

Baptist Progress

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OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE BAPTIST MISSIONARY ASSOCIATION OF TEXAS | OCTOBER 2017 | VOL. 104 | NO. 10

Letter from the president

Dear BMAT,

This past summer I attended a conference dedicated to church ministry. Every breakout session focused on “equipping the saints for the work of ministry” (Ephesians 4:12). Many of our church’s ministry leaders were able to attend the conference and they all came back giving similar feedback of the importance of evangelism and discipleship in every ministry. We learned that every ministry of the church, from the greeter team to the security team, should be equipped to lead people to Christ and to encourage those who are following Christ. This conference reinforced the idea that every ministry matters, every member is a minister and every method must be missional for the sake of the gospel. This conference also served as an affirmation to me about the theme and focus God has led me to share with the association for this upcoming year. Our theme for this year is, “On Mission.” The text for the theme comes from 1 Peter 2:9-10, “But you are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, His special people, that you may proclaim the praises of Him who called you out of darkness into His marvelous light: who once were not a people but are now the people of God, who had not obtained mercy but now have obtained mercy.” I pray that every BMA church across Texas would be on mission for Christ, and that every ministry, and every believer, being equipped for the work of the ministry, will persevere in that work until our Lord returns.

I want to invite you to be in Tyler, Texas on Nov. 6-7, 2017 for our annual BMAT meeting. Dr. Blanton Feaster will bring our annual message this year, and we will also hear from four of our church planters as they share their journey of being On Mission for Christ and the opportunity God is giving them to share the gospel where they are planted. You do not want to miss out!

As we prepare for the meeting, I would like to ask every church to consider giving \$150 or more in minute money/associational expense money to pay for the expenses of the BMAT. Last year, we brought in \$11,500 in monies for associational expenses and minute books, and we received \$645 for the offering. However, the expenses for the year were just over \$17,000. Thank you for your consideration and please be in prayer for the meeting as we gather as an association. See you in November!

Wes Pratt

Baptist Missionary Association of Texas
President

117TH ANNUAL SESSION OF THE BMA OF TEXAS at New Harmony Baptist Church, 10251 FM 724, Tyler, Texas November 6-7, 2017

Theme: “On Mission” – ... that you may proclaim the praises of Him who called you out of darkness into His marvelous light... - 1 Peter 2:9-10

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 6, 2017

- 11:00 a.m. Registration
- 1:00 p.m. **General Session (Worship)**
- 1:15 p.m. Welcome/ Introduction of Officers
Enroll/ Finance Committee Initial Report
- 1:25 p.m. On Mission Video
- 1:30 p.m. Presidents Message—Wes Pratt
- 2:00 p.m. Prayer
- 2:10 p.m. Worship
- 2:20 p.m. Message—Gary Southard
- 3:00 p.m. Special Music—TBD
- 3:10 p.m. Message—Brandon Durham
- 3:50 p.m. Dismiss
- 4:00 p.m. **Breakout Sessions**
 - “House in Order—
Leaving a financial legacy behind” —
Jeff Steed (SBTC Foundation)
 - Activate—Todd West
 - Hispanic Training—Arnulfo Maldonado
- 5:00 p.m. **Dinner Break**
- 7:00 p.m. **Worship**
- 7:15 p.m. On Mission Video
- 7:20 p.m. Message—Cristian Martinez
- 8:00 p.m. Special Music—TBD
- 8:05 p.m. Message—John Harris

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 7, 2017

- 8:30 a.m. Department and Missionary Meet and Greet
- 9:00 a.m. WMA Meeting
- 10:00 a.m. Leadership Conference
- 12:00 p.m. **Lunch Breakout Session**
 - BMAT 101 Orientation—Heith Mitchell
- 1:30 p.m. **General Session (Worship)**
- 1:40 p.m. Texas Baptist Home
- 1:50 p.m. Jacksonville College
- 2:00 p.m. Baptist Progress
- 2:10 p.m. Missions Department
- 2:20 p.m. Baptist Missionary Loan Association
- 2:30 p.m. Election of Administration Committee
Representatives
- 2:40 p.m. Nominating Committee Report
- 2:50 p.m. WMA Report
- 3:00 p.m. Master's Builders Report
- 3:10 p.m. Election of Annual Speaker and State Officers
- 3:20 p.m. Miscellaneous Business
- 3:30 p.m. **Dinner Break**
- 6:00 p.m. **General Session (Worship)**
- 6:10 p.m. Jacksonville College Choir
- 6:45 p.m. Annual Message—Dr. Blanton Feaster
- 7:30 p.m. Missionary Commissioning Service
- 8:15 p.m. Adjourn

ON MISSION
1 Peter 2:9-10





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Editor and trustees address current budget shortfall

By **JERRY FULTON**

In June of 2017, two local newspapers announced that they were cutting back. One that had been publishing daily now publishes only three days per week. Another now publishes only two days per week. Nationwide, 126 newspapers have closed their doors within the last few years. Such is life in the newspaper industry. I've been saying for years that people are just not reading the printed page as they once did thanks to information provided online.

Things with *Baptist Progress* are no different. Since the advent of the Internet, we have seen our subscriptions steadily decrease over the years. In an attempt to save paper and postage costs, we have urged our readers to switch from mail subscriptions to email subscriptions. However, our readership has not taken to the email version, as only 356 people subscribe by email, compared to 4,025 who subscribe by mail.

With the decrease in subscriptions has come an obvious decrease in revenue. We attempted to remedy the situation last year by going to a once per month publication but that change was not enough. Therefore, at my request, the trustees of *Baptist Progress* will recommend this year to reduce my salary and required office time by one-third.

Because I have other means of income, I am able to accept the reduction in salary. However, in order to remedy the situation long-term, more subscribers must switch from a mail to an email subscription. Churches are asked to encourage those on church plans to make the switch.

I believe *Baptist Progress* is still a vital tool for BMA of

Texas departments and churches. It is our association's primary means of communication. When churches drop their church plans, they are literally cutting off communication from their people. What we must remember is the more informed people are the more likely they are to become involved.

So, my requests are simply as follows:

- 1) If you are a mail subscriber to *Baptist Progress*, would you please consider becoming an email subscriber instead. It is unfortunate that cuts must be made in order for our official publication to survive. Make the switch today!
- 2) If your church is not on the Church Plan, please join today. The Church Plan allows churches to purchase 12 issues of *Baptist Progress* for each member household at a discounted rate.
- 3) Add *Baptist Progress* to your church budget.
- 4) Give to the *Baptist Progress* Anniversary Offering in June and the United Thanksgiving Offering in November.
- 5) If you believe in the value of our newspaper, consider sending a special offering to *Baptist Progress* today.

I appreciate your support and am honored to be your editor.



