

Baptist Progress

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FOR CHILDREN

BMA of America 2019 National Meeting— A Means to An End?

By **JEFF SWART**

BMA of America President

The officers of your national association have been concerned about the dwindling representation of our churches at the national meeting for several years now. Charting the meetings over the last 17 years, the highest number of churches represented by messenger was 345 in 2002, in Joplin, Missouri, and the lowest number of churches represented by messenger was 204 in Jackson, Mississippi, in 2018. Concerning the number of attendees, the highest attendance was in Joplin in 2002, with 1,172 people present and the lowest was in Arlington, Texas in 2017, with 369 people present.

Although we do not pretend to know the reasons that the majority of our churches are simply deciding not to attend the annual meeting, the department directors and officers of our association believe that if we offered our churches more reasons to attend the national meeting—our participation might actually increase.

I first remember discussing the restructuring of our national meeting at a Coordinating Council meeting in May 2015. We talked about making the annual meeting less about business and more about offering our churches resources to enhance their ministries. The department directors, and officers of our association, believe the time is now to act upon that discussion and restructure our national meeting.

In previous years, the national association has actually been an end in itself. We have the meeting, go out to eat with friends, talk in the display room, and all go home when the meeting is over until the next national meeting the following year. What we are suggesting is a radical new idea—let the national meeting become a means to an end. The “end” is the strengthening of the ministries of our local churches.

We are proposing that the national meeting become a ministry resource for our pastors, church leaders, and churches sharing practical information that can be taken home, implemented into the ministry of the local church, and then, we return to the national meeting the next year and receive further equipping skills for ministry. We anticipate that the result will be healthier churches whose ministries are reaching more people than ever before. We are praying that the national meeting will become a resource for our churches instead of just a meeting where we conduct business.

We are planning two new features for this year’s national meeting—a BMA Town Hall Meeting and a Pastors Table Talk Forum. At the BMA Town Hall Meeting, our directors will cast their vision for the future of their departments and our association. Then, your input will be welcomed concerning what you have heard. And you will also have the opportunity to ask the directors any questions that you might have. The DiscipleGuide trustees will also be in

attendance to talk about the future of DiscipleGuide and explain how certain decisions have been reached.

At the Pastors Table Talk Forum, pastors will enter the room and be allowed to choose to sit at one of 20 different tables, each table discussing a different ministry related topic with other pastors. After 20 minutes, church leaders will have the opportunity to move to a different table to discuss a different ministry related topic. This will be an occasion when we will learn from one another. We anticipate this to be a very practical, helpful, and popular session for church leaders.

Seven break-out sessions will be offered on Tuesday for all church leaders. The WMA changed the format of their meeting last year, and will do it again this year. They will conduct business on Monday afternoon and Tuesday morning will be dedicated to a women’s conference for all ladies.

An altered format may also prove beneficial to our bi-vocational pastors. They may be able to attend one day of the meeting, and if so, they could choose to attend the business session or several of the breakout sessions that are offered.

We are praying that our churches will view our national association in a new light. Instead of being merely a meeting where we conduct business, we would like to repurpose the BMA of America national meeting as a church conference where we do business.

Our prayer is that the BMA of America national meeting will become a means to an end—the national meeting is the “means” and the “end” is the edifying of the churches of the Lord Jesus Christ. We hope that you will agree and ask that you begin even now praying for your leaders and the upcoming meeting.



▲ Jeff Swart





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Should the church get involved in social issues and causes?

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This issue is the cause of much controversy in the Christian community. Each of the two extremes is represented by those who feel very strongly that their position is the “Christian” one. On one hand there are those who spend many hours writing to their Congressmen, picketing abortion clinics, campaigning for conservative candidates and using all means available to influence and improve the quality of government to conform it to the Christian worldview. At the other extreme are those who take Jesus’ words “My kingdom is not of this world” (John 18:36) as their motto, refusing to vote or get involved in any effort to affect the culture in which we live.

There is no doubt that we should be good citizens. Romans 13:1 tells us, “Everyone must submit himself to the governing authorities, for there is no authority except that which God has established. The authorities that exist have been established by God.” Christians should be exemplary in their conduct regarding the laws of the land, choosing to disobey only those laws/rules that directly contradict the revealed Word of God. Abortion, for example, may be an abomination, but no one is forced by the government to have an abortion, as is the case in China. The Chinese Christians who defy the law and refuse to have abortions are obeying the biblical commands “choose life” (Deuteronomy 30:19) and “you shall not murder” (Romans 13:9), thereby obeying the Word of God rather than the laws of man. But such instances are very rare in contemporary Western culture.

Perhaps the best way to understand our responsibilities in the social/cultural arena is to look to Jesus for our example. Jesus lived in one of history’s most corrupt societies. But He perfectly maintained His Father’s perspective on social and political matters, even though He lived in a society that was every bit as pagan and corrupt as today’s culture. Cruel tyrants and dictators ruled throughout the region, and the institution of slavery was firmly entrenched. Legal and economic oppression of the Jews by Rome was rampant, dwarfing anything we experience today. But even in the face of such tyranny, Jesus never issued a call for political changes, even by peaceful means. He never attempted to “capture the culture” for biblical morality. He did not come to earth to be a political or social reformer. Rather, He came to establish a new spiritual order. He came not to make the old order moral through social and governmental reform, but to make new creatures (His people) holy through the saving power of the gospel and the transforming work of the Holy Spirit. He knew what many today fail to grasp: governments and institutions are made up of people. When people’s hearts are changed by Christ, godly governments and

institutions will follow. If the hearts of the people are corrupt, getting them together in groups only multiplies the corruption. What we need is not better government, but better men and women in government.

So what is a Christian to do? Can Christians shun all political and social efforts to affect the culture? Certainly, if our consciences convict us to do so and as long as our motivation is pure and not an effort to appear holier than those who do choose to be involved. Pride is too often the by-product of completely withdrawing from the culture. We are to be in the world, but not of it, and part of being in the world is modeling Christ-likeness for the world and Christian love toward one another.

Can we picket, campaign, and lobby our elected leaders on issues of concern to us? Certainly, as long as we keep the ultimate goal in mind—to win people to Christ. Too often that goal and the activities described above are in conflict. Take, for example, the misguided efforts by a small fringe group from Kansas who show up at the funerals of homosexuals with signs declaring “God hates fags” and “burn in hell.” How likely is it that such cruel and vicious behavior will convince unbelievers we serve a loving and merciful God who will forgive sin? The cause of Christ is not advanced by this type of activism, no matter what the motivation. Even the most gracious efforts to “clean up the culture” will not protect or expand the cause of Christ. Ours is a spiritual battle against worldly ideologies and dogmas that are arrayed against God, and we achieve victory over them only with the weapon of Scripture. In the words of the Apostle Paul, “For though we walk in the flesh, we do not war according to the flesh. For the weapons of our warfare are not carnal but mighty in God for pulling down strongholds, casting down arguments and every high thing that exalts itself against the knowledge of God, bringing every thought into captivity to the obedience of Christ” (2 Corinthians 10:3-5).

The picture of the Christian in the world is well illustrated by the analogy of the train station. We (Christians) are waiting in the station to board the northbound (heavenly) train. We are surrounded by people who are preparing to board the southbound train, completely unaware of its tragic destination. Should we spend our time and energy pleading with them to switch trains? Or do we merely tidy up the train station instead? The answer is obvious, and those who would tidy up the culture for the culture’s sake are not only missing the point, they are misunderstanding the reason God leaves us in the world—to be His witness to the lost and condemned. Such a mission is far more “good and profitable to men” (Titus 3:8) than any amount of social or political activism.

More give to United Thanksgiving Offering

In addition to those churches and individuals published in the last issue who gave to the United Thanksgiving Offering, offerings have been received from those listed below. Thank you for your generous contributions.

Bethel, Port Arthur	267.00
China Grove, Eustace	600.00
Cornerstone, Jacksonville	67.00
Friendship, Mesquite	200.00
North Liberty, Sulphur Springs	34.88
Northside, Conroe	1,420.00
Rocky Hill, Huntington	34.88
Shady Grove, Purdon	381.00
Total	3,604.76
Total previously reported	54,698.91
Grand Total as of Feb. 11	58,303.67

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Four immutable truths about the church



By **PAUL GAUNTT**

Pastor of First, Palmer

What does the scripture teach us concerning the function and operation of the New Testament Church?

Many churches today have adopted what I call a corporate model. The pastor is the chief executive officer—the deacons and/or elders are the corporate board, and the *modus operandi* is to sell a product, and while the church is to be a non-profit organization, church leaders sometimes cannot help themselves from focusing on the bottom line.

Some churches operate much like a professional sports team—or even high school or college sports teams. In the quest to be successful and have a winning season, the team secures the services of a winning coach. But after a couple of losing seasons, the coach must look for some other place.

But what does scripture say about the church? Furthermore, who is responsible for building the church?

The following outline was originally titled, *Four Immutable Rules of Life*. I think they also can serve as *Four immutable truths about the life of the church*.

1. Shepherds feed and care for the sheep. He leads them rather than drives them. The Good Shepherd, Christ Jesus, established the church, and He is the ultimate Shepherd. But the ministry of the pastor, is a ministry of shepherding. He leads the flock, rather than drives them. *“Neither as being lords over God’s heritage, but being ensamples to the flock”* 1 Peter 5:3. He is a servant-leader; a player-coach. Hebrews 13:17 describes the pastor as one who watches *“...for your souls, as they that must give account, that they may do it with joy, and not with grief. . .”* Who were the letters addressed to, by Christ as He spoke through the Apostle John to the churches in Asia Minor in the first part of Revelation? The letters were addressed to the “angels” (pastors). The spiritual condition fell squarely on their shoulders. And five of those seven letters were harsh.

