



## GREAT EXPECTATIONS A Prayer Conference

August 25-26, 2006  
Ridgeway Baptist Church

Ridgeway Baptist Church, located at 2500 Ridgeway Rd., Memphis, will be hosting a Prayer Conference August 25-26. Dr. Avery T. Willis, Jr., retired IMB Senior V.P. for Overseas Operations, will be the featured guest speaker.

### Break out groups planned are:

- Praying for the Family – Rob Finley
- Praying for missionaries – Christy Brawner
- Praying for People Groups – Mark Morris
- Prayer as Priority in the Church – Jack May
- Praying for the Lost – Mike Day
- Praying the Word – Tim Shelley
- Praying for Leaders/Current Events – Ron Hunt
- Prayer Walking – Anita Hunt

Download registration forms at [www.ridgewaybaptist.org](http://www.ridgewaybaptist.org). Registration fee is \$7.00 per person (maximum \$20 per family) and a nursery will be provided.

For more info., contact Anita Hunt at [greaterexpectations@ridgewaybaptist.org](mailto:greaterexpectations@ridgewaybaptist.org)

## MSBA Fall Soccer Organization Meeting



Monday, August 7 • 7:00 p.m.  
Faith Baptist Church

Leagues – ages as of August 1, 2006

League		Cost
Under 8	Co-ed	\$80
Under 10	Co-ed	\$80
Under 12	Girls	\$90
Under 12	Boys	\$90
Under 15	Girls	\$250
Under 15	Boys	\$250
Under 19	Co-ed	\$250

If your church is interested in playing in any of these leagues, please have someone attend the meeting or call Ken Cox at 901-213-2933.

## MSBA Fall Softball Leagues

- Men will play on Monday nights
- Adult Co-ed will play on Thursday nights
- League will begin in September.

All games will be played at Buckhead Creek Recreation Complex. Contact Ken Cox at 901-213-2933 for more information.



## Mid-South Baptist Conference Center

### Wednesday Dinner To Go Meals

Wednesday Dinner To Go Meals is a great resource for churches wanting to provide Wednesday evening meals. Contact the MSBCC Office at 901-754-7028 for more information and for reservations.

- The Menu for Wednesday Dinner To Go is an eight-week cycle.
- Reservations must be made by Tuesday the week before with a final number given by Monday the week of your dinner.
- Meal cost is \$4 for adults \$3 for children.
- You will be billed for the final number of meals that you reserve.
- No delivery.
- Meals will be available for pickup at 5:00 p.m. on Wednesdays unless other arrangements are made.
- Drinks, plates, cups, utensils, napkins, and condiments are not provided.
- Service will not be available during the months of June, July, or December.
- Certain other dates will be unavailable; notice will be given in advance.

## Opportunities Within Our Churches

### Pastor

Brunswick Baptist Church  
P.O. Box 100, Brunswick, TN 38014  
Labelle Haven Baptist Church  
labellehaven@bellsouth.net or 901-547-1650  
Rosemark Baptist Church  
9037 E. Kerrville, Rosemark Rd., Millington, TN 38053

### Associate Pastor

Balmoral Baptist Church  
2676 Kirby Rd. Memphis, TN 38119 or  
balmoralchurch@bellsouth.net

### Youth Pastor

Broadmoor Baptist Church  
P.O.Box 280649, Memphis, TN 38168  
Highland Heights Baptist Church  
675 National St., Memphis, TN 38122  
McLean Baptist Church (interim)  
815 N. McLean, Memphis, TN 38107

### Children's Minister

Broadmoor Baptist Church (P/T)  
P.O. Box 280649, Memphis, TN 38168

### Music Minister

First Baptist Church, Lakeland (Bi-Vo)  
joeffb1@netzero.net  
Grace Baptist Church (Music/Youth)  
Bill Harrald, 901-872-4294 or 849-0252  
Hartland Baptist Church (P/T)  
1820 Hartland St, Memphis, TN 38128  
Highland Heights Baptist (Music/Ed)  
675 National St., Memphis, TN 38122  
Leawood Baptist Church (Music/Sr.Ad)  
3638 Macon Rd., Memphis, TN 38122  
Oaklawn Baptist Church (Music)  
5714 Benjestown Rd., Memphis, TN 38127  
White Station Baptist Church (P/T)  
621 S. White Station, Memphis, TN 38117

### Pianist

Brookside Baptist Church (P/T)  
662-890-4069

### Maintenance

Kirby Woods Baptist Church (P/T)  
6325 Poplar, Memphis, TN 38119  
Oaklawn Baptist Church  
5714 Benjestown Rd., Memphis, TN 38127

