



## 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**  
*Volume 5, No. 1*

**Skip Andrews, Vice President**  
**Keith A. Mosher Sr., Treasurer**  
*March 2010*

## WHAT CAN YOUR PRESENCE SAY AT THIS YEAR’S LECTURESHIP?

*Mike McDaniel*

The time for this year’s Memphis School of Preaching lectureship on “*Shadows Of Good Things*” is fast approaching. It should provide for an outstanding study of the Word of God.

I want to take this opportunity to encourage our alumni to attend. What can your presence say at this year’s lectureship? Your presence can say much.

First of all, it can say that you remain dedicated to the cause of Christ which first inspired you to attend the school years ago.

Second, it can say that you feel indebted to an eldership, to a school, and to a faculty that sacrificed so you might receive the kind of education necessary to preach the gospel of Christ effectively to a twenty-first century culture that is in desperate need of it.

Third, it can say that your love for your fellow classmates with whom you studied together for two remarkable years of your life has never wavered.

Fourth, it can say that the fellowship you enjoy with men and women of like precious faith is indeed precious to you.

Fifth, it can say that the worship in which you shall participate is one of the highlights of your year.

Sixth, it can say that you are ready to re-charge your batteries for even greater service to Christ in the months to come.

Seventh, your presence can say to those students currently enrolled that our alumni association is strong, active, and cares about them and the sacrifices they are making to prepare themselves to preach the gospel.

Eighth, it can say to prospective students in attendance that they also can one day serve their Lord to the fullest of their God-given ability if they will only prepare themselves to do so by studying at the Memphis School of Preaching.

Friends, we hope to see you at the Lectures March 28<sup>th</sup> through April 1st!

# ALUMNI NEWS AND NOTES

## *Deaths*

We regret to inform you of the death of **John Gondos (2005)**. His funeral was held on Feb 17<sup>th</sup> at Fort Sam Houston in San Antonio, Texas. Jennifer says that memorials in John's memory may be sent to: Amerindian Mission Fund, % Jerry Davidson, 1006 Whispering Pines Rd, Daphne, AL 36526.

**Paul Martin (2002)** and his wife Vanessa have suffered the loss of their son, Stone (9), who was killed as the result of an automobile accident near Meeker, CO. Their daughter, Alahna (12) sustained serious injuries but is now at home recuperating. There is no way of knowing how much their medical and other costs will be. However, brother Liddell has said that those of our alumni who wish to send contributions for their needs can send them to MSOP, and they will be forwarded directly to the Martins. Contributions should be clearly marked for the Martins. That address is Memphis School of Preaching, 3950 Forest Hill Irene Road, Memphis, TN 38125-2560. If you wish to send them a card of sympathy, please send it to M/M Paul Martin at P.O. Box 125, Meeker, CO 81641. You may go to <http://themartinbox.com/> for the latest updates about the Martins.

## *Serious Illnesses*

From **Jeff Clark (1985)**, "You may already know this, but **Jim Murrell** is in very grave physical trouble. His heart is literally shutting down. Because of congenital problems that have worsened, his heart is only pumping about 1/4 of the blood it needs to, and the muscle itself is shutting down. The doctors have told him that he must have a heart transplant, and soon. They have indicated that this is possible and that he

would be viewed as a priority. The catch, as always, is money. He has finally gotten on disability and off of the government insurance he was on - but is now told that there is a 24 month waiting period before they will pay for procedures! He is working furiously to try to get some government official to help him get an exception to this. If no exception is made, it will be a cash transaction. \$750,000.00 is the amount they have quoted. Sounds like (and is) a large sum. But if 1000 people raise \$750, it is done!!! Could you please help us help Jim? Any amount will help. I am certainly not asking any one individual or congregation to do it all, but if enough of us "pitch in," we can do this! Yes, he is spiritually ready. His soul is the most important thing, and it needs no "surgery" because he is a faithful child of God. However, tell that to his wife, Jennifer - and to his kids, Julianna and Cameron. The whole family has handled this in a tremendous way - but they want him to live. Don't you? Follow this link and get as many to help as you can: [www.philadelphiachurchofchrist.com](http://www.philadelphiachurchofchrist.com). [*Jim is a former student at MSOP*].

