

Baptist Progress

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INSIDE



PAGE 6
BMA TEXAS MISSIONS



PAGE 9
PASTOR SERVES 70
YEARS IN THE MINISTRY



PAGE 12
JACKSONVILLE COLLEGE

By **JERRY FULTON**

Baptist Progress Editor

The 2018 BMA of Texas Meeting will be held at Calvary, Fairfield Nov. 5-6, 2018. The theme of the meeting is *Forever Faithful* taken from 2 Timothy 4:7, "I have fought a good fight, I have finished my course, I have kept the faith."

The first session of the meeting will include a message from BMA of Texas President Robert Easterling and testimonies by Charles Breithaupt, senior adult minister at The Refuge, Terrell and Luis Ortega, Sr., pastor of Centro de Vida, Grand Prairie. Breakout sessions on the first day of the meeting will include *Activate* with Larry Barker, operations director for North American Missions; *Texas Size Hispanic Vision* with Arnulfo Maldonado (in Spanish), Hispanic Coordinator for BMA Texas Missions; and *Website and Facebook Basics* by Michael Clements and Matthew Prather. Clements is the associate pastor of The Refuge, Terrell and Prather is pastor of The Bridge, Midlothian/Waxahachie. All breakout sessions will take place in rooms in the family life center at Calvary, Fairfield.

The evening session on Nov. 5 will include a testimony by Charles Johnson, pastor of Rosewood, Gilmer, a concert by The Erwins and a message by Grady Cashion, pastor of First, Blooming Grove.

On the second day of the annual meeting, the Women's Missionary Auxiliary Annual Meeting and the Leadership Conference will take place at Round Prairie, Fairfield, followed by lunch at the church.

Reports from each department as well as the administrative committee, WMA and Master's Builders will be given during the afternoon session with more breakout sessions to follow. The second set of breakout sessions will include *Activate*; *BMAT 101* (for new pastors in the BMA of Texas) with Heith Mitchell, BMA Texas Missions director; *Reaching Your Hispanic Neighbor* (in English) with Arnulfo Maldonado; a worship swap meet led by Shelby Race, minister of music at Calvary, Fairfield and a youth workers swap meet led by Devin Diguilio, minister of youth at Calvary, Fairfield.

The evening session on Nov. 6 will include a concert by the Jacksonville College Choir and the annual message to be preached by Jason Prewitt, director of Daniels Springs Baptist Camp. A missionary commissioning service will close out the meeting.

Hotel information and a schedule for the meeting are included in this issue on page 4.

Plans finalized for Annual BMA of Texas Meeting

BMA
Baptist Missionary Association of Texas





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MAKING PROGRESS

Kindness needed

By **JERRY FULTON**

Charles Stanley wrote, “When we exhibit the kindness of God, we are tender, benevolent, and useful to others. Every action, every word will have the flavor of grace in it.”

He further commented, “To maintain this attitude toward those we love is hard enough. To express kindness toward those who are against us requires the work of God (2 Corinthians 6:4-6). That is why kindness is a fruit of the Spirit.”

Kindness is lacking, not only in our world, but in the lives of church-goers today. Notice I said “kindness is lacking in the lives of church-goers today.” I didn’t say that kindness is lacking in the lives of Christians.

After all, being a Christian means being a disciple – a follower – of Jesus. Jesus was kind, loving and generous. He taught His disciples to be kind, loving and generous as well. So, if someone doesn’t live that way, they’re not really following Christ, are they?

Not everyone who professes Christ as their Savior is really a Christian. But then, under the right, or should I say wrong circumstances, any true believer may allow his or her flesh to get the best of him or her and fail to show kindness.

Sometimes circumstances in life cause one to be unkind. Often, events that occur in life cause one to become bitter, cynical and critical. Some of the time, unkindness is the result of loneliness, rejection, hurt, self-centeredness or even a sense of entitlement.

Today, unkindness is exhibited in social media and through everyday interaction with others. Let something go wrong or a difference of opinion be expressed and just watch the unkindness that spews from some who “claim” Jesus as Lord.

I’ve experienced such unkindness as both a pastor and as editor of this publication. Dealing with unkind people is not fun. But then, I must admit that there have been moments in my life when I was the unkind person. Having been guilty of unkindness should cause me to quickly forgive those who are unkind to me. And having been on the receiving end of unkindness should cause me to choose my actions and words wisely.

Every believer should be gracious and kind to others no matter the circumstance. Jesus has certainly been kind and gracious to us in that while we were still sinners, He died for us. So, let’s be kind to each other for Jesus’ sake.

More give to Baptist Progress Anniversary Offering

Thanks to all who have given to the *Baptist Progress*



▲ Jerry Fulton

Anniversary Offering. In addition to those we have already listed, the following have given:

- First, Jacksonville \$106
- First, Livingston \$500
- First of Providence, Livingston \$106
- First, Rice \$97.50
- Olde Tyme, White Oak \$106
- Sheppard Drive, Euless \$106
- Winona Foley \$106

This brings the total given to **\$8254.50**.

2018 LOCAL ASSOCIATION MEETINGS

ASSOCIATION	DATE	TIME	LOCATION
Tarrant County	Sept. 15	9:30 a.m.	Oasis, Arlington
East Fork	Sept. 16	6 p.m.	First, Crandall
Ellis-Hill	Sept. 20	11:30 a.m.	Farley Street, Waxahachie
Tryon	Sept. 23	5 p.m.	First, New Caney
Dallas County	Sept. 24	6 p.m.	Crossroads, Rowlett
Mount Olive	Oct. 6	9:30 a.m.	Bethel, Clayton
Original Bethlehem	Oct. 6	9 a.m.	Fellowship, Magnolia Springs
Trinity River	Oct. 6	10 a.m.	Victory, Centerville
Gulf Coast	Oct. 7	5 p.m.	Circle Drive, Bridge City
Harris County	Oct. 8	7 p.m.	Suburban Wood, Humble
Navarro County	Oct. 9	7 p.m.	First, Eureka
Central West Texas	Oct. 13	9:30 a.m.	Pecan, Robert Lee
Harmony	Oct. 13	12 p.m.	Mountain Home, Jacksboro
Landmark Montague	Oct. 14	N/A	Northside, Nacona
Liberty	Oct. 14	3 p.m.	Fellowship, Pittsburg
Van Zandt	Oct. 14	4 p.m.	Elwood, Wills Point
Cherokee	Oct. 15	7 p.m.	First, Jacksonville
Wood County	Oct. 16	7 p.m.	Rose Hill, Mineola
Angelina	Oct. 18	N/A	Salem, Huntington
Plains	Oct. 20	9:30 a.m.	LakeRidge, Lubbock
Central Texas	Oct. 20	9 a.m.	Temple, Mexia
Navasota River	Oct. 21	4 p.m.	Harmony, Normangee
Houston-Anderson	Oct. 23	5 p.m.	Sheridan Terrace, Palestine
Landmark Nacogdoches	Oct. 25	7 p.m.	Mahl, Nacogdoches
Polk County	Oct. 28	3 p.m.	East Temple, Livingston
Smith County	Oct. 30	N/A	New Harmony, Tyler

Lifeword letter to pastors

The following is a letter to BMA pastors from Lifeword Executive Director Donny Parrish included in Lifeword Sunday packets sent to all churches the first week of August.

Dear Pastor,

Greetings from your Lifeword team! Today over 250 broadcast producers, writers, creatives and artists are working on your behalf to carry out Jesus' Great Commission through media. Over the radio and through the Internet to an audience numbering more than two billion, Lifeword is preaching Jesus in 42 languages to 121 countries. And those numbers are poised to grow exponentially.

The launch of the Lifeword Cloud in August is a momentous step for your media ministry. It increases our capacity to add broadcast languages and strengthens our ability to disciple new converts around the world. Soon we will be able to expand the broadcast footprint of Lifeword to hundreds of new languages and people groups...many of which no one is reaching with the gospel. Producers are hard at work adding new languages to the Cloud every day.

Once a year Lifeword reaches out to our BMA churches to ask for a special day of prayer and giving to Lifeword. We call it Lifeword Sunday, and it is slated for October 21. Owned by the churches of BMA America, Lifeword is dependent on churches for financial support. Lifeword

Sunday is a crucial piece of our financial plan.

Pastor, would you make Lifeword part of your church's Great Commission strategy? On October 21 churches all across the BMA will make this a special day to partner with Lifeword in reaching the world. Will you help by championing this ministry with your people? Here's how to participate in 2018 Lifeword Sunday:

Register your church at lifeword.org/lifewordsunday or call Lifeword to register at 501.329.6891. (You'll be entered to win a new iPad Pro!)

Enclosed in the packet you will receive are poster and bulletin insert samples you can use to highlight the day. A short video you can use for Lifeword Sunday is downloadable at lifeword.org or call us for a DVD. It will help your church understand what Lifeword is all about.

Order Lifeword Sunday T-shirts at lifeword.org/lifewordsunday. This helps promote the ministry of Lifeword.

Pray for the millions who need to hear the gospel on October 21 and take a special offering for Lifeword.