### Nursery

Life Church at Schilling Farms  
901-850-0012 or lgreen@findlife.org

### Secretary

Audubon Park Baptist Church (P/T)  
901-324-7505 or ralph@audubonparkbaptist.org  
Bartlett Baptist Church (P/T)  
info@bartlett baptist.org  
Oaklawn Baptist Church (P/T)  
5714 Benjestown Rd., Memphis, TN 38127

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



# The Mid-South Baptist

August 2006  
Vol. 1, Issue 2



## A Word from the Executive Director of Missions

Dr. Michael Day - Executive Director

**I am human...** so I have to admit I have really enjoyed hearing the very nice things that many of you

have had to say about the new format and new name for this monthly publication. I join with you in complimenting Grace Atchley and Stuart McCollough for the excellent work they have done on the concept and design of *The Mid-South Baptist*. Your affirmation encourages all of us to continually improve our print, electronic and personal communication of what is happening among the churches of the Mid-South Baptist Association. Please keep on talking to us about how we can improve communication and more effectively tell the stories of what God is doing in His churches.

**I am grateful...** for the way our churches are responding to significant changes that are occurring in the Mid-South Baptist Association. The approval of the new Constitution and Bylaws at our semi-annual meeting in May replaced our long-standing committee and subcommittee structure with an Administrative Council and four strategy teams focused on encouraging and assisting the churches in the work and ministry God has called them to do. Over the next few weeks, our 2007 Nominating Team will be asking many of you to consider serving as a member of one of those strategy teams in the coming year. Our associational leadership teams are praying and believing that God will fill-up those strategy teams with leaders who will seek and follow God's direction in developing church-based strategies that equip and enable our churches to share the gospel and make disciples locally and globally. I would love to hear from you if you have an interest in serving on a strategy development team in the coming year!

**I am encouraged...** that God is growing us into a "different kind" of Baptist association. We are becoming an association that provides encouragement and resources that support the ministries of the churches. We are becoming an association of churches that network with one another in small groups and large groups to develop strategies for reaching our cities and the world with

the message of the Gospel. We are becoming an association of churches that partner with one another to start new churches, develop leaders, and mobilize their members for mission service. It is encouraging to see how God is growing us! An important part of the process of "becoming" is to determine the resources our churches need, as well as the resources that are available to support the work of the churches. We have opportunity to take a strong step in that direction in the very near future. On August 14 and 15, church consultants enlisted by the North American Mission Board will have opportunity to meet and talk with Pastors of our churches. The private, one-hour interviews will focus on God's vision for your church, the successes God is giving, the challenges you face, and the resources you need to fulfill the mission God has given you. As a result of this assessment process, we will have a clearer picture of the work, ministry, needs and challenges of our churches. A few weeks after the interview sessions, associational leaders will have opportunity to meet with a variety of Baptist entities that will identify resources they will make available to assist churches in fulfilling God's mission and vision. We believe God has provided this opportunity and that the end result will be additional support for churches engaged in the Great Commission! So, I want to invite every Pastor to personally participate, or to enlist a representative who can participate, in the interview session. Call us at 373-6161 or email [michaeld@msbac.org](mailto:michaeld@msbac.org) to set an appointment time.

**I have...** one more thing to say. While I am very optimistic about this opportunity, and confident that it is a tremendous step toward becoming the kind of association God is growing us to be, I am also very confident that *WE* can conceive no plan, approach or system that will substitute for an absolute outpouring of God's grace, mercy and direction for the churches of our association. Yes, *we should* do all that we can do to encourage the effective ministry of our churches, but *WE MUST* pray without ceasing that God will equip and empower His church to fulfill His Great Commission! TO GOD BE THE GLORY!!

– Bro. Mike

Dated material. Useless if Delayed!



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[www.msba.org](http://www.msba.org)  
Dr. Michael Day, Director of Missions



**EQUIPPING U**  
PREPARE • CONNECT • SERVE  
Regional Sunday School Leadership Training

Saturday, August 29, 2006  
8:15 a.m.-12:45 p.m.

Bartlett Baptist Church  
3465 Kirby Whitten Rd.  
Bartlett, TN

No registration is necessary.  
Conferences are provided  
at no cost to you.

Call 800-558-2090 or 901-373-6161  
for more information.



## Multiplying Leaders for the 21st Century Harvest

Dr. Greg Spears - Leadership Development Strategist

The Great Compromise of American Christianity: Has the Church gained the world by losing its own soul?

