



Laborers Together Newsletter

Memphis School of Preaching Alumni Association

“For we are laborers together with God. . .” (1 Cor. 3:9)

Editor: Mike McDaniel, MSOP Alumni Liaison

Keith Dixon, President
Rick Lawson, Recording Secretary
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Joey Davis, Vice President
Keith A. Mosher Sr., Treasurer
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ROY J. HEARN FLASH DRIVE PROJECT

Mike McDaniel

Following the Board of Directors meeting in 2017, Keith Dixon and I discussed a possible project for the alumni which involved putting some of the materials of brother Hearn on flash drives and making it available to our alumni at a reasonable cost. All money collected from the sale of these flash drives would go directly to the MSOP Alumni Association Fund.

During the Executive Committee meeting this year, Director Clarke affirmed that this project would not interfere with another idea being contemplated by the school. In the Board of Directors meeting, I was appointed to a committee along with Jonathan Burns, Lee Snow, Tony Lawrence, and Jeremy Thornton to make this project a reality. We intend to have these flash drives available for sale during the 2019 Lectureship.

Several alumni have graciously aided us in the gathering of materials, and we are pleased with what we have thus far. We have

made excellent progress. While I was in the last class taught by brother Hearn at MSOP and was aware of much of his published writings, there have been some things shared by earlier students that I have never seen. It is exciting to make all of this available to younger alumni who are unfamiliar with his work. We are uploading brother Hearn's materials to Dropbox folders that are being shared by the committee.

We would like for our alumni to look at the list on page 6 of this newsletter. If you have something not on this list by brother Hearn which you would like to provide the committee, please email to me at mmcdaniel@earthlink.net or mail it to me at 2609 South Ward Avenue, Caruthersville, Missouri or contact any committee member. We would also appreciate any pictures you might have. We appreciate your help with the project and pray that it will prove beneficial to you. Please study the list on page 6!



A New School Year Begins

B. J. Clarke

Six weeks of Summer School concluded just a few days ago at the Memphis School of Preaching, and our current students will have about a ten day break before returning on August 15th for Orientation and the beginning of a new school year.

As well over a dozen new students head our way to begin their time at MSOP, I am struck by the fact that supporters like you are the reason they can do so. Were it not for contributors like you, we would have nothing but big buildings with empty classrooms. Instead, thanks to your support, we have dozens of students, both single and married, who have the precious opportunity to study the Bible verse by verse.

Speaking of precious opportunities, the day after orientation, our students will be attending the week-long *Polishing the Pulpit* program in Sevierville, TN. This is not a vacation trip for our students. Rather, they will choose a minimum of six sessions per day to attend, and they will take notes of these messages and submit them for grading. We thank all who had a part in making this trip possible for our students!

The Memphis School of Preaching has been blessed to have a sustained enrollment of approximately 40 students for several years now. To fund that many students with full support is no small task, but it is one made possible by wonderful supporters like you. We thank you so very much and, most of all, we thank God for providing every good and perfect gift from above!

ALUMNI NEWS

Birth

Congratulations to **David (2017) and Nicole Stafford** in the birth of their daughter, Abigail Cherie Stafford, who was born at 7:57 A.M. on August 10th. She weighed 5 lbs. 4 oz and was 18 in. long. David labors in Springhill, LA.

Move and Birth

Drew Suttles (2018) and family have moved to Antioch, TN and are laboring with the Gilroy church of Christ. He writes, "My wife Brittany and I are proud parents of a new baby girl, Henley Faye Suttles. She was born on July 26th. We covet and appreciate prayers with this new transition."

Birth

Brandon Grieves (2016) writes, "Our 4th (Asher Finn Britton Grieves) was born on 7/30. Our address is: Brandon and Erica Grieves, Fairview church of Christ, 1765 Industrial Loop Rd., Pulaski, TN 39478.

New Addition

Jeremy (2014) and Jinnie Thornton have a new daughter. She was born 7/31/18 and weighed 8 lb 10 oz. Jaycee Grace is her name.

Twins!