Thank you in advance for partnering with Lifeword. We are honored to be part of your Great Commission strategy! Call or email me if I can be a personal help to you in any way. God Bless...thank you!

Donny Parrish

The Cloud birth announcement

POTENTIAL : UNLIMITED



Lifeword's 53rd birthday, Sept. 4, 2018, was also be the birth of a new way of sharing the gospel for your media ministry. The Lifeword Cloud is up and running in five languages, Arabic, Swahili, Garifuna, Spanish and English. So, when you go to lifeword.org and click on "Arabic" in the top right corner of your screen, the copy immediately switches to the right...and in Arabic characters!

Most of us can't read Arabic, so why does that happen? Because Lifeword wants to present the gospel to people all over the world who speak that heart language and, eventually, 200 languages of the world. Click on the other four language choices and you'll understand why we're so excited to celebrate the birth of The Lifeword Cloud: Lifeword is decentralizing our ministry and changing the way we do things. There are only eight Lifeword USA team members working from our Conway office but approximately 250 global team members, and each one is working to make Jesus' name famous in their heart language.

Phase One has been completed, and funds have been raised for the first five languages. Every day new content will be added within those languages, then we repeat the process and add more as God leads us. What an honor it is for Lifeword to be used in His kingdom work! As with the birth of any "baby", the real work and expense has only just begun.

We would love for you to celebrate the birth of the Lifeword Cloud with us. Admire our new "baby" by visiting the website, and consider giving a "baby shower" gift at this link: lifeword.org/donate. Your gift will go directly go to the process of adding content and languages as Phase Two begins and our "child" grows up.

Garifuna: A Lifeword language and a people group

By HOLLY MERIWEATHER

Lifeword Media Ministries

THE PEOPLE

African slaves endured a perilous journey, one that often ended in death often caused by disease. The late 1700s was the peak of trans-Atlantic slave trade and shipwrecks were another cause of those deaths, but the story of the Garifuna people, although tragic, was about life...the kind that is eternal.

In 1797, this West African people group was deported to Honduras by the government from a small Caribbean island called Saint Vincent. Some seventy years before, they had been rounded up from the modern-day countries of Nigeria, Congo and Ghana and put onboard two Spanish slave ships bound for plantations in the "New World." However, their journey ended near the West Indies island of Saint Vincent when they were shipwrecked and had to swim for their lives.

Once ashore, survivors blended into the indigenous Carib people group and tried to avoid detection by the British, who controlled the island. But in 1796, the Garifuna surrendered to them, and their captors put them in prison where many died from disease. A year later, they were released to the Honduran government and allowed to settle there and on neighboring islands.

THE LANGUAGE

Fast forward two centuries to the fall of 1980 when BMA Missionary David Dickson and his family went on holiday to the Atlantic Coast, an hour's drive from their home. As they enjoyed a day at the beach, they overheard two boys speaking in a dialect they had never heard. As Bro. David conversed with them in Spanish, he learned about a people group called the Garifuna.

God placed a burden on his heart about them, and his

research on the Garifuna led him to the national library of Belize where he found an English-Garifuna dictionary and copied its pages. His next stop was Guatemala and the Wycliffe Linguistic Institute where he met Lillian Howland, who shared his interest in this people group.



▲ Holly Meriweather and Ricardo Herrera

In the two years following his meeting with Lillian, she passed on her knowledge of the language and coached him as he learned to read, speak and preach in this strange tongue that had no alphabet, no written record, no Bible.

Garifuna is the heart language of these people, and the older ones, who are usually illiterate, had virtually no record of its written form. Young children learn Spanish in school and become bilingual, but the only way to reach the older generation with the gospel is to preach in Garifuna and teach them to read, beginning with the Bible.

THE GOSPEL

In September 1982, Bro. David preached his first sermon in Garifuna and a twelve-year-old boy was saved. His message to the Garifuna was that "Jesus can speak and understand your language, your culture and your needs." Since that time many Garifuna have surrendered their lives to Christ, been trained and

GARIFUNA: A LIFEWORD LANGUAGE continued on p. 5



BMA of Texas



Schedule for 118th Annual Session of the BMA of Texas at Calvary Baptist Church, Fairfield

November 5-6, 2018

Forever Faithful, 2 Timothy 4:17

Monday, November 5, 2018

11:00 p.m.	Registration	12:00 p.m.	Lunch Break
1:30 p.m.	General Session (Worship)		
1:40 p.m.	Welcome/ Introduction of Officers	1:30 p.m.	General Session (Worship)
	Enroll/ Finance Committee Initial Report	1:40 p.m.	Texas Baptist Home
1:45 p.m.	Presidents Message – Bro. Robert Easterling	1:50 p.m.	Jacksonville College
2:20 p.m.	Prayer	2:00 p.m.	Baptist Progress
2:25 p.m.	Worship	2:10 p.m.	Missions Department
2:35 p.m.	Testimony – Bro. Charles Breithaupt	2:20 p.m.	Baptist Missionary Loan Association
2:55 p.m.	Special Music	2:30 p.m.	Administrative Committee Report
3:00 p.m.	Testimony – Bro. Luis Ortega, Sr.	2:40 p.m.	Election of Administrative Committee Representatives
3:20 p.m.	Dismiss	2:45 p.m.	Nominating Committee Report
3:30 p.m.	Breakout Sessions – Family Life Center	2:55 p.m.	WMA Report
	• Activate – Bro. Larry Barker	3:05 p.m.	Master's Builders Report
	• Texas Size Hispanic Vision – Bro. Arnulfo Maldonado (in Spanish)	3:15 p.m.	Election of Annual Speaker and State Officers
	• Website & Facebook Basics – Bro. Michael Clements & Bro. Matthew Prather	3:25 p.m.	Miscellaneous Business
4:15 p.m.	Dinner Break	3:35 p.m.	Breakout Sessions – Family Life Center
			• Activate – Bro. Larry Barker
6:00 p.m.	General Session (Worship)		• BMAT 101 – Bro. Heith Mitchell
6:10 p.m.	Testimony – Bro. Charles Johnson	4:15 p.m.	• Reaching Your Hispanic Neighbor – Bro. Arnulfo Maldonado (in English)
6:30 p.m.	Concert by The Erwins	6:00 p.m.	• Worship Team Swap Meet – Bro. Shelby Race
7:15 p.m.	Message – Bro. Grady Cashion	6:10 p.m.	• Youth Workers Swap Meet – Bro. Devin Diguilio
		6:45 p.m.	
			Dinner Break
			General Session (Worship)
			Jacksonville College Choir
			Annual Message – Bro. Jason Prewitt
			Alternate – Bro. Jason Collins
			Missionary Commissioning Service
			Adjourn

Tuesday, November 6, 2018

(The department and missionary meet and greet, WMA meeting, Leadership Conference and lunch will be held at Round Prairie Baptist Church with nursery provided.)

8:30 a.m.	Department and Missionary Meet and Greet	7:30 p.m.	
9:00 a.m.	WMA Meeting	8:15 p.m.	
10:00 a.m.	Leadership Conference (in English and Spanish)		

Hotels for BMA of Texas Annual Meeting

Calvary Baptist Church, Fairfield, Texas • November 5-6, 2018

Holiday Inn- \$112

640 Old Mexia Road • Fairfield, Texas • (903) 389-2300

LaQuinta Inn- \$69

1010 W. Commerce Street • Fairfield, Texas • (903) 389-7441

Days Inn- \$74.95 (Double bed)/\$69.95

603 W. US Highway 84 • Fairfield, Texas • (903) 389-7855

Super 8 Motel- \$74.95 (Double bed)/\$64.95

370 E. I-45 • Fairfield, Texas • (903) 389-9464

McCoy to speak at 2018 Leadership Conference

By **JERRY FULTON**

Baptist Progress Editor

The 2018 Leadership Conference will be held during the Annual Meeting of the BMA of Texas beginning at 10 a.m. at Round Prairie, Fairfield Nov. 6. The conference will be offered in English and Spanish this year and is presented by BMA Texas Missions.

Steve McCoy has been in the ministry for over 35 years and is the Founding and Lead Pastor of The 360 Church in Sarasota, Florida, a church he planted 11 years ago. Impacted by the Vision Frame, God Dreams, and Leadership Pipeline Development processes of Auxano, 360 has grown from a launch team of eight to a church of 700 with a laser-focused strategy that centers on building a culture of one-to-one relationships with a vision that is designed to invigorate Christianity in the U.S. by exporting the one-to-one culture.

In addition to graduating from Southern Seminary, Steve also has a Doctorate degree in Piano Performance, coming to faith in Christ during the pursuit of becoming a concert pianist. His 25 years of piano lessons naturally embedded an appreciation for the impact of the one-to-one dynamic that is so often missing in the church culture.

His experience in the person-to-person environment in music coupled with the Paul-Timothy model of one-to-one discipleship motivated him to take 6 years to write a one-to-one discipleship track called smallcircle. Aiming to go beyond the typical approach of information transfer, Xchange is infused with real life labs, artistic films, and graphic design engineered to bring a multi-sensory experience with the goal of growing disciples to become disciple-makers.