2. Only sheep can produce other sheep. This is obvious. Referring back to the metaphor of shepherding literal sheep, it is absurd to think the shepherd can produce sheep himself. He is to tend, feed, lead and care for the sheep - but only the sheep can produce other sheep. This is not excusing the pastor from reaching out on behalf of the church, but ask most anyone who was saved from a life of sin, and became a part of a church fellowship, the majority will tell you they were influenced by a lay member rather the pastor. They perceive the pastor as a professional who is hired to bring them in. That’s what makes it so meaningful when the laity reaches out to them. Not only that, there is also an intimidation factor when the pastor comes around. Some people are more uneasy when a “holy man” wearing a dark

suit and tie, with a Bible tucked under his arm approaches them. I would rather belong to a flock where the majority of the sheep were reached by other sheep, rather than to belong to a church that was built on the charisma of a pastor. A church that is built on a strong personality sometimes dissipates when that personality is gone.

3. Diseased sheep infect the entire flock. When Achan disobeyed God by taking some accursed spoils from Jericho and hid them in his tent, God’s judgement fell upon Achan and all his family. But his sin affected all of Israel. “. . .and the anger of the Lord burned against the people of Israel” Joshua 7:1. It didn’t matter that the other Israelites obeyed God because Achan brought the judgement on all. Is there a spiritual disease being harbored in just one member of the flock? They may think it won’t affect the whole congregation, but it does. That is why church discipline is vital to the strength and perpetuity of the church. It would not hurt a church to periodically read, together, in unison, the Church Covenant—as a reminder of the urgency and seriousness about what it means to belong to Christ’s church.

Another example of a diseased sheep is Diotrephes, in 3 John, — or actually he might have been a goat (a lost church member) that infiltrated the congregation. He loved to be center-stage; he was threatened by the apostles when they came to visit and he had them thrown out as well as anyone else who was drawn to their teaching. He had all the earmarks of a degenerate in the church. That church would have had a great spiritual renewal if they had cast Diotrephes out. It would have been one of those “blessed subtractions.”

4. Straying sheep have to face life’s dangers alone. The lost sheep found itself in peril in Luke 15. The good shepherd *“goes after that which is lost.”* When a sheep withdraws from the warmth of church fellowship, they have forfeited the spiritual blessing, comfort and safety of Christian brothers and sisters standing with them when calamity comes. Church provides wonderful perks for the believer—opportunities to grow in the Word, to have the counsel and friendship of fellow believers—and to have stability and encouragement to withstand temptation and the lure to fall into a sinful situation. There is a reason why we are admonished to not forsake *“the assembling of ourselves together; as the manner of some is; but exhorting one another: and so much the more as ye see the day approaching”* Hebrews 10:25. Church is your shelter from the storms of the world—the incubator which provides a rich, warm, spiritual environment where the Word can take deep roots in one’s heart.



I knew Daddy loved me. Never doubted; never questioned it. But when I was 16 years old, I witnessed it in full blown, living color. What had begun as a fun Friday evening with friends, ended in disaster (at least that’s how I viewed it). Permission to use the family car had come with one stipulation—I could not drive on Broadway (one of the busiest streets in town.) I promised and all was good... until after the football game when my friends insisted it wouldn’t hurt to take one quick detour. After all, that’s where “everyone” was going. It wouldn’t take long and we’d be back on the acceptable path in a few minutes, they reasoned. Who would know? My heart wasn’t in it, but before long there we were—on Broadway, sitting at the stop light when a loud noise and a big jolt brought our fun to a sudden halt. I had been rear-ended and I did not have a driver’s license. Now everyone would know!

Daddy was the one who mattered most, and he was on his way. What could I say? I was guilty and no words could undo my bad choice and fix the situation. It’s funny how time seems to stand still when we’re shocked with an unwelcome reality. I felt paralyzed—unable to think straight or comprehend why I had been so easily led in the wrong direction. Then I felt a soothing hand on my shoulder and heard these words: “Are you alright?” And I was because daddy was there, loving me in spite of my disobedience.

One week later, we stood before the judge. I knew I was guilty and was embarrassed; waiting for him to declare my punishment was even worse. But Daddy never flinched, never sighed, never said a word. He pulled out his billfold and paid my fine.

My daddy, Johnnie Kenmore, was not big on words, but that night he painted a clear picture of God’s unconditional love; an attitude I saw repeated many times during his long life. How did he do it? Not by sheer determination and self-discipline; not even by trying hard to copy the good deeds of Jesus. Love is a gift from God and not something we can manufacture within ourselves. When we confess our sins and receive Jesus as Savior, God pours His love into us (from Rom. 5:1-5). The more intimately we know our Heavenly Father through His Word, the more freely it flows through us to others. He’s our resource and there’s always enough to go around.

Thank you Jesus for dying on the cross to pay our debt! May we never forget the great “love the Father has lavished on us, that we should be called children of God! And that is what we are!” (I John 3:1a NIV) (Rom. 5:1-5)

Pat Quesenbury has been active in ladies’ ministry for years. She is a pastor’s wife, mother and active member of the Women’s Missionary Auxiliary. Contact her at pquesenbury@gmail.com.



BMA of america



BMA information services wants to hear from you!

BMA Annual Church Survey deadline is April 15!

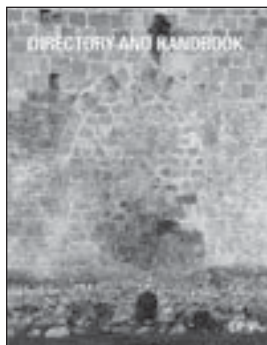
By providing the most up-to-date information, your church helps BMA America connect, build relationships, and understand the impact BMA churches are making through their local communities with the gospel.

Providing your feedback has never been easier.

Please choose one of the following options to provide BMA America with the most accurate information for your church:

1. Complete the survey online at bmaamerica.org (under "BMA Churches").
2. Fill out the pre-populated survey that was mailed last fall.
3. Request a new survey.

Updated surveys can be mailed or emailed.



For questions about logging in to the website or to request an updated survey, contact Tasha Waites at 501-358-3860 or tasha@bmaamerica.org. Completed surveys can be mailed to: BMA America, PO BOX 1188, Conway, AR 72033.

Will you help us keep our records updated and preserve the history of our association?

To the churches of the Baptist Missionary Association of America, we need your help

We need your help. Our roster shows that we have 1,260 churches who are affiliated with the BMAA. However, the representations in our Annual Meetings reflect the participation of only about half of them.

We recognize that the Association is the servant of the churches. Each church is autonomous and participation is voluntary.

However, there are many benefits offered to the member churches. Below is a list of some of those benefits.

1. Legal certification that the church is a registered member of a non-profit association, (the BMAA is a registered non-profit organization with the IRS.)
2. Certification to assist if the church chooses to incorporate for legal or tax purposes.
3. Gives the church a voice in the actions and decisions of the BMAA.
4. Encourages and strengthens the voice in their stand on moral, political and doctrinal issues.
5. Offers fellowship with other churches of, "Like Faith."
6. Opportunity for involvement in fulfilling the great commission on a world wide scale.

PLEASE REMIT FUNDS FOR MEETING AND MINUTE EXPENSES.

All expenses for facilities, equipment and supplies for the annual meeting plus travel expenses for several committees and the printing of the yearbooks are paid from this fund. The total cost is \$35,000-\$40,000 each year. It is imperative that we increase contributions to this fund. Thanks to your response last year, we made it. However, our balance is dangerously low. We still need extra help.

Brethren, you are our first line of communication with our churches. Your help will be deeply appreciated.

If you have suggestions for helping us communicate with the churches, we invite your input.

Please know that we are praying for you, and stand ready to serve in any way possible. Even when attendance is not possible, the letter of registration affirms their membership. The registration letters need to be forwarded to: James Ray Raines: PO Box 17872, North Little Rock, AR 72117. 501-231-4204

BMA disaster relief ministry opportunities

Even though it has been several months since hurricanes Florence and Michael hit the Gulf of Mexico, there is still a tremendous need for disaster relief efforts in the areas that were affected.

Feb. 23 – March 2, Bro. Lavon Haden of Just the Crumbs, and BMA Disaster Relief will be traveling to Callaway, Florida (near Panama City) to help with clean-up efforts and the building process. They will be working with a ministry called "ACTS" out of New Hampshire to help support them in their disaster relief efforts.

Volunteers will be provided with food and lodging for the duration of the trip. Showers will also be available, but volunteers will need to bring their own cot and bedding, and arrange for their own travel.

Just the Crumbs will be hosting another disaster relief trip over spring break, which will be held the week of March 11. This relief effort will also take place in Callaway, Florida.

"There is, and will be for a long time, a tremendous

need," said Bro. Lavon Haden. "This place was devastated, and there's a lot of people in need. We just want to go and help them as much as we can, and help as many as we can. If someone is looking for an opportunity to serve and be a blessing to those in need, we'll give that to them."

If you would like to volunteer to serve on either team with Just the Crumbs, contact the BMA Missions office at 501-455-4977 and ask for Angela Rice. You can also email her at angela@bmamissions.org.



Contact BMA Foundation Executive Director Charles Attebery for more information.
charles@bmaamerica.org or cell 501-472-2183

A Gift That Keeps Giving

Gifts to the BMA Foundation are never spent. They are invested and the earnings benefit BMA departments annually until the Lord returns.

Some Ways to Give

- Cash
- Stocks and bonds
- Life insurance policies
- IRA Rollovers
- Bequests



BMA of America



It's Time! To make your reservations for the 2019 BMAA meeting in Rogers, Arkansas

The 2019 session of the Baptist Missionary Association of America will meet May 6-8 at the John Q. Hammons Convention Center in Rogers, Arkansas. The facilities and hotels are looking forward to our meeting there. Rogers' accommodations offer plenty of space for all of our meetings and lodging. We hope that you will make your reservations early. Most of the hotels can make your reservations either by phone or online, but you must identify that you are with the Baptist Missionary Association of America.

The Embassy Suites Hotel, 3303 Pinnacle Hills Parkway, Rogers, AR, will serve as our headquarters hotel for the annual meeting in Rogers. The Embassy Suites adjoins the convention center to provide the easiest access to all of the association meetings and activities. Here is the contact information for the hotel.