▲ Jerry Fulton

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JACKSONVILLE COLLEGE

INCOME	2016-2017 BUDGET	2016-2017 ACTUAL	2017-2018 PROPOSED
Students: Tuition & Fees	4,100,000.00	3,894,003.00	4,065,000.00
SBTC/BMA Giving	580,000.00	708,016.00	575,000.00
Scholarships	75,000.00	76,153.00	75,000.00
Investment Revenue	50,000.00	40,125.00	40,000.00
Designated	56,000.00	81,319.00	62,000.00
Auxiliary	12,000.00	63,719.00	13,000.00
Bookstore	120,000.00	110,022.00	-
Organizations	60,000.00	46,183.00	50,000.00
Other	200,000.00	92,534.00	120,000.00
Total Income	5,253,000.00	5,112,074.00	5,000,000.00
EXPENSES			
Academic	1,000,000.00	894,645.00	830,000.00
Student Affairs	70,000.00	49,913.00	54,000.00
Athletics	580,000.00	622,985.00	561,000.00
Operations	2,300,000.00	1,743,577.00	1,355,000.00
Administration	1,350,000.00	2,548,815.00	2,200,000.00
Total Expenses	5,300,000.00	5,859,935.00	5,000,000.00
NET INCOME/LOSS	(47,000.00)	(747,861.00)	-



JACKSONVILLE COLLEGE

2017-2018 Recommendations

1. That churches and individuals consider giving Jacksonville College an "End-of-Year" gift
2. That Sunday, May 6, 2018 be designated as Jaguar Day Across Texas and an offering be given to Jacksonville College
3. That every church encourages prospective students to attend Jacksonville College
4. That every church and association considers having a Jacksonville College Rally with the Choir and/or various singing groups to perform and/or the President to preach and share information about the College to aid in recruitment
5. That every church promotes daily prayer for the ministry of Jacksonville College and the other departments of the BMA of Texas
6. That Dr. Mike Smith and the administration, faculty, and staff be shown appreciation for their leadership and service to Jacksonville College

BMA TEXAS MISSIONS



BMA TEXAS MISSIONS 2017-2018 Recommendations

1. That the 2018 Budget be adopted
2. That Arnulfo Maldonado continues to serve as the Texas Hispanic Mission Coordinator
3. That the following be elected as missionaries as presented in the budget
 - a. Cliff Robertson – Lake Jackson/ Clute (Lead Missionary)
 - b. Cristian Martinez – Lubbock (Lead Missionary)
 - c. Terry Bryan – Houston (Associate Missionary)
 - d. Joshua Pickard – (Intern preparing to be an Associate Missionary)
4. That the following projects be supported as presented in the budget
 - a. Hispanic Mission in Mesquite
 - b. Hispanic Mission in Nacogdoches
 - c. Hispanic Mission in Splendora
 - d. West Texas Church Planting Network
5. That BMA of Texas Mission contributes to Activate Church Health based on Texas Church Involvement
6. That Heith Mitchell stand as nominee as Executive Director of State Missions

	2016-2017 BUDGET	2016-2017 ACTUAL	2017-2018 PROPOSED
INCOME			
Donations (Churches)	450,000.00	433,214.22	470,000.00
Local Assn for Districts	2,000.00	-	-
Notes Receivables	143,100.00	361,858.64	50,000.00
Interest Income / Investment Withdrawal	100,000.00	57,526.84	400,000.00
Salary Support Director/Secretary Insurance	-	557.50	-
Salary Support Director/Secretary Salary	18,439.00	-	-
Salary Support Office Assistant	4,200.00	739.37	-
Miscellaneous Income	4,000.00	737.84	-
Total Income	721,739.00	854,634.41	920,000.00
EXPENSE			
Advertising/Promotion	1,000.00	2,312.16	2,500.00
Attorney/Legal	17,000.00	12,912.83	5,000.00
Audit	9,680.00	9,450.00	10,500.00
Bookstore Expenses	4,870.00	8.40	-
Computer Maint & Equip	2,200.00	(93.52)	1,500.00
Insurance Bond	100.00	-	-
Office Maint & Equipment	1,630.00	2,045.87	1,630.00
Office Supplies	3,000.00	1,302.26	4,000.00
Office Rent	9,000.00	9,000.00	12,000.00
Office Expenses	-	932.62	800.00
Postage	2,000.00	1,978.55	2,000.00
Bank Charges	750.00	(701.51)	550.00
Property & Personnel Liability	33,000.00	18,587.96	14,500.00
Christmas Bonus	2,340.00	1,595.50	2,700.00
Director Salary	44,000.00	44,360.04	45,000.00
Director Housing	20,000.00	19,999.92	23,250.00
Director Longevity	-	100.00	100.00
Director Retirement	3,840.00	3,790.40	3,900.00
Director Insurance	7,000.00	6,999.96	7,000.00
Director Phone	-	992.00	1,488.00
Director Travel/Training	25,000.00	27,511.45	22,000.00
Secretary Salary	36,878.00	8,637.92	-
Secretary Retirement	2,213.00	390.00	-
Financial Assistant	-	6,400.00	10,000.00
Director Assistant	-	5,495.38	13,728.00
Office Assistant	8,320.00	7,249.16	7,020.00
Janitor	4,160.00	4,213.08	-
Church Planter Salary	227,662.00	248,437.18	372,575.00
Church Planter Housing	92,250.00	124,045.66	-
Church Planter Insurance	17,896.00	-	-
Church Planter Training (& Coaching 2016)	20,000.00	15,658.12	16,000.00
Church Planter Coaching	-	9,331.60	14,500.00
Church Planter Assessments	-	5,066.53	5,000.00
Payroll Taxes (FICA & Medicare)	5,200.00	27,803.53	52,212.70
Future Missions	115,150.00	33,772.37	218,887.30
Staff Training & Travel	3,000.00	18.00	1,000.00
Trustee Expenses	2,000.00	4,343.81	3,500.00
Miscellaneous Expenses	600.00	8,889.24	3,000.00
Property Support (Ends June'17)	-	3,500.00	-
Activate Assistance	-	4,200.00	9,600.00
Hispanic Ministry Travel & Training	-	-	26,400.00
Baptist Progress Subscriptions	-	-	1,000.00
Total Expenses	721,739.00	680,536.47	914,841.00

BAPTIST MISSIONARY LOAN ASSOCIATION

INCOME	2016-2017 BUDGET	2016-2017 ACTUAL	2017-2018 PROPOSED
Interest Income	345,000.00	417,630.00	527,300.00
Donations - Churches	9,500.00	7,529.00	7,000.00
UTO	15,500.00	1,087.00	12,000.00
Other Income	1,500.00	2,795.00	800.00
Total Income	371,500.00	429,041.00	547,100.00
EXPENSES			
Annuity	16,800.00	5,800.00	2,400.00
Property Tax & Insurance	10,700.00	10,982.00	11,400.00
Computer Maint & Equip	6,300.00	7,258.00	5,000.00
Office/Property Maint & Equip	9,950.00	19,037.00	11,050.00
Office Rent	9,000.00	9,750.00	12,000.00
Insurance (Bond)	100.00	100.00	100.00
Legal & Accounting	7,000.00	7,811.00	8,000.00
Trustee Expense	750.00	150.00	500.00
Travel Expense	6,500.00	3,877.00	4,000.00
Christmas Bonus	1,320.00	1,320.00	1,200.00
Supplement Sal (Sec)	19,546.00	0.00	n/a
Office Assistant	4,200.00	2,825.00	6,720.00
Director Salary	27,300.00	27,300.00	29,500.00
Director Housing	15,000.00	15,000.00	15,000.00
Director Insurance	4,520.00	4,520.00	4,500.00
Director Retirement	2,538.00	2,538.00	2,670.00
Director Longevity	1,800.00	1,800.00	2,000.00
Secretary Salary	0.00	29,434.00	17,550.00
Payroll Taxes	3,436.00	5,384.00	4,746.83
Interest Expense	189,500.00	235,968.00	264,609.81
Miscellaneous Expense	0.00	0.00	650.00
Total Expenses	336,260.00	390,854.00	403,596.64



Baptist Missionary Loan Association

2017-2018 Recommendations

1. That the 2018 budget be adopted
2. That consistent support from associations, churches, and individuals, provide funds for the BMLA to financially assist mission churches for purchasing property and constructing new facilities
3. That we also help established churches when funds are available; we currently have sufficient funds for several church loans
4. That we encourage our churches, local associations, and individuals to place funds, either interest-bearing or interest free, on loan to the BMLA
5. That Jerry Burnaman stand as nominee as business manager of the BMLA
6. That we give a rising vote of appreciation to Jerry Burnaman for his service as Business Manager of BMLA

