



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 2, No. 4

Skip Andrews, Vice President
Keith A. Mosher Sr., Treasurer
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THE GOAL IS WITHIN REACH

As I write you, dear fellow Christians, I should like to talk with you about a tremendous work of the Lord that is dear to my heart, the Memphis School of Preaching. Please allow me to address this in three areas: appreciation, confidence, and a prayer.

In the first place, I wish to express my deepest **appreciation** to you and to the other faithful brethren who for more than four decades have supported the School in its invaluable work of educating capable, dedicated “men of the Book.” The approximately twelve hundred men, with their dedicated families, have preached the gospel in countless foreign countries and throughout the United States. In addition, graduates are also involved in teaching, writing, directing, and/or otherwise working and serving in numerous schools, major periodicals, radio-television media, and lectureship series in the U. S. and abroad. Our Savior Himself stated, “Therefore by their fruits ye shall know them” (Mat. 7:21). I believe the Memphis School of Preaching, under the capable oversight of the

faithful Forest Hill eldership, has brought forth good fruit and that the church universally has benefited.

In the second place, I wish to express my deepest **confidence** in the School’s unswerving, determined dedication to the old primitive gospel. Absolute loyalty to the pristine, pure Word has been its “polar star,” under the directorship of Roy J. Hearn and Curtis A. Cates, and now under the capable directorship of Bobby Liddell. Her graduates have always known “the Book,” and that powerful purpose and result continues – and shall continue! Thus, I feel very privileged and excited to continue with the MSOP and have every confidence in the elders, the director, and the faculty.

Consequently, in the third place, I wish to express my deep **prayer**. God is good. His Word teaches us that He hears fervent prayers of His precious children when those prayers are to His glory. Brethren, the Lord has blessed the School with a beautiful campus and great facilities, including the stately N. B.

Hardeman Library.



Now, through His marvelous grace and the vision and faith of so many, thirty-two wonderful three-bedroom apartments have been erected on campus, which are now housing over forty splendid future preachers [students] and their wives and children. How delightful to see them walk hand-in-hand to the church services, or to the Hardeman Library to do research, or to classes in the School! How delightful to see the closeness the students are building with one another, to see their children playing together! I wish you folks could be here to witness these tremendous blessings.

What is my prayer? It is that the remaining \$900,000 indebtedness [out of the original cost of \$3,500,000] can be soon paid off. Brethren, I thank you for all you have done and continue to do. You can have every confidence in our continuing, unswerving loyalty to truth. Please allow me, then, to ask you. Will you join me in my prayer for this special need? Can you help financially by specifically placing the apartments in your budget for 2008, or give a one-time contribution toward this \$900,000 goal? What a tremendous help to the cause of Christ – that is, not to owe anything for student housing! What a great saving this would be as we educate these students to preach thirty, forty, fifty, or more years! What a boost it would be to sending faithful laborers into the ripe harvest!

I pray that you can help. God bless you all.

Affectionately in Christ,

Curtis A. Cates
Director Emeritus



A FELLOW CLASSMATE PAYS TRIBUTE TO DEWEY MEDLIN

Dewey Medlin was everything that a Christian and gospel preacher should be. He was absolutely sincere and like Nathanael, without guile. He loved the church, the Word of God, his family, and even his enemies. He was a humble, God-fearing, prayerful child of God. He was always zealous for the truth and loved to preach the Word of God. He was an extremely hard worker in every way. A wonderful husband, father, grandfather, uncle, brother, neighbor, and trustworthy friend. He was filled with common sense and godly wisdom, and the love of God. He was a great soldier of Christ who shall be greatly missed. May God bless and comfort all of his precious family and friends. Dewey was truly one of a kind.

In Christian love,
Dan C. Bailey
MSOP graduate (73)

REMEMBER YOUR MSOP ALUMNI ASSOCIATION DUES

We are approaching December. Are you an alumnus of MSOP? Have you sent in your voluntary dues for 2007? The amount is twenty-five dollars each year. The fund must be built up further to publish brother Roy J. Hearn's biography at a later time.

Please send your dues to brother Keith Mosher Sr. at MSOP. He serves as the treasurer of the alumni association.

GET YOKEFELLOW BY EMAIL

Now you can receive the *Yokefellow* in the same manner as the *Laborers Together Newsletter*. If you would like to receive Yokefellow by email, go to the MSOP web site at www.msop.org, navigate to the Yokefellow page, and select the "Electronic Subscription" option.

MEMORIES OF ROY J. HEARN

Our committee continues their work in typesetting and proofing the autobiography of brother Hearn. We appreciate their hard work on behalf of the MSOP Alumni Association. While I have yet to read it, I am told that it is incomplete and deals mostly with his early years. Therefore, it is our thinking that two things might be done to balance the book and increase its value to others. We are thinking of including some of Brother Hearn's great articles from the *Knight Arnold News*. However, we will need your help with our other idea.

