

Baptist Progress

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Letter

from the president

Dear Baptist Missionary Association of Texas,

As 2020 has unfurled, it revealed some things we knew were coming such as a contentious election, but it also brought additional surprises: a pandemic that has challenged and continues to challenge us in many ways and more recently, social unrest and rebellion like our country has not seen. We sort of feel like the disciples gathered with Jesus in the upper room; we are anxious and perhaps fearful. Yet in the midst of it all, Jesus is there and His words to His disciples then are still relevant to His disciples today, “let not your hearts be troubled: ye believe in God, believe also in me” (John 14:1).



▲ Leon Ross

Yes, in the midst of the storms of this life, Jesus comes walking to us, reminding us, “...it is I, be not afraid” (John 6:20). This makes us thankful for Bro. Robert Easterling’s insight when he chose last year’s theme for our association, God is Faithful.

Today, our churches, uniquely different and specifically equipped by God for their mission fields, feel the strain and feel the heat of the spiritual warfare that is raging. Some are tempted to fear, and in apprehension, draw back from the battle, closing ranks and protecting their own. Yet, we hear the voice of Paul reminding young Timothy of the gift within him, telling him, “...for God hath not given us the spirit of fear; but of power, and of love, and of a sound mind” (2 Timothy 1:7). We hear the call of our Commander; go forth, preach the Gospel and make disciples of all people.

Now is not the time for us to crawl back into safety. Instead, now is the time for us to find strength by joining with other like-minded churches who are casting aside the fear and looking to Jesus the author and the finisher of our faith. The writer of Ecclesiastes writes, “...two are better than one: because they have a good reward for their labor. For if they fall, the one will lift up his fellow: but woe to him that is alone when he falleth; for he hath not another to help him up. ...and if one prevail against him, two shall withstand him; and a threefold cord is not quickly broken” (Ecclesiastes 4:9, 10, 12).

The theme this year is, *Stronger Together*. John commended Gaius for his generosity in 3 John 8 saying, “we therefore ought to receive such, that we might be fellowhelpers to the truth.” We are stronger together when we as individual churches bind ourselves together as fellowhelpers and continue doing the work of our Lord in spreading the gospel (Missions), in teaching and training (Jacksonville College), in caring for children (TBHC), in providing financial resources (Baptist Missionary Loan Association), and keeping people informed (Baptist Progress).

We are stronger together as the Baptist Missionary Association of Texas!

I want to invite you to join us for the Annual Meeting of the Baptist Missionary Association of Texas Nov. 5, 2020 at Farley Street Baptist Church in Waxahachie, Texas.

Bro. Leon Ross
Baptist Missionary Association of Texas
President

2020 Annual BMA of Texas Meeting Schedule

STRONGER TOGETHER

Thursday, November 5, 2020

8:30 a.m.	BMA of Texas Officers and Department Directors Meet for Prayer		
9:00 a.m.	Messenger Registration Texas WMA Registration Department and Missionary Meet & Greet		
First General Session			
10:00 a.m.	Worship		
10:10 a.m.	Welcome/Introduction of Officers Enrollment/ Finance Committee Initial Report Consider Seating Petitioning Churches		
10:30 a.m.	President’s Message—Bro. Leon Ross		
10:50 a.m.	Presentation of Proposed Constitutional Changes		
11:00 a.m.	Texas WMA Annual Meeting Breakout Sessions		
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BMA of Texas 101 (orientation for new pastors) • Hispanic Ministries (in Spanish) • Leadership Pipeline • Worship Minister Swap Meet • Youth Minister Swap Meet 	3:20 p.m.	Nominating Committee Report
		3:30 p.m.	Texas Women’s Missionary Auxiliary Report
		3:40 p.m.	Master’s Builders Report
		3:50 p.m.	Election of Annual Speaker and Alternate Speaker for 2021
		4:00 p.m.	Election of BMA of Texas Officers
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • President • First Vice President • Second Vice President • Recording Clerks
12:00 p.m.	Lunch 2020 Leadership Conference: Waking Up in a New World Speaker: Mitch Friedman (Sponsored by BMA Texas Missions)	4:10 p.m.	Final Enrollment/ Finance Committee Report
		4:15 p.m.	Miscellaneous Business
		4:20 p.m.	Break with Refreshments in Family Life Center/Gym
Second General Session			
1:40 p.m.	Worship		
1:50 p.m.	Texas Baptist Home for Children Report		
2:00 p.m.	Jacksonville College Report		
2:10 p.m.	Baptist Missionary Loan Association Report		
2:20 p.m.	Baptist Progress Report		
2:30 p.m.	BMA Texas Missions Report		
2:40 p.m.	Administrative Committee Report		
2:50 p.m.	Election of Administrative Committee Representatives		
3:00 p.m.	Break with Refreshments in Family Life Center/Gym		
			Third General Session
		4:50 p.m.	Worship
		5:00 p.m.	Jacksonville College Choir Concert
		5:30 p.m.	Annual Message—Bro. Charles Johnson
			Alternate—Bro. Eddie Ballard
		6:05 p.m.	Adjourn Annual Meeting
		6:10 p.m.	BMA of Texas Missionary Commissioning Service
		6:30 p.m.	Dismissal





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BAPTIST PROGRESS

Jerry Fulton, Editor/Business Manager
P.O. Box 2085, Waxahachie 75168
972-923-0756 • www.baptistprogress.org

BAPTIST MISSIONARY LOAN ASSOCIATION

Jerry Burnaman, Manager
PO Box 73, Waxahachie 75168
972-923-0758

BMA OF TEXAS MISSIONS

Heith Mitchell, Director
PO Box 73, Waxahachie 75168
972-923-0757

JACKSONVILLE COLLEGE

Dr. Mike Smith, President
105 B. J. Albritton Drive
Jacksonville 75766
903-586-2518
www.jacksonville-college.edu

TEXAS BAPTIST HOME

Jason Curry, President
PO Box 309, Waxahachie 75168
972-937-1321 • www.tbhc.org

Baptist Missionary Loan Association Trustees to nominate Fulton as director

By BAPTIST MISSIONARY LOAN ASSOCIATION TRUSTEES

As you are aware, Bro. Jerry Burnaman, who served as the business manager of the Baptist Missionary Loan Association (BMLA) for 22 years, was called home to be with the Lord Aug. 13, 2020. We mourn our loss, but praise God for the fact that Bro. Burnaman is at peace with Him in Glory.

Due to Bro. Burnaman's passing, the BMLA Trustees were tasked with finding a new leader for the department. The trustees met Sept. 19, 2020, and discussed several options. Prior to Bro. Burnaman's passing, he had initiated a succession plan for when he planned to retire.

For the first 17 years of his tenure as the business manager of the BMLA, Bro. Burnaman served in dual roles. While serving as the business manager for the BMLA, he also served as the director of BMA of Texas Missions. The Missions Department and the responsibilities of the director of the department have grown significantly over the last few years, and it would not be feasible or fair to ask the director of the Missions Department to serve in the additional role as the business manager of the BMLA.

So, Bro. Burnaman approached Bro. Jerry Fulton, editor of Baptist Progress to gage his interest in filling the position of business manager of the BMLA upon his retirement. The editor's position has been a part time position since 2017 when changes for the department were approved by the BMA of Texas. Therefore, Bro. Fulton has the time to serve in both roles as editor of Baptist Progress, and director of the BMLA.

Because Bro. Fulton expressed interest in taking on the role of business manager, Bro. Burnaman asked him to become a trustee for the BMLA. Bro. Fulton has served on the board for the past several months, better learning the business and ministry of the BMLA.

Bro. Fulton is qualified to serve as the director of the BMLA. For the

last few years, he and his wife, Cassie, have owned and managed other business interests outside of his role as editor. In addition, he has managed Baptist Progress for the last 16 years as that department's business manager, pastored churches and served as the Director of Ministry Development for the Texas Baptist Home for Children. A two-time graduate of Baptist Missionary Association Theological Seminary, Bro. Fulton has been a licensed and ordained Baptist minister for 27 years. In 2015, he was awarded an honorary Doctor of Divinity from Anchor Theological Seminary. Bro. Fulton has preached in scores of conferences, revivals and Sunday worship services and is well known within our association. Bro. and Mrs. Fulton reside in Waxahachie, where they are members of Farley Street Baptist Church.



Jerry Fulton

Therefore, the trustees of the BMLA will nominate Bro. Fulton as director of the BMLA during the Annual Meeting of the BMA of Texas when the association meets at Farley Street, Waxahachie Nov. 5, 2020. We will further recommend that the title, "business manager," be changed to "director" to bring in line the title of the department's chief administrator with the title of other department leaders. The new title would also better describe his role in carrying out the responsibilities for which he is elected.

The trustees of the BMLA have elected Bro. Fulton to serve as interim director until after the Annual Meeting of the BMA of Texas in November.

We encourage church messengers to elect Bro. Fulton and pray for him as he steps into his new role, should you elect him, serving the churches of the BMA of Texas.



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Jerry Fulton, Editor/Business Manager
editor@baptistprogress.org
P.O. Box 2085 • Waxahachie, Texas 75168
972-923-0756 (office) • 972-923-3534 (fax)

www.baptistprogress.org

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JACKSONVILLE COLLEGE



JACKSONVILLE COLLEGE 2020-2021 Recommendations

INCOME	2019-2020 BUDGET	2020 BUDGET	2021 PROPOSED
Students	3,700,000.00	3,600,000.00	4,000,000.00
SBTC/BMA	730,000.00	729,000.00	730,000.00
Scholarship	100,000.00	145,000.00	720,000.00
Endowment	70,000.00	67,000.00	75,000.00
Designated	200,000.00	189,000.00	200,000.00
Auxiliary	100,000.00	150,000.00	100,000.00
Organizations	150,000.00	120,000.00	150,000.00
TOTAL INCOME	5,050,000.00	5,000,000.00	5,975,000.00
EXPENSES			
Academics	800,000.00	1,000,000.00	1,200,000.00
Dean of Students	80,000.00	111,520.00	112,000.00
Security/Housing	150,000.00	150,000.00	160,000.00
Athletics	1,100,000.00	1,200,250.00	1,300,000.00
Operations	1,220,000.00	1,225,000.00	1,500,000.00
Administration	1,370,000.00	1,349,000.00	1,400,000.00
TOTAL EXPENSES	4,720,000.00	5,035,770.00	5,672,000.00

1. That churches and individuals consider giving Jacksonville College an "End of the Year" gift
2. That Sunday May 2, 2021 be designated as Jaguar Day Across Texas and an offering be given to Jacksonville College
3. That every church encourage prospective students to attend Jacksonville College
4. That churches and associations consider having a Jacksonville College Rally with the choir and or singing groups to sing and the president to preach and share information about the college to aid in recruitment
5. That churches promote prayer for Jacksonville College
6. That Mike Smith and the administration, faculty and staff be shown appreciation for their leadership and service to Jacksonville College

*Unofficial Projected Budget

BMA TEXAS MISSIONS



BMA TEXAS MISSIONS 2020-2021 Recommendations

1. We recommend that the 2021 proposed budget be adopted.
2. As a result of the faithfulness of all of the churches of the BMA of Texas, we recommend that the following be elected as missionaries as presented in the budget.
 - a. Timothy Alba – Seagoville (Lead Missionary)
 - b. Robert Lee – Normangee (Lead Missionary)
 - c. Brad Holcomb – Ft. Worth (Lead Missionary)
3. We recommend that the following project be supported as presented in the budget.
 - a. Hispanic Mission in San Antonio
4. As a result of a combined 15 years as the moderator of BMA Texas Missions trustee board, we would like to recognize Clinton Everitt for his faithful service, guidance and leadership within Texas State Missions.
5. We recommend that Heith Mitchell stand as nominee as Executive Director of BMA Texas Missions.