TEXAS BAPTIST HOME



TEXAS BAPTIST HOME

2017-2018 Recommendations

1. That we give praise, honor, glory and thanksgiving to our Lord for His blessings on the ministry of Texas Baptist Home during its 107 history
2. That we give utmost praise and thanksgiving to the Lord for the 21 precious souls saved during the past year among the Home's residents
3. That we express gratitude to churches and individuals for the faithful support in making special campaigns such as "Change for Children"(\$46,822), "Back to School," North Texas Giving Day, 5K Runs and Christmas appeal (\$93,087) great successes and encourage a greater involvement from the supporting churches in participating the Home activities
4. That we extend our sincere thanks to those who have remembered the Home in their wills, estates and in faithful prayer support
5. That we give a special word of thanks to the Southern Baptist of Texas Convention for their faithful and sacrificial service to the Home and for their support through their in-state cooperative program budget receipts and special gifts
6. That the proposed budget of \$3,488,540 be approved for the next BMAT fiscal year with \$560,000 coming from churches of the BMA of Texas and encourage churches to consider including the Home in their annual budget
7. That we ask churches and individuals to pray fervently for the 280 children who received foster care from the Home
8. That we glorify and praise our Lord and Savior for the 32 adoptions placed through Texas Baptist Home in the past year to give these children permanent homes and encourage members of our supporting churches to consider adoption and fostering
9. That Jason Curry stand as nominee for the position of President of Texas Baptist Home and that he and the Home staff be given a rising vote of appreciation for their continued faithful and dedicated service to the Home's ministry

	2016-2017 BUDGET	2016-2017 ACTUAL	2017-2018 PROPOSED
INCOME			
Church Donations	560,000	544,878	560,000
Individual & Business Donations	450,960	538,568	392,600
Reimbursement for Services	2,691,760	2,408,201	2,303,140
Endowment Interest	188,650	188,201	190,440
Interest (Other)	5,500	4,555	4,900
Oil & Gas Royalties	12,360	7,952	8,660
Rent	18,800	19,665	28,800
Total Income	3,928,030	3,712,020	3,488,540
EXPENSE			
Accounting	21,400	22,305	22,100
Auto (Gas & Maintenance)	23,880	12,984	12,360
Cash & Gifts to Children	26,250	15,477	15,840
Children's Activity	32,600	9,469	3,900
Clothing	49,980	44,165	43,500
Computer	36,000	26,939	33,400
Contract Labor	30,300	31,952	35,720
Dues & Fees	25,980	32,584	30,060
Food	23,280	10,954	2,400
Foster Home	1,279,140	1,139,068	1,149,880
Furnishings	9,660	13,853	9,300
Household	12,480	3,720	4,560
Housing	15,000	11,625	-
Insurance (Group)	389,280	237,438	233,950
Insurance (General)	106,145	113,684	113,200
Legal	5,700	14,948	20,900
Medical & Dental	1,260	242	1,200
Medicine	600	248	960
Miscellaneous	15,120	13,742	14,880
Office Supplies	23,220	24,840	24,090
Postage	12,780	11,509	12,140
Printing	29,700	24,642	29,100
Public & Church Relations	19,840	34,238	33,000
Property Repairs	56,580	69,866	63,480
Rental Property Exp.	67,500	67,500	67,500
Resource Development	4,800	10,788	10,860
Retirement	51,310	43,736	42,530
Psychological Services	38,520	41,140	46,320
Longevity	1,300	-	100
Salaries	1,227,220	1,092,205	1,137,190
School	3,660	498	3,660
Staff Training	19,260	28,589	29,400
Taxes (Property)	1,600	903	1,380
Taxes (Payroll)	93,885	83,554	87,010
T. E. C.	9,000	9,298	2,400
Travel	63,840	54,497	65,280
Utilities	99,360	83,246	83,790
College, Ind. Living, & Vocational	600	48	1,200
Total Expenses	3,928,030	3,436,494	3,488,540

BAPTIST PROGRESS

INCOME	2016-2017 BUDGET	2016-2017 ACTUAL	2017-2018 PROPOSED
Subscriptions	106,000.00	94,681.31	95,000.00
Website Building/Maintenance	-	-	-
Advertising	7,000.00	3,357.00	4,000.00
United Thanksgiving Offering	15,000.00	10,618.32	11,000.00
Baptist Progress Anniversary Offering	15,000.00	5,975.00	6,000.00
Interest Income	700.00	652.00	700.00
Auxiliary Page	900.00	1,350.00	900.00
Every Sunday Bulletin Service	11,500.00	12,374.77	12,375.00
Miscellaneous	-	4,596.00	-
Designated Income	-	-	-
Trust Fund Distribution	450.00	64.80	450.00
Other Sales & Services	500.00	75.08	250.00
Contributions	36,507.38	28,205.24	27,648.79
Total Income	193,557.38	161,949.52	157,623.79
EXPENSES			
Employee Compensation:			
Editor's Salary	37,920.00	37,920.00	17,135.44
Editor's Housing	25,280.00	25,280.00	25,000.00
Editor's Retirement	3,792.00	2,528.06	2,528.06
Editor's Longevity	1,200.00	1,200.00	1,300.00
Editor's Hospitalization Insurance	11,000.00	11,000.00	11,000.00
Editor's Christmas Bonus	1,215.38	1,215.38	810.29
Office Staff Compensation	10,500.00	10,574.44	7,500.00
Office Staff Christmas Bonus(es)	300.00	300.00	300.00
Graphic Artist Compensation	6,000.00	6,012.00	6,000.00
Payroll Taxes	6,500.00	5,298.68	3,700.00
Payroll Expenses	100.00	-	100.00
General Expenses:			
Professional Fees	6,000.00	6,242.00	6,500.00
Digital Communication/Printing	1,800.00	1,965.81	2,000.00
Computer Maintenance/Contracts	2,000.00	637.69	2,000.00
Equipment/Furnishings	2,000.00	844.33	2,000.00
Every Sunday Bulletin Service	10,250.00	11,360.54	11,500.00
Gratuity for Writers	2,000.00	150.00	2,000.00
Miscellaneous	3,000.00	2,404.48	3,000.00
Office Insurance	700.00	-	-
Office Postage	1,250.00	1,414.86	1,250.00
Office Utilities & Expenses	9,000.00	9,250.00	9,000.00
Office Supplies	2,000.00	484.29	2,000.00
Proofreading	-	-	-
Telephone	-	1,060.37	-
Travel	3,000.00	-	3,000.00
Trustee Expense	500.00	35.00	500.00
Expenses for Printing & Mailing:			
USPS (Postage)	17,500.00	21,114.84	17,500.00
Texoma Printing	20,000.00	17,602.00	20,000.00
Expenses for Ministry Connection:			
Conference	6,750.00	6,825.00	-
Workshops	2,000.00	750.00	-
Total Expenses	193,557.38	183,469.77	157,623.79

