

The Family Tree



The Weekly Bulletin of Cox Boulevard Church of Christ – A Place To Call Home

MISSION WORK SUMMARIES FOR 2017

SPECIAL MISSION APPEALS: In addition to our regular monthly support of various mission works Cox Blvd. was able to help with special mission appeals for Austin Kelly (Nicaragua campaign); Justin Taylor (Swaziland, Africa campaign); Stephanie Owen (Honduras campaign); Jude Owens (Honduras campaign); Jeff Abrams (Ukraine Mission work) New Zealand/Chris Herd (special); Brint Rice (Cambodia/Special); Romanian Orphans (Special contribution).

MOBILE INTER CITY CHURCH OF CHRIST CAMPAIGN: For the first time in eleven campaigns the focus this time was not on knocking cold doors but on knocking the doors of previous visits, call-back and baptisms in the MICCC area. There were 39 campaigners—27 from Cox Blvd and 12 from other congregations. The preacher, Chuck Griffis, who had health problems was not able to minister to the new Christians added last year and asked Cox Blvd. to come back again in 2017 to do follow up. (He passed away unexpectedly in the early summer.) 112 new Bible Studies were set up. There were 17 baptisms during the campaign, 3 later and several studies reset. MICCC members are committed to following up on each baptism and contact. The 2018 campaign is set for the University CofC in Mobile for June 15-22. Special thanks to all campaigners. Kudos to Russ and hats off to Terry Lenz for a fine job as Campaign Coordinator.

LOCAL CANVASSING: This monthly door-to-door effort continues to provide brochures about our program, invitations to our services, encouragement, prayers for those requesting them and Bible Studies.

HATI/DOMINICAN REPUBLIC: Thanks to Maxine Sockwell and all the ladies for their sewing project for the children in Haiti. Thanks also to Brad and Shayla Bates for coordinating the Magi project which provides gift boxes for Dominican Republic children and to those who sponsored the gift boxes.

BANGLADESH/NEPAL: Brother Mike Brooks reports: "I have made one trip to South Asia in 2017, from February 9 –May 5. During that trip I visited and worked with 10 congregations resulting in 15 baptisms. There were 18 total baptisms in Bangladesh through July. Exact numbers are not available in Nepal, but 10 baptisms have been reported; communications with the remote areas are difficult and there are almost certainly several more. Overall progress of the work is very good in both countries. Recovery from the massive earthquake in Nepal (April, 2015) is virtually complete and life is pretty much back to normal. We were able to help with the rebuilding of over 500 Christian homes and 5 church buildings. Three students graduated from Khulna Bible College on April 29 bring the total of all graduates to 43. These new graduates are all serving churches in Bangladesh as Gospel preachers. Thanks for your continued support of this work."

IN OUR THOUGHTS AND PRAYERS

Jerry Cassel had surgery this past week and everything went well.

Ange Linley had shoulder surgery on Friday.

Bryan Kimbrough is still in ECM but doing better.

Jennifer Bishop is now at home.

Marie Richardson's knee replacement surgery has been rescheduled for January 30th.

David Aday will have neck surgery on January 25th.

SYMPATHY:

We express sympathy to **Dottie's Pennington** on the death of her sister, Gerline Daniel. This is also aunt to Brian McManus and Angie Threet. The funeral was Saturday.

EVENTS

Lads to Leaders Girl's Song Leading and Winner's Circle will meet this Wednesday and every Wednesday starting this week at 6pm in A-209 (upstairs).

The **Sewing Ladies** will meet each Tuesday starting at 9am. Anyone who would like to join them, please come!

The **Youth Group (5th-12th)** and parents as well as the college group will be putting James 1:27 into practice on Saturday, January 27. We will be taking lunch to some of our widows/widowers and spending time with them. At 6pm that same night, the 7th-12th grade is invited to the Willis' house for a movie night. Pick-up will be at 9pm.

After the evening service on Sunday, January 28th, the **College/Young Professional Group** will go out to eat together. Please meet up front in the auditorium.