	2019 BUDGET	2019 ACTUAL	2020 BUDGET	2021 PROPOSED
INCOME				
Donations (Churches)	415,000.00	536,234.14	445,000.00	445,000.00
Notes Receivables	50,000.00	86,994.92	75,000.00	75,000.00
Liquidated Assets	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Miscellaneous Income	0.00	4,203.52	50,000.00	50,000.00
Interest Income / Investment Withdrawal	555,000.00	405,059.47	565,000.00	565,000.00
TOTAL INCOME	1,020,000.00	1,032,492.05	1,135,000.00	1,135,000.00
EXPENSES				
Advertising/Promotion	2,500.00	3,367.90	2,500.00	2,500.00
Attorney/Legal	5,000.00	8,252.50	5,000.00	5,000.00
Audit	10,500.00	11,795.00	11,750.00	10,000.00
Computer Maint & Equip	1,500.00	1,591.62	1,500.00	1,500.00
RBC Broker Fees	6,500.00	6,297.00	6,500.00	6,500.00
Office Maint & Equipment	1,630.00	1,126.37	1,630.00	1,500.00
Office Supplies	2,000.00	2,122.35	1,000.00	1,500.00
Building Maintenance	12,780.00	12,780.00	12,780.00	12,780.00
Office Expenses	800.00	3,869.97	2,000.00	2,000.00
Postage	2,500.00	1,489.44	2,000.00	1,600.00
Bank Charges	550.00	1,329.77	550.00	3,250.00
Property & Personnel Liability	14,500.00	8,850.82	6,500.00	6,500.00
Christmas Bonus	3,200.00	5,773.71	3,200.00	6,000.00
Director Salary	48,762.50	48,762.48	52,538.75	49,595.63
Director Housing	26,762.50	23,250.00	26,762.50	29,412.28
Director Retirement	3,900.00	4,740.72	3,900.00	5,000.00
Director Insurance	7,000.00	5,833.40	7,000.00	7,620.00
Director Phone	1,488.00	1,488.00	1,488.00	1,488.00
Director Travel/Training	20,000.00	26,569.62	24,000.00	24,000.00
Financial Assistant	10,000.00	8,386.85	8,500.00	9,000.00
Director Assistant	17,700.00	14,357.00	16,225.00	8,300.00
Office Assistant	7,980.00	8,160.00	9,850.00	17,760.00
Church Planter Salary	301,200.00	241,638.22	508,800.00	510,300.00
Church Planter Training	20,000.00	37,987.80	24,000.00	36,000.00
Church Planter Coaching	10,000.00	15,510.85	12,000.00	15,500.00
Church Planter Assessments	7,000.00	10,218.39	6,000.00	6,000.00
Payroll Taxes (FICA & Medicare)	35,000.00	40,724.70	47,000.00	47,000.00
Future Missions	282,520.00	250,110.37	84,255.00	109,285.62
Supported Mission Projects	88,200.00	86,731.05	190,200.00	144,600.00
Staff Training & Travel	1,000.00	1,549.57	1,000.00	1,000.00
Trustee Expenses	3,500.00	3,662.01	3,000.00	3,000.00
Miscellaneous Expenses	4,500.00	4,288.66	3,000.00	3,000.00
Activate Assistance	12,000.00	12,000.00	12,000.00	12,000.00
Hispanic Ministry Travel & Training	26,400.00	26,400.00	26,400.00	27,600.00
Baptist Progress Subscriptions	500.00	377.25	500.00	1,000.00
TOTAL EXPENSES	999,373.00	941,393.39	1,125,329.25	1,129,091.53

BAPTIST MISSIONARY LOAN ASSOCIATION

INCOME	2019 BUDGET	2019 ACTUAL	2020 BUDGET	2021 PROPOSED
Interest Income-Loans	533,136.00	522,845.00	539,000.00	260,874.26
Interest Income-Investments				284,892.00
Donations - Churches	7,000.00	22,695.00	5,100.00	5,000.00
UTO	12,000.00	8,619.00	9,770.00	9,000.00
Other Income	800.00	995.00	1,000.00	1,000.00
TOTAL INCOME	552,936.00	555,154.00	554,870.00	560,766.26
EXPENSES				
Annuity	2,400.00	83,217.00	2,400.00	2,871.00
Property Maintenance	1,000.00	0.00	0.00	1,000.00
Property Tax	7,500.00	11,334.00	8,500.00	8,500.00
Computer Maint & Equip	13,500.00	14,589.00	13,500.00	13,500.00
Office Maint & Equip	1,500.00	0.00	1,500.00	1,500.00
Office Rent	12,780.00	12,780.00	12,780.00	12,780.00
Supplies	1,000.00	875.00	1,000.00	1,000.00
Postage	750.00	866.00	750.00	1,000.00
UTO	200.00	0.00	200.00	0.00
Insurance Bond/D&O	100.00	250.00	200.00	1,700.00
Legal & Accounting	8,000.00	8,307.00	8,185.00	8,300.00
Bookkeeping	3,500.00	1,539.00	1,200.00	2,000.00
Promotion	3,000.00	323.00	3,000.00	3,000.00
Staff Training	1,500.00	51.00	1,500.00	1,000.00
Trustee Expense	500.00	57.00	500.00	500.00
Travel Expense	4,000.00	3,461.00	4,000.00	4,000.00
Christmas Bonuses	1,200.00	1,200.00	1,200.00	1,585.00
BMAT Salary Support	6,720.00	6,720.00	6,720.00	7,800.00
Director Salary	30,790.00	33,900.00	32,000.00	18,800.00
Director Housing	15,000.00	15,000.00	15,000.00	28,200.00
Director Insurance	7,100.00	7,441.00	7,980.00	8,000.00
Director Retirement	3,174.00	4,499.00	3,300.00	2,820.00
Director Longevity	2,100.00	2,100.00	2,200.00	0.00
Office Staff	19,000.00	17,236.00	25,000.00	31,000.00
Telephone Reimbursement	780.00	836.00	1,200.00	1,680.00
Payroll Taxes	6,000.00	6,778.00	6,540.00	6,000.00
Interest Expense	294,500.00	295,740.00	293,282.47	306,731.00
Miscellaneous Expense	650.00	832.00	650.00	650.00
TOTAL EXPENSES	448,244.00	529,931.00	454,287.47	475,917.00



BAPTIST MISSIONARY LOAN ASSOCIATION 2020-2021 Recommendations

1. That the 2021 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 we give a rising vote of appreciation to Bro. Jerry Burnaman for his 22 years of service as business manager of BMLA
6. That Jerry Fulton stand as nominee as director of the Baptist Missionary Loan Association
7. That amendments be made to the Constitution and By-Laws of Baptist Missionary Loan Association as follows: (See p. 15)



TBHC 2020-2021 Recommendations

1. That we pray for the legacy of TBHC, and the legacy of all those who have invested in this ministry, to continue for another 111 years
2. That we celebrate the work of caring for children (This past year TBHC cared for 251 individual children, 20 children found forever homes by being adopted, and four children found an eternal father in heaven by accepting Christ into their lives!)
3. That we, the churches of the BMA of Texas, commit to giving \$560,000 in the coming year to care for children as part of TBHC's budget of \$3,615,090
4. That we thank the churches of the BMA of Texas for their continued generosity and the SBTC for their support through the cooperative program (TBHC's continued ministry and great expectations for the future greatly depend on these ministries.)
5. That Jason Curry and the administration of TBHC be shown appreciation for their leadership and service during challenging times.

Please see proposed constitutional change on page 15 & 20.

	2019-2020 BUDGET	2019-2020 ACTUAL	2020-2021 PROPOSED
INCOME			
Church Donations	560,000	577,243	560,000
Individual & Business Donations	595,340	489,245	405,690
Reimbursement for Services	2,931,590	2,361,753	2,377,900
Endowment Interest	207,280	205,797	207,900
Interest (Other)	4,800	6,559	5,100
Oil & Gas Royalties	32,200	40,241	27,300
Rent	33,100	34,886	31,200
TOTAL INCOME	4,364,310	3,715,724	3,615,090
EXPENSES			
Accounting	23,500	26,064	25,890
Auto (Gas & Maintenance)	12,540	6,910	10,020
Cash & Gifts to Children	18,000	9,646	14,100
Children's Activity	3,000	1,088	3,000
Clothing	38,940	31,041	33,380
Computer	69,900	83,201	84,060
Contract Labor	43,200	50,988	37,470
Dues & Fees	54,000	30,617	38,820
Food	3,000	203	2,400
Foster Home	1,533,800	1,224,955	1,230,290
Furnishings	20,400	2,827	9,000
Household	3,600	3,189	6,300
Insurance (Group)	257,400	202,229	191,890
Insurance (General)	121,000	137,234	149,670
Legal	22,900	15,540	9,900
Medical & Dental	600	434	630
Medicine	900	80	660
Miscellaneous	16,800	12,133	12,660
Office Supplies	25,600	15,929	22,000
Postage	9,000	6,675	8,280
Printing	23,800	24,345	25,200
Public & Church Relations	30,120	53,714	22,200
Property Repairs	60,300	53,298	63,000
Rental Property Exp.	72,900	56,807	70,000
Resource Development	3,000	4,632	2,400
Retirement	52,910	48,248	51,830
Psychological Services	36,600	36,400	37,320
Longevity	300	300	400
Salaries	1,461,850	1,340,666	1,162,050
School	1,200	-	1,200
Staff Training	33,900	13,772	21,000
Taxes (Property)	600	174	840
Taxes (Payroll)	111,830	102,562	88,870
T. E. C.	3,600	-	23,500
Travel	109,920	75,725	73,560
Utilities	82,800	73,568	80,700
College, Ind. Living, & Vocational	600	-	600
TOTAL EXPENSES	4,364,310	3,745,194	3,615,090