Baptist Progress

Baptist Progress

2017-2018 Recommendations

1. That *Baptist Progress* publish 12 sixteen-page issues per year (one publication per month)
2. That *Baptist Progress* publish eNews Updates by email on most weeks when print issues of *Baptist Progress* are not published
3. That subscription rates be as follows:
 - a. Church Plan mail subscriptions—\$21 per year
 - b. Church Plan email subscriptions—\$15 per year
 - c. Individual mail subscriptions—\$24 per year
 - d. Individual email subscriptions—\$18 per year
4. That advertisement rates be as follows:
 - a. Full page (10.5 x 11.75 w/border) \$500
 - b. Half page (10.5 x 5.75 w/border) \$250.00
 - c. Fourth page (5.25 x 5.75 w/border) \$125.00
 - d. Classified (Up to 7 lines w/o border) \$15.00
5. That churches receive a special offering for *Baptist Progress* in June and the overall goal be \$15,000
6. That churches subscribe to the *Baptist Progress* Every Sunday Bulletin Service
7. That churches and individuals order supplies, books, Bibles, music and more through the BMA of Texas website, www.bmatexas.org
8. That the proposed budget for the 2017-2018 associational year be approved with the understanding that due to the current budget shortfall, the editor's salary and required office time be reduced by one-third (\$21,064.56 reduction in salary) for the year
9. That Jerry Fulton stand as a nominee for editor of *Baptist Progress*



JACKSONVILLE COLLEGE

JC students minister following hurricane

By **DR. MIKE SMITH**

Jacksonville College President

In response to the devastating effects of hurricane Harvey, over 100 Jacksonville College students and employees received training from the SBTC Disaster Relief Team on September 6. Following the training, groups of teams from the College began making trips to the Houston area to offer aid to the cleanup and restorations efforts. Randy Decker, director of the JC Music Program, took members of the choir to Conroe on the first trip. The team's efforts included the removal of sheetrock, clearing walls of wet insulation, removal of appliances, cabinet demolition, and the application of mildewcide.

Two weeks later, a second group of choir students headed to the SBTC Disaster Relief Headquarters at Spring Baptist Church to receive their assignments. They worked on two different locations in Houston. One of the sites had not yet been touched by another team, and the JC group was responsible for cleaning out the house. They were faced with very hot and humid conditions and terrible smells and had to wear safety clothing and protective masks as they worked to remove wet carpet, carpet pads, and furniture. Students with allergies to the mildew helped sort food that was being sent to Spring Baptist Church for distribution.

The students sang in the streets in the residential areas where they were working, as well as before each meal at the church and for church services. On Sunday the choir members sang for both morning services at Northside Baptist Church in Conroe, where Wes Pratt serves as pastor. In the evening, they sang at the Tryon Annual Association Meeting at New Bethlehem Baptist Church. One of the students also shared her testimony.

After the second group of JC students returned, a group of men's basketball students and Louis Truscott, assistant men's basketball coach, volunteered to help in Houston. JC President Mike Smith also joined the group. Coach Louis is from Houston and was eager to help his community, but he was not prepared for the destruction he saw. He explained, "Seeing the damage as we were driving into the disaster area was unbelievable. It was like seeing a war zone."

A fourth team is preparing to go to Port Arthur to offer continued aid in the massive recovery effort. Leading the team will be Academic Dean Marolyn Welch and her husband, Lee.

With so much devastation, it is hard to imagine that the little bit we contributed could make such an impact, but each group was welcomed by grateful homeowners who were desperate for help. Our part of the process might have been small, but we are glad to be a part of what the Lord is doing through the recovery efforts.

Randy Decker said, "Things get real in a hurry. There are no barriers when you are meeting people in desperate need. These homeowners look you in the eye. They want to thank you, they want to hug you, they want to cry with you, and they want to pray with you. It is intense and it is tremendously satisfying. This is a life changing ministry experience that everyone should have. It's our calling to reach out and help."

God has transformed the lives of those receiving aid, and he has most certainly transformed every life that has taken part in the recovery effort. Sometimes it is during the most difficult times that we can see God's goodness and grace most clearly. This is one of those times.



▲ Members of the Jacksonville College Choir prepare to travel to Houston to help victims of Hurricane Harvey.



▲ Choir members aid in disaster relief.



▲ Protective clothing and gear was necessary in toxic conditions following Hurricane Harvey.



▲ On September 1, Jacksonville College vocal ensembles led in worship during an evangelistic service at the Joe F. Gurney Transfer Facility in Palestine, Texas. The inmates received them enthusiastically, coming to their feet during "Chain Breaker" by Zack Williams.



▲ On Wednesday, September 7, at 7:00 a.m., Jacksonville College students and employees gathered around the flagpole for the annual See You at the Pole event. This year's theme was "Fix Our Eyes," based on Hebrews 12:2, which reminds Christians to "fix our eyes on Jesus." Joining millions of students worldwide, the group prayed for unity in Christ, for their college, friends, students, churches, and community. God blessed the group with a beautiful early morning rainbow.



▲ On September 20, JC Director of Development Dr. Dewey Davidson preached and evangelistic message in Chapel from Matthew 24:3-14 about Christ's return and the end of the age. More than 60 students came forward during the invitation. Revival continues at Jacksonville College.

REACH THE WORLD

October 22
2017 Lifeword Sunday

In 40 languages, 121 countries
and over 1/4 of the world

Learn about, Pray for and Give
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• CHURCH POTLUCK •

Dinner



As an association, we all pool our resources to help each other -just like everyone brings something to the table at a potluck -and nobody walks away hungry.

As you are thanking God for His blessing on your church this holiday season, be a blessing to other churches by participating in our Potluck Offering.

EAT • GIVE • BLESS

Learn more at discipleguide.org/potluck

The Ellis-Hill Baptist Association
welcomes



DR. ROBERT JEFFRESS
to FARLEY STREET BAPTIST CHURCH
1116 Brown Street in Waxahachie
Sunday, October 22, 2017 at 6 p.m.

Dr. Jeffress is Senior Pastor of the 13,000-member First Baptist Church, Dallas, Texas and a Fox News Contributor. He is also an adjunct professor at Dallas Theological Seminary.

Dr. Jeffress has made more than 2000 guest appearances on various radio and television programs and regularly appears on major mainstream media outlets, such as Fox News Channel's "Fox and Friends," "Hannity," "Lou Dobbs Tonight," "Varney & Co.," and "Judge Jeanine," also ABC's "Good Morning America," and HBO's "Real Time with Bill Maher."

Dr. Jeffress hosts a daily radio program, PATHWAY TO VICTORY, that is heard nationwide on over 930 stations in major markets such as Dallas-Fort Worth, New York City, Chicago, Los Angeles, Houston, Washington, D.C., San Francisco, Philadelphia, and Seattle. His weekly television program can be seen in 195 countries and on 11,295 cable and satellite systems throughout the world, including China and on the Trinity Broadcasting Network and Daystar.

Dr. Jeffress is the author of 24 books including WHEN FORGIVENESS DOESN'T MAKE SENSE, COUNTDOWN TO THE APOCALYPSE, NOT ALL ROADS LEAD TO HEAVEN, and his newest book, A PLACE CALLED HEAVEN: 10 SURPRISING TRUTHS ABOUT YOUR ETERNAL HOME, released September 2017.

EVERYONE IS WELCOME!

