

# Baptist Progress

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OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE BAPTIST MISSIONARY ASSOCIATION OF TEXAS | OCTOBER 2018 | VOL. 105 | NO. 10

## Letter from the president

Dear BMAT,

Mount Vesuvius erupted in 79 AD destroying the Italian city of Pompeii. There is a story that comes from this event that talks about the dedication of some of the sentries that were standing guard on that fateful day. Apparently not having been released from their posts, they died right where they stood guarding the gates of the city. We don't know how much truth there is to this story, but it



▲ Robert Easterling

gives us a good illustration of faithfulness. The Bible says the Lord will return "in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye". At that instant where will you be found, what will you be doing, and who will you be serving?

Our theme for this year is **Forever Faithful, 2 Timothy 4:7** "I have fought a good fight, I have finished my course, I have kept the faith". Nothing is needed more in our lives, in our churches, and in the Baptist Missionary Association of Texas (BMAT) than faithfulness. In fact, God never requires us to be successful, as the world defines success, but does expect us to be faithful.

I want to invite you to come to Fairfield, Texas, on November 5-6, 2018, for our annual BMAT meeting. We will be hearing several testimonies dealing with our theme. *The Erwins* will bring us a concert on Monday evening. Most of the meeting will take place at Calvary Baptist Church, but Tuesday morning's events will be at Round Prairie Baptist Church with lunch provided.

As we make plans for this year's meeting, please prayerfully consider giving more towards the associational expenses and minute book cost. Although we try to keep costs to a minimum, expenses seem to increase every year. Please be in prayer for our meeting so all that is said and done will be for God's honor and glory.

Sincerely,

Robert Easterling  
BMAT President

## Schedule for 118th Annual Session of the BMA of Texas

at Calvary Baptist Church, Fairfield

November 5-6, 2018

Forever Faithful, 2 Timothy 4:7

### MONDAY, NOVEMBER 5, 2018

11:00 a.m.	Registration
1:30 p.m.	General Session (Worship)
1:40 p.m.	Welcome/ Introduction of Officers Enroll/ Finance Committee Initial Report
1:45 p.m.	Presidents Message – Bro. Robert Easterling
2:20 p.m.	Prayer
2:25 p.m.	Worship
2:35 p.m.	Testimony – Bro. Charles Breithaupt
2:55 p.m.	Special Music
3:00 p.m.	Testimony – Bro. Luis Ortega, Sr.
3:20 p.m.	Dismiss
3:30 p.m.	Breakout Sessions – Family Life Center
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Activate – Bro. Larry Barker</li> <li>• Texas Size Hispanic Vision – Bro. Arnulfo Maldonado (in Spanish)</li> <li>• Website &amp; Facebook Basics – Bro. Michael Clements &amp; Bro. Matthew Prather</li> </ul>
4:15 p.m.	Dinner Break
6:00 p.m.	General Session (Worship)
6:10 p.m.	Testimony – Bro. Charles Johnson
6:30 p.m.	Concert by The Erwins
7:15 p.m.	Message – Bro. Grady Cashion



### 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	3:05 p.m.	Master's Builders Report
9:00 a.m.	WMA Meeting	3:15 p.m.	Election of Annual Speaker and State Officers
10:00 a.m.	Leadership Conference (in English and Spanish)	3:25 p.m.	Miscellaneous Business
		3:35 p.m.	Breakout Sessions – Family Life Center
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Activate – Bro. Larry Barker</li> <li>• BMAT 101 – Bro. Heith Mitchell</li> <li>• Reaching Your Hispanic Neighbor – Bro. Arnulfo Maldonado (in English)</li> <li>• Worship Team Swap Meet – Bro. Shelby Race</li> <li>• Youth Workers Swap Meet – Bro. Devin Diguilio</li> </ul>
12:00 p.m.	Lunch Break	4:15 p.m.	Dinner Break
1:30 p.m.	General Session (Worship)	6:00 p.m.	General Session (Worship)
1:40 p.m.	Texas Baptist Home	6:10 p.m.	Jacksonville College Choir
1:50 p.m.	Jacksonville College	6:45 p.m.	Annual Message – Bro. Jason Prewitt Alternate – Bro. Jason Collins
2:00 p.m.	Baptist Progress	7:30 p.m.	Missionary Commissioning Service
2:10 p.m.	Missions Department	8:15 p.m.	Adjourn
2:20 p.m.	Baptist Missionary Loan Association		
2:30 p.m.	Administrative Committee Report		
2:40 p.m.	Election of Administrative Committee Representatives		
2:45 p.m.	Nominating Committee Report		
2:55 p.m.	WMA Report		



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# MAKING PROGRESS

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By **JERRY FULTON**

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▲ Jerry Fulton

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# JACKSONVILLE COLLEGE



## JACKSONVILLE COLLEGE 2018-2019 Recommendations

INCOME	2017-2018 BUDGET	2017-2018 ACTUAL	2018-2019 PROPOSED
Students	3,962,000.00	3,797,716.00	3,824,820.00
SBTC/BMA	605,520.00	617,522.00	571,000.00
Scholarship	145,000.00	126,312.00	145,000.00
Endowment	65,000.00	74,766.00	67,000.00
Designated	113,500.00	150,667.00	123,500.00
Auxiliary	45,000.00	109,789.00	80,000.00
Organizations	100,000.00	134,644.00	100,000.00
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<b>5,036,020.00</b>	<b>5,011,416.00</b>	<b>4,911,320.00</b>
<b>EXPENSES</b>			
Academic	960,000.00	990,366.00	898,000.00
Dean of Students	82,120.00	117,441.00	82,120.00
Security/Housing	170,000.00	153,279.00	150,000.00
Athletics	1,351,500.00	1,375,895.00	1,260,200.00
Operations	1,266,900.00	1,219,675.00	1,205,000.00
Administration	1,205,500.00	1,545,875.00	1,316,000.00
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	<b>5,036,020.00</b>	<b>5,402,531.00</b>	<b>4,911,320.00</b>

1. That churches and individuals consider giving Jacksonville College an "End-of-Year" gift
2. That Sunday, May 5, 2019 be designated as Jaguar Day Across Texas and an offering be given to Jacksonville College
3. That individuals consider announcing their birthday on Facebook and designate Jacksonville College to receive financial gift in your honor
4. That every church encourages prospective students to attend Jacksonville College
5. That every church and association consider having a Jacksonville College Rally with the Choir and/or various singing groups to perform and/or the President to preach and share information about the College to aid in recruitment
6. That every church promotes daily prayer for the ministry of Jacksonville College and the other departments of the BMA of Texas and participate in the United Thanksgiving Offering
7. That Dr. Mike Smith and the administration, faculty, and staff be shown appreciation for their leadership and service to Jacksonville College

# BMA TEXAS MISSIONS



## BMA TEXAS MISSIONS 2018-2019 Recommendations

1. That the 2019 budget be adopted
2. That the following be elected as missionaries as presented in the budget
  - a. Ronnie Mills – Saginaw (Lead Missionary)
  - b. Cesar Leal – San Antonio (Lead Missionary)
  - c. Labeeb Tashman – Richmond (Lead Missionary)
  - d. Kingsley Nduka – Houston (Resident Intern)
  - e. Joshua Pickard – Lake Jackson /Clute (Associate Missionary)
  - f. Mark Bradberry – Conroe (Resident Intern)
3. That the following projects be supported as presented in the budget
  - a. Hispanic Mission in Gilmer
  - b. Bethel Baptist Church Dallas Replant
4. That Heith Mitchell stand as nominee as Executive Director of State Missions

