spare change and contributed to this project each week for six weeks. If the boys collected the most money, the Children's Director, Connie Lawyer, would be slimed. If the girls won, the AWANA Commander, Martin Diex would be slimed! On March 14, the money was counted and there was a tie. Both got slimed! The children enjoyed this, but were ecstatic that they raised \$1200. They will be able to sponsor five clubs overseas that don't have funds to pay for the clubs in their area. The new clubs will be in Latvia, India, Mozambique, Guatemala and Brazil. Way to go kids and all those who donated!

### Jana Alayra Live in Concert

First Baptist Church, Millington is presenting Jana Alayra live in concert on April 27, 2007, at 7:00 p.m. This will be an evening for the family of Preschool through 5th grade. Advance tickets are \$5.00 or \$7.00 at the door.



Call Julie at 901-373-6161 for information about any of these events.

### Mother/Daughter Retreat *Precious Moments With Mom*

May 18-19, 2007

\$55 – mom/daughter

\$80 – mom/two daughters

Great fellowship • Music • Bible study

Contact Titus Mason at 901-377-6866 or Julie Binford at 901-372-3898.

### Thank You

The Mid-South Baptist Association and WMU want to thank all the churches that helped to make the IMB Missionary appointees, trustees and staff feel welcome in Memphis. The welcome bags were a big hit with all.

### Sisters Who Care

*Jesus Loves the Little Children*

April 19, 2007 • 6:30-8:00 p.m.

Faith Baptist East • 3648 Winplace Rd.

For women who love to pass on the passion of missions. Pam and Alan May, missionaries in Eldoret, Kenya, will share how they were led to start an orphanage in Kenya. Also enjoy ministry displays, children's mission resources, door prizes and dessert.

For more information, call Julie at 901-373-6161.

### Girls Adventure in Missions (AiM) Camp

June 11-15, 2007 • MSBCC

Cost: \$51 for overnight campers

\$155 for weeklong campers

### Would You Be Willing to Share Jesus With One of These Children?



For over 20 years, **Opportunity Camp**, a ministry of the Mid-South Baptist WMU, has shared the gospel message with hundreds of inner-city Memphis refugee children. Please consider sponsoring a child to attend Opportunity Camp 2007, from May 29-June 2. This can be done individually or by a group or church. Your gift of \$150 could make an eternal difference in these precious children's lives.

Please send all donations to: Mid-South Baptist Association, 6896 U.S. Hwy. 70, Bartlett, TN 38133. For more information, call Beth Cox at 901-853-3880.



## Multiplying Leaders for the 21st Century Harvest

Dr. Greg Spears - Leadership Development Strategist

### An Eternal Thank You

Over the past year as Sandra, the girls and I fought the fight to keep going we were ever conscious of the prayers and presence of our many brothers and sisters in Christ. Your kind words, gifts of service and everything else has made this past year one of the richest and most rewarding years of our lives. Despite our loss we praise the Lord for what He has done in and through you, His church. It is a wonder to behold how He has been glorified in you. Yes. It is true as the Psalmist declared, God is our strength and refuge in such times...and that He will never leave nor forsake us...in all of this and more He was truly manifest in His body the church!

Beyond this the Lord has impressed upon me a fresh awareness of eternity and the consideration of His wisdom for our days here.

*"There is an appointed time for everything. And there is a time for every event under heaven; A time to give birth, and a time to die...He has made everything appropriate in its time. He has also set eternity in their heart,"*  
— Ecclesiastes 3:1-2;11

None of us asked to be born; it was something done to us, apart from us. None of us ask to die or to set up our date with death; it is in God's providence and we all have an appointment with death that we will keep. There is an appropriate time for everything and everything will come in its appropriate time. God has already planned the schedule.

For nine months in our mother's womb we were prepared for life. For several decades longer we are

— Bro. Greg



Friday and Saturday, April 27-28, 2007

R.C. Ryan Center for Biblical Studies

Union University

Registration deadline: April 6, 2007

Cost: \$45 (includes all sessions and three meals); groups of 10 or more qualify for group rate.

Contact Brian Denker at 731-661-5579 or [bdenker@uu.edu](mailto:bdenker@uu.edu) for more information.



# Happy Easter