WMU

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

Fall Missions Celebration and Dinner
Saturday, October 14 • 7 p.m.
MSBCC • Cost: $8 per person
Speakers: John and Pam Morris,
Gulf Coast Partnership Missionaries
Call Julie at 901-373-6161 to make reservations by Oct. 6.

Children's Missions JAM
Winter Blast
Saturday, October 21
Union University, Jackson, TN

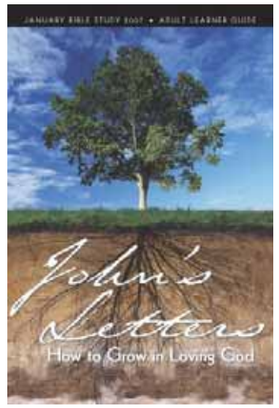
World Day of Prayer Brunch
Saturday, October 28
9:30 - 11:30 a.m.
Tennessee Baptist Children's Home

Missionary
Welcome
Baskets

MSBA WMU is providing welcome baskets containing snacks, bottled water, Memphis items, candy, notecards, etc. for the visiting missionaries during the TN Baptist Convention on Monday, November 13. If your group can provide one or more, please call the WMU office at 901-373-6161.

Preschool Outing
Enchanted Forest at Memphis Pink Palace
Saturday, December 9
9:00 a.m. • Cost: $3.50 adults/children
Mission Project:
Boxes of instant hot chocolate or hot cider for homeless ministry.

Reserve your spots by calling Pam Merz at 901-493-0739. Siblings are also invited. Make checks payable to MSBA, and mail to 6896 Highway 70, Memphis, TN 38133. Reservations and money are due by November 30.



January Bible Study

Led by Dr. John Mahoney
December 1, 2006
8:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m.
MSBACC – Palmer Center
Reservations required.

Call 901-373-6161 to make reservations.

Mid-South Baptist Conference Center

Contact the MSBCC Office to schedule banquets for the Fall and Winter seasons. Request our banquet menu, and schedule your group event with us.

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.

We look forward to serving you and your group as you use *your* Conference Center.

Opportunities Within Our Churches

Pastor
Hope Baptist Church
Contact Charles Hall, 6800 Center Hill Rd.
Olive Branch, MS 38654
Labelle Haven Baptist Church
labellehaven@bellsouth.net or 901-547-1650
Rosemark Baptist Church
9037 E. Kerrville, Rosemark Rd., Millington, TN 38053

Youth Pastor
Highland Heights Baptist Church
675 National St., Memphis, TN 38122
McLean Baptist Church (P/T)
815 N. McLean, Memphis, TN 38107
Mullins Station Baptist Church
Contact Pastor John Allen at 901-388-0896 or
1stjohn@bellsouth.net
Range Hills Baptist Church (P/T)
2741 Frayser Blvd., Memphis, TN 38127

Music Minister
Grace Baptist Church (Music/Youth)
Bill Harrald, 901-872-4294 or 849-0252
Hartland Baptist Church (P/T)
1820 Hartland St, Memphis, TN 38128
Leawood Baptist Church (Music/Sr.Ad)
3638 Macon Rd., Memphis, TN 38122
White Station Baptist Church (P/T)
621 S. White Station, Memphis, TN 38117

Intern in Student Ministries
Bartlett Baptist Church (P/T)
Contact Mark Vigus at info@bartlettbaptist.org

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

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

Financial Secretary
Union Ave. Baptist Church (P/T)
Contact Jeff Williamson at 901-272-5421

News and Resources

- Mike Duggin has resigned as Pastor of Hope Baptist Church in Olive Branch, MS after almost 10 years to accept a teaching position at S.B.E.C. Mark is available for pulpit supply and interims. You can contact Mark at 901-647-7714.

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

Dated material. Useless if Delayed!

The Mid-South Baptist

The Mid-South
Baptist
October 2006
Vol. 1, Issue 4

Mid-South Ministry Profile

Church Without Doors by Susan Word

Sometimes when people will not (or cannot) come to church, you have to take the church to them. That is the idea behind Church Without Doors, which was started eight years ago by New and Living Way Ministry to reach out to the homeless community within Memphis. Led by Pastor Stanley Williams, Church Without Doors meets from 1-2:45 p.m. every Sunday—through all kinds of weather—at Church Park located at the corner of Fourth and Beale Streets behind the FedEx Forum.