BAPTIST PROGRESS

INCOME	2019-2020 BUDGET	2019-2020 ACTUAL	2020-2021 PROPOSED
Donations	33,982.38	22,109.00	31,430.00
Subscriptions	77,000.00	73,038.00	73,500.00
Advertising	2,500.00	4,826.00	5,000.00
United Thanksgiving Offering	10,000.00	10,951.30	11,000.00
Baptist Progress Anniversary Offering	10,000.00	10,356.00	10,500.00
Interest Income	200.00	823.00	825.00
Auxiliary Page	900.00	900.00	900.00
Every Sunday Bulletin Service	11,000.00	11,843.00	11,845.00
Trust Fund Distribution	500.00	0.00	0.00
Other Sales & Services	250.00	0.00	0.00
Miscellaneous	0.00	17,688.00	0.00
TOTAL INCOME	146,332.38	152,534.30	145,000.00
EXPENSES			
Employee Compensation:			
Editor's Salary	17,135.00	17,125.00	14,000.00
Editor's Housing	25,000.00	25,000.00	21,000.00
Editor's Retirement	2,528.10	2,528.10	2,100.00
Editor's Longevity	1,500.00	1,500.00	1,600.00
Editor's Health Insurance	13,200.00	13,200.00	8,000.00
Editor's Christmas Bonus	810.28	810.28	673.00
Office Staff Compensation	7,000.00	6,720.00	7,800.00
Office Staff Christmas Bonus(es)	300.00	100.00	0.00
Graphic Artist Compensation	6,000.00	5,400.00	6,000.00
Graphic Artist Christmas Bonus	0.00	0.00	500.00
Payroll Taxes	5,000.00	4,830.62	3,500.00
Payroll Expenses	100.00	0.00	0.00
General Expenses:			
Professional Fees	6,000.00	6,000.00	6,000.00
Digital Communication/Printing	3,000.00	1,638.13	2,000.00
Computer Maintenance/Contracts	2,000.00	54.11	2,500.00
Equipment/Furnishings	2,000.00	0.00	2,000.00
Every Sunday Bulletin Service	9,600.00	9,830.45	10,000.00
Gratuity for Writers	1,000.00	950.00	2,500.00
Miscellaneous	1,000.00	2,969.11	3,383.00
Office Postage	2,000.00	1,528.60	2,000.00
Office Utilities & Expenses	9,444.00	9,444.00	9,444.00
Office Supplies	1,000.00	391.61	1,000.00
Editor's Cell Phone	1,215.00	1,021.74	500.00
Travel	1,000.00	694.52	3,000.00
Trustee Expense	500.00	317.07	500.00
Expenses for Printing & Mailing:			
USPS (Postage)	13,000.00	12,227.66	13,500.00
Texoma Printing	15,000.00	14,744.00	15,500.00
Expenses for Workshops & Resources:			
Ministry Connection Workshops	0.00	0.00	3,000.00
Ministry Resources	0.00	0.00	3,000.00
TOTAL EXPENSES	146,332.38	139,025.00	145,000.00

Baptist Progress

BAPTIST PROGRESS 2020-2021 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 \$10,000
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, or the *Baptist Progress* website, www.baptistprogress.org
8. That the proposed budget for the 2020-2021 associational year be approved
9. That Jerry Fulton stand as a nominee for editor of *Baptist Progress*
10. That amendments be made to the Constitution and By-Laws of *Baptist Progress* as follows: (See p. 8).

Proposed Amendments to Baptist Progress Constitution and By-Laws

ARTICLE II—PURPOSE

Section 1. The purpose of the *Baptist Progress* shall be to promote interest in missions, evangelism, benevolence and Christian education among the churches of the Baptist Missionary Association of Texas. **The *Baptist Progress* shall also offer workshops, training opportunities and other resources to pastors, church staff and churches.**

ARTICLE IV—OFFICERS AND THEIR DUTIES

Section 1. The officers of the *Baptist Progress* shall be:
 (1) A Board of Trustees consisting of thirteen (13) members;
 (2) editor and business manager **Director/Editor** (one office).
Section 3. The Editor and Business Manager **Director/Editor** shall be elected annually by the messenger body upon the recommendation of the Board of Trustees. He shall have charge of this institution. He shall receive and disburse all funds, hire additional help as needed, and transact any other business necessary to the proper carrying on of this institution, subject to the approval of the churches in annual session. If at any time the Editor **Director/Editor** shall become unable to perform his editorial and management duties, the trustees shall appoint a qualified individual to serve as interim editor **Director/Editor**, until the editor **Director/Editor** is able to resume his regular services, or until the trustees have recommended a replacement for this position in the event such becomes necessary.

Note: The changes to Article IV will bring in line the title of the of the editor of *Baptist Progress* with the title of other department leaders and with the approval of the proposed amendment to Article II, better describe his role in carrying out the responsibilities for which he is elected, with approval of the for which he is elected.

* Proposed wording changes are highlighted.

NOMINATING COMMITTEE

2020-2021 Recommendations

TBHC

2024
Ron Coe (2018)
Randy Johnson (2016)
Leon Ross (2016)
Johnny Williams (2016)

2023
 Jimmy Preuninger (2019)
 Julie George (2019)
 David Erickson (2015)

2022
Barry Calhoun (2018)
Russ Jackson (2018)
 Matt Walker (2018)

2021
Cody Craig (2020)
Charlotte Johnson (2020)
 Wendy Byers (2019)
 Kristen Morgan (2018) SBTC
 Dustin Guidry (2017) SBTC

BAPTIST MISSIONARY LOAN ASSOCIATION

2024
Phil Knott (2020)
Christa Williams (2020)
Mike Chism (2016)
Danny Vaughn (2016)

2023
 Tom Mayes (2018)
 Charles Turner (2018)
 Rex Coulter (2015)

2022
 Larry Elliott (2018)
 Gene Wilkerson (2016)
 Richard Murray (2014)

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

BMA TEXAS MISSIONS

2024
David Cook (2020)
Jason Collins (2017)
Buddy Sadler (2017)
Grady Cashion (2015)

2023
Robert Forrest (2020)
Rickey Williams (2020)
 Nick Kerry (2019)

2022

Joe Caudle (2020)
 Luis Ortega, Sr. (2019)
 Brett Lester (2014)

2021

Chris Sweet (2019)
 Andy Slater (2018)
 Ricky Robinson (2017)

BAPTIST PROGRESS

2024
Phil Berry (2020)
Wayne McKay (2020)
Robert Easterling (2016)

2023
 Neil Dumas (2019)
 Michael Anthony (2015)
 James Dorman (2015)

2022
 Eddie Ballard (2018)
 Roy Brashear (2018)
 Mike McEuen (2018)
 Kerry Moore (2018)

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

JACKSONVILLE COLLEGE

2024
Robert Fannett (2020) At Large
Shelby Race (2020)
Wes Pratt (2020)

2023
 Sherry Bryant (2019)
 Charles Johnson (2019)
 David Parish (2019) SBTC
 Donny Page (2017) SBTC
 Dwayne Orr (2015)

2022
 Robbie Caldwell (2019)
 Carol Lybrand (2014)
 Mark Moore (2014) SBTC

2021
 Raif Turner (2018)
 Debbie Berry (2017)
 Ray Thompson (2017)
 Joe Ed Anderson (2013) SBTC

BOLD indicates newly elected/renominated in 2020
Dates in parentheses indicates year first elected

The Gift That Gives Back

It's a Charitable Gift Annuity offered by the BMA Foundation.

Receive

- Income for life (partially tax free)
- A federal income tax deduction the year of the gift
- God's work benefits at the time of your death

Current Rates (3-2020)

Age	Rate
65	4.7%
75	5.8%
85	8.0%

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



THE COMMUNIQUE

ANNUAL REPORTS FROM BMA OF TEXAS DEPARTMENT DIRECTORS



BMA Texas Missions

STRONGER TOGETHER



Heith Mitchell, BMA Texas Missions Director

P.O. Box 73
Waxahachie, TX 75168
972-923-0757
hmitchell@bmatexas.org



"MISSIONARY" BAPTIST

I am glad to be a "Missionary" Baptist within the Baptist Missionary Association of Texas Family. We are a mission focused network with common Baptist Doctrine. I am glad to be in a family that lives up to its family name. Your missionaries are glad to be in this Missionary Baptist family. Because we are about God's mission, to go and make disciples, we are seeing God's favor. We are a growing family. We are a family that is quickly becoming a movement of God.

LET'S REFLECT

In 2016, we set out with a church planting strategy that would provide missionaries with funding, equipping, coaching and encouragement for up to five years as they worked to live out their calling to engage and disciple people in Texas who didn't know Jesus. Excitedly, the first two of those churches will complete that five-year cycle in June of this year.

That year, we began to ask God for 16 new churches to get underway. We spent the next two years challenging you with this goal. In 2018, God answered this prayer as we blew past that goal!



Last year we began to ask you to join us in praying and working towards a new goal:

- That we see an aggressive multiplication movement of churches who make disciples, equip and release leaders and start churches for the glory of God and the advancement of his Kingdom mission
- That each new mission begins with a plan to begin three new churches in their first 10 years
- That pastors and churches of the association be encouraged and equipped to start new churches
- That we connect, evaluate, identify and train new prospective church planters

Many of you have joined us in prayer and have joined in to walk with God in carrying out His mission in Texas among this generation. We have seen God bless with the explosive growth of salvation, effective discipleship and mission projects that are already starting new churches. We like to call this "multiplication."



RIGHT NOW

You are supporting 30 distinct church plants around the state. Each of these reflect a unique burden and call to share Jesus and make disciples among an unreached group of people in the growing state of Texas. Millions and millions in our state need Jesus right now. Your mission churches reflect the diversity of this state. Disciples are being made in small towns and big cities, among the ethnic majority and ethnic minorities. Disciples are being made in English, Spanish, Arabic and among African and Indian immigrants.

Each of these missions have a burden to share Jesus, make disciples, equip and release leaders and start new churches. Again, we call this "multiplication" and your missionaries share a heart for multiplication. There is a crop of 30 new BMA churches under way and they truly are "Missionary" Baptist!

BMA Texas Missions
PAGE 9, 10 & 12

Baptist Progress
PAGE 10

Baptist Missionary
Loan Association
PAGE 11

TBHC
PAGE 11

Jacksonville College
PAGE 12

Baptist Progress



Jerry Fulton, Editor/Business Manager

P.O. Box 2085
Waxahachie, TX 75168
972-923-0756
editor@baptistprogress.org

Baptist Progress

A WONDERFUL YEAR

In spite of COVID-19, and perhaps because of COVID-19, *Baptist Progress* had a wonderful financial year. Our trustees voted to take advantage of the Payment Protection Program Loans authorized by the federal government for businesses and ministries during the pandemic. We will not have to repay this loan.

