

Baptist Progress

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BMA TEXAS MISSIONS



▲ BMA Texas Missions Commissioning Service

By **JERRY FULTON**

Baptist Progress Director/Editor

A total of 259 people from churches across the state gathered for the 121st Annual Session of the Baptist Missionary Association of Texas (BMA of Texas) at New Harmony, Tyler Nov. 4, 2021. Churches represented by messenger totaled 105 and churches represented by letter totaled 23.

A total of 160 messengers registered as did 99 visitors. Eleven more people attended the 2021 meeting than attended the 2020 meeting.

Petitioning churches welcomed into the BMA of Texas included Harmony, Normangee. Harmony was an established church that reverted to missions' status and was restarted under the leadership of Pastor Robert Lee. Also accepted into the association were Iglesia Bautista, Nacogdoches, led by Pastor Neptaly Molina and Redemption Hill, Fort Worth, led by Pastor Brett Holcomb, both original church plants of BMA Texas Missions.

The day began with a BMA of Texas department directors and state missionaries meet and greet Thursday morning. BMA of Texas President Leon Ross then called the meeting to order thanking Chris Webb, pastor of New Harmony, Tyler, and the church for hosting the meeting this year. What incredible

hosts the church family was, providing those in attendance with breakfast, snacks throughout the day and a delicious barbecue lunch.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Prior to the president's message, his son, Josh Ross, sang "In Christ Alone." Using Matthew 16:18 as his text, President Ross then preached a sermon titled, *His Church, His Victory, Our Opportunity*, noting that the theme the Lord impressed upon him was the same as his sermon's title.

He noted that when Peter answered Jesus' question saying, "...thou art the Christ, the Son of the living God," Jesus responded by saying, "I will build my church; and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it."

Ross said that during his ministry it was Jesus who built His church, and it is Jesus who assures us that the gates of Hell shall not prevail against it. He continued, "And as members of His local congregations, He has given us a great opportunity to serve in His triumphant church."

The president noted that Jesus Christ is the foundation rock upon which the church is built, and it is, therefore, His church. In speaking of the Lord's victory, Ross said, "When Jesus built

His church, He built it to last."

He continued, "We know that the Lord's church has been under constant assault from the beginning even until now and will continue to be under assault until the trumpet sounds. Depending upon the time it has been persecuted, ridiculed, shoved aside and ignored, but the church that Jesus built has and will endure."

Ross admonished, "Jesus pictures a church out in the world assaulting the gates of hell, which will not prevail against it. Jesus entered into the world and invaded Satan's territory and rescued us from the chains of sin."

He said, "As He entered into the world to rescue us, He sends us out into the world with the gospel message to rescue those held in bondage by sin, saying, "all power is given unto me in heaven and in earth, go ye therefore, and teach all nations," (Matthew 28:18-19a)."

The president then turned his attention to the opportunity the Lord has given His church and most notably the churches of the BMA of Texas.

He said, "In light of His victory and the power available to us, the Master sends us forth. The opportunity is not just for pastors, teachers, church leaders; the opportunity is for the church."



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Eric Johnson—Growing up in a church planting environment

By **PAUL GAUNTT**

Baptist Progress Correspondent

Although he is only in his mid-40s, Eric Johnson has been many miles down the gospel trail and has been involved in a myriad of ministries in BMA work.

The third-born son of Buddy and Martha Johnson, Eric Johnson's earliest memories were the years when his dad began his work as a missionary in Mexico. Eric was born in Mexico and grew up there until he turned 17.

"Dad went to Huejutla, Mexico before I was born, and started a church—Primera Iglesia Bautista, and dozens of church plants (throughout Mexico) came from that church," Johnson said.

He continued, "Dad couldn't be pastor there because at that time it was illegal for Americans to pastor in Mexico, but he led in the initial stages of that church and disciplined some men to become pastors."

Johnson said he has never seen a more active church that has planted more churches than Primera Iglesia Bautista in Huejutla. He also attributes the strength and aggressive missions program to pastors aggressively promoting the mission program and the associated work in their churches.

"Those pastors really work at making the association strong," he said.

Eric, along with his older brothers Grady and Scott, and his younger twin brothers, Ben and Jon experienced home-schooling by teachers from the U.S. Eric also attended public schools there and had dual citizenship.

"I just grew up experiencing the small-town Mexico life," he said.

He continued, "Taffy was one of the U.S. teachers who came after I left home. It was at the time that my mom, Martha, passed away, and my dad and Taffy ended up getting married."

The oldest brother, Grady, wears many hats in the ministry of Mexico, serving as the missions director for the entire association, helping pastor El Alba Baptist Church in Pachuca and leading in the Martha Johnson School.

The Johnson family ministry in Mexico extends three generations. Eric's grandfather, Grady Johnson, traveled to Mexico in 1956 to help organize the first BMA church there. Buddy Johnson spent around 30 years building the work there, and now, Eric and his brother, Grady, and their sister, Sara Rose, have ministered there.

From the beginning of the BMA work in Mexico, the Johnson family has been able to see it grow. Now, they are in partnership with the BMA of America and have planted churches in Mexico and even beyond its' borders, including Venezuela.

One of the miracle stories of the Johnson's ministry in Mexico is about Sara coming into their lives. A pastor and his wife who ministered in the Aztec Villages, which was about a three-hour drive from Huejutla, had 11 children, including premature twins who were only 24 hours old when the father came to the Johnson's home and asked for help.

"Sara was a twin and only weighed two pounds," Eric said, noting that the mother was ill and did not think she was strong enough to nurture both babies, so she decided she could nurse the boy since he was stronger, but not the girl which was extremely troubling to the parents.

Johnson said, "Mom and Dad went and got them, and when she picked Sara up, she seemed to be lifeless."

But Martha wrapped her up and when they got in the Jeep and started back to town, Sara started moving a little, and she spent the next six weeks in an incubator.

"So really, from the first day she was born, she has been in



▲ Pastor Eric Johnson preaching at First, Jacksonville



▲ The Eric Johnson Family

our family—she's my sister now—she came to the United States, met and married a preacher, Tommy Rose, and the couple have returned to Mexico where they are serving as missionaries," Johnson said.

Scott is a mechanical engineer at the Toshiba Plant in Houston. Ben and Jon work at ETech in Jacksonville, and are active members of First, Jacksonville where Eric recently assumed the pastorate.

In 1992, Eric moved to the U.S. and spent his final year in high school in Conroe. Afterward, he moved to Bullard where he lived with his older brother Scott. During that time, he joined Rose City, Tyler, where he met his wife, Kelly.

"Six months after we married, I was beginning to feel the call to ministry," Eric said, citing the influences of pastor Mike Prescott and Dr. Phillip Attebery who were instrumental in getting him started on a path toward ministry.

"Dr. Attebery encouraged me to start taking classes at the BMA Seminary," Eric said, stating that he received his master's degree there.