NOMINATING COMMITTEE

2016-2017 Recommendations

TEXAS BAPTIST HOME

2021
TBD (2017) SBTC
Dean Easterling (2013)
Beverly Ferrell (2013)
Fred Morrow (2017)

2020
Randy Johnson (2016)
Leon Ross (2016)
Matthew Ward (2016)
Johnny Williams (2016)

2019
Jim Ramsay (2014)
David Erickson (2015)
Kerrah Turner (2015)
TBD (2017) SBTC

2018
Zeth Smith (2014) SBTC
Charles Johnson (2010)
Jerry Wilson (2010)

BAPTIST MISSIONARY LOAN ASSOCIATION

2021
Harold Barnard (2017)
Wayne Spiere (2017)
Mary Wilkerson (2013)

2020
Steve Sinclair (2012)
Danny Vaughn (2016)
Roy Prather (2016)
Mike Chism (2016)

2019
Scott Niven (2014)
Jason Williams (2015)
Rex Coulter (2015)

2018
Dorene Walker (2010)
Richard Murray (2014)
Gene Wilkerson (2016)

BMA OF TEXAS MISSIONS

2021
David Pickard (2013)
Robbie Caldwell (2013)
Ricky Robinson (2017)

2020
Robert Lee (2016)
Jason Collins (2017)
Buddy Sadler (2017)
Grady Cashion (2015)

2019
David Taylor (2011)
Michael Pool (2017)
David Martin (2014)

2018
Clinton Everitt (2014)
Brett Lester (2014)
Chris Driver (2016)

JACKSONVILLE COLLEGE

2021
Debbie Berry (2017)
Ray Thompson (2017)
Joe Ed Anderson (2013) SBTC
Vernon Lee (2013)

2020
Ken Perkins (2012)
Paul Burkart (2013) At Large
Kenneth Cline (2016)

2019
Dwayne Orr (2015)
Charlotte Johnson (2011)
Richard Smith (2011)
Danny Page (2017) SBTC

2018
Carol Lybrand (2014)
Bob Pearl (2014) SBTC
Dennis Morris (2014)
Mark Moore (2014) SBTC

BAPTIST PROGRESS

2021
Matthew Prather (2017)
Thomas Ayres (2013)
Frank Escamilla (2015)

2020
Robert Easterling (2016)
Shelby Race (2017)
Wes Pratt (2016)

2019
Tommy Hall (2011)
Michael Anthony (2015)
James Dorman (2015)

2018
Paul Gauntt (2010)
Michael Waits (2010)
Mike Thornhill (2012)
Raif Turner (2012)

ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEE

ASSOCIATION EXPENSE FUND

INCOME	2016-2017 PROPOSED BUDGET	2016-2017 ACTUAL	2017-2018 PROPOSED BUDGET
Rent	27,750.00	31,250.00	33,000.00
Telephone Reimbursement	4,561.44	2,459.59	2,459.59
Postage Reimbursement	4,427.77	3,818.92	4,000.00
Salary Support	6,550.00	33,174.78	20,072.08
Miscellaneous Income	1,911.21	859.89	-
Designated Income	-	27,942.16	-
Copies Overage Reimbursement	1,203.09		
Designated Income	46,403.51	99,505.34	59,531.67
EXPENSES			
Building Repairs	617.97	28,070.45	1,000.00
Yard Maintenance	3,528.52	3,870.52	3,870.52
Audit	1,460.00	1,500.00	1,500.00
Bank Charges	152.67	(40.35)	300.00
Postage	4,938.65	4,851.29	4,851.29
Postage Meter	2,961.43	1,943.13	1,943.13
Copier Lease	5,655.28	4,480.78	4,500.00
Security	695.40	695.40	700.00
Depreciation Expense	52.80		
Janitorial	-	2,773.36	4,160.00
Electricity	5,525.46	3,870.18	4,300.00
Natural Gas	793.41	877.63	900.00
Telephone/Fax	7,465.78	5,155.42	-
Internet(2017) + Tele Fax 2018	1,098.27	811.74	2,000.00
Water	2,291.04	1,007.67	1,000.00
Trash Pickup	517.68	518.96	520.00
Wages	7,337.56	29,516.46	19,110.00
FICA		2,470.17	D
Supplies	1,804.50	3,368.15	4,000.00
Total Expenses	46,896.42	95,740.96	54,654.94



ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEE

2017-2018 Recommendations

1. That the Association Expense Fund proposed budget be approved
2. That recommendations for directors' salaries and benefits be approved
3. That the 118th Annual Session of the BMA of Texas be held at Calvary, Fairfield Nov. 5-6, 2018

RECOMMENDED DEPARTMENT DIRECTORS SALARIES AND BENEFITS

A. Salary: That the departmental directors for the BMA of Texas receive the following annual base salary:

Jacksonville College	\$94,000.00
State Missions	\$68,250.00
Texas Baptist Home	\$76,600.00
Baptist Progress	\$42,135.44
BMLA	\$44,500.00

B. Revivals: Departmental directors may keep the proceeds from four revivals with the understanding that if the proceeds are kept that no mileage reimbursement may be received.

C. Pulpit Supply: Departmental directors have a choice of:
 1. Turning in the proceeds to his department and being reimbursed for mileage, or
 2. Keeping the proceeds and not receiving mileage reimbursement.

D. Mileage Reimbursement: Associational business miles will be reimbursed at or below the IRS acceptable amount. Due to the high mileage of some departments, the board of trustees of each department have the option to provide a vehicle for the use of the departmental director

E. Vacation: Up to 10 years of service—receive two weeks; after 10 years—receive three weeks.

F. Sick Leave: After one year of service, six days per year, accumulative to 30 days. Unused sick leave pay is forfeited at termination.

G. Miscellaneous Benefits: Christmas bonus equal to one week's salary, health insurance for director and his family, longevity pay (\$100 per year of service), one-half of FICA (7.65 percent of salary), and retirement (6 percent of salary)

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, in turn, notifies the appropriate person. Listed in capital letters are those honored or remembered from Sept. 1, 2017—Sept. 30, 2017.

ENDOWMENTS

MYRA STOKES: Mr. Bill Stokes

HONORARIUMS

CHASTON & BRANDIE DODSON'S MARRIAGE: Charles and Charlotte Johnson

OUR SERVICE MEN AND THEIR FAMILIES: Roy & Elizabeth Talbot

MEMORIALS

ANN ADAMS: Nedra Young-Stice

JERRY FENNEL: Charles and Charlotte Johnson

SPENCER FLINT: Richard and Audra Easter

NANCY GOLEMON: Maxine Caveness

ARNOLD GRIMES: Charles & Charlotte Johnson

LULA HILTON: Charles and Charlotte Johnson

MICKEY JACKSON: Travis and Brenda Floyd

ALBINO FILIBERTO LAMANNA: Charles and Charlotte Johnson; Terry & Mark Barnhill; Leora Johnson; Paul, Donna & Cammy Johnson; Wesley, Lauren & Rylee Carter; David, Nicole & Cayden Johnson; Brian & Mary Ann Mauk

ANNIE MANGUM: Virginia Hopkins

SHIRLEY MCCARDY: Charles & Charlotte Johnson

LOUISE MCWHORTER: Charles and Charlotte Johnson

MELLISSA ANN MILLER: Harold & Jean Jacobs; Daniel & Gina Wilson

VANNIE MAE MONROE: Jeannette Morris

KAY MURPHY: Red Springs Missionary Baptist Church, Tyler

LINDA PENNER: Nedra Young-Stice

BAILEE RUSSELL: Mary Mauk

ROSEMARY SEAHORN: Charles and Charlotte Johnson

BILLIE L. SHINN: Tommy and Monna Albea

JOYCE SHIPP: Jimmy and Carla Shipp

LINDA SMITH: Travis & Brenda Floyd

JIMMY TANKERSLEY: Margaret Tankersley

ROY THAMES: Dwain & Martha Jenkins

NORA WEAVER: Temple Baptist Church, Mexia



Independent living program

By **JASON CURRY**

Texas Baptist Home has many great programs for families and children and one of these programs is for our kids who age out of foster care. More than 1,000 children in the state of Texas will age out of the foster care system this year. Many of them do not have a place to go and TBH knew we needed to do something for our foster kids. That is when TBH opened our independent living program. TBH children who age out of care can live here right after ageing out. They still have a case manager and live on campus so they still receive support before they move onto their next home.