Our good financial year was also due in part to a church that closed her doors but had the forethought to pay it forward by donating her property to the departments of the BMA of Texas. For these things, we are most grateful to the dear church who donated her property and to the Lord for providing the needs of our ministry.

We thank our Lord for all the churches who continue to partner with us in promoting interest in evangelism, benevolence and Christian education among the churches of the Baptist Missionary Association of Texas.

CIRCULATION

Circulation for *Baptist Progress* stands at approximately 3,500 subscriptions. We have 156 BMA of Texas churches who are members of our Church Plan. Each church on the Church Plan pays for the subscriptions to *Baptist Progress* of each member household in their congregation at a reduced rate.

For only \$1.75 per month (\$21 per year), per mail subscription, or \$1.25 per month (\$15 per year) per email subscription, churches can provide each of its member households with 12 issues of *Baptist Progress* for one year.

Individual mail subscriptions are \$24 per year and individual email subscriptions are \$18 per year.

A MINISTRY

Baptist Progress is a ministry that provides members of BMA of Texas churches and other subscribers with news of what God is doing through BMA Texas Missions, Jacksonville College, the Texas Baptist Home for Children, the Baptist Missionary Loan Association and as well as what He is doing in churches across the state. Please keep this in mind as you support us or consider supporting us financially and prayerfully.

EMAIL SUBSCRIPTIONS

In addition to publishing an issue every third Wednesday, *Baptist Progress* provides email subscribers with *e-News Updates* containing news and information on most weeks the paper is not published. News alerts, death announcements, important reminders and more are also emailed on a regular basis.

Those who subscribe to *Baptist Progress* by mail are encouraged to switch to an email subscription to take advantage of the extra news provided to email subscribers. Another advantage of having an email subscription is that you will receive news faster.

EVERY SUNDAY BULLETIN SERVICE

We have a large selection of bulletins in different sizes, styles and quantities that you can order through our website, www.baptistprogress.org. Bulletins are delivered to your door each quarter—enough bulletins for each Sunday of the quarter.

BOOKS, BIBLES, GIFTS AND SUPPLIES

Whenever you need Christian books, Bibles, gifts, music, supplies, postcards and more, visit baptistprogress.org.

org and click the large Christianbook.com banner on our homepage and place your order. You may also order by visiting www.bmatexas.org and clicking the flashing Christianbook link on the right side of that website's homepage. Christianbook shares a percentage of their profit with *Baptist Progress*. The only way we will be credited is if you order through one of our websites. You will be hard-pressed to find better deals than those offered by Christianbook anywhere.

MINISTRY CONNECTION WORKSHOPS TO RETURN

As we did a few years ago, we have made the decision to once more offer Ministry Connection Workshops this year. Workshops are being planned for 2021 that will benefit pastors, church staff and church members. Stay tuned for details.

SPECIAL REQUEST TO CHURCHES

Because we want to provide Ministry Connection Workshops for our churches, pastors and church staff, and possibly other resources in the future, we are asking that at least 25 churches add \$25 per month to your budget for *Baptist Progress*. This will enable us to cover the costs of the workshops and perhaps add more resources in the future. Would your church be one of at least 25 churches who adds \$25 per month to your budget (in addition to your Church Plan) for *Baptist Progress*? We will give all churches who give *Baptist Progress* at least \$25 per month (in addition to Church Plans) a 10 percent discount on all advertising. If you will be one of the at least 25 churches, please contact *Baptist Progress* to let us know by emailing editor@baptistprogress.org.

God bless you, and let's have another wonderful year!

BMA Texas Missions cont.

This missionary family are Missionary Baptist with conviction. They are producing new BMA leaders, they are recruiting and producing new BMA planters and they are encouraging outside churches to consider joining the BMA! It's an exciting time to be a part of

the BMA of Texas Family because God is blessing, our family is growing and the Kingdom is advancing! Yay God!

Remember, though, that we journey through trials and we have an adversary. We also don't take God's

blessings or grace for granted. We continue to plead for your prayers.

BMA TX MISSIONS continued on Pg. 12



Jason Curry, President

P.O. Box 309
Waxahachie, TX 75168
972-937-1321
jcurry@tbhc.org

GRATEFUL TO THE BMA OF TEXAS

TBHC is so grateful to the BMA of Texas for always supporting your ministry no matter what we face. It has been challenging the last few months, to say the least. I would ask that each individual and church continue to support the ministry as we work to care for children together. TBHC continues to set safety guidelines for our children, provide resources to our families and establish processes for protecting our staff. Each new challenge brings new plans to create better long-term solutions.

The challenges we have faced this year are numerous, yet can be summed up two-fold. The number of our children in care continues to decline. This is not because there are no children in need of care. It is due to the lack of Christian families saying “yes” to God’s ministry. In addition, COVID-19 is another major struggle of the year and has drastically impacted giving. We have significantly rearranged our budget in a large sacrificial way for the coming year. This has

been to ensure the continued care of our children is never interrupted but has unfortunately impacted our staff. We care about each person that works for TBHC and their future, so we ask for your prayers for every staff member during these uncertain times.

Even with these adjustments, TBHC is in need. Glorifying God by caring for children is our purpose, and without resources that purpose becomes more difficult to achieve. We are experiencing, along with every other ministry, a significant reduction in giving. I believe this ministry is near to God’s heart and I know it is near to His peoples’ heart. So, we trust that God will provide through His people. Understands it’s not just about TBHC’s present it’s about TBHC’s future.

In addition, this summer TBHC has experienced positive cases of COVID-19 among some of the children in care. What that could mean for a child is isolation for the next few weeks, no physical contact, with perhaps no symptoms at all, yet still from his perception is seen as someone that is feared instead of



cherished. For him, he is not dealing with the craziness of the world or even COVID-19. He is still hearing his own inner voice accusing him of being responsible for the mess his parents have created for him. Some of us are stuck at home hoping all this will end. But he is with strangers, loving yes, providing yes, but strangers none the less, and all he wants is to go home. Pray for all our boys and girls. Each so desperately needs to know Jesus so they can discover where their true home is. Matthew 6:21 says “For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.” Let me ask you: where is your treasure? I hope for all of us that it is all being “sent” to Heaven.

The commitment of the BMA of Texas is lifelong and life-giving. Thank you to all the churches who continued to give without interruption. I hope you don’t hear our need and simply have pity for our children. I hope you have compassion and see how you can take action. May God bless His ministry and your efforts for His children as He continues to bring kids home.

Baptist Missionary Loan Association

P.O. Box 73
Waxahachie, TX 75168
972-923-0758



THANK YOU BRO. JERRY BURNAMAN

The Baptist Missionary Loan Association Board of Trustees and staff are saddened at the sudden passing of our business manager, Bro. Jerry Burnaman. Bro. Burnaman served as the business manager of the Baptist Missionary Loan Association for 22 years before the Lord called him home. Under his leadership, the Baptist Missionary Loan Association assets more than doubled. We will miss him, are grateful for his ministry, and ask that you be in prayer for his family.

We are thankful for the opportunity to serve the churches of the BMA of Texas, and offer financial

assistance to growing churches. Our purpose becomes a reality when we make a loan. We assist churches with financial needs to build buildings, remodel or add to existing buildings, and purchase property. At the end of August, we have 278 investors, and our total assets are \$16 million, up \$1.5 million from last year. We now provide loans for 18 projects, and have sufficient money available to help other growing churches.

If your church plans to build, remodel or purchase property, it would be a joy to talk with you about a loan. There are three ways to financially support the Baptist Missionary Loan Association:

Any church or individual simply can make a contribution.

Any individual or church may make an interest free deposit. Interest deposits compound quarterly. As of Sept. 1, 2020, we continue to pay 2 percent on share accounts and 2.5 percent on Investment Certificates. Note: Rates may change during the year depending on the financial climate.

Your financial support and prayers are essential for the Baptist Missionary Loan Association to have a part in assisting the Baptist Missionary Association of Texas to plant churches and provide funds for growing churches.

Jacksonville College



Dr. Mike Smith, President

105 B.J. Albritton Drive

Jacksonville, TX 75766

903-586-2518

msmith@jacksonville-college.edu

WHAT A YEAR

My grandfather's Farmer's Almanac was always on the table beside his chair. He planted according to the signs of nature. He would not plant a garden, or work cattle, unless the signs were right. (He was the Methodist side of the family.) Out of boredom, I would now and then read the Farmer's Almanac. I remember it had some interesting quotes. To the author or validity of these quotes I have no knowledge. Here are some regarding March:

A dry March and a wet May? Fill barns and bays with corn and hay.

As it rains in March, so it rains in June.

March winds and April showers? Bring forth May flowers.

If March comes in like a lion, it will go out like a lamb.

The Year 2020 certainly fits that description. The first part of 2020 was very peaceful and normal in relative terms. We said goodbye to our students as they left our campus for a week of Spring Break, the last of March.

Little did they nor I know they would not return to the classroom for six months? COVID-19 changed the world. I was in the dark for I had never heard of COVID-19. In fact, I had never heard of COVID 1-18 much less COVID-19. Now, I have heard much more than I desire. I wish I knew the truth. Soon afterwards, we formed a COVID-19 task force committee. We have since met and prayed, following our government official's mandates and suggestions.

We finished the spring semester online. Due to the excellent staff at Jacksonville College, all was prepared, and the transition was relatively smooth. We have started the Fall Semester back on campus. Several colleges have elected not to return and go completely online. We have taken all the safety precautions of masks, sanitizer gel, social distancing, and temperature checks. Our students have returned to campus and the classroom. As of date we have 542 enrolled. We have had some excellent chapels with 17 salvations in one.



We said goodbye to some longtime friends. Dr. Blanton Feaster, our vice president of executive affairs, was called to a position with Dallas Baptist University. Dr. David Heflin, Spanish teacher and other roles, and Linda Thomas, our librarian, both retired. We welcome new staff and are praying for others to fill their vacancies.

We thank you for your faithful support during these changing times. Our churches and donors have been faithful with prayers and financial support. Please continue your support and pray that Jacksonville College can finish the year healthy spiritually, physically and financially.

Be it a Lamb or a Lion we claim Philippians 4:13 KJV, "I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me."

Old Farmer's Almanac. (n.d.). The Month of March 2020: Holidays, Fun Facts, Folklore. Retrieved Sept. 3, 2020, from <https://www.almanac.com/content/month-march-holidays-fun-facts-folklore>

BMA Texas Missions cont.

LOOKING AHEAD

One hundred soul winning and discipling churches started together by 2029 is too big for us. It is God sized! I believe that God can do this and I'm convicted that He wants to. Think of the impact for Christ this would have on our state and in our BMA Family.

