

Baptist Progress

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LIFEWORD SUNDAY, OCT. 23

By **HOLLY MERIWEATHER**

Lifeword Media Ministries

Oct. 23 is 2016 Lifeword Sunday and we want all BMA churches to be involved in learning about, praying for and giving to Lifeword on that day. To help each church participate in this emphasis day, we will be mailing out what used to be called “walk packets” to all BMA churches. Each packet will include a letter from Executive Director Steve Crawley, a 2016 Lifeword video, two posters and a sample bulletin insert. (Order more inserts online when you order your T-shirts at lifeword.org/lifewordsunday/ or contact holly@lifeword.org.)

We want BMA church members to understand our unique ministry that uses media to spread the gospel even if their churches no longer hold a fundraising event like Walk for the World. The short video and bulletin inserts will help to tell our story.

Pastors who commit to participate in Lifeword Sunday by registering their churches will be entered into a Dec. 12 drawing for a 60-inch TV. Other requirements for entry include the following: naming a contact person for Lifeword Sunday/WalkfortheWorld and sending in contributions (marked “Walk” or “Lifeword Sunday”) by Dec. 12.

To register your church or order T-shirts, go to lifeword.org/lifewordsunday/. In addition to being entered into the drawing, pastors and Team Lifeword leaders will receive free T-shirts just for registering. Don't forget to mark your church calendar, register your church, show the video, give out inserts, and send in your contributions to enter to win the TV. (Churches who have already registered will be included in the drawing.)



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www.bmatexas.org



Baptist Progress

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Baptist Progress

MINISTRY  CONNECTION

WORKSHOPS & CONFERENCE

Baptist Progress Ministry Connection Workshops

Intentional Interim Pastor & Pastor Search Team Training

WHEN: Thursday, August 25; 10 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

WHERE: BMA of Texas Building, Waxahachie

WHO: Dr. Mike Smith, president, Jacksonville College, Jacksonville

Transitioning to Small Groups

WHEN: Thursday, Sept. 22, 2016; 10 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

WHERE: BMA of Texas Building, Waxahachie

WHO: Dr. Blanton Feaster, education pastor,
Farley Street Baptist Church, Waxahachie

Understanding Generations

WHEN: Thursday, Oct. 20, 2016; 10 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

WHERE: BMA of Texas Building, Waxahachie

WHO: Jerry Burnaman, manager,
Baptist Missionary Loan Association

Baptist Progress Ministry Connection Conference

Baptist Progress & Ellis-Hill Baptist Association

Ministry Connection Conference

WHEN: Monday, Nov. 14, 2016

WHERE: Farley Street Baptist Church, Waxahachie

WHO: Brian Free & Assurance in Concert;

Speakers include Jonathan Falwell, John Bisagno and Jerry Jolly

To register for any of the workshops or the conference above, please go to <http://www.baptistprogress.org/registration.html>, email editor@baptistprogress.org or call 972-923-0756. The conference and all workshops are free, but registration is required. Seating is limited, so reserve your place today!

Church Health

Centripetal versus Centrifugal

By LARRY BARKER

The message of Acts 1:8 is clear, but sometimes we do not grasp the full magnitude of the moment in which it was delivered. The disciples certainly appeared to be very hopeful that maybe this was the time for the Kingdom to be ushered in triumphantly. Then, instead of that occurring, Jesus ascends back to heaven and they are given their marching orders. We “get it” to a degree but look a little deeper and think about the seismic shift that the great commission asked them to make in their focus.

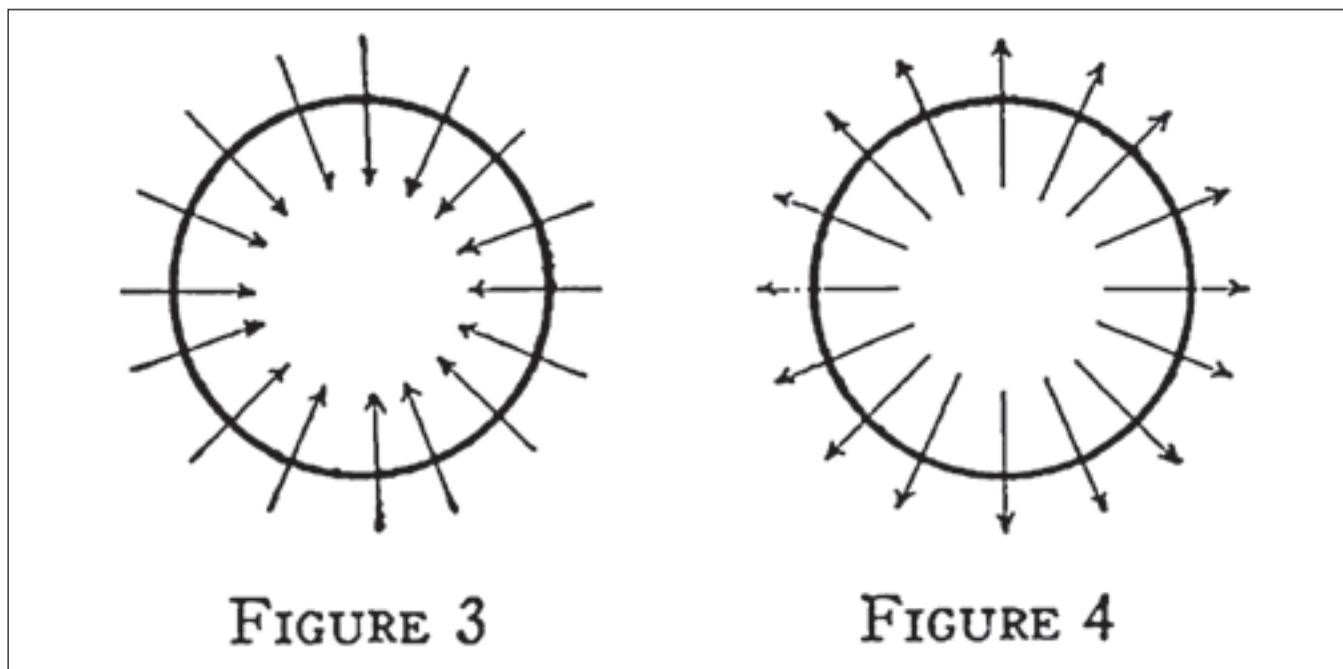
All through the Old Testament the people of God focused on the city of God, Jerusalem. They travelled there for the festivals and this great city was where their king sat upon the throne. The temple was built there and the Ark of the Covenant rested there. It almost appears to be a huge magnet that draws everyone’s attention, time, and worship. Even the woman at the well said, “Yet you Jews say that the place to worship is in Jerusalem.” It was the center of Old Testament worship, sacrifice, and service to God.