Taylor is one of our foster children that aged out of care this year and moved into the independent living home. Taylor is 19 years old. She has been in foster care since she was 16 years old. Before she came to live with a foster family at Texas Baptist Home, she was not doing well. She had dropped out of school and her past was troubling and hard.

Once Taylor was at TBH, she was enrolled into a special program and was able to graduate on time. She worked hard in her classes and also was able to get a job and save for her first car. Once it was time to visit colleges she became interested in the EMT school and is working to get her certification. She is doing well and knows that she has the support of TBH as she starts her journey. Taylor says that Texas Baptist Home was influential in her life because they

gave her a chance. She said she sounded worse on paper and not many people are willing to help kids like Taylor. Taylor did not want to end up in some of the same situations as her family members and TBH was able to help and guide her to a brighter future.

Taylor was not open to God when she first came to TBH. She felt like He was not there for her and did not help her. But now she can see how He has helped her and her relationship with Him has grown since being at TBH. She says that just seeing how God has answered her prayers with a job, a car, and with school, she can really see how the Lord has provided for her and cares for her.

TBH is so proud of Taylor and all the hard work she has done to get where she is today. We know that the Lord brought Taylor to TBH and we are so grateful to be a part of her journey. Please continue to pray for her and her future.

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.



First, Omen celebrates 130 years of ministry



First, Omen celebrated their 130th anniversary Sunday, Sept. 24, 2017. There were 101 in attendance for praise and worship. Bro. Jordan Rhodes, youth pastor and minister of music and guests, Mark and Julie Trammel, led the music up to a great sermon by our pastor, Dr. Scotty Short. There was food, fun and fellowship lasting throughout the day. Most importantly, Jesus Christ was at the center of it all.

UPCOMING EVENTS

WINTER TERM 2017
Registration begins on October 18

THE MINISTRY OF ANGELS
Written and Performed by Shellie O'Neal
October 24, 2017 at 7:00 p.m. in the Mary S. Lewis Theater

MANLEY DISTINGUISHED LECTURE SERIES
Wednesday, October 25 at 11:00 a.m. in Buckner Chapel
Speaker: Dr. Shellie O'Neal, director of theater at Navarro College
Topic: The WASP: The Forgotten Air Force

5K AND OBSTACLE COURSE MUD RUN
Saturday, Nov 4, 2017

BMAT MEETING ON NOVEMBER 6-7
On November 7 at 6:10 p.m.,
the Jacksonville College Choir will sing,
followed by the annual message by
JC Vice President for Executive Affairs Dr. Blanton Feaster.

FALL CHOIR CONCERT
Thursday, November 16 at 7:00 p.m. in Buckner Chapel

BMA TEXAS

MISSIONS

Your Church's Mission Movement in Texas



By **HEITH MITCHELL**

BMA Texas Missions Executive Director

A WORD FROM YOUR MISSION OFFICE:

I want to thank and praise the Lord for the heart of the BMA. Our association really came together in support of those affected by Hurricane Harvey. Churches and departments have gone to help with the recovery. Many have collected items and carried them in. We know of over \$100,000.00 that has been given by BMA churches to help. I'm not just speaking of BMA of Texas here. There has been overwhelming response from around the BMAA.

You continue to help. God is being glorified in all of this. Your heart for others blows me away.



▲ Heith Mitchell

A WORD FROM YOUR MISSIONARIES:

ARNULFO MALDONADO— TEXAS HISPANIC MISSION COORDINATOR

I would like to thank all the church that came and helped Houston area BMA churches with labour and funds. I was stunned and left with no words at the gifts that have come from BMA churches to help Hispanic BMA churches. It meant so much for our BMA of America Leader John David Smith to visit. May the Lord continue to bless him too. Thank you BMMI teams for all that you have done and for the churches who have come to help. I would like to thank Suburban Wood Baptist church for being a hub for people that got flooded and also all the help they provided and Pastor Dean in helping coordinate lots of work.



▲ Arnulfo Maldonado

GARY SOUTHARD— THE CHURCH AT VALLEY RANCH MISSION, NEW CANEY

We are excited and nervous at the same time as we approach our official "Church Status." We are so grateful to our mother church - Beacon Baptist Church in Bryan.

We are thankful for Bro. Clinton Everett as he has been our coach, pastor and friend throughout this project. Without his and T'Shanna's prayerful assistance we would not be where we are today.

We plan to have an organizational service in October at Beacon Baptist Church. Then we are looking forward to joining the BMA of Texas in November as a fully organized church.

Please pray for us in the area of finances. We are able to pay for our expenses but we need assistance in the area of paying a pastor.

We are in the process of reporting to the various BMA local Associations who have supported us this past year. God has blessed us with a total of 17 families, 9 salvations and 10 baptisms. We have two waiting to be baptized at this moment. We have a total of 36 members.



▲ Gary Southard

Again thank you for your prayers, encouraging words, cards and financial support. As the Apostle Paul said, "The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you."

JAIME GARCIA—SPANISH MISSION, SPLENDORA

Don't give up!!!! Our savior is coming soon and people are in need of the gospel pray for one another and love one another as Jesus command us. May God bless all the pastors of BMA.



▲ Jaime Garcia

NEPTALY MOLINA— SPANISH MISSION, NACOGDOCHES

El mes de Julio sábado 22 estuve realizando una Jornadas evangelisticas en el sector la Ponderosa, con el apoyo de hermanos de Iglesia Caminando con Jesus de Houston y de la Iglesia Nueva vida, fue una jornada significativa, porque se convirtieron 14 personas. Participamos 12 personas evangelizando casa por casa, elabore Playeras con el nombre de la Iglesia y nos hicimos sentir y la gente preguntaba la ubicación de la iglesia.

A very real anecdote: A lady works in the cleaning, in the garden of the apartments where I live, I was cleaning one morning in front of my apartment, near the windows and with the blower blow in the place where my wife put some ornaments of porcelain, like a blue house, and some munequitos as well. The lady tumbled them and they broke, soon after my wife leaves and the lady comments, with much regret, that he apologized that he broke his ornament without wanting with his blower. My wife said: Do not worry, that is not of great value, the lady thought she was going to complain, and my wife hugged her and the cleaning lady wept, and my wife shared the message of Christ and the lady was going through problems with her husband, and the lady became, she attends with her two daughters and her husband; have been faithful have two months attending the Church. Her name is Jaqueline and her husband Cristofer Martinez and their daughters: Alexa, Dulce and Gustavo, 11, 9 and 7 years old. (Google Translate)



▲ Neptaly Molina

BRANDON DURHAM— REDEEMER'S LOVE MISSION, HOUSTON

First of all, THANK YOU for the pray support as our city and church family have recouped from Hurricane Harvey. Numerous National reports said Christians (churches & charities) were providing 80 percent of relief effort (compared to 20 percent by FEMA)! We can all CELEBRATE A WIN together, in the face of this historic disaster, because we witnessed the church universal rising to the occasion; to love our neighbors in extraordinary ways! It was beautiful and powerful to see our Redeemer's Love Church family in action, with some opening up their homes to the displaced, and



▲ Brandon Durham

others helping to help clean up and rebuild. Keep us in prayer as we focus in on our vision to build a discipleship culture; where everyone is discipled, and everyone is discipling. We look forward to seeing you all in November at our annual state meeting!