	2017-2018 BUDGET	2017-2018 ACTUAL	2018-2019 PROPOSED
<b>INCOME</b>			
Donations (Churches)	470,000.00	353,349.29	415,000.00
Local Assn for Districts	-	-	-
Notes Receivables	50,000.00	50,166.70	50,000.00
Interest Income / Investment Withdrawal	400,000.00	319,525.95	555,000.00
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<b>920,000.00</b>	<b>723,041.94</b>	<b>1,020,000.00</b>
<b>EXPENSES</b>			
Advertising/Promotion	2,500.00	601.75	2,500.00
Attorney/Legal	5,000.00	4,826.51	5,000.00
Audit	10,500.00	9,450.00	10,500.00
Computer Maint & Equip	1,500.00	1,604.24	1,500.00
RBC Broker Fees	-	-	6,500.00
Office Maint & Equipment	1,630.00	-	1,630.00
Office Supplies	4,000.00	1,277.33	2,000.00
Office Rent	12,000.00	12,000.00	12,780.00
Office Expenses	800.00	781.15	800.00
Postage	2,000.00	1,215.69	2,500.00
Bank Charges	550.00	7,879.41	550.00
Property & Personnel Liability	14,500.00	11,374.24	14,500.00
Christmas Bonus	2,700.00	3,012.30	3,200.00
Director Salary	45,000.00	44,360.04	45,200.00
Director Housing	23,250.00	19,999.92	26,762.50
Director Longevity	100.00	-	-
Director Retirement	3,900.00	3,840.00	3,900.00
Director Insurance	7,000.00	6,999.96	7,000.00
Director Phone	1,488.00	1,460.00	1,488.00
Director Travel/Training	22,000.00	20,624.99	20,000.00
Financial Assistant	10,000.00	9,600.00	10,000.00
Director Assistant	13,728.00	11,272.76	17,700.00
Office Assistant	7,020.00	10,848.00	7,980.00
Church Planter Salary	372,575.00	306,659.01	301,200.00
Church Planter Training	16,000.00	19,399.51	20,000.00
Church Planter Coaching	14,500.00	7,500.00	10,000.00
Church Planter Assessments	5,000.00	2,330.06	7,000.00
Payroll Taxes (FICA & Medicare)	52,212.70	35,400.35	35,000.00
Future Missions	218,887.03	145,922.40	282,520.00
Supported Mission Projects	-	-	88,200.00
Staff Training & Travel	1,000.00	559.23	1,000.00
Trustee Expenses	3,500.00	4,705.24	3,500.00
Miscellaneous Expenses	3,000.00	905.13	4,500.00
Activate Assistance	9,600.00	8,054.46	12,000.00
Hispanic Ministry Travel & Training	26,400.00	24,000.00	26,400.00
Baptist Progress Subscriptions	1,000.00	197.50	500.00
Property Support (Ends June'17)	-	2,500.00	-
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	<b>914,840.73</b>	<b>741,161.18</b>	<b>995,810.50</b>

# BAPTIST MISSIONARY LOAN ASSOCIATION

INCOME	2017-2018 BUDGET	2017-2018 ACTUAL	2018-2019 PROPOSED
Interest Income	443,147.00	463,680.00	533,136.41
Donations - Churches	9,500.00	7,162.00	7,000.00
UTO	15,500.00	21,721.00	12,000.00
Other Income	1,500.00	1,738.00	800.00
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<b>469,647.00</b>	<b>494,301.00</b>	<b>552,936.41</b>
EXPENSES			
Annuity	2,400.00	2,400.00	2,400.00
Property Maint	2,500.00	13,721.00	1,000.00
Property Tax	9,400.00	8,743.00	7,500.00
Property Insurance	2,200.00	1,606.44	1,200.00
Computer Maint & Equip	5,000.00	24,905.00	13,500.00
Office Maint & Equip	1,500.00	714.86	1,500.00
Office Rent	12,000.00	13,000.00	12,780.00
Supplies	1,200.00	887.00	1,000.00
Postage	750.00	694.30	750.00
UTO	200.00	0.00	200.00
Insurance (Bond)	100.00	200.00	100.00
Legal & Accounting	7,035.00	8,160.00	8,000.00
Bookkeeping	0.00	0.00	3,500.00
Promotion	3,000.00	513.97	3,000.00
Staff Training	1,500.00	237.10	1,500.00
Trustee Expense	750.00	109.00	500.00
Travel Expense	6,500.00	3,766.00	4,000.00
Christmas Bonus	1,485.00	1,485.00	1,200.00
Office Assistant	0.00	6,360.00	6,720.00
Director Salary	27,300.00	27,300.00	30,790.00
Director Housing	15,000.00	15,000.00	15,000.00
Director Insurance	7,888.00	8,432.00	7,100.00
DIRECTOR RETIREMENT	3,012.00	3,012.00	3,174.00
Director Longevity	1,800.00	1,800.00	2,100.00
Secretary Salary	27,020.00	18,555.00	19,000.00
Secretary Retirement	1,622.00	0.00	0.00
Payroll Taxes	4,909.00	5,860.00	6,000.00
Telephone	1,620.00	1,118.20	780.00
Interest Expense	228,600.00	255,424.00	294,500.00
Miscellaneous Expense	650.00	5,363.16	650.00
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	<b>376,941.00</b>	<b>429,367.03</b>	<b>449,444.00</b>



## BAPTIST MISSIONARY LOAN ASSOCIATION 2018-2019 Recommendations

1. That the 2019 budget be adopted
2. That consistent support from associations, churches, and individuals, provide funds for the BMLA to financially assist mission churches for purchasing property and constructing new facilities
3. That we also help established churches when funds are available; we currently have sufficient funds for several church loans
4. That we encourage our churches, local associations, and individuals to place funds, either interest-bearing or interest free, on loan to the BMLA
5. That Jerry Burnaman stand as nominee as business manager of the BMLA
6. That we give a rising vote of appreciation to Jerry Burnaman for his service as Business Manager of BMLA

# TEXAS BAPTIST HOME FOR CHILDREN



## TEXAS BAPTIST HOME 2018-2019 Recommendations

Recommendations to be presented to the messenger body of the Baptist Missionary Association of Texas meeting in November 2018:

1. That we give praise, honor, glory and thanksgiving to our Lord for His blessings on the ministry of Texas Baptist Home for Children (TBHC) during its 108 history
2. That we give utmost praise and thanksgiving to the Lord for the 9 precious souls saved during the past year among TBHC's residents
3. That we express gratitude to churches and individuals for the faithful support in making special campaigns such as "Change for Children", "Back to School," North Texas Giving Day, 5K Runs and Christmas appeal great successes and encourage a much needed and greater involvement from the supporting churches in participating in TBHC's activities
4. That we extend our sincere thanks to those who have remembered TBHC in their wills, estates, Legacy Luncheons, and in faithful prayer support
5. That we give a special word of thanks to the Southern Baptists of Texas Convention for their faithful and sacrificial service to TBHC and for their support through their in-state cooperative program budget receipts and special gifts
6. That the proposed budget of \$4,217,550 be approved for the next BMAT fiscal year with \$560,000 coming from churches of the BMA of Texas and encourage churches to consider including TBHC in their annual budget
7. That we ask churches and individuals to pray fervently for the 287 total number of individual children who received foster care from TBHC throughout the year
8. That we set and meet our goal to serve 150 kids per month
9. That we glorify and praise our Lord and Savior for the 24 adoptions placed through TBHC in the past year to give these children permanent homes and encourage members of our supporting churches to consider adoption and fostering
10. That we ask prayer for the opening of our new office in Garland, Texas, as we continue our ministry to help more children
11. That Jason Curry stand as nominee for the position of President of Texas Baptist Home for Children and that he and TBHC staff be given a rising vote of appreciation for their continued faithful and dedicated service to TBHC's ministry

	2017-2018 BUDGET	2017-2018 ACTUAL	2018-2019 PROPOSED
<b>INCOME</b>			
Church Donations	560,000	511,545	560,000
Individual & Business Donations	381,340	419,810	392,600
Reimbursement for Services	3,037,230	2,525,396	2,293,140
Endowment Interest	193,600	187,849	190,440
Interest (Other)	5,580	5,327	4,900
Oil & Gas Royalties	12,200	10,079	8,660
Rent	27,600	28,400	28,800
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<b>4,217,550</b>	<b>3,688,406</b>	<b>3,478,540</b>
<b>EXPENSES</b>			
Accounting	23,500	23,267	22,100
Auto (Gas & Maintenance)	12,000	11,904	11,760
Cash & Gifts to Children	20,700	18,475	17,340
Children's Activity	6,000	4,147	3,460
Clothing	47,400	41,121	41,000
Computer	48,400	38,166	30,400
Contract Labor	44,400	46,032	35,720
Dues & Fees	31,560	29,636	30,060
Food	3,600	2,642	2,400
Foster Home	1,601,850	1,353,089	1,250,080
Furnishings	12,300	17,450	9,300
Household	3,540	3,096	4,560
Insurance (Group)	218,450	186,468	189,490
Insurance (General)	125,800	112,935	109,200
Legal	30,500	29,104	20,900
Medical & Dental	600	88	1,200
Medicine	720	236	960
Miscellaneous	18,400	17,746	14,880
Office Supplies	22,200	20,164	20,800
Postage	9,600	8,943	10,740
Printing	22,800	21,446	25,100
Public & Church Relations	25,900	24,870	24,100
Property Repairs	57,680	57,620	55,480
Rental Property Exp.	86,000	69,600	67,500
Resource Development	5,000	7,640	7,860
Retirement	46,340	35,072	37,530
Psychological Services	38,520	45,978	45,380
Longevity	200	100	100
Salaries	1,333,050	1,133,063	1,132,190
School	1,200	-	1,200
Staff Training	31,920	32,704	27,400
Taxes (Property)	1,260	536	1,380
Taxes (Payroll)	101,990	86,681	86,710
T. E. C.	1,200	-	2,400
Travel	98,070	87,286	63,870
Utilities	84,300	82,430	72,790
College, Ind. Living, & Vocational	600	250	1,200
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	<b>4,217,550</b>	<b>3,649,985</b>	<b>3,478,540</b>