Now, in Acts 1:8, Jesus is instructing them to go out of this one city, Jerusalem, and go into all the cities of the world with the gospel. This major shift of focus and energy was to be embraced by all of the disciples present that day, all of His followers through the centuries, and all of His disciples today. Each and every church does not have a mission as much as the mission of God has churches to carry out that mission. Luke 19:13 makes this clear, “Engage in business until I come back.”

The centrifugal mission of taking His kingdom message to every city was replacing the centripetal mission of bringing outsiders into an earthly city. Centripetal force pulls everything to the center and creates a momentum (think black hole) that constrains anything from moving outward. This helps us to better understand this question; “Is your church more inwardly focused than outwardly focused?” In *Subversive Kingdom*, Ed Stetzer says, “Spiritual growth and maturity should not lead us away from contact with unbelievers but rather right into the midst of them.”

A great exercise for your church would be to make two lists. The first list is where you should write down every ministry that is focused on people already in the church. The second list is where you then write down every ministry focused on who is not in church. You may be shocked to find out that quite often 90 to 95 percent of all church ministries are focused on who is already there. How could you shift the focus outward? How could you better challenge and train your people to live focused on those far from God?

Centrifugal force creates a momentum moving and directing everything outward from the center. It is the exact opposite from centripetal force but both can be of equal power. Every church



must ask themselves which force is the primary focus of their ministry and how that reality aligns itself with the scriptures? In *7 Steps to Transform Your Church*, Bill Hull says, “The traditional church is talking out of both sides of its mouth, giving a hearty ‘amen’ to the Great Commission and an entrenched ‘no’ to the changes required.”

We are kingdom soldiers who are establishing kingdom outposts behind enemy lines. The reality is that we cannot reduce the mission of God down to attending services, Bible studies, and enjoying each other’s fellowship. The scriptures remind us repeatedly that we cannot fulfill the Great Commission by getting together a couple of times a week, teaching our best Bible studies, singing our best songs, and preaching our best sermons. These are all vitally important and valuable but they are to ground us in our mission and focus us on sending capacity not seating capacity.

Ed Stetzer in *Subversive Kingdom* also says, “We’re not just opening the doors and hoping for a good turnout. We’re opening our lives to show off the glory of our Savior by the way we live together, serve together, and reach out in Jesus’ name together.” The kingdom of God is compared to yeast, which means we have to “mix it up” to be effective. We are also told to be salt, which requires contact with world for us to have an impact in their lives. We are also to be a light unto the world and light streaks away and shines everywhere in every situation.

In Matthew 5 in the Sermon on the Mount we are admonished by Jesus several times that “You have heard said but I say unto you....” One of those examples of having a kingdom impact is

in verse 41, “And if anyone forces you to go one mile, go with him two.” While there is much to say about the context of this passage, one truth is clear, we need to be willing to go do more, sacrifice more, and give more as we represent our king. One truth though is that if we willing to go the extra mile that gives us more time to tell the one we are traveling with about Jesus Christ our Lord and Savior.

Healthy churches work diligently and intentionally at moving away from centripetal force to being a centrifugal force church. The healthiest churches take Luke 15 seriously where it speaks about the lost sheep, the lost coin, and the lost son. Healthy churches are focused on the core, the crowd, but also the community. Our church strives to express it this way, “We desire to be centered on God, committed to one another, and concerned about our community. We must resist the temptation to be focused on the first two while neglecting the third.”

In UTurn Church Kevin G. Harney says, “The gravitational pull of the church naturally pulls us inward, toward each other. If we are going to move outward toward those who are lost, it will take more energy than most of us dream.”

Larry Barker is the pastor of Cornerstone, Jacksonville. He also serves as the operations director for North American Missions. For more information or to contact him, visit www.bmamissions.org.



BMA of America News

Team schedule set for Evangelistic International Ministries



By FONDA NORRIS

Our 2017 team schedule has been set. EIM will be offering several short term mission opportunities for adults and families. EIM has over 15 years' experience in leading and facilitating teams. EIM would consider it an honor for you to be a part of our team. All of our team trips are evangelistic in its approach and focus. Listed below are the dates that are available for additional team members.

June 14–25 Overseas Bible School Shinyanga, Tanzania. Cost \$3,000.00. Cost includes airfare, lodging, transportation and food. (Cost does not include a Visa fee due in Tanzania.) EIM currently has openings for four additional team members. For adults 21 and over. Team limited to 16 members

September 1–8 Overseas Bible School Rimnicu Vilcea, Romania. Cost \$2,800.00. Cost includes airfare, lodging, transportation and food. For adults 21 and over. Team limited to 12 members

October 9–13 Shepherd Bag™

Distribution Honduras. Location not yet determined. Cost \$1,500.00. Cost includes airfare, lodging, transportation and food. For adults 21 and over. Team limited to 4-8 members.

November 3–10 Overseas Bible School Accra, Ghana. Cost \$3,000. Cost includes airfare, lodging, transportation and food. (Cost does not include a Visa fee.) For adults 21 and over. Team limited to 16 members.

A non-refundable deposit of \$350.00 and application deadline for Overseas Bible School will be due November 15, 2016. Application can be found on our web site www.eimworldwide.org "serve with us" link. Application can be submitted online.

If you would like to put together a team from your church we would be willing to look at our schedule and see if we could schedule your team.

If you are interested please contact Fonda Norris, EIM team coordinator, at 870-226-3626 or email her at fnorris@eimworldwide.org

The future is bright

By SCOTT ATTEBERY

It was Friday morning, July 8, in Dallas. The night before, snipers shot five police officers two miles away during the third session of SOAR student conference. Friday morning seemed overshadowed by the darkness of a broken nation.

Session four of SOAR began promptly at 9:30 am as scheduled on Friday morning. Speaker Clif Johnson challenged the students with the message that every believer should be a missionary. As the session closed, a call was made for students to come forward if interested in a short-term mission trip through the BMA

mission's VSM program. Approximately two hundred students flooded the aisles. Next, students who had given their lives to missions were asked to come forward. Another fifty or sixty students walked the aisle.

Watching the students come forward, I was overcome with joy. Although the world looked dark that morning, the future is looking bright! Praise God for still calling young people into missions!

Dr. Scott Attebery is the executive director of DiscipleGuide Church Resources. Contact him by email at scott@discpleguide.org, on Facebook: Scott Attebery or Twitter @scottattebery. Visit www.DiscipleGuide.org.