CLIFF ROBERTSON— CARPENTER'S HOUSE MISSION—LAKE JACKSON/CLUTE

The Hurricane Harvey Relief Effort required more than we were capable of doing on our own and the BMA stood tall with us through it all. We have been challenged on every front and God has walked with us through it all. We are growing each week and it is amazing to watch. I see new faces and new challenges and I know that God has a plan for each of them. Thank you for your support!



▲ Cliff Robertson

JOHN HARRIS— FOUNDATION COMMUNITY MISSION, BENBROOK

We have had some great doors open up for us in this area this past month, and God has really connected us to some wonderful people from the very first meeting we had with them. Pray that God draws them further into His circle and gives us the ability to help them take the next step. Thank you for the support you have given us! Please continue to pray for us!



▲ John Harris

PRAYER REQUESTS FROM THE FIELD

-Continue to pray for Bro. Jaime Garcia and the Splendora Mission as they recover from flooding from Harvey.

-Neptaly Molina from the Nacogdoches Mission asks you to pray for His Theological Training, His family and the Mission.

-Pray for Brandon Durham, for the health of his wife, and for Redeemer's Love Mission.

-Intern Joshua Pickard asks you to pray for God to reveal where they should serve.

Pray for Christian and Vanessa Martinez as they prepare to move to Lubbock next month.

-John Harris asks you to pray for opportunities to share Christ and to disciple. Pray for the relationships that have already developed.

-Gary Southard asks you to pray for a youth minister and for new families reached.

Matthew Prather asks that you pray that more people would be saved and for a more permanent meeting place.

PRAISE REPORTS FROM THE FIELD

-28 salvations were reported this month!

-God continues to answer your prayers on behalf of your mission effort!

EVENTS

SENIOR ADULT CONFERENCE

DATE: November 13-15, 2017

PLACE: Branson Hilton Convention Center, Branson, Missouri

DiscipleGuide.org

125TH ANNIVERSARY

DATE: November 19, 2017

PLACE: Glenfawn Baptist Church, Cushing, TX
The celebration begins at 11 a.m. with singing, church history, and a message brought by former pastor, David Willis. A traditional Thanksgiving lunch will follow worship service. After lunch, special music by Living Proof will be enjoyed. Plan to come help us celebrate our church's anniversary.

BAPTIST MISSIONARY ASSOCIATION 117TH ANNUAL SESSION

DATE: November 6-7, 2017

PLACE: New Harmony Baptist Church, Tyler, Texas

CHURCH LEADERS CRUISE

DATE: January 13-18, 2017

PLACE: 5-day Caribbean Cruise

DiscipleGuide.org

pastor & staff changes

FRED MORROW has resigned as pastor of New Hope, Mineola to become pastor of Forest Hill, Quitman.

WAYNE NORVELL is the new pastor of Glade Creek, Gilmer.

STUART PRIEST is the new youth pastor of Craft, Jacksonville.

PERSONNEL & POSITIONS

AVAILABLE MINISTER

GRADY MOORE is available for pulpit supply or to serve a bivocational pastor or interim pastor. He is a member of Northside, Garland. Contact him in Allen at 817-403-4769. 10/17

MIKE CROSS is available for pulpit supply or to serve as pastor or interim pastor. Contact him at 979-402-5491 or mkecross413@gmail.com. 10/17

AVAILABLE POSITIONS

PIANIST—Shiloh Road, Mesquite is seeking a pianist. Contact Craig Bass is interested at Cbassdatura@gmail.com or 469-236-8883.

MUSIC—Craft, Jacksonville is seeking bivocational music minister. Send resume to James Dorman, PO Box 1644, Jacksonville, Texas 75766, james@craftjacksonville, or call 903-752-6610. 12/17

PASTOR—Mount Pisgah, Mineola is seeking a pastor. Bivocational is an option. Send resume to dmvaughn@peoplescom.net or mail to Mount Pisgah Baptist Church, 4995 FM 49, Mineola, Texas 75773. TFN

YOUTH & FAMILY OUTREACH DIRECTOR—Calvary, Vidalia, Louisiana is seeking a bivocational youth & family outreach director. Send resume to office@calvaryvidalia.com or 2001 Murray Drive, Vidalia, Louisiana 71373. 10/17

YOUTH PASTOR—Davis Street, Sulphur Springs is seeking a full-time youth pastor. Send resume to dennis@davisstreetbaptist.org. TFN

YOUTH/STUDENT MINISTER—Afton Grove, Jacksonville is seeking a bivocational youth/student minister. Send resume to the church at 360 CR 4208, Jacksonville, Texas 75766 or aftongrovebaptistchurch@gmail.com. 10/17

YOUTH MINISTER—First Baptist Church of Cross Roads (Athens) is seeking a full-time youth minister to develop and oversee a program for youth and young families. Parsonage available. For information or to apply, contact Brian Spurling, 903-681-0195 or bspurling@tvcc.edu. 9/17

PASTOR—Sunset, Littlefield is seeking a bivocational pastor. Send resume to the church at 1720 E. 18th Street, Littlefield, Texas 79339, Tomandsheilaedwards@gmail.com or call 806-385-4822 for more information. 9/17

OUTREACH DIRECTOR—Farley Street, Waxahachie is seeking a bivocational outreach director. Send resume to resume@farleystreet.com.

PASTOR—Hill Creek, Whitehouse is seeking a pastor. Send resume and recorded sermon to Hill Creek Baptist Church, Pastor Search Committee, P.O. Box 1287, Whitehouse, Texas 75791.

Ministers Resource Services seeks new executive director

Bro. Ron Chesser has announced his retirement as Executive Director of Ministers Resource Services (MRS), effective May 31, 2018. The board of trustees will be accepting resumes from individuals who would like to be considered for this position. Resumes may be submitted between September 1, 2017 and November 15, 2017. At our board meeting on February 23, 2017, it was approved to sell the MRS property in Texarkana and relocate MRS operations to the BMAA Global Ministry Center in Conway, AR upon Bro. Chesser's retirement. As a result, interested individuals would need to be willing to reside in or near the Conway area. Additionally, persons with a strong financial background are highly desired.

Resumes should be submitted to the board chairman:

Kenneth M. Lott
1360 Purvis-Oloh Road
Purvis, MS 39475
E-mail address: KennethL@ssw1776.com

May God grant great wisdom to the MRS board of trustees as we seek to recommend to the association in April, 2018 the Executive Director with which HE would be most pleased.

Churches in review

SEPTEMBER 18, 2017

CHURCH	SS	WORSHIP	ADDITIONS
First, Blooming Grove	228		7 by baptism
First, Palmer	52	71	2 by letter
Glade Creek, Gilmer	18	35	
Jackson, Joaquin	72	129	
Little Flock, Lufkin	56	72	
Little Mound, Big Sandy	41	43	
New Harmony, Tyler	311	346	
New Hope, Mineola	51	95	1 baptism
Olde Tyme, White Oak		45	
Pilgrim Rest #2, Golden	31	41	
Pine Brook, Tyler	26	49	2 by statement
Rosewood, Gilmer	135	218	2 by letter
Sand Flat, Grand Saline	49	77	

SEPTEMBER 24, 2017

CHURCH	SS	WORSHIP	ADDITIONS
Anthony Drive, Ennis	56	107	
First, Blooming Grove	220		
First, Omen	36	101	1 by baptism, 1 by letter
First, Palmer	62	82	
Glade Creek, Gilmer	15	35	
Little Flock, Lufkin	20	47	
Olde Tyme, White Oak		44	
Pilgrim Rest #2, Golden	40	50	
Pine Brook, Tyler	28	55	1 by letter
Rosewood, Gilmer	145	241	1 by baptism, 1 by letter
Security Calvary, Cleveland	25	47	
Simmons Hill, Diana	18	32	