Stephen (2005) and Whitney Sutton welcomed a set of twins on July 24, 2018. Ada James and Tillman Hunt are happy and healthy babies.

Death

Ed Williams (1987) passed away on August 10th. His funeral is Sunday August 12 at the Ellendale Church of Christ 7365 Highway 70 Bartlett, Tn. 38133. Visitation will be from 1:00 - 2:00 and the funeral at 2:00. We extend our sympathy to his family.

Prayer Request

Douglass Hoff (1992) writes: "I have

been having trouble with my right eye lately. The optometrist said it is Posterior Vitreous Detachment (PVD). Please pray for me that I don't suffer retinal detachment which would be far more serious. As usual, I don't have any health insurance and have been out of work for a long time. My wife and I have been living on an inheritance while I try to secure income.

Conversion

Brett (1996) and Joanne Rutherford in Devonport, Tasmania, Australia reports that a member named Hal Fogg had been studying with a woman named Sharon Williams who came to visit him. Hal had to go to the hospital and have surgery for a benign brain tumor. "The good news is that while Hal was in the hospital we continued the study with Sharon. After a few days of intense Bible study, she asked to be baptized. Unfortunately, it is the middle of winter in Australia and our baptistry is not heated. Because Sharon was not a large lady we decided to baptize her in our large bath. Sharon has now gone back to Mildura. We continue to study with her over the phone." Sadly, she is the only Christian in that city. In other news, our letterboxing outreach this month targeted the communities of Forth, Leith, and Turner's Beach. These are towns just to the west of Devonport. We distributed our introductory flyer to homes in these three regions. The introductory flyer contains the times of worship and options for further Bible study on the back. We are also continuing to knock doors every Thursday morning."

India Missions

Ronnie Gootam (2018) writes, "We are currently waiting for the paperwork of our baby Evelyn Fiona Gootam to be complete.

We estimate it will take up to the end of November or beginning of December 2018. Nevertheless, we intend to keep ourselves busy with the works of the Lord while we wait. We will be spending time at PTP this month to be able to meet and greet brethren and introduce our newest addition to brethren that have known us for many years. We are also visiting congregations while we are here in the USA and making a mission appeal for support. In the past quarter, we have given away about 3,000 Bibles in India for free to those that completed our Basic Bible Correspondence Course (authored by Ira Rice Jr. and translated by my father Joshua Gootam and my mother Kabita Gootam in two local Indian languages). Our efforts can be known by visiting our website www.satyavanicoc.com. We send out newsletters of our works via email each month and anyone who wishes to be included in our mailing list can send me an email at ronnie.gootam@gmail.com. In the last two months through the efforts of our family, 40 people have been added to the Lord's church. One such place was where there was no clean water but collected muddy rain water. Another was baptized in collected water on the roof top in a water tank. We reach people via digital, print, and direct media.



Partners to our mission work are always encouraged to join us in the labors to save lost souls. Anyone that is interested in working with us can contact our overseeing congregation at: Hickory Grove Church of Christ, 1131 Hickory Grove Road, Almo, KY 42020. We are currently seeking \$1,000 a month to support our needs and cover some expenses of our ministry in India. Thank you so much for your support and consideration. God Bless You."

Jamaica Missions

Eugene Jenkins (1980) writes, "A couple of years ago, Luvenia and I had plans to work with the South Side congregation in York Town, Jamaica (Clarendon) for six months to a year at a time, but our health voided those plans. We are excited to announce that our health has improved, and thus our plans are back online with our doctor's blessings! I will continue developing and leading a campaign to the Island each June! In addition, we will also begin working with South Side brethren three to four months at a time in late December or early January! The congregation has a bright history but has declined in number and strength through the years. Carlton Richards, their preacher, is limited due to health problems, and we will be able to assist him greatly. The brethren are excited about our plans, as we are, and are looking forward to our arrival!

Engraving Heavenly Truths

Phillip Patton (2011) writes, “ My wife Stephanie and I are the new publishers of the Engraving Heavenly Truths Bible class series. Not sure if that is something you want to put in the news letter but we would like to get this into the hands of as many congregations as possible. The website is still the same, www.engravingheavenlytruths.com, now being published by PSquared Publications, 2900 S Garrett Ter, Marshall, TX 75672.

