



Laborers Together Newsletter

Memphis School of Preaching Alumni Association

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

Mike McDaniel, President
Larry Powers, Recording Secretary
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Skip Andrews, Vice President
Keith A. Mosher Sr., Treasurer
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RECENT FACULTY MEETING

Gary Colley and I were both invited by brother Liddell to teach courses at MSOP this year. Brother Colley taught the New Testament Church course this summer. I am currently teaching first year Homiletics. The picture above was taken by second year student, Devin Dean, with my digital camera at the Faculty meeting on August 21st in the office of the Director, Bobby Liddell. Included from left to right are: Billy Bland, Gary Colley, B. J. Clarke, Barry Grider, Daniel Cates, Keith A. Mosher Sr., Annette Cates, Curtis A. Cates, Garland Elkins, Bobby Liddell, Michael McDaniel, and Jerry Martin.

Alumni Association Updates

The N. B. Hardeman Library

Mike McDaniel

At the Board of Directors meeting of the MSOP Alumni Association, I expressed my desire to put forth an effort to update the library before my term as President ends. I rejoiced that the board agreed to give the \$3,400 toward this project plus additional funds received above a \$4,000 account minimum. This would include the acquisition of new reference books, cataloging, and help for sister Cates if needed. B. J. Clarke and myself would serve as a committee to determine what books and materials were needed with the advice of the faculty. Also the elders at Forest Hill graciously agreed for the contribution taken at the Alumni and Friends dinner to go toward this effort instead of going toward the *Yokefellow*.

We were blessed by having one of the better dinners we have had in a long time. The attendance was wonderful and additional tables and chairs had to be set up. The collection for the library that night was \$2,600. Combined with the \$3,400 which had been approved hours earlier, we then had a total of \$6,000 to spend on the Library. We were thrilled!

Now here is what most people do not know. The next morning after the dinner, brother Mosher took me aside and told me that we had also collected some \$2000 in the first contribution for Alumni Association honorary dues which Greg Balentine took up. That means that not only did we have \$6000 for the library, but we also had replaced much of what we had taken out of the fund *in the same day*. **[Brethren, if every alumnus would send in their \$25 honorary dues to Brother**

Mosher each year, I can only begin to imagine what we could accomplish. What about you? Will you meet the challenge?]

Time was spent this summer in consultation with brother Liddell, sister Cates, brother Clarke, as well as the other faculty members. A list was compiled and the purchases have now been made. Two computers needed to be purchased. As some funds were already budgeted for the library, brother Liddell agreed for part of those funds to be used to purchase the computers which freed up more Alumni Association money for books. Our thanks to Joey Davis for helping the school to get a tremendous deal on two Dell computers. One is at the circulation desk where formerly there was no computer. The other is serving as the public access catalog for students to look up call numbers. The old computer is in the processing room and will continue to be used.

I had the opportunity in the last few days to visit the library and survey the books that have been purchased. There is no question that the reference library on the first floor has been improved substantially.

It would take too long to list every single book here, but the following will give you some idea of what was purchased. First, we completed as many lectureship series as possible such as: FSOP, Shenandoah, Spiritual Sword, Southwest, ETSOP, and Power. We purchased commentaries by John Kachelman, Denny Petrillo, Robert Taylor, Wayne Jackson, Stafford North, *The Truth for Today* series, Everett Ferguson, Gareth Reese, Jack Cottrell, Henry Morris, James Smith's *Survey*

of the Old Testament, New International Biblical Commentary series, Wiersbe's Bible Exposition Commentary, New International Greek Testament Commentary, The Bible Speaks Today New Testament Commentary, Tyndale New Testament Commentary, and Tyndale Old Testament Commentary.