- **Embassy Suites Northwest Arkansas (Headquarters Hotel), 3303 Pinnacle Hills Parkway, Rogers, AR:** (Single/Double, \$149 per night; Triple, \$159.00; Quad, \$169) (Standard Double or King room). Telephone reservations: 479-254-8400. Complimentary self-parking for all guests (Valet parking is available). Full breakfast included. Reservation cutoff date is April 14, 2019.

In addition to the headquarters hotel, additional overflow facilities are available in the area. Following is a list of properties that have blocked rooms for the BMA meeting.

- **Candlewood Suites, 4601 West Rozell, Rogers, AR:** (Studio suite, 2 full-size beds: \$99.00). Telephone reservations: 479-636-2783. Reservation cutoff date is April 19, 2019.
- **Country Inns & Suites, 4304 West Walnut, Rogers, AR:** (Standard two queen or one king suite: \$129.00). Telephone reservations: 479-633-0055. Use Group Code: 0505BMAOFA. Reservation cutoff date is April 5, 2019.
- **Hyatt Place, 4610 West Walnut, Rogers, AR:** (\$116.00). Telephone reservations: 479-633-8555. Reservation cutoff date is April 1, 2019.
- **Fairfield Inn & Suites, 4611 Rozell Road, Rogers, AR:** (Single: \$99.00; Double/Double: \$99.00; Executive King: \$109.00). Telephone reservations: 479-936-5900. Use Group Code: SMERF. Reservation cutoff date is April 20, 2019.
- **Hampton Inn, 4501 West Walnut, Rogers, AR:** (Double Queen: \$144.00). Telephone reservations: 479-986-0500. Reservation cutoff date is April 6, 2019.
- **Aloft Rogers-Bentonville, 1103 S 52nd Street, Rogers, AR:** (King: \$119.00). Telephone reservations: 479-268-6799. Reservation cutoff date is April 5, 2019.

The association has incurred penalty payments in some years because we did not use our full block of rooms. Please help us avoid a situation like that this year. We appreciate your help.

— Jerome Cooper, Bill Thornton, and Daniel Williams

OBITUARIES

DWIGHT DOUGLAS "DOUG" WELBORN

Dwight Douglas "Doug" Welborn, 66 of Jonesboro, died Feb. 3. He was saved Dec. 21, 1965 and surrendered to the ministry in 1970. He and his family moved to Jonesboro in 1989 from Dallas, Texas. He was a member of Cathedral Baptist Church and pastored the church for over 30 years. He also served as pastor of Temple Baptist Church in Jonesboro and pastored four churches in Texas. He was a hospital chaplain, a police chaplain and a member of many committees and organizations to further the Lord's ministry including an original board member for the Ridgefield Christian School, the Jonesboro Ministerial Alliance and was an active supporter of Gideon's International. On one occasion, Mayor Harold Perrin presented him with the key to the city. Survivors include his wife of 46 years, Gail (Franklin) Welborn; a son, James Welborn; two daughters, Pam Slatton and Shelly Duckworth, all of Jonesboro; his mother, Earlene Davidson of Eugene, Oregon; three brothers, Wesley Welborn of East Texas; Wayne Welborn of Texarkana and Roger Welborn of Sacramento, California; and nine



grandchildren. Funeral services were Feb. 7 at Emerson Memorial Chapel in Jonesboro, with Vernon Lies, Ken Beaver and James Strait officiating. Memorials may be sent to Gideon's International, P.O. Box 140800, Nashville, Tenn. 37214.

KAY MOORE

A funeral service for Kay Moore, age 67, of Jacksonville, was Jan. 12, 2019 at Autry Funeral Home Chapel in Jacksonville. Bro. David Moore and Jack White officiated. She passed away Wednesday, Jan. 9, 2019 in Jacksonville. Kay was born May 23, 1951 in Jacksonville to the late Simon and Ella (Kennedy) Traylor. She was preceded in death by her brothers, Bobby, Jimmy and Billy Traylor.

Left to cherish her memory is her loving husband, Pastor David Moore of Jacksonville; sons, Joshua Moore of Houston, Jonathan Moore of Navasota; daughter, Jolisa Helms and husband Corey of Jacksonville; sister, Ann Kimbrell of Jacksonville; brothers and sisters-in-law, Roy and Peggy Traylor, Jack and Mary Lou Traylor, Joe and Dixie Traylor, all of Jacksonville and Jerry and Susan Traylor of Tennessee. She is also survived by her grandchildren Nathan Helms and Chloe Killingsworth; and numerous nieces and nephews.

70th Annual BMA of America National Meeting May 6-8, 2019

Embassy Suites Hotel & Convention Center • Rogers, Arkansas
Program

Monday Afternoon, May 6

- 1:30 National WMA Officers Meeting
- 3:00 National WMA Business Meeting

Monday Evening, May 6 • First General Session

- 7:00 Welcome - President
- Worship Service — House Band (Antioch Baptist Church, Conway, AR)
- President's Message — Pastor Jeff Swart

Tuesday Morning, May 7

- 8:30 Registration for Women's Ministry Conference (Temple Baptist Church, Rogers)
- BMA Orientation to New Pastors & Churches (Pastry, Coffee, Meet the Directors)
- 9:00 Women's Ministry Conference — "Catch the Vision" (Temple Baptist Church, Rogers)
- National Brotherhood Meeting
- 9:30 Trustee Meetings subject to Call
- 9:30 Breakout Sessions (7 breakout sessions)
- 10:45 Breakout Sessions (7 breakout sessions)

Tuesday Afternoon, May 7 • Second General Session

- 2:00 John David Smith (What It Means to be "On Mission")
- 3:30 BMA Town Hall Meeting (Directors and DiscipleGuide Trustees)
- 5:30 BMA Seminary Dinner

Tuesday Evening, May 7 • Third General Session

- 7:00 Worship Service — House Band (Antioch Baptist Church, Conway, AR)
- Annual Message, Dr. Cliff Johnson

Wednesday Morning, May 8 • Fourth General Session

- BMA Associational Business
- 8:00 Song, Scripture & Prayer
- 8:15 Miscellaneous Business
- 8:40 BMA Theological Seminary
- 8:55 Ministers Resource Services
- 9:10 Lifeword
- 9:25 DiscipleGuide
- 9:40 Moral Action
- 9:55 BMA Foundation
- 10:10 Missions Department
- 10:25 Miscellaneous Business

Wednesday Afternoon, May 8 • Fifth General Session

- 2:00 Church Leaders Table Talk
- 3:30 Missions Commissioning Service

Wednesday Evening, May 8 • Sixth General Session

- 7:00 Worship Service

Enrollment Committee Schedule

Monday	2:00-4:00 p.m. • 6:00-7:00 p.m. and 30 minutes after session
Tuesday	8:30-9:00 a.m., 2:00-3:00 p.m. • 6:30-7:00 p.m. and 30 minutes after session
Wednesday	8:00-8:30 a.m.

Church missions opportunity in Arkansas

By **ANGELA RICE**

BMA of America Missions

Is your Sunday school class, church, or youth group looking for a week-long mission trip where you can learn skills that can be used in your own local church, all while helping a sister church reach its community with the gospel? Then the Launchpad Community Mission Project in Siloam Springs, Arkansas may be a great opportunity for you. Your group would lead backyard Bible clubs during the day and minister to those in need through service projects during the afternoon. You would encourage homeless families working to reset their lives and become self-sustainable as they work toward ending homelessness for their family.

Siloam Springs is located in the Northwest corner of Arkansas, which is one of the fastest growing areas in the United States and home to many corporate giants, including: Walmart, JB Hunt, Tyson, Simmons Foods, and the University of Arkansas. It's also home of East Kenwood Missionary Baptist Church; a small church in the middle of a church revitalization, being used of God in big way.

"When our church began praying for a vision to reach our community and serve them without expecting anything in return," said Pastor Jeremy Wiginton, "we never expected to end up building homes on our property to aid homeless families."

The Launchpad Community ministry includes four small homes on the church's property, ranging in size from 500-600 square feet. The homes are utilized in partnership

with Genesis House, a local homeless day shelter, to provide emergency housing for 90 days while families work through a program to become self-sufficient.

The two-year pilot program has resulted in a successful launch of 24 families, with a success rate greater than 95 percent to date. Over the next 10 years, 160 families and over 800 homeless individuals will pass through these homes, each being given an opportunity to establish new friendships with Christian families in the area and receive Jesus Christ as Savior!

East Kenwood MBC needs help this summer to expand their reach into the community as part of their revitalization. According to Pastor Jeremy, "This is a great opportunity for church groups to have a mission field opportunity in the U.S., experience some on the field training that they can utilize at their home church, and help a small sister church revitalize in their home area."

Church groups will live in and operate out of East Kenwood's building during their mission trip. Students must have completed the 7th grade to attend, but there's no age restriction beyond that.

Mission teams will arrive on Saturday evening at the church and be greeted by their church host for the week. They will worship with the church on Sunday, survey the area, and review the work sites for the week. Teams will conduct two backyard Bible clubs each morning, from Monday through Thursday, with work projects in the afternoon. There will be two team-building events during

the week so that mission teams can experience the area and have fun together as well. The Launchpad Community Project will begin June 15 and run weekly through August 2.

BMA Short Term Missions is excited to partner with Launchpad to create more areas to serve. For more information contact Angela Rice by email at angela@bmamissions.org, or by phone at 501-455-4977.



2019 National WMA Meeting & Ladies Conference Rogers, Arkansas

Monday, May 6 • Convention Center

- 1:30-2:30 National WMA Officers Meeting
- 3:00-5:00 National WMA Business Meeting

Tuesday, May 7 • Temple Baptist Church

Just 5 minutes from the Convention Center at 1812 S. Dixieland Road

Women's Conference

- 8:30 Registration
- 9:00 Program — "Catch the Vision"
Keynote Speaker — Judy Wallace
Special Music — Sabrina Clayton
There will be a special time of honoring
Pastor's wives and widows.
- 12:00 Lunch will be catered and you can pay at the door
- 1:15-3:00 Breakout Sessions — You may choose 2
 - 1) Reaching out in Service through Missions - Belinda Caudle
 - 2) Reaching out in Service through Benevolence - Robin Tyler
 - 3) Reaching out in Service through Youth Auxiliaries - Valarie Fish
 - 4) Reaching out in Service to Minister's Wives - T'Shana Everitt

All ladies are encouraged to attend! Be sure and check our website (nationalwma.org) and our Facebook page (National WMA of BMAA) for updates. If you have any questions you can email me at jodiegrhea@live.com or call and leave a message at (501) 472-9490 and I will call you back. Hope to see you in May!