THANK YOU to the ones who came out and helped this week framing the offices and other work for the Children's Home. Most of all THANK YOU for your support to help the **Christian Children's Home**.

There will be a catered **Valentine's Luncheon** for couples (60 and older), widows/widowers and singles on Wednesday, February 7th at noon in the Fellowship room. If you plan to attend, sign up by January 31st. It will be \$10 per person. There will be a catered Valentine's Banquet for married couples (under 60) on Saturday, February 10th at 6pm in the Fellowship room. If you plan to attend, sign up by January 31st.

The **12th Annual Back to the Bible Summer Campaign** will be June 15-22 at the University church of Christ in Mobile, AL. Sign-up sheet is on bulletin board.

Great Workshop with University

Thanks for all the prayers for the B2B Workshop in Mobile. Terry Lenz, John Alexander, Ann Skidmore, Hilda Hester and Russ & Judy Blackwell left Cox Blvd and arrived at the University expecting to set up for 30 and were told 42 had signed up. It was exciting to see all the energy and enthusiasm of the University elders, their minister and their wives helping get everything ready. On Saturday there were 45 marking Bibles! In addition to the University members people came from Regency, Southside, Chickasaw and MICCC congregations in Mobile area plus a group from the Hurley church of Christ, Hurley, MS. We do not know how many other workshops will come from University hosting this B2B Workshop but those seeds were planted and God will give the increase. This would not have been possible without the leadership of their elders Richard Jay, Shane Nolen, Vince Formica and minister Jeremy Sigle. Please remember these elders and the minister in your prayers as they prepare the congregation for the Campaign June 15-22.

If you have not signed up for the 12th Annual Campaign in Mobile please do because we need your help. If you want to go and have not marked your Bibles please sign up for the Cox Blvd B2B Workshop on March 17 and we will teach you how to teach the lost.

ATTENDANCE/CONTRIBUTION

Jan 17 (Wed).....	202
Jan 21	
Sunday School.....	196
AM Worship.....	374
PM Worship	207
Contribution.....	\$39,360

MARS HILL BIBLE SCHOOL: President Dexter Rutherford thanks you for your continued support. He says: "Your support helps us provide more than 165,000 cumulative hours of Bible instruction each year. It is my belief that the Lord's Church is stronger in our area because of the long-term influence of MHBS. Each year 30-40 of our students are baptized. While we would never insinuate exclusive credit for their training, doubtless the positive influence of Mars Hill has eternal consequences. Each year many of our faculty and students participate in mission efforts both in the U.S. and foreign countries."

LIMA, PERU: Jonathan Cooper reports: " We have been blessed continually to provide God with souls who are constantly growing in their love for His word. Our growth chart follows: 60 in attendance with 86 active, 2 weekly Bible studies, 3 restorations, 1 baptism, 2 in marital counseling. Bro. Cooper is now helping with new Saturday Bible classes in English/Spanish for the universities in the Lima area. 7 congregations attended their 2nd Annual Ladies Day and 120 attended their area wide Marriage and Family Seminar." They have had 3 restorations up to 9/26/2017.

ARUBA: Tim Henderson reports the addition of four new baptisms into Christ. These include two of the teens, a sister of one of the members and a young man who was met during an outreach. The Sunday attendance seems to remain the same, hovering between 40-50 most Sunday mornings. This past year two brethren left but one returned. The other remains disciplined until he decides to repent. The church had to adjust and grow due the Henderson's furlough. There have been weeks where the local men have courageously taken on the responsibilities of leading in the worship. Tim says the death of his Dad (Parker Henderson) in June required quite an adjustment despite his victory in Christ.