OCTOBER 1, 2017

CHURCH	SS	WORSHIP	ADDITIONS
Anthony Drive, Ennis	60	132	4 by letter
First, Blooming Grove	202		
First, Omen			2 by baptism
First, Palmer	61	92	
Glade Creek, Gilmer	15	35	
Jackson, Joaquin	87	136	
Little Flock, Lufkin	25	35	
New Harmony, Tyler	309	376	1 by baptism
Olde Tyme, White Oak		44	
Pilgrim Rest #2, Golden	35	36	
Pine Brook, Tyler	31	45	
Rosewood, Gilmer	149	279	1 by baptism
Sand Flat, Grand Saline	41	69	
Simmons Hill, Diana	18	58	

OCTOBER 8, 2017

CHURCH	SS	WORSHIP	ADDITIONS
Anthony Drive, Ennis	60	90	
First, Blooming Grove	213		1 by baptism
First, Palmer	64	82	
Little Flock, Lufkin	47	48	
Pilgrim Rest #2, Golden	30	39	
Rosewood, Gilmer	140	240	1 by baptism
Sand Flat, Grand Saline	44	70	
Security Calvary, Cleveland	24	46	

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Honor your pastor and deacons

By SHARON COLE

Although it is well into the month of October by the time you read this article, it is never too late to show appreciation to your pastor or deacons. For many years, October has been set aside to give special recognition and appreciation to our pastors and deacons. The writer of Hebrews 13:17-19 gives us instruction on how to treat our spiritual leaders, especially our pastors. The most important thing we can do for them is to pray.

Pray that God will give your pastor wisdom and leadership skills. Pray that God will give him boldness and courage as he goes about the community searching for souls to bring to Christ. Offer to go visiting with him. Pray for his health, his family and his physical needs.

He has to live, buy groceries and gasoline, maintain a safe and running vehicle and pay taxes the same as you. As a church, pay the pastor as well as possible. When the cost of living goes up, so should his salary. Allow the pastor's family to be just who they are without placing too high expectations on them and comparing them to those in the past. Treat preacher's kids as you do your own. They are as vulnerable as your children and should not be put on a pedestal by expecting them to be more saintly than others.

Above all, be faithful to as many church services and activities as physically possible. This will encourage him to show that you love the Lord as well. During the worship service, be attentive with your Bible open and follow the reading of the Word. The pastor can see everything from his vantage point and can be distracted by those who are doing other things and not paying attention. Privately tell him when a real spiritual insight has been received as a result of his teaching or preaching. Doing so lets him know that he is feeding you what God wants you to know and is a great encouragement.

There are little extra things you can do such as write him a card and tell him how good his teaching and preaching has helped you grow spiritually. Pastors are sometimes lonely and hungry for fellowship because no one comes just to visit and be a friend. Invite him to play golf, go fishing or whatever his interests are. Sunday school teachers, let the children make encouraging cards and present them to him on Sunday morning during a worship service. Plan a special 'eat-in' meetin' at the church or take him and his family out to eat at a restaurant or someone's home. Offer to make visits to the sick, nursing home, homebound or hospitals for him. Take a special love offering for him and his family to take a much needed vacation.

Often pastors do not take vacations and their job is actually 24/7; not just two days a week like some people think. Most

men can punch a time clock and forget it until the next day, but a pastor finds himself doing things at night that are still related to his job.

A distraught person with a crisis who needs a listening ear awakens him. He sits for hours at a hospital giving encouragement to a family whose loved one is in surgery. He gives comfort and compassion to people whose family member has died. He does not do all the extra things he does to get a pat on the back. He does it because of the love that God has given him for His people. Show him that he is loved in return, not just this month, but any time of the year. Since prices are going up and the economy is stressed, our pastors are affected, as much as, or more than anyone because they are out and about in the community pastoring the people.

These ideas are but a few: Give him a gift card to use for gas or vehicle repairs, to buy clothing or for a night out at a nice restaurant, to a Christian book store or the dry cleaners. Remember his birthday and anniversary with phone calls and cards. Offer to babysit his children; surprise him with an old fashioned pounding. Have church members prepare casseroles that can be frozen and used when the preacher's wife is too ill to cook for the family. Do lawn or garden work at his house. Invite him and his family to your house for a meal and good fellowship. Wash and detail his car.

I Timothy 3:1-7 tells how a pastor ought to behave. Pastoring a church is not an easy task. His sermons are not just casual talking. A 30-45 minute sermon is equal to an eight hour day of work. He is exhausted and drained after feeding the souls of the congregation. Most importantly, pray for your pastor and his family.

Deacon Appreciation Sunday was first recognized Oct. 12, 1986 and thereafter observed on the second week of the month. If your church has deacons you are blessed. Nowhere in the Bible does it say they are to be a board of executives who run the business of the church and tell the pastor what to do. The Bible gives instructions in I Timothy 3:8-13 on what the deacons are to do.

The office of deacon was created and designed to be a help to the pastor. They are servants of the Lord and to aid the pastor in the physical needs of the church. They are to visit the sick and widows, as well as other things so the pastor can devote his time to prayer, Bible study, and preaching the Word. Often the work of the deacons goes unnoticed because they work behind the scenes to make the church building look nice and to make sure the worship service runs smoothly. Many of the same ideas for pastors can be applied to the deacons.

Have a testimonial service from members how the deacons

have blessed them personally. Make personal phone calls expressing appreciation. Shower them with cards, pray for them and with them. Invite them and their wives out to eat. Other ideas are gift certificates or cards to a restaurant, Christian book store, or other places of their interest. Dedicate one Sunday as Deacon Appreciation Day and present them with a boutonniere; prepare a special banquet in their honor. Place pictures of deacons and their families on a bulletin board or table listing information such as birthdays, anniversaries, hobbies, etc. Finally, contribute to a special missions project in their name. Above all that you do, remember to pray for them that God would guide them in the decisions they make.

LIBERTY DISTRICT WMA

The Liberty District WMA met Sept. 23, 2017 with Enon, Gilmer with 50 in attendance. The theme was "Go," using I Chronicles 16:23. President, Johnnie Ross opened the meeting with Leviticus 23:1-2, 24. She challenged the WMA ladies to be summoned to action. A short video was shown of the children's ministry of Tracy and Wendy Miller, associate missionaries of Stone Point Church in Cummings, Georgiawhich is our district project. Our goal is \$3500. Shirley Hoffpauir and her granddaughter dressed up as lab professors and presented a skit advertising the upcoming theme for Sunbeams, "In the Lab with Professor G." The next Sunbeam meeting will meet with Coffeenville, Ore City, Nov. 11th. The Antioch GMA's presented special music, "How Great Thou Art." Maeva Thompson introduced our speakers: Ava Pool, Amanda Anderson, and Kirby Pool. Mrs. Kirby shared her testimony of how she was burdened with starting a Hispanic Mission in Antioch. Mrs. Pool shared her experience of going with her church to Cuenca, Ecuador. They went door knocking, inviting people to VBS that they would be helping in while there. They asked that everyone pray for this mission field. A luncheon was served by the host church. The next meeting will be Jan. 6, 2018 with Fellowship, Pittsburg. This will be our Annual Missions Retreat. The speaker will be Shirley Ladd, sharing her work with the BMII. Wendy Miller will be skyping us from Georgia.

Sharon Cole is the editor for the Texas WMA. Contact her at S9Co@aol.com. For more information on the Texas WMA, visit www.texaswma.com.



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