— Jodi Rhea, President

NATIONAL WMA 2019



Created in the city of Joplin, Missouri, 1978. It is a symbol of hope and inspiration. It is a symbol of the power of the Holy Spirit and the love of God. It is a symbol of the power of the Holy Spirit and the love of God. It is a symbol of the power of the Holy Spirit and the love of God.

World Mission Weekend Invitation

Last year, over 100 students and leaders gathered at Lutheran Camp at Petit Jean Mountain to go through training for an upcoming mission trip. Can I tell you that training is so important? Is training just for students? Absolutely not.

You are invited to join us the weekend of March 1-3 to learn more about missions, how to get involved, things you need to know before you go. You will hear from our directors, John David Smith and Eric Johnson. If your church is going or planning to go on a short-term trip, this training is for you. For more information contact Angela Rice, Short Term Mission Coordinator, 501-455-4799.





INSIGHTS *for* PASTORS

Rules for Counseling

By **DR. ALLEN TILLEY**

Pastors wear a number of different hats. Besides preaching, teaching, leading the church, winning the lost, visiting the sick, comforting the bereaved, and equipping the saints, church members expect their pastors to act as counselors. Early in my ministry, I was overwhelmed by this daunting task. With forty years of experience, I still feel unqualified. Here are seven rules that guide me as I counsel others.

Prepare yourself. After my first failed attempt to counsel a young lady who had been abused as a child, I realized I was in over my head. Thankfully, an older pastor recommended several books on counseling. As I worked on my master's degree, I took our seminary's counseling classes. While books and courses won't make you an expert, they will teach you how to respond to difficult questions. Visit a local bookstore or browse online for Christian counseling resources. Just remember, the better prepared you are, the more help you can offer.

Know your limitations. Most pastors are not licensed professional counselors. As a result, we are not trained for every aspect of counseling. When you encounter something that is beyond you, don't be afraid to recommend a professional. Before you suggest a counselor, be sure to check him out first.

As a rule, I don't recommend non-Christian counselors. Because I don't have time for fulltime counseling, if someone needs to see me more than a couple of times, I refer.

Watch what you say. If you suspect someone is being abused, is suicidal, or is doing something illegal, you must report it to the authorities – the law requires it. When confronted with one of these issues, I inform the counselee that I will not go to prison for them. Moreover, at the start of the counseling session, I let them know that I practice "pastoral counseling." That is, I am a pastor, not a licensed counselor. I also tell them that I will listen and offer suggestions, but whatever course of action they choose is up to them. Furthermore, I do not charge. Taking a payment implies expertise. By doing so, I somewhat protect myself legally.

Be biblical. As a pastor, my counseling manual is the Bible. Over the years I've learned that most problems are sin problems, and the best remedy for sin is God's Word. Together, we search the Scripture to see what God says about their issue and how to resolve it.

Guard your integrity. Satan loves getting pastors into hot water. To keep from being tempted, I never counsel the opposite

sex alone. Just a hint of accusation from a gossip is enough to ruin my ministry. If I feel uncomfortable, I immediately invite someone else into the room with me.

Practice confidentiality. For people to open up and share their heart, they must know that everything they say will remain strictly with me. I never share anything that is said in a counseling session. To do otherwise, would be hypocritical. Once trust is broken, it takes a lifetime to rebuild.

Demonstrate holiness. I cannot expect my counsees to live holy lives if they do not see it in me first. My role as a pastor demands that I walk consistently with the Lord, showing the way for those who are hurting.

Dr. Allen Tilley is pastor of First Baptist Church of Carthage, Texas. He has over 30 years of pastoral experience, and God has continually blessed his ministry with dynamic spiritual and numerical growth. Contact him at allen@firstbaptistcarthage.com.



Master's Builders enjoy annual retreat

By **NELDA MALONE**

Master's Builders Reporter

The annual retreat for the Master's Builders was Jan. 22-25, 2019. For the first time, the Master's Builders gathered at Daniel Dorm at Daniel Springs Encampment in Gary. In April of last year, our men did some remodeling of the dorm and Daniel Springs can now offer a very nice facility for group gatherings. Bro. Jason Prewitt says the camp is "wide open" for large groups to enjoy. Daniel Dorm and Retreat Center offers sleeping quarters, a full kitchen and a large multi-use room. The Master's Builders will tell you that the facility is great for church groups, reunions and retreats. You can contact Jason at 903-685-2433 or email him at jason@danielspringscamp.com.

Several of our Builders remarked that this was the best retreat yet. We had 30 Builders who attended the retreat and stayed on the grounds and one couple from Lufkin, who came to visit. We always enjoy our time together. We do a lot of eating, snacking, grazing and game playing. We are happy to welcome a new couple into our group. Don and Pam Windam, of Fairfield, certainly fit right in to our fun group.

On Wednesday night, we had a special treat, as the Jacksonville College Choir, under the leadership of Bro. Randy Decker, came

and fellowshiped with us and put on a great concert. Bro. Randy has asked each one of the students to greet new people and ask, "What's your story?," and then to sit and listen and then share their story with them. What a great idea! This would be good for us all to do to step out of our comfort zone and make new friends! Bro. Randy, thank you for being a great music leader and life leader with these students. He shared this thought with all of us, "We are not to be an influence by forcing someone to do something or by doing something for them, but by doing something with them."

While we were at retreat, we learned of the death of our eldest Master's Builder, Max Adams. He would have been 92 in a couple of months. Max lost his beloved wife, Wilma, last July and was certainly ready to be home with her and his Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. Please pray for his family, his church family at Wyatt, El Dorado, Arkansas and his Master's Builders family. We will all miss him and his whistling!

The Master's Builders have a busy spring coming up. Our plans are to be back at Daniel Springs in March; Kenwood, Siloam Springs, Arkansas, in April; New Liberty, Emmet, Arkansas, in May and Riverview, Fulton, Arkansas, in June. If



you are near one of these jobs, come see us, we would love to meet you.

If you have questions about the Master's Builders ministry, or if your church has any building needs, please contact our office coordinator, Bro. John Mangum, at 318-202-5155 or (cell) 318-607-4100 or our field coordinator, Eddie Sikes, at 903-725-6549 or (cell) 479-462-1675.

Keep up with us on Facebook. Rose Bittner does a fantastic job keeping everyone informed of all our goings on. Like us at "The Master's Builders" w/arbor logo.



A word from your mission office

By HEITH MITCHELL

PROJECT 2029 100 NEW CHURCHES/10 YEARS

One-hundred new, BMA churches established by 2029 for the King, His Kingdom, His mission, His glory and for the sake of the millions of Texans who need a personal relationship with our Savior. This is the God sized burden that has been placed on the hearts of those involved in your Texas mission movement. This will only happen if the BMA of Texas and every church that makes it up takes personal responsibility for every lost man, woman and child in this large state having the opportunity to follow Jesus. This is our mission, (Matthew 28:18-20.) We recognize that there are many other Kingdom partners in this state, but we must do our part. This generation needs Jesus.

One-hundred new BMA churches established in the next 10 years will require all of us working together. You and your church are the critical piece. It will require prayer, encouragement, funding and churches starting churches. The result will be souls saved, disciples made, leaders equipped, a much larger BMA of Texas and The Kingdom of God will have enlarged. Will you join the winning team, God's Great Commission Team?

I would love to come and share Texas Missions with your church or association. I have open dates and look forward to hearing from you.

We finished mission equipping with this great group of Hispanic Church Planters this month. The three teams represented in this picture are seasoned and have a heart to make disciples and start churches. Let's pray for them.



A WORD FROM YOUR MISSIONARIES MIKE WATT—CROSSWORK MISSION, TAHOKA MIKE.WATT@CROSSWORKCHURCH.ORG

This was a tough month for our crew out here in west Texas. We had what we thought would be a great outreach event in a winter VBS. We put a lot of effort into planning, preparing and staffing the outreach. We put on a great event, where our people were in our community and were used to proclaim Jesus. That being said, it was not as well attended as we would have liked. We are trying not to be numbers focused. God is in charge of the harvest!



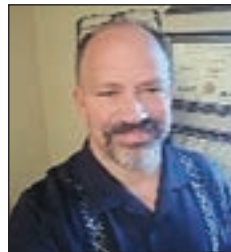
▲ Mike Watt

PRAYER NEEDS:

Pray that God would use us to impact our community with the Gospel.

CLIFF ROBERTSON— CARPENTER'S HOUSE MISSION—LAKE JACKSON/CLUTE DRCLIFFROBERTSONJR@GMAIL.COM

As we begin to look at multiplying into another church, we need more leaders, teachers and support. It is exciting to see God open doors in neighboring cities but pray for laborers for the fields!



▲ Cliff Robertson

PRAYER NEEDS:

Pray that as we take these next steps into the next plant that we walk slowly, ensuring we are not sacrificing what is being built for what is to be built.

MATTHEW PRATHER— THE BRIDGE MISSION, MIDLOTHIAN/WAXAHACHIE MATTHEW@DISCOVERTHEBRIDGE.COM

Some exciting things are happening at The Bridge. Since the beginning of the year we have reached three new families and we continue to see guests each week. Our average attendance has continued to climb the past several months. We have begun to see some breakthroughs that we have been praying for and working hard to see. One of those is that we have been praying for a new building to meet in each week. Currently, we meet at the Waxahachie Civic Center and there are certain Sundays that we do not have access to the building. This makes it more important for us to find a new place to meet. I shared with our church that we have met in 17 different configurations in the past two years. I challenged our church in October to be praying for a new location to meet our needs. God has answered those prayers and we are hoping to have keys to a new leased location around March 1. There are many needs we will have once we have our own location. For example, chairs for worship and the building will have to be painted, etc. We could use your help with these needs. You can give through the missions office to help us get the things that we need for the building. Thank you so much for your prayers and support! It is great to see God answer one of the prayers that I shared with you last month!!