INTERNATIONAL GOSPEL HOUR: RADIO GOSPEL PREACHING DIRECTED BY JODY APPLE. From April 2015 through April 2017 IGH increased its programming from less than 90 programs to 400 programs weekly. All programs encourage listeners to request free Bible courses, ask Bible questions, or make comments via a toll-free number, contact form, email, social media and direct mail. Listeners are also told how to freely access all IGH programs online. Though one network was lost this year due to our teaching on the role of baptism in God's redemptive plan, we recently signed a contract that will literally increase our weekly programming ten-fold. In early November 2017 IGH programs began airing between 3400-3500 times weekly. Even without these new programs IGH has already logged more than 700 responses through past programming. Our hope and prayer is that responses will grow exponentially with the addition of these new programs.

APOLOGETICS PRESS: Cox Blvd. helps support Kyle Butt in work dedicated to the defense of New Testament Christianity. In 2017 Kyle delivered about 100 lessons in about 55 locations. At CYC he spoke to almost 13,000 young people and young workers. He is raising funds to send 7000 copies of a Christian book to school children in Africa. About 12,000 reader books have been sent to Haiti. Last fall he taught a two-week course at the Russian School of Preaching. He continues to teach at Mars Hill Bible School. In January, 2018 he will do a set of videos for World Video Bible School. Kyle continues to edit the kids magazine *Discovery* as well as writing for the AP Website and the adult publication *Reason & Revelation*. He raises his salary for his work at AP. He is grateful for the support from Cox Boulevard.

MAGNOLIA MESSENGER: This Gospel paper is mailed to almost 30,000 each month. It is filled with articles about God's word. The paper goes to every state in the nation including 14,000 homes in Mississippi and 8,000 homes in Alabama. Some have been baptized as a result of the paper's articles. The paper goes to many who are in jail across the country. Paul Franks, Associate Editor, traveled to over 40 congregations during 2017 to gather information on the good being done in the brotherhood. He has helped with a Youth Camp in Lithuania for the past 20 years. In October he spent three weeks in mission work in Uganda where they had 20 baptisms.

WORLD BIBLE SCHOOL: For many years Cox Blvd. members have helped spread the Gospel by teaching the WBS course. In addition the congregation contributes to the worldwide efforts of WBS. The 2017 worldwide WBS student enrollment was expected to pass the 2016 total of 946,545 students in all nations. 8,000 Christians serve as WBS study helpers with over 1,300 U.S. congregations participating in postal and/or online teaching.

ST. VINCENT/CARIBBEAN: James Stephenson reports that during 2017 medical supplies were distributed by his congregation to their hospital and three clinics. They held a Gospel Meeting in the summer preceded by two weeks of door knocking. The Biabou congregation marked its 50th Anniversary on August 5. A Nationwide fellowship at Adelphi Secondary School with Elliott Glasgow resulted in one baptism on October 1. The congregation joined with other location congregations in providing hurricane relief to the island of Dominica, the homeland of James Stephenson's wife. Food, water and some clothing were sent.

IN SEARCH OF THE LORD'S WAY has been producing Gospel television and radio programs for nearly 40 years. Millions of people who might otherwise be unreachable by any other means watch television and will hear God's plan of salvation on the SEARCH program each week. Cox Blvd. is one of the sponsors of the SEARCH TV program on WDZX TV Channel 5, channel 5 on Comcast Cable each Sunday morning from 7:30 to 8:00 a.m. The speaker is Phil Sanders.

HERITAGE CHRISTIAN UNIVERSITY: Cox Blvd. helps one student, Austin Hackney with his tuition cost at Heritage. He visited Cox Blvd. in late October and said his studies were going well. He is appreciative for his support.

MEMPHIS SCHOOL OF PREACHING. Cox Blvd. helps one student, Jason Moore, with his tuition cost at MSOP. He studies are going well. He is training to preach the Gospel. He writes often and is grateful for your support.

DISASTER RESPONSE TEAM: When disaster strikes DRT is there with a helping hand by providing the necessities of life, rebuilding support and most of all moral and spiritual support. The primary purpose the Disaster Recovery Team is a missionary effort. *Cox Blvd. workers have come into areas following several disasters to conduct Bible studies.* Beginning in the fall of 2017 DRT was heavily involved in helping victims of Hurricane Harvey which devastated parts of Eastern Texas. DRT helped in Portland, Beaumont-Port Arthur and Wharton. In the first two months following Hurricane Harvey DRT, well over 1,000 volunteers from 33 states came to help over 1,100 families with recovery.