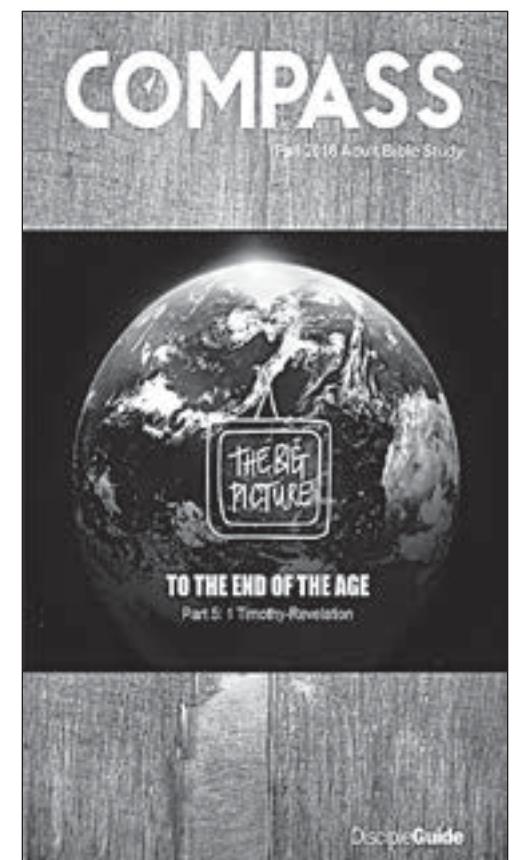


Compass Big Picture Series continues

DiscipleGuide is pleased to continue offering Compass Bible Study users a survey of the entire Bible through our "Big Picture" series. For the past several quarters, Compass has surveyed individual books of the Bible in an attempt to give readers a bird's-eye-view of Scripture. As with any genre, book, or passage of Scripture, a lifetime could be given to explore the depths of God's truth. The goal is to provide believers with a better understanding of the entire whole of Scripture. Sometimes seeing a large map helps you navigate specific terrain.

The Fall quarter will focus on portions of Paul's epistles, the writings of others such as John, Jude and Peter. Eventually we are led to Revelation where we see the sweeping panorama of God's redemption completed. Believers can be confident that the stories and truths contained in these pages of the New Testament are relevant and applicable today. All Scripture is profitable (Romans 15:4; 2 Timothy 3:16-17), and every book preaches Christ in a unique way (Luke 24:27; 1 Corinthians 10:11).

For more information or to order Compass, go to discpleguide.org or call 800.333.1442 today.



Church Issues

12 Principles for More Effective Ministry Team Meetings – In Any Size Church

How to get the most out of planning meetings. Including overcoming the biggest hurdle for scheduling them in small churches.

By **KARL VATERS**

I don't like meetings.

Planning meetings, board meetings, staff meetings, committee meetings...

If I could jettison one aspect of pastoring, that's what I would get rid of.

So why do I have them? Because, when done well, ministry team meetings are an essential tool for communication, team-building, problem-solving, vision-casting and more.

So I make sure the staff and volunteer meetings are as few and as effective as possible by requiring that they meet these 12 criteria:

MEETINGS MUST BE:

1. Consistent

They might be weekly, monthly or quarterly, depending on the task or project. But once their frequency has been determined, their appearance on the calendar should be something every team member can rely on.

2. Convenient

If you pastor a small church, one of the hardest aspects of planning meetings is something most lists like this take for granted – namely, how to get everyone in the room. When they're paid staff, it's easy. When they're all volunteers (often including the pastor), getting everyone together can be the hardest task of all.

At our small church, we set team meetings around their schedules, not mine. Often, we'll catch up following our Sunday services, since team members are already at the church. Or during their lunch hour. Or on the night of our children's program, so parents don't need a sitter. Or in a member's home.

3. Task-Oriented

Teams do things. Committees talk about things.

Some committees may be necessary for your church's polity, or for legal reasons. But, other than those, I recommend meeting with task-oriented teams, not committees.

4. About Solutions, Not Blame

Never let meetings descend into gripe sessions. The best way to avoid that is to make every meeting about finding solutions, not assigning blame. All the energy should be aimed towards answers, not problems.

I also highly recommend dropping the "don't raise a

problem unless you have a solution" rule. This is why a lot of issues never get raised – or solved.

Instead, the rule should be "raise a problem so we can all get focused on finding a solution together."

5. Short

Unless you're in the final crunch time for a big event or project, most well-planned meetings should last an hour or less. The people you most want on your team won't sit for long meetings, and the people who love long meetings aren't the ones you want on your team.

6. Planned

If you're wondering how to keep meetings short, this is Rule Number One. Have an agenda and stick with it.

All major subjects must be on the agenda in advance.

Sure, there will be last-minute issues, including those that arise as a result of the meeting. But proper planning will keep them to a minimum and allow for greater effectiveness in the meeting.

7. Scheduled and Confirmed

Never leave one meeting without confirming or setting the date for the next meeting. It's so much easier to do this when everyone is already in the room than to try to corral everyone later through endless phone calls and emails.

Then set up a system (like email, text, or a planning app) to remind everyone about the meeting two to three days in advance.

8. Effective

If they stop working, stop having them.

The value and effectiveness of every ministry team should be assessed at least annually, with an eye to determining their value and, if they continue, making them more effective.

9. Collaborative

Very few things will kill the team spirit of a church like territorialism. When ministries start fighting over limited budgets, calendar time, volunteers and facilities, it's a sure sign that they've forgotten that everyone is a vital part of a whole body.

This is why the next point is so essential.

10. Mission-Focused



Every church needs to know why they exist. Then stay laser-focused on that.

Every team meeting should always have a big-picture aspect to it. How is what we're doing helping us all reach our common goal?

11. Celebrative

At our church's weekly staff meeting we have a regular agenda item called Ministry Stories. It's a time when we pause to ask "so, what's going on in your ministry that we can celebrate with you?"

Every leadership team needs to be intentional about celebrating victories, not just solving problems.

12. Next-Step Oriented

Everyone should leave every meeting with a better picture of what they're supposed to do next. And some helpful ideas about how it's going to get done.

On project-oriented teams, I will often close the meeting by asking each member to summarize what they're going to do between this meeting and the next meeting. This quick exercise keeps the team focused, disciplined and accountable.

MAKE MEETINGS MATTER

This list didn't happen easily or quickly. I learned each principle the hard way. But using them has made our ministry teams more effective, cooperative and even joyful. I hope they can do the same for you, your church and your ministry teams.

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BMA TEXAS MISSIONS

Your Church's Mission Movement in Texas



A word from your Missionaries:

By HEITH MITCHELL

WILL HUTCHINSON – RESONATE COMMUNITY MISSION, HUTTO

Wow has this summer been amazing. We have been working hard to get doors opened the last two years and many of the relationships and doors are opening fast. From teen groups to city functions we are always working in our community.