American Evangelicalism has sought to embrace the cultural habits and moods of our disintegrating and increasingly hedonistic society in a belated and naive attempt at reaching the masses of the over two hundred million lost in our county. The result has been the manifestation of a greatly compromised form of American Christianity that is almost unrecognizable from its historic counterpart. It is a form of Christianity that has no "otherworldliness" transcendence to it. As the compromised form became "this-worldly," it became very anthropocentric (man-centered) and almost totally immanent. Worship in this type of environment is more horizontal than vertical. Piety is more psychological than moral. The gospel is more self-centered than cross-centered.

It is an amazing thing to note the contrast between contemporary compromised American Christianity and Biblical Christianity. The first has become a political special interest group selling its vote to the highest bidder and seeking cultural relevance at all cost. The second was a force of revolution that shook the political world and transformed the culture in its wake! The first preaches a positive message of self-help and restoration to seekers struggling with their bad decisions and addictions. The second called sinners to repentance and confession while preaching salvation through the Gospel—via the atoning work of Christ on the cross and His resurrection power.

In Matthew 11:12 Jesus said that "from the days of John the Baptist until now the kingdom of heaven suffers violence, and violent men take it by force." **Verse 12 is a very difficult verse to understand. What does it mean that the violent take the kingdom by force?**

Charles Spurgeon had this to say about this text: "When John the Baptist preached in the wilderness of Judea, the throng of people who pressed around him became extremely violent to get near enough to hear his voice. Often when our Saviour preached did the like scene occur. We find that the multitudes were immense beyond all precedent. He seemed to drain every city, every town, and every village, as he went along preaching the word of the gospel. ....So intense was their desire to hear the Saviour that they pressed upon him, insomuch that they trod one upon another. The crowd became so violent to approach his person, that some of the weaker ones were cast down and trodden upon. Now, our Saviour, when he witnessed all this struggling round about to get near him, said, 'This is just a picture of what is done spiritually by those who will be saved. As you press and throng about me,' said Christ, 'and thrust one another, with arm and elbow, to get within reach of my voice, even so must it be if ye would be saved, "For the kingdom of heaven suffereth violence, and the violent take it by force."'"

The late great theologian Carl Henry posed some serious questions for the contemporary American church: "Can we take a holy initiative in history? Can we once more strike an apostolic stride? Can we put an ungodly world on the defensive again?" The answers to such questions are being given by the leaders of today. Listen, where is the prophetic "otherworld" voice of leadership today? Can you hear it?

— Bro. Greg

## Union University's New Church Leadership Bachelor's Degree



Union University now has the ideal curriculum for the Christian leader right here in the Memphis area! Maybe you have your Associates of Divinity, but you have not found a bachelor's level degree that fits what you need. Maybe you have some college classes but did not finish your bachelor's degree when you felt the call to full-time ministry. Whatever the case, Union now has a program designed for the working adult or minister who wants to finish a bachelor's degree in a field relevant to Christian ministry.

In as little as 18 months, you can earn your bachelor's degree in organizational leadership with a concentration in Church Leadership and still allow you to continue to meet all of your commitments – family, church, work, and the community.

Our staff takes pride in offering flexible service to meet adult student's needs. The Church Leadership program is offered right here in your area at our Germantown campus. We realize that you bring to Union a variety of credits; seminary, military, other colleges and Union's own R.G. Lee classes are considered for transfer. At last, there is a program created for you!

For more information concerning the Church Leadership program, please contact Keelan Cook at 901-759-0029 or e-mail kcook@uu.edu.

## Important Dates for August

- 3 MSBA Secretaries' Luncheon  
Leawood East B.C. - Noon  
Mike Day, Speaker
- 4 Baptist Hospital Auxiliary  
Baptist Women's Hospital - 10:30 a.m.
- 7 Pastors' Conference - Bellevue B.C.  
Rev. Joe Capebianco, Speaker - 11:30 a.m.
- 8 *Mid-South Baptist* articles due
- 8 Operations Committee and Related  
Subcommittees - MSBCC
- 10 WMU Leadership Meeting  
MSBA Office - 6:00 p.m.
- 12 Preschool and Children's Music Leader  
Training - Englewood B.C., Jackson
- 13 Day of Prayer for Students
- 14 Pastors' Conference - Bellevue B.C.  
11:30 a.m.
- 15 Sr. Adult Rally - MSBCC - 10:30 a.m.
- 19 Sunday School Leadership Training  
Bartlett B.C.
- 21 Pastors' Conference - Bellevue B.C.  
11:30 a.m.
- 26 WMU Church Leadership Training  
West Jackson B.C., Jackson, TN - 9:00 a.m.
- 28 Pastors' Conference - Bellevue B.C.  
11:30 a.m.