BACKWOODS CHRISTIAN CAMP: Director Brint Rice reports: " We had substantial growth in 2017 beginning the year in Tanzania, Africa which resulted in 35 baptisms. At our local camp in Alabama we saw significant growth at five of our seven sessions resulting in 9 baptisms and over 100 asking for prayers. Our camp at *Polishing the Pulpit* had over 200 ten, eleven and twelve year olds. We conducted five camps in Cambodia which had over 1,200 children in attendance and 24 baptisms. We are currently working with the brethren in India as well as a new location in Tanzania to start new camps there 68 were brought to Christ this year."

PATRIOTS FOR CHRIST (NW SHOALS CHRISTIAN STUDENT CENTER): Director Robby Roberts says they had a busy year with 2 restorations and many Bible studies. Students have attended CYC, Christian Retreats, and NWSCC Student Orientations. They average about 4 one on one Bible studies per week and one group devotional per week. The Christian Student Center has an average of 17 students a day and many more are contacted at college student activities. PFC visits and conducts services for the Lauderdale Christian Nursing Home 4-5 times a semester and sponsors many campus meals and networks with students & staff at Northwest Shoals Christian Student Center.

ITALY: James and Meredith Thompson began this work in January, 2017. This year has included language study and training with various missionaries in Italy. Their ministry included Individual and Group Bible studies, lesson/curriculum preparation, weekly Bible study and meal for teens, a church history class taught by James, serving on staff at Youth Camp, a retreat for Christians from several European nations and helping with Women's Retreat (Meredith) Gospel Meetings in Florence, Prato and Naples. There have been 6 baptisms and one restoration. To better serve, the Thompsons will be moving from Scandicci to Prato, Italy in January, 2018.

DOMINICAN REPUBLIC: TIFFANY & ANREW WEAVER report God has blessed their work in DR. In 2017 they worked with Manna Christian School as well as their children's outreach ministry in Rio San Juan. Andrew has continued working with the congregation in Bobita and has helped a group of Christians in Rio San Juan to begin meeting in the house of one of the student families. After prayerful consideration Tiffany and Andrew have decided to return to the U.S. as of 12/31/17 and plan for a new work. They are grateful for Cox Blvd. support for the last three years in Dominican Republic.

CAMEROON: Paul and Janet Kee continue to do good work in Cameroon after spending time in the U.S. reporting and fund raising. In the regular Bible School starting last fall Paul taught Homiletics, Music, Basic English and Galatians. Prior to the regular school Paul taught advanced courses in Doctrinal Errors and Advanced Church Music. Attendance at the Annual Scholarship Lectureship in May totaled 425. Paul says: Derek Williams (formerly with Cox Blvd.) and two others from Memphis helped with the lectureship as well as evangelism and visiting congregations. Distribution of Bibles recently translated into the Lamnso' language, which Paul helped with, is going well and increased enrollment in Bible Lessons. Paul started working in new villages in early November. Paul & Janet reported to Cox Blvd. on the work in January of 2017. They are grateful for your support.

NEW ZEALAND: Chris Herd reports: 10 conversions and 3 restorations. He taught classes in Bear Valley Bible Institute in Wellington, NZ; assisted 7 congregations with evangelism workshops resulting in several conversions; helped with door knocking in New Plymouth districts and continues to preach on the radio in New Zealand and Australia with good response. Chris has a Bible study in his home on Thursday night with 14 attending. Some are contacts. The New Plymouth congregation conducts an outreach at a local market holding groups for teens and children. Chris appreciates the support of Cox Blvd.