▲ Will Hutchinson

Pray that God will continue to open these doors and provide laborers for the field. This is one of our faithful ladies helping me at a meal feeding homeless and kids in Hutto.

Josilyn, and a young couple we saved at our church. Pray as we get ready to hand socks out and do ministry in our school system.



Pray God opens doors for us to serve and for people to realize their need for Jesus. Also, in September we are in charge of the kids zone at a huge Air Show in Terrell. Thank you for all you do for our church. Please continue to support us as we strive to organize in January.

ARNULFO MALDONADO – TEXAS HISPANIC MISSION COORDINATOR

I thank God that we are focused in on one family at our newest church plant and our goal is to seek a family a month. I thank God for Fernando Duran and his family. They have committed to being the kick off team that starts new missions within 100 miles of Houston.



▲ Arnulfo Maldonado

I met with two new church planters this month. We hope to open another work in the Houston area next month, Lord willing. Pray for Jaime Hernandez. God is good and He's opening doors. Please pray for more new church planters for more Hispanic works. We need more!

MATTHEW PRATHER – THE BRIDGE MISSION, MIDLOTHIAN

In our first full month in the Midlothian/Waxahachie area we have been busy building new relationships. We have been meeting people out where they are. We have met several people that have told us they are excited for a new church to come to town and that there is such a need for that here. Continue to pray for us as we meet new people and share with them about Christ. Right now we are building a launch team. A launch team is a group of people that want to see a new church come into existence. Please pray for us as we continue to build our launch team.



▲ Matthew Prather

GARY SOUTHARD – THE CHURCH AT VALLEY RANCH, PORTER

We continue to build awareness in our Valley Ranch Community. This past month we hosted a firework show with many people coming out for a fun evening.

We also delivered goody bags to the Fire Department and to our Constable Department appreciating them for their service in our community.



▲ Gary Southard

August will bring us to serve our elementary school with

goody bags for the teachers and leading a prayer walk for the start of the new school year.

We will be having our Enhancing Couples Workshop on the 13 with new four couples attending.

We ask that our BMA family pray for us to receive five new families over the next two months. Thank you for your prayers and support in our behalf.

CECIL LINKE – JOURNEY COMMUNITY MISSION, ALLEN

Journey has a stated value of "people over programs." We are learning just how hard this "value" is to actually implement. You can tell people you value you them - but their experience may prove otherwise. After the shooting of police officers in Dallas, Journey took the lead and organized two citywide prayer meetings over the lunch hour in Allen. We simply wanted to "value" people - to show our community that we hurt with those who experience hurt. The response was incredible with nearly 350 people coming out and praying and seeking reconciliation. It reminded us to continually look for ways as God's people to find common ground and value all people in our community.



▲ Cecil Linke

UPDATE ON LIFECHANGE MISSION, LINDALE

BMAT Missionary Dewey Davidson – Lead Missionary with LifeChange Mission in Lindale notified us on July 11th that he would be leaving the mission on July 31. We are currently meeting with Rick Sydnor, the planting associate at the mission, assessing a forward plan for the mission. Please pray for wisdom and for all the committed workers associated with LifeChange Mission, Lindale.

Will you join us in intentional prayer for Your BMAT Missionaries Sundays Sept. 18 and 25. Details have been sent to your church.

You can now give online to BMA of Texas Missions at bmatexasmissions.org or bmatexas.org.



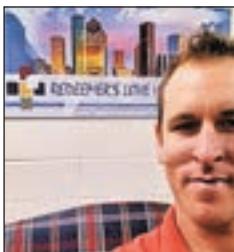
▲ Dewey Davidson



▲ Rick Sydnor

BRANDON DURHAM – REDEEMER'S LOVE MISSION, HOUSTON

I'm deeply thankful to the BMAT for supporting our mission work in Southwest Houston! July brought crucial opportunities to minister in the midst of crisis. Two couples lost babies. I preached one of their funerals. The young mother and father told me, "We are far from God and now have one goal in life: to make it to Heaven to see our baby girl." I told them, "I can tell you how to get there" and we talked, at length, about the gospel. EVERY WEEK we cross paths with new people who need Jesus! It's a "God-sized" mission that requires a "God-sent" team! Our goal is to recruit a Core Team of 25 Mission Partners! Would you join in asking God to send men and women uniquely cut out to bring the gospel into a cross-cultural, nitty-gritty, inner-city. If you know anyone in Southwest Houston, we'd love to meet them!



▲ Brandon Durham



DARREN LEMONS – THE REFUGE MISSION, TERRELL

God is really moving in our church through the summer. We are averaging about 15 more a week since school let out. We set a record with 94 in attendance and have had three professions of faith and have baptized all three of them. A six year old girl,



▲ Darren Lemons

Heith Mitchell is the director of BMA of Texas Missions. Contact him at hmitchell@bmatexas.org or 972-923-0757. Visit www.bmatexasmissions.org.



SOAR students give to missions



By JONATHAN WILSON

Students gave over \$15,000 to missions at SOAR 2016. Approximately \$9,000 was given to the ministry of TJ and Jenni Johnson. Over \$5,500 was given to the Missionary Care Conference scheduled

for early 2017. Another \$700 was given to Volunteer Student Missions. In a day and age where youth are often over looked, students at SOAR made an everlasting impact on the world.

Master's Builders return to Jacksonville College



By NELDA MALONE

Master's Builders Reporter

The Master's Builders returned to Jacksonville College July 18 to do several projects around the campus. Dr. Mike Smith, president of the college, had lined out several areas that needed a facelift.

Buckner Chapel required several projects including a new sound booth in the balcony, a reworking of the area around the stage, new handrails for steps up to the stage and new platforms for the area in front of the stage. Another project was the bathroom renovation at a house that was recently purchased across from the campus, which will be used for student housing. The Ragsdale House got a new laundry room, the cafeteria got a new cabinet with a decorative top, and a couple of our men helped Randy Decker put new tops on 10 tables that will be used in a science classroom. Four shelters were built for the picnic tables outside with one being a pergola.

There were 14 Master's Builders who helped with the work in the two weeks the college. Two young men spent part of their summer vacation working in the heat with our men. Kyle Farmer, of Hattiesburg, Mississippi, and Noah Morales, of Waxahachie, thank you so much. Also, we all enjoyed young Jeremiah, the four year old grandson of Randy Decker. "Miah" blessed our hearts!

