



Regional VBS Clinic
March 29, 2007
6:30-9:30 p.m.
Bartlett Baptist Church



Make plans to attend and preview the new 2007 VBS literature.
Contact Dr. Greg Spears at 901-373-6161 for more details.



Impact
South America
Summit
March 21-23, 2007
Kirby Woods Baptist Church
6325 Poplar Ave. • Memphis

This interactive forum for pastors, lay leaders and mission leaders is designed to equip churches for strategic involvement in missions.

Highlights

- IMB Appointment Service March 21, 6:30 p.m.
- Dr. Jerry Rankin, President of IMB, will speak on Thursday morning.
- Interaction with church leaders who have mobilized churches to be on mission
- Discover how your church can adopt an unreached people group and impact South America
- Partnering with other churches working in this region
- Mobilizing your church in prayer
- Learn how to equip your people to go

You can register by calling Kirby Woods Baptist Church at 901-682-2220 or go to kwbc.org and click on the Impact South America Summit link. If you register by March 5, 2007, the cost is \$30, which covers meals and snacks each day of the summit as well as conference materials. The cost is \$40 for registration after March 5.

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



20th-Annual Senior Adult
Tune-Sharing Fellowship
Tuesday, May 8, 2007
Audubon Park Baptist Church
4060 Park Ave., (at Goodlett)

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

I wanted to thank you for the opportunity to lead as the Manager of Operations of the Mid-South Baptist Conference Center for the past six years. Thank you for your support, encouragement and help as we have strived to make the Conference Center a better place.

In late March/early April, I will begin as the new director of the Johnathan Creek Camp and Conference Center owned by the Kentucky Baptist Assemblies. God has opened this new door of ministry and I'm excited about all that He is doing through Johnathan Creek Camp and Conference Center. Pray for me and my family as we transition to the Hardin, Kentucky area.

I will continue to pray for the Mid-South Baptist Association as you follow God's direction and as you move forward. I truly believe that God has great blessings in store for the Mid-South Baptist Association.

Keep fighting the good fight!

In Christ,

David Rouse,
Manager of Operations

Opportunities Within Our Churches

Pastor

- Elliston Baptist Church
Contact Hugh Garner, 4179 Elliston Rd.
Memphis, TN 38111
- Iglesia Labuena Esperanza
1304 N. Graham, Memphis, TN 38122
Contact Marvin Fitts at 901-377-1855
- 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
- Labelle Haven Baptist Church
6825 E. Holmes Rd., Memphis, TN 38141
Fax: 901-547-1650 or labellehaven@bellsouth.net

Youth Pastor

- Broadmoor Baptist Church
Contact Rev. Bo Grace
P.O. Box 280649, Memphis, TN 38168
- Highland Heights Baptist Church
675 National St., Memphis, TN 38122
- 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

Music Minister

- 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

Intern in Student Ministries

- Bartlett Baptist Church (P/T)
Contact Mark Vigus at info@bartlettbaptist.org

Maintenance

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

Nursery

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

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

Dated material. Useless if Delayed!



The Mid-South
Baptist
March 2007
Vol. 2, Issue 2



A Word from the Executive Director of Missions
Dr. Michael Day - Executive Director
A Benediction

A benediction, according to Mr. Webster's dictionary, is: "(1) a blessing; (2) an expression of good wishes; or, (3) an invocation of divine blessing, usually at the end of a church service." If you are Baptist, you already knew the part about it coming at the end of the service. We have traditionally practiced the benediction as an act of closure. I personally recall a very meaningful "benediction" in my own life and ministry. I was leaving my home church—the place where I had asked Christ into my life; the place where I was baptized; the place where I grew up; and, the place where I had served as student minister and associate pastor—to move on to another place of ministry. It was an emotionally-charged time. In spite of the emotions, I held myself together pretty well—right up to the benediction. The benediction, in this case, was in written form. It was a notebook, filled with prayers for me and my ministry written by the students in our youth group. Some were scriptural ("The Lord bless you and keep you..."); some were confessional (*Lord, please help Bro. Mike forgive me for the all the stuff I did at camp last summer...*); and, some were directed toward my family (*Lord, please help Bro. Day be a better parent than he was a youth minister.*) The prayers varied, to be certain. But in every case they served as a word of blessing, an expression of good wishes, and a prayer for God's guidance and blessing in my life.