**Mark Lance (1998)** writes concerning his daughter, "She is awaiting surgery at this time. Jessica is twenty years old. She was diagnosed with Chiari malformation. Most likely she was born with this, but it has just recently manifested itself. It first started six months or so ago. She is having severe pain in the back of the head and neck. The doctor will go in and shave the back of the skull and work to get the spinal fluid flowing properly. She does have insurance but it will only pay 60%. The doctor she has is supposed to be the best in this region at this, so we paid more to have him do the surgery. There will be an estimated cost of \$18,000 initially after surgery. I am

sure there will be more doctor bills to come with therapy and so forth. She also will lose her income for a couple of months, and we will make sure her insurance stays active. Any help would be greatly appreciated at this time. Any checks can be made out to Chalmette church of Christ for her medical bills. Thanks so much for your help. God bless.” [*Chalmette Church of Christ, 220 De La Ronde, Chalmette, Louisiana 70043. Phone: (504) 279-9438.*]

**Kenny Taylor (2006)** has been diagnosed with Burkitt’s lymphoma. He is currently in room 441, Mercy Hospital in Oklahoma City after a week- long stay in ICU. He has had at least three surgeries already. The doctor’s anticipate a very long course of chemotherapy. His initial week of chemo was stopped because of complications. He should start treatments again in a week or two. Each round of treatment will require hospitalization.

**Joel Smith (1976)**, writes, “I have retired from full time preaching in order to care for my wife. Three years ago she had a radical mastectomy, and a year later she survived a brain hemorrhage and massive stroke. Other than a few problems, she has recovered; however, now she is having to go in for another radical mastectomy. Please pray for her and her recovery and that we can cope with whatever comes. Due to this, we will not get to the lectureship this year.”

#### ***Getting Married***

**Stephen Sutton (2005)** will marry Whitney Chorice of Bartlett, TN July 10, 2010 at the Forest Hill Church of Christ. Stephen preaches for the Maury City Church of Christ in Maury City, TN, and Whitney teaches 4th grade at North Parkway Magnet Elementary School on Jackson, TN.

#### ***Birth***

**Tim Wilkes, II (2006)** and wife,

Rachel, had a son born October 16, 2009. His name is Titus.

#### ***Local Work***

**Jann Dirk Diamante (2002)** writes, “Thanks for the constant updates regarding the goings on there. The information helps to give me an idea of the situation there . . . I continue to labor here in Quezon City, Philippines. I graduated in 2002. The Commonwealth congregation has an average of 60 (Sunday morning attendance). It is just a small congregation, but the members are very cooperative – for this I am grateful. A sister in Christ asked if I know of a congregation in Los Angeles, California. Do you have an address or the name or phone of a preacher? I’m sure the sister would appreciate any information on the said location. [*We were able to assist this sister.*]

**Stephen Law (1985)** writes, “I am back preaching though it be part time or as Paul a preacher and a tent maker. I am working with the North Ave. church in Hapeville, GA, a south metro part of Atlanta. They have about 20 to 25 members for am worship. It helps me in teaching, preaching, and making the bills. Presently, I am without a Monday - Friday job since being laid off on January 29th. The Lord is taking care of me each day. I have what I need. Tell my classmates hello and God bless you and them.”

**Patrick Swayne (2005)** writes, “I don't believe I've ever informed the alumni of my move overseas, though most of my classmates know. I am preaching for the Eastside church of Christ in Melbourne, Australia and have been since May 2008. Also, I was married to the former Chantelle Herd in November 2009. That should bring everyone about up to date.”

#### ***Mission Work***

**Eugene Jenkins (1980)** writes,

“Eugene and Luvenia Jenkins continue their work *CAMPAIGNS FOR CHRIST THROUGH WORLD MISSIONS*. Luvenia speaks in a Ladies' Day in Bell, Missouri on March 27th, after which we will attend the Memphis School of Preaching Lectureship. In April we will be in Trinidad-Tobago, with Luvenia doing a Ladies' Day, and I will present a Church Growth Seminar, and then hold a Gospel Meeting. If time allows, we will then go to Grand Cayman to continue efforts in assisting the establishment of a new congregation in East End. In late May I will lead a team of twenty brethren on our annual Gospel Campaign to Jamaica. Luvenia and I will remain on the island for a couple of weeks to do follow up work. If plans come together, we will return to Grand Cayman for three months, beginning in August. There is a continual need for supporters. We will be glad to speak to you about our work.”