Thank you to all who helped make this hot job much more enjoyable: Dr. Mike Smith and all the staff and workers at Jacksonville College; the cafeteria staff who made great meals; and First, Jacksonville, Bro. Vernon Lee, the Jubilee Club, and the WMA for all you did for The Master's Builders while we were there.

If you have questions about our ministry or if your church has building needs, please contact Office Coordinator John Mangum at 318-205-5155 or his cell 318-607-4100 or our Field Coordinator Eddie Sikes at 903-725-6549 or his cell 479-462-1675.

Anniversary Celebration

HONORING
Pastor Robbie Caldwell



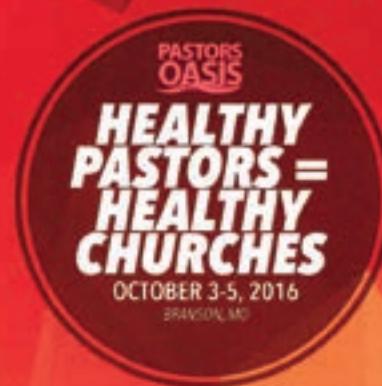
25 years as PASTOR OF NEW HARMONY, TYLER
50 years in THE GOSPEL MINISTRY

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 18, 2016

11 a.m. WITH LUNCH TO FOLLOW

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THE SPIRITUAL, MENTAL, AND PHYSICAL HEALTH OF A PASTOR AFFECTS THE OVERALL HEALTH OF A CHURCH. THAT IS WHY THIS YEAR'S PASTORS OASIS THEME IS HEALTHY PASTOR = HEALTHY CHURCH. PASTORS OASIS TAKES PLACE IN OCTOBER DURING PASTORS APPRECIATION MONTH. SHOW YOUR PASTOR AND STAFF HOW MUCH YOU APPRECIATE AND CARE ABOUT THEIR WELL BEING BY SENDING THEM TO THIS YEAR'S PASTORS OASIS. THE HEALTH OF YOUR CHURCH DEPENDS ON IT.

GOD'S WORD OFFERS HOPE FOR THE MINISTER. SPEAKER CHIP JACKSON (FELLOWSHIP BIBLE OF NORTHWEST ARKANSAS) WILL SHARE BIBLICAL PRINCIPLES AND STRATEGIES TO HELP MINISTERS AND THEIR FAMILIES LIVE HEALTHY LIVES AND ENJOY FRUITFUL MINISTRIES.



CHIP JACKSON
SPEAKER



DAVID ATTEBERY
WORSHIP



WAYNE WATSON
CONCERT

An Expression of Everlasting Love

Many of our friends choose to honor or remember a family member, a friend or an associate with a gift for the children of the Baptist Home. Texas Baptist Home, in turn, notifies the appropriate person. Listed in capital letters are those honored or remembered from July 1, 2016 – July 31, 2016.

ENDOWMENTS

RICKY LYNN JOHNSTON: Duane & Charlotte Turner

MYRA STOKES: Mr. Bill Stokes

E ANN PACE: Karl & Martha Pace

HONORARIUMS

ALL LITTLE CHILDREN: Charles & Vera Baucum

MAVIS & PHYLLIS BLAKELEY: Velma Isaac

KATHY CASHION: Earlene Crenshaw

ANN FLOWERS: Charles & Linda Thomas

CARSON JOINES: Charles & Linda Thomas

JEAN WASDEN: Refuge Place; Jay Robinson

COLBY & SAMANTHA MCFARLAND: Donna & Marty McFarland

JUANITA MCMAHAN: Joe & Tricia Wardell

PASTORS & MISSIONARIES EVERYWHERE: Roy & Elizabeth Talbot

ANN & RACHEL USSERY: Felix & Peggy Lee

MEMORIALS

A.W. & THEDA ADAMS: Mary Adams

HELEN ANDERSON: Steven Anderson

PALMER ANDERSON: James & Susan Anderson

DONNA HENRY BABER: Mary Ann Wylie Insurance

WALTER BECKER: Dennis & Ilona Myrice

JAMES BLACKSHER: Louis Rhoden Agency

BARRY BLAKLEY: Velma Isaac

PAT BURKS: Janice Jackson

MARION R "BUSTER" BURRIS: Jackie & Fred Nicholson

OLEN & LULA MAE BRITTEN: Mary Adams

RANDY & REGENA COMER: Raymond & Claynell Dennis

WESLEY DAVIS: Clyde & Debra Wilson

CARMELITA ELMS: Jed & Glenice Whitaker

DOROTHY ENGLISH: Westside Baptist Church

HOLLY FRIDAY: Leon & Linda Lee

ANN CLARK GARNER: Larry & Ann Garner

DOUG HAIL: Charles & Charlotte Johnson

GLORIA HAYWOOD: Jerry & Linda Richardson

HEATH: Jimmy Ray & Cynthia Green

WANDA HICKINGBOTHAM: Bob Hickingbotham

Y A HILL: Mary Ann Wylie Insurance

HAZEL HOEINGHAUS: Virginia Sanders

NOLINE LONG: Rosewood Baptist Church, Gilmer; Charotte Johnson

HALEY JOHNSON: Andres Pool

DINO MARTIN: Cleda & Donald Matthews

TOM MELMS: Janette Morris

BILLIE MELVIN: M R Hutson

PAT MCNEEL: Andrea Pool

MIKE MILLER: Charles & Charlotte Johnson

SKYIE PARKS: Terry Barnhill

H T PARRIS: Mary Ann Wylie Insurance

MARY NAOMIE PUGH: Joseph & Norma Martin

DON ROUSE: Concha Rouse

BAILEE RUSSELL: Brian & Mary Ann Mauk

LOW SKINNER JR.: Charles & Charlotte Johnson

LEE SHORT: Florence Short

VERGINIA SMITH: First Baptist Church Friendship Sunday School Class, Carthage

BILLY BOB STAGGS: Janice Jackson; Neta Hicks

TED STANLEY: James & Jymylin Hightower

ANNIE M STEED: Charles & Charlotte Johnson

SCOTT STEWART: Andy & Nell McCuiston

LAVERNE SYKORA: Clover Hill Baptist Church

JIMMY TANKERSLEY: JM & Margaret Tankersley

MARGIE VANTRESSE: Earlene Crenshaw

JIM WARE: Jed & Glenice Whitaker

MARY WOLFINGTON: John Wolfington

CYNTHIA WYLIE: Randy & Gloria Parks

Pick up leaves of Sunbeams



By **SHERRY LAMINACK**

National Sunbeam Promoter

Sept. 19-23, 2016 is Sunbeam Enlistment and Promotion Week. The theme is PICK UP LEAVES OF SUNBEAMS. Our theme verse is Proverbs 22:6, "Train up a child in the way he should go: and when he is old, he will not depart from it." We, as Sunbeam counselors, have a part in training boys and girls to learn about God and His salvation.