ERIC JOHNSON continued on p. 5

Jacksonville College announces the retirement of Michael Creech

By **JAN T. MODISETTE**

Jacksonville College Director of Library and Learning Resources

Director of Distance Education Michael Paul Creech was honored at a retirement reception held at the Central Baptist Church Youth Building. The whole College community, including administration, faculty, staff and alumni attended the event to honor Creech's 29 years of dedicated service to the College mission of "Challenging Minds and Transforming Lives."

"We are so grateful for the tremendous contribution that Mike has made to Jacksonville College," said College President Joe Lightner.

Lightner added, "Mike investing his life into reaching students for Christ is an inspiration to our Jacksonville College family."

Former College President Mike Smith said that, "Mike truly left his mark on Jacksonville College. He was more than just an employee; he was a friend and servant of our Lord."

Smith added, "No one was more knowledgeable and possessed a servant spirit than him, working many hours behind the scenes and on weekends and late at night so that the College could have the best in technology."

Creech joins a long line of Jacksonville College employees whose lives have left a legacy of sacrifice while fulfilling the mission of the College. He began teaching at the College August 1992 and subsequently serving as the Business and Computer Science Department Chair, Chief Information Officer, and the first Director of Distance Education, laying the foundation for the distance education program. Creech's significant contributions to the advancement of technology at the College include leading his students to create the first website of any college in the East Texas area. He guided the College in choosing and implementing the Empower student information system, allowing online registration and tuition payment. He also implemented the College's first Learning Management System, paving the way for course materials to be made available online, an invaluable benefit when COVID-19 forced all colleges to go online.

Creech served numerous other leadership roles during his nearly 30-year career at the College. He was on the leadership teams for the 1999, 2009 and 2019 Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on College (SACSCOC), the regional association for the accreditation of degree-granting for higher education. Serving as the Quality Enhancement Plan advisor, he provided the QEP Leadership Team assistance for "Going the Distance with Distance Education," a plan to guide the College's educational focus over the next ten years.

Colleagues expressed deep admiration for Creech, commenting on his patient instructions as he assisted faculty and staff with technological needs.

"Mike never let me know that he was frustrated because of my technology deficiencies. I require much assistance

and patients and Mike always seems glad to give both," commented Mark Rogers, religion instructor. Others praised Creech for his professional approach to solving problems.

Marolyn Welch, former Vice President of Academic Affairs, said, "Working with you [Mike] during my time as faculty and then as Academic Dean has been the greatest of pleasures. I have valued your support and your professionalism in every matter, whether student, faculty, or IT related. Jacksonville College has benefitted these many years from your expertise as Chief Information Officer and most recently as Director of Distance Education. You will be greatly missed in both of these roles. Thank you for being a true friend to the college and to me."

Dr. Patricia Richey, history, government, humanities, and computer science professor, said "I learned to respect your dedicated work ethic and your constant commitment to stay current with technology as you sought hardware, software, and applications that would benefit our mission at Jacksonville College. You did all of this with a servant's heart and a friendly spirit."

The College alumni also remembered Creech's admirable characteristics while they attended and worked with him at the College. Lt. Col. Chaplain Tony Cleaver, former JBC Bible teacher and BMA Seminary professor, said, "You are a good man. You have been a good man to many over the years. You were an especially good man to me while I was at JBC. You helped me time and again. You showed an example by your behavior of what patience was all about. Your influence will live on in many lives even after your steps stop on JBC campus."

Kaley Lybrand Dean, former JBC student and Dean of Students added, "I can't express my gratitude enough for being as patient, diligent, and hard-working as you. You've



▲ **Joe Lightner, president of Jacksonville College, and Michael Creech**

carried the weight of IT responsibilities on your shoulders with dignity and leadership."

Former College President Mike Smith attested to the admiration of Creech's colleagues and students stating, "I worked with Mike Creech for ten years. No one was more knowledgeable and possessed a servant spirit than him. He worked many hours behind the scenes and on weekends and late at night so we could have the best in technology. He pioneered our Distance Education. When COVID hit and forced all colleges to go online Jacksonville College was prepared due to Mike Creech. He wanted our students and faculty to have the resources needed. He provided excellent training opportunities so we were equipped to meet our responsibilities."

Baptist Publishing Home winter quarterly begins next month

The winter quarter begins Dec. 5. This quarterly will cover Genesis 12-25 and focus on the life of Abraham. This is the second part of our study over the book of Genesis. You can order by calling 800-333-1442 or at baptistpublishinghouse.com.



BMA TEXAS

MISSIONS

Your Church's Mission Movement in Texas



A word from your Missions Office

By HEITH MITCHELL

It was a joy to be with you at the BMA of Texas Meeting. I love being a part of our BMA of Texas family. I consider myself so blessed to serve my God by serving you and your missionaries. You are always encouraging when we are together.

It was good to hear how God is working in each of the ministries of BMAT. Bro. Leon Ross and Bro. Ronnie Mills really encouraged me with their messages. Bro Leon has been a great president, hasn't he? Jason Collins gave us good tools for service through the Texas Missions sponsored Leadership Conference. I heard good things from all of the breakout sessions. Thank you, breakout speakers.

New Harmony Family, you were amazing hosts. Your hospitality is well known and was on full display. When the BMA of Texas office team showed up, everything was already laid out so well. You fed us a delicious barbecue meal with so much desert.

Everyone went above and beyond. Thank you church family, Pastor Chris Webb and church staff for making us feel welcomed and at home.

I also want to thank the BMA of Texas office staff for all they do in preparing and operating the BMA of Texas Meeting. These people are second to none. Justin Owens took the lead well. He is a blessing to BMA of Texas. His wife, Crystal, also helped us this year. Ana D'Avila was an amazing support to Justin. Chris and Jamie Driver handled the exhibits and missionary details. Todd West hosted the leadership conference along with the BMA of Texas First Gen Network Retreat we tied to the meeting. We are blessed with a great team!

wanted them to be a different people, just as in this time God wants us to be different with our words and with our deeds. We are light in a world in darkness. Amen

**ROBERTO MARCELLETTI—
ANTHONY DRIVE MISSION, ENNIS
ROBBYYPATTY@HOTMAIL.COM**

We stand firm in the gospel. We ask for your prayers that we continue with the strength and passion to speak where God allows us the gospel.



▲ Roberto Marcelletti



**ISAIAS MARTINEZ—
NEW SPANISH MISSION AT
NORTHSIDE, CONROE
ISAIASMJ1966@GMAIL.COM**

Thank you dear brothers for accepting us into this beautiful organization. It is a privilege and an honor to be part of you



▲ Isaias Martinez

Prayer Needs: Please hold us in prayer for the growth of our church.



**KINGSLEY NDUKA/ADEREMI BADRU—
LIGHT HOUSE MISSION IN HOUSTON
KINGEDU700@GMAIL.COM/
REMIBADRU44HOPE@YAHOO.COM**

Thank you for all your support.

Prayer Needs: Pray for us that our evangelistic outreaches and that



▲ Kingsley Nduka

efforts will be productive and God will send us men and women who will serve with us.