Smallcircle is now in the process of being translated into 12 languages and is operating on 4 continents. In Steve's local church setting, 40 percent of those in small groups are in a one-to-one discipleship relationship. The one-to-one dynamic permeates all areas of 360 in order to create a culture of one-to-one relational depth.

Steve and his wife, Carrie, have two boys, ages 13 and 14.



▲ Steve McCoy

BMA of america



BMMI mission trip on the Tambo River in Peru

By RALPH IZARD, M.D.

The Baptist Medical Missions International, commonly called the BMMI, recently completed a Medical Mission outreach in four Ashaninka communities along the Tambo River in the rainforest of Peru. The Ashaninka or Ashaninca are an indigenous people group living in the rainforest of Peru. The Ashaninka are determined to continue their lifestyle. Therefore, Pastor Paul Tinoco, who lives in Tarma, Peru, has to obtain permission from the Ashaninka chief of the community for a BMMI medical team to visit their community.

The Tambo River is a part of a larger complex of rivers in the Amazon Basin and has a length of 99 miles. Recently, the government of Peru decided to build a dam on the Tambo River to supply electricity to Brazil. The decision has been overturned but the Ashaninka are very suspicious of outsiders visiting their land for this reason. The medical team was well received by the residents of each Ashaninka community visited.

The team arrived in Lima, Peru about 11 pm and rested in a

hotel until morning and then traveled to Tarma, Peru, elevation 10,018 feet. The highway climbs from Lima at sea level to a pass in the Andes Mountains of approximately 15,000 feet then descends down into Tarma. After a good night's rest, the team traveled by van for six hours to Satipo and then transferred to a boat at Puerto Ocopa for a seven hour boat ride down the Tambo River to Atalaya, Peru. This would be our home for the next week.

Atalaya is a town in the Ucayali Region of Peru. It is located where the Tambo River and the Urubamba River converge to form the Ucayali River which is a major tributary of the Amazon River. Tambo River is on the eastern slope of the Andes Mountains. Each day we traveled two to three hours up the Tambo River to have a medical clinic and outreach in an Ashaninka Community and after working about four hours we would travel back down the river to Atalaya for the evening.

During the week 200 people asked Jesus Christ to be their Savior. Praise the Lord! Praise the Lord that a mission can be



▲ BMMI team entering an Ashaninka village

established in Atalaya.

The team then prepared to retrace their route back to the United States. If you would like to learn more about being part of the BMMI ministry, please call us at 501-455-4977 or email us at bmmi@bmaam.com.



Garifuna: A Lifeworld language and a people group cont.

discipled, and have planted churches all over Honduras. Bro. David's sermons and teachings have been recorded and archived by Lifeworld, and they are still being used on current broadcasts now produced completely by Garifuna.

Only five languages have been chosen by Lifeworld as "starter languages" included in the beta-testing stage before the public rollout of the new lifeworld.org in August...and one of those is Garifuna. To determine the best languages to use, Lifeworld personnel considered the following about the broadcasts:

- Are they produced only by indigenous people?
- Is the quality excellent, meaning biblically sound and culturally relevant?
- Are there variations in the formats, such as long form and short form, and videos?
- Do they use various media outlets, such as online radio and community radio?

The Garifuna broadcasts can answer yes to all of those questions. Thanks to the burden God gave to Bro. David Dickson 36 years ago, many of these people once bound for slavery have a new freedom and new life in Christ.

It's Like a Family Reunion!

Join your friends across the BMA at the annual Senior Adult Conference, which will be held Nov. 12-14 at the Branson Hilton and Convention Center. It will be a perfect opportunity to catch up with friends, all while enjoying worship and teaching in the beauty of the Ozarks.

This year's conference host will be Donny Parrish, and Dr. Gary O'Neal, pastor of Oak Park Baptist Church in Little Rock, Arkansas, will preaching during the three main sessions.

David Attebery and Neil Dumas will lead in powerful worship through song. These men grew up playing music together at First Baptist Church in Springhill, Louisiana, and are excited to worship with Senior Adult Conference attendees in November. Attendees will also enjoy concerts from

professional violinist, Jaime Jorge, and Gospel Trio, N Him.

In addition, a fully-catered breakfast will be served each morning, and during free time, conference goers can walk across the street to the Branson Landing for great shopping.

Those who register by Oct. 13 will not only receive an early bird registration discount, but they will also receive tickets to the Sight and Sound Theater's new show, Samson! This production will be a beautifully-portrayed exploration of the life of Samson. Live animals, special effects, and excellent acting will bring this biblical story of God's providence to life.

Register today for a conference that will be just like a family reunion! For more information about this year's Senior Adult Conference, visit discipleguide.org/senior.



BMA TEXAS

MISSIONS

Your Church's Mission Movement in Texas

A word from your mission office

By HEITH MITCHELL

Thank you Calvary Baptist Church in Fairfield for coming through on our request last month for folding chairs. They delivered 85 folding chairs to us that we are distributing to several new mission points. We praise the Lord for providing through Calvary and that they could hear about it through this wonderful resource, Baptist Progress.

The circuit of association meetings begin this month. I challenge you to attend your local association and make plans to be at the BMA of Texas Annual Meeting in November. If your church is outside of a local association, join one near you. Call the missions office if you need help connecting. It would be our pleasure to serve you in this way. There is value in associating with other believers for the cause of Christ and investing in the Kingdom of God together. You will be blessed and be a blessing to others by your involvement. I have as many on my calendar as I can attend. I look forward to seeing you.

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

A WORD FROM YOUR MISSIONARIES

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

Hey, BMA family! We just wanted you to know that we appreciate all of your prayers, and support for us. Here in North Fort Worth, we are so excited about seeing others fall in love with the Kingdom. This is our mission statement, and if you haven't had a chance, we would love the opportunity to come and share our unique dream and vision



▲ Ronnie Mills

God has given us for North Fort Worth with you. We know what a blessing it is to hear of all that God is doing from all over, so if this is something your church would be interested in, please connect with me at ronnie@kchapel.org and we'll work it out. Blessings, Ronnie.

**MATTHEW PRATHER—
THE BRIDGE MISSION, MIDLOTHIAN/WAXAHACHIE**

At The Bridge, like most churches, we are settling into the school year and we are settling into more of a normal routine. That means we have a great opportunity to reach more people for Christ. God continues to open doors to relationships with people that are far from him, that are hurting and that just don't know what to do next. I ask for your continued prayers as we minister to and reach the people in our community. There are three things we are praying for as a church right now that we would love for you to join us in praying about. First, that we would be able



▲ Matthew Prather

to start two new small groups by the end of the year. Second, that we would reach 15 new people by the end of October. And last that God would provide us a new place to meet. Thank you so much for your prayers and your continued support.

**JAIME GARCIA—
IGLESIA BAUTISTA NUEVA VIDA MISSION,
GILMER/MESQUITE
JAIME.GARCIA2911@GMAIL.COM**

The God who had mercy on Nineveh has the same love today for the souls of people who have not learned to discern between his right hand (the good), and his left hand (the bad). He continues to send courageous men like Jonas, who although at first show some fear for the enemy, then show courage for the just cause of the God who does not want anyone to perish. Let's continue in prayer for all those sent.



▲ Jaime Garcia

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

I had a lunch meeting with Bruise (He is homeless and hopeful in Christ). We went around the downtown area by bus to study the area. We also spent some time just reading the Bible. We plan to do this every other week. I have contacted two others to be part of the study group and Bruise will also do the same.



▲ Kingsley Nduka

1 John 5:4 "For whatever is born of God overcomes the world. And this is the victory that has overcome the world—our faith."

In this call, we are Overcomers. It does not matter the challenges before us, our victory is sure. Only be strong in the Lord and in the power of His might.

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

We went out to evangelize in the community around the Westside Church. We were able to visit five homes and shared the message with six people. A lady who was converted could potentially allow us to meet in her house and start a new cell group. We have good expectations with her. We are serving a single mother of three children.



▲ Neptaly Molina

**BRANDON DURHAM—
REDEEMER'S LOVE MISSION, HOUSTON
JAMESBRANDONDURHAM@GMAIL.COM**

I've been struck, lately, by the pervasive lostness of our culture. Everywhere you look, you see endless crowds of people who desperately need Jesus! This is readily apparent in Southwest Houston, where worlds converge. God has sent a number of diverse people our way this past month, including a homeless woman from India, a doctor from Nicaragua and several college students. We've connected with a lot of new faces through a local college fair and through a Labor Day cookout. Our team has done a wonderful job of faithfully displaying and declaring the gospel. It's evident that God is at work. Thank you for your prayers and support. Please keep my wife, Amanda, in your prayers, as we try to manage her pain levels better with Rheumatoid Arthritis. Pray for our mission effort; for more salvations and more workers here in Southwest Houston.