New language tools purchased include: Mounce's *Reverse Interlinear*, Mounce's *Complete Expository Dictionary of New Testament Words*, Earle's *Word Meanings in the New Testament*, Renn's *Expository Dictionary of Bible Words*, Spicq's *Theological Lexicon of the New Testament*, W. Jackson's *Biblical Figures of Speech and Treasures From The Greek New Testament For The English Reader* and *Bible Words And Theological Terms Made Easy*, Wallace's *Greek Grammar Beyond The Basics*, Mounce's *Analytical Lexicon To The Greek New Testament*, Green's *Interlinear Hebrew/Greek-English Bible*, *Exegetical Dictionary of the New Testament* by Balz and Schneider, Kohlenberger's *Greek-English Concordance To the New Testament*, Mounce's *Basics of Biblical Greek Grammar* and *The Bible Knowledge Key Word Study*.

Other reference works included the *IVP Atlas of Bible History*, *A Dictionary of Bible Types*, *A Concise Encyclopedia of the Philosophy of Religion*, *Zondervan Illustrated Bible Backgrounds New Testament Commentary*, *Answering Jewish Objections to Jesus*, *The Popular Encyclopedia of Apologetics*, *Wycliffe Dictionary of Christian Ethics*, and the *Wycliffe Historical Geography of Bible Lands*.

There are three other sets of great value that were purchased. One set which has yet to be fully completed is the *Ancient Christian Commentary Series*. This series is a twenty-nine volume commentary on Scripture covering seven centuries of biblical

interpretation from the end of the New Testament to the mid-eighth century. It was recommended by brother Mosher, and it is truly unique. I have seen nothing like it.

Next, we obtained the *Worldmark Encyclopedia of Cultures And Daily Life*. This new second edition from May 2009 includes 2500 pages organized into four volumes by geographic regions: Africa, Americas, Asia and Oceania, and Europe. Entries are organized alphabetically by over 500 culture groups and cover such areas as language, folklore, religion, food, rites of passage, family life, recreation, and social problems. Each volume has a cumulative general index, a country index, and a glossary of terms. This outstanding resource should prove indispensable for those moving to other countries to do mission work.

Another unique resource is the *Worldmark Encyclopedia of Religious Practices*. In 1800 pages across three volumes, it explores the religious practices and traditions of every country in the world. Years in the making, this set, which was published in December of 2005, is a tremendous resource on the history, beliefs, and practices of the world's religious movements which was years in the making.

The exact total that was spent by the MSOP Alumni Association for this project was \$6659.65. Come and visit the Library!

Are you an alumnus of the Memphis School of Preaching? Have you sent in your \$25 honorary alumni association dues this year?

Please make out your check to the MSOP Alumni Association and address the envelope to Keith Mosher % MSOP, 3950 Forest Hill Irene Rd, Memphis, TN 38125.

AN EXPRESSION OF GRATITUDE FROM SISTER CATES

Memphis School of Preaching Alumni Association
c/o Michael McDaniel

Dear brethren,

Your gift of some \$7,000 for the N. B. Hardeman Library has allowed us to purchase equipment and books that we could not have obtained otherwise. The computers are in place and ready to use. Almost all of the books have been received, cataloged, processed, and are on the shelves.

Thank you very much for remembering the library in this way. The money has been well spent; the gift will go on serving students, alumni, and faculty far into the future!

Pray for us as we serve.

In Christian love,
Annette B. Cates, Librarian

AN EXPRESSION OF GRATITUDE FROM EDDY GILPIN

Dear fellow alumni and brethren,

Thank you so much for bestowing upon me the honor of “Alumnus of the Year” for 2009. Only those who have received this award can truly appreciate its meaning. I was deeply touched and humbled by your generous comments and kind words. I am thankful to a gracious and loving God, a supportive and faithful wife and family, a group of capable and loyal instructors, a constant and dedicated school, a devoted and serving congregation with which to serve, a tremendous brotherhood and a great group of friends, supporters, classmates, and fellow alumni. I am greatly appreciative of and deeply indebted to each who is represented in these groups for the opportunities you have afforded, the encouragement you have given and the instruction you have supplied to me along the way. This honor was as unexpected as it was undeserved; but I thank you from the bottom of my heart. May God continue to bless His church and each of you who serves faithfully in it.