**JAIME HENRIQUEZ—
FUENTE DE VIDA ETERNA MISSION, HOUSTON
DAIRYJENY@YAHOO.COM**

I want to thank all the churches of the BMA of Texas for your prayers and support. I am happy to share with you what the Lord is doing in our mission. During October, we had a special activity that we called Family Day. We went into the community and shared the gospel with them and at the same time invited them to Family Day. We had a great response time for the people who attended. As a result, eight people came to Christ. We are in contact with them to start discipleship with them as soon as possible. Continue to pray for us as we do the work of the Lord.



▲ Jaime Henriquez

Prayer Needs: Pray for the new believers who came to Christ as we disciple them.

**NEPTALY MOLINA —
IGLESIA BAUTISTA MISSION, NACOGDOCHES
NRMOLINA23@GMAIL.COM**

Prayer Needs: Pray for the spiritual life of the pastoral family; for the new families we are attempting to attract for church membership this month; for Maria Scorbocht, a young Venezuelan who comes from Venezuela, who is in the United States to undergo medical treatment.



▲ Neptaly Molina

**ROBERT LEE—
HARMONY BAPTIST CHURCH IN NORMANGEE REPLANT
BRO.ROBERT.F.LEE@GMAIL.COM**

Although there are always ups and downs in ministry, I am thankful for all the good things God is doing in our church. We have had great opportunities to build relationships with people in our community this month, and finished out the month with getting to be a part of a citywide event and passed out candy and the gospel to hundreds of kids!



▲ Robert Lee

Prayer Needs: Pray for more opportunities to show the love of Christ to our community in the coming months.

A word from your missionaries

**CESAR LEAL—
NEW MISSION IN SAN ANTONIO
CESARLEAL2002@YAHOO.COM**

The months of November and December are very busy with parties and trips. Spiritual life seems to be overshadowed in these days. As a church, we are called to be luminaires in this world, we need to make a difference. The people of Israel asked for a king because they wanted to be equal to the other nations, but God



▲ Cesar Leal



BMA Texas Missions cont.

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

“But the Lord is faithful. He will establish you and guard you against the evil one” (2 Thessalonians)

I am grateful to be a part of this incredible association of churches. May the Lord bless you and keep you.



▲ Ronnie Mills

Prayer Needs: Please continue to pray for our mission here in Saginaw. We desire to maintain faithfulness to the Lord, please pray over us in that regard.

CHRIS DRIVER—
WEST TEXAS MULTIPLICATION NETWORK/
TEXAS MISSIONARY CARE; OASIS, LEVELLAND
CJDRIVER316@GMAIL.COM

Hello BMA family! It’s that time of year again. I’m surrounded by the beautiful cotton fields of west Texas that are white unto harvest! And I must say, we can easily describe God’s work here in the exact same way. God is continuing to bless our work as only He can. We have gathered an amazing group of core members and God is continuing to bring us more opportunities. We had a young lady give her life to Christ right in our Sunday night meeting this past month! Talk about exciting! Things just seem to keep speeding up. We are right on track for an early spring public launch...so pray, pray, pray! Thank you so much for this amazing chance to be a part of God’s work in reaching West Texas with the gospel of Christ!



▲ Chris Driver

Prayer Needs: Please pray for our house to sell so we can move into Levelland, for our first membership class in November, for more opportunities to make Jesus known, and for a property for us to meet.

BICHITRANANDA SATPATHY—
INTERNATIONAL BAPTIST MISSION, FORT WORTH
BICHITRANANDA31@GMAIL.COM

Let’s continue to seek the kingdom of God and His righteousness.

Prayer Needs: Pray for God’s wisdom and guidance for us to be able to conduct a few events during Christmas.



▲ Bichitrananda Satpathy

MIKE WATT & TREVOR COWAN—
CROSS-WORK MISSION, TAHOKA
MIKE.WATT@CROSSWORKCHURCH.ORG

It really is our heart’s desire to reach our community with the Gospel. We are unsure if we need to keep doing what we are doing as we wait for the payday that comes with consistency or if it is time to change up and look for a different way. Please pray we are wise in moving forward.



▲ Mike Watt

CHRIS MINDI/JESSE HALES—
ANCHOR AUSTIN MISSION IN LEANDER
CHRIS.MINDI@BMATS.EDU | HALESJESSE@GMAIL.COM.

Holidays are a special time to connect with people from different cultures and share more about our faith and present Gospel at the right moment. As a multi-cultural church, our goal is always to meet unbelievers to make more disciples. We are hoping the next few months give us more opportunities to share the love and reason for the season.



▲ Chris Mindi

Prayer Needs:

Pray for this season of holidays, that we will be able to share God’s love with as many people as we can in creative ways God enables us.



▲ Jesse Hales

TIMOTHY ALBA—
NEW MISSION IN SEAGOVILLE
TIMALBA1986@GMAIL.COM

I believe that our goal as planters is to engage our community on all levels. We have to think in three spheres. Inward, outward and upward. We have to know that our mission is outward. We do this by preaching and building relationships with the lost. Our inward focus is in training and building up the saints for the work of the ministry. Our upward focus is us relying on God through the many circumstances with which we are challenged. I pray that our church always keeps these spheres in mind as we work to glorify God.



▲ Timothy Alba

Prayer Needs:

Pray that God gives us wisdom as we travel into unknown territory each week.

BRAD HOLCOMB—
REDEMPTION HILL MISSION IN FORT WORTH
BRAD@REDEMPTIONHILLFW.COM

Our church has been encouraging one another to keep our focus on the Person and work of Jesus. While it has been easy to put our primary focus on our community, we’re praying that the Lord would help us reestablish our focus onto Him. That would be my encouragement for you as well.



▲ Brad Holcomb

Prayer Needs:

Please continue praying for our family’s health and for our church to continue growing in our love for Jesus and our community.

Heith Mitchell is the director of BMA of Texas Missions. Contact him at P.O. Box 73, Waxahachie, Texas 75168, 972-923-0757 or hmitchell@bmatexas.org. For more information, visit www.bmatexasmissions.org.



Eric Johnson—Growing up in a church planting environment cont.

From there, Johnson moved to Texarkana where he served as youth director at Hillcrest, Texarkana, where his dad, Buddy, had returned for his second stint with the church. Two years after Eric arrived, Buddy resigned and the church called Eric as pastor.

Later, Pastor Vernon Lee of First, Jacksonville, asked Eric to pray about coming to lead a Hispanic work there which had been begun by Eric’s dad. Eric served there from 2005-2008. At that time, he applied with the national missions department to return to Mexico. His desire was to plant a church in Pachuca in Hidalgo, not far from his boyhood home in Huejutla. They were also interested in working with the BMA Bible Institute in Mexico, which was led by Ricky Williams. But the couple moved to Pachuca to start a church.

“Our plan was to remain in Mexico for life,” he said, noting that the church had gained 70 people in six months.