▲ Brandon Durham



**CHRIS DRIVER—
WEST TEXAS MULTIPLICATION MOVEMENT LEADER
CJDRIVER316@GMAIL.COM**

Summer is finally over and school is back in session. That means we can get back to some routine! Summer was pretty tough on our groups and attendance but God still did some great things in Loop, Whitharral, Meadow and Tahoka. Bro. Heith Mitchell came out and did some multiplication training with our leaders. Loop is continuing to see great results from its Facebook ministry and local outreach, and the network will be partnering with the Christian Wrestling Federation of Lubbock to do some shows in some of our small towns as outreach events! Please pray that these shows will connect us with persons of peace in these communities as we seek to push out into more small towns this year!



▲ Chris Driver

BMA TX MISSIONS continued on p. 7



INSIGHTS *for* PASTORS

Beating Burnout

By **DR. ALLEN TILLEY**

Record numbers of pastors are resigning and leaving the ministry. The number one reason for pastoral burnout is the stress that comes from the demands of ministry. On call 24 hours a day, seven days a week, more is expected of pastors than ever before. One young but overly confident pastor said, "I would rather burnout than rust out." Honestly, neither honors God. If you feel like throwing in the towel, let me offer some suggestions for finishing strong.

Take at least one day off every week. On these days, don't work on anything church related. Allow your batteries time to recharge by resting and relaxing. Even Jesus needed to get away from the demands of ministry. If you don't have a hobby start one. Make sure it is something you enjoy.

Take all your vacation days. There's nothing heroic about never taking vacation. If you don't have a staff to handle things while you are away, ask one of your Deacons to fill in for you. While on vacation, turn off your phone, don't check your emails, and don't stay home. Go where you can get away, and then stay away.

Nightly, get plenty of sleep. If you can't sleep, talk with your doctor. If you consistently don't get enough sleep, you likely won't produce good results at work.

Feed yourself first before feeding your congregation. In other words, have a daily devotional time. Get alone with God and His Word every day. Allow Him to speak to you through His Word. Then, pour out your heart to Him in prayer. Schedule a time and a place with as few interruptions as possible.

Exercise regularly. Exercise releases endorphins in your body, making you feel better. In addition to exercise, watch what you eat. Try never eating late at night. Start your morning with a good breakfast. You have only one body and once it is spent, there is no recovery.

Make family a priority. The most important member in your congregation is your family. Give them your best, not your leftovers. At mealtime, turn off the phone and give them your undivided attention. Attend their activities and be their biggest supporter. The investment you make in your family will pay huge dividends of joy and contentment.

Have godly friends outside the church. Befriend other pastors or people who already have pastors, so you can be off the clock. Let your hair down, be honest, and transparent. Whether just having lunch or doing something together, pick friends that will let you unwind and accept you just as you are.

If you're thinking the "grass is greener" on the other side, you might be experiencing burnout. Don't become a casualty. Invest in yourself by taking care of yourself. God needs you and so does your church.

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



BMA Texas Missions cont.

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

We are so blessed to have Joshua and Suzanne Pickard join us. Josh is leading worship and his wife is helping with the music too. What a talented family! Did I mention that their kids are precious!



▲ Cliff Robertson



▲ Joshua Pickard Family

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

"The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I came that they may have life and have it abundantly" (John 10:10). Would you pray for Victoria Rubio, her son Joe and family? They are a family I've been sharing the gospel with in north Lubbock. Her son Joe is not mentally stable and he tried to kill her a couple weeks ago. She had to stay at the hospital with her neck and back in bad conditions. Pray that God would use every situation for them to see their desperate need of Christ and forsake any other hope.

God has continually led me to people that are going through very tough situations. Please pray for wisdom and strength for my family and me as we bring the hope of Christ by making disciples in Lubbock.

PRAYER REQUESTS FROM THE FIELD

-Pray for God to provide people to fill specific ministry needs in several mission points.

-Pray for each of your mission points as they reach out this new

school year.

-Pray for your missionary's and their spouses Amanda Durham, Gloria Garcia, Manuela Molina, Chris Driver and Jaime Driver as they face health issues.

-Pray for several men and women waiting on immigration documents.

-Pray for intern Kingsley Nduka, for God to reunite his family. They are currently stuck in the UK.

-Pray that God provides the funds and the laborers for more evangelistic disciple-making churches.

-Pray for souls saved, disciples made, leaders equipped and sent out to start again.

PRAISE REPORTS FROM THE FIELD

-God is using your missionaries to reach into the lives of truly struggling people. We are hearing stories of real conversion!

-Souls are being saved! Disciples are being made! Leaders are being equipped! Missions are starting churches!

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

FBC Palmer holds White Bible Ceremony

By **PAUL GAUNTT**

Pastor of First, Palmer

Since she was in the eighth grade, Hayley Maynard of First Baptist Church, Palmer has been an avid member and leader in Girls Missionary Auxiliary, and her participation has culminated in what the GMA program calls the White Bible Ceremony - given in honor of her recent wedding.

Maynard and her fiancée, Darrell Rasco, who serves as a part of the worship team at Central Baptist Church of Itasca, were honorees of the ceremony which was held Sunday evening, Aug. 26 at the church.

“The White Bible ceremony is in honor of any GMA girl who has completed all her steps in the program, and is about to be married,” said Teel Witt, who has been director of the program at First Baptist Church for over two decades.

The ceremony almost sounds like a marriage ceremony, with great emphasis being placed on the couple basing their marriage and relationship on God’s Word.

“It’s more than just going through the steps,” Maynard said in response to how the GMA program has impacted her life. “it’s about having the mentoring of great leaders, and having other girls to look up to. It’s about the friendships with likeminded girls, and about the camaraderie.”

Hayley, who has come up through what people of FBC believe to be one of the strongest local GMA programs in the association, has served as first vice president and second vice president for the state GMA program, and one year she was alternate Texas Miss GMA. She has also served as historian and president of the national GMA organization. Included in

her diligent work through the steps of the program was her memorization of 346 Bible verses throughout her years in GMAs. She is the oldest daughter of Lisa and Doug Maynard.

She recently graduated from University of Texas Arlington with a bachelor degree in computer engineering. Darrell, also a graduate of UTA, is a full time IT consultant for Planet Access.

The couple married, Sept. 8, and will make their home in Waxahachie. They will make FBC Palmer their home church. Hayley said she will continue to be actively involved in the GMA program, taking her turn at mentoring young ladies in the program.



▲ White Bible Ceremony



▲ Hayley Maynard and Darrell Rasco

105th Anniversary & Homecoming Celebration



FOREST HILL BAPTIST CHURCH
1880 North State Highway 37 • Quitman, Texas 75783

Sunday, October 7, 2018

10:30 Morning Celebration

Speaker: Kelly Clark

NOON LUNCH AND FELLOWSHIP

1:30 Afternoon Celebration

Fred Morrow, Pastor
Brock Mullino, Music Minister

Pastor serves 70 years in the ministry

Bro. James M. Edge, a well-known, local pastor has reached a milestone. As of July 4, Bro. Edge has been serving the Lord, building and pastoring churches all over the state of Texas, for 70 years!

He surrendered to the ministry in 1948, at Old Center Baptist Church, after spending four years heroically defending our country during WWII. Only God knows how many lives Bro. Edge has touched, encouraged, supported, and changed during his lifetime. Through these many years, he has pastored 14 churches, preached numerous revivals and presided over hundreds of weddings and funerals.

When Bro. Edge surrendered his heart and life to the ministry, the Lord truly used him! He recently turned 93 years old.

In honor of this great man of God, a small reception was held at his most recent pastorate, Liberty, Henderson July 8.

If you would like to send a card of congratulations and thanks to Bro. Edge, his address is 807 University, Carthage, TX 75633.



▲ James M. Edge

New Harmony, Tyler welcomes new pastor

By **JERRY FULTON**

Baptist Progress Editor

During a special Sunday morning service, New Harmony, Tyler welcomed Bro. Shawn Brandon as their new pastor August 19, 2018. Special welcomes were offered by various officials including Congressman Louie Gohmert and several BMA departmental leaders. The new pastor was presented with various gifts from the guests as well as the children and youth of the church. A proclamation by Governor Greg Abbott acknowledging the special occasion was also presented to the pastor.

Following Bro. Brandon's message, the staff of the church surrounded and prayed for him. The deacons of the church then shined the shoes of the pastor as a picture of their role as servants.

A church-wide meal followed the special service.

Bro. Brandon, 49, is a two-time graduate of Andersonville Seminary. He is married to Janee' Jones Brandon, and they have two adult children, Ben and Michaela.



▲ Michaela, Janee' and Bro. Shawn Brandon

Cashion honored for 25 years of service

By **JERRY FULTON**

Baptist Progress Editor

When Bro. Grady Cashion was called as pastor of First, Blooming Grove 25 years ago, the church averaged 65 in attendance and met in a much smaller building than they do today. Now, over 300 people gather on any given Sunday to worship in a beautiful, huge worship center. Cashion has worked hard to lead the congregation of First, Blooming Grove to reach their community for Christ. Since he has been pastor, 644 people have followed the Lord in baptism at the church and seven gentlemen have been licensed to preach the Gospel of Jesus Christ. God is definitely at work at First, Blooming Grove.