**Jeff Brown (2003)** writes concerning the Buenos Aires, Costa Rica Campaign on Jan. 18-29, 2010. “On Monday, Brent Arnold and I traveled to San Jose, Costa Rica, and there we were joined by brethren Mark Bass, and Phil Grear, both of Columbus, OH. On Tuesday we traveled to Buenos Aires to begin a campaign there. The church has been in Buenos Aires for about eight months. The campaign began on Wednesday. Joining us there were approximately 15 congregations from various locations in Costa Rica and brethren from Panama, Nicaragua, and seven others from the states. The local congregation had set up many studies before our arrival there. The campaign went from Wednesday to Wednesday. During the campaign, eleven people obeyed the gospel. Two were restored. There are many ongoing Bible studies still taking place. When we arrived in Buenos Aires the congregation consisted of fifteen members and about ten children. At the end

of the campaign, there were twenty-six members and about twenty children. Keep this work in your prayers. Plans are being made for next year's campaign in Heredia.”

**Howell Ferguson (84)** writes, “You might be able to say that the 2010 year will be a “transition” year for my work in the Bear Valley Bible Institute of Denver extension program. The major difference in looking at our plans for 2010 and previous years is the less number of visits we'll be making. However, the length of time spent in the fewer trips will be quite different. The first trip Mary and I will make will be three months in Ukraine. Our travel plans are to leave the 4<sup>th</sup> of March and return the 3<sup>rd</sup> of June. This will enable us to remain in Ukraine the maximum amount of time without having to get a visa and will allow us to be there for graduation. There will be a number of primary objectives (not necessarily in order). First, I'll be teaching two 1- week short courses. The first course will be on Personal Evangelism, and the second course will be on the book of Job. The second objective will be to teach and implement, in a very practical way, the lessons on personal evangelism with the Central church which meets in the BVBIU facilities. ...A third objective will be to study consistently with a private Russian tutor. The last major objective will be to assist Terry Harmon in the operations of BVBIU. Once we return from Ukraine in early June, I plan to visit and give reports to churches during the summer months . . .Immediately afterwards, Mary and I will be back to Ukraine in time for orientation and the opening day of class of BVBIU in Gorlovka. The duration of our stay there is indefinite at this time; but when we leave, we will fly directly to Tanzania (*Chimala-MM*) to remain there until near the end of November [*Please pray for the sick, bereaved, and faithful laborers in the field.*]

### ***Forms Available Online***

Our webmaster, Joey Davis, has informed me that there are now two important forms on the website at [www.msop.org](http://www.msop.org). One is the annual information form, and the other is the child care registration form. You may have recently received these in the mail. If you wish, you may fill these out online and save yourselves a stamp. We continue to appreciate the great job that brother Davis does updating the school web-site.

### ***Please Update Your Information***

On the alumni page or the school web-site, you may also update your information. Currently, we have about one hundred emails being returned each time I send something out due to undeliverable addresses. If you know a fellow alumnus who is not receiving this newsletter, please obtain their e-mail address and send it to me. You would be doing us a great service in doing so.

### ***Attention Board Of Directors***

Our annual Memphis School of Preaching Alumni Association Board Of Directors Meeting will be held on Tuesday, March 30<sup>th</sup> at 12:00 P.M. in the second year classroom across from the break room. You are requested to move to the head of the lunch line, obtain your food, and bring it to the classroom. We have important business to discuss this year including the spending of funds, an amendment to our constitution and by-laws, the selection of honorary alumni, and the election of a new President. We encourage every class representative to be present if possible. If you cannot be present and have an alternate, please contact them to see if they can take your place so that your class can be represented. New class representatives for the board will not be elected again until the alumni and friends dinner in **2011**.

### ***Please Turn In Your Dues***

Members of the MSOP Alumni Association have honorary dues of \$25. This money goes to our association fund and is used to pay a death benefit to widows of our members as well as special projects to help the school. These projects are agreed upon by the board of directors during our annual meeting. The more money we have available, the more we can do. Please give your dues to our treasurer, Keith Mosher, during the lectureship or mail them to the school and mark it for his attention. Checks should be made out to MSOP Alumni Association. It is truly remarkable the amount of good we have been able to do the last few years in the purchase of needed equipment, library books, etc.

### ***Alumni and Friends Dinner***

One of the highlights of the MSOP lectureship is the annual Alumni and Friends Dinner. Without a doubt, we have had a huge resurgence in attendance in recent years which I have been elated to see. Last year, we actually had to put out additional tables and chairs while guests were already eating just to accommodate all of the additional people still waiting in line. *We want to encourage every alumnus who is able to be there on Tuesday to attend this dinner.* It will begin at 4:15 PM. Tickets may be purchased in the office. The cost is \$7.00 for adults and \$3.00 for children. Leonards does a tremendous job catering this dinner each year. The alumnus of the year will be announced [Incidentally, all past alumnus of the year winners need to return their filled out ballots to chairman, Rick Lawson as soon as possible.] Two honorary alumni will be announced. A highly respected gospel preacher has been selected to be our guest speaker. For now, I will let that be a surprise and keep you in suspense. Let us fill the room once again at our annual alumni and friends dinner! It should be a delightful time.

