



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
May, 2006

Prayers Needed and Help Wanted!

Mike McDaniel

New Officers

In the annual MSOP alumni board meeting of March 28, 2006, I was elected President of the Alumni Association. Brother Skip Andrews was elected Vice President. Both votes were unanimous. While I feel that brother Andrews was very deserving having served as President previously, I feel very unworthy for this new role. I did not aspire to it having much to consume my time already with work with the church in Caruthersville, MO, television work with *A Bible Answer*, internet work as an instructor for OABS, and a local radio program. Nevertheless, circumstances have resulted in my serving as your President. Your encouragement has been very gratifying and most appreciated. Your prayers are now requested.

The double election this year was due to the board's oversight last year to elect a vice-president according to our by-laws. Brother Jerry Murrell had been elected vice-president in 2004 to fill the remaining

year of brother Cliff Newell's vice presidency since he was elected president that year. Brother Newell's term concluded this year. Unfortunately, he has not been in the best of health and was unable to attend the alumni meeting. We extend our thanks for the service these brethren rendered to the alumni association and ask especially that you keep brother Newell's health in your prayers.

I am grateful to be serving alongside two very fine past presidents who both served with distinction. Their experience will prove invaluable to me and to the alumni association.

Alumni Dinner

My thanks to all who helped with the recent alumni dinner on Tuesday of the lectureship. The crowd was great! The food provided by Leonards was excellent as always. And the medicine our speaker gave us both in laughter and in admonition was just what we needed. I could not have conducted the dinner on less than two hours of preparation without

the help of a number of people. Thanks to each one who hastened to help when they were called upon to do so.

Honorary Alumnus Awards

Brother B. J. Clarke and Sister Joanne Bradshaw were the worthy recipients of our Honorary Alumnus Awards this year. Both were deeply touched and very appreciative.

Alumnus Of The Year

Our Alumnus of the Year was brother Anthony Hixson of the class of 1984. We regret that brother Hixson was unable to be at the dinner. Brother Terry Claunch gave an excellent introduction of brother Hixson.

Any member of the Alumni Association who would like to make a nomination for Alumnus of the Year needs to contact Rick Lawson (bibleoter@gmail.com) who is the chairman of that committee. Past recipients of the award select the winner each year.

Distinguished Alumnus Award

Next year, we will have a new award to bestow. This award will be given to those alumni who graduated from MSOP and who have been consistently faithful and active members of the church for a period of not less than twenty-five full calendar years from the time of their Diploma. Those serving on the committee to determine the recipients of this reward are: Bobby Baker, Dustin Forthun, Bobby Gayton, and Michael Hughes.

Book Dedication

I greatly regret not having had the opportunity to look at the lectureship book before the alumni dinner. I was greatly moved when I saw that the book had been dedicated to the alumni of the school. Brother Liddell wrote,

To these special, worthy men,
the beloved graduates of the
Memphis School of Preaching,
over these last four decades,

we gratefully and lovingly
dedicate this volume of the
2006 Memphis School of
Preaching Lectures.

The fact that the class pictures from each of the forty years of the school are included in the front of the book should make this book a treasure to each alumnus, not only for the hard work represented by each manuscript, but for its historical and sentimental significance. If you were unable to attend the lectureship this year, you will definitely want to order the book.

A Tremendous Lectureship

I have already expressed my compliments to brother Liddell for planning such an edifying lectureship on *the Gospel of Christ*. The topics were exceptional. The wife of one of our alumni commented to me that this was a fitting theme for our fortieth anniversary. I heard comments such as: “uplifting,” “this has built me up,” “great crowds,” “I feel re-charged,” “I learned about some new tools for evangelism,” “I saw alumni this week that I have not seen in several years,” etc. If you were unable to come, be assured that we missed you, you missed some great preaching, and missed the renewing of old acquaintances.

Dues Are Due!

As a member of the alumni association, you have honorary dues of \$25 that need to be given to brother Keith Mosher. This goes to the alumni association fund. This year we were able to give \$7000 to pay for power point projectors for the first and second year classrooms. This will be very helpful to the students. Many gave their dues during the lectureship, and this was greatly appreciated.

Contribution For The Yokefellow

Over \$3300 was given to help pay for the sending out of the *Yokefellow* next year. It was my happy task to present this to one of the

elders, brother Harold Mangrum. Now I will tell you an inside joke. When I handed the money to brother Mangrum, I believe he said to me these words: "Now just a million more." That leads me to this . . .

Help Wanted!