Twenty-five years of service by Bro. Cashion and his wife, Kathy, were celebrated on August 12, 2018. The pastor's favorite songs were sung throughout the day and special presentations were made. One such presentation was a painted portrait of Bro. and Mrs. Cashion done by Stephanie Ford, a member of the church. Also presented to the pastor were two plaques commemorating his twenty-five years as well as a picture album.

A highlight of the day was a concert performed by Shiloh Quartet who reunited for the special day. A special song written in honor of Bro. Cashion was sung by Mariah and Mallory Wallen with Steve Coburn. The children of the church sang and the youth performed a hilarious skit imitating Bro. Cashion.

Bro. Cashion thanked the church for the love shown to him on the special day and preached from Philippians 1 that he was thankful for his family, friends, flock, faith and future. At the end of the day, Bro. Cashion said he hoped to lead the church for several more years serving the Lord in Blooming Grove.



▲ Bro. Grady and Kathy Cashion

the talleys
in concert

FARLEY STREET BAPTIST CHURCH
1116 Brown Street, Waxahachie, Texas

October 21, 2018 • 6:00 p.m.

Hosted by the Ellis-Hill Baptist Association

thetalleys.com



Is church really important?

By SHARON COLE

With the technology of radio and television, it is easy for us to just sleep in on Sunday morning and if we choose, turn on the electric preacher. There's no pressure to give money to support the ministry of the church. There's no uneasiness when asked where you were last week. There's no responsibility to lead a committee or teach a class. There's no conviction of the Holy Spirit for things to do or things not done.

Some may think, "Why can't I just enjoy being at home with my family or out in the woods—just me and God under the trees or out in a boat?" "Why do I really need to attend a church to be close to God?"

Among the reasons one needs to go to church are these: We need to go to church because we need a family. We need interaction with other people in order to function properly. Life is too short to be lonely. The church is more than just a building. It is a family of people of like faith who are there to worship God. They are there to help one another, cry with one another, rejoice with one another and support one another through the tough times of life.

We need to go to church regularly because we are all students. No matter how old we are, we have the God-given capacity to learn. We are always learning because there is so much to learn and understand and know about God and His Word. We are called to be disciples of Christ and in turn, teach others to be disciples by example.

We need to go to church because it is a refuge. It is a sanctuary—a place to get away from the busyness of the world. It is a place to focus our attention and thoughts on God and to worship Him.

We need to go to church because we are setting an example of who is important in our life. When our neighbors see us leave the house week after week dressed in our best, they can tell that God is important to us. It just may cause them to wonder what is so exciting and come to see for themselves.

We need to go to church because it honors Christ. Since He died for us, it honors Him that we attend a worship service to remember that He died for us.

We need to go to church because it is a celebration of victory. Jesus gained victory over the grave, the tomb is empty and we celebrate His resurrection together with other believers. At least one day a week needs to be set aside for remembering Jesus' triumph over death and Satan.

We need to go to church because it is a time to spend with our Heavenly Father with other believers. It is

encouraging to every other person there to see your faithful presence. God wants to reveal His plans for us and His love for us as a family. When our children are not at home during mealtime, we miss them. God wants us to be there, at church time, at His "spiritual mealtime" to feed us through the minister that He has called to deliver His message. God warned us in Hebrews 10:25 to not forsake gathering with other believers. Remember, as Christians, we are the only Bible some people read. That's why we need the church.

PASTOR APPRECIATION

The State WMA for many years has recognized the pastors of our churches in October. It will be here before we know it. Because of printing schedules, we need to start thinking about it now. Generally, our churches recognize our pastors and deacons during October. But, actually, any time is appropriate to honor and express gratitude to them. What can you do to show appreciation for your pastor?

Of course, you can give him money and there are many things you could buy for him, but what your pastor desires the most are things that cannot be bought. Some of these things are: faithfulness to the Lord's house on Sunday and every time there is a service or event. He desires unity—everyone getting along and "preferring one another," (Romans 12:10).

If you asked your pastor what he needed, he would most likely say, "Pray for me." How can you pray? Pray for his health, that God would give him strength to do what he has been called to do. Pray for his wisdom and leadership skills and for his soul winning efforts. Pray during the Sunday morning sermon and the invitation.

As the Lord leads, go to him and express your love with a hug and/or handshake promising your total support. Just as it is his responsibility to shepherd us, it is our responsibility to lift him up before the Lord and honor him as a servant of God.

Pay attention to the condition of the church building if you don't have a committee to take care of the physical needs. God's house should be kept clean and in good repair as well as the outside appearance. Do those little things that make the Pastor know that you care about God's house.

If your church has never participated in honoring these men of God, begin this year. The point is to let your pastor and deacons know how much they are appreciated. Luke 6:38 says, "Give, and it shall be given unto you: good measure, pressed down, shaken together, and running over,


will be put into your bosom. For with the same measure that you use, it will be measured back to you."

STATE WMA PROJECT

The year is fast coming to a close on the WMA project of a large box trailer loaded with equipment for the state missionaries to use in their outreach ministries. They will be able to hold outreach events to invite people to their services. It is our plan to fill the trailer with supplies that are necessary for each mission church to use at different times. You may support this project in several different ways. You may send donations designated to the 2018 WMA Project to the Corresponding Secretary-Jo Strong-149 Suzanne Terrace, Burleson, TX 76028. Or you may look at the WMA website at texaswma.com to see what items you can purchase. Also, Texas WMA Project Promoter, Diana Morris can help you with knowing what is still needed: Contact her at grammydi1013@msn.com or 903-288-7575 or write at 11671Hwy 31E, Brownsboro, TX 75756.

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





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

A Gift That Keeps Giving

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

Some Ways to Give

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



TEXAS BAPTIST HOME FOR CHILDREN

TBHC glorifying God by caring for children

By **JASON CURRY**

I have been enjoying my personal readings in 2 Corinthians and am constantly reminded of God's conviction, His accomplishments, His forgiveness and His glorification in our lives. I am constantly called to live my life according to His purpose which is to glorify God by pursuing people, for my God, my family, my church, my staff and my community (all of you).

Texas Baptist Home for Children (TBHC) is committed to this purpose: Glorify God by caring for children. As so many know, we are starting a new fiscal year. We are looking forward to seeing God move in so many areas. Pray for us as we pursue what we feel God is leading us to accomplish.

I'm really pleased to share with you some things we have been working on this last year. Did you know that to care for a child at TBHC costs around \$32 a day? If you follow the math, one week is around \$225, which means one month of care is around \$1,000. When I learned this I felt I had to share it with you. It means a lot to us to care for our kids and you knowing how your gift is able to impact our children helps you feel confident in your gift.

Sept. 6 marked a great day for TBHC, we opened a second branch office in Garland. This office was opened to continue our purpose in an area of our state we feel that we can make a difference. North Garland was selected due to a need of almost 1,000 kids entering care in that area and only 600 beds available. That means we have the task of finding 400 "beds". Which means we are seeking foster families in the north Dallas area to serve kids in a big way. Our day was celebrated with our new partnership with Northside Baptist Church of Garland. Bro. Ryan Burchett was kind in describing our agency as the gospel in action. We are honored to partner with this church family and look forward to impacting the community by providing quality care for kids. Our day was celebrated with several neighboring churches: The Refuge, Journey, Crossroads, and Shiloh Road. Thank you pastors and members for joining us on this special day. We are opening our office with five families and 17 children. Pray for us because you are essential to our ability provide quality care.

We have an event coming up in September called North Texas Giving Day. As always this giving event is intended to reach people who may have not heard of us before. And our giving platform this year is based on our \$32 a day needs. Letting everyone know that if you can support us with a one-time gift you are supporting a child

in need. We exceeded our goal last year with your help and hope we can again this year. If you would like to be involved in establishing a goal for your group on our behalf, contact Jen Walker in our office and she can help you set up a way to help us reach our goal of \$35,000. If you would simply like to give, go to www.tbhc.org and click 'DONATE'.

As I said, I have been enjoying 2 Corinthians as of late. And one truth that has caught me is this "He who sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and he who sows bountifully will also reap bountifully." 2 Corinthians 9:6. Each one of us must choose to reap what we have sown and if we are bountiful in our reaping than we will see abundance from our investment. Thank you for investing in TBHC. We are honored by your generosity and pray that you would continue to be generous and share our story of hope for children.



▲ Grand opening of TBHC Garland office

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



An expression of everlasting love

Many of our friends choose to honor or remember a family member, a friend or an associate with a gift for the children of the Baptist Home. Texas Baptist Home for Children, in turn, notifies the appropriate person. Listed in capital letters are those honored or remembered from Aug. 1-31, 2018.