▲ Matthew Prather

PRAYER NEEDS:

Pray that we find an associate. Pray for us as we make plans for our new building.

RONNIE MILLS— KINGDOM CHAPEL MISSION, SAGINAW/NORTH FORT WORTH RONNIE@KCHAPEL.ORG

We are so excited about all that God is doing here in North Fort Worth. Thank you for all your prayers. Right in my very living room we baptized four people Jan. 27. What a blessing it was to celebrate lives changed here at Kingdom Chapel. Also, we're super excited that The Lord has provided for us a new space to move into as our home seems to be getting smaller each week. Thank you all for your prayers! If you would like to learn more about our ministry or learn of ways you can partner with us in this journey please reach out to ronnie@kchapel.org Blessings!



▲ Ronnie Mills

PRAYER NEEDS:

Pray that God would lead to us someone able to help in worship, and help build that team.



CRISTIAN MARTINEZ— GRACE HARVEST BAPTIST MISSION, LUBBOCK CRISTIAN.LMBC@GMAIL.COM

This month I'll be sharing the need we have in the city of Lubbock and next month I'll be sharing with you the great opportunity we have here.

One of the needs in Lubbock is that a large number of minority groups are segregated in neighborhoods with no influence of healthy churches that proclaim and live out the gospel of Jesus. Most of them have a misconception of what a church is and though they have heard the name of Jesus, they could not articulate who Jesus is, what He came to accomplish, and what it means to be His disciple. The gospel calls us to reach every person without distinction with the opportunity to hear the gospel and welcome every person into our church. However, Jesus also demonstrated intentionality in reaching those who had been overlooked. In our context those who are often overlooked are minorities, especially in neighborhoods that are ethnically segregated. We desire to help every person in our city to follow Jesus and be intentional in seeking to connect those who have less opportunities of hearing a



▲ Cristian Martinez

BMA TEXAS MISSIONS continued on p.14



JACKSONVILLE COLLEGE HOMECOMING 2019



Coming Home Royalty:
Retired missionaries to Taiwan and
close friends,
Jack Bateman and
Dale and Barbara Thornton



Distinguished Alumni:
Dr. John and Shirley Ladd,
retired missionaries to Mexico,
continue to serve with Baptist
Medical Missions International.



JC basketball legend and NBA star Carl Herrera was honored at Homecoming. Chief Johnson was also recognized as a JC giant.



Homecoming King and Queen:
Angel Arredondo and
Makayla Wiggins



Friday night recognition of the 9's classes



Serenading Quartet



Kellar-Laird-Carroll Chapter



JC Traveling Sisterhood of 1969



Bearden-Bonner-Gaylor Chapter



Friday luncheon



Conroe to host ladies conference April 6

By **GLENDAM CHAMBERLAIN**

LADIES CONFERENCE IN SE TEXAS

Texas WMA is sponsoring a free Ladies Conference in Conroe on Saturday, April 6. This conference is open to all ladies, whether you are currently in WMA or not. You'll find worship, music, breakout sessions, lunch and a time to fellowship with Christian Ladies from south east Texas and other areas.

The conference is scheduled from 9 a.m.-3 p.m. at Northside Baptist Church, 701 FM 3083 W. Conroe, TX 77303. There is no cost for the conference, but you must register by email leonawalker@consolidated.net. Don't miss this great event. Register today.

"KING OF THE JUNGLE" HOUSEPARTY

We are looking forward to seeing your girls at the 2019 Texas GMA Houseparty on March 15-16. Even if you do not have a GMA program currently at your church, if you have girls between 4th and 12th grade, give them the opportunity to come and have fun, meet new people, and most importantly worship the Lord with girls their own ages.

The theme is "King of the Jungle", theme verse is Psalm 47:7-8. You'll take a fun trip through the jungle at Daniel Springs Baptist Encampment in Gary, Texas. The Houseparty will be held in the brand new conference center.

Water for Christ is the project. It is an organization that digs wells in developing countries and teaches the locals to use and maintain the wells while also sharing Christ with them.

For more information go to the GMA website, www.texasgma.org.

DISTRICT NEWS

As your district WMA meets be sure to write up a paragraph or two to be included in the Baptist Progress. It is encouraging to hear what is going on in each district.

CHEROKEE DISTRICT met on Jan. 8, 2019 at Mt. Selman Baptist Church. The ladies of Mt. Selman served a delicious "Mexican Stack" meal followed by delicious desserts from Enterprise Church.

President Cindy Allen called the meeting to order and led in reciting the WMA Motto. Nancy Washburn, vice president, read the theme verse for the year, Matthew 25:40.

Opening prayer was led by Neatha Cagle, Jocie Lewis from Mt. Selman gave a warm welcome to all. The congregation song "He Touched Me" accompanied by Eloise Thomas at the piano. A special song "Amazing

Grace, My Chains are Gone" was presented by Mike and Rose Bowen.

A skit was performed by the WMA ladies of Mt. Selman about "Neglecting the Word and Prayer". Participants included: Rose Bowen, Faye Booth, Carleen Thompson, Dianna Wallace. The skit was enjoyed by everyone and was a timely reminder to all at the start of a new year.

The attendance banner was awarded to Afton Grove. The next meeting is April 9, 2019 at Sardis, the outreach project is diapers for TBHC Foster Care and Adoption.

Cherokee WMA served "Soup for the Seminary Students" on Feb. 14, 2019. Each church volunteered all the items needed to serve approximately 80.

LIBERTY DISTRICT met on Jan. 12, 2019 at Rosewood Baptist Church, Gilmer, for the Annual Missions Retreat. President Johnnie Ross called the meeting to order by sharing her testimony, prayer was offered by Ava Pool from Antioch. It was only the beginning of a day filled with heartfelt testimonials which brought back memories, laughter, tears and many touched hearts. Candance Jordan, Rosewood WMA President, gave the welcome.

Music for the day was led by Jennifer Barton of Rosewood with Michelle Ayres of Camille Acres at the piano.

The project for 2018-19 is Iglesia Evangelica Bautista ES PORTI JESUS Church in Cuenca, Ecuador, more easily remembered as "The Ecuador Church." Ava Pool showed a video and gave an update on the project. She offered a stained glass window for silent auction to benefit the project. A goal of \$3,000 was set, and reported the first quarter donations have reached \$928.55. A great start ladies!

Other testimonials offered during the course of the meeting were from Glenda Chamberlain, Bettye Wilson, Betty Stokes, Candance Jordan, and Charlotte Johnson. It was amazing to learn how the Lord managed to reach each of these ladies, in the most diverse ways, at varying times in their lives, from early childhood to most recently, and to see how far He has brought them along since. Thank you ladies for sharing your adventures in faith.

Charlotte Johnson introduced the guest speaker, a new BMA Missionary, who, along with her team members, will be "flying under the radar" due to the sensitivity of the region where they will be based. She gave a fascinating report on the people, their customs, religion and the dangers the missionaries will face reaching these people for God. Shirley Hoffpauir extended the right hand of appreciation.

We were pleased to have Cindy Allen, WMA State

President visiting. She spoke briefly, thanking the group for giving of their time and sharing their testimonies.

The meeting was adjourned with prayer offered by Bettye Wilson. A delicious spaghetti lunch was served and it was noted that each table decoration included a globe, placemats and napkin rings fashioned from map books. It was fun to check to see where each of us could travel.

The next meeting will be held April 13, 2019 at Simmons Hill Baptist Church, Diana.

GROW YOUR LOCAL WMA

You've announced it in the bulletin. You've had a clever media slide that flashes before church services. You've even put up signs in the women's restrooms, "Join our team!" Your notices beg, but month after month it's the same three women who gather to plan the same activities and the same studies and the same old everything.

Are you longing for new ladies to join your team? Longing for them to bring fresh ideas and fresh enthusiasm?

Pray that God opens your eyes to the women in your church He might have in mind to serve. Then think about the women you connect with at church. Who has a great smile? Who offers to help with small tasks? Who do you see welcoming new people at church? Who's always praying for others? You might even go through your church directory one name at a time and consider what each woman could bring to your team. Let God guide your efforts to grow your WMA and watch the blessings flow.

TBHC SWIMMING POOL REPAIRS

Texas WMA selected pool renovations and repairs for The Texas Baptist Home for Children as the 2019 project. The pool is in need of major repair work. We need your help to meet this need.

Send offerings to: Jo Strong, 149 NW Suzanne Terrace, Burleson, TX 76028. The given funds will be divided: 90% to the Home, 5% to the youth fund and 5% to the general fund. Thank you for supporting this worthwhile project.

Glenda Chamberlain is the Texas Women's Missionary Auxiliary (WMA) editor. Contact her at gcham33@yahoo.com. For more information about the Texas WMA, visit www.texaswma.com.





TEXAS BAPTIST HOME FOR CHILDREN

Making a constructive difference in the lives of children

By **JASON CURRY**

Growing up, my father and I often found ourselves doing something together. When I say that, I don't mean we were doing something "classically fun." We would go and do a lot of small jobs or go help someone who needed us. Don't get me wrong. My dad would take me to all things soccer and was very much a part of that experience in life.

However, some of my best and vivid memories are of him and me, with his bag of tools, going to work together all day Saturday. There was some emergency first aid, yelling through walls or floorboards, and digging... a lot of digging. If you can relate you know that the greatest thing that my dad did for me is what he did *with me*.

Whether it is grandkids, adopted, biological or simply interactions at church, you and I have the responsibility of spending time with kids. Perhaps it would have been easier on my dad to do the jobs he had without me going with him, but growing up my dad never let me think that I should not have come along to help.

I always wondered why he could not drill holes, hammer nails, or strip wire. Why did he need me to do that for him? The truth is he never did, but he needed to spend time with me and teach me to do it. So the question I have for you is: Are you investing in children?