# ***F O U N D A T I O N S***

*“I have laid the foundation, and another buildeth thereon” (1 Cor. 3:10).*

***Training Servants Now—And For The Time To Come***

At

**Memphis School Of Preaching**

**June 26-July 2, 2010**

*Theme: “Let No Man Despise Thy Youth”*

This is a week of specialized training for young men (13-18) who would like to learn more about becoming better servants for God.

Please go to [www.msop.org](http://www.msop.org) for applications and information

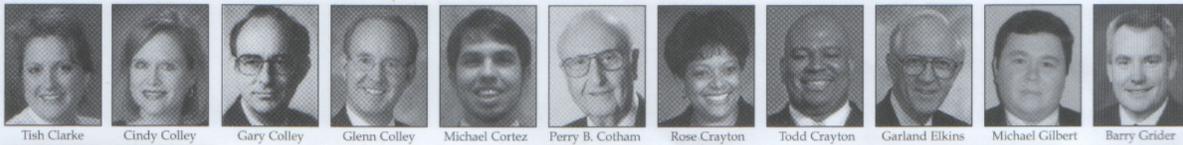
## **Seminar For Prospective Students And Supporters, Tuesday, March 30, 2010**

On Tuesday of the Lectureship each year, we conduct a Seminar For Prospective Students And Supporters. This year's presentation will be on Tuesday, March 30, at 2:30 P.M., in the Chapel Hall. Here, prospective students and congregations interested in supporting preacher students are given an introductory overview of the Memphis School of Preaching by the Director and faculty. Prospects have an opportunity to ask questions and also receive a packet of information to take with them. Your efforts to bring prospective students and supporters to the preview presentation and to the lectureship are vital to our recruiting efforts. We are asking every alumnus, and every friend and supporter, to make a special effort to make 2010 the best year ever for student recruitment and support raised. See you at the lectureship.

*Jerry L. Martin, Dean of Students*



Herb Alsop Mike Benson Billy Bland Phillip Brannon Robert L. Brown Chris Butler Annette Cates Curtis A. Cates Dan Cates Winford Claiborne B. J. Clarke



Tish Clarke Cindy Colley Gary Colley Glenn Colley Michael Cortez Perry B. Cotham Rose Crayton Todd Crayton Garland Elkins Michael Gilbert Barry Grider



Cecelia Grider Gary Hampton



Tommy Hicks Jason Hilburn

**FORTY-FOURTH ANNUAL LECTURESHIP  
MARCH 28-APRIL 1, 2010**

**THEME:**

**"SHADOWS OF GOOD THINGS"**

**MEMPHIS SCHOOL OF PREACHING**

**3950 Forest Hill Irene Road, Memphis, TN 38125-2560 • (901) 751-2242**

**SUNDAY, MARCH 28, 2010**

9:30-10:20 A.M. Evangelism: The Tree of Life .....David Sain  
10:30-11:30 A.M. Isaac: Submission Personified.....Barry Grider  
5:30-6:00 P.M. CONGREGATIONAL SINGING  
6:00-7:00 P.M. God: Our Portion.....Paul Sain

**MONDAY, MARCH 29, 2010**

8:30-8:50 A.M. CHAPEL: What Is a Metaphor?.....Jerry Jones  
9:00-9:50 A.M. Nature and Purpose of Types .....Wayne Price  
10:00-10:50 A.M. Adam and Christ.....Michael Light  
LADIES\*  
The Church Compared to a Virgin  
(Women Only).....Cecelia Grider  
11:00-11:50 A.M. Christ: Heir of All Things .....Gary Colley  
CLASS\*  
11:50-1:30 P.M. Noah and Christ.....Phillip Brannon  
LUNCH  
1:30-2:20 P.M. Christ: Captain of Our Salvation.....Winfred Claiborne  
LADIES\*  
The Church Compared to a Mother  
(Women Only).....Jane McWhorter  
2:30-3:20 P.M. Moses and Christ.....Rusty Hills  
CLASS\*  
Hagar and Sarah: An Allegory.....Dan Cates  
3:30-4:15 P.M. Christ: The Mercy Seat.....Cliff Sabroe  
4:15-6:30 P.M. INTERMISSION  
6:30-7:00 P.M. CONGREGATIONAL SINGING  
7:00-8:00 P.M. God: A "Father".....Dan Winkler