- Can you pray for this movement of God and each mission that makes it up?
- Can you give to the budget of Texas Missions which provides salaries and equipping resources to your missionaries?
- Can you adopt a mission project and provide encouragement and resources to them?
- Can you reach out to us for equipping and resourcing so that you and your church can be a part of this movement of disciples making disciples leading to new churches in Texas.

We can't rest in what God has done and is doing. We must sacrifice until Jesus' return marks the end of

our mission assignment. There is a church because there is a mission. We associate because there is a mission. We must sacrifice for the mission. The King is building his Kingdom.

Churches, we must be about his mission and with urgency as Missionary Baptist. Time is going to run out. We can't get distracted. We must expect hardship.

"You therefore must endure hardship as a good soldier of Jesus Christ. No one engaged in warfare entangles himself with the affairs of [this] life, that he may please him who enlisted him as a soldier" (2 Timothy 2:3-4).



ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEE

ASSOCIATION EXPENSE FUND

INCOME	2019-2020 BUDGET	2019-2020 ACTUAL	2020-2021 PROPOSED
Rent	34,560.00	34,560.00	34,560.00
Telephone Reimbursement	1,200.00	2,298.40	2,300.00
Postage Reimbursement	5,000.00	4,400.00	4,500.00
Salary Support	23,470.00	25,081.14	31,200.00
Miscellaneous Income	350.00	827.31	350.00
Designated Income	0.00	0.00	0.00
Copies Coverage Reimbursement	120.00	1,550.13	1,000.00
TOTAL INCOME	64,700.00	68,716.98	73,910.00
EXPENSES			
BUILDING REPAIRS	1,000.00	1,099.00	2,000.00
Yard Maintenance	3,720.00	3,751.64	3,750.00
Audit	1,000.00	1,000.00	1,000.00
Bank Charges	150.00	731.50	300.00
Postage	5,440.00	5,650.00	5,440.00
Postage Meter	2,620.00	1,885.60	1,400.00
Copier Lease/Maintenance	4,500.00	4,275.15	4,300.00
Security	700.00	695.40	700.00
Janitorial	4,300.00	4,232.39	4,300.00
Electricity	4,000.00	3,850.00	4,000.00
Natural Gas	1,050.00	1,323.20	1,050.00
Telephone/Fax/ Internet	4,500.00	5,302.31	5,300.00
Water	1,000.00	1,879.74	1,000.00
Trash Pickup	550.00	560.56	560.00
Wages	23,470.00	25,053.18	31,200.00
FICA	2,350.00	2,500.00	3,000.00
Supplies	4,200.00	5,000.00	4,400.00
Miscellaneous Expenses	150.00	118.54	150.00
TOTAL EXPENSES	64,700.00	68,908.21	73,850.00



ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEE

2020-2021 Recommendations

1. That the Association Expense Fund proposed budget be approved
2. That Philip Waddell stand a nominee to serve on the BMA of Texas Nominating Committee with term ending in 2023
3. That the 121st Annual Session of the BMA of Texas be held at New Harmony Baptist Church in Tyler, Texas Nov. 1-2, 2021
4. That amendments be made to the constitution and by-laws of the BMA of Texas as follows:

Proposed Amendment to the BMA of Texas Constitution and By-Laws

ARTICLE IX—BOARDS AND COMMITTEES

Section 3. ~~Administrative Committee~~ **The Coordinating Committee**

A. A standing committee composed of the president, first vice-president, and second vice president of the Baptist Missionary Association of Texas, nine members elected from the floor, the director of each department, and one trustee from each department shall serve as ~~an Administrative~~ **a Coordinating Committee**. ~~Administrative~~ **Coordinating Committee** members elected from the floor may not be a member of any other standing committee

Note: Changing the name from Administrative Committee to Coordinating Committee will better describe the role of the committee as the committee has no administrative authority, but serves rather to ensure a coordinated effort among the departments and churches of the BMA of Texas.

* Proposed wording changes are highlighted.

RECOMMENDED DEPARTMENT DIRECTORS SALARIES AND BENEFITS

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

Baptist Progress	\$35,000.00
BMA Texas Missions	\$79,007.91
BMLA	\$47,000.00
Jacksonville College	\$94,000.00
Texas Baptist Home	\$72,720.00

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).

BMA TEXAS

MISSIONS

Your Church's Mission Movement in Texas



A word from your missions office

By HEITH MITCHELL

I can't wait to see you at the BMA of Texas Meeting November 5! I love it when our BMA of Texas family gets together.

A word from your missionaries

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

We at Anchor, Austin thank you for praying for us and supporting us as we go into the holiday season. Pray for us to have more opportunities to be more effective in spreading the gospel in this part of the state of Texas. Our vision is to be a multi-ethnic congregation of believers anchored and maturing in Christ with discipleship as our heartbeat.



▲ Chris Mindi



▲ Jesse Hales

PRAYER NEEDS:

Continue to pray for Anchor, Austin, especially for those we are already ministering to, that they would mature in their faith. Pray also for our ongoing outreach ministry specifically to unbelievers.

KINGSLEY NDUKA—LIGHT HOUSE MISSION IN HOUSTON
KINGEDU700@GMAIL.COM

Let's give God praise for his faithfulness over us this season.

PRAYER NEEDS:

Please pray for a meeting location for us to be able to gather groups together in one place.



▲ Kingsley Nduka

CESAR CANTU—CARPENTER'S HOUSE CHURCH IN OYSTER CREEK
CESARHCANTU42@GMAIL.COM

It is for freedom that Christ has set us free. Stand firm, then, and do not let yourselves be burdened again by a yoke of slavery.

Do not let it be all about following rules. We cannot take the stance that I have gotten my life together and I am making good choices and in doing so see the errors of others are magnified.



▲ Cesar Cantu

PRAYER NEEDS:

Our prayer is that God would make us better disciples so that we can make more disciples.

JAIME HENRIQUEZ—
FUENTE DE VIDA ETERNA MISSION, HOUSTON

Dear brothers and sisters of the great family of the BMA of Texas, receive greetings from our mission in northwest Houston. It is a pleasure to share with you what the Lord is doing in our mission as we continue to work in his Kingdom. This past month, we had a special event for friends and families to share the gospel with them. We had a good attendance and had the opportunity to share the gospel with them. God continues to work in every family and transform lives.



▲ Jaime Henriquez

PRAYER NEEDS:

Pray that God will provide our own building for the services for our mission.

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

We must dedicate our days to God (Psalm 52:8). After the pandemic was announced, the decisions in different parts of the world began to emerge. One of them was the temporary closure of the worship centers, sites of religious meetings with more than 20 participants. For this reason, each organization took its measures and began to meet in smaller groups, due to the closure of the physical structures. But, it is not an impediment to locate a house of God. My dear reader, you are a house of God! In it, you, together with your family, can worship God. You can worship Him, no matter the location. The most important thing is to humbly desire to be an instrument in the hands of the Lord. Take advantage of this day to do it! May your house today and in future be a house of praise to God so that you can enjoy even more the presence of God.



▲ Neptaly Molina

PRAYER NEEDS:

Pray for the Molina Perdomo pastoral Family. Pray for a family we are burdened to reach and a home we pray God restores. I have the opportunity to distribute meals to low-income Hispanic families and attract them to the church. There is a pastor who wants to help me with those groceries for people in need. Pray for this ministry. Pray

for evangelistic activities to attract new people to Iglesia Bautista Nuevo Renacer.

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

Our church is continuing to look for ways to reach out into our community. Although COVID-19 is still slowing things down somewhat, I am firmly convinced that God will answer our prayers as we seek open doors in our community. I know that our folks can attest to the power of prayer. We cannot let fear keep us from taking the Gospel to those around us.



▲ Robert Lee

PRAYER NEEDS:

Pray for opportunities to reach our community, and especially for us to have opportunities to show the love of Christ to our local school.

ISAIAS ROJAS OSECHAS—CHURCH PLANT IN SPRING
ISAIAS.ROJAS299@GMAIL.COM

Pray for us as we seek to plant 10 new churches with our 12 family groups. I would like to acknowledge and thank Arnulfo Maldonado, BMA Texas Missions Hispanic coordinator, and my coach, Elvis Garcia for their support.



▲ Isaias Rojas Osechas

WESLEY BURKE—REDEMPTION BAPTIST MISSION, NACOGDOCHES
WESLEYDAVIDBURKE@GMAIL.COM

And after some days Paul said to Barnabas said, "Let us return and visit the brothers in every city where we proclaimed the word of the Lord, and see how they are" (Acts 15:36).

We will do well to remember as we approach the Annual Meeting of the BMA of Texas and missions of various urgency parade in front of us, that our chief example of mission work is Scripture and that Paul and Barnabas had in their mission to simply, "see how they are." Pastor, do you have other churches and brothers that you regularly speak this way about? Congregant, do you have other members of the body of Christ that this simply yet deep connection has been formed with? If not, find someone and obey the Spirit in these matters. Our unity depends on it, and



▲ Wesley Burke

BMA TEXAS MISSIONS continued on p. 12

Proposed Amendments to TBHC Constitution and By-Laws

Article I – Name and Location

Section 1. The name of this Corporation shall be Texas Baptist Home for Children.

AKA: TBHC.

Section 2. This Corporation shall be located in the city of Waxahachie, in the county of Ellis, state of Texas, and in any other such place or places in the state of Texas which may be determined by the Board of Trustees of this Corporation, subject to the approval of the Baptist Missionary Association of Texas. This does not prohibit the licensing of individual foster homes or **adoptive homes** in areas of the state, as directed by the Trustees.

Article II – Purpose

Purpose Statement: To Glorify God by Caring for Children.

Mission Statement: This ministry exists to protect the sanctity of human life and preserve the family. This is demonstrated by meeting the holistic needs and providing specialized services to every family member served.

All services are a ministry of TBHC and supporting partners.

This ministry exists to protect the sanctity of human life, and to promote the preservation of the family. This purpose manifests itself in preventive, rehabilitative, and specialized services to children, youth, adults, and families. The aim of these programs is to enable this ministry, local churches, and the community to meet more effectively the physical, mental, emotional, and spiritual needs of individuals and families.

Article III – Ownership and Funds

Section 1. This Corporation shall be ~~owned~~, controlled and maintained by the Board of Trustees. Trustees are elected by churches composing the Baptist Missionary Association of Texas, which was organized A.D. 1900. **If TBHC should dissolve, all assets shall be conferred to the Baptist Missionary Association of Texas.**

Section 4. All funds for the maintenance of the Corporation, to make improvements thereon or to make addition, thereto, shall be raised by (1) voluntary contributions, gifts and bequests; (2) interest on invested funds; (3) ~~income from farm or farms;~~ (4) such profits as accrue from any and all industries which may be established; and (5) **(4)** such other sources or revenue as may be found to add to the income of the ~~Home~~ **TBHC** for any and all purposes.