"God sent us to the outskirts of town to find and seek His people, the ones that will not necessarily come to a church *building*," shares Pastor Williams. "We've been going out and sharing with them what God has ordained they do with their life, to give their life to Him and let Him lead, guide, and give them direction."

Each week, between 125-150 men and women come to Church Without Doors for a worship service that is often led by individuals and groups from area churches. Volunteers also provide a sack lunch and drink to those who come as well as clothing and toiletry items.

"We try to supply some of their needs and to be a place where they can come and vent their problems while we take the time to listen to them," Pastor Williams adds. "We've seen a lot of people who have heard the Word of God, accepted Christ, and then gone and made their lives better by living according to God's Word. The Lord has blessed them with jobs. They've gone home to their families. They've now got a better future before them, and they have come back and given us testimony of how God has saved them and blessed them."

Church Without Doors is hoping to have a facility in the future in which they can conduct Bible studies throughout the week and house a food and clothing distribution ministry. They continue to need volunteers to be involved on Sunday afternoons as well as donations of transportation, pop-up tents, clothing, and toiletry items. This is a great opportunity for students, families, and churches to serve. For more information or to volunteer, call Pastor Williams at 901-870-4761.

Pastor Stanley and Mabel Williams stand in Church Park where The Church WIthout Doors meets.

Mid-South Baptist Association Annual Meeting

Monday, October 16, 2006 • Mid-South Baptist Conference Center

The Mid-South Baptist Association Annual meeting will be held Monday, October 16, 2006 at the Mid-South Baptist Conference Center on Rocky Point Road beginning with dinner at 5:30 p.m. (reservations required). Cost: $5.00 per person. The meeting will begin at 6:50 with celebration in song.

Other highlights include:
- Presentation of the 2007 Operating Budget
- Executive Director's Report
- Annual Sermon brought by Moderator Rev. Rick Panis
- Special Guest, Steve Mooneyham, Director of Missions for the Gulf Coast Baptist Association

Please call 901-373-6161 for dinner reservations. Childcare will not be available.

A Word from the Executive Director of Missions

Dr. Michael Day - Executive Director

Are you aware that October is designated as *Clergy Appreciation Month*? I must admit, I was not aware of it, until I heard it mentioned on a syndicated radio show a few weeks ago. As I searched for a little more information, I discovered that for several years, several Christian ministries, publishers, and agencies have combined their energies to encourage those of us who "sit in the pews" to find appropriate ways to honor and support those who serve God and serve us as pastors and ministers. It is a great idea, and a great opportunity for us to declare, WE LOVE OUR PASTORS!

I must admit, however, that my discovery of this new "holiday season" evoked some mixed feelings. At first, it made me a little MAD. I thought to myslf, *"Well, I am 'clergy' and I don't know that I've ever felt particularly appreciated in October."* Then, it made me a little SAD. I thought to myself, *"I wonder how long it has been since my pastor felt 'particularly appreciated' at any time of the year?"* Finally, it occurred to me that Scripture teaches we are to be GLAD for every opportunity to display our respect and regard for those who serve God as ministers of the gospel and shepherds of the flock. Paul said to the church at Thessalonica, *"Now we ask you, brothers, to respect those who work hard among you, who are over you in the Lord and who admonish you. Hold them in the highest regard in love because of their work. Live in peace with each other."* (I Thessalonians 5:12—13)

Paul reminds us that we are to "respect" and "highly regard" those whom God has called to ministry and placed in spiritual authority within the church. He reminds us to love them *"because of their work."* As humans, we tend to place conditions or limits on our love for anything or any person. When it comes to loving our pastors, we often say, "I'll love my pastor *WHEN*…his sermons get shorter; or, *WHEN*… his preaching gets better; or *WHEN*… he becomes more outgoing and personable; or *WHEN*… he starts acting like our previous pastor; or maybe, *WHEN*… he stops acting like our previous pastor. We might also say, "I'll love my pastor *IF*…he won't preach so much about money and giving; or *AS LONG AS* his theology is in agreement with my theology; or *AS LONG AS*…he never changes anything about our church; or maybe, *IF* he changes everything I don't like about our church."

IF, *WHEN*, and *AS LONG AS* comes pretty naturally to us because we are human. But, God calls us to a higher level of expression of our respect, regard, and love for our pastors. *"Hold them in the highest regard in love BECAUSE of their work."*

- "I love my pastor BECAUSE…God has called him and placed him in a position of leadership and authority."
- "I love my pastor BECAUSE…he approaches God in humility and surrender, but leads God's church with courage and strength."
- "I love my pastor and his family BECAUSE…they so gracefully respond to the incredible pressure of the "pastor's life;"
- "I love my pastor BECAUSE… hmmmmm…words escape me."