**TUESDAY, MARCH 30, 2010**

8:30-8:50 A.M. CHAPEL: Saints Compared To Light .....Devin Dean  
9:00-9:50 A.M. Christ: A Mediator.....Wayne Lankford  
10:00-10:50 A.M. Christ: The Wonderful Counselor .....Neal Pollard  
LADIES\*  
The Church Compared to a Wife  
(Women Only).....Cindy Colley  
11:00-11:50 A.M. Joseph and Christ.....Tom Wacaster  
CLASS\*  
Manna: A Type of Christ.....Jason Hilburn  
11:50-1:30 P.M. LUNCH  
1:30-2:20 P.M. Christ: The Paschal Lamb.....Glenn Colley  
LADIES\*  
The Church Compared to a Garden  
(Women Only).....Kathy Pollard  
2:30-3:20 P.M. Christ and the Ark of the Covenant.....Mike McDaniel  
CLASS\*  
The Ark: A Type of the Church.....Michael Gilbert  
SEMINAR FOR PROSPECTIVE STUDENTS  
AND SUPPORTERS (MSOP CHAPEL)  
3:30-4:15 P.M. Melchizedec: A Type of the Christ.....Michael Cortez  
4:15-6:30 P.M. ALUMNI AND FRIENDS DINNER  
(FELLOWSHIP HALL)  
6:30-7:00 P.M. CONGREGATIONAL SINGING  
7:00-8:00 P.M. God: A "Habitation".....Tom Holland

**WEDNESDAY, MARCH 31, 2010**

8:30-8:50 A.M. CHAPEL: Saints Compared To Soldiers .....Jesse Claunch  
9:00-9:50 A.M. Job and Christ.....Curtis A. Cates  
10:00-10:50 A.M. Leprosy: A Type of Sin.....Tommy Hicks  
LADIES\*  
The Church Compared to a Flock of Sheep  
(Women Only).....Irene Taylor  
11:00-11:50 A.M. Jonah and Christ.....Keith A. Mosher, Sr.  
CLASS\*  
The Tabernacle Types.....Todd Crayton  
11:50-1:30 P.M. LUNCH  
1:30-2:20 P.M. David and Christ.....Bobby Liddell  
LADIES\*  
The Church Compared to a Golden Candlestick  
(Women Only).....Rose Crayton  
2:30-3:20 P.M. Christ: A Fountain .....B. J. Clarke  
CLASS\*  
3:30-4:15 P.M. Joshua and Christ.....Billy Bland  
4:15-6:30 P.M. Christ and the Brazen Serpent.....Jerry Martin  
6:30-7:00 P.M. INTERMISSION  
7:00-8:00 P.M. CONGREGATIONAL SINGING  
God: An Husbandman.....Phil Sanders

**THURSDAY, APRIL 1, 2010**

8:30-8:50 A.M. CHAPEL: Saints Compared To Pilgrims.....Jesus Perez  
9:00-9:50 A.M. Christ the "Smitten Rock" .....Perry Cotham  
10:00-10:50 A.M. Jerusalem: A Type of the Church .....Garland Elkins  
LADIES\*  
The Church Compared to a Lily (Women Only).....Tish Clarke  
11:00-11:50 A.M. Christ the "Root of David" .....Robert Brown  
CLASS\*  
Christ the "Bright and Morning Star" .....Chris Butler  
11:50-1:30 P.M. LUNCH  
1:30-2:20 P.M. Rebuilding the Walls.....Riley Nelson  
LADIES\*  
The Church Compared to a Household  
(Women Only).....Annette Cates  
2:30-3:20 P.M. The Church: "A Burning Bush".....Gary Hampton  
CLASS\*  
3:30-4:15 P.M. Israel Saved: A Type of Salvation.....Herb Alsop  
4:15-6:30 P.M. God: A Man of War.....Mike Benson  
6:30-7:00 P.M. INTERMISSION  
7:00-8:00 P.M. CONGREGATIONAL SINGING  
God: A Builder.....Robert R. Taylor, Jr.

\* All Men's Classes meet in the School Building in Room 405

\* All Women's Classes meet in the Fellowship Hall



Rusty Hills Tom Holland Wayne Lankford Bobby Liddell Michael Light Jerry Martin Mike McDaniel Jane McWhorter Keith A. Mosher, Sr. Riley Nelson



Kathy Pollard Neal Pollard Wayne Price Cliff Sabroe David Sain Paul Sain Phil Sanders Irene Taylor Robert R. Taylor, Jr. Tom Wacaster Dan Winkler