In our churches, homes and communities our treasure is in our toddlers. And we must give a charge to our children to carry on the faith.

¹⁴ How then shall they call on Him in whom they have not

believed? And how shall they believe in Him of whom they have not heard? And how shall they hear without a preacher? ¹⁵ And how shall they preach unless they are sent? As it is written: "How beautiful are the feet of those who preach the gospel of peace, Who bring glad tidings of good things!" (Romans 10:14-15).

As you may imagine, spending time with kids makes a constructive difference in their lives. It did my life. But if that is true so is the opposing view. Not spending time with kids makes a destructive difference in their life.

We see it at Texas Baptist Home for Children (TBHC) every day. People who were "never sent" will never go.

This is what supporting TBHC does. It is giving TBHC kids the chance to have "beautiful feet" having been sent by Jesus.

The ultimate point is this; if spending time with an earthly father can help shape our course, would spending time with God transform our lives? We all know the answer is yes. Pray for TBHC kids, kids at church, and an inspired people to make a difference in kid's lives. Spend some time with Jesus today and thanks for helping bring kids home.

Jason Curry is the president of the Texas Baptist Home for Children. Contact him 629 Farley St, Waxahachie, TX 75165, 972-937-1321 or jcurry@tbhc.org. For more information, visit www.tbhc.org.



Liberty Association hosts rally BMA of Texas Missions

By **CHARLES JOHNSON**

Pastor of Rosewood, Gilmer

Antioch, Gilmer was the host site on Jan. 17 for a BMA of Texas Missions rally sponsored by Liberty Baptist Association. The meeting was well attended with a total of 70 messengers and guests present with 13 churches represented.

Antioch Pastor Michael Pool welcomed the association to Antioch and read Scripture to open the meeting. A generous offering was received for state missions.

After a brief business meeting, Heith Mitchell, BMA of Texas Missions director, reported on the status and purpose of the Texas missions program. Using Romans 10:11-13 as a text, he challenged the audience to be actively involved as believers in missionary work. He also reported there are currently 26 BMA church planting missionaries in Texas which is the most

since 1910.

Present at the meeting were members of one of the Hispanic plants in Texas which works from the Antioch Church. They sang a musical number, *How Great Thou Art*, in Spanish. Local pastor Jaime Garcia, speaking through an interpreter, shared his salvation experience, call to the ministry and his vision for reaching lost souls in the area.

Following the service, the host church provided a delicious buffet meal in their fellowship hall. The next meeting of Liberty Association will be on Thursday, March 14, 7 p.m., at Ebenezer-Friendship Baptist Church, 5513 FM 557, Pittsburg. This will be a rally for the Texas Baptist Home for Children. Home president Jason Curry is the scheduled speaker.

An Expression of Everlasting Love

Many of our friends choose to honor or remember a family member, a friend or an associate with a gift for the children of the Baptist Home. Texas Baptist Home for Children, in turn, notifies the appropriate person. Listed in capital letters are those honored or remembered from Jan. 1-31, 2019.

ENDOWMENTS

MYRA STOKES: Bill Stokes

HONORARIUMS

MOLLIE BEAN: Leon & Johnnie Ross

MILLY CHAMBERLAIN: Leon & Johnnie Ross

SUE ESSARY: Leon & Johnnie Ross

CHARLES & CHARLOTTE JOHNSON: Dale & Trena Tillery

MICHAEL & ROXANNE O'CONNOR'S 30TH WEDDING ANNIVERSARY: Shelby O'Connor

MEGAN STOKES: Leon & Johnnie Ross

TBHC CHILDREN & STAFF: Earlene Crenshaw

LAIKYN WILKERSON: Leon & Johnnie Ross

MEMORIALS

JS & MYRTLE BASS: Charlotte Morgan

WALTER BECKER: Dennis & Ilona Myrice

VIRGIE BROWN: Donald & Margaret Teague

AVA BRUMMELL: Weldon & Lana Sparks

DONNA BRYAN: Kenneth & Carol Cline

JOHN BRENT DAVIDSON: Edith Cater; Edward & Ollie Killion;

JC & Anita Lassiter

VONA BELL DUKES: Jeanette Dorman

ANITA FLEETWOOD: Mary Hunt

LILLIE HARPER: Larry Hodges

MARION HINDMAN: HV & Betty Minter

DR. J. SELWYN 'HAP' HOLLINGSWORTH: Linda Southard

KEVIN LEWIS: Leon & Linda Lee

WINFRED EARL MASSEY: Carolyn Nolan

ALLINE MURPHY: Charles & Charlotte Johnson; Rosewood Baptist Church

HELEN ODOM: Mary Hunt

PEARL PARKER: Temple Baptist Church, Mexia

STAN PARKER: Weldon & Lana Sparks

LONNIE PRICE: Temple Baptist Church, Mexia

NOAH 'JUNIOR' PRUITT: Kathy Allen

WILLIE FLAKE ROBERTS: Red Springs Missionary Baptist Church

DANNY ROWLETT: Mahl Baptist Church Adult Sunday School Class

ROY DONALD SANDERS: Rosewood Baptist Church

SUE SOULE: Charles & Charlotte Johnson; Rosewood Baptist Church

JAMES TATE: Red Springs Missionary Baptist Church

ROBERT THOMPSON: Mrs. Bob Thomman

H.T. TREADWELL JR.: McCown Enterprises, Jacksonville

LYNELL WYATT: First Baptist Church Friendship Class, Carthage

memorials-honorariums

SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSONS

Solomon's prayer for wisdom

By PAUL GAUNTT

DATE: March 3, 2019

TEXT: 1 Kings 3:5-14

THE HOOK

Discuss the contrast between wisdom and knowledge. Knowledge is the accumulation of facts and data that one has learned or experienced. To have knowledge is to be aware of a circumstance or event and have the information about it. Knowledge is facts and ideas which are acquired through study, research, investigation, observation or experience.

Wisdom is the ability to discern and judge which aspects of that knowledge are true, right, lasting and applicable to one's life — to apply knowledge to the greater scheme of life. It is also deeper; knowing the meaning or reason; about knowing why something is, and what it means to one's life.

THE BOOK

In our passage, we note some of the attributes of those who have had God's wisdom bestowed upon them:

1. Faithful in seeking God. In our text, Solomon

was faithful to worship (verses 4 and 5). When one is faithful in worship, and in continually seeking God's face, and spending time with Him, a child of God will be more sensitive and receptive to God's call upon their life.

2. Remembers past blessings and victories. In verse 6, Solomon acknowledged God's generosity and compassion upon his father, King David. Solomon was very aware that the very fact he was sitting upon the throne his father had inhabited was truly a continued expression of God's goodness. True wisdom never fails to acknowledge that.

3. Expresses humility. In verse 7, we find a humble man in Solomon. He acknowledged that he was but a little child, knowing not how or where to come or go. God places a high premium on the heart of a little child. In describing conditions in the Millennial Kingdom on earth, Isaiah 11:6 says, "The wolf also shall dwell with the lamb, and the leopard shall lie down with the kid; and the calf and the young lion and the fatling together; and a little child shall lead them." Jesus also said in order to enter the Kingdom of Heaven, one must come as a little child. The heart

of a child is precious to God, and Solomon certainly expressed the humility of a little child.

4. Prays in God's will. Solomon asked for wisdom—for God to bestow upon him "and understanding heart to judge thy people" and "to discern between good and bad: An absolute lack of wisdom can be witnessed in a people that can make no distinction between good and bad. Often, God's people pray, not seeking God's will, but instead, satisfaction for their flesh. This prayer of Solomon sought God's mind and heart.

5. God is pleased. Verse 11 tells us that Solomon was rewarded for his request with "that which thou has not asked, both riches and honor."

THE LOOK

What do we learn from Solomon's request? To always pray, not with regard to what one might achieve or acquire in life, but to ask for an understanding heart, to ask for the ability to discern between good and evil. This is a prayer which God will honor—and will answer. James 1:5 "If any of you lack wisdom, let him ask of God, that giveth to all men liberally, and upbraideth not; and it shall be given him."

Wisdom's call

By PAUL GAUNTT

DATE: March 10, 2019

TEXT: Proverbs 1:20-33

THE HOOK

Today's lesson in Proverbs portrays wisdom as a woman. In fact, the Bible paraphrase, *The Message*, refers to wisdom as "Lady Wisdom." This particular passage is what might be regarded as the person of wisdom, is God the Father vicariously calling out through her—because, after all, He is not just the embodiment of wisdom—He is wisdom. So, let us study in Proverbs 1 and see what Lady Wisdom is calling out to us.

THE BOOK

1. The call is urgent. Wisdom is calling—crying out. Why is she crying out? Because there are noises, distractions, sideline interests and any and everything which hinders one from truly being wise. It is imperative that we operate within the boundaries of God's wisdom. One might be able to convince people

of the urgency with a normal tone of voice, but to cry out truly emphasizes it.

That's why preachers tend to "holler." The message is urgent.

2. The audience of the call is ignorant. Actually "ignorant" is a mild term compared to Lady Wisdom's word—"simple." Some versions use the word "simpleton." She asks, "How long are you going to wallow in your stupidity?" But there is still opportunity (verse 23). The simple-minded are implored to "turn." That means to do a one-eighty. There is still opportunity for God to pour out His spirit—namely the spirit of wisdom upon them.

3. The audience of the call is hardened (verse 24-32). History has recorded such simple-mindedness—such hardness of heart. Consider the Israelites in Numbers 14 during what the writer of Hebrews calls, in Hebrews 3:15, ". . . Today if ye will hear his voice, harden not your hearts, as in the

provocation." The provocation was that time in the wilderness when the Israelites stiffened their necks, and refused to enter into the land God had promised. They said they would rather die in the wilderness. They had a horrible case of simplemindedness. And it provoked God to wrath. In our text in Proverbs 1:26, we see the spirit of an angry God who has been defied by one who refuses to embrace His wisdom. "I also will laugh at your calamity; I will mock when your fear cometh:"

4. To answer wisdom's call results in peace and safety (verse 33). "But whoso hearkeneth unto me shall dwell safely, and shall be quiet from fear of evil."

