



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

Lee Davis, President
Preston Silcox, Recording Secretary
Volume 10, No. 2

Keith Dixon, Vice President
Keith A. Mosher Sr., Treasurer
September 2015

Celebrating The Fiftieth Anniversary At The 2016 Lectureship

Keith Mosher, Lectureship Director

On the last Sunday in March of 2016, the 50th anniversary of the Memphis School of Preaching will be honored at the annual lectureship. The 2016 theme will be “Preach the Word,” which is the motto for the school and has been since the inception of the educational efforts now located at 3950 Forest Hill Irene Road in Memphis, Tennessee. Originally the school was at Getwell in Memphis and then at Knight Arnold Road, and the premise always is that only the Bible and preaching would be taught. Therefore, the theme, “Preach the Word,” was chosen because that is what is emphasized here at the school.

The 2016 lectureship (March 27-31, 2016) will have seventeen more speakers than usual as several more classes are being added including eight special classes for

young people, but the ladies’ classes remain at just eight. As much as possible, the majority of the speakers are graduates from the very early years to the present. Since there are more than 1100 graduates now, it is impossible to use all of them, but all are honored. The prayer here is that more alumni will come in 2016 than have ever come before and will be present for the Alumni & Friends Dinner on Tuesday evening of the lectureship.

The effort in assigning topics for 2016 centered on the practical and classes on sermon preparation, both topical and expository are included as well as missions, and home lessons. Make plans now to be at a very special event for the school that trained all of us and for the encouragement you bring when you come.



FROM THE DIRECTOR

B. J. Clarke

One of the most productive and influential weeks of the year at the Memphis School of Preaching happened during our Summer break. Each year, on the Saturday after the MSOP Graduation (which is always on Father's Day), we conduct a tuition free week-long training camp for teenage boys and girls (13-19 years old). This program is called FOUNDATIONS, and it had been an annual part of our program since 2008.



We had 27 boys present for the first 2008 FOUNDATIONS program. Each year this number has increased, and last year we introduced a special curriculum just for girls.



Last year we had a record attendance for 130 campers (73 boys and 57 girls). This year, from June 27-July 3, 2015, we were so blessed to have 201 teenagers (101 boys and 100 girls).

Our theme was, "I Want To Be More Like Jesus." During the week the boys learned many things about the Bible, and they worked on sermons which they delivered on Friday. The boys traveled to five area congregations and conducted Wednesday night services. The girls received instruction on everything from modesty to how to make a flower arrangement. They conducted a "mini Ladies' Day" program for the Forest Hill Ladies on Wednesday night, July 1st.

These young people were a joy to work with, and they were so tenderhearted, as evidenced by the nearly 50 responses to the invitations given in the morning chapel services. We are already anticipating FOUNDATIONS 2016, which will be June 25-July 1, 2016. Our theme will be "Here I Am To Worship."

MSOP Ongoing Spiritual Training Fall Semester, 2015

The Memphis School of Preaching's M.O.S.T. (MSOP Ongoing Spiritual Training) program will be resuming on Thursday, September 17, 2015. The classes will meet every Thursday between September 17 and December 17 with the exception being November 26 which will be Thanksgiving. We offer all three classes not only on campus but also over the internet (please visit www.msop.org or email dcates@msop.org for details on how to take part on-line).

On campus, classes will meet in room 405. These classes may be audited or taken toward a certificate (awarded after the successful completion of 72 semester hours) or an advanced diploma which is the equivalent of an MA in Biblical Studies (awarded after the successful completion of 72 hours and contingent upon a students having completed the MSOP two-year program or a similar training program or having a BA or BS in a Biblical area from a four-year college). Here are the courses being offered this semester:

FALL, 2015

Course Offerings

11:00 A.M.-2:00 P.M. Acts K.A. Mosher, Sr. 4 hrs.

2:00 P.M.-5:00 P.M. Studies in the Gospel of John, II T.J. Clarke 4 hrs.

6:00 P.M.-9:00 P.M. Old Testament Introduction D. Cates 4 hrs.