But Kelly, who gave birth to to their first child, developed a life-threatening bacteria, and after a long time of suffering with the disease, the couple was strongly advised to return to the states.

When Phil Knott left his post as the international missions director for the Baptist Missionary Association of America, Eric was tapped to fill the position. So, they moved back to the states, and lived in Greenbriar, Arkansas. The ministry was a joy to Eric, but the Lord began to burden him about returning to the pastorate, that was when First, Jacksonville contacted him. He accepted the call and loves the ministry at Jacksonville.

“One thing we have learned from Dad was to develop a love for mission work, and we have also developed a love and loyalty to BMA churches. We love the people here and are still trying to get settled and find out what’s going on,” Johnson said.

When asked about his vision for First, Jacksonville, he said, “I don’t think I have a vision—the Lord has the vision—that is to evangelize the lost, disciple the evangelized, and equip the saints to do the work of ministry. Outgrowth of those things will be training for the church and discipleship.”

While Johnson is grateful for the great resources and facilities of his new church, he insists that people must be his focus.

“I’m thankful for the ministries pastors have done here at First Baptist,” he said.

He continued, “The Lord has used this great church in a mighty way through the years.”

Eric Johnson sees himself as being in at Jacksonville for the duration.

“Wherever I have been, I have never had a plan to do anything other than what the Lord had led us to at that moment. That is still true today, as I served as pastor of First, Jacksonville,” he said.

He continued, “We feel grateful to the churches of the BMA who have stuck with us in ministry—through the highs and lows, and we are thankful to the Lord for bringing us to this place.”

121st Annual Session of the Baptist Missionary Association of Texas Meets in Tyler cont.

Ross pointed to the words of the apostle Peter who wrote, "... ye also, as lively stones, are built up a spiritual house, an holy priesthood, to offer up spiritual sacrifices, acceptable to God by Jesus Christ," (1 Peter 2:5).

The president stated, "The church is its strongest when individual members find their unique position within the body and fill that role for Jesus' honor and glory. Find your place, serve faithfully and do not grow weary in doing what is right. Now is not the time to draw back, now is the time for God's people to rise and let their voices be heard."

He concluded, "The victory has been won, we declare redemption and salvation from the position of the victor. The opportunity is ours this morning, will you seize the open doors of opportunity that God places before you and your church."



▲ Leon Ross, president of BMA of Texas delivering president's message

LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE

Following the president's message, a number of breakout sessions were provided for those in attendance. After lunch BMA Texas Missions hosted the annual leadership conference. Todd West, newly elected BMA of Texas Pastor Connections Coordinator, introduced Jason Collins, lead pastor of Crossroads, Rowlett, to speak on the topic, *Church Community Impact: Opening the Door to the Gospel*.

COORDINATING COMMITTEE

This editor presented recommendations, including the proposed BMA of Texas constitutional changes published in the last issue of *Baptist Progress*. All were approved without opposition. Messengers approved that the 122nd Annual Session of the BMA of Texas be held at First, Livingston, Nov. 7-8, 2022.

Elected to serve a three-year term on the Coordinating Committee were Charles Attebery, former executive director of the BMA Foundation; Diana Morris, project coordinator for the Texas WMA; and Randy Decker, music minister and member of Tundra, Canton.

SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON BMA OF TEXAS/SOUTHERN BAPTISTS OF TEXAS CONVENTION RELATIONS

Committee member, Charles Johnson, pastor of Rosewood,

Gilmer, reported that the special committee appointed to review the fraternal agreement between the BMA of Texas and the Southern Baptists of Texas Convention (SBTC) met and recognizes that churches of the BMA of Texas, being autonomous, are free to associate with any group they may choose, including the SBTC. He continued, "At the same time, the BMA of Texas welcomes any SBTC church member, pastor or church staff member to attend BMA of Texas workshops or other events."

"However," Johnson said, "it is the agreement of our committee members that the two ministries in which the BMA of Texas and the SBTC should work together are Jacksonville College and the Texas Baptist Home for Children."

He continued that since the first agreement was made between the association and the convention, the two groups have only participated in two events, therefore, the committee did not feel it necessary to continue in an official fraternal agreement. The recommendation of the committee, which was approved, was that the fraternal agreement be dissolved.

OFFICERS ANNUAL SPEAKER

Elected to replace Ross, who was term-limited, as president of the association, was Ryan Burchett, pastor of Walnut Street, Winnsboro, who had served as first vice president. Second Vice President Michael Pool, pastor of Antioch, Gilmer, was elected as first vice president, and Eric Johnson, pastor of First, Jacksonville, was elected to serve as second vice president.

Next, came the election of an annual speaker and alternate annual speaker for the 2022 BMA of Texas Meeting. Messengers chose James Schoenrock, pastor of Sheppard Drive, Euless, to preach next year's message. Elected as the alternate annual speaker was Robbie Caldwell, the former longtime pastor of New Harmony, Tyler, who currently serves as interim pastor of Friendship, Mesquite.



▲ Newly elected BMA of Texas president, Ryan Burchett

TBHC

Jason Curry, president of the Texas Baptist Home for

Children (TBHC), shared that every believer, church and ministry do something for the glory of God. He continued that TBHC has been tasked with caring for children for the glory of God. Curry informed messengers that TBHC will soon open a foster care office in Odessa in order to serve children and families in the Permian Basin. The office will be the third satellite office opened across the state by TBHC.

A home for teen mothers will also be opened by TBHC in Waxahachie. Through that ministry, young mothers will receive skills to be the best parent they can be for their newborns. The constitutional changes proposed by trustees of TBHC in the last issue of *Baptist Progress* were approved.

BAPTIST MISSIONARY LOAN ASSOCIATION

This editor, who also serves as director of the Baptist Missionary Loan Association (BMLA), reported that 10 loans had been made available to churches of the BMA of Texas since September 2020. The BMLA now manages assets worth \$20 million. Loan terms have been extended for the first time, from 15 years to 30 years, and loan rates have been lowered. Messengers approved for the BMLA to begin offering loans to BMA churches outside of Texas. This director (Jerry Fulton) was reelected.

BAPTIST PROGRESS

This editor reported that he believes *Baptist Progress* took ministry and information to a new level during the last associational year. He thanked Paul Gauntt and Chris Driver who have served as correspondents for *Baptist Progress* and encouraged pastors to lead their churches to join the *Baptist Progress Church Plan*, whereby churches pay for each member household in their congregation to receive 12 issues of *Baptist Progress* per year.

He also reported that *Baptist Progress* provided four Ministry Connection Workshops to churches, pastors and church staff during the 2020-2021 associational year, including interim pastor training. Six new workshops are planned for the 2021-2022 associational year. Messengers approved subscription rate increases for the newspaper.

This editor was reelected to serve another year.

JACKSONVILLE COLLEGE

Dr. Joe Lightner, who became the new president of Jacksonville College, following Dr. Mike Smith's retirement last year, reported that it is his goal to lead the college in offering new degree programs, provide better pay and benefits for employees, continue to renovate and refurbish buildings on campus and provide more room for housing. The college embarked on a *52 Day, Rebuilding for Fall Campaign* this summer.