Article IV – Officers

Section 1. The affairs of this Corporation shall be managed by a Board of ~~thirteen~~ **fifteen** Trustees, which said Board of Trustees shall be elected by the Baptist Missionary Association of Texas during the Annual Session and shall serve a term of ~~two~~ four years. ~~Seven shall be elected during one session and six during the next.~~ Trustees will be elected as determined and in accordance to the terms set by this article and as vacancies are available. In the absence of a Trustee the Board may choose to elect a one-year term Trustee to fill said vacancies until the next Annual Meeting of the Baptist Missionary Association of Texas.

PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO TBHC continued on p. 20

2020 Leadership Conference: *Waking Up in a New World*



Each year, in conjunction with the Annual Meeting of the BMA of Texas, BMA Texas Missions hosts a Leadership Conference for pastors, church staff and any interested church member. This year, the topic of the Leadership Conference will be *Waking Up in a New World*.

The speaker for the 2020 Leadership Conference will be Mitch Friedman. For almost 20 years, Mitch has been assisting the BMA state and national movements in church planting and leadership multiplication efforts. Mitch's ministry passion springs from a desire to see each member of each local body deployed in Kingdom service, and His greatest joy is watching new leaders emerge from our churches, eagerly embracing their role as agents of Gospel transformation.

Mitch said, "Effective Gospel ministry and multiplication requires the courageous servant leader to be AWAKE—Awake to his own heart and motives, awake to the needs of his local body and awake to the many opportunities for Gospel expression in his community. Pastors, embedded in the many challenges of 2020 is a gracious, God-given wakeup call. How will we respond to our moment in history?"

Please attend the 2020 Leadership Conference at Farley Street, Waxahachie at 12 p.m. Nov. 5.

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Proposed Amendments to the Constitution and By-Laws of The Baptist Missionary Loan Association

ARTICLE III – OWNERSHIP AND PROFITS

Section 4. Necessary funds are used to provide for a ~~Business Manager~~ **Director** on a full time or part time basis, and other office staff as deemed **necessary** by the ~~Business Manager~~ **Director**, to care for the daily business operation of the corporation. Funds are also provided to care for all expenses of the office and promotion of The Baptist Missionary Loan Association of Texas as directed by the Board of Trustees.

ARTICLE V–MEETINGS OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Section 4. The records and Minutes of the meetings of the Board of Trustees are kept and maintained by the ~~Business Manager~~ **Director** and/or Secretary of the Corporation: **an office staff member appointed by the Director.**

ARTICLE VI– OFFICERS

Section 1. The officers are elected by the Board of Trustees, and consist of ~~Business Manager~~, **Director**, secretary and other officers at times considered necessary by the Trustees. **Section 2.** The Director is the chief administrator of the corporation and has the following responsibilities with the aid of the ~~corporation secretary~~ **office staff:**

1. Keep the records of all the business transactions of the corporation.
2. Keep the minutes of all meetings of the Board of Trustees.

Receive and disperse all funds of the corporation, subject to the approval of the Board of Trustees. With the approval of the Director or the Chairman or Vice Chairman, and ~~corporation secretary~~ **any office staff member or any Trustee** may be listed as a check co-signer on the corporation checking account.

Note: The proposed amendments above will bring in line the title of the of the Business Manager of the Baptist Missionary Loan Association with the title of other department leaders and will better describe his role in carrying out the responsibilities for which he is elected. It will also update outdated wording and staff titles.

* Proposed wording changes are highlighted.

SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSONS

Overcoming obstacles

By PAUL GAUNTT

DATE: November 1, 2020

TEXT: Acts 15:36-16:10

THE HOOK

Obstacles come in every category. Paul and the brethren were faced with strict Jews who not only rejected the gospel message, but threatened to do bodily harm. But another obstacle which, is no less hurtful to the cause of Christ, is conflict among the brethren. In fact, it's probably more hurtful. You would expect opposition and threats from the enemies of the gospel, but not from the brethren. This week's lesson gives us a vivid picture as to how God can take inner conflict and use it to His glory and to the further spread of the gospel.

THE BOOK

1. Plans to revisit the fields (verse 36). Paul and Barnabas cared

very deeply about how the gospel was being received where they had sowed seeds of the gospel. Nothing is more fulfilling to devoted servants of God, than to see those seeds to take root in the lives of the people.

2. Conflict in the plans (verses 37-39). The conflict was whether or not to permit John Mark to accompany Paul and Barnabas on this mission. Paul remembered how John Mark had abandoned them in Pamphylia to return to Jerusalem. Paul did not want to run the risk of him bailing on them again. Barnabas, on the other hand, had a family tie with John Mark, and was willing to give him another chance. Paul's Type A personality and Barnabas' Type B personality, added to the kinfolk factor (Barnabas and John Mark being cousins) and there is bound to be conflict. Contention was sharp between them (verse 39).

3. A blessing in disguise. The conflict resulted in two teams

spreading the gospel —Barnabas and John Mark and they sailed back to Cyprus, the first stop of the previous trip. Paul and Silas ministered throughout Syria and Cilicia. It was on this trip which led them to Derbe and Lystra where Paul was to become joined to young Timothy. Timothy joined the missionary group, but since his father was a gentile, Paul circumcised him since they would be preaching to Jews since they all knew of Timothy's family situation. They traveled throughout Phrygia and Galatia but the Holy Spirit forbid them to preach there—neither in Mysia or Bithynia, or Mysia or Troas. This was when they heard “The Macedonian Call.”

THE LOOK

God has a definite plan for His servants. He gives them wisdom and discernment to know what fields are ripe unto harvest, and which fields God withholds them from entering.

How to transform a city

By PAUL GAUNTT

DATE: November 8, 2020

TEXT: Acts 16:11-34

THE HOOK

Paul and his company sailed to a mountainous island in the northern Aegean. Then it was on to Neapolis in Macedonia for Paul's first visit in Europe. The Lord, Himself, had already prepared the mission field by opening hearts and making them receptive to the gospel. But it seems that whenever there is great evangelistic victory, Satan makes his move and creates havoc as we will observe in these verses.

THE BOOK

1. Lydia (verse 14). Lydia of Thyatira (in western Asia Minor) was a dealer in expensive purple cloth. She was a God-fearing gentile

and the Lord made her supernaturally receptive to Paul's message. She and all her house were saved and baptized. Afterward opening her home to the missionary party.

2. The slave girl (verse 16). A little slave girl, who possessed the demonic power of divination and ability to foretell the future, made her a real money-maker for her owners. She rightly revealed the identity of Paul, shouting that they were the “slaves” of the Most High God. She knew, through her demonic perception that they were proclaiming the way to salvation. So, Paul cast the spirit out of her, which resulted in the owners of the girl losing their income. Paul and Silas were beaten and cast into prison.

3. Jail (verse 25). What a revival service the two had in jail. They began singing. (God's servants are able to exude the joy of the Lord in adversity.) They sang praises—the earthquake shook the place,

causing the jail to be opened. A jailer was about to kill himself or face execution for permitting prisoners to escape. But Paul and Silas led the jailer to the Lord.

4. Paul and Silas vindicated. Because they were beaten without a trial, and also being Roman citizens, they were not willing to leave secretly but demanded that the magistrates apologize to them. Just one of many instances of God's protection and provision on His faithful servants.

THE LOOK

When God's servants serve Him faithfully, God has wonderful ways of conferring His blessings on them. Always walk in obedience, even when you have no idea where the path will take you. This is what Paul and Silas were willing to do—and they won the victory.

Proclaiming the word

By PAUL GAUNTT

DATE: November 15, 2020

TEXT: Acts 17:1-15

THE HOOK

Proclaiming the word—this is the mandate of the New Testament Church today. The word is so essential — so urgent, arrangements had to be made to relieve the apostles from the workload so they may be given ample time to study and meditation of the word. Acts 6. The word is so essential, Paul made it his absolute priority. 1 Corinthians 2:2 “For I determined not to know any thing among you, save Jesus Christ, and him crucified.”

THE BOOK

1. The place (verse 1). Paul and Silas came to Thessalonica, a city on the Via Egnatia, the major road on the northern Aegean coastline. The city was replete with history—Thessalonica, named for the daughter of Alexander the Great, was formerly

“Therma,” known for its hot springs where people traveled from far off, to bathe in the therapeutic pools. Being located on a major road, it was no doubt a fertile ground for evangelism.

2. The message (verses 2-3). Paul meticulously dealt with the message of Christ. His message was to fellow Jews, who had read the text all their lives, but now would have it preached to them with power. Paul discussed and reasoned with the crowd about Christ, “The Anointed One” and how He must suffer and die, and then rise from the dead (Acts 3:18).

3. The opposition (verse 4). Some were convince and others were offended, so they gathered a group of “marketplace rabble” loitering on the streets and formed a mob, started a riot and created havoc. They converged on the house of Jason, a Jewish convert (also mentioned in Romans 16:21) whose house was used as a place of refuge by the apostles. Jason was arrested since the crowd could not find Paul and Silas.

4. The results of the opposition. God often uses hardship

and persecution to send His gospel to a more fruitful field. The believers at Thessalonica, sent Paul and Silas to Berea in Macedonia where the people were more willing to hear the message. They were serious students of the scriptures and many believed, including prominent people in high social standing. But it was not long until the mad crowd from Thessalonica followed them to Berea, continuing their attacks. Paul left, but Timothy and Silas remained.

THE LOOK

God, the Father often uses hardships in having His gospel spread. Pastors and churches, take heart. No matter how grueling the task, and how heartbreaking the response sometimes, you may take refuge in the fact the Lord will never leave you nor forsake you, and He is the One Who brings about the results, while we are the empty vessels to be used at His pleasure.

SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSONS

The gospel to a pagan culture

By PAUL GAUNTT

DATE: November 22, 2020

TEXT: Acts 17:16-34

THE HOOK

For a few moments, let's discuss the heart of a missionary (Acts 17:16-18). When a missionary is led to a field of service, he is overwhelmed by a burden—a distress over the godless condition of the field. An effective missionary spends much time mixing and mingling with the populace. That's what our church planters do today—they will spend months getting acclimated to the field—frequenting the “hot spots” where they might become acquainted with the people. This seems to be Paul's agenda.

THE BOOK

1. Paul's audience (verses 17-18). Paul gets acquainted with the people of Athens. Some were God-fearing Gentiles. Some were Epicureans who did not believe there was life after death, but that seeking pleasure in this life was the only thing

that mattered. They felt that Paul was a charlatan, a “babbling” one that was seeking to form a cult.