Course Descriptions

Course #626: Acts, taught by Keith A. Mosher, Sr. [B.A., M.A., M.Th., D.Min.], will be from the perspective of a harmonizing of Paul's epistles with the book of Acts.

Course #624: Studies in the Gospel of John, part II, taught by Ted J. Clarke [B.A.] will begin with an Introduction to the gospel followed by a detailed study of the English text; will include areas of John that are abused by denominational doctrines such as the teaching of Jehovah's Witnesses, Oneness and Trinitarian Pentecostals, and others; and will also study some of the criticisms of the text of John by so-called theological scholars and liberal brethren who deny the plenary verbal inspiration of the book.

Course #600: Old Testament Introduction, taught by Daniel F. Cates [B.A., M.A.], will be an introduction of every book of the Old Testament from a "lower criticism" perspective; that is, seeing who wrote the books, when and from where, why they did, and what students of the Bible can gain from each book.

As in the past, the courses will be of special interest not only to preachers, elders, and Bible class teachers, but, indeed, to all Christians! Also, as in the past, there is no charge for these classes as far as tuition or fees of any kind are concerned, regardless of whether one is just auditing or taking the classes toward the certificate or diploma. Registration will take place at the first class meeting on September 17, 2015 (copies may be made of the attached enrollment form for any who would be interested in filling out the form before classes begin). The Memphis School of Preaching is located at 3950 Forest Hill Irene Road, Memphis, TN 38125. Feel free to call if you have any questions; the number is 901-751-2242. We look forward to helping you make the MOST out of your spiritual training!

PLEASE ANNOUNCE AND COME

N. B. HARDEMAN LIBRARY NEWS

At our August faculty meeting, sister Annette Cates presented the Annual Report for the Library.

The Missions Program Students have had several of their classes in the library.

Some classes are directed study while others are taught online through means of Blackboard.

Because of the growth of this program, an emphasis in book orders has been on the history and background of various nations in Africa. This need continues. Also, in late June, some of the Foundations students met on the second floor of the library.

Sister Cates stated that they catalogued 1032 items and deleted three that were lost. The total number of items on shelf is 25,572, an increase of 1575. We were blessed with a number of significant gifts from very generous brethren.



She said that they circulated 3062 items, an increase of over 500 for the year. September set a record with 690 items used. August was the slowest month with 121 circulated.

We are blessed that sister Annette Cates continues to work 20 hours a week. Sister Jan Kuehn is serving as the full-time librarian and was taught how to catalog books for the library about a year ago by sister Cates. Sister Kuehn also proof-reads manuscripts, orders textbooks, indexes the Yokefellow, and assists in

the bulk mailings of each issue. Her husband, Gene, volunteers his time in providing maintenance and making the library presentable.

We greatly appreciate the work that each does to make our Library such a tremendous asset to the Memphis School of Preaching!

SPECIAL REQUEST FOR OLD PICTURES

Brother B.J. Clarke has requested that in preparation for the school's fiftieth anniversary, our alumni should send pictures of their time at the school, of classmates, instructors, special events, etc.

Please send these to this special email address: 50years@msop.org.

For some of us, our search may be as simple as looking in our My Picture files on our computer. But for others, this may require scanning old picture albums.

Please be looking for what you may have and send them in!

ALUMNI NEWS

Missions

Eugene Jenkins (1980) led a team of ten to Montego Bay Jamaica for a campaign. They included his wife Luvenia and her father, Bill Noblin. All worked well together, and with our Jamaican brethren, they conducted sixty-seven Bible studies. Team members taught many classes and preached many sermons. Eugene, Luvenia, and Bill stayed an extra week in order to do follow-up work in Tollgate (Clarendon), one of the areas they had a campaign in 2014. Bill had two Bible studies with a previous student, and they had good visits with several others. Eugene and Luvenia plan to return to Montego Bay in January, with the possibility of working with a couple of other congregations as well.