VERMONT: Randy Gardner reports three restorations in 2017. Attendance at Upper Valley Church of Christ is 42. Love, unity and fellowship have grown tremendously in 2017 as they joined in the massive project of refurbishing the church building. The third Wednesday night singing has had a big increase in attendance. They have brethren joining them who live an hour and a half way. The new Upper Valley Church of Christ Face Book page has become a big attraction. Randy is back on the board of directors of Gander Brook Christian Camp. Randy and Sharon are important to the planning of the Gander Brook Men's and Ladies' Retreats.

SCHEDULE OF SERVICES

SUNDAY

9:00 AM Bible Study
 10:00 AM Worship
 6:00 PM Worship

WEDNESDAY

7:00 PM Bible Study

RADIO PROGRAM
 WBTV(FM 106.3) . Sunday, 10:25 AM
JAIL MINISTRY
 County Jail Sunday 9:00 AM

ELDERS

Billy Banks
 Russ Blackwell
 Stan Brook
 Horace Cleveland
 Steve Condra
 Ben McGuire
 Phillip Willingham

EVANGELIST

Larry Kilpatrick

ASSOCIATE/FAMILY MINISTER

Wade Hunt

YOUTH MINISTER

Landon Willis

EDUCATION DIRECTOR

Steve Condra

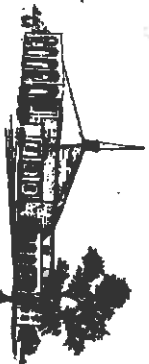
HAITI ORPHANAGE: Cox Blvd. helps to support 12 children in this home known as Sonlight Children's Home in Port-au-Prince. This is overseen by the Estes Church of Christ in Henderson, TN. The children are being directed and loved by Ketty and Martial Viciere. They replaced Roberta Audate who was murdered in 2015. Bro. Richard Taylor of the Estes congregation says this couple is doing a fine job in leading the children in growing up to be good Christians. Most of them are boys so hopefully the church in Haiti will be strengthened when these boys become men.

COX BLVD. MEMBERS: *The elders are grateful for your support in carrying out the Great Commission in 2017. As you can see from the preceding summaries your support has helped in a broad range of mission and mission-related efforts locally, stateside and overseas. Cox is widely known at a mission-minded congregation. It is a privilege to help preach the Gospel, edify the church and help those in need wherever we can.*

The Family Tree
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COX BOULEVARD CHURCH OF CHRIST

CARD & LETTER LIST

January 21, 2017

Ange Linley 2578 Hough Rd, Apt G Florence, AL 35630	Care Group 1	Ange had shoulder surgery on Friday.
Dottie Pennington 141 Irby Drive Florence, AL 35630	Care Group 2	Dottie's sister, Gerline Daniel, passed away on Wednesday.
Pauline Strickland 108 Willow Oak Dr Muscle Shoals, AL 35661	Care Group 3	Pauline has been having back problems.
Jerry Cassel 306 Park Ave Muscle Shoals, AL 35661	Care Group 4	Jerry had surgery last week and it went well.
Jennifer Wilcoxson and girls 294 Scogin Dr Tuscumbia, AL 35674	Care Group 1	Recently lost her husband, Matthew, in a tragic auto accident.
David Aday 289 Koger St Killen AL 35645	Care Group 2	David is scheduled for neck surgery on January 25 th .

SHUT-INS

Mattie Noble
Brentwood, rm 7
2505 Alabama Ave
Muscle Shoals, AL 35661

Care Group 1

Would enjoy cards and visits.

Loralee Kimbrough
2207 Virginia St
Muscle Shoals, AL 35661

Care Group 2

Would enjoy cards and visits.

Virginia Young
600 Firestone, Apt 304
Muscle Shoals, AL 35661

Care Group 3

Would enjoy cards and visits.

William & Chappelle Grubbs
Keestone
201 N Cedar St, Rm 213
Florence, AL 35631

Care Group 4

Would enjoy cards and visits.

VISITORS

January 14, 2018 (last week)

Mike Gurganus
2146 Sun Crest Ln
Chattanooga, TN 37421

Michael Baldwin
510 W Pilgrim
Muscle Shoals, AL 35661