2. Paul's open door (verse 19). Oddly enough, Paul was invited to a meeting at the Areopagus (Mars Hill). The council of Mars Hill was the oldest and most prestigious court. This was the very seat of intellectualism. They no doubt invited him to make a spectacle of him and to make fun. But it backfired on them. His anointed, Heaven-sent message froze them in their tracks.

3. Paul's message (verses 22-31). He did not start out with a condescending, condemning spirit. He almost seemed complimentary that they covered almost all facets of pagan religion as was displayed by the altars of worship. Shrewdly, he segued to an altar “to an unknown God.” Rather than to blast them for their paganism, he simply said, “I want to tell you about this unknown God.” He used that altar as a backdrop to illustrate the one true and living God, and the resurrection of Christ.

4. The responses to Paul's message (verses 32-34). The responses to Paul's gospel message were threefold, and the response has not changed in 2,000 years. Some believed, some scoffed, and some procrastinated. (We will hear thee again of this matter.)

THE LOOK

Those who scoff at the message of the cross are obviously not among those chosen in Christ. But the procrastinators are even more tragic. They are in the “almost persuaded” crowd. The sad fact is, often there is no calling of the spirit later. So, they are just as eternally doomed to hell as the scoffers. But praise God, the principle of 1 Corinthians 3:6 applies. Some have the seed planted—later, another gospel presenter waters that seed—and then God gives the increase. Not all procrastinators are doomed to eternal death and separation from God. But it would behoove one who first hears the message and senses the drawing to yield immediately because they are not promised another opportunity.

Encouraged by God's promises

By PAUL GAUNTT

TEXT: Acts 18:1-22

DATE: November 29, 2020

THE HOOK

There's not an emptier feeling than to be discouraged in the Lord's service, and there's not a more euphoric feeling than to be comforted and encouraged by God the Father. He has so many ways of encouraging us—Jesus appeared to Paul in a vision and gave him words that encouraged him—and the Lord also know how and when to send some of His servants to build us up in the faith. Do you have special encouragers in your life?

THE BOOK

God provides co-laborers (verse 1). God knew it would be tough going it alone. When he arrived at Corinth, he quickly became friends with Aquila and Priscilla. They were involved in the same craft as Paul—tent making. They proved to be a great help and support to Paul for a long time to come.

Silas and Timothy arrived from Macedonia (verse 5). Their presence appeared to release Paul to spend more time preaching to the Jews. This was his heart beat—preaching to his fellow countrymen and seeking to convince them of Christ as the Messiah.

But the opposition from the Jews was hurtful to Paul. It finally gave him the resolve to leave them and take the message to the Gentiles.

Titius Justus (verse 7). Titius Justus was a devout worshipper of God and lived next door to the synagogue and extended his hospitality to Paul. Crispus, the leader of the synagogue, became a believer. He and Gaius were two whom Paul baptized (1 Corinthians 1:14). All of Crispus's household came to faith as a result of Paul's ministry.

Gallio, governor of Achaia (verse 8). It had to be a source of encouragement when even the governor of Achaia, Gallio, in a sense, defended Paul against his Jewish accusers who brought him before the governor accusing him of preaching.

The Lord (verses 9-11). No one can encourage like Jesus can. He gives us His grace-filled words to Paul. “Don't be afraid. . .” “Just keep on speaking out. . .” “I am with you. . .” “No one can touch you. . .” “Many of My people are in this city. . .” What comfort!

Verse 18 says that Paul remained in Corinth for an extended time before setting sail for Syria.

THE LOOK

One of the greatest blessings in the life of a servant of the Lord is to look back and recall those special agents of encouragement whose loving kindness and graciousness played a big part in sustaining you along the gospel road.

When you are on the Lord's side, you are on the winning side. Romans 8:31 asks, “What shall we then say to these things? If God be for us, who can be against us?”

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



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OBITUARIES

ANAYELI MERCEDES WAITS "MERCEDES"

Mercedes Waits, daughter of Bro. and Mrs. Michael Waits, pastor of First, Crandall, left this life gently, blessed to avoid a long struggle so many endure. Her passing was unexpected and painful for those of us who love her, but God was not surprised, having blessed her with many wonderful victories over the last half year.



She had completed benchmark classes with high marks in preparation for nursing school application, excited to realize she really could fulfill a dream of joining her two sibling nurses and dad, looking forward to being four nurses strong together at the same hospital.

Mercedes had also advanced in retail, earning respect as a dependable employee with strong potential as management, being assigned progressively more key responsibilities and being proud of being considered a good member of the Famous Footwear team.

She was also a volunteer at her church, showing not only a gift and a blessing with children, trained in caregiving by her many nephews and nieces, but also showing a beautiful grace and love for the children of the church. Not only caring, she also was a strong contributor to the tech/sound team, being a person that quickly demonstrated ability to keep up with fast changing screens.

She had recently signed back up for her Camp Gladiator class and was looking forward just in the next week to return to getting her physical strengthening back up to speed. She loved the energy generated by happy people and thrived adding her happiness to reflections of others' happiness.

Mercedes was successfully building the clan position of being that aunt all the kids loved, leaving a hole in each of us she touched and loved. If it were not for the fact that God's ways are always perfect, we'd wonder why she was called home just when almost every single measurement we'd use to weigh a life pointed to great things ahead.

She was a good girl growing into a good woman, avoiding bad choices intentionally. She leaves behind seven siblings, in laws that were siblings to her, nieces and nephews, and parents that long to hug her again. Until we see each other again sweet Mercedes.

MRS. ORVAL (RUBY) BARGER

Funeral services for Ruby Lee Puckett Barger, 85, of Livingston, were Sept. 17, 2020 at First, Livingston, with Pastor Brett Lester and Pastor Kevan Wood officiating.

Ruby was born June 17, 1935, in Livingston, to parents Jimmy and Jewel Murphy. She passed away Sept. 13, 2020 in Livingston.



Among survivors is her loving husband of 36 years, longtime BMA pastor Bro. Orval M Barger.

Ruby grew up in the Schwab City community and graduated from Goodrich High School in 1953. She attended a business college in Houston after graduation. She married Jody Puckett on Dec. 23, 1955 and they were blessed with four children. She and Jody owned Puckett's Grocery on Cemetery Hill for many years. They also owned and operated Giddings Sands Motel for several years. In 1981, Jody passed away and Ruby moved her family back to Livingston.

On June 23, 1984, Ruby married Orval Barger. They enjoyed many years of traveling, camping with friends and playing dominoes. They loved spending time with their grandchildren and watching them in all of their activities. Ruby was a lifelong member of First, Livingston where she served faithfully. Ruby loved singing in the choir and performed special music in many church programs. Her greatest joy was using her talent of song to worship and praise God.

The family requests donations be made to the First, Livingston or to a charity of your choice in her memory.

BMA Texas Missions cont.

unity is a precious commodity of the saints in our current hour. Grace to you all!

PRAYER NEEDS:

Prayer is needed for our intentional efforts to evangelize in Nacogdoches. Pray that God would give growth to our church through biblical conversion.

TIMOTHY ALBA—RESIDENT INTERN IN SEAGOVILLE

TIMALBA1986@GMAIL.COM

This week, I have been in 1 Peter. I have been studying mostly 1 Peter, chapter 2, where he talks about the church being the living stones and Jesus being the Cornerstone. I love how Peter gives the church the responsibility to represent Jesus in all we do. Peter says in verse 12 of chapter 2 that people will observe our good deeds and will glorify God because of it. I think Peter is remembering Jesus's Sermon on the Mount. God is calling us all to live according to His Word so that people will observe them and some might get saved. I have learned this month that we have a responsibility to be a light in the world by reflecting Jesus in all we do. This command is not only for pastors or leaders but also for the whole church. We all have a responsibility to Christ in our world. I think the church desperately needs to hear this message once again. The world is watching us more than we know. And people pay attention even when we are not. I think C H Spurgeon says it best, "A church life is always more forcible than its speech. When men take stock of it, they reckon its deeds as dollars and its words as pennies. If its life and doctrine disagree the mass of onlookers accept its practice and reject its preaching." So here is a challenge to you. How can you be a better representative of Jesus this week?

MATTHEW PRATHER—THE BRIDGE MISSION,

MIDLOTHIAN/WAXAHACHIE

MATTHEW@DISCOVERTHEBRIDGE.COM

DUAL SUPPORT BMAA/BMAT

It is hard to believe that it is already October. This year is flying by. This year has been an interesting year for all of us. COVID-19 is not something that any of us expected to have to deal with when the year started. As with every other church it has caused us to adjust in many different ways. We are continuing to reach our community in new and different ways. Social media and our website have played big roles in this as we continue to connect with people of all different kinds of needs and struggles. Almost daily, we are able to minister to someone who has found and reaches out in these ways. Please pray for us as we continue to impact our community in different ways. Pray for those to whom we are ministering who are hurting and struggling. Thank you for your continued support and prayers!

SPENCER SIMPSON—REDEEMER'S LOVE MISSION, HOUSTON

SPNCRSMPN@GMAIL.COM

God has been moving greatly at Redeemer's Love! We are overjoyed to begin looking at planting more churches in southwest Houston as the Lord continues to bless us with a growing flock to shepherd. Thank you for your prayers and support. God is blessing your faithfulness and kindness greatly.

PRAYER NEEDS:

As we grow and begin to look at planting more churches, we ask that you would pray that the Lord will continue to supply or raise up men in our congregation that will be faithful shepherds of these future churches.

RONNIE MILLS—KINGDOM CHAPEL MISSION,

SAGINAW/NORTH FORT WORTH

RONNIE@KCHAPEL.ORG

Things are going well here in Saginaw. The Lord continues to provide for us, and is keeping the doors open for His gospel

to be proclaimed. We're truly grateful for all your prayers and support for us as a church. We have remained committed to the call upon our lives and relying upon the power of our God, to help push us through this difficult season. We're praying for the BMA of Texas, as well, and are so grateful to be a part of this great association of churches.

PRAYER NEEDS:

Please be in prayer for us to continue strong in the Lord, that He would continue to open doors for us here in Saginaw for the gospel to go forward. Pray for the unity of our body, and also that we would be of sound mind and doctrine. We believe your sincere prayers for us make a big difference in the work of our ministry, and we just ask that you would press forward with us in spirit. If you would like to help us financially with any needs our mission may have, you may contact me at ronnie@kchapel.org Blessings to each one of you in Christ!

CHRIS DRIVER—WEST TEXAS MULTIPLICATION NETWORK/

TEXAS MISSIONARY CARE

CJDRIVER316@GMAIL.COM

The last couple of months have been busy. I am working with people from 10 different towns. I have high hopes that we are going to start seeing new groups forming in towns we have not reached yet.