Sean Hochdorf (1996) wrote in his recent newsletter, “I love surprising people, especially those I consider dear. Since the doctor had cleared me to fly, I made arrangements to get back to TZ as soon as possible. The brethren there did not expect that I would return until late November. Cy Stafford and Daniel Gaines agreed to keep my trip a secret and snuck me in after arriving at the airport Wednesday evening. For those of you who have been to TZ, you know one of the most popular sayings is “there are no secrets in Africa”. This has proven true time and time again, and we weren’t quite sure if we would be able to pull it off. Turns out we did a pretty fair job at keeping it quiet. Cy and Daniel had arranged for a nice dinner for a number of the brethren and their wives to say thank you for their recent participation in the summer campaigns. Cy hid me behind a stand of trees until the group had arrived and taken their seats. Daniel came and retrieved me, and it was great to see that they were genuinely

surprised and, even better, glad to see me. It has been, and is, such a great privilege to work with these brethren. They have traveled so far in their spiritual walk, and it makes all of the missionaries here swell with pride and joy to see how their faith has so richly matured.”

Howell Ferguson (1984) and Mary are involved in the construction of the mission house at the Alisa farm in Tanzania. Finally, they were able to get the essential materials of sand, gravel, and cement transported up the mountain and deposited on the site. The slab has been laid and the brickwork has begun. A local Chimala “fundi” (skilled craftsman) by the name of Amani has been given the oversight of the construction to the point of putting the house “in the dry” including plastering the inside walls. Howell helps in various ways including “quality control,” but his primary task is keeping the water available to the construction site by means of a generator and water pump. The construction should be completed before they leave on furlough in October to welcome their new granddaughter into the world. They are worshiping with the new church at Mapangala which consists mostly of local Masai people. Having working with this congregation for about fourth months, they will then proceed to assist another congregation.

Brett Rutherford (1996) wrote in his latest mission report that his mother, **Brenda Rutherford**, has been staying with them for a time. She presented lessons at the Ladies’ Retreat on the subject of heaven, and the ladies who attended were greatly encouraged. After the Ladies’ Retreat, several of the attendees and their families stayed in Devonport, Tasmania and worshiped with them on Sunday.

Wade Webster (1988) writes that he is doing mission work in India and working with veteran missionary, Jim Waldron. Wade's work is being overseen by the elders of the Crossville church of Christ in Crossville, TN. Wade is now raising funds for this effort. He says he may be contacted by email at utmostmissions@gmail.com.

David Lemmons (3rd Yr.-1994) writes, "It was my great privilege to spend 20 days in Indonesia in August. My trip was financed by the Maple Hill church of Christ (Benton, KY), with whom I labor as preacher. After the air tickets and hotel had been paid for by the church, the brethren gave \$2,000 above the budget on the Sunday before I left, to cover my other expenses. This was my tenth visit to Indonesia. The twenty days were spent in the city of Manado, on the island of Sulawesi. This was my fourth visit to Manado. I was able to fly into the city directly from Singapore, not having to enter at Jakarta, as is usual. I worked with the good brethren at the Paal Empat church of Christ. I spoke 19 times in 20 days. I liked the way they had arranged the schedule. I spoke twice on each of three Lord's Day assemblies, and then there were two sets of Tuesday through Thursday nights when I also spoke twice. During the week night gatherings, I taught the Book of James. All of the studies were very well received and attended. I would estimate attendance between 30 and 35. I also was invited to speak at the home of one of the members for the 17th birthday celebration of Sarah Rotinsulu. There was a tent set up and friends, neighbors, and relatives had been invited to come hear the gospel. I preached a sermon entitled: "Depart from Me." During these 20 days, I was blessed to get to know better brethren I had known for quite some time. I also was able to pay for the flight of another faithful Indonesian preacher (Mathias

Posilambi) to come visit us in Manado during my stay there. He thoroughly enjoyed the fellowship with the Paal Empat brethren, and it was very good for me to get to see him again. The Paal Empat church is served well by the local preacher, Hendrik Mandowally. He is a graduate of the Southern Sumatra Bible College in Lampung. The Paal Empat church has detailed plans to reach out into the community with a special permanent Bible School. I pray that their efforts will lead to the salvation of many lost souls. There was one baptism while I was in Manado. One of the young ladies of the congregation, Vanesa, was brought to the hotel where I stayed and I baptized her into Christ in the hotel pool. All in all, the three weeks were a wonderful blessing to me, and I am hopeful that it was a blessing to the brethren in Manado as well.