We thought it would be great if some of our alumni who were taught by brother Hearn could write one or two paragraphs and offer us a short anecdote or memory of brother Hearn that is very precious to you. It may be a classroom experience or even something that occurred outside the classroom in which brother Hearn was a help and encouragement to you. The best of these will be included in the book as space limitations allow.

Could you please do this before the end of the year and send it to our Vice President of the Alumni Association, brother Skip Andrews??? His e-mail address is: skipandrews@juno.com.

NEW VIDEO PRODUCED

Mike McDaniel

Beginning in May of 2007, we began production of a new video to be utilized in fund-raising for the student housing as well as for student recruitment for the Memphis School of Preaching. Our purpose was to update the first video, including the change of directors, our current financial needs, and promoting student recruitment. This video has now been completed and is approximately twelve minutes in length. We are praying that it will be productive of much good. It will soon be sent out to friends of the school and will be posted on the MSOP web-site.

My thanks to Dustin Forthun and Rick Lawson for their able assistance in the production and editing of the video. Thanks also to brethren Liddell, Cates, Elkins, Clarke and Martin for their time and efforts in the making of it.

We are excited to announce we need a *million more in one more year* to eliminate the indebtedness on the apartments. *[It did not take long for this sentence I wrote a few weeks ago to become outdated. Ten percent of that*

figure has already been obtained, now leaving us with \$900.000 to go!] Brethren, we would like to see this goal completed by the end of 2008. We can do it with your help!

In a bulletin which I receive, I noticed that one alumnus had a fund-raising campaign within his local congregation. He told the members there that he was trying to raise \$1000 for the student apartments at MSOP and asked if they would help him reach his goal. Each week, he put the amount in the bulletin which he had raised. The amount increased gradually until the goal was finally reached. Perhaps you can do something like this where you attend.

I think it would be helpful for each alumnus to contact congregations in the area with whom they have close relations and ask them to put the fund-raising campaign for the student housing at the Memphis School of Preaching on their prayer list. Let us place this need on the hearts of our brethren who may in turn place this need before the throne of our Heavenly Father.

“STRENGTHENING THE HEART”

The Forty-second Annual Memphis School of Preaching Lectures are planned for March 30-April 3, 2008. The theme: “Strengthening The Heart,” will be an encouraging, instructive, biblical study, addressing not only the need to strengthen our hearts for the trials and troubles of life, but also to look to the Scriptures to learn God’s way to do so.

On Tuesday, April 1, 2008, the *Seminar For Prospective Students and Supporters* will take place at 2:30 P.M. On

that same day, at 4:00 P.M., will be *The Alumni And Friends Dinner*, a highlight of our year. Monday through Thursday will begin with Chapel at 8:30 A.M., with lectures throughout the day, closing with the evening’s keynote addresses at 7:00 P.M. (preceded by congregational singing at 6:30).

We believe this lecture program will provide a much needed boost to all who attend. Thus, we hope you will begin now to plan to be with us. We will greatly and joyfully anticipate your presence.

FORTY-SECOND ANNUAL LECTURESHIP

MARCH 30-APRIL 3, 2008

THEME: "STRENGTHENING THE HEART"

MEMPHIS SCHOOL OF PREACHING

3950 Forest Hill Irene Road, Memphis, TN 38125-2560

SUNDAY, MARCH 30, 2008

9:30-10:20 A.M. He Shall Strengthen Your Heart: An Exposition of Psalm 31
David Sain
Barry Grider

10:30-11:30 A.M. The Heart Of The Preacher
Barry Grider

5:30-6:00 P.M. CONGREGATIONAL SINGING

6:00-7:00 P.M. The Heart That Trusts God Though Reproached By Enemies
Glenn Posey