Messengers approved that the college receive its annual *Jaguar Day Across Texas Offering* May 1, 2022.

Following Lightner's report, the Jacksonville College Singers presented a worshipful concert.

BMA TEXAS MISSIONS

Heith Mitchell, director of BMA Texas Missions, reported that there are currently 34 mission projects in Texas. BMA Texas Missions has also added Todd West, of Arkansas, to serve as the pastor connections coordinator for the state association.



▲ Jacksonville College Singers present concert



▲ Robert Easterling, pastor of Mahl, Nacogdoches, welcoming (left to right): Robert French, pastor of Harmony, Normangee and Brad Holcomb, pastor of Redemption Hill, Fort Worth



▲ Ronnie Mills delivering annual message

New missionaries elected to serve in Texas under the director of BMA Texas Missions were Roberto Marcelletti, Isaias Martinez, Haitao He, Bichitananda Satpathy, Chris Winkler and Jose Torres. Messengers also approved that the following projects be supported as presented in the department's budget: Hispanic Mission in Go Forth, Kilgore; Lighthouse Mission, Houston and Iglesia Bautista Emmanuel Mission in Garland.

Mitchell presented each state missionary, missionary families and BMA Texas Missions staff during a Missions Commissioning Services, repeating an often-used phrase by BMA Missionary Buddy Johnson, "More churches, more glory!"

ANNUAL MESSAGE

The meeting ended with a stirring message preached by Ronnie Mills, pastor of Kingdom Chapel, Saginaw. Using Daniel 6:1-28 as his text, Mills noted, "An old preacher once said, "God is faithful, and He expects His people to be faithful. God's Word speaks of faithful servants, faithful in a few things, faithful in the least, faithful in the Lord, faithful ministers. And all points up that day when He will say, 'Well done, thou good and faithful servant.'"

He continued, "Alexander the Great was asked how he had conquered the world. He replied, 'By not wavering.'"

Mills also noted that Athanasius, at the Council of Nicaea, said, "If all this world falls from the truth, I will stand!"

From there, he spoke of how every believer should faithfully serve the Lord, even when faced with persecution, adding, "No revival swept through the captive nation as a result of Daniel's ministry, no national repentance in Babylon, like Jonah saw in Nineveh. Few people seemed to learn anything from Daniel. For all his wisdom, integrity, and faithfulness, Daniel reaped the jealousy of peers."

He then exhorted, "You see revival isn't what we need, God is the one that brings revival, what we need is to be faithful like Daniel, and to be thankful for the faithfulness of the saints, the few who are ready to serve in and out of season—because honestly, they are the Daniels of the Bible."

Mills noted, "Daniel was faithful, and quite frankly, the church could use more Daniels—one's who really don't care about making a big splash, drawing a lot of attention to themselves, getting the spotlight, but rather who just love the Lord, and want to faithfully serve Him."

In speaking of how Daniel was entrapped by his enemies, yet faithfully bowed in prayer three times a day in plain sight for his enemies to see, the pastor said, "Daniel had faith that saw beyond, causing him to believe what he couldn't yet see—church, let's not stop believing in what our God has promised us—the Kingdom."

Mills pointed out that while Daniel's life was significant, his story was about how God can use the faithful wherever he has placed them, exhorting his audience to dare to be a Daniel.

The pastor drove home his point by concluding his message with a poem written by John Oxenham:

"Is your place a small place? Tend it with care—he set you there.

Is your place a large place? Guard it with care—he set you there.

Whatever your place, it is not yours alone, but His, Who set you there."

Note: See WMA Meeting information on p.9 of this issue.

GOD'S GIFT

HEAVEN IS A FREE GIFT!

It is not earned or deserved. No amount of effort or good works can earn a place for you in heaven. Why?

Because . . .

MAN IS A SINNER.

"For all have sinned . . ." (Rom. 3:23) Because of this, man cannot save himself. GOD. On the one hand, God is merciful and does not want to punish us. Yet God is just and must punish sin. God solved this problem for us in the Person of . . .

JESUS CHRIST.

He died on the cross to pay the penalty for our sins and rose from the grave to purchase a place for us in heaven—"the Lord has laid on Him (Jesus) the iniquity of us all" (Isa. 53:6).

THE GIFT IS RECEIVED BY FAITH.

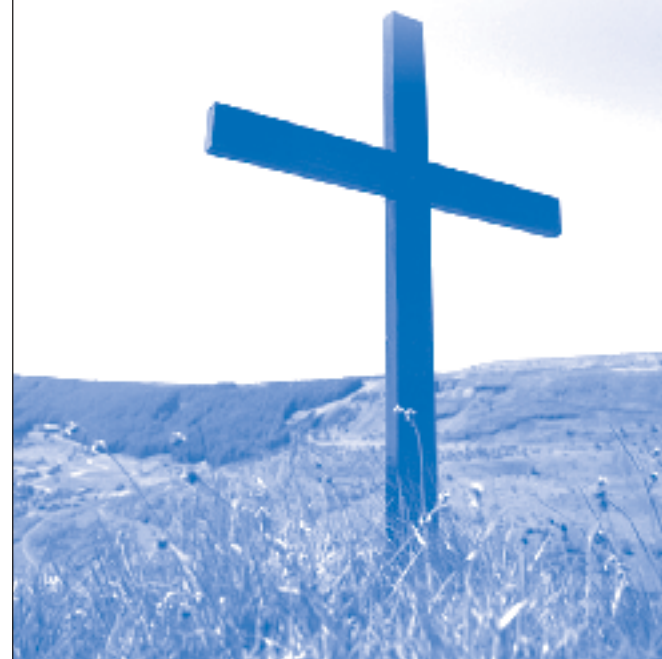
Saving faith is trusting in Jesus Christ alone for eternal life. It means resting on Christ alone and what He has done, rather than what you or I have done to get us into heaven. "Believe on (or trust in) the Lord Jesus Christ and you will be saved" (Acts 16:31).

SO MAY WE ASK . . .

Have you received God's free gift of eternal life? The Bible assures us in 1 John 5:13 that we can know we have eternal life.

Do you know for sure that you are going to heaven when you die? The Bible says, "Whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved."

If you are willing to repent (turn away from your sin and to the Lord Jesus) you can receive the free gift of eternal life by simply praying: Lord Jesus, I know I am a sinner and do not deserve eternal life. But I believe You died and rose from the grave to purchase a place in heaven for me. Jesus, come into my life, take control of my life, forgive my sins, and save me. I am now placing my trust in You alone for my salvation, and I accept your free gift of eternal life.





Providing for children

By **JASON CURRY**

Oftentimes, when we ask God to provide, we want to see supernatural provision—manna from heaven, so to speak. But most of the time, when we ask God for provision, he uses the common...the ordinary; the hands and feet of those around us to meet our needs.