Ronald Gilbert (1973) has been traveling in Zambia, Uganda, and Kenya during the month of August. He was to teach at Zambia School of Preaching in Livingstone for 3 weeks and conduct gospel meetings in Siamafumba, Misika, and Ngeweze. After the third Gospel meeting, he and Carolyn planned to fly to Uganda to teach some classes at East Africa School of Biblical Studies in Busia, Uganda and to conduct a short gospel meeting there. Then they planned to travel to Kalamindi School of Preaching in Kenya. They are having another Gospel meeting there, and they have 6 ICOTB students ready to graduate. They have raised enough funds to purchase each student who is graduating a new bike. He says, "The Lord is blessing our work with good success and good supporters. Please continue to pray for our work and help us as you can to take the Gospel of Christ "into all the world".

In Sympathy

We extend our sympathy to the family of **Bonnie Sue Rushmore** whose funeral was

conducted on May 21st after her passing of pancreatic cancer on May 18th. The wife of **Louis Rushmore (1977)**, she was a foreign missionary, an author of religious books and articles, as well as layout operator for the international quarterly magazine, *The Voice of Truth International*.

We extend our sympathy to the family of **Kendall Abner (1982)** who died on May 22nd after a long struggle with heart disease. His funeral was held at the London and MaComb Church Of Christ, in El Reno, Ok.

Congratulations On Their Adoption!

Jeremy Thornton (2014) writes, “Hello brother McDaniel. I have been delaying to send this, but Jinnie and I have just adopted a baby. Jolee Dell Thornton was born Thursday afternoon and is doing great. We will be waiting for clearance from states to head back to Marion with her.” [The baby is now at home and doing well, and Jinnie is on leave. - MRM].

Expecting

Patrick Swayne (2005) writes, “My wife (Chantelle) and I are expecting the arrival of our first baby, a boy, in the next few weeks. The official due date is September 23, though he could come before or after. I would appreciate everyone keeping my wife and our son in your prayers.”

Donnie Vick (2009) writes, “I started working with the Edgewood congregation in Greenville, SC. on July 12. We're also expecting our second daughter in October.”

Moving & Congratulations!

Luke Hall (2013) writes, “Melinda, Tyler, Toby and I have moved to Benton, AR to work with Steven Ford. I am the new youth minister at the Highway congregation. Also, we have a new addition to our family; Toby Carl Hall was born on April 20th. We pray your work is going well, and thank you for all you do for the alumni association. God

Bless!”

Moving

Alumni Association President, **Lee Davis (1985)**, writes, “I wanted to drop this short note to you asking you to pray for us as we enter into a new work. When I announced that I was not going to Singapore, the brethren at the Duluth church in Duluth, GA. and the Truth for the World contacted me asking me if I would come and be the new director for TFTW. I've accepted this challenge and have been working with TFTW for a couple of weeks. I ask that you pray for me and my family. The children are moving ahead but are still struggling with the loss of Trish [Their mother]. Please be praying for them.”

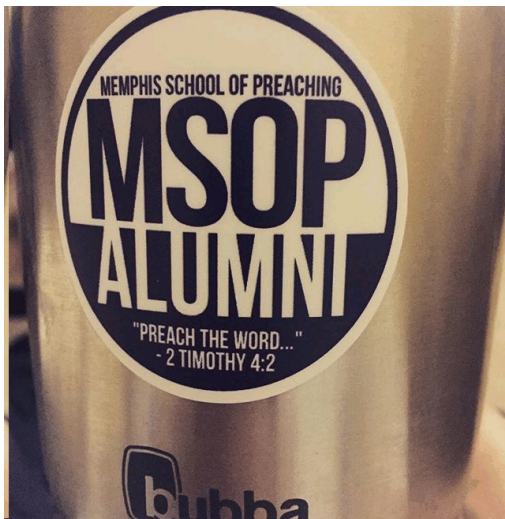
Douglass Hoff (1992) writes, “My family and I are planning to move to McMinnville, TN at the end of September to start working with the Smyrna congregation. This closes another chapter in my preaching work (4 years with the Clarion congregation in Clarion, PA).”