MONDAY, MARCH 31, 2008

8:30-8:50 A.M. CHAPEL (Forest Hill) 1 Corinthians 16:13
Kyle Gilpin

9:00-9:50 A.M. Strengthen Thou Me According Unto Thy Word
B. J. Clarke

10:00-10:50 A.M. Gaining Strength Through Worship
Terry Claunch

CLASS* Growing Stronger In Personal Work
James Parker

11:00-11:50 A.M. Helping Our Neighbors To Be Stronger
Glenn Hitchcock

LADIES* Seeing God Through The Tears (Women Only)
Jane McWhorter

11:50-1:30 P.M. LUNCH

1:30-2:20 P.M. Practicing Pure Religion.
Mike McDaniel

LADIES* The Heart Of A Christian Mother (Women Only)
Tanya Silcox

2:30-3:20 P.M. Equipping Ourselves For Financial Challenges
Jimmy Palmer

CLASS* Withstanding Evil Influences In The Work Place
Eugene Jenkins

3:30-4:00 P.M. OPEN FORUM
Garland Elkins

4:00-6:30 P.M. INTERMISSION

6:30-7:00 P.M. CONGREGATIONAL SINGING

7:00-8:00 P.M. The Heart That Shows Mercy
Dan Winkler

TUESDAY, APRIL 1, 2008

8:30-8:50 A.M. CHAPEL (Forest Hill) Philippians 4:13
Dwayne Butler

9:00-9:50 A.M. Maintaining Biblical Balance
Don Blackwell

10:00-10:50 A.M. Trusting God's Providence
Gary Hampton

CLASS* Choosing A Mate Who Will Make You Stronger
Kevin Beard

11:00-11:50 A.M. They Shall Bring Forth Fruit In Old Age
Curtis A. Cates

LADIES* A Word Fitly Spoken (Women Only)
Jan Beard

11:50-1:30 P.M. LUNCH

1:30-2:20 P.M. "Don't Ever Give Up!"
Bob Spurlin

LADIES* When Loved Ones Go Astray (Women Only)
Tish Clarke

2:30-3:20 P.M. Having A Strong Eldership
Billy Bland

CLASS* Maintaining Strength In Times Of Temptation
A. J. Cox

SEMINAR FOR PROSPECTIVE STUDENTS AND SUPPORTERS
(MSOP CHAPEL)

3:30-4:00 P.M. OPEN FORUM
Garland Elkins

4:00-6:30 P.M. ALUMNI AND FRIENDS DINNER
(FELLOWSHIP HALL)

6:30-7:00 P.M. CONGREGATIONAL SINGING

7:00-8:00 P.M. The Heart That Is Lonely
Tom Holland

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 2, 2008

8:30-8:50 A.M. CHAPEL (Forest Hill) 2 Timothy 2:1
Morne Stephanus

9:00-9:50 A.M. The Lord Is My Strength
Paul Sain

10:00-10:50 A.M. On The Mission Field.
Rod Rutherford

CLASS* Having Strong Deacons
Charles Broyles

11:00-11:50 A.M. Rearing Children With Healthy Hearts
Mark Mosher

LADIES* The Heart Of Her Husband Trusts In Her (Women Only)
Keri Sayle

11:50-1:30 P.M. LUNCH

1:30-2:20 P.M. Fighting "The Battle Of Armageddon"
James Hudley

LADIES* Essentials For Strong Bible Class Teachers (Women Only)
Christa Mangrum

2:30-3:20 P.M. Building And Repairing Our Homes
Jerry Martin

CLASS* The Christian Response To National Crises
Patrick Morrison

3:30-4:00 P.M. OPEN FORUM
Garland Elkins

4:00-6:30 P.M. INTERMISSION

6:30-7:00 P.M. CONGREGATIONAL SINGING

7:00-8:00 P.M. The Heart That Grieves
Keith A. Mosher, Sr.

THURSDAY, APRIL 3, 2008

8:30-8:50 A.M. CHAPEL (Forest Hill) Ephesians 6:10
Josh Richardson

9:00-9:50 A.M. Keeping The Local Congregation Strong
Wade Webster

10:00-10:50 A.M. When Bad News Comes
Ed Smith

CLASS* Standing Against The Threats Of Atheism
Bob Pritchard

11:00-11:50 A.M. Drugs, Immorality, Violence, And Suicide
Are Not The Answer
Dan Cates

LADIES* Facing Responsibility As A Caregiver (Women Only)
Irene Taylor

11:50-1:30 P.M. LUNCH

1:30-2:20 P.M. Preparing For The Future Storms Of Life
John Barcus

LADIES* Strengthening The Preacher's Wife (Women Only)
Cecilia Grider

2:30-3:20 P.M. Remembering The Foundations Of Faith
Gary McDade

CLASS* Strengthening Our Sisters In Christ
Dan Dawson

3:30-4:00 P.M. OPEN FORUM
Garland Elkins

4:00-6:30 P.M. INTERMISSION

6:30-7:00 P.M. CONGREGATIONAL SINGING

7:00-8:00 P.M. The Heart That Anticipates The Blessings Of Heaven.
Robert R. Taylor, Jr.

***ALL Classes (Including Ladies Classes) Meet In Room 405 In The School Building.**

Editor's Note: The Lectureship flier above along with the customary pictures of the speakers (not included here due to their increasing the size of this file) may be found at www.msop.org.

You will notice by looking at it that there have been some changes made this year changes this year. The only dinner scheduled will be the annual alumni and friends dinner. Therefore, I am expecting a HUGE crowd on Tuesday night. Please don't dash my hopes by failing to attend. Mark your calender right

now!

The amount of classes during the day has been reduced which should increase the attendance at those scheduled. All classes will now meet in Room 405 in the School Building. This is the former library and is a spacious room.

The Ladies' Classes will also meet in Room 405. No longer will the book displays be closed during Ladies' Classes or men have to vacate that building during that hour.