THE LOOK

Heed wisdom's call! When God answers your request for wisdom, He will enable you to make right choices in life, to speak discreetly in all circumstances, to be open and submissive to God's will, and to enjoy peace and contentment. It's good to be wise!

SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSONS

A father's counsel

By PAUL GAUNTT

DATE: March 17, 2019

TEXT: Proverbs 3:1-6

THE HOOK

As a small boy, when I had the opportunity to go swimming, I was under the watchful eye of my dad. Looking back, I now realize he took occasion to illustrate faith to me, by his standing in water that was shoulder deep to him, and absolutely over my head. I stood on the side of the pool, and was summoned to jump to him and he would catch me. But even as a small boy, my “own understanding” would kick in. I would remember the time in the Brazos River when I slipped off the inner tube and went under, although I was retrieved quickly. Nonetheless, that experience implanted a certain fear in my heart for water, and rather than totally trust in my Dad to catch me when I jumped off the side of the pool into his arms, I was absolutely hesitant. I leaned to my own understanding rather than Dad’s strength and trustworthiness. Do you have trouble letting go and placing your faith in a loving Heavenly Father Who always has your best interest at heart, and Who is absolutely able?

THE BOOK

1. Implant the Father’s counsel in your heart (verses

1 and 3). “Let thine heart keep my commandments.” Another way of wording it is found in 7:3 “Bind them upon thy fingers, write them upon the table of thine heart.” God’s law was etched in stone tablets and given to Moses—today in the age of grace, upon receiving Jesus into one’s heart, God’s laws are imprinted upon our hearts.

2. Heeding the Father’s counsel will lead to a long, fruitful life (verse 2). Paul writes in Ephesians 6, “Children obey your parents in the Lord: for this is right. Honour thy father and mother; which is the first commandment with promise; That it may be well with thee, and thou mayest live long on the earth.” It stands to reason that an obedient life is rewarded with longevity.

3. Heeding the Father’s counsel will put you in God’s favor and others (verse 4). One who walks in God’s favor will find themselves sought after by others. Employers know that one who walks with God is more likely to perform a good, hard, honest day’s work. In Bible days, a slave owner would purchase a slave off of the auction block, who was a Christ follower. Because he would be more industrious and trustworthy.

4. Do not place your faith in human logic. Common sense has its place, but to trust only in common sense is to reject the leading of the Father. And God seems to delight in leading us to places, and in ways which defy all human logic. That way, He receives all the glory.

5. Acknowledge God, and He will direct your path (verse 6). Solomon’s father, David worded it this way: “Delight thyself also in the Lord; and he shall give thee the desires of thine heart.” God the Father will never withhold anything from His children that they will use to glorify him. Because when God’s children delight themselves in Him, their desires are in alignment with His desires.

THE LOOK

Two thoughts:

1. Trusting God does not negate the need for His Children to labor and exert themselves.

2. Glorifying God happens when God’s children acknowledge that human logic does not glorify Him.

A rebuke of laziness

By PAUL GAUNTT

DATE: MARCH 24, 2019

TEXT: PROVERBS 6:6-11

THE HOOK

La-zi-ness: The quality of being unwilling to work or to use energy; Idleness. Synonyms: Idleness, insolence, slothfulness, shiftlessness, inactivity, inertia, sluggishness, lethargy, languor, torpidity, slowness, heaviness, dullness.

I recall once getting a very low mark on a Texas Geography test: After the coach gave us boys in the class five hard licks with a paddle, grades were much better the following week. Laziness is a learned condition—and has nothing to do with a physical malady. I know people who are severely handicapped physically, who are anything but lazy. Laziness is also condemned in scripture.

THE BOOK

A look at Proverbs 6:6-11 gives the description of industriousness using something as seemingly insignificant as the industrious little ant.

1. An industrious person needs no supervision (verse 7). They are self-starters. They need no guide. In the Navy, a sailor is given a quarterly report. He is graded on many different categories, but one category is initiative. The blocks to check are, “Needs no supervision; Needs limited supervision; Needs extensive supervision. It was unthinkable to score a mark lower than “limited supervision.” And what does God use to illustrate the point to us? A little ant.

2. An industrious person prepares for the future (verse 8). The ant lays by in store for the winter months. To plan ahead in life is not a sign of faithlessness.

3. An industrious person does not sleep excessively (verse 9-10). Why do people find themselves in poverty? Oftentimes it’s because sleep is more satisfying to them than to get out and “make something of themselves.”

THE LOOK

God the Father wants us to totally depend on Him. But

He also wants us to do what is right concerning initiative and responsibility. Not only is labor productive, not only is it satisfying—not only is it God’s mandate to man as a result of the fall, but it serves as a wonderful object lesson to the lost world of God’s strength—especially when His children labor with a song in their hearts and joy on their countenance. In Bible times, slave owners always sought slaves who were followers of Christ because they knew Christ followers were the hardest workers. Employers today also know the same thing. Diligent labor is a witness!

Paul Gauntt is the pastor of First, Palmer. He served for a number of years as the BMA of Texas Department of Church Ministries director. He has served several churches as pastor, and is a correspondent and featured article writer for Baptist Progress Contact him at pop.gauntt@gmail.com.



BMA Texas Missions cont.

faithful and clear proclamation of the gospel and follow Jesus with a healthy church family. We desire to provide this opportunity to both English and Spanish speakers.

PRAYER NEEDS:

Pray for unity in my family and among the disciples. Pray for fruit as we proclaim the gospel and make disciples. Pray that Satan will not take the seed of the Word from their hearts but that they will obey it grow, and produce fruit.

JAIME GARCIA—

**IGLESIA BAUTISTA NUEVA VIDA MISSION,
GILMER/MESQUITE**

JAIME.GARCIA2911@GMAIL.COM

How powerful it is to be in unity and always have the same vision. I am and will be grateful to God for all of you, for how you are involved in the missionary work. To each one of you, a great reward awaits you in heaven and above all this hope that day we will joyfully hear Our Lord Jesus Christ telling us well done. Blessings.



▲ Jaime Garcia

PRAYER NEEDS:

I would appreciate your collaboration with your prayers, as I will be more engaged in the Hispanic missionary work. Pray that I will do it in the most efficient way because it is for my God.



NEPTALY MOLINA—

**IGLESIA BAUTISTA MISSION, NACOGDOCHES
NRMOLINA23@GMAIL.COM**

We have regular services on Wednesdays and Sundays and are now implementing discipleship on Saturdays from 6-8 p.m.

I am working with a new family of four members, parents and two young people. Mrs. Melva was converted last month and we arranged to meet in her house to make a partnership with the intention of making a cell and studying the possibility that we would choose other days to meet in the brothers' homes. (Translated with Google)



▲ Neptaly Molina

Prayer Needs:

1. Pray for the work here in Nacogdoches, that the Lord will glorify and add more families to our church.
2. Pray for the spiritual, emotional and physical life of the pastoral family of Molina Perdomo emotional.
3. Pray we receive legal documents.
4. Pray for a new mission in the city of Marshall. There is no Hispanic work there.
5. Pray for peace, salvation, and social stabilization in Venezuela. Pray that the old communist regime will be removed by God and that the new interim president, Juan Guaido, will restore democracy.
6. Pray for the work of the Lord in Venezuela and the protection of the population.

LEE (NICKNAME)—

BMA TEXAS MISSIONARY AMONG ARABIC REFUGEES,

RICHARDSON

Be careful for nothing; but in every thing by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God. Philippians 4:6

We visited a family in the Hutchins area. We met them by our friends from Jordan who are Christian but do not belong to any particular church. We made with them a friendship and we talked about Jesus and His love. We prayed with them and we encouraged them to come to church.

I met with the biggest fish in my life and for about three hours he was asking about three things.

1. Do we involve God in three different gods?
2. Was Christ really crucified on the cross?
3. Is the Bible in our hands distorted or not? Is it the Word of God?

At this time I felt the power of the Holy Spirit, because I asked a group of worshippers praying for this purpose. And as the prophet Job acted, "I will speak, that I may be refreshed: I will open my lips and answer" Job 32:20. God gave me convincing answers and I was comfortable while I was talking to him with confidence and without stuttering and hesitation. And the Lord gave answers to all of his questions, and he listens to me completely as a blind man (by the way he is a blind man). He did not comment on my answers. All he did was shake his head with consent to answers. At last, I asked him if I could pray for him and he agreed. After that, he was wondering how I asked the Lord in that simple without any custom time. But unfortunately, after all of this, he did not seek the Lord as the Savior of his life. He was afraid of what his people would do if they knew that. But I know that God doesn't turn back his word.

Also, before two days of Christmas on Saturday, I visited five families, and spoke to them of the Lord Jesus. I invited one of the families to my house to have dinner together.

PRAYER NEEDS:

I always pray for God to work in their hearts, to change their thoughts and to be merciful to them.

SPENCER SIMPSON—

**REDEEMER'S LOVE MISSION, HOUSTON
SPNCRSMPSN@GMAIL.COM**

We have seen exciting things here at Redeemer's Love as the new year kicks off with over 20 of our people being committed to discipleship groups that are designed to equip them to make more disciples. The development and growth of our core team has been a joy to watch as well. Thank you for your continued love, support and most of all prayers.



▲ Spencer Simpson

PRAYER NEEDS:

Pray that I would grow in wisdom. Being so young and in this position often frightens me because I know the expectations God has for leaders in His Church. So I would appreciate prayer that I would be conducting myself according to the standards the Lord has for church leaders, as well as maturing in the ways I need to in order to adequately shepherd this flock. Pray is also needed for the spiritual development of future core leaders.