ENDOWMENTS

MYRA STOKES: Bill Stokes

HONORARIUMS

PALMER AND HOLLIN ANDERSON: James & Susan Anderson

NAOMA BIRKNER: Linnie & Lou Ann Sandel

ANDREW JOHNSON: Leon & Johnnie Ross

JOSIAH LEVENDUSKY: Leon & Johnnie Ross

KENZIE E. MCNUTT: Robert & Betty Erwin

BILLIE MERRILL: Leon & Johnnie Ross

MR & MRS ROY MERRILL: Leon & Johnnie Ross

MR & MRS JERRY MOORE: Leon & Johnnie Ross

RANDY ODOM: Jimmy Woodson

PASTORS & MISSIONARIES EVERYWHERE: Roy & Elizabeth Talbot

LUCY REMSING: Leon & Johnnie Ross

JAMES & WILMA SCHOENROCK'S 60TH WEDDING ANNIVERSARY: Charles & Charlotte Johnson

RACHEL & ANNA USSERY: Lamar & Peggy Lee

LANDEN WILKERSON: Leon & Johnnie Ross

MEMORIALS

ALL MY LOVED ONES: Wanda Stracener

JS & MYRTLE BASS: Charlotte Morgan

CLAUDE BLACKWELL: Friendship SS Class @ First Baptist Church, Carthage

ROYCE BURGE'S 90TH BIRTHDAY: Bethel Baptist Church of White Rock, Dallas

LAWRENCE LAREE CALDWELL: Brent & Tammy Swanner

BARBARA SOAPE DANIELS: Terri Hudson

WILLIAM EARL DENNIS: Raymond & Claynell Dennis

SAM DOUGLASS: Monna & Tommy Albea

SALLEY FERRELL: Fendley & Lois Tucker

BUBBA HARRINGTON: Barry Robertson

HALEY RENAE JOHNSON: Donna Johnson

BILLY W. KEELING: Ida Keeling

MARY KIRBO: Lola Baker

BETTY MARTINDALE LANGFORD: John Langford

ALICE LARGIN: Linda Hipp

ROY LEWIS: Linda Lewis.

MR. & MRS. HARRY J. MEYER: Roy & Elizabeth Talbot

JUDY MOSS: Lola Baker

DWAIN ORR: Jerry & Alice Null

RAYMOND & EARLEEN PAYNE: Paul & Alice Galloway

GEORGE POOL: Charles & Charlotte Johnson

SYDNEY J. POOL: Leon & Priscilla McCauley

GARY PORTER: Charles & Charlotte Johnson

JOANNA RAY: W.V. & Brenda Ray; Charles & Charlotte Johnson; Gary & Bonnie Miller; Emily Culpepper

CURTIS RHOADES: James Schafer

BETTE SPRINGER SCOTT: Albright Insurance Agency

REGINALD SHARP: Duane & Charlotte Turner

S.A. SHARP: Ida Sharp

CULLIS & AULETA WADE: Lena Ruth Green

WANDA: Bob Hickingbotham

TONY WATSON: James Schafer

CLARENCE WILSON: Nathan & Carolyn Andrews

MARY WOLFINGTON: John Wolfington

JACKSONVILLE COLLEGE

Two steps forward one step back

By DR. MIKE SMITH

You have probably heard the old saying, “two steps forward, one step back.” Have you ever felt as if this is happening to you? On some days, one step forward and two steps back might feel more accurate. Some days we make progress in one area but lose ground in another. The Desert Rose Band recorded similar sentiments in the song “One Step Forward.” The chorus says,

One step forward and two steps back;
 Nobody gets too far like that.
 One step forward and two steps back;
 This kind of dance can never last.

The Apostle Peter’s beginning journey with Christ was one step forward and two steps back. Even as his faith matured, and he experienced great victories, he still faced setbacks.

In Matthew 14:28-29, Peter stepped out of the boat to walk on water to Jesus, but he soon took his eyes off Jesus and began to sink (Matthew 14:30).

In John 18:10, Peter bravely cut off the ear of the high priest’s servant, but Jesus told Peter to put away his sword (John 18:11). Then Jesus healed the ear (Luke 22:51).

In Matthew 26:35, Peter boasted that he would never deny Jesus, but in verses 70-74, he denied Jesus three times.

The same Peter who frequently stumbled was the same Peter who preached boldly in Acts 2:14-41. Three thousand souls were saved that day.

Ministry is like that. You make progress; you lose ground. On one Sunday, ten members join the church; on the next Sunday, five members get angry and leave. Jacksonville College has experienced a “two steps forward, one step back” year.

We had 55 students make professions of faith in one Chapel service. We had more ministry students on campus this year than in the previous year. One ministry student was called to pastor a church; one was called to be an assistant pastor. Three were called to serve in youth ministries; one was called to serve as a children’s director. Five were called to work in camps, and one was called to serve with the Southern Baptists of Texas Convention.

Jacksonville’s Mayor Dick Stone declared May 9 as the first Jacksonville College Day, and 142 business leaders joined us on campus for lunch in the Little Cafeteria. These leaders gave JC a generous offering. Giving is up from our churches, giving is up from our associations, and giving is up from our individual supporters. Unfortunately, our expenses are up as well.

Enrollment has increased from last year. Our number of commuter students has increased and so has the number of online students. Our number of resident students has decreased.

We need to replace the old cast iron pipes that are under the cafeteria. This will cost \$34,000. So far, \$5,000 has been given, but more is needed.

By the grace of God, Jacksonville College is still providing a quality education from a biblical worldview. However, we

need your prayers, and we need your financial gifts. We are currently getting ready for our reaccreditation visit from the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges (SACSCOC) next year, and it is very important that we finish this year in a financially strong position. We would appreciate an extra financial gift from all of our supporters by the end of year.

Dr. Mike Smith is the president of Jacksonville College. Contact him at 105 B.J. Albritton Drive, Jacksonville, TX 75766, 903-586-2518 or msmith@jacksonville-college.edu.



▲ JC alumni and friends put together 80 gift bags filled with goodies and delivered them to the girls on campus as they moved into their dorms. Volunteers also distributed JC backpacks to all students attending Fall 2018 orientation.



▲ First Chapel service of Fall 2018

Upcoming Events

NEW 8-WEEK TERM

October 15 – December 6

Registration begins October 1

Four courses offered:

Anatomy and Physiology II,
 College Algebra,

Intermediate Developmental Algebra, and
 Learning Frameworks

31ST ANNUAL JC GOLF TOURNAMENT

Saturday, October 6

Shotgun Start at 7:30 a.m.

Cherokee Ranch Golf Club, Jacksonville Texas

Contact Ken Hamilton at

khamilton@jacksonville-college.edu, (903) 589-7130

MANLEY DISTINGUISHED LECTURE SERIES

Wednesday, October 10 at 11:00 a.m. in Buckner Chapel

Speaker: Tara Ross (www.taraross.com)

Topic: The Faith of George Washington

HOMECOMING 2019

February 1-2



What does God do with your personal struggles?



By **DR. JOHN M. ADAMS**

We all desire to feel forgiven for the wrong things we have done in our lives. As a “Moral Action” worker, sin and its by-products are always on my mind.

In the early 1990’s in Texas, I personally grew cold for several months, little prayer, cold Bible studies and living in the flesh instead of the Spirit. I personally remember the sin and sinfulness well. I remember confessing to God. Most of us know when we fall off the spiritual wagon, our lives become dull and need a fresh visit from God.

In Luke 7:47, Jesus said “Wherefore I say unto thee, her sins, which are many, are forgiven; for she loved much: but to whom little is forgiven, the same loveth little.” This is the story of the sinful woman anointing Jesus. It’s beautiful to see the abandon with which she throws herself at Jesus’ feet. She would bathe His feet with tears.

I cannot begin to count the number of people I talked with who are mired in shame over their pasts, just like this lady of Luke 7. It is stunning: because of her sinful past, she loves God all the more. In God’s economy, her sin can be used for the good; and somehow, God (who never desires that we sin) has made her better, not despite her past but because of it.

THE GUILTY SIN.

How much does sin matter to God? He cannot tolerate it. “Your eyes are too pure to look on evil; you cannot tolerate wrong” (Habakkuk 1:13) “God is light; in Him there is no darkness at all” (1 John 1:5).

God never lightly views sin. Because of one sin, Adam and Eve were exiled from paradise. Because of sin God brought a flood upon the earth’s inhabitants in the days of Noah. He

brought fire upon the cities of Sodom and Gomorrah because of their blatant immorality. Sin kept the original children of Israel in the wilderness for 40 years.

God hates sin. Yet to us, sin feels good, and we do it. Like Adam and Eve, we think we can know evil and yet not be overcome by it.

THE GUILTY PARTY.

On the lighter side of this subject, the I.R.S. received a letter, “Enclosed you will find a cashier’s check for \$150. I cheated on my tax return last year and have not been able to sleep ever since. If I still have trouble sleeping I will send you the rest”.

Bible people sinned just like you and I sin. Abraham lied, Lot was hurtful in his drunkenness, David in his adultery and murder, Peter in his denial and so on and so on. From the writing of “Starting with God”: “Whenever you sin, God’s Spirit inside you is grieved. The Holy Spirit will cause you to feel guilty. In sinning, you are choosing at that instant to live independently of the Lord’s will for you”.

The scripture of Luke 7:47 shouts out to us, “Her sins which are many”.

THE GUILTY RESTORED.