# BAPTIST PROGRESS

INCOME	2017-2018 BUDGET	2017-2018 ACTUAL	2018-2019 PROPOSED
Subscriptions	95,000.00	86,128.75	86,200.00
Advertising	4,000.00	2,920.00	4,000.00
United Thanksgiving Offering	11,000.00	10,438.41	11,000.00
Baptist Progress Anniversary Offering	6,000.00	9,573.50	10,000.00
Interest Income	700.00	169.46	200.00
Auxiliary Page	900.00	1,350.00	1,350.00
Every Sunday Bulletin Service	12,375.00	10,127.76	13,000.00
Trust Fund Distribution	450.00	732.12	750.00
Other Sales & Services/Miscellaneous	250.00	26.96	250.00
Contributions	26,948.79	23,682.69	24,167.39
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<b>157,623.79</b>	<b>145,149.65</b>	<b>150,917.39</b>
<b>EXPENSES</b>			
Employee Compensation:			
Editor's Salary	17,135.44	17,135.44	17,135.00
Editor's Housing	25,000.00	25,000.00	25,000.00
Editor's Retirement	2,528.06	2,528.10	2,528.10
Editor's Longevity	1,300.00	1,300.00	1,400.00
Editor's Hospitalization Insurance	11,000.00	11,000.00	13,200.00
Editor's Christmas Bonus	810.29	810.29	810.29
Office Staff Compensation	7,500.00	7,665.00	7,500.00
Office Staff Christmas Bonus(es)	300.00	200.00	300.00
Graphic Artist Compensation	6,000.00	5,400.00	6,000.00
Payroll Taxes	3,700.00	4,647.01	4,750.00
Payroll Expenses	100.00	-	100.00
General Expenses:			
Professional Fees	6,500.00	6,142.00	6,500.00
Digital Communication/Printing	2,000.00	1,773.98	2,000.00
Computer Maintenance/Contracts	2,000.00	102.82	2,000.00
Equipment/Furnishings	2,000.00	-	1,000.00
Every Sunday Bulletin Service	11,500.00	10,904.19	11,000.00
Gratuity for Writers	2,000.00	900.00	1,500.00
Miscellaneous	3,000.00	188.40	3,000.00
Office Postage	1,250.00	2,729.36	3,000.00
Office Utilities & Expenses	9,000.00	9,000.00	9,444.00
Office Supplies	2,000.00	163.70	1,000.00
Telephone	-	715.00	750.00
Travel	3,000.00	1,869.14	2,500.00
Trustee Expense	500.00	264.40	500.00
Expenses for Printing & Mailing:			
USPS (Postage)	17,500.00	10,697.71	12,000.00
Texoma Printing	20,000.00	14,259.00	16,000.00
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	<b>157,623.79</b>	<b>135,395.54</b>	<b>150,917.39</b>

*Baptist Progress*

## BAPTIST PROGRESS 2018-2019 Recommendations

1. That Baptist Progress publish 12 sixteen-page issues per year (one publication per month)
2. That Baptist Progress publish eNews Updates by email on most weeks when print issues of Baptist Progress are not published
3. That subscription rates be as follows:
  - a. Church Plan mail subscriptions—\$21 per year
  - b. Church Plan email subscriptions—\$15 per year
  - c. Individual mail subscriptions—\$24 per year
  - d. Individual email subscriptions—\$18 per year
4. That advertisement rates be as follows:
  - a. Full page (10.5 x 11.75 w/border)  
\$500
  - b. Half page (10.5 x 5.75 w/border)  
\$250.00
  - c. Fourth page (5.25 x 5.75 w/border)  
\$125.00
  - d. Classified (Up to 7 lines w/o border)  
\$15.00
5. That churches receive a special offering for Baptist Progress in June and the overall goal be \$10,000
6. That churches subscribe to the Baptist Progress Every Sunday Bulletin Service
7. That churches and individuals order supplies, books, Bibles, music and more through the BMA of Texas website, [www.bmatexas.org](http://www.bmatexas.org)
8. That the proposed budget for the 2018-2019 associational year be approved
9. That Jerry Fulton stand as a nominee for editor of Baptist Progress



“Gran, tell us a story,” they begged. Our two grandchildren, seven year old, Hunter, and his nine year old sister, Tori, had been with us several days and I was running out of ideas. This was perfect!

The children were expecting a familiar bedtime story, so imagine their surprise when I began with, “Once upon a time I lived on a farm with my mama, daddy and your Aunt Colene... “ For the next few minutes I talked about my personal version of our “Little House on the Prairie”, including some “show” along with the “tell”. Pointing to the light switch I explained that we didn’t have one. “But Gran, how did you turn the light on?” “We had no electric lights,” I answered, bringing out a kerosene lamp like the one we used. Each new revelation was met with gasps of disbelief and surprise that I had survived such primitive circumstances. The Saturday night bath routine in a #3 washtub and the “little house” out back were the most alarming. It was priceless! Their eyes danced and they hung onto each part of the story as if it were a fantasy movie from some other planet.

Why wouldn’t it sound strange? In their young world a button to push or a mouse to click brought instant fun and entertainment. It’s no wonder they were surprised. I’m amazed too. Full disclosure: I love our big wide wonderful web! I learned to text so I could communicate with our grandchildren! To Skype or FaceTime is even more personal, taking us across town or even to another continent into the homes of our loved ones. Within seconds, we can be connected with folks we rarely get to see. Technology has also been good for my business!

However, with all its advantages, this constant, uninvited “guest” is quietly stealing away valuable time as it presents new opportunities to explore and new connections to initiate, to “share”, to “like”, to “follow”. Sometimes I put myself in time out for a priority check. High on my list are the little people God has placed in our family; yet too often I’m sidetracked with little time for making the really important memories. I have to remind myself that our children and grandchildren are precious treasures and it is our privilege to connect with them and span the gap between our two worlds.

So tell your story. Paint the picture and somewhere along the way, they’ll make the connection. Be sure to include the best part. The greatest legacy we can leave our children and grandchildren is God’s love story lived out in front of them. As they hear us speak His Word, listen to our prayers, see our faith in action, the truth will be engraved on their hearts not soon to be forgotten. God constantly reminded the Israelites to remember their journey from Egypt to the Jordan River and to faithfully share with their children and those yet to be born. The best inheritance and wisest investment we can make is to be sure our family will hear and know who God is, what He has done, and His promise for their future. From generation to generation, the celebration of God’s goodness, love, and mercy must never be forgotten! (Joshua 4, Psalm 78, Deut. 4).

Pat Quesenbury has been active in ladies’ ministry for years. She is a pastor’s wife, mother and active member of the Women’s Missionary Auxiliary. Contact her at [pquesenbury@gmail.com](mailto:pquesenbury@gmail.com).