Philippians 4:19 says, “And my God shall supply all your need according to His riches in glory by Christ Jesus.”

Brother McClung knew the children would have their needs met, yet he didn’t hesitate to be the hands and feet that went in search of those who God would use to meet them. He demonstrated in his years at TBHC his trust in God’s provision, yet knew he had a role to play in it as well.

McClung saw the impact of World War 1 on the globe and the US which in return impacted the orphanage. So, McClung stayed on the collecting trail. He let everyone know that he would be happy to be invited by churches or would be happy to invite himself.

On days he was at the orphanage, if needed, he would travel from home to home to get enough money for bread to feed the kids. On Thanksgiving 1916, McClung said “turkeys were out of reach of your financial agent., but Mr. A. N. Sherbert, one of the leading grocery men of our little city (Italy) has supplied me with a large fat possum, and while I write, Alice is putting yam potatoes around him...” As with anything, they were grateful for the gift, but when Christmas time came, the kids were not disappointed that possum was absent because they were able to enjoy turkey! In 1918, there


were 80 children living at the orphanage, so McClung strove to care for the growing needs of the orphanage.

Today, again, finds TBHC a different place. The special holiday meals are not prepared or served at TBHC campus; they are served just like in my home and your home. Our kids enjoy holidays in their temporary or forever home with their family. Our continued financial needs grow during holidays. And just like McClung, we can’t always wait for the “birds to start singing.”

Surprisingly, the beginning of school and the holiday season sees the greatest number of children entering foster care. Our Christmas gift drive, along with our Christmas financial drive, are essential to our ability to care for our kids. McClung paved the way for many methods of tugging on people’s hearts and I am blessed that the asking is simple, and the givers are generous. And just like then, our hope remains to protect TBHC from debt and provide for children.

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





Every Sunday Bulletin Service

To order bulletins from *Baptist Progress*, contact us at 972-923-0756 or visit www.baptistprogress.org. You may also email editor@baptistprogress.org for more information.

Baptist Progress

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 Sept. 1-30, 2021.

ENDOWMENT:

E. ANN PACE: Karl and Martha Pace

HONORARIUMS:

ANNABETH DUGGER: Charles and Charlotte Johnson, Larry and Rolanda Barton

MIKE MARTIN JR: Charles and Charlotte Johnson

KARL PACE: Kelly Penick

ANN PUGH: Jerry and Alice Null

KELLY SAUNDERS: Betty Wilson

MEMORIALS:

DOROTHY ALLEN: Temple Baptist Church

DALE BLANTON: James and Debbie Murphy, Charles and Charlotte Johnson

LARRY AND ROSELEN BOBO: James Bobo

H A BROOKSHIRE: Ineta Archer

BILLY BYERLEY: Tommie Worthy

EDDIE BYRD: Darinda Medcalf

THURMAN CAGLE: Jimmy and Carla Shipp, Charles and Charlotte Johnson

FRANCES SMITH CANTRELL: Charles and Charlotte Johnson

SUE BOYD CLEMENS: Forest Hill Baptist Church

CRIM: Welch Watt

TARRY JOE DEAN: Caleb and Jami Davidson

ANNA DUGGER: Larry and Rolanda Barton

PATSY EDWARDS: Ineta Archer

JEFF FRANKUM: Caleb and Jami Davidson

ALICE GILCREASE: Forest Hill Baptist Church

JEFF FRANKUM: Caleb and Jami Davidson

CARLENE HOOPER: Emma and Kirk Burleson

CONNIE HORN: Forest Hill Baptist Church

JERRY HOUSTON: Charles and Charlotte Johnson

JOYCE HOUSTON: Charles and Charlotte Johnson

CHARLES JOHNSON: Temple Baptist Church

AGNES JONES: Clarence and Patsy Thompson

BOB KIRBO: Forest Hill Baptist Church

WYOMA LANGFORD: Charles and Charlotte Johnson, Jimmy and Carla Shipp

MELISSA ANN MILLER: Daniel and Gina Wilson

CHARLES MITCHELL: Gay Mitchell

LOVITA LOU OUIMET: James Ouimet

WANDA RALEY: Clover Hill Baptist Church

SHANNON LESLIE BROWN RIGGINS: Mike and Terri Brown

DOROTHY SEXTON: Freeda Schooler

ROY SPARKS: Weldon and Lana Sparks, Larry Sparks, Robert and Virginia Laney

LYNN STANLEY: Andy and Neil Mccuiston, David and Sue Stanley

MR. AND MRS. EDWARD TALBOT: Roy and Elizabeth Talbot

MONTIE WILLEFORD: Charles and Charlotte Johnson

John and Kay Wolcott: Gay Mitchell

Dorothy Wright: Thomas Jeter

memorials-honorariums

Greetings from Charlotte Johnson, National WMA president

By **CHARLOTTE JOHNSON**

National WMA President

The theme for National WMA is *Intentional*. Where do you need to be intentional in your life? Intentional living means to live with purpose or to live deliberately with an aim or a plan.

“Therefore encourage one another and build up each other, as indeed you are doing” (1 Thessalonians 5:11).

What can I do, right now, to start being more intentional about my life with God?

How can I encourage genuine discipleship within my church community?

I believe God has BIG plans for your life! He’s given you a calling and purpose to fulfill on earth. I don’t just mean some old generic plan, but a SPECIFIC plan just for You! With this plan comes a responsibility to steward it and to actually be intentional about it.

Your calling and purpose are not going to just happen. You will have to put in some work, be diligent and faithful, and then watch how God weaves it all together!

Prayer is KEY! So, start with prayer, first. Ask God to show you how to be intentional with the purpose He has for your life. It’s so important that you write down the vision God has given you about your calling and purpose.

The next step to living an intentional life is to set your

intention (or set some goals).

What do you want to achieve? How are you going to contribute to the world? Life is short, so how are you going to make the most of it? Once you start living intentionally, you’ll notice a few things:

You’ll become a woman who is hungry for God’s Word.

You’ll create possibilities and goals for your life that fill your cup and glorify God in the process.

You’ll live each day on purpose – no more coasting or just getting by.

Are you ready to be intentional in your life and serving God with purpose?

The National WMA project is the Darlene Carey Christian Academy in the Philippines. If you have not given to this project, we ask that you give today. It is a worthy project.

If you need any assistance, please contact me and I’ll be glad to come and speak at any of your meetings. Charlotte Johnson, 903-790-1385 or email chj1054@etex.net.

Be intentional in your service to your church, your community and to the Lord.

See details and register for 2021-2022

Baptist Progress

MINISTRY CONNECTION
WORKSHOPS

DiSC Profiles

DATE & TIME: Dec. 7, 2021, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. with lunch

The Coaching Workshop

DATE & TIME: Jan. 25, 2022, 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. with lunch

**Moving Past Stuck:
Creating a Plan for Church Growth**

DATE & TIME: March 8, 2022, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. with lunch

Leadership Community

DATE & TIME: May 3, 2022, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. with lunch

Pastoral Health Summit

DATE & TIME: June 7, 2022, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. with lunch

Interim Pastor Training

DATE & TIME: Aug. 17, 2022, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. with lunch

Leading the Smaller Church Without Settling for Less

DATE & TIME: Sept. 13, 2022, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. with lunch

Register for any or all workshops by visiting

www.baptistprogress.org >

Resources > Ministry Connection Workshops.