Resuming Teaching

Lee Davis (1985) writes, “Hey Mike, I am improving a little at a time. I am starting back teaching on OABS this Saturday (August 11). I had some tech problems last week.”

Panama Mission Work

Marlon Retana (2017) writes, “Since we returned to Panama, we came with a goal in mind, to apply everything we learned and practiced while at MSOP in our country, and to seek opportunities to help our local brethren reach that goal of being organized. Last January, the brethren at Vista Hermosa, in Panama City, contacted us to start working with them as an evangelist. However, there was a misunderstanding about the role. Presently, we are members only with the opportunity to preach and teach as part of a rotational program they have.



Bible Study In The Retana's Home

In the meantime, we keep Bible studies at our home each week and work in translating sound material, writing, video recording,

helping in campaigns as speaker/translator, and several other projects such as collecting Spanish recordings for Truth.FM, and helping MSOP as one of the Social Media administrators. As part of the translation, we are glad to announce that “Back to the Bible” is available in Spanish and has been used in recent campaigns. We want to establish a new congregation in our hometown but it is very hard because of the lack of funds (our funds are still below our budget, and we need a lot of help). We are very busy, but we are glad and rejoice in being busy for the Lord. Gonzales church of Christ, in Gonzales, LA is our overseeing congregation since last February, and we are very thankful for their help, love, encouragement, and support. More details about our work and our overseeing congregation can be found at <https://www.goyeintoall.org>. We (the Retanas) rejoiced recently as we went to Chiriqui, one more time, to help with the campaign that was held by the congregation at Los Andes. This campaign is part of a program that the brethren at Coldwater, MS has been doing for the last three years. My beloved instructors Billy Bland, and Daniel F. Cates came to teach and preach.



Brethren Bland And Cates With Our Graduates In Panama

It was great to work with them as well as the

local brethren. A VBS and Gospel Meeting were held which encouraged the local brethren. Several contacts were made, and they hope to have Bible studies with them and follow-up. **Pablo Horna (2017)** is the local preacher and he has been doing a great job along with his wife Kristen. He is helped by **Javier Lara (2017)**. All of them graduated from MSOP this past January.

Mission Trip

Denton Landon (1983) writes, "Greetings Mike. I spent two weeks teaching classes for schools in Chimala, Tanzania in May, ten days in Cameroon in June and two weeks in Arusha, Tanzania in July. While teaching I was privileged to preach and teach classes for local congregations as well. Please remember me in your prayers as I prepare to leave for Ukraine in September and India in October or November."

Recuperating From Surgery

Don Walker (HA-2017) had heart surgery on July 18th to have an LVAD "Left Ventricular Assistant Device" implanted. I heard a few days ago that he has now been moved to a regular room in the hospital. Please remember him in your prayers.

Moved

McKinley Pate (2013) writes, "I have accepted the minister's position in Vance, Alabama just outside of Tuscaloosa for the Mercedes Drive church of Christ. He and his family moved there and began working with the congregation back in January. The congregation is growing and for that God gets all the glory!"

A Bible Answer On WT WV

In late June, I successfully negotiated an agreement with WT WV-Good News TV for the *A Bible Answer* television program of which I serve as Moderator. Beginning on July 4th, *A Bible Answer* may now be seen in Memphis, TN and in the surrounding area on WT WV Good News TV on Wednesdays at 12:30 P.M., Thursdays at 3:30 P.M., and Saturday at 12:30 P.M. This new channel has a potential viewing audience of one million people and further expands our coverage. Please pray that this will have an effective outreach and inform other people if you live in Tennessee, Arkansas, or Mississippi and have Memphis stations for your local channels. Programs may also be viewed at www.abibleanswertv.org.