Let us pray *now* for a great week *then*!

\$1000.00 AND WE ARE ON OUR WAY WILL YOU SEND US?

Sean Hochdorf

Brethren we are only \$1000.00 a month away from completing our support. That's two congregations at \$500.00 each or ten families at \$100.00 a month, or perhaps twenty people/families at \$50.00 a month. Can you help us? Will you help us? We need to wrap up our support so we can be on our way to teaching and preaching in Arusha, Tanzania.

There are three main areas in which we hope to concentrate our efforts during our three year commitment in Tanzania: training preachers, teaching women and children, and congregational development.

Training Preachers

Currently Arusha has one of the nicest facilities among third world countries in which to train men to preach. The Andrew Connally School of Preaching was established in 2001 with the goal of training men to preach in their native country. The curriculum is similar to preaching schools in America in that it has a four year Bachelor program taught in two years. The school continues to stay at its capacity of forty students (twenty first year / twenty second year). Sean will be teaching full-time in the school of preaching. Training men in their own country produces numerous benefits: (1) Considerably less expensive than bringing men to the states (can train approximately twenty men in Africa with the funds needed to train one man in the states), (2) The temptation to stay in America, because of

the luxury we enjoy, is removed, (3) There is no language or cultural barrier to overcome which makes them much more effective than a foreigner and allows them to begin preaching immediately.

Teaching Women and Children

There are endless opportunities to teach the next generation of leaders in Africa. While we struggle in the United States to reach our children, the soil is especially rich in Tanzania. Vacation Bible School type meetings can take place year round. At almost every one of these meetings, children spread the news quickly, and its not an exaggeration to say that a class that started with twenty children will end up with almost two hundred. If we reach the children, there is no telling how great the Lord's kingdom will be in the next generation. The training of children is an area in which our entire family can be involved. Our two children Race (16) and Madeleine (12) will be working alongside us in this aspect of the work.

Also of great importance is teaching women. In the African culture, women are looked upon as the laborers and the bread winners. We are not interested in Americanizing them but rather teaching them what God desires for them to be as wives and mothers. My wife, Anita, is especially talented at teaching and will be laboring diligently in this area.

Congregational Development

With the number of baptisms taking place in Arusha and the surrounding areas and the great distance between villages, there is a great need for helping these new Christians grow to maturity. For this reason we have put together a plan to do just that. Each missionary family in Arusha (6 total) will take 2 to 3 congregations and devote their efforts in working with them. This way the congregations can develop an intimate relationship with the missionary family and vice versa. By so doing, we can assess their needs, and then set out to help them develop into the Christians God desires all of us to be. Hence, men will be trained to be good leaders, husbands, etc. Women will be taught the various aspects of being a wife, mother, teacher, etc.

Where to Send Support

We are sponsored by the Kensington Woods church of Christ in Hattiesburg, Mississippi. The church in Hattiesburg is extremely involved with the work in Arusha with one elder laboring full-time with the work and several of the elders traveling each year to Arusha. You can visit their website at www.kensingtonwoodschurchofchrist.org.

Our support can be sent to: Kensington Woods church of Christ c/o Hochdorf Mission Fund, 415 S. 40th Ave., Hattiesburg, MS 39402.

Our target date for departure is January 15th, 2008. With this date approaching quickly, your timely response would be greatly appreciated. If you choose to support us, you can expect to receive regular reports in one of three ways: e-mail, our blog or U.S. mail. We believe that communicating with our

supporters helps them feel closer to the work and encourages everyone to do better at evangelism. If you have any further questions for me feel free to call 559- 302- 7 4 2 6 o r e m a i l a t seanhochdorf@gmail.com.

A Commendation

Friends, I am grateful to God for the willingness of the Hochdorfs to commit to three years of mission work in Tanzania alongside the Anthony Brown family and others.

I have been familiar with this work since its inception. Other MSOP graduates like Eddy Gilpin and Howell Ferguson have spent time in Tanzania. This past summer, the church at Caruthersville, Missouri where I labor, supported the Forest Rachels family from Weakley County, Tennessee as they went there on a campaign. I have known Forest for a number of years. His father, Hal, attended at Greenfield, TN where I once preached. Since that campaign, Teresa Rachels has been forwarding me weekly reports from the work at Arusha. To read them is to be filled with excitement at the growth of that work.

I have known Cy Stafford for many years. I have no doubt that God raised him up to do a great work in Tanzania, just like he did Andrew Connally years ago. His leadership in the mission field has been outstanding. The team they have assembled over there is impressive. Sean has proven himself to be a man of great capabilities. He and his family will be a tremendous asset to the work.

If the congregation where you attend is considering adding a new mission work to their budget in 2008, it would be my prayer that they would give the Hochdorf family immediate consideration. – Mike McDaniel