SCHLORSHIPS ARE AVAILABLE. DON’T HESITATE TO ASK!

Your Deeply-Held Beliefs. Our Ministry-Focused Protection.

Does your ministry’s current insurance policy cover:

1. **More than just attorney fees** for religious freedom claims (legal judgments as well)?
2. **Defense of claims brought by a government agency** as a result of belief-based decisions or practices?
3. **Costs** required for your ministry to file a declaratory judgment action to protect your rights?

Not sure? Let us come alongside and review your insurance needs.

Contact your local agent today.

Call **844.400.2248** or visit **AmericanChurchGroup-Texas.com**.

Proudly serving the BMA of Texas



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Join Baptist Progress for our next Ministry Connection Workshop

Discover your own DiSC style!



Pastors, bring your entire church staff and any interested church members to this workshop. You will discover things about yourself, your church staff, church teams and church members that you might not have ever known! This workshop will be presented by certified DiSC presenter Gary Southard.

- > Ease frustrations!
- > Boost engagement and performance!
- > Foster teamwork and minimize conflict!
- > Create effective communication in your church staff or team!
- > Learn to recognize your own priorities, motivators and stress triggers!
- > Explore other styles and understand the differences and similarities!
- > Identify strategies to make more meaningful connections!

Tuesday, December 7 • 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.
BMA of Texas Building, 632 Farley Street, Waxahachie

Register online before Nov. 29
at baptistprogress.org > Resources > Ministry Connection Workshops.

For more information, email editor@baptistprogress.org or call 972-923-0756.

Auxiliaries

2021, an outstanding year for Texas WMA

By GLENDA CHAMBERLAIN

The Texas Women's Missionary Auxiliary came together at the 2021 BMA of Texas Meeting held Nov. 4 at New Harmony in Tyler. A warm welcome to all the ladies was given by New Harmony.

President Johnnie Ross read several passages of scripture from John 14-15-16, and spoke of the need to be deeply anchored in the Lord. She recognized minister/missionary wives in attendance and foreign missionaries as well as state and national officers. Elizabeth Midkiff led the ladies reciting the WMA motto and opened the meeting in prayer. Alicia Johnson and Glenda Chamberlain presented door prizes to lucky recipients.

Cindy Allen spoke about the Texas GMA Houseparty which was held in the spring at Rosewood, Gilmer. It was well attended by GMAs from across the state. She mentioned the 2022 Texas Houseparty will be held at First, Jacksonville Feb. 19.

Vera Koonce, Sunbeams promoter, talked about the Sunbeam Houseparty which was held during the summer at Jacksonville College. Theme was Astronauts in Training, there were 41 Sunbeams and sponsors at the Houseparty and all had a wonderful time.

Diana Morris, project promoter, dressed in shiny turquoise pants and top, a gold cape and an outrageous, multicolored feather hat gave a stirring performance concerning the need to meet the goal for our year-long project for repairs to Daniel Spring's swimming pool. An offering for the project was received by D'Andra Smith and Lynda Marsh while Cindy Allen led the ladies in song. It was announced we had reached our goal of \$15,000. Praise the Lord.

New Harmony provided a delicious lunch including baked potatoes, brisket, beans and a variety of desserts.

At the sound of the gavel Johnnie Ross called the business meeting to order. Messengers were seated, reports presented and approved, officer recommendations were noted and approved.

Lynda Marsh, project selection committee, presented the four nominated projects. Old Bethel, Canton nominated a ministry in South Asia; Latch, Gilmer nominated the project be divided between *Baptist Progress*, BMA Texas Missions and Editorial Bautista; Northside, Conroe nominated Daniel Springs; Rosewood, Gilmer nominated Stone Point Missions in Georgia. Votes were cast and the ministry in South Asia was selected as the new project for 2021-2022.

Jeanne Walker, nominations committee, read the proposed slate of new officers, they were approved by acclamation. You can see a complete listing of new officers on the WMA website, www.texaswma.com. Resolutions were accepted as printed, and a rising vote of appreciation was given to our host, New Harmony.

Johnnie Ross ceremoniously passed the gavel to the incoming president, Kristi Key. Diana Morris, newly elected 2nd vice president, announced the new theme for the year "Everyone, everywhere needs Jesus," theme verse is Matthew 28:19-20.

Ann Pugh reported 70 ladies in attendance, 33 churches and one foreign country represented. We are excited about the coming new year and can't wait to see what God has in store for Texas WMA. We give God all the glory and praise.

DISTRICT NEWS

CHEROKEE WMA met at Mt. Selman, Bullard, Oct. 19. President Cindy Allen called the meeting in session after the WMA motto was recited. Vice President Nancy Washburn introduced our new year's theme, *Hope*, and scripture, "I wait for the Lord, my soul does wait, and in his word do I hope" (Psalm 130:5). Loma Dudley opened with prayer. Jocie Lewis welcomed everyone to Mt. Selman. Ana Traylor led the group in singing, *Count Your Blessings*, with Eloise Thomas at the piano. Secretary/Treasurer Eugene Sims called the roll call of the officers and churches with a total of 29 in attendance.

Ana Traylor sang a special in song, *Jesus Loves You*, as part of the program. Rose Bowen introduced "Miss Dressed-Gaudy," aka Betty Roach, who modeled her clothing and talked about how we as church members will try to out dress our feelings or cover them. Then she sang a song entitled, *Excuses*, which we always have an excuse to not do God's work.

During the business portion of the meeting the cookie outreach to Jacksonville College who are preparing for their final exams was discussed. The plastic re-closable packages of 2 cookies in each are to be at the College on Nov. 29. The Afton Grove, Jacksonville WMA won the banner for the quarter, and Felicia Mayo of AGBC extended words of appreciation for the Mt. Selman's hospitality.

The next meeting is scheduled to meet Cornerstone, Jacksonville Jan. 11.

Mrs. Sue Sons, sister of Sheryl Raspberry of Sardis who passed away this year, was recognized. After prayer requests were read and spoken, Alicia Johnson prayed for those requests mentioned and dismissed the meeting.

LIBERTY WMA met at Antioch, Gilmer Oct. 9, 2021. The meeting was opened by President Teresa Gipson with a scripture from Psalms 1:1 "Blessed is the man who walks not in the counsel of the ungodly, nor stands in the path of sinners, nor sits in the seat of the scornful; but his delight is in the law of the Lord." The opening prayer and welcome were offered by Tami Blackburn. The president led in reciting the motto.

Sandra Kizer, first vice president, reminded ladies of pastor appreciation celebrations in October by offering a few suggestions in ways to honor them: primarily to pray for them, provide a meal, a gift of recognition (individual or collective) were just a few ideas.