Sincerely,
Eddy Gilpin (1985)
West Side Church of Christ
Salem, Virginia

NEWS FROM OUR FELLOW ALUMNI

New Additions

Justin Paschall (07) writes that he and Micah recently had their first child. Reagan Danielle Paschall was born on August 17th at 4:36 PM. She weighed 7 pounds 10 ounces and was 19 1/2 inches long. Both mom and baby are doing great. I have known Justin and his family for many years. I am confident he will be a good father. Justin preaches in Demopolis, AL.

Casey Clement (06) and his wife Beth also recently had a baby. Stephen Christopher was born on August 13th and weighed 8 pounds and 6 ounces. They live in San Sava, Texas.

New Locations

Nathan Franson (09) writes that he and his wife have just closed on a house. Their new address is: Nathan & Katy Franson, 14515 Quail Trail Circle, Orlando, FL 32837. Nathan is preaching at the Kissimmee church of Christ. We wish him well in his new work there.

Danny Butler (90) writes that he is in the process of making a move. He announced his resignation to the elders of Carbon Hill on the July 19th. If you know of any openings, please let him know.

Greg Lowery (07) will begin new work with the Brilliant church of Christ in Brilliant, AL on 9/6/09.

Mark Mosher (88) has accepted an associate minister's position with the North Main Church of Christ in Malvern, AR.

Gerald Wolfert (80) writes that he and his wife have been working with a congregation in Grand Forks, North Dakota for the past year. They are without a preacher and the congregation is small. A large number of members are from the Air Force Base there, and they come and go all the time.

Kenny Taylor (06) writes that he and Rebecca have moved to Clinton, OK. Their new address is 3203 S. Hwy 183 Lot 115 Clinton OK 73601-9633. Also, if anyone knows of any congregations looking for a self-supporting preacher in the area of Clinton, OK they could email him at kenny_taylor212@ymail.com.

New Achievements

W. Timothy Wilkes Sr. (81) writes that he successfully defended his dissertation in July and walked for his Ph.D. in August. His doctorate is in Adult Education from Capella University. Although it is a secular degree, most of his research papers, including his dissertation, dealt with some facet of personal evangelism. Curtis Cates served as a visiting scholar on his dissertation committee. Congratulations to Tim on this academic achievement!

New Prayer Requests

Bobby D. Gayton (75) writes that his wife, Linda, had thyroid surgery on August 26th. If it is cancerous, she will undergo radiation. Also, he had surgery on his prostate on July 20th and was diagnosed with prostate cancer on the 22nd. He will have more biopsies on September 14th to see if it has spread outside of the prostate. He will have pre-op on October 7th, and surgery will be scheduled after that. He will be in the hospital for 3-5 days and "housebound" for 3-5 weeks. Please remember both of them in your prayers.

Riley Nelson (87) writes that the parents of his wife, Susie, are in need of prayer at this time. Mary Montgomery has cancer and her husband, Bobby, has severe heart problems.

Wade Webster (89) has reported to me that he and **Allen Webster's (86)** father, recently had surgery for a brain tumor. The

long term prognosis does not appear to be good. Please remember him and his family in your prayers.

Mark Reynolds (99) writes that his family is moving from Towne Acres church of Christ, where they have been for fourteen years, to the Charlotte Avenue congregation in Rock Hill, South Carolina. Their first Sunday is September 6th.

Mission Works

Eugene Jenkins (80) and his wife, Luvenia, are working full time in Gospel campaign work, under the banner of CAMPAIGNS FOR CHRIST THROUGH WORLD MISSIONS. Working under the oversight of the elders of the Trenton church of Christ in Trenton, Missouri, they strive to fulfill their three pronged purpose: (1) To continue and expand campaign work on the island of Jamaica. One or more teams will be taken to work on the island yearly. In addition, various seminars will be organized and directed in an effort to help local congregations. (2) Do campaign work in other countries. There are many opportunities. (3) Help congregations in stateside efforts, such as campaigns, vacation bible schools, ladies' workshops, seminars, gospel meetings when invited to do so. They have been very busy this year. They spent three weeks in Jamaica in January, participated in a campaign to Trinidad-Tobago in March, returned to Jamaica in May and remained there until June 30th, conducted a VBS in Hazen, AR in July, and assisted in a campaign in Kinder, LA in August. They will spend three weeks in Grand Cayman in October and November of this year. They plan to do more work in Jamaica in January and June of 2010, and to be in Trinidad-Tobago for four to six weeks in March/April of 2010. They also expect to do more work in Grand Cayman in the new year. Financial assistance for this work may be sent