# NOMINATING COMMITTEE

## 2018-2019 Recommendations

### TEXAS BAPTIST HOME

**2022**  
Michael Flanagan (2017) SBTC  
**Matthew Walker** (2018)  
**Scott Gullett** (2018)

**2021**  
Dustin Guidry (2017) SBTC  
Dean Easterling (2013)  
Beverly Ferrell (2013)  
Fred Morrow (2017)

**2020**  
Randy Johnson (2016)  
Leon Ross (2016)  
**Ron Coe** (2018)  
Johnny Williams (2016)

**2019**  
Jim Ramsay (2014)  
David Erickson (2015)  
Amy Duckett (2017)  
Whitney Pascal (2017) SBTC

### BAPTIST MISSIONARY LOAN ASSOCIATION

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

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

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

**2019**  
**Charles Turner** (2018)  
Jason Williams (2015)  
Rex Coulter (2015)

### BMA OF TEXAS MISSIONS

**2022**  
Clinton Everitt (2014)  
Brett Lester (2014)  
Chris Driver (2016)

**2021**  
David Pickard (2013)  
**Andy Slater** (2018)  
Ricky Robinson (2017)

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

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

### BAPTIST PROGRESS

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

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

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

**2019**  
Mike Thornhill (2012)  
Michael Anthony (2015)  
James Dorman (2015)

### JACKSONVILLE COLLEGE

**2022**  
Carol Lybrand (2014)  
Bob Pearl (2014) SBTC  
Dennis Morris (2014)  
Mark Moore (2014) SBTC

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

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

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

# ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEE

## ASSOCIATION EXPENSE FUND

INCOME	2017-2018 BUDGET	2017-2018 ACTUAL	2018-2019 PROPOSED
General Fund	12,000.00	12,197.76	12,000.00
Association Offering	650.00	1,066.89	750.00
Interest Income	8.00	30.83	10.00
Miscellaneous Income			
UTO	6,300.00	2,967.29	9,215.00
VANCO	500.00	500.00	500.00
Legal Income	-	4,861.90	
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<b>19,458.00</b>	<b>18,157.38</b>	<b>22,475.00</b>
<b>EXPENSES</b>			
Audit	900.00	925.00	925.00
Legal	1,908.00	42,754.91	5,000.00
Postage	1,100.00	885.87	1,100.00
Supplies (UTO, State Mtg, etc.)	1,000.00	1,524.85	1,000.00
Miscellaneous	350.00	-	350.00
VANCO	500.00	578.56	500.00
Administrative Committee	2,600.00	1,816.80	2,500.00
Clerk Salary	1,100.00	1,100.00	1,100.00
Annual Meeting	3,500.00	90.00	3,500.00
Printing Minutes	6,500.00	6,198.97	6,500.00
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	<b>19,458.00</b>	<b>55,874.96</b>	<b>22,475.00</b>
Short Term Liability (Legal Loan)			50,000.00



## ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEE 2018-2019 Recommendations

1. That the Association Expense Fund proposed budget be approved
2. That recommendations for directors' salaries and benefits be approved
3. That the 119th Annual Session of the BMA of Texas be held at First Keltys Baptist Church in Lufkin, Texas Nov. 4-5, 2019

## RECOMMENDED DEPARTMENT DIRECTORS SALARIES AND BENEFITS

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

Baptist Progress	\$42,135.00
BMA Texas Missions	\$71,962.50
BMLA	\$45,790.00
Jacksonville College	\$94,000.00
Texas Baptist Home	\$78,100.00

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

C. Pulpit Supply: Departmental directors have a choice of:

1. Turning in the proceeds to his department and being reimbursed for mileage, or
2. Keeping the proceeds and not receiving mileage reimbursement.

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

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

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

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



## A word from your missions office

By HEITH MITCHELL

I am enjoying seeing as many of you as I can and sharing the exciting things God is up to through your Texas missions movement at local association meetings. I, like most, don't enjoy formal business but I do enjoy catching up and hearing reports of what God is doing through local churches and associations all over the state.

We are less than a month away from our BMA of Texas annual family gathering and business meeting. I trust you are making arrangements to attend. On Monday, you will get to worship, learn and be inspired. On Tuesday, there will be more of the same and updates and reports from the ministries you support. As independent Americans and fallen people who believe we are stronger and better than we are, we too often think that we don't need others. We couldn't be more wrong. You and others need interaction, encouragement, accountability and rebuke. Isolated churches and pastors are in distress though they don't realize it. Nationally, isolated ministries see a 90 percent failure rate. Pastor and church, I implore you, engage in associational life. God will be honored and you and others will be blessed.

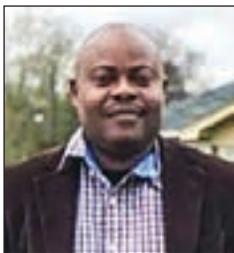
Update: Brandon Durham has had to step out of his role as lead planter at Redeemer's Love Mission in Houston. Brandon's wife Amanda continues to face real severe health challenges. Continue to pray for her and Brandon as he cares for her. I admire Brandon for this. Redeemer's Love is a testimony to Brandon's pour in and God's power. This two and a half year old church in the making is alive, well and on mission. They have disciplined leadership in place. We praise the Lord! Remember this mission in your prayers.

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

**KINGSLEY NDUKA—**  
**INTERN PREPARING FOR HOUSTON**  
[kingedu700@gmail.com](mailto:kingedu700@gmail.com)

Whether you are at home supporting the missionaries in the field or you are in the field as a missionary, one thing we all must remember is that our God is the head of the mission and we are the tools in His hand. So let us at all times be submissive to His direction and leadership.



▲ Kingsley Nduka

**CHRIS DRIVER—**  
**WEST TEXAS MULTIPLICATION MOVEMENT LEADER**  
[cjdriver316@gmail.com](mailto:cjdriver316@gmail.com)

I'm super excited about what God has done this past

month! Not only did he provide me with a like-minded partner to help guide this vision (an answer to one of my most desperate prayers) but He also allowed me to connect with a young man from Lazbuddie, Texas. The excitement for the first is pretty obvious. My excitement for the second is even more deeply personal. Lazbuddie, Texas is where God first burdened my heart with the vision to reach small towns in west Texas with the Gospel. I sat in the football stands in Lazbuddie two years ago and looked across the field at stands full of people. That's when I felt God ask me, "Who is going to reach them?" This past month, God introduced me to His answer, a young man named Ryan! We are starting monthly training with our group leaders and nailing down a strategy for establishing and equipping new leaders as God sends them! It's definitely an exciting time in west Texas! Continue to pray as we stretch toward the goal! God is listening!



▲ Chris Driver



**JAIME GARCIA—**  
**IGLESIA BAUTISTA NUEVA VIDA MISSION,**  
**GILMER/MESQUITE**  
[jaime.garcia2911@gmail.com](mailto:jaime.garcia2911@gmail.com)

What I want to share with the churches of the association is a powerful word that increases our faith in God, whom we serve, and is found in 2 Chronicles 13. It talks about the victory for trusting in God. King Abijah, when there was war against Jeroboam who had a double amount of soldiers, but were worshiping false gods, and after God gives them victory. Verse 18 lets us know how they got it, and it is because they relied on Jehovah, the God of their fathers. Unlike Jeroboam, Abijah knew who the priests and Levites were ministering to.

And it is to the one true God, who had promised David that the kingdom



▲ Jaime Garcia



would be for his decree forever. That is why we expect his kingdom to come and why we persuade men to repent. That promise will be fulfilled. Because God said it, it will be so. Jesus will reign forever. Blessings.

**NEPTALY MOLINA—**  
**IGLESIA BAUTISTA MISSION,**  
**NACOGDOCHES**  
[nrmolina23@gmail.com](mailto:nrmolina23@gmail.com)

Two were saved in the month of September! The challenge I have for the month of October is different evangelistic activities:

1. Participate in the Fairs of Nacogdoches on days 10, 11, 12, 13; in an evangelizing task. Please pray.
2. Evangelistic crusade with an evangelist from San Angelo, who supported me in Venezuela when I pastored there, Sunday 14 through Wednesday 17. I ask your prayers.
3. We will baptize Sunday, Oct. 28. Pray for us please.



▲ Neptaly Molina

**CLIFF ROBERTSON—**  
**CARPENTER'S HOUSE MISSION—**  
**LAKE JACKSON/CLUTE**  
[drcliffrobertsonjr@gmail.com](mailto:drcliffrobertsonjr@gmail.com)

As we go into the fall and look at finishing our second year, we have grown, but there is still so much more to do. Pray that God sends us workers to raise up and send out to the harvest fields because they are ripe...



▲ Cliff Robertson

**RONNIE MILLS—**  
**KINGDOM CHAPEL MISSION,**  
**SAGINAW/NORTH FORT WORTH**  
[ronnie@kchapel.org](mailto:ronnie@kchapel.org)

Please pray for our mission. We launched our first Sunday as a house church in our home on Oct. 7, and hope to grow to our official launch Easter Sunday to the public.



▲ Ronnie Mills

### PRAYER REQUESTS FROM THE FIELD

-Pray for Redeemer's Love Mission as it moves forward and seeks God's provision in leadership. (see director's update)

BMA TX MISSIONS continued on p. 11

## BMA Texas Missions cont.

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

-Pray for each missionary and their family. Our adversary doesn't like what these families are up to.

-Pray for your missionary's and their spouses 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! Keep praying and encouraging.