Johnnie Ross, second vice president, presented the Liberty District Membership Directory and requested any changes or corrections needed. She also introduced the Theme for this year titled *Seasons*. Each quarter will touch on a separate aspect from recommended sections of Psalms 119.

Ava Pool reported for the Sunbeams, due to the absence of Shirley Hoffpauir, Sunbeam promoter, that they have selected the children's ministry as their new project for this year.

Two projects were presented for nomination. Rosewood suggested Stone Point, a fairly new church plant located near Atlanta, Georgia, which is renovating a new space and in need



▲ Texas WMA Annual Meeting

of various furnishings and children's equipment. The second project was introduced by Belinda Caudle for the BMAA Spanish Publications. BMAA Spanish Publications need updated technological equipment (primarily to replace or update computers and printers used to expand the work in El Salvador). The result of the vote taken by show of hands, went to Ms. Caudle's request for the equipment needed. The goal was again set at \$2,500.

Following a short break, prayer was offered by Ms. Doris Allen of Rosewood and two Antioch GMA girls provided the special music.

Johnnie Ross introduced the speakers: Teresa Gipson, Sarah Low and Betty Stokes, who all spoke on different aspects of the Theme for the day (Learning the Word of God) and how they approach it.

Ms. Ross then spoke about participation at future meetings. She would like one person from each church at the January meeting at Latch, Gilmer, to select one verse from Psalms 119 that tells us why we should learn God's Word

The final project offering for this year was taken for the Daniel Springs Camp swimming pool and at the close of the meeting it was announced that we had once again exceeded the \$2,500 goal by reaching a grand total of \$3,255.01.

The closing prayer was offered by Bro. Leon Ross followed by lunch in the Fellowship Hall.

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.



EVENTS

2022 BMA OF AMERICA MEETING

DATE: April 18-20, 2022

PLACE: University Plaza Hotel & Convention Center, Springfield, Missouri

2022 SOAR STUDENT CONFERENCE

DATE: June 29-July 1, 2022

PLACE: Hilton Anatole Hotel, Dallas

2022 RE:CHARGE LEADERS OASIS

To be decided

2022 BMA OF TEXAS MEETING

DATE: Nov. 7-8, 2022

PLACE: First Baptist Church, Livingston

2022 NATIONAL SENIOR ADULT CONFERENCE

DATE: Nov. 15-17, 2022

PLACE: Chateau on the Lake, Branson, Missouri

PERSONNEL & POSITIONS

AVAILABLE POSITIONS

PASTOR—Attoyac Missionary, San Augustine County is seeking a bivocational pastor. Send resume to Pastor Search Committee, attoyacchurchsa@yahoo.com or 600 FM 3316 San Augustine, TX 75972. ^{1/22}

PASTOR—First, Omen is seeking a bi-vocational pastor. Send resume to the church at P.O. Box 508, Arp, Texas 75750.

PASTOR—Friendship, Mesquite is prayerfully seeking our next full-time Pastor. Interested parties should send a resume to office@friendshipmesquite.org. Please enter Search Committee in the subject line. Also include a recent video of a sermon, on a DVD or by a website link. You may also mail the requested information to Friendship Baptist Church; 820 Pioneer Road; Mesquite, TX 75149. Information about our church can be found on our website at www.friendshipmesquite.org. ^{11/21}

PASTOR—First, Palmer is seeking a pastor. Send resume to pastorsearch@fbcpalmer.org or mail to P.O. Box 70, Palmer, Texas 75152. ^{TFN}

PASTOR—First Missionary, Morton is seeking a pastor. Send resume to 148jimmysealy@gmail.com or to FMBC, Box 981, Morton, Texas 79346. ^{TFN}

In Loving Memory



THOMAS WAYNE DICKERSON

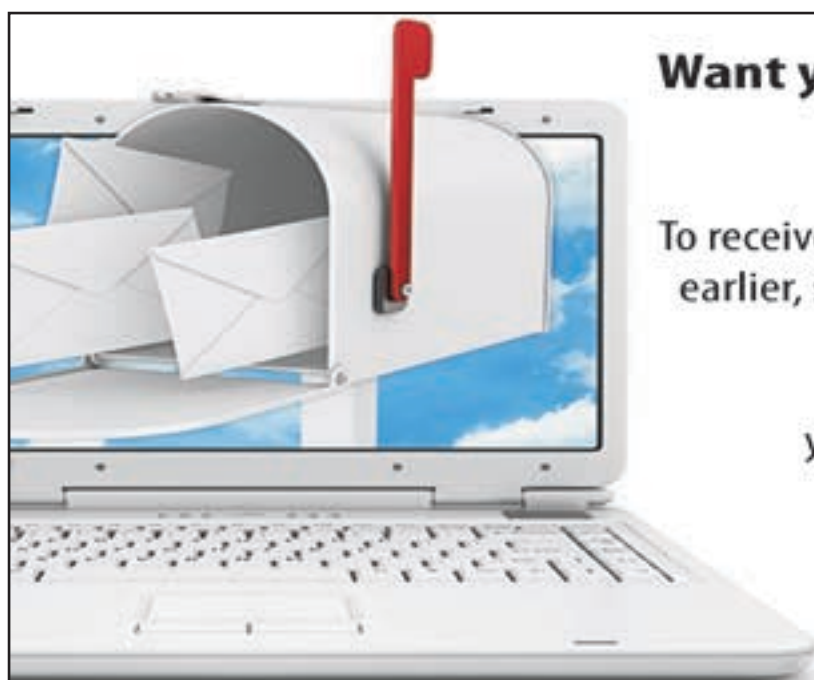
Funeral services were held for Thomas Wayne Dickerson, of Lindsay, Oklahoma, Oct. 17, 2001. He was born June 23, 1955. He passed away Oct. 15, 2021. He felt the call to preach the gospel, which he accepted at the age of 13. At Jacksonville College, he earned an Associate of Arts degree in Religious Education in 1975. He earned his Bachelor of Arts degree in 1977 from University of Texas-Tyler and his Master of Divinity degree from Baptist Missionary Theological Seminary in Jacksonville in 1983. Thomas served as youth pastor for Enterprise, Jacksonville and as pastor of Sardis, Jewett; Union Grove, Troup and Clear Creek, Marquez. He then served as pastor/church planter for Eastside, Ennis.



pastor & staff changes

SAUL PETTY is the new pastor of Mt. Calvary, Carthage.

** If you are aware of pastor and staff changes, please let us know at Baptist Progress by emailing us at editor@baptistprogress.org.*



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2021 *United Thanksgiving Offering*

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 21, 2021

OVERALL GOAL: \$125,000

GOAL PER CHURCH: \$1,500

**The offering benefits BMA Texas Missions
Baptist Missionary Loan Association, Baptist Progress,
Jacksonville College, and Texas Baptist Home for Children.**

Mail offerings to BMA of Texas, P.O. Box 73, Waxahachie, Texas 75168