I've got an idea, though. Why don't you complete the statement above? Write it on a piece of paper or a note card, drop it in an envelope, and send it to your pastor sometime during October…or November…or any other month. Anytime will be the right time for *"holding them in the highest regard in love BECAUSE of their work."*

– Bro. Mike

A Word from the Associational Moderator

Rick Panis - Pastor, Trafalgar Village Baptist Church

What an honor it has been for me to serve as your Moderator, to partner with each of you to do Kingdom work. When I reflect on my years of service in the Association, I can see how the hand of God has unfolded a vision that is larger than any single entity… a vision that requires each person, each church to make an investment. I'm excited about the future. God is using a vast number of individuals with their unique gifts, skills and personalities… He is bringing together churches with all their diversities and He is causing us as an Association to be *FOCUSED*! That, my friend, is a God thing! My prayer will be that as we move forward… *we stay focused*! May our hearts be broken over the things that break the heart of God and may we all be found guilty of being a Christian!

It has been a joy to serve.

– Bro. Rick

Important Dates for October

2	TBCH Food Shower - Bartlett Campus
2	Pastors' Conference - Bellevue B.C. 11:30 a.m.
6-7	Tri-State Camp-O-Ree - MSBACC
6	Baptist Hospital Auxiliary Baptist Women's Hospital - 10:30 a.m.
8	*Mid-South Baptist* articles due
9	Pastors' Conference - Bellevue B.C. 11:30 a.m.
9	Ministers' Wives Fellowship Bellevue B.C. - 11:30 a.m.
10	Administrative Leadership Council - MSBACC
12	TBCH Quarterly Meeting Bartlett Campus
14	MSBA WMU Fall Celebration - MSBACC
16	MSBA Annual Meeting - MSBACC
16	No Pastors' Conference
23	Pastors' Conference - Bellevue B.C. 11:30 a.m.
30	Pastors' Conference - Bellevue B.C. 11:30 a.m.

West Frayser Baptist Church
50th Anniversary Celebration
Sunday, October 8, 2006

835 Whitney Ave.
901-357-5815
Bro. Clint Oakley, Pastor
Potluck Dinner - 12:30 p.m.
Singing - 1:30 p.m.

All former members and guests are invited and welcome!

Mission Opportunity
Baptist Collegiate Ministries

Thank you for providing food for the Noonday lunches at the University of Memphis Baptist Student Center. Listed below are the dates we still need churches to provide Noonday lunches:

November 3
November 17
December 1
January 19
January 26
February 2
April 27 (cookout for Finals Week)

Additional Needs:
(7) six-foot tables to provide flexibility
Newer computer for Computer Lab
(Desktops with Windows XP)

Mid-South Royal Ambassador Tri-State Camp-O-Ree

Southern Baptist Royal Ambassadors have gathered each year for the past 34 years at the Mid-South Baptist Conference Center, in Cordova, Tennessee, for their annual 24-hour Royal Ambassador, Tri- State Camp-O-Ree retreat (October 6-7). This event is managed totally by volunteer Southern Baptist men and women. Some campers tent camp, others reserve cabins, others cook their meals and still others eat prepared meals by a Tennessee Disaster Relief Unit, but all will have the time of their lives. The mainly outdoor camping experience has been so successful that it has now lasted long enough so that it is not uncommon for a Royal Ambassador leader to have attended the event as a Royal Ambassador!

Interestingly enough, even with attendance as high as 1,143, many Southern Baptist Churches, RA Chapters, leaders and boys have never heard of it.

Boys and leaders travel from all over the Mid-South to attend this 24-hour event. They come from Portageville, MO; Troy, TN; Holly Springs, MS; Olive Branch, MS; Meridian, MS; Spring Hill, TN; Jackson, TN; Woodville, MS; New Albany, MS; Corinth, MS; Somerville, TN; Alexandria, TN; Jonesboro, AR; Paragould, AR; Little Rock, AR; and other distant places. Certainly, the bulk of the chapters come from Memphis, TN and surrounding cities. All have one thing in common . . . they have superior Royal Ambassador leadership and come from Southern Baptist churches that have strong Southern Baptist mission education programs.