Heith Mitchell is the director of BMA of Texas Missions. Contact him at P.O. Box 73, Waxahachie, TX 75168, 972-923-0757 or [hmitchell@bmatexas.org](mailto:hmitchell@bmatexas.org). For more information, visit [www.bmatexasmissions.org](http://www.bmatexasmissions.org).



## Sign Ups Open for SOAR 19 Prayer Teams



By **MATI CORBETT**

*DiscipleGuide*

Intentional prayer.

This is the heart and vision for Kristen Riddle throughout this year and in to SOAR 2019. Her dream is to gather a community of believers who are passionate about interceding on behalf of SOAR students, youth pastors, and staff. She is praying for and anticipating lives to be changed for Christ, and wants to bring others alongside her.

"God tells us to come to him with our requests. He tells us that he will bless that," said Riddle.

Sign-ups are now available for the two teams that will be a part of this prayerful effort: Prayer Warriors and Prayer Partners. Prayer Warriors will attend the conference as part of an army, solely to pray for attendees' lives to be changed. They will commit to praying in the War Room during the sessions, and will also pray with one another before each

session. Prayer Partners will commit to praying fervently as well, but they will be doing so from home.

Beginning in January, those who sign up for either team will begin receiving prayer requests and helpful prayer practices, such as praying through Scriptures. These requests will continue weekly throughout the spring and summer, until SOAR 2019 begins.

"God has given us all the tools to withstand the flaming arrows," said Riddle. "Our hope is to rally a prayer team across the nation that will utilize the weapons God has given us to be able to bless our kids through SOAR."

If you are interested in being a part of the Prayer Warriors or Prayer Partners, sign up at [gosoar.com/soarprayerteams](http://gosoar.com/soarprayerteams). If you plan to come as a Prayer Warrior, your registration fees for SOAR will be waived.

JANUARY 19-24, 2019

**CHURCH LEADERS CRUISE**



A CONFERENCE FOR ALL CHURCH LEADERS



MARK LIVINGSTON  
INSPIRATION TRACK



CHAMP THORNTON  
FAMILY MINISTRY TRACK



TIMOTHY PAUL JONES  
LEADERSHIP TRACK

**Conference Registration**

\$80 per person @ [discipleguide.org/cruise](http://discipleguide.org/cruise)

**Cruise Reservations**

All cruise booking information can be found at [discipleguide.org/cruise](http://discipleguide.org/cruise)

**THE PERFECT PASTOR'S APPRECIATION GIFT!**

## Chest of Joash – II Chronicles 24:4-6, 8-14 Restoring the Temple



Verses 8 and following – A chest was placed outside at the gate of the Temple

A friend of the Seminary, Bro. Glen Tropp (pastor of Unity BC, Hope, AR), initiated the Chest of Joash at his church a number of years ago. The example of King Joash was to take offerings dedicated for repairs of the temple in Jerusalem. The biblically-inspired offering has been blessed over the years to keep the church's facilities in a condition honoring to God.

The Seminary's chapel and adjacent buildings need a Chest of Joash offering for ongoing repairs.

This past year, by the generosity of our friends, the Dorman Memorial Chapel's interior was completely renovated. The Chapel had not had a facelift in 60 years! IT was obviously greatly needed and has been a blessing for our students and many guests over the last several months. (Special thanks go out to BMA Seminary trustees Bro. Reggie Blake, Bro. Marvin Delk, and Mrs. Elaine Beal for a lot of consultation.)

More work is needed for the chapel roof and the roof of the adjacent building. We literally need your help in "keeping a roof over the students' heads." The first really big repair project that the school needed when I was elected as president was to replace our aging roof. I had hoped that it would last longer than me. However, I have outlived the roof! 19 years is a long time for a commercial flat roof and it has served us well until now. We had a few leaks several years ago and a major patch job was done. We are now beyond patching. Some major leaks are occurring and the new roof cannot wait. We have done our due diligence and reviewed four (4) bids. Work will start in mid-September. The total cost for the roof for the chapel and adjacent classrooms, administration offices, and the Gregson Center is \$140,000.00. The contractor will ask for approximately half of the bid (\$70,000.00) when the materials are delivered – about September 15.

Would you pray that God will fill our Chest of Joash so that we can repair the roof? We were planning to fund and begin the work in the next two (2) years, but providence has advanced the start time. We must start now to stop any further water damage and preclude spoiling the renovation of the chapel.

Again, please pray about this need and also share it with your Sunday School classes, your church, and your local association. Any Chest of Joash gift can be made in honor of or in memory of a friend or loved one.

Charley Holmes  
President  
BMA Seminary

P.S. If only two (2) people purchased a \$100,000.00 Charitable Gift Annuity by transferring funds from low-interest CDs, this would supply more than half the need and double the interest paid to the donor. If this could be you or someone you know, call 800-259-5673 (LORD), email [president@bmats.edu](mailto:president@bmats.edu), or return the attached slip for more information.

## Master's Builders help Concord, Gilmer with building project

By **NELDA MALONE**

*Master's Builders Reporter*

The Master's Builders spent the week of Sept. 10-15 at Concord, Gilmer. The church needed help with putting up sheetrock in their new building. They had lost their building in a fire over a year ago.

The framing of the new building had already been done, so the Master's Builders put sheetrock up in the entry, sanctuary, fellowship hall, bathrooms and four classrooms.

Thank you to all the members of Concord. The fellowship was wonderful and the meals you provided for us were delicious. Thank you to their pastor, Bro Clay Potter, and to Bro. Dale Pruitt, the building coordinator.

This was the Master's Builders 155th project.

If you have any questions about the Master's Builders Ministry, or if your church has any building needs, please

contact our office coordinator, Bro. John Mangum, at 318-202-5155 or (cell) 318-607-4100, or our field coordinator, Eddie Sikes, at 903-725-6549 or (cell) 479-462-1675.

Remember: You can follow us on Facebook at «The Master's Builders» w/(arbor logo).



## Arrington boat sinks



By **ERIC JOHNSON**

*Director of BMA International Missions*

There is much to be thankful for in the BMAA Amazon River ministry. Many souls have been reached. Churches have been started, and the light of the gospel continues to shine in the Amazon River Basin. One of the ways the gospel has reached so many is through the ministry of the Arrington riverboat. Sadly, we have been informed that the Arrington boat has sunk due to a storm. Thankfully, no one was hurt in the accident. This news, although painful, is an opportunity to praise God for the history and legacy of our churches in the Amazonian jungle.

The Arrington was named after BMA missionary M.S. Arrington who was one of the pioneer BMA missionaries in that part of the world. It is difficult to understand or convey how much these and other missionaries have given for the cause of Christ. Carrying the gospel will always involve tribulation, but going to remote areas like this at a

time when outside communication was impossible, illness was a constant threat, and the threat of death was very real, is worthy of thanksgiving to our great God. He has called, protected, and provided for his people as they fulfill the Great Commission.

The churches that have been started along the Amazon will continue to preach the gospel and make disciples. These churches continue to pour in to the lives of future leaders that will go to regions we have yet to reach. The light of the gospel will continue to shine.

With God's help, the BMA River Ministry will continue. We will continue to pray and look for ways to reach further and reach more with the gospel.

We are saddened by the events that have taken place on the river, but rest in the assurance that God is in control. The Lord will build his church. Thank you for your prayers.



# TEXAS BAPTIST HOME FOR CHILDREN

Bringing kids home  
Are you ready for adoption month?



By **JASON CURRY**

With October here, you are starting to see the classic candy and fun everywhere. I remember having a great time in kid's ministry doing trunk or treat! The year we had a lot of foster kids in our home was a lot of work and fun. We all dressed up in our outfits and our kids loved dressing up and being someone they were not. Being an action hero or heroine was better than being a foster kid. One identity was imagined great while the other was disheartening.

But that is October; November is the month that TBHC longs for all year long. November is Adoption month! We see kids going through heartache and tragedy. But when we see them adopted it brings so much joy to us. This is basically the climax of our ministry. We want to provide quality care while kids are with us. But to see them find a forever family, that is what it is all about!

Back in 2013, my family went to court, stood before a judge and promised with our word, deeds and all our resources to love and care for our sons. I committed that my son's identities would always and forever be tied to my own. I look back on that day with joy and hope for their future knowing that my family exists as it does today because of TBHC's commitment to care.

Let me ask you a question: how is your church encouraging

families to stand up for the fatherless and give them an identity forever attached to Christ? Your church does not have to produce foster families but they should foster families. November is the month that most churches find their people preparing to spend time with family and show gratitude to God for what He has given! Could this also be the month you find your church remembering those that have no family?