Plan special activities for this time. If you already have Sunbeams, make this week a special time for your group and make a special effort to enlist children in your church and community who are not members of your group. If you do not have Sunbeams, now would be a good time to organize a group.

Sunbeams are children birth through third grade. Sunbeams lessons are designed to help the children develop a firm foundation in the Christian principles and doctrines upon which the Baptist Missionary Association of America is founded. The goal of the program is to train the children to live in his/her community and church and to challenge the children to know more of God, His salvation and how to live for Him. If you would like more information or help in organizing a new group, please contact me at jaslaminack@cox.net or at 870-543-9640.

Listed below are suggestions for activities for this week

of promotion. These are just suggestions. Do whatever works best for your group.

1. Have a special awards program for the Sunbeams who completed Star Awards
2. requirements
3. If your group is just getting started, have a special program and present each
4. student with their pin or sash
5. Use leaves for decorations
6. Invite the parents to your meeting and explain the Sunbeam program to them
7. Let the Sunbeams sing in a church service
8. Serve cake and ice cream at one meeting and invite children in your church and
9. community who do not attend Sunbeams
10. Take your group to a nursing home to sing
11. Select a method to raise money for the Sunbeam project, Moral Action.

Sunbeam counselors have been blessed with great treasures, the lives of children. LET'S PICK UP MANY LEAVES OF SUNBEAMS during Sunbeam Enlistment and Promotion Week, Sept. 19-23, 2016. God's Word can change the lives of these boys and girls!

LOCAL ASSOCIATION MEETING SCHEDULE

| DATE | ASSOCIATION | MEETING PLACE |
|----------|-----------------------------|---------------------------------|
| Sept. 17 | Tarrant County | Sheppard Drive, Euless |
| Sept. 24 | Ellis-Hill | Farley Street, Waxahachie |
| Sept. 25 | Tryon County | Woodland, Splendora |
| Sept. 26 | Dallas County | CrossRoads, Rowlett |
| Oct. 1 | Mt. Olive | Bethel, Clayton |
| Oct. 1 | Original Bethlehem | Beech Grove, Jasper |
| Oct. 1 | Trinity River | Calvary, Centerville |
| Oct. 2 | Gulf Coast | Circle Drive, Bridge City |
| Oct. 8 | Central West | Central, Bronte |
| Oct. 9 | Landmark of Montague County | Union Hill, Bowie |
| Oct. 9 | Liberty | Antioch, Gilmer |
| Oct. 9 | Van Zandt | Tundra, Canton |
| Oct. 10 | Cherokee | Calvary, Jacksonville |
| Oct. 11 | Wood County | Hubbard Chapel, Quitman |
| Oct. 13 | Harris County | Suburban Wood, Humble |
| Oct. 13 | Angelina | Johnson, Zavalla |
| Oct. 15 | Plains | LakeRidge, Lubbock |
| Oct. 16 | Central Texas | Antioch, Fairfield |
| Oct. 16 | Navasota River | Harmony, Normangee |
| Oct. 18 | Houston-Anderson | First, Slocum |
| Oct. 20 | Landmark Nacogdoches County | Mahl, Nacogdoches |
| Oct. 23 | Polk | First of Providence, Livingston |
| Oct. 31 | Smith | First, Omen |

Auxiliaries

Open homes, sweet times, open hearts

By SHARON COLE

Time is fast approaching for the annual Texas Ladies' Retreat at Cornerstone, Jacksonville Sept. 17, 2016. The church is located at 1720 S. Bolton Street in Jacksonville. Also, Friday, Sept. 16, you can come early and participate in a special evening of prayer, relaxation and information, beginning with a box dinner from Jason's Deli at 6:30 p.m. There is an additional fee of \$10 for Friday night.

Please specify if you want a turkey or ham sandwich when sending your registration fee of \$25 for the Saturday session.

Registration begins Saturday morning at 8:30 a.m. with a very light breakfast available. The program begins at 9 a.m. and will end at 3 p.m. The deadline for sending registration is Sept. 1, 2016. An additional \$10 will be necessary should you miss the deadline. This is so last minute food preparation can be made for unexpected people. If you need to bring children under the age of six for childcare, please specify how many and their ages.

When registering, give your name, address, phone and any dietary special requirements. If you need a motel room, the following are available for you to make your reservations:

Holiday Inn Express and Suites

1923 S. Jackson Street
903-589-8900
\$97

LaQuinta Inn and Suites

1902 S. Jackson Street
903-589-6504
\$89

Best Western Executive Inn

1659 S. Jackson Street
903-586-0007
\$80

Make checks payable to Cherokee District WMA, Betty Hensley, 302 Lenora Street, Jacksonville, Texas 75766. For more information, contact Johnnie Ross at 903-725-0444 or johnnie.gma.ross@gmail.com.

PROJECT NOMINATION FOR 2016-2017

Although our current project is still in full swing, it will end in November at the Texas WMA Meeting. It is time to begin to search for the project next year, 2016-2017. Ideas for

the new project need to be sent to the Project Nominations Committee along with an estimate of the cost and a contact person for the project submission. The project must be associated with the BMA of Texas or the BMA of America. Each nomination approved must be presented to the Texas WMA at the BMA of Texas Annual Session in November by a local WMA. Someone will need to be present to speak to their nomination.

The project nomination committee will research each idea presented and if deemed a valid request, will notify the contact person for more information, if needed.

Please pray and seek God's will for the project you believe will benefit from our help. All information needs to be sent to D'Andra Smith, 3080 FM 515, Emory, Texas 75440 or bdsmith@verizon.net by Sept. 15. Please continue to support our current project for this year, helping Jacksonville College purchase a front-end loader tractor. The goal is \$15,000.

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



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EVENTS

AUGUST 25, 2015

Baptist Progress
Ministry Connection Workshop:
Intentional Interim Pastor &
Pastor Search Team Training
WHEN: 10 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.
WHERE: BMA of Texas Building,
Waxahachie
WHO: Jerry Fulton,
editor, Baptist Progress,
Waxahachie

AUGUST 30, 2016

East Texas Mission District
Annual Meeting
WHEN: 6 p.m. (meal), 7 p.m. (business)
WHERE: 1013 Robertson, Tyler

SEPTEMBER 18, 2016

80th Anniversary Homecoming
WHEN: 9:45 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.
WHERE: Woodland, Gilmer
(6049 FM 3358)
WHO: Message by Riley Pate (age 17)
(Dinner at noon in the fellowship hall;
Singing from 1:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m.)