CHRIS DRIVER—

**WEST TEXAS MULTIPLICATION MOVEMENT LEADER
CJDRIVER316@GMAIL.COM**

If you come to west Texas, you might look at the vast plains and think it's a land that God forgot. But you'd be wrong! God has his eye fixed on west Texas and is pouring out His favor in wonderful ways! Our groups, churches and leaders are continuing to meet and impact their communities. And that is what I want to call you to unite with us in prayer about. We are learning that planting churches in many rural west Texas towns comes with a unique and delicate challenge: existing churches. Many of these churches are aged and struggling and most have lost passion for reaching the communities in which they were once the center of community life. But here's the amazing thing that only God can do. In every town we have established a group in, our folks have not met with resistance. In fact, it's been the complete opposite. Our efforts have stirred the fires of the gospel in pastors and congregations and breathed fresh life into ministries that seemed on the verge of dying. We have come to realize that revitalization will be as big a part of our efforts as planting new churches. I rejoice in the spirit of unity and grace and love we have encountered. And I ask you to partner with us in prayer that this attitude will continue and that God would give us the wisdom to be able to partner as much as we plant!



▲ Chris Driver

**KINGSLEY NDUKA—INTERN PREPARING FOR HOUSTON
KINGEDU700@GMAIL.COM**

I am so thankful to God that He had in His providence placed the churches of the BMA of Texas to be a pillar in this dispensation for the support of His mission by caring and praying for the missionaries. May God bless and keep you all.



▲ Kingsley Nduka

OTHER PRAYER REQUESTS FROM THE FIELD

- Pray for intern Kingsley Nduka, for God to reunite his family. They are currently stuck in the UK. Also pray for his family in the loss of his father.
- Pray for Wesley Burke and his family in Washington DC beginning their internship alongside Capital Hill Church.
- Pray for the Bethel Baptist Church replant in Dallas as they identify and equip leaders and reach their neighborhood.
- Pray for each missionary and their family. Our adversary doesn't like what these families are up to.
- Pray for several men and women waiting on immigration documents.
- Pray that God provides the funds and the laborers for more evangelistic disciple-making churches.
- Pray for souls saved, disciples made, leaders equipped and sent out to start again.

PRAISE REPORTS FROM THE FIELD

- God is answering your specific prayers for missionaries, their families and their work. He is showing Himself mighty!
- God is using your missionaries to reach into the lives of truly struggling people. We are hearing stories of real conversion!
- Souls are being saved! Disciples are being made! Leaders are being equipped! Missions are starting churches!
- God continues to answer your prayers on behalf of your mission effort. Keep praying and encouraging.

EVENTS

WORLD MISSIONS DAY

DATE: February 24, 2019

REVIVAL

DATE: March 3-6, 2019

PLACE: Myrtle Springs Baptist Church, Quitman

TIME: Sunday, March 3 at

10:30 a.m. and 6 p.m.

Monday-Wednesday, March 4-6 at 7 p.m.

BMA OF AMERICA ANNUAL MEETING

DATE: May 6-8, 2019

PLACE: Northwest Arkansas

Convention Center, Rogers, Arkansas

SOAR STUDENT CONFERENCE

DATE: July 3-5, 2019

PLACE: Gaylord Texan, Grapevine, Texas

BMA OF TEXAS ANNUAL MEETING

DATE: November 4-5, 2019

PLACE: Keltys First Baptist Church, Lufkin, Texas

pastor & staff changes

ALEX LIPSCOMB is the new pastor of Antioch, Palestine.

ROBERT DAWSON is the new pastor of Nat, Cushing.

PERSONNEL & POSITIONS

AVAILABLE POSITIONS

YOUTH PASTOR—East Mayfield, Hemphill is seeking a part-time youth pastor. Contact Pastor Gene R. Lee at 903-665-9971, 903-720-7572 or at dkaylee60@gmail.com.

PASTOR—Oak Hill, Gilmer is seeking a bi-vocational pastor. Send resume to Tommy Stracener, 1461 Barber Road, Gilmer, Texas 75644 or to jim.barton62@gmail.com or call 903-762-2817. 5/19

PASTOR—Mt. Pisgah, Mineola is seeking a full-time pastor. Bi-vocational is an option. Send resume to the church at 4995 FM 49, Mineola, Texas 75773 or email to mpmbc.mineola@gmail.com. Audio or video sermon if available would be appreciated. TFN

YOUTH MINISTER—Greenpond, Como is seeking a bi-vocational youth minister. Housing is included. Send resume to terrywbolton@yahoo.com or Terry Bolton, 123 Charles St., Sulphur Springs, Texas 75482. 2/19

YOUTH MINISTER—First Baptist Crandall is in search of new youth leadership. Previous leader accepted new assignment left on good terms so youth group of 12-18 in a good place to continue growing and to be a foundation for others' growth. Position is bi-vocational with salary and benefits based on both need and level of commitment ready to bring. Couple not required but given preferential consideration. Extremely supportive church family coupled with very high caliber education workers and leadership that truly reflects our Savior's grace ready to join with new youth leadership. Church currently preparing to break ground on new education building to include youth center. Church located 27 miles from downtown Dallas on SH 175 and 88 minute drive to Jacksonville College and BMA Seminary per Google maps. Contact Brother Mike Waits, Sr., MA RN at 214-697-7998 by text or voice mail or email at mbwaitssr@att.net. 2/19

YOUTH MINISTER—Mt. Olive, Scurry is seeking a full-time (30-40 hours per week) youth minister. Must be called by the Lord to minister to youth. Prior experience a plus. Please email resume to landa@h1pm.com or mail to Search Committee, PO BOX 99, Scurry, TX 75158, or call Landa Taylor at 214 649-5625 to drop off resume at the church. TFN

PASTOR—New Salem, Centerville is seeking a pastor. Contact Barbara Brook at 903-388-0752. 3/19

PASTOR—First, Beckville is seeking a bi-vocational pastor. We are located at 209 East Grand Bluff, Beckville Texas. Send resume to Jerry Phillips at pycno1@windstream.net, cell 903-265-2338. 2/19

MUSIC—First, DeSoto is seeking a part-time music minister. Must be a Christian. Must be able to play a musical instrument to lead the congregation in worship and provide lyrics for the congregation to participate in worship or use the material available. Time frame is Sunday (2 Services 10:45 a.m./6 p.m.) Wednesday (1 Service 6 pm). Send resume to fbcdesototx@gmail.com to schedule an appointment. Call 972-223-7448 for more information. TFN

YOUTH PASTOR—Afton Grove, Jacksonville, is seeking a bi-vocational youth pastor to lead our vibrant, middle and high school students. Duties will include coordinating worship and activities for the youth group including: outings, assist with Vacation Bible School, outreach ministries, Sunday school and Wednesday evening service. Qualifications: Have a strong personal faith in Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior, have passion and a heart for the youth, pass drug test/background check. * A formal job description is available upon request. Send resume to Eddie Richardson, fasteddie999elr@gmail.com.

CHURCHES in REVIEW

January 20, 2018

CHURCH	SS	WORSHIP	ADDITIONS
First, Omen	38	75	
First, Palmer	44	60	1 by letter
Glade Creek, Gilmer	14	32	
Jackson, Joaquin	68	146	2 by letter
New Harmony, Tyler	281	352	
Olde Tyme, White Oak		38	
Rosewood, Gilmer	138	266	1 by baptism, 2 by letter
Sand Flat, Grand Saline	33	69	
Sand Prairie, Normangee		49	
Security Calvary, Cleveland	22	38	
Simmons Hill, Diana	12	19	
Yellowpine Macedonia, Hemphill	13	17	

January 27, 2018

CHURCH	SS	WORSHIP	ADDITIONS
First, Omen	56	88	
First, Palmer	68	82	
Glade Creek, Gilmer	15	39	
Jackson, Joaquin	66	111	
New Harmony, Tyler	295	353	
New Hope, Mineola	90	159	
Olde Tyme, White Oak		35	
Pilgrim Rest #2, Golden	48	66	
Rosewood, Gilmer	135	194	
Sand Flat, Grand Saline	40	71	
Sand Prairie, Normangee		59	

February 3, 2018

CHURCH	SS	WORSHIP	ADDITIONS
First, Omen	38	72	1 profession of faith
First, Palmer	49	75	
Glade Creek, Gilmer	20	36	
Jackson, Joaquin	75	113	
New Harmony, Tyler	309	339	2 by baptism
New Hope, Mineola	87	153	3 by baptism
Olde Tyme, White Oak		41	
Pilgrim Rest #2, Golden	43	62	
Rosewood, Gilmer	122	214	
Sand Flat, Grand Saline	41	68	
Sand Prairie, Normangee		60	
Simmons Hill, Diana	12	19	1 by letter
Yellowpine Macedonia, Hemphill	13	19	

February 10, 2019

CHURCH	SS	WORSHIP	ADDITIONS
First, Omen	57	98	
First, Palmer	16	37	
Glade Creek, Gilmer	60	114	
New Harmony, Tyler	287	328	2 by baptism
New Hope, Mineola	96	164	2 by baptism
Olde Tyme, White Oak		34	
Pilgrim Rest #2, Golden	39	54	
Sand Flat, Grand Saline	43	76	
Security Calvary, Cleveland	16	38	

CELEBRATING *56 Years*

IN THE MINISTRY



In honor of Bro. Rodger Cole, March 10, 2019, we are celebrating his 56 years in the ministry: 50 of which have been pastoring churches in Texas and Arkansas. Bro. Rodger surrendered to the ministry at the age of 16 in March of 1963 at Russell Missionary Baptist Church, Russell, Arkansas. In 1969 he began as Pastor of Center Grove Baptist Church, Charlotte, Arkansas and has been Pastor for 28 years of Antioch Baptist Church, Carthage Texas. After the morning service lunch will be served, then a reception will be held in the fellowship hall from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. Everyone is invited to come by and enjoy a time of fellowship and refreshments to honor Bro. Rodger for his faithful service for the Lord.



SHANE & SHANE W/JIMMY NEEDHAM

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FARLEY STREET BAPTIST CHURCH

SATURDAY, FEB 23
PARENT CONFERENCE
W/HIDS ACTIVITIES
10:30AM

FAMILY BLITZ
1:30PM



Family Conference is FREE! Register at
oneweekendfamily.eventbrite.com

A Legacy of Hope



MISSIONS
baptist missionary association of america

2019 World Missions Day
February 24, 2019