This month, we have opportunity to "pronounce a benediction" for the ministry and work of David and Susan Rouse, who have served for six years as Operations Manager and Office Manager at the Mid-South Baptist Conference Center. David has accepted the invitation of the Kentucky Baptist Convention to serve as Director of the Jonathan Creek Baptist Assembly in Hardin, Kentucky. He will assume those new responsibilities on April 1, 2007. Susan will remain in Cordova until the end of the school year and will assist us in the necessary transitions at the

Conference Center until April 30, 2007. And, now, the benediction:

We are grateful... for the faithful service of David and Susan Rouse. They have not had the easiest of jobs, but they have worked hard to meet every challenge and advance the work of the Mid-South Baptist Conference Center.

We are glad... that God is expanding and enlarging the scope of David's work and ministry through this new opportunity. And, we are not surprised. David is an extraordinarily talented and gifted young man with tremendous management skills and a heart for camping and conference center ministries. It is evident that God is moving him to a "larger arena of ministry" and that he will have opportunity to touch many more lives for Christ.

We are praying... that God's presence and blessing will be evident in the Rouse household and the Mid-South Baptist Association during these days of transition. They are days of both excitement and challenge as we prepare for future ministry, consider new opportunities and manage leadership transition. It is a time to pray for the Rouse Family and for our Association. A word of "benediction" found in Hebrews 13:20-21 seems especially appropriate for these days.

"May the God of peace, who through the blood of the eternal covenant brought back from the dead our Lord Jesus, that great Shepherd of the sheep, equip you with everything good for doing his will, and may he work in us what is pleasing to him, through Jesus Christ, to whom be glory for ever and ever. Amen."

Please join us in praying that God will bless David and Susan with everything they need for a smooth transition and effectiveness in ministry. Please join us in praying that God will bless MSBA with clear direction as we attempt to do what is pleasing to Him through the Mid-South Baptist Conference Center.

— Bro. Mike

Check out our newly redesigned website: www.msba.org
Please contact us at info@msba.org for anything you'd like added to the website.



Mid-South Ministry Profile

Association Welcomes Two New Pastors by Stuart McCollough

Mid-South Baptist Association has recently welcomed two new pastors to area churches. Although neither are strangers to the area, they both have recently taken on new responsibilities and challenges. Mike "Burr" Lovett of Hope Baptist in Olive Branch and Kevin Ferrell of Egypt Baptist in Raleigh have hit the ground running in their respective ministries, eager to spread the love of Christ in their communities and around the world.

Burr Lovett grew up in Jackson and Savannah, TN. He accepted Christ as his Savior when he was only six years old while attending East Jackson Baptist Church in Jackson, TN. It wasn't until he was at Fellowship Baptist Church in Bartlett, TN, that he felt the call into ministry. Besides Fellowship Baptist, Burr has also served at several churches in Tennessee and Mississippi, including Bible Grove Baptist Church in Jackson, TN and Whitten Memorial Baptist Church in Memphis. He has been on staff at Hope Baptist Church in Olive Branch, MS since 2000. He was serving as the Associate Pastor and Minister to Youth when the church called him as Pastor on January 28, 2007.

Burr is married to Jennifer and they have four children, Natalie, Luke, Anna Grace and Bethany. When asked about his vision for the ministry at Hope Baptist, Burr says that, "Hope Baptist Church's greatest desire is to offer real hope to real people in the real world. Hope is a place of grace and people of love and our purpose is to be a beacon of hope, which is Jesus!"

Kevin Ferrell was born and raised in Lansing, MI. He was called to the ministry when he was 17. He later determined that the Lord was calling him to be a pastor. He graduated from Palm Beach Atlantic College (now University) in West Palm Beach, FL, in 1983. He moved to Memphis to attend Mid America Baptist Theological Seminary and graduated in 1987. While in Memphis, he served as a youth/ music director at Raleigh North Baptist Church (now Faith Heritage). He was then called to serve as Associate Pastor at Dellwood Baptist Church under the

leadership of Rev. George Hern. In the years to follow, Kevin would serve in churches in Florida and Michigan before returning to the Memphis area in September of 2006. In October of 2006, with the untimely passing of Rev. George Hern, pastor of Egypt Baptist, Kevin was called to be Interim Pastor of the church. The church extended the full-time call as pastor on February 4, 2007.