SEPTEMBER 17, 2016

Texas Women's Retreat
WHEN: 8:30 a.m. to 3 p.m.
WHERE: Cornerstone Baptist Church,
Jacksonville

SEPTEMBER 18, 2016

Pastor Robbie Caldwell's Anniversary
25 years as pastor of New Harmony,
Tyler
50 years in the Gospel Ministry
WHEN: 11 a.m. with lunch to follow
WHERE: New Harmony Baptist Church,
Tyler

SEPTEMBER 18, 2016

80th Anniversary Homecoming
WHEN: 9:45 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.
WHERE: Woodland, Gilmer
(6049 FM 3358)
WHO: Message by Clayton Dyess
(Dinner at noon in the Fellowship Hall.
Singing by Clayton Dyess,
C.L. Nelms & others, 1:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m.)

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PERSONNEL & POSITIONS

AVAILABLE MINISTER

ROGER MANNING is available for service as pulpit supply, interim, or permanent pastoral duties. His injuries suffered in a motorcycle accident on Dec. 7 are healed and he is now anxious to serve and preach God's Word. Roger was ordained in the Southern Baptist denomination and has over seven years preaching experience. He lives in Waxahachie and can be reached at roger@rogermanning.com or by calling 402-510-3019.

AVAILABLE POSITIONS

YOUTH/STUDENTS—Farley Street, Waxahachie is seeking a student pastor. Send resume to resume@farleystreet.com.

PASTOR—Lost Prairie, Groesbeck is seeking a pastor. Send resume to 514 FM 3371, Groesbeck, Texas 76642.

PASTOR—Bauman Road, Houston is seeking a pastor. Contact Danny Koonce at 281-652-7821 or dannykoonce@gmail.com.

PASTOR—Bethel, Livingston is seeking a pastor. Send resume to David Chalker at 8715 FM 350 N, Livingston, Texas 77351, cavanaugh@eastex.com or 936-646-3444. ^{8/17}

MUSIC/YOUTH—New Salem, Henderson is seeking a bivocational music/youth minister. Send resume to Chris Proctor, 1105 Moore Street, Jacksonville 75766, chris.proctor@bmat.edu or call 903-284-9023. ^{9/17}

YOUTH/STUDENTS—New Beginnings, Venus (Johnson County) is seeking a bivocational youth/student minister. Send resume to Pastor Brian Merchant, 628 Cordes Drive, Venus, Texas 76084, pastorbrianmerchant628@gmail.com or call 817-291-6727. ^{TFN}

YOUTH/STUDENTS—Calvary, Jacksonville is seeking a youth bivocational youth pastor. Send resume to Michael Mathis at mathi1314@gmail.com or call 903-625-0776. ^{8/3}

ASSOCIATE/STUDENTS—LifeHouse Fellowship, Wills Point is seeking to fill the position of Associate/Student Ministry. This is a full time position, part-time possible. Send resume to Tammy Cunningham, P.O. Box 1486 Canton Texas 75103, or lifehousefellowshipnew@gmail.com. For information or questions you can call Mike Stone at 903-279-5868. ^{TFN}

PASTOR—Opelika Missionary, Brownsboro is seeking a pastor. For more information, call 903-469-3692 or 903-515-2288. ^{TFN}

YOUTH—First of Cross Roads, Athens is seeking a full-time youth minister/associate pastor to develop and oversee a program for youth to win the lost to Christ and help Christians mature in Him. Additional responsibilities include aiding the pastor in his duties. Parsonage available. For information or to apply, contact Frank Upchurch at lindaupchurch15@gmail.com. ^{8/3}

PASTOR—Enon, Iola is seeking a bivocational pastor. Parsonage available. For information, call 281-731-7850. ^{TFN}

PASTOR—Ashmore, Loop is seeking a pastor (full-time or bivocational). Send resume to Ashmore Baptist Church c/o Tom Ingle, PO Box 346, Loop, Texas 79342, ashmore4u@outlook.com or call Tom Ingle 806-928-8843/Loyd Halbrooks @ 806-759-2095. ^{8/17}

PASTOR—Myrtle Springs, Quitman is seeking a pastor. Send resume to Myrtle Springs Baptist Church, 2185 FM 2225, Quitman, Texas 75783. ^{TFN}

PASTOR & STAFF CHANGES

EDDIE BALLARD has resigned as pastor of First, Rice.

CHURCHES IN REVIEW

JULY 31, 2016

| Church | SS | Worship | Additions |
|--------------------------|-----|---------|------------------------------|
| Antioch, Gilmer | 39 | 95 | |
| Anthony Drive, Ennis | 54 | 88 | |
| Bethel, Groesbeck | 40 | 51 | |
| Calvary, Ennis | 30 | 67 | 2 by baptism, 4 by letter |
| First, Judson | | 201 | |
| First, Omen | 37 | 85 | |
| Glade Creek, Gilmer | 24 | 45 | |
| Harvest, Lufkin | 35 | 50 | |
| Jackson, Joaquin | 76 | 152 | |
| Little Flock, Lufkin | 15 | 20 | |
| New Harmony, Tyler | 287 | 400 | 2 by letter |
| New Hope, Mineola | 45 | 96 | |
| Olde Tyme, White Oak | | 75 | |
| Pilgrim Rest #2, Golden | 39 | 51 | |
| Rosewood, Gilmer | 135 | 269 | 1 by baptism |
| Round Prairie, Fairfield | 97 | 153 | 1 by baptism |

AUGUST 7, 2016

| Church | SS | Worship | Additions |
|-----------------------------|-----|---------|--------------|
| Antioch, Gilmer | 43 | 101 | 4 by letter |
| First, Blooming Grove | 212 | | 1 by baptism |
| First, Omen | 33 | 71 | 2 by baptism |
| Glade Creek, Gilmer | 15 | 40 | |
| Harvest, Lufkin | 35 | 50 | |
| Jackson, Joaquin | 72 | 142 | |
| Little Flock, Lufkin | 11 | 11 | |
| New Harmony, Tyler | 310 | 423 | 1 by baptism |
| New Hope, Mineola | 63 | 69 | 2 by letter |
| Olde Tyme, White Oak | | 51 | |
| Pilgrim Rest #2, Golden | 45 | 53 | |
| Pine Brook, Tyler | 37 | 67 | 1 by baptism |
| Piney Creek, Kennard | 16 | 26 | |
| Rosewood, Gilmer | | 296 | 1 by baptism |
| Security Calvary, Cleveland | 22 | 48 | 5 by letter |

For publication, statistics for Churches in Review must be received by Monday at 5 p.m. on Monday.