to the Trenton elders at: church of Christ, P. O. Box 164, Trenton, Missouri 64683.

Joshua Ankiah (01) writes that he is now in Durban, South Africa and preaching for the Reservoir Hills church of Christ. He is having Bible studies with two Hindus and has had invitations to preach at two different denominational churches, which he hopes by God's grace to turn around to the truth and the Lord's church. He says, "The harvest is plentiful here, and people do not have the slightest inclination of whether there is such a thing as biblical Christianity or the Lord's true church . . . The cost of living in South Africa is quite high, yes, even higher than that of California. Much of this is due to price fixing and corruption in the governmental circles. Another surprise here is the high cost of public education. It appears that we will have to pay approximately \$300 a month (\$150 per child) to send our children to the local public school whereas in California it is free . . . South Africa needs full time workers for the gospel if the truth is to be effectively planted in the hearts of its people. There are great opportunities and prospects." They are in need of additional financial support. Please contact their overseeing congregation, Dripping Springs church of Christ, P.O. Box 1, Dripping Springs, TX 78620.

Passing Of Reid Bennett (77)

Back in late May, sister Debbie Bennett contacted the school and informed us of the passing of Reid Bennett, a 1977 graduate of MSOP, on November 9, 2008. He lived in Nashville, TN.

This was the first we had heard of it. Upon learning, brother Mosher sent the death benefit from the alumni association to the family. We wish to inform his classmates of this news and express our belated sympathy to his family.

MSOP GRADUATE PROGRAM

Fall Semester 2009

PURPOSE: To provide interested gospel preachers, teachers, church leaders, and other Christians advanced courses. May be taken for credit or audited.

COST: Free of charge - no tuition, no fees.

REGISTRATION: First day of classes, Thursday, August 27th.

CREDIT: May be taken for credit by graduates from MSOP or equivalent schools, or those holding standard bachelor's degrees, toward the Graduate Diploma from MSOP. Others may take the courses toward an MSOP Certificate, or audit.

TIMES OF MEETINGS: Thursdays.

SCHEDULE:

Thursday

11 a.m. - 2 p.m.- History of the English Bible

4 Sem. Hrs. Keith Mosher

2 p.m. - 5 p.m.-Archaeology and the Bible

4 Sem. Hrs. Daniel Cates

6 p.m. - 9 p.m.- God and the Physical Universe

4 Sem. Hours C. A. Cates

INSTRUCTORS AND COURSE DESCRIPTIONS:

History of the English Bible, taught by Keith A. Mosher, Sr. [M. Th., D. Min.], is designed to give the student a history of our present English Bible from early Hebrew and Greek manuscripts to the latest English versions. It emphasizes the integrity and authenticity of the text and canon of the Bible.

Archaeology and the Bible, taught by Daniel F. Cates [B.A., M.A.], is an advanced study in archaeological methods and in the contributions of archaeology to the understanding of the Bible. Special attention also is given to discoveries in Palestine.

God and the Physical Universe, taught by Curtis A. Cates [M. Th., Ed. D.], is a survey of astronomy's history and methodology and of its solar, planetary, galactic, and cosmological aspects. A course in Christian evidences, it will examine the scientific facts and the question of origins.

The courses will be of special interest to preachers, elders, Bible class teachers, indeed all Christians. There is no charge by the MSOP for tuition or fees. Registration will take place at the first class meeting, August 27, 2009. Those interested in taking it for university credit should contact the Memphis School of Preaching immediately.