Bring awareness to your church this year. Pick a Sunday to preach on adoption. Show your church one of our testimony videos. You can find all our links at [www.TBHC.org](http://www.TBHC.org). Express to your church family the hope and joy that comes from adoption. There is no truer living expression of the Gospel than a family that adopts. God always and forever wants our identity to be tied to His own. Join us this year and make TBHC part of your tradition of thankfulness!

*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](mailto:jcurry@tbhc.org). For more information, visit [www.tbhc.org](http://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 Sept. 1, 2018 – Sept. 30, 2018.

### ENDOWMENTS

**E ANN PACE:** Karl & Martha Pace  
**MYRA STOKES:** Bill Stokes

### HONORARIUMS

**JD HUDSON'S 100TH BIRTHDAY:** Ann Simons  
**BRADLEY JOHNSON:** Leon & Johnnie Ross  
**LARRY LANSDALE:** Leon & Johnnie Ross  
**WALTER MCCOWN:** Leon & Johnnie Ross  
**MR. & MRS. WALTER MCCOWN ANNIVERSARY:** Leon & Johnnie Ross  
**NITA PARKER:** Leon & Johnnie Ross  
**EUGENE PHILLEY:** Leon & Johnnie Ross  
**KEVIN PHILLEY:** Leon & Johnnie Ross

### MEMORIALS

**EDDIE BAILEY:** Terri Hudson  
**WALTER BECKER:** Dennis & Ilona Myrice  
**DOROTHY 'DOTTY' BROWN:** Charles & Charlotte Johnson  
**LAWRENCE LAREE CALDWELL:** Tommy & Virginia Gipson  
**JUSTIN CUNNINGHAM:** Allbright Insurance Agency  
**GRACIE HALL DOWDEN:** Charles & Charlotte Johnson  
**STELLA MARIE GRAMMER:** Clyde & Ann McCall  
**VERDA HASLEY:** David & Dianne Wisener  
**CHARLENE GOWER KENT:** Robert Kent  
**WARREN KRIEGER:** Bethel Baptist Church  
**BENJAMIN LEE:** Leon Lee  
**DERL LEE:** Leon Lee  
**DORIS LEE:** Clover Hill Baptist Church  
**SOPHIA LENDERMAN:** Fendley & Lois Tucker  
**GEORGE MELVIN:** JC & Anita Lassiter; Rose Hill Missionary Baptist Church  
**EDDENE MILLER:** Harold & Jean Jacobs  
**MELISSA ANN MILLER:** Daniel & Gina Wilson; Harold & Jean Jacobs  
**THOMAS HARVEY O'CONNOR SR.:** Bethel Baptist Church, Livingston  
**JOANNA 'JO' RAY:** Jed & Glenice Whitaker  
**BETTY SMITH:** Patsy Bishop  
**GERALD SWANN:** Jed & Glenice Whitaker  
**MR. & MRS. EDWARD TALBOT:** Roy & Elizabeth Talbot  
**THOMAS EARL WALTERS:** George & Marilyn McClintock  
**JIMMY WASHAM:** Mt Pisgah Baptist Church, Mineola  
**DORRIS WILLIS:** Geraldine Cox

memorials-honorariums

## Just the Crumbs provides disaster relief

By **MATI CORBETT**

*BMA of America*

When disaster strikes, the BMA of America partners with Just the Crumbs to provide relief.

Just the Crumbs is a nonprofit organization that began in December of 2014 in order to provide help to those in need. Its founder, Lavon Haden, began the ministry by simply handing out hotdogs to the hungry in his town of Columbia, Mississippi.

His goal was not to ask for money, but rather ask for anything people had in excess that he could sell, hence the name "Just the Crumbs." This vision has resulted in the establishment of four thrift stores, the profits of which go to disaster relief projects.

Thus far, Lavon and his volunteers have responded to 18 disasters. Next week they will be headed to North Carolina with their semi-truck, 53-foot mobile kitchen, and multiple trailers to help with disaster relief from Hurricane Florence.

Their ministry has made a tangible and lasting difference in the lives of many hurting people. After Hurricane Harvey in 2017,

Just the Crumbs helped build one house from the ground up, fed approximately 80,000 people, and gave away about 300,000 prepared meals.

"All of those supplies have been donated," said Haden. "And being a part of the BMA, I wanted the BMA to be involved in the ministry. I also needed access to volunteers and people that wanted to get involved."

Currently, Just the Crumbs needs supporters and volunteers to help with disaster relief from Hurricane Florence, as well as future disasters. Teams will include a chainsaw and cleanup team, a cooking and food serving team, and occasionally a medical team through BMMI (Baptist Medical Missions International).

Food and lodging will be provided for volunteers at the disaster site, though teams will need to bring a cot along with their personal belongings.

"The most important thing right now, though, is prayer," said

Haden. "Pray that we would reach the lost. That's the whole concept of what we do – to create opportunities to witness. There's no better time to do that than when people are in need."

To donate to BMA partnering with Just the Crumbs, or to volunteer, contact Angela Rice at [angela@bmamissions.org](mailto:angela@bmamissions.org), or call the BMA Missions Office at 501-455-4977 or visit [bmamissions.org/disasterrelief](http://bmamissions.org/disasterrelief).



[WWW.JUSTTHECRUMBS.COM](http://WWW.JUSTTHECRUMBS.COM)

[WWW.BMAMISSEIONS.ORG](http://WWW.BMAMISSEIONS.ORG)



## Awesome ladies' retreat

By SHARON COLE

What else can we say? The Ladies' Retreat held Sept. 14-15 at Union Hill, Brownsboro was awesome. From the wonderful singing, food and sweet fellowship to the inspiring speakers, we all left that place feeling very blessed and refreshed. That is what this retreat is meant to be; a time away from our busy schedules, allowing the Holy Spirit to refresh our spirits and be inspired to be more than what we are and all we can be for Christ.

Our guest speaker Friday night was Rose Ng from Vietnam. She has attended the Bible College in the Philippines and is now attending the BMAA Seminary receiving a higher education to help in her ministry to the people who live in boats along the Mekong River. Her lovely smile and passion for the children to be able to learn and especially about God was contagious. Since becoming a Christian, she has led her sister and parents to the Lord.

The breakout sessions were: "Home Is Where the Heart Is," led by Johnnie Ross; "Praying with Purpose," led by Ava Pool; "Believing God Through Grief" led by Elizabeth Midkiff; and "Bible Trivia Fun," led by Mellissa Henry and Michelle Ayres.

Saturday morning began with singing, then breakout sessions: "Roundtable Fellowship" led by Sherry Decker; "Ministering to Teens & Young Women" led by Kristi Key; "Journaling—Write Your Story" by Betty Gibbs; and Sunbeams, led by Vera Koonce.

Bro. Charles Johnson spoke for the Texas Baptist Home for Children relating their needs as well as blessings. It costs \$32 per day to care for a child. He asked for our continued prayers and support.

Our guest speaker, Patti Foster, former radio personality, spoke to us about coping with traumatic brain injury and how God brought her back from a 6-week coma to where she is today. Since 2002, after her accident, it has been a difficult, but rewarding journey to see how God has restored her body and brain to function normally. She knew that God was preparing her to make a difference in other people's lives.

In keeping with the theme of the Retreat, "In the Potter's Hands," she compared her body to a lump of clay in a potter's hands to how God shapes and molds us into what He wants us to be and by placing it in His "kiln" to purify us into a vessel He can use for His glory. Patti serves as Vice President of Hope After Brain Injury, is a member of the Texas Brain Injury Advisory Council and was appointed Chairperson of the Services and Supports Committee. Patti is also a member of the North Texas TBI Model System

Advisory Council, serves on the Brain Injury Association of America-Texas Division Strategic Planning Committee, and travels often as a speaker for Mothers Against Drunk Driving. You can learn more about Patti from her website: [www.pattifoster.com](http://www.pattifoster.com).

After a delicious lunch, we enjoyed a presentation from Texas WMA Project Promoter Diana Morris, promoting the Texas WMA Project of a box trailer for BMA of Texas Missionaries to use in their outreach ministry events. Our project total of \$6,521.11 is very low for this time of year and needs your prayerful and financial support. You can still give to this project by sending your offerings to the Corresponding Secretary: Jo Strong, 149 NW Suzanne Terrace, Burleson, TX 76028. Contact her at 817-480-0888 or [jokenstrong@juno.com](mailto:jokenstrong@juno.com). For more information on the details of the project contact Diana Morris at 11671 Hwy. 31E, Brownsboro, TX 75756, or 903-288-7575, or [grammydi1013msn.com](mailto:grammydi1013msn.com).