Sunday School Lessons

1 Timothy—Counsel

By PAUL GAUNTT

DATE: September 4, 2016

TEXT: 1 Timothy 1:3, 4; 2:1, 2; 3:1, 8, 16; 5:1; 6:1

THE RECIPIENT OF THE EPISTLE

Timothy was obviously very young when he began ministering and traveling with Paul.

Although youth has its' advantages — like energy and vigor, still, he seemed to have problems being respected as a man of God since Paul had to admonish him to “let no man despise thy youth.” (1 Timothy 4:12) Young Timothy was apparently given to discouragement occasionally, which prompted Paul to write two epistles to him. He possibly had a problem with anxiety since Paul had to advise him take a little wine to settle his stomach.

Timothy came from a great heritage of faith, which was manifested when Paul commented in 2 Timothy 1:5 about the influence of his mother, Eunice and his grandmother Lois had on his life.

THE SIGNIFICANCE OF THE BOOK

First Timothy is a wonderful “handbook” for church leadership and organization. It deals with appropriate conduct as the church gathers for worship; it gives a detailed description of qualifications for the two

ordained offices of the church — pastors and deacons. Paul advised Timothy in matters concerning doctrinal purity in the church. Paul counseled with Timothy to “fight the good fight” and set an example of consistent faith and a good conscience, remain above reproach, and exercise the spiritual gifts God had bestowed upon him. 1 Timothy 4:12-16.

THE APPLICATION

There are many nuggets of truth which we can apply to our individual lives as well as the total church body. Individually, we can take an example from Paul about loving exhortation and giving attention to the spiritual growth of a young pastor under his watch care.

As the church, we must take refresher studies in Paul's two epistles to Timothy concerning conduct, proper church polity and protocol, and that the ordained offices of the church be completely understood, and that ordained men take the example concerning the qualifications and behavior which is required.

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.



2 Timothy—Encouragement

By PAUL GAUNTT

DATE: September 11, 2016

TEXT: 2 Timothy 1:5-7; 2:1, 2, 15; 3:1, 14-17; 4:5, 9

ENCOURAGEMENT TO BE FAITHFUL (CHAPTER 1)

Paul, who regarded young Timothy as a “beloved son” in the ministry, knew that Timothy came from a great Christian heritage. (2 Timothy 1:5) Yet, he was diligent to encourage Timothy to remain faithful, reminding him that fear and apprehension did not come from God (1:7)

Note the irony of a young preacher receiving some of the greatest words of encouragement — from a dark, dismal prison cell. (1:8) He reminded Timothy of those who turned from him (Phygellus and Hermogenes) and yet there were those who were faithful and were used to “refresh” Paul in his waning years. (Onesiphorus)

ENCOURAGEMENT TO BE STRONG (CHAPTER 2)

Paul admonished Timothy to use his example and to heed the doctrines, precepts and the sum total of his ministry (2:2) and to be watchful not to become “entangled” in the affairs of this life (2:4) He reminded him in verse 4 that a faithful soldier of the cross avoids being involved in the world in order to please the One who called him to serve. He also explains to Timothy that a competitor in athletic games must abide by the rules of the game if he is to be crowned.

Paul was a model of strength, laboring in word and doctrine although imprisoned — patiently enduring all things for the same of those to whom God called him to minister. (verse 9)

ENCOURAGEMENT TO STAND FIRM IN TRIALS (CHAPTER 3)

Paul paints a bleak, but totally accurate picture of the perilous world in which Timothy will be living in. The world will be earmarked by stress, a self-absorbed, narcissistic culture (we are there now) disrespect to parents, ungrateful, unholy, profane, devoid of natural human affection, calloused and inhumane. (AMP)

People of this perverse generation will come against God people, which is no new thing. Paul reminded Timothy of two court magicians of Pharaoh, Jannes and Jambres, who opposed Moses and Aaron with rituals and demonic worship of Balaam. That same spirit prevails in the world today, and shall continue to worsen.

But Paul give Timothy hope, saying that the scripture, being God-breathed and profitable, will be intact, and through its pages, the man of God will be completely outfitted for every good work.

ENCOURAGEMENT TO PREACH THE WORD (CHAPTER 4)

Paul admonished Timothy to never lose his sense of urgency in preaching the gospel, regardless of whether or not conditions were favorable. He urged him to always stand ready to correct those who stray from the doctrine, warning him that one day men will gravitate toward shallow, “feel-good” sermons rather than the deep doctrines and mysteries of the Word.

Paul was recapping his life to Timothy, saying that he had “fought the good fight.” (4:7) and he was ready to go meet his Lord in glory.



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All gifts to the Foundation, except those designated for operating expenses, are placed in an endowment fund and invested for one or more of the BMA departments or agencies as specified by the donor. Income from the investments provides supplemental funding for those ministries until the Lord returns. Gifts of cash should be mailed to P.O. Box 1188, Conway, Arkansas 72033. Call the Foundation office at 501-329-6891 for more information on other ways to give.

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Student life

JACKSONVILLE COLLEGE

By **DR. MIKE SMITH**

Jacksonville College President

Some people have misconceptions about Jacksonville College. They assume that because JC has a small enrollment and is located in a small town, there is nothing to do here. The fact is that in addition to receiving a quality education, students find numerous activities such as those listed below:

1. Student organizations
 - a. B.J. Albritton Ministerial Alliance
 - b. Choir
 - c. Cross Act Company Drama Club
 - d. Delta Psi Omega National Theater Honor Society
 - e. Jaguar Band
 - f. Jeff D. Welch Mission Team
 - g. Phi Theta Kappa Academic Honor Society
 - h. Science Club
 - i. Student Government Association and Class Officer opportunities
 - j. Walter Prescott Webb Historical Society

2. Spiritual formation

- a. Chapel
- b. Bible studies held weekly and led by local church ministries and students

3. Strong athletic program

Jacksonville College is part of Region XIV athletics, competing against other regional two-year colleges. Jacksonville College fields the following teams:

- a. Men's and Women's Basketball
- b. Men's and Women's Golf
- c. Men's and Women's Tennis
- d. Men's and Women's Soccer

In order to transform lives and equip students for servant leadership and lifelong learning, Jacksonville College offers a quality education as well as numerous opportunities for involvement on campus.



▲ JC instructor Roy Stephens with missionary kid Hannah Wilson and her mother and little sister during one of JC's New Student Registration days.



▲ Jacksonville College Alumni Liaison Jean Galyean drills pocket holes to secure the red oak trim for the table tops of the tables for the biology room remodeling project.

fall semester 2016

AUGUST 17 TO DECEMBER 6

Full course schedules are available at www.jacksonville-college.edu. Online application for admission is available for new students, and current students may register for classes online.