As usual this years Tri-State Camp-O-Ree has a jam-packed campfire presentation that includes Dale Crum, a Christian Lay Minister, who presents "DC Gump" . . . Dale's personal walk with Jesus Christ and special music by "Vertical" a talented group of Christian young men. This two-day event is so full of activity that even Royal Ambassador leaders have difficulty experiencing everything. That is understandable when one realizes the scope of involvement and Christian education offered.

If you would like more information about the Tri-State Camp-O-Ree or Mid-South Royal Ambassadors go to the following web sites: www.tristatecamporee.org and www.midsouthras.org.

Multiplying Leaders for the 21st Century Harvest

Dr. Greg Spears - Leadership Development Strategist

Christian Doctrine Before Christian Ethics

It is often lamented in study after study how the church of today increasingly reflects the greater culture in the area of morals and ethics. A cursory observation of what is being attempted in many a ministry today seems to validate the fact that church leadership is concerned with helping people find meaning in their life experiences and problem solving. Internally the focus is upon how to cope with grief, divorce, loss, financial crisis, and irresponsible spouse/children. Externally, the focus is increasingly a political, social, or environmental activism. When distilled down the focus is upon how to survive this life (successfully) and hopefully leave the world a better place (legacy).

This shift in ministry has happened over a long humanistic and liberalizing period of drift in western culture so that today ministry in the church is reduced to problem solving within the temporal realm of reality. The result being that we are not only increasingly failing in moral and ethical concerns here but more importantly we have lost sight of being "fit for heaven" to live with Him there. Christian ethics must follow Christian doctrine. Doctrine is concerned with God and his grace, while ethics is concerned with man under the influence of that grace; the former deals with the Giver and the giving of true moral life; the latter with the growth and expression of that life. The great Reformer Martin Luther stated:

> *Doctrine and life are to be distinguished. Wycliffe and Hus, who fought over the moral quality of life failed to understand this. I do not consider myself to be pious. But when it comes to whether one teaches correctly about the Word of God, here I take my stand and fight. This is my calling. To contest doctrine has never happened until now. Others have fought over life, but to take on doctrine — that is to grab the goose by the neck! ...When the Word of God remains pure, even if the quality of life fails us, life is placed in a position to become what it ought to be. That is why everything hinges on the purity of the Word. I have succeeded only if I have taught correctly. (LW 54,110; WA 1, 294-295)*

Luther got it right. Christian morals and ethics cannot stand apart from a right teaching of Christian doctrine that comes from maintaining a "purity of the Word." Only when we "grab the goose by the neck" can we address the critical issues the Church faces today.

I know that many of you honor the Word of God and labor to teach correct doctrine to your people. I want to invite you to take advantage of a choice opportunity coming up soon –the January Bible Study for 2007! The 2007 JBS is John's Letters: How to Grow in Loving God. John Mahoney, Professor of Theology, Mid-America Baptist Theological Seminary, will help us "grab the goose by the neck" as he expounds upon this most profound of biblical doctrines—the Love of God!

This year will be a reservation only opportunity. The study book, Dr. Mahoney's outline, and lunch will be provided with your reservation. The event will be held at the Palmer Center, Mid-South Baptist Conference Center, December 1, 2006 from 8:00 am to 1:00 pm with Q&A following. You may contact Grace Atchley at 901-373-6161 to make your reservations before November 22.

– Bro. Greg

Royal Ambassador "Dutch Oven" Cooking Team Reaps Surprising Rewards

Dwayne Leonard, manager of Sportsman's Warehouse, Memphis, TN asked Mid-South Royal Ambassadors to exhibit their skill in cooking with a "Dutch Oven" in front of his Memphis store. On August 26 Mike Freeman, Mid-South Royal Ambassador Director, led a team consisting of Charles Alton, James (Jim Bob) Liston, William (Will) Alton all of Whitten Memorial Baptist Church and Herschel Wells of Second Baptist. On a sunny Saturday morning the team cooked and served Cherry "Crisp" cobbler, peach cobbler, monkey bread and stew to approximately 70 Sportsman's Warehouse customers. Along with the good dutch oven cooking was a display of Royal Ambassador materials and flag that prompted questions about who or what Royal Ambassadors is. It provided a great opportunity to not only share the RA story but Jesus Christ. Several customers shared that as a child they were Royal Ambassadors providing the opportunity to inquire about their current church affiliation.

(Above) Charles Alton serves up a bowl of "Dutch Oven Special" to Bobbie Weible, President of Search Dogs South.

(Left) Charles Alton, Mike Freeman and Jim Bob Liston check out the finished product.