PRAYER NEEDS:

My son, Zakary, tore his ACL and is scheduled for knee surgery. Also, continue to pray for our first group of leaders as they learn and grow and prepare to start their own groups. Pray for the towns of Morton, Sundown, Whitharral, Tahoka, Loop, Aspermont, Haskell, Meadow and Wilson to be open to the gospel as we reach into them.

MIKE WATT—CROSS-WORK MISSION, TAHOKA

MIKE.WATT@CROSSWORKCHURCH.ORG

We finished up our sermon series on the attributes of God. Our people were challenged and encouraged weekly for that 8-week series. We are excited to announce that we are getting back into the schools this month! High school and middle school discovery Bible studies start week 2 of October as well as our elementary school Bible club. Pray that God uses these programs to get His gospel into the schools and that we can advance His Kingdom and on-ramp people to Cross-Work through these outreach programs. In addition, we are starting a sermon series on "Scary Stories of the Bible" and asking God to draw people to Himself through our clear Bible teaching.

CESAR LEAL—NEW MISSION IN SAN ANTONIO

CESARLEAL2002@YAHOO.COM

These are difficult times but that is where you can see better the glory of God. Let's move on because victory is ours! God will fulfill His purpose in each of us.

Prayer Needs:

Pray for my family in Colombia. Pray also for wife as she is going to have an operation.

DONNY SADLER—IMPACT BETHEL CHURCH IN DALLAS

CESARLEAL2002@YAHOO.COM

Thank you for your support. Continue to pray for our launch.

PRAYER NEEDS:

Pray that the fear of COVID-19 will ease in Dallas.

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.



Auxiliaries

Texas WMA Annual Meeting, November 5

By **GLENDAM CHAMBERLAIN**

The Annual Texas WMA Meeting will be held at Farley Street, Waxahachie from 11 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Nov. 5. We will be treated to a fantastic lunch in between different aspects of the meeting.

Texas WMA President Johnnie Ross comments, "While making your plans to attend, bear in mind the words of the song, 'Sweet Hour of Prayer.' The first stanza begins, 'Sweet hour of prayer! Sweet hour of prayer! That calls me from a world of care.' Choose to be called from this world of care for a while. Then the song continues, 'And bids me at my Father's throne Make all my wants and wishes known.' Go to God's throne; tell Him the desires of your heart. Also, in the first stanza is the phrase, 'In seasons of distress and grief, My soul has often found relief.' Which of us has not felt distress and grief in these last few months? Cast your cares upon our Heavenly Father and experience relief from distress. Join with other WMA ladies and experience a time of blessed renewal in Jesus. Let us lay hold of this scripture-based song which has been the theme of our WMA work this year, and make plans to attend the state meeting, dependent upon the truth and faithfulness of God, and belief in His promises."

LADIES RETREAT AT CONROE

The ladies who met in September for the *Sweet Hour of Prayer Ladies Conference* were blessed beyond measure. The conference was sponsored by the Texas WMA and hosted by Northside, Conroe and the Tryon District.

The activities began Friday evening with a special prayer journaling class. Kristi Key, Texas WMA 2nd vice president, led the class. She spoke on the importance of journaling our prayers, blessings and thoughts. Saturday morning, the ladies of Northside served fruit, muffins, juice and coffee while everyone was gathering for the conference.

Makaye Key and John Mendez led worship in song. Lynelle Teas, WMA president of Northside, gave a warm welcome to all. Emily Baker took a few minutes to talk about Daniel Springs Baptist Encampment in Carthage as a possible new project for the Texas WMA. She spoke of their current need to replace the swimming pool and other specific needs of the camp.

Kristi Key introduced the conference theme, *Sweet Hour of Prayer*, and spoke of her personal prayer for the ladies as a time their burdens can be lifted and they can rejoice in the love and grace of our Heavenly Father. She also introduced the keynote speaker for the event, Stacie Bostic.

Kristi planned many breakout sessions. Cindy Allen spoke on "Aging Parents," Chelsea Mendez spoke to the "Newly Married," Makaye Key spoke on "Teens & Young

Ladies," and Johnnie Ross spoke on "Intercessory Prayer," Laura Hazzard spoke on "Divorce," Cheryl Hughes talked about "Grief," Christie Burton talked about "Raising Littles," and Kim Cade spoke about "Raising Teens," Tonya Smith spoke about "Sharing the Gospel," Marsha Cyzmer talked about "Bible Study," Charlotte Johnson spoke on "Mentoring," and Glenda Chamberlain talked about "Ministry" and ways to find your place in God's work.

A silent auction to benefit the project, Martha Johnson School in Mexico, was conducted. The silent auction was a great success. T-shirt sales were good, plus an offering was received adding to around \$2,000 for the project fund. It was also noted that in memory of Martha Johnson, who passed away 29 years ago, everyone is encouraged to send in \$29 for the project. Monies will be received until the Annual Texas WMA Meeting Nov. 5.

Guest speaker Stacie Bostic spoke about the Serenity Prayer that we all know and then she spoke on the original, much longer, Serenity Prayer, which was written by Reinhold Niebuhr in the 1930s. Stacie mentioned the last few lines were her favorite and so powerful: "Trusting that You will make all things right, If I surrender to Your will, So that I may be reasonably happy in this life, and supremely happy with You forever in the next."

Stacie spoke on serenity (John 16:33), courage (Joshua 1:9) and wisdom (Proverbs 12:15). She backed them up with stories of Mary, Esther and Abigail, and how they trusted God so fully and faithfully

The ladies of Northside served a wonderful lunch of chicken spaghetti, green beans, rolls and delicious desserts.

In her afternoon session Stacie Bostic talked about two biblical women, one a leader, and one an outcast. Deborah was a strong leader and an encourager. She was a woman used by God. Hagar was emotionally abandoned, spiritually wounded and used by the world. Both women were loved unconditionally by God and came to know that God works in the big and small of our lives.

The ladies conference came to a close with a beautiful altar call and time of commitment.

There were 57 ladies registered, several babies and children in childcare and a sprinkling of men.

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

BMA OF TEXAS ANNUAL MEETING

DATE: November 5, 2020 (Date changed to one day only meeting)

PLACE: Farley Street Baptist Church, Waxahachie, Texas

PERSONNEL & POSITIONS

AVAILABLE POSITIONS

PASTOR—Richland Heights, Grand Saline is seeking a bivocational pastor. Send resume to Sheryl Rico, 740 Sleepy Hollow Lane, Canton, Texas 75103, bk2sq1@icloud.com or call 254-733-8863. ^{10/20}

PASTOR—Center Hill, Oakhurst, located off of Highway 190 in Oakhurst, is prayerfully seeking a experienced bi-vocational pastor. Send resume to chdcpastorsearch@gmail.com or call 936-662-7831. ^{11/20}

PASTOR—Elwood, Wills Point is seeking a bivocational pastor. Send resume to P.O. Box 536, Wills Point, Texas 75169, to billypolege@yahoo.com or call 214-536-5795. ^{TEN}

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

PASTOR—First, Jacksonville is seeking a pastor. Send resume to Pastor Search Committee, 210 Philip Street, Jacksonville, Texas 75766 or email to reception@firstjax.org. ^{TEN}

Proposed Amendments to TBHC Constitution and By-Laws cont.

~~Section 2.~~ The President shall be elected annually by the messenger board of the Baptist Missionary Association of Texas. The Board of Trustees shall make a nomination for President, and the messenger body shall have the privilege of nominating others for the presidency. In the case of a vacancy of the presidency between sessions or the inability of the President to perform his duties for a period of time, the Board of Trustees may select an Acting President until action can be taken by the Executive Committee of the Baptist Missionary Association of Texas.

Section 2. The Board of Trustees shall appoint or remove the President of TBHC as necessary. The Board may also remove the President for actions unbecoming the office. In the absence of the President, or the President is no longer able to perform the duties of the office, the Board of Trustees or the Board's Executive Committee may choose to remove the President and select an acting President until action can be taken at the next Board of Trustees Meeting to fill the Office.

Article V – General Provisions

~~Section 3.~~ Amendments: All amendments to this constitution and by-laws shall be submitted to the Board of Trustees during any of their regular meetings; and, if approved by said Board of Trustees by a two-thirds vote of the members present and voting, the same shall be submitted to the Baptist Missionary Association of Texas during the next annual session; and if approved by a two-thirds vote of the messengers of the churches present and voting, said amendment shall become a part of this constitution and by-

laws. Approved amendments will then be presented during the next Baptist Missionary Association of Texas annual session for their records.

* Proposed wording changes are highlighted.

BY-LAWS

Section 1. Duties of Trustees:

The primary objective of the Board of Trustees is to provide strong leadership to enhance this ministry and maintain accountability to the churches of the Baptist Missionary Association of Texas. The Trustees decide policies to be implemented by the administration of the Corporation, and the Trustees work as a team with the President to accomplish the mission and objectives of this Corporation. They maintain complete records of all meetings of the Board, and they follow the Constitution and By-Laws of the Corporation.

The Trustees shall hold regular meetings on dates decided by the Board. For these meetings five members of the Board shall constitute a quorum.

The Chairman of the Board or the President may call the Trustees into a special session as needed or upon request of the Executive Committee. The Executive Committee may also hold an Executive Committee meeting as needed with three executive members constituting a quorum. All special session business must be presented at the next planned Board of Trustees meeting for all Trustees to review.

The Trustees shall hold regular meetings on dates decided by the Board. The President or Chairman of the Board may

call the Trustees into special session as needed or upon request of five members of the Board of Trustees. Five members shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business.

Section 2. President:

The President is the Chief Executive Officer of the Corporation and is subject to the control and direction of the Board of Trustees. The President shall have general charge, oversight, and direction of the affairs and business of the Corporation and shall be its responsible managing head. The President shall have authority to sign on behalf of the organization all necessary papers and/or contracts with appropriate Board approval, and he shall have the authority to make expenditures within the approved budget. The Trustees shall annually evaluate the performance of the President. The Board of Trustees shall perform annual evaluations of (1) the President's Job performance and (2) the Trustee's partnership with TBHC to accomplish its goals.

Section 3. Policies and Procedures: Board Policy Manual:


The Board of Trustees shall be guided in the carrying out of its responsibilities by the Policies and Procedures of TBHC Board Policy Manual, as adopted by the Board of Trustees and revised from time to time, subject to the provisions of the Constitution and By-Laws of this Corporation. The Policies and Procedures policy manual may be altered or amended by said Board of Trustees upon 30 days written notice at any regular or called meetings of said Board by two-thirds vote of the Trustees.



A GOSPEL MUSIC HALL OF FAME ARTIST
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NEW HARMONY BAPTIST CHURCH
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2020
Jerry Burnaman Memorial
United Thanksgiving Offering

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 22, 2020
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