Kevin is married to Debby and they have four grown children. Kevin says the vision he has for Egypt Baptist is, "to focus on where God has planted this church and to continue in that vein." He hopes over the next months to reacquaint the community with their church through visitation. Egypt Baptist has a long history of helping to start other congregations. Kevin also says the church has a global vision and supports mission work in the Ukraine as well as South America.

Please welcome these pastors to the association and encourage them in their new ministries by praying for them, their families and the churches to which God has called them.

First Baptist Church Drama Ministry presents The Splendor of Easter...Believe

with Adult Choir and Orchestra



April 1, 2007 – 6:30 p.m.
5010 West Union Rd., Millington
Call 901-872-2264 for more info.

Mid-America Seminary News

Seminary Preview Day • Friday, March 23, 2007 • 8:30 a.m.-2:00 p.m.

Now is the time for you to discover the Mid-America experience! As our special guest, you will have the opportunity to hear from our president, staff and students. There will also be a time to mingle with faculty, to sit in on a class and to tour our campus and housing. Lunch will be provided. For more information, please visit our website at

www.mabts.edu. Contact the Admissions Office at 901-751-3060 or 800-968-4508 to schedule a visit.

March Mission Madness • March 31, 2007

Mid-America Seminary is hosting a youth conference, March Mission Madness, at their new campus located at 2095 Appling Rd. Cordova, TN on March 31. Area youth ministers and students are invited to be a part of this event. Special guest speaker will be Dr. Gordon Forte, Vice President of the International Mission Board. Music will be provided by the Hillside Worship Band. The cost is \$10 before March 10; \$15 at the door. For more information, contact Alan Birchfield at 662-645-0396.

- 2 Important Dates for March Baptist Hospital Auxiliary Baptist Women's Hospital - 10:30 a.m.
- 4-10 Week of Prayer for North American Missions and AAEO Emphasis
- 5 Pastors' Conference - Bellevue B.C. 11:30 a.m.
- 8 MSBA Foundation Board Meeting MSBA Office - 8:30 a.m.
- 8 *Mid-South Baptist* articles due
- 10 Associational Daddy/Daughter Banquet Ellendale B.C.
- 12 MSBA Staff Meeting - 8:30 a.m.
- 12 Pastors' Conference - Bellevue B.C. 11:30 a.m.
- 12 Pastors' Wives Fellowship - Bellevue B.C. 11:30 a.m.
- 15 WMU Newsletter Articles Due
- 16-18 TN WMU Missions Get-Together and Acteen Convention - Gatlinburg, TN
- 19 Administrative Leadership Council MSBCC - 10:00 a.m.
- 19 MSBA Executive Board Meeting MSBCC - Noon
- 21 IMB Appointment Service Kirby Woods B.C. - 6:30 p.m.
- 25-31 Sunday School Emphasis Week
- 26 Pastors' Conference - Bellevue B.C. 11:30 a.m.
- 29 Mid-South Regional VBS Clinic Bartlett B.C. - 6:30-9:30 p.m.



Church News/Resources/Needs

Christian Sympathy is extended to the family of Rev. Waide Messer who went to be with the Lord on Wednesday, Feb. 21. Funeral services were held in Canyon, TX on Saturday, Feb. 24. A memorial service will be held at Ridgeway Baptist Church, Memphis, on March 3, at 2:00 p.m.

Elliston Baptist Church has a 1972 Greyhound-type bus for sale. Cost: \$15,000 or best offer. It is mechanically in good condition. For more information, call the church office at 901-743-4250.

McLean Baptist Church needs a bus (and driver) immediately. Call Pastor Wayne Mills at 901-274-3766.

Oaklawn Baptist Church has two school buses to sell. One has a wheelchair lift and safety belt strap downs. The other is a standard-size school bus. Both are diesels, road ready and in excellent condition. They may also consider a trade for 15-passenger vans in excellent condition. Call and leave call-back information at 901-353-4730 or e-mail: info@oaklawnbaptist.net.