Representing Lifeword was Holly Meriweather who spoke to us about Lifeword Cloud. It actually will be an internet search engine that will be routed directly to Lifeword when someone searches for a Christian question or can hear a gospel message in their own language. This new adventure has an unlimited potential to expand broadcasting from 42 languages in 121 countries to hundreds of languages. The gospel of Jesus will be heard in languages that no one is currently preaching. Church planters will have a new tool to help build a new congregation and the kingdom of Jesus will be built. Angelyn McMurray, granddaughter of former missionary, Silas McMurray, spoke to us representing the Hebron Hills Aftercare Facility in Hope, Arkansas.

It is also the National WMA Project this year titled, "We Are Free." It is in the process of being built and will minister long-term care for survivors of human trafficking. The group home will provide services for 12 survivors at one time and 1 resident. The Counseling Center will provide for onsite individual and group counseling, medical treatment, holistic therapies, education and vocational training. How can you help? Prayer is the main need. Participate and partner with them in hosting an advocacy and awareness event in your local community, church or home and committing to financial support. The Masters Builders are already giving their time and skill in building this facility.

Guest speaker Nafisa Morris, former missionary and pastor's wife, spoke to us about her passion to point others to Christ and encourage women to walk in biblical

womanhood. She related how difficult it is to wait on the Lord and trust Him. Having been "through the fire" of the Potter's Hands, she realizes that God is shaping and molding her so that she can be all that He wants her to be. It takes staying in prayer and studying God's Word to gain strength to make it through each day. We have to stand on God's promises so when the hard times come, we won't be overwhelmed. We also need the comfort of our Christian friends who will pray for and with us and just being there when we need to talk. Don't underestimate the power of other believers. You can learn more by reading her blog: [rekindlingjoy.com](http://rekindlingjoy.com), Hope, Help, and Laughter for Young Widows. We were further challenged by Charlotte Johnson who spoke "through a mirror" telling the one looking in, Jayna Williams, that Satan speaks to her, telling her that she is worthless, but God tells her that she and all of us are fearfully and wonderfully made. Then she posed the question, "Who are you going to listen to, Satan or God?"

Sharon Cole is the editor for the Texas WMA. Contact her at [S9Co@aol.com](mailto:S9Co@aol.com). For more information on the Texas WMA, visit [www.texaswma.com](http://www.texaswma.com).





Contact BMA Foundation Executive Director Charles Attebery  
for more information,  
[charles@bmaamerica.org](mailto: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

## Trick or Treat

By **DR. MIKE SMITH**

Wednesday, October 31, 2018, is listed on the calendar as Halloween. Every year, Americans spend billions of dollars on costumes, decorations, candy, and other Halloween items. In 2017, Halloween spending reached \$9.1 billion, a significant increase compared to the \$8.4 billion spent in 2016. The average consumer spends between \$169 and \$183 on Halloween items. Individuals who never make Halloween purchases can enjoy a savings of up to \$12,000 by the age of sixty-five. They are also likely to benefit from fewer costly trips to the dentist to fill cavities and treat tooth decay caused by the consumption all that Halloween candy.

What are the origins of Halloween? In 609, Pope Boniface IV instituted May 13 as All Martyrs' Day to honor all martyrs. Pope Gregory III later moved the date to November 1, extended the celebration to include all saints, and changed the name to All Saints' Day. The day was also called All Hallows' Day, and the night before was referred to as All Hallows' Eve. Over time, the holiday became known as Halloween.

Pope Gregory III likely established November 1 as the date for All Saints' Day to counter Samhain, the pagan festival of the dead celebrated by the Celts of Europe on October 31 and November 1. The Celts believed the curtain dividing the living and the dead was lifted during Samhain to allow the spirits of the dead to walk the earth. During the festival, the Celts built bonfires to keep evil spirits away, and they wore costumes to confuse the ghosts.

Over the centuries, beliefs and practices from Samhain and All Saints Day mixed, and pagan practices grew in popularity. For example, the poor would go from house to house begging for "soul cakes." In exchange, they would pray for the souls of the deceased relatives of those giving the cakes. Single women practiced divination games with apples in the hope of discovering the name of their future husbands.

October 31 is also the date known as Reformation Day. On that day in 1517, Martin Luther nailed his Ninety-five Theses to the door of the Catholic church in Wittenberg, Germany, an act often viewed as the catalyst for the Protestant Reformation. Many of Luther's beliefs can be applauded, such as his criticism of papal authority and his belief that Scripture is the only authority in matters of faith and practice (sola Scriptura).

Fellow Baptists ask me if Baptists are Protestant. My answer is no. Baptists did not come out of the Catholic church either. The history of Baptist beliefs can be traced to the time of Christ. Various groups of these believers were referred to by other names. For details, I recommend reading J.M. Carroll's *The Trail of Blood*.

I appreciate the Reformation movement but do not celebrate it as part of my heritage or lineage. I have gone trick-or-treating in days gone by but will not this year. When I have pastored churches, I have usually led those churches to offer an alternative to Halloween by holding a Harvest Fest. Jacksonville College hosts Harvest Fest each year on campus.

This year's event will be held on Tuesday, October 30. I have held evangelistic events on Halloween to share the gospel and have seen many saved. We need to remind ourselves and those to whom we minister of who we are and why we do and do not do as others.

Jacksonville College exists to provide a quality education from a biblical worldview that challenges minds, transforms lives, and equips students for servant leadership and lifelong learning.

We are thankful for our churches that financially support us to enable us to fulfill our mission. We celebrate every day because of what God is doing at Jacksonville College. What a treat!



▲ Jacksonville College employees and students enjoyed Jag Day at First Baptist Church in Jacksonville on September 9. Pictured are Coach Aaron Smith (standing) and members of the JC men's basketball team.



▲ The Jacksonville College worship team led in worship during Chapel on September 26. Visitors included the JC Board of Trustees and the Golden Jubilee from First Baptist Church, Jacksonville.



▲ The guest speaker during Chapel on September 26 was Dr. Bob Pearle, pastor of Birchman Baptist Church in Fort Worth and member of the JC Board of Trustees. Dr. Pearle used his award-winning dog, Molly, to demonstrate biblical principles

## Upcoming Events

### NEW 8-WEEK TERM

October 15 – December 6

Registration ongoing

Four courses offered:

Anatomy and Physiology II,

College Algebra,

Intermediate Developmental Algebra, and

Learning Frameworks

### 17TH ANNUAL SPAGHETTI LUNCHEON (ATHLETIC DEPARTMENT FUNDRAISER)

Sunday, October 21

from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. in the JC cafeteria

Dine in or carry out

\$5.00 for children 12 and under, \$7.00 for everyone else

Purchase tickets in advance or at the door

Jag Club: (903) 360-2152; Athletic Department: (903)

589-7130

### EARLY REGISTRATION FOR WINTER 2018-2019

Begins October 17

### FALL/CHRISTMAS CONCERT

Tuesday, November 13 at 7:00 p.m. in Buckner Chapel

### HOMECOMING 2019

February 1-2



# INSIGHTS *for* PASTORS

## Turning visitors into guests

By **DR. ALLEN TILLEY**

Does your church have visitors or guests? While the terms appear synonymous, there is a big difference between them. Visitor implies that a person is just visiting without any intention of staying, while guest implies a person welcomed into one's house (Webster's 1913 Unabridged English Dictionary). Subtle changes like this can help move first-timers to your church into active membership.

According to LifeWay research, guests start deciding whether to return to your church within the first 11 minutes on your campus. After leaving your campus, they talk about their initial experience at your church anywhere from eight to fifteen times. What does this mean? We must reach out to guests quickly because their experience influences others. Here are some ideas on impacting first-time guests.

**Have designated guest parking near the front door.** Designated parking indicates that you are prepared for their arrival, making them feel welcomed. If they have to search for a parking space, they may not return.

**Place cheerful greeters just inside the front door.** Nothing says welcome like a smile. Be sure the greeters have a working knowledge of where the restrooms, nursery, and Sunday School rooms are located, along with a bulletin of the Sunday service to give each guest.

**Prominently display directional signs.** Sometimes guests use a door other than the front door. For these occasions have easy to follow signs that will lead them to where they need to go. Because some churches have remodeled or added on, the building layout can be confusing.

**Welcome guests without making them feel uncomfortable.** Never have guests stand or introduce themselves. Another no-no is having them sit while everyone stands. That's like having a spotlight shining directly on them.