Can God forgive you and me of our gross and willful sins? Reading on in Luke 7:48-50, “And

He said unto her, Thy sins are forgiven. And they that sat at meat with him began to say within themselves, Who is this that forgiveth sins also? And he said to the woman, Thy faith hath saved thee; go in peace.”

God has completely forgiven you of all the things you have done. “Therefore there is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus” (Romans 8:1). He doesn’t look back now on your sins or your failures with condemnation, and neither should you. Again, God says, “I will remember their sins and their lawless deeds no more” (Hebrews 10:17). The cloud of guilt is gone! Accept God’s complete forgiveness. He can and will use you again!

With a flashing red light, every reader must stop and understand, “that every Christian in the world wrestles with sin every single day of his or her life”....Dr. Billy Graham.

Even the apostle Paul complained, “The good that I will do, I do not do; but the evil I will not do, that I practice” (Romans 7:20). None of us is conformed to the image of Christ overnight. It’s a process that will not be complete until we leave this world and see the Lord face to face. In the meantime, our assignment is to trust God and keep on “walking in the Spirit” (Galatians 5:16).

So every time Satan brings up your past sin or sins, give it to Jesus. I’ll never forget my lapse of the early 1990’s and the great lesson God has taught me. Luke 7:47...”her sins, which are many, are forgiven!” Praise God, Praise God!

Dr. John M. Adams is the executive director of BMAA Moral Action. Contact him at Moral Action - BMA of America . P.O. Box 305 . Mantachie, Mississippi 38855 or visit www.macbma.net for more information.



2018 OBS wrap up

By **MIKE GOODWIN**

EIM President

As Evangelistic International Ministries wraps up an amazing summer of Overseas Bible School and we reflect on all of the beautiful people that heard the Gospel, we’re in awe and humbled to be servants of Jesus! We were blessed to see the work of God in Shinyanga Tanzania, La Flecha Honduras and Ramnicu Valcea Romania! The cultures are vastly different, but the power of Jesus’ saving grace is universal!!

Each summer we are amazed as God handpicks and prepares each team to come together and serve Him in a foreign country. The teams this summer were most definitely called by God for His purpose and glory.

We started our summer OBS in Shinyanga Tanzania. Renatus Kanunu serves as EIM Tanzania Missionary and he led our team with wisdom and confidence in the Lord. As we traveled Hut to Hut to share the Gospel in the village nearby Renatus’ young church, our team saw the power of the Living Word of God!! The following Sunday there were 22 new visitors in attendance for worship service! In the afternoon we had OBS in a school close to a village where there are plans to plant a church. Our team led 300 children through scripture from creation to the cross. Lives were changed, hearts were touched and souls were added to the Kingdom of God thru the work of the Holy Spirit!

Mt Olive Baptist Church in Guy, AR sent a fantastic team

to serve with us in La Flecha Honduras. Manuel and Maira Lepe have served as EIM Honduras Missionaries for 12 years. We served with them each day in several different schools as we presented the Gospel and gave the children a Shepherd’s Bags. In the afternoon we had OBS at a large school in La Flecha close to Maira and Manuel’s home church. The children and parents loved learning about the love of our creator and his perfect plan for our Savior! Pastor Jose’ served with us throughout the week and I’m excited to hear how he has been able to disciple this community.

To close our summer OBS a team from Antioch East Baptist Church in Magnolia, AR traveled with us to Ramnicu Valcea Romania. Throughout the week we served with Cristi Ciuculescu, Pastor of The Good Shepherd Church. Each morning we went into a gypsy village for OBS. The children and their parents were so excited for someone to care enough to come to them and share the love of Jesus. In the afternoons we had OBS at a soccer arena in Poscesti. Jesus Christ was made famous in both villages!

We have started plans for our 2019 Summer OBS!

Philippines - May 22-June 1

Honduras - June 22-June 28

Tanzania - July 10-July 21

Honduras - August 3-9



Please visit our website if you are interested in serving with us next year! www.eimworldwide.org

“The call of missions is to love Jesus in such a way that we strive to live every single moment committed to being witnesses of the Gospel and it’s transforming power.”

Alicia Jackson, EIM OBS Director, Mike Goodwin, EIM President



SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSONS

The Fruit of Repentance:

By PAUL GAUNTT

DATE: October 6, 2018
TEXT: 1 Samuel 7:1-14

For about 400 years, Shiloh had been the location of the tabernacle and the Ark of the Covenant. Through those years, people brought their sacrifices and gifts there on a regular basis. Although for the following years, the tabernacle was moved to several locations. The Ark of the Covenant, which was the symbol of the presence of God, was taken to Abinadab's house in Kiriath Jearim (1 Samuel 6:21) after the Philistines returned it. It remained there 20 years.

It was at this time the people of Israel were ready to follow the Lord again.

1. Samuel told them to remove the false gods. Namely the gods of Baal Ashtoreth. He admonished them to commit their ways to God, and serve only Him. There was a promise which followed that command — they would be rescued from the Philistines.

2. Samuel told them to gather at Mizpah (north of Jerusalem) with the Benjamites, where he would intercede to the Lord on their behalf. They fasted and confessed their sins (7:6).

3. Samuel offered a young lamb to the Lord as a burnt offering and sacrifice, symbolizing the atonement of the Lamb of God Who became sin in order to redeem us.

4. Samuel's prayers were answered on behalf of Israel. The Lord drove the Philistines away with a thunderous voice, enabling Israel to pursue and defeat them.

5. Samuel marked the victory with a stone which he named "Ebenezer (stone of help) signifying the Lord's help to Israel. Israel also recovered territory that had been lost to the Philistines (7:14).

The pattern is still the same today. Stray from the Lord and reap judgement. But in His lovingkindness, he sends a messenger to give a call to repentance. Brokenness and conviction once again sets in, and brings a return to fellowship with God. This is the fruit of repentance.

The danger of getting your own way

By PAUL GAUNTT

DATE: October 14, 2018
TEXT: 1 Samuel 8:1-22

It is instilled into the psyche of humankind to want one's own way. Most people hate being told what to do — how to live. I am reminded of the rebellious boy who exclaimed, "I'm so tired of my parents telling me what to do! As soon as I graduate, I'm getting out of here. I think I'll join the Marines."

This in essence, describes Israel's attitude. They wanted to be ruled by an earthly king, but they also wanted their freedom as well. Their attitude was a result in Samuel's sons, Joel and Abijah, becoming self-indulgent, perverse leaders of Israel — accepting bribes and getting dishonest gain.

Israel was so distraught, they demanded the right to choose a king, rather than to be directly led by God the Father. Samuel was distraught because his leadership had been rejected by Israel. But God assured him, "They have not rejected thee, but they have rejected me, that I should not reign over them."

Nations and empires today have elected to fall away from God's leadership, including the United States of America. Many want an oppressive, socialistic government and a "level playing field" for all people, in hopes of finding an Utopia. Israel was looking longingly at such an arrangement.

Samuel explained the dismal plight of a nation that would be under the rule of an earthly king (verse 10-16).

1. The king will take your sons for his servants (verse 11).
2. The king will take control of all agriculture (verse 12).
3. The king will make slaves of your daughters.
4. The king will divide your means of livelihood (fields, vineyards, olive yards) and distribute it to his people (in other words, the king will spread the wealth — sound familiar?) (verse 14-15).
5. The king will cause you to be like all other nations (verse 20).

The Israelites wanted to be like all other nations (verse 5). So, God, in essence, told them, "Okay, if it's a king you want, it's a king you'll get." It's like the provocation in Numbers 14, where the Israelites said they would be better off to die in the wilderness than to enter into Canaan. God granted them their wish (Numbers 14:29).

Partial obedience is not obedience

By PAUL GAUNTT

DATE: October 21, 2018
TEXT: 1 Samuel 15:1-35

SAUL SPARES AGAG

A DISOBEDIENT HEART WILL DEVIATE FROM GOD'S EXPRESS COMMANDS.

Secular Jewish historian Josephus indicated that Saul possibly could have spared Agag "either out of a foolish pity for the goodliness of his person" or for his respect to his royal majesty. Whatever his reasoning, Saul blatantly defied God's command in sparing the Amalekite king.

A DISOBEDIENT HEART ALWAYS EXCUSES DISOBEDIENCE BY FEIGNING WORSHIP.

Saul spares Amalekite cattle and sheep: His excuse for this act of disobedience was to have something to offer to God. God will not accept such "worship." We must all examine ourselves to make sure our worship to God is from a pure, sincere heart, and not just an open act to impress men.

A DISOBEDIENT HEART IS ELEVATED IN PRIDE.

Saul shows no sign of remorse for his sin. It was almost with pride that he announces to Samuel that he had "performed the commandment of the Lord." It was almost as pompous as the Pharisee who elevated himself over the publican saying, "I fast twice in the week, I give tithes of all that I possess" (Luke 18:12). A worship born out of an unrepentant heart is not worship, but hypocrisy.

Also, we get a hint of Saul's self-absorption by his desire to set up a memorial to himself in Carmel in honor of his victory over the Amalekites, prior to meeting Samuel (verse 12). Samuel spoke the truth about Saul when he told him in verse 17, "When thou wast little in thine own sight, was thou not made the head of the tribes of Israel. . .?"