## Church Needs and Resources

- Germantown Baptist Church has donated VBS teaching materials for anyone who is interested. Please contact the associational office at 901-373-6161 if you can use any of these materials.

## Spiritual Formation Conference

September 15-17

Union Avenue Baptist Church

Special Speaker: Dr. Donald S. Whitney  
The Southern Baptist Theological Seminary  
Author of:

*Spiritual Disciplines for the Christian Life*  
*Simplifying Your Spiritual Life*

Cost: \$12 for materials

Call 901-276-5421 for more information  
or to make reservations.



For more information, call Barbara Owens at 800-558-2090, ext. 7905.



The State Singles Conference will be at Stevens Street Baptist Church in Cookeville, September 2-3. For information, contact Melanie Allen at 800-558-2090.

**Featured Speaker:** Brent Gambrell  
*Brent is currently the President of Images Creative Group, a ministry management organization; the founder of "Terra Nova," a student conference held in Nashville.*

The conference will include four seminar sessions in small groups of eight singles and leaders.

The four Seminar Sessions will have topics that center around these four letters in P.A.T.H.:

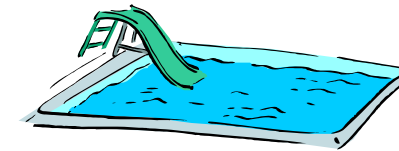
- P Purpose....Passion....Picture (Vision)**  
Why am I here? What drives me? What do I want in my future? (*Fill out your personality profile in this session*)
- A Attitude...Actions...Assets**  
What is my attitude? What are my spiritual gifts? How am I using them? (*Fill out your spiritual gifts inventory in this session.*)
- T Theology...Thinking...Training**  
Who am I spiritually? What am I concentrating on? What am I learning?
- H Hope...Help...Heaven**  
What do I hope and dream for? Who's helping me? Am I heaven bound?



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

## Equipping Missions Leaders

Saturday, August 26 • West Jackson Baptist Church, Jackson, TN • 8:30 a.m.-noon  
Age-level training and special-interest conferences led by the state WMU staff will be available for your church's missions leaders.



## Children's Mission Celebration Pool Party

Saturday, September 9  
MSBCC Pool • 2:00-4:00 p.m. • Cost: \$2  
For children in grades 1-6

Ministry project: Resort Missions (Bring bottled Tylenol, chapstick, small sunscreen and \$5 Wal-Mart card.)

## Tennessee Prayer Retreat for Women - In a Spin...Life on the Potter's Wheel

Friday-Saturday, September 15-16 • Jackson FBC, Jackson, TN

Speaker: Debbie Cannada

## Mark Your Calendars for Upcoming Events:

- September 10-17 - Week of Prayer for Golden Offering for Tennessee Missions
- October 14 - Fall Missions Celebration and Dinner at MSBCC.
- October 21 - JAM at Union University
- October 28 - World Day of Prayer Brunch

## Hope Fellowship Seeking Church Planters

Hope Fellowship Baptist Church is seeking a couple to work as church planters in the multi-housing ministry. The requirements are a love for the Lord and desire to plant a Southern Baptist church. Start-up funds are available but you will also need a church sponsor to continue the work. If you feel God leading you to this type ministry contact Bro. James Williams at 901-494-6331.



## RA University

RAU is an overnight Leadership Training which offers the most comprehensive training for Royal Ambassador leadership in the area. It is conducted by certified National RA trainers with many years of experience. At RAU, we don't just deal with basics; we take it to a whole new level. We build our training based on real life experiences. We understand the issues you face today as an RA leader. We focus on areas of chapter planning, organization, securing leadership, Campcraft, working with boys and utilizing teamwork to put it all together.

RAU is held in August to help you prepare for the new RA year in September. It is the perfect time to get new leaders trained while still offering fresh ideas for the seasoned RA leader. RAU is by reservation only.

Where: Rennick Lodge at the Mid-South Baptist Conference Center  
849 Rocky Point Road, Cordova, TN

When: August 11-12

Time: Begins 6:00 pm Friday and ends Saturday after lunch

Cost: \$35 per person (10% discount for groups)

Signup: Reservation required

Details on registration and event at [www.midsouthras.org/RAU.asp](http://www.midsouthras.org/RAU.asp).  
Register online, or call Mike Freeman at 901-849-0867.