**Plan for a time of meet and greet.** Either during the service or in a special room afterwards, intentionally make time so that guests can get to know you. Provide guest registration cards, so they can request more information about your church.

**Use easy to understand language during worship.** Steer clear of words like prologue or benediction. Simply say, "opening or closing song." When offering an invitation, explain its meaning. Being new, your guests may not understand your terminology.

**Provide a welcome packet for all first-time guests** (see April column). These packets briefly explain your church's history, beliefs, vision, and ministries. The more helpful information you provide, the easier it will be for guests to participate.

*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.*



## Swahili: A language and a people group

By **HOLLY MERIWEATHER**

*Lifeword Media Ministries*

Only five languages have been chosen by Lifeword as "starter languages" included in the beta-testing stage before the public rollout of the new lifeword.org in August...and one of those is Swahili. To determine the best languages to use, Lifeword personnel considered the following about existing 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, internet broadcasting, and community radio?

The Lifeword language of Swahili has been on air since 2015, and its round-table-discussion format has been very effective in reaching Tanzanians with the gospel. For Tanzanian broadcasters and brothers Deus and Renatus Kanunu it is simply a part of their tribal culture where problems are solved through discussions. A resolution is reached when the chief has the last word.

The idea was first used by the Garifuna of Central America, who created this culturally relevant broadcast format in 2009: eight pastors sitting at a table and interrupting each other with their opinions.

The Garifuna people group originated in Africa (see the June newsletter for their incredible history), so Director of Operations Luis Ortega and Director of Broadcast Equipping and Training Rick Russell thought a similar format might work in the Swahili culture. Planning meetings with Tanzanian pastors in 2014 revealed a similar Swahili custom: The tribe's chief meets with family leaders and presents a difficult village issue. If the group cannot come to a consensus after various solutions have been offered, he will make the decision.

The chief is the ultimate authority just like God's Word is for Christians. This method of reaching Garifuna and Swahili speakers is a great example of Lifeword's philosophy that broadcasts should be created by and for indigenous people.

To do that effectively, Lifeword has hundreds of personnel around the world working on translating and contextualizing content that speaks to the hearts of the people groups they represent. Lifeword Programmer Deus Kanunu is that

representative for Swahili speakers. As an indigenous speaker, he will create gospel presentations that can be streamed, shared and downloaded to anyone, anywhere who speaks Swahili!



▲ Deus Kanunu at his radio station

August of 2018 is when lifeword.org will go live with the five languages chosen for the testing process: Garifuna, Swahili, Arabic (to be featured in the August newsletter), Spanish and English. As Executive Director Donny Parrish puts it, "For a year, we have been in the building process; after the Cloud is build, we will begin the creative process. Long term we hope to have gospel presentations for 200 of the world's languages. Following the lead of BMA Missions, our ultimate goal is to help them plant churches."



# CHURCH HEALTH

## Are you a Great Commission church?

By **LARRY BARKER**

Asking if your church is a great commission church, or not, stirs up many emotions. The question even being asked may anger some and then the response might be, “Well, of course we are!” The reality is that we must examine the facts and not be overly driven by our emotions. Churches tend to have aspirational values because they know that value is in the scripture but then they do not follow through on implanting that value. Take a deeper look at your church and your ministry and ask if you are actually carrying out the great commission daily!

Paul, speaking to the churches in Galatia, says this in Galatians 3:8, “All nations will be blessed through you.” In focusing on God’s mission for His people and His church we need to take a closer look at the Great Commission as given to us in Matthew 28:16-20. Our mission is to be completely devoted to proclaiming the good news of Jesus Christ and persuading men to become followers of Christ. John MacArthur points out four elements for effectively fulfilling the church’s mission. Three of these elements are attitudes and the fourth is the action that must be taken.

The first attitude is **Availability!** Matthew 28:16 says, “The 11 disciples traveled to Galilee, to the mountain where Jesus had directed them.” Don’t miss this truth that His disciples were where He had told them to be. Is your church where it needs to be in being available to Him to do whatever it takes to reach the lost in your community? Have you become so overly focused on Christians who need spiritual renewal that you have forgotten about unbelievers who desperately need regeneration? We must be exactly where the Lord wants us to be in our availability!

The second attitude necessary to effectively fulfill the great commission is **Worship!** Matthew 28:17 says, “When they saw Him, they worshiped.” Isaiah 6 makes it clear that it is out of worship that we can arise out of the dust of being on our faces before God and that we are ready to follow and serve the Lord. It was out of Isaiah’s brokenness that he responded to God’s request and said, “Here am I Lord, send me!” When He is not truly worshiped He cannot be properly served no matter how talented, gifted, or well intentioned we might be.

The third element is **Submission!** Matthew 28:18 tells

us that Jesus has all authority. Submission is evidenced when our greatest desire is to give all that we are and have to Him. In the context of the Great Commission we see that He is the sovereign Lord, but it also clearly speaks to the believers’ responsibility in their response to His rule. In Romans 12:1, Paul refers to this as our reasonable service and that is giving Him our true worship from our hearts by offering ourselves up as living sacrifices. Have you become a missionless church?

The fourth element for effectively fulfilling the Great Commission flows out of the right attitudes and it is **Obedience!** In *The Unstuck Church* Tony Morgan says, “It’s that stubborn attachment to the past, though, that leads to the church’s ultimate demise. Traditions win over life transformation. Personal preferences crowd out sacrifice and full devotion to the gospel mandate.” He goes on to say, “It’s possible to do the work of God without doing the work God has called you to do.” Acts 1:8 makes that work clear, “And you will be my witnesses.”

Remember that Galatians 3:8 says this will happen “through you.” The world’s population is now right at 7.7 billion and increasing by almost 75,000 people a day. We are told that only 10 percent of the world’s population are Bible-believing Christians. There are two sides, potential and danger, to these findings. First, we can see the potential of these people winning others to the faith. Second, we see the danger because of congregations and Christians becoming inwardly focused and simply trying to occupy themselves.

Your church and my church is to be a task force with a job to do that has been spelled out by our Lord and King. This is why we speak of advancing His Kingdom so that more and more people bow to His authority and submit to His rule and reign. Church, we must accept our responsibility to represent our King and share Him with other nations just as Abraham was instructed in Genesis 12. Have we become so infatuated with maturing our own faith that we are not interested in winning others to the faith? Are we still committed to helping people to find and follow Jesus?

Make sure that you evaluate how you are doing at effectively fulfilling the Great Commission. Here are



some great questions to help you. Are you seeing people accept Jesus Christ as their Lord and Savior? When is the last time someone made known their decision to make Christ Lord of their life? What are you going to do to change that? What intentional steps are you willing to take to pray for the lost, build relationships with the lost, and train your people in how to share the gospel with them? We must move past good intentions and practice intentionality.

How do we do that? David Hesselgrave suggests several things but these three will get you started. First, understand the task! The mission is clear beginning with a desire to reach more people with Jesus. Second, analyze the task in the light of research and experience. Get to know the people you are trying to reach and learn what makes them tick. Look for helpful insights into how you can more effectively communicate the truth of the gospel. Then, make an overall plan to accomplish this task. Begin with the message of His word and be ready to share it!

Are you a Great Commission church?

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](http://www.bmamissions.org).



# SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSONS

## Courage reveals confidence

By PAUL GAUNTT

DATE: November 4, 2018

TEXT: 1 Samuel 17:1-58

The old hymn written by Kittie Louise Suffield in 1924, “Little is Much,” must have been inspired by David’s conquest with the 9 feet 4 inch, heavily armored Philistine, Goliath.

The chorus of the song says,  
Little is much, when God is in it!  
Labor not for wealth or fame.  
There’s a crown — and you can win it,  
if you go in Jesus’ name.

When compared to the infinite power of our living God, human courage, as well as human effort and ingenuity, are limited. What we note in 1 Samuel 17 is God’s way of having decisive victory, using meager means. This is how He receives His glory. Otherwise, man would seek to take the credit.

All human odds were against the shepherd boy.

First of all, he was accused by his eldest brother, Eliab, of having a proud, wicked heart and his only motive for leaving the tending of his father’s sheep was to watch the battle (verse 28).

Secondly, he received words of discouragement from King Saul. “Thou art not able to go against this Philistine. . . thou art but a youth, and he a man of war from his youth” (verse 33).

Thirdly, all of the Israelites army were fearful, and could only see the physical impossibility of going against such a warrior. “Have ye seen this man that is come