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

Daddy/Daughter Banquet

Saturday, March 10 • 6:00 p.m.
Ellendale Baptist Church, Bartlett
Speaker: Karen Gruenwald, FBC, Gallaway, TN
Mission Project: birthday goody bags geared toward girls ages 4-14
Cost: \$27 – dad and one daughter;
\$40 – dad and two daughters (pictures included)
Registration deadline: March 1

Missions Get-Together and **CONNECTION**

March 16-18 • Gatlinburg, TN
The associational WMU has a block of hotel rooms available and is providing a bus for transportation. Contact Julie at 901-373-6161 to register or for more information.

Upcoming Events

May 18-19 Mother/Daughter Retreat at MSBCC
June 11-15 AiM Girls' Camp at MSBCC
Cost: \$51 for overnight campers
\$155 for weeklong campers

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



These children represent the countries of Bosnia, Sudan, Mexico and Vietnam.

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.



Friday and Saturday, April 27-28, 2007
R.C. Ryan Center for Biblical Studies
Union University

Do you or those in your church struggle with seeing how the Old Testament applies to life today? Commonly Christians find themselves frustrated in the effort to see how the Old Testament connects to the New Testament, to understand how it points to Christ and even to know what it means for everyday living. What does salvation by grace look like in the Old Testament? How do we apply the Old Testament as Christians today? How do the Old and New Testaments fit together? How does the Old Testament point to Christ? These questions and more will be addressed at the Ryan Center's third bi-annual conference, "One Bible, One Gospel: Exploring the Unity of Scripture."

Registration deadline:
April 6, 2007

Cost:
\$45 (includes all sessions and three meals); groups of 10 or more qualify for group rate of \$35.
Early registration discount: Register by March 29 (by mail or online) and the rate is \$40.

Lodging:
A block of rooms has been reserved at Double Tree Hotel, 1770 Hwy. 45 By-Pass, at a special conference rate of \$65/night. Please call the hotel directly at 901-664-6900 to make particular arrangements by March 29. Mention your participation in the Ryan Center meeting to receive your special conference rate.

Contact Brian Denker at 731-661-5579 or bdenker@uu.edu for more information.



Associational RA Racer Event • Saturday, February 17, 2007

An associational RA Race and Dinner was held Saturday, March 17, 2007, at Trafalgar Village Baptist Church. Over 80 RAs from 12 different churches participated and over 150 people attended. All proceeds benefitted Galloway Ministries in Galloway, TN.



Fourth-Annual Royal Ambassador Rocket Launch Benefitting the Tennessee Baptist Children's Home

Launch date: Saturday, March 17, 2007

Time: 10:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m.

Location: Shelby Farms

Directions: Follow Farm Rd. toward the Bison range. Look for our signs.

Cost: \$2 per person and at least three non-perishable food items that will be donated to the Tennessee Baptist Children's Home. Lakeland Baptist Church will also be providing concessions with proceeds going to the Children's Home.

- Bring your own Estes Model Rocket, engines, igniters and regulation wadding material (NO COTTON PLEASE - IT CREATES A FIRE HAZARD).
- The Mid-South Rocket Society will provide all the launch equipment.
- Special bathroom facilities will be available on site.
- Rocket tips and building decals can be found on our website www.midsouthras.org.

Upcoming Church Events

Broadmoor Baptist Church will host Chris Tomlin, Louie Giglio and Matt Redman in concert on March 13, at 7:00 p.m. Tickets are available at iTickets.com, area Christian bookstores and the church office. Call 901-386-9643 for more information.

Collierville, First Baptist Church, located at 830 New Byhalia Rd., in Collierville, would like to invite everyone to a free performance by multi-talented musician Mary McDonald on Thursday, March 22, at 7:00 p.m., in the worship center.

Whitten Memorial Baptist Church Ladies invite you to be a part of their SPA (Spiritual, Practical and Amusing) Girls event on March 24, from 8:30 a.m.-4:00 p.m. Tickets are \$15 for ladies 15 and older. A light breakfast and lunch will be served. Call 901-386-5444 for more information.