A DISOBEDIENT HEART IS REJECTED BY GOD

God's displeasure was noted in verse 11, "It repenteth me that I have set up Saul to be king."

Saul confessed his sin (verse 24) but it was too little too late. As Samuel walked away, Saul grabbed his robe and caused it to tear (verse 27). Samuel used the incident as a visual to explain to Saul that the kingdom was being ripped from him.

A heart approved by God

By PAUL GAUNTT

DATE: October 28, 2018
TEXT: 1 Samuel 16:1-3

While Samuel was mourning over Saul's rejection by God as Israel's ruler, he learned an important lesson about how God selects His anointed servant. God tends to choose those who are the least likely. God delights in using the "useless."

Steve Shultz, Founder of the Elijah List, once said, "In God's economy, the least likely to succeed are the most likely to succeed. Why? Because in our weakness He is strong, and there is nothing that's impossible for Him."

The Apostle Paul learned that through his experience with the thorn in the flesh. (2 Cor. 12)

A servant is useful to God when he is crucified to self. As we studied last week, Saul was anything but crucified to self. He was full of self. He built an altar to himself, and he arrogantly ignored God's express command to slay all the Amalekites.

A servant is useful to God even when he seems useless to the world. In sizing up Jesse's sons whom God sent Samuel to

Bethlehem to choose a new leader, Samuel took one look at the tall, handsome Eliab, he was certain this was the man to lead Israel.

But the Lord told him to "look not on his countenance, or on the height of his stature; because I have refused him: for the Lord seeth not as man seeth; for man looketh on the outward appearance, but the Lord looketh on the heart."

So, the most unlikely — little ruddy complected David — the youngest of the pack — who had never been outside the watch care of his father, was the chosen one to lead Israel.

Paul said in 1 Corinthians 1:28, "And base things of the world, and things which are despised, hath God chosen, Yea, and things which are not, to bring to naught things that are."

A preacher once said, "God doesn't call the qualified, God qualifies whom He calls."

Cases in point: Rahab was used to hide the spies from the army of Jericho — she was a prostitute. Jacob was a cheater. Peter talked out of turn. David had an affair. Moses had a temper.

Noah got drunk. Jonah had self-pity. Paul was a serial killer. Martha was bossy. Thomas was a doubter. Sara was impatient. Elijah was moody. Abraham was old. And Lazarus was dead.

If God can approve these for His service, He can most certainly use you.

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.



EVENTS

EAST TEXAS MISSIONS DISTRICT MEETING

DATE: August 28, 2018

PLACE: Centro De Vida Mission,
1013 S. Robertson Avenue, Tyler, Texas

TIME: 6 p.m.

50TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

DATE: September 29, 2018 – September 30, 2018

PLACE: Eastside Baptist Church, Conway Arkansas

TIME: Saturday, September 29 – Gospel Singing and Fellowship at 6 p.m.

Sunday, September 30 – Worship Service at 10:30 a.m., Fellowship and Dinner on the Grounds 12 p.m.

118TH ANNUAL SESSION OF THE BAPTIST MISSIONARY ASSOCIATION OF TEXAS

DATE: November 5-6, 2018

PLACE: Calvary Baptist Church, Fairfield, Texas

Church news

GLADE CREEK, GILMER reports that Bro. Harrison Baugh was licensed as a minister of the gospel Aug. 12, 2018. He attended East Texas Baptist University earning his Bachelor of Arts degree, and will further his education to earn his Masters degree. He and his family are members of Glade Creek, Gilmer.

personnel & positions

AVAILABLE MINISTER

MAX R. MARTIN is available for pulpit supply in the East Texas area. He would consider serving as an interim pastor. Contact him at 903-948-2356.

AVAILABLE POSITIONS

PASTOR—First Missionary, Cleburne is seeking a bivocational pastor. Send resume to Jason Hardin, P.O. Box 259, Cleburne, Texas 76033 or jasonhardin@sbcglobal.net.

STUDENT MINISTRY PASTOR—First, Carthage is seeking a full-time student ministry pastor. Five years of experience and bachelor's degree required. For more information, contact James McRight at james@firstbaptistcarthage.com.

PASTOR—Simmons Hill, Diana is seeking a pastor. Send resume along with references to Simmons Hill Baptist Church, P.O. Box 224, Diana, Texas 75640 or plstokley@gmail.com. ^{10/18}

PASTOR—New Hope, Saint Elmo at Richland Chambers Lake, located 85 miles south of Dallas, is seeking a high-energy, outreach-motivated pastor to replace our retiring pastor. Candidate must have had prior pastoral experience or have had a significant leadership role in a ministry other than as a pastor but have the skill set and calling for the pastor role. Please send resume to the church at P.O. Box 215, Streetman, Texas 75859 or call 903-599-3364. ^{10/18}

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

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

OBITUARY

JAMES HOWARD POPE, 86, of Weatherford, passed away Aug. 26, 2018. He was born May 30, 1932 in Corsicana to Burt Pope and Lillian Kate Dixon Pope. Bro. Pope was a Baptist minister for over 53 years. He pastored at Navarro County, Olton, McAdoo, Lubbock, Morton, Plainview, Mineral Wells, Duncanville, Cedar Hill, and Crockett. He enjoyed watching Texas Tech sports, especially football or basketball and enjoyed woodworking. He loved his grandchildren dearly and spending time with his family.

He was preceded in death by his wife, Bobbie Pope; son, Randy Pope; brother, Kenneth Pope and his parents. He is survived by his son and daughter-in-law, Michael and Jettie Pope; five grandchildren, Stacy Siskles, Chris Pope, Jason Pope, Justin Pope, Jeff Pope and 16 great grandchildren.

A funeral service was conducted Sept. 1 at Shady Grove Baptist Church - Union High.

CHURCH REVIEW

August 19, 2018

CHURCH	SS	WORSHIP	ADDITIONS
First, Palmer	49	70	
Glade Creek, Gilmer	17	38	
Jackson, Joaquin	82	125	
Little Flock, Jewett	8	16	
Little Mound, Big Sandy	28	40	
New Hope, Mineola	75	113	3 by baptism
Olde Tyme, White Oak		45	
Rosewood, Gilmer	114	240	1 profession of faith
Sand Flat, Grand Saline	44	68	
Security Calvary, Cleveland	23	38	
Simmons Hill, Diana	12	22	
Woodland, Splendora	332	513	3 by letter

August 26, 2018

CHURCH	SS	WORSHIP	ADDITIONS
Anthony Drive, Ennis	55	104	
First, Omen		52	
First, Palmer	54	76	
Glade Creek, Gilmer	20	44	
Jackson, Joaquin	75	136	1 by letter
Little Flock, Jewett	8	23	4 by statement
Little Mound, Big Sandy	35	51	
New Hope, Mineola	68	146	
Olde Tyme, White Oak		35	
Pilgrim Rest #2, Golden	31	51	
Rosewood, Gilmer	145	247	
Sand Flat, Grand Saline	38	55	
Security Calvary, Cleveland	17	37v	
Simmons Hill, Diana	15	19	
Yellowpine Macedonia, Hemphill	15	26	

September 2, 2018

CHURCH	SS	WORSHIP	ADDITIONS
First, Omen	44	61	
First, Palmer	64	84	
Jackson, Joaquin	76	144	
Little Flock, Jewett	10	28	
Merriman Hills, Sherman	17	22	
New Harmony, Tyler	291	389	
New Hope, Mineola	81	131	
Olde Tyme, White Oak		35	
Pilgrim Rest #2, Golden	39	58	
Rosewood, Gilmer	168	257	1 by baptism, 4 professions of faith, 2 by letter
Simmons Hill, Diana	13	19	
Yellowpine Macedonia, Hemphill	17	26	

September 9, 2018

CHURCH	SS	WORSHIP	ADDITIONS
First, Palmer	40	64	
Glade Creek, Gilmer	21	35	
Jackson, Joaquin	77	123	
Little Flock, Jewett	5	15	
Little Mound, Big Sandy	39	53	4 by letter
New Hope, Mineola	87	143	
Olde Tyme, White Oak		38	
Pilgrim Rest #2, Golden	47	65	
Rosewood, Gilmer	141	280	3 by baptism, 1 profession of faith
Yellowpine Macedonia, Hemphill	16	21	

MEN of COURAGE CONFERENCE

Saturday October 6, 2018

CHS Performing

Arts Center

6:00 pm

Tickets: \$20

For tickets or information
contact: 903-692-5029

james@firstbaptistcarthage.com

Guest Speaker



Alex Kendrick

Actor, writer, producer, and director
of award winning pictures like –
Fireproof, Courageous, Facing the Giants,
& *War Room*

Worship & Praise



Ryan Stevenson

Contemporary Christian artist who
has recorded inspiring songs like –
Eye of the Storm & The Gospel

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while available



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Dr. Gary Oneal
Oak Park Baptist Church



Concert
Jaime Jorge
Concert Violinist



Concert
N Him
Gospel Trio



Music
Neil Dumas
David Attebery



Donny Parrish