David Looney (1986) remains in Bolivar, TN, and is preaching at various places when possible. He hopes to secure a new local work in the near future. He has finished his coursework and will start writing his dissertation soon. Congratulations to him on his educational progress.

New Alumni Sticker

Lee Snow (2012) writes, “I made an image for Facebook the other day and had so many ask for me to make MSOP Alumni Stickers that I went ahead and got the ball rolling. If you would pass on the word to all the alumni that you know, I would be greatly appreciative. I'm going to be donating all of the “profit” from them to the Alumni Association.” They are attractive and are \$4 each. We appreciated brother Snow's willingness to do this. Go to the link below for more information.

http://www.leemsnw.com/store/p2/MSOP_Alumni_Sticker_%282x2%22%29.html



Sticker Is Shown Here On A Cup

Brother B. J. Clarke has also informed us that similar type items will be available for purchase as part of our 50th anniversary lectureship.

Prayers

Ray Peters (1969) wrote, "Will T. Winchester, who just celebrated 40 years with the Lord's church in Marion, NC, is facing physical challenges. He is on kidney dialysis 3 days a week for kidney failure. Just recently he was diagnosed with lung cancer. They cannot give him chemotherapy because of the dialysis, and if they did it would be catastrophic. The dialysis makes him real weak. It was my pleasure to have been a classmate with Will T. during 1968-1969. He was a mechanic – and I might add, "a good one" – from Murray, KY. Brother Winchester, applied himself and became a very good preacher and has done a wonderful work in Marion. The brethren there love and appreciate him, as well as I, and any one who knows Will T. Please approach the "Throne of Grace" for Will T. and his family."

Tutor / Homeschool Assistant for Missionary Children in Tanzania

Adam Evans (2013-WMP) writes, We, the Evans family, are looking for a single female to come live in Tanzania with us. Their role would be to homeschool our girls. They could help work with the church on Sunday (children's bible class or attend other Bible studies). They would have free time to do other things. They would be responsible for raising their own support. We would provide a place to live, electric, and water (Rent & Utilities basically). It would be great if they had an education background and an interest in teaching 3 girls ages 9,11,& 12. We would provide the materials and curriculum. This would be for a 1-year commitment. Let me know if you might know of someone that might be interested and I can pass along more information to them. This would be a great experience for someone just graduating. Our Email address is: amevans3901@hotmail.com.

Have You Paid Your Dues For 2015?

Our 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 funds allow the Board of Directors of the Alumni Association to fund special projects for the school and to send death benefits for deceased members. Having giving a large contribution to Foundations, our fund needs to be replenished. Please send your voluntary dues in today!

Some Polishing The Pulpit Workshop Pictures



Director B. J. Clarke Speaks To 2700 People At Polishing The Pulpit Workshop. Robert Taylor Jr. Said His Lesson Was “Absolutely Phenomenal.”



Keith A Mosher Sr. Speaks At P.T.P. Eyewitnesses Said He Used Powerpoint. As Incredible As This Is, We Present This Picture Of The Laptop On The Stand As Evidence.



Annual P.T.P. Class of 2004 Luncheon: Andrew Nelson, Joey and Pam Davis, Todd and Rose Crayton, Mark and Tina Shafford, Matthew Shelton, Ben and Patricia Phillips family, Derrick and Mindy Coble family, Barry Kennedy, and Jason Willis.



Class of 2009: Evan Kirby, Allan Hornbuckle, Heath Rhodes, Nathan Franson, Wayne Rodgers.