For five long years, we have waited for Germantown to approve the new student apartments. Finally, they have done so. The work is under way. The cost is \$3.2 million dollars. The elders at Forest Hill have \$1.2 million in hand. More money has already begun to come in from those who believe in the work of MSOP. Two million more is required. Your help is needed as an alumnus of this school. Just imagine with me what it would have been like if we could have lived in beautiful new apartments on the same property as the church building, the school building, and the library. We are talking about an atmosphere that will be conducive to learning, to companionship, and to the happiness of the family. We are talking about facilities that will be second to none as far as brotherhood schools of preaching are

concerned. The student body of the Memphis School of Preaching has been and continues to be one of the finest student bodies anywhere with a consistently high number of students each year. Friends, let us place them in a safe, close, and comfortable living environment.

It is time for the MSOP alumni association to go into fund-raising mode once again. We have done this before. We can do it again. Each faithful alumnus who loves the school and believes in it needs to begin contacting brethren in their region, notifying them of the need, and asking for their financial assistance. Perhaps you can plan an informational dinner in your region. Have all checks made out to MSOP and marked for the Building Fund. *Brother Keith A. Mosher Sr. has challenged his fellow alumni to each raise at least \$1000.* Can we not rise up as faithful alumni of the Memphis School of Preaching and meet this challenge?

Please do what you can, where you are, for the school you love. Surely, the Lord will bless our efforts for the good of His kingdom.

A BRIEF OUTLINE BOOK PROJECT

Danny Butler

The alumni board approved the publication of a book of brief outlines that would be appropriate for use in nursing home devotions as well as other meetings at which a local preacher might be asked to speak. These would include meetings, such as city council meetings, PTA, and other events. These outlines are to be such that will provide a brief but pertinent lesson that will bring glory to God. They should provide no more than ten to fifteen minutes of material. They should be outlined with appropriate Scripture and easily adapted by the individual using it.

All alumni are strongly urged to send in at least one outline as soon as possible. If you have considerable experiences in such meetings as mentioned and have access to more than one, feel free to add another.

The purpose is to raise money for MSOP and the new student housing effort. As an alumnus, I am deeply indebted to the school and those who support it. I beseech you to reach back in your memory and recall the former days when we were where the present students are today. How wonderful it would have been if the class you were a part of could

have been located on campus instead of spread out across Memphis. Let us try to make it safer and more convenient for those who follow us. Send your outline ASAP, so we can

make this project a great success. Send it to: Danny Butler, P.O. Box 112, Carbon Hill, AL 35549. E-mail- jdb@sonet.net.

PERSONAL ILLUSTRATION BOOK PROJECT

Russell Kline

The Memphis School of Preaching Alumni Association has decided to pursue another book project to raise money for the school. This one is going to be a book of sermon illustrations, based on the personal experiences of the graduates of the school. All alumni are encouraged to write down any anecdotes from their personal lives, which they have found useful in illustrating points of Scripture, and send them to me. They may be funny, sad, or inspirational stories and they may be short or long, but they must be useful as sermon illustrations, and they must be original with the graduate offering the submission.

My home address is 1810 Dundee

Drive, Madisonville, Kentucky, 42431, and my e-mail address is msop1989@yahoo.com. As I understand it, my role in this project is to compile the accounts, and edit them into some kind of a coherent form to prepare them for publication. My vision for this book is that it may be broken down into chapters of illustrations suitable for sermons on various subjects, like Biblical Authority, Persevering in Christ, and the Brevity of Life, to name a few. This will all depend upon the nature of the submissions received. I am looking forward to working on this project. I am sure that this is a good idea, and assure you that I will work very hard to see it through.

A PERSONAL WORD OF THANKS

Mike McDaniel

On April 2, 2006, Caruthersville, Missouri, where I reside, was stuck by a massive, mile wide, F3 tornado with winds of 200 miles per hour. The tornado stuck the population center and destroyed or damaged severely more than five hundred homes. We are so grateful that we had no loss of life in our city limits. For days, we had no water, no electricity, and even telephone service was sporadic. The city was closed down by the National Guard with checkpoints at every entrance.

Our utilities have now returned and debris removal is in earnest. Demolition crews have already begun the sad work of bulldozing houses, including those of six of our church families. With the High School destroyed and the Middle School damaged, all student have been meeting at the Elementary building on a split schedule.

Our thanks to our good brethren for their calls of concern and for the financial assistance the Central church of Christ in Caruthersville has received. Pray for us.