HEARN MATERIALS GATHERED THUS FAR

As of this date we have the following materials related to brother Hearn: (1) Tributes to brother Hearn from Curtis Cates, Garland Elkins, Billy Bland, Keith Mosher, and Bobby Liddell. (2) An interview done by Dennis Gullledge. (3) The article I wrote based on his biographical notes. (4) His debate notes on Materialism, Sabbath Day, Faith Only, and Baptism. (5) His notes on the Church, the Holy Spirit, and the book of Acts. (6) Handouts on the Gift Of The Holy Spirit and The Holy Spirit and the Christian. (7) His outlines on Elders, Deacons, and Evangelists. (8) His notes on Producing Distinctive Preachers and an article on Duties of Gospel Preachers. (9) A Syllogistical study of 1 Corinthians 14:34-35 and Women Teachers. (10) His original advertising for the Memphis School of Preaching. (11) His Memorial edition of his Sermon Outlines book. (12) Pictures of many of his sheet charts. (13) Some recorded audio sermons, a few video sermons and an interview done at World Bible School which we are seeking permission to use. What do you have that is not on this list which would be a valuable addition to our Roy J. Hearn flash drive? Please send it to me or any member of our committee. We greatly appreciate your assistance.

FOUNDATIONS IS A CONTINUED SUCCESS

The Memphis School of Preaching recently hosted approximately 200 teenage boys and girls for our annual Foundations training camp. Our theme was “Jesus, My Firm Foundation,” and it was a great week. Such gives us hope for the future of the Lord’s church! We are already anticipating next year’s programs which will be conducted June 22-28, 2019. Our theme will be “I Am Not Ashamed.” Our thanks to those who came and to those who instructed and helped in any way.



ALUMNI AND FRIENDS DINNER



On Behalf Of MSOP, Director B.J. Clarke Presents The Living Flame Award To Sherry Brown And Her Husband Jim



New Alumni Association President Keith Dixon Presents Mike Hixson With A Pin, Honoring Him As An Honorary Alumnus



Newly Elected Vice President, Joey Davis, Is Presented The 2018 Alumnus Of The Year Award By Tim Burroughs



The First Year Class Honors T. J. Clarke With A Plaque Of Appreciation



Mike McDaniel Reads Note From Lee Davis

Note from Alumni President Lee Davis: "To those brethren that I so love and appreciate, I so wish I could be there with you at the lectureship and during this dinner. I struggled with the decision to not come. This time of year has been my high point since 1984. Counting this year I've only missed 4 of the lectureships. I love the school and all of you. It was my honored privilege to serve as alumni President for the last four years. I pray God's blessings on our new president. I wanted to take this opportunity to thank each one of you for the support you have given me over the last year. Please continue to pray for me and my family that we will soon be able to get back to preaching the Gospel! If it is God's will, I trust that the Lord Will Make A Way For Me."

IN APPRECIATION FOR RECEIVING THE HONORARY ALUMNUS AWARD

Dear brethren,

I wanted to take pause and tell you how humbled and honored I feel to receive the Memphis School of Preaching Honorary Alumnus Award for 2018. Even now, I struggle to control my emotions and hold back the tears, I am so appreciative. I do not know what I have done to deserve such a privilege but, please know, it means the world to me. I cherish it.

Coming to the MSOP lectures year after year is and always has been one of the greatest evenings of my year. I always look forward to the great singing and words of encouragement that accompany the night. To be embraced by your sweet fellowship and see your warm smiles is “icing on the cake.”

You are so gracious to think of me. And, to know that I have been named along side someone like Mike Hixson...well, that’s just a double honor. Please know how much I love you and appreciate each of you for the multitude of ways you bless my life and, more importantly, for the untold ways you benefit the kingdom of our Lord, the King of all kings.

God bless,
Dan Winkler

Paid Your Yearly Dues Yet?

MSOP Alumni Association dues are \$25 a year and may be sent to MSOP in care of our treasurer, Keith Mosher, at 3950 Forest Hill-Irene Rd., Memphis, TN 38125. Make checks payable to MSOP Alumni Association. If it is more expedient, just go to the alumni page of the website at www.msop.org and pay using your PayPal account. These dues support special projects as well as death benefits for deceased members. Your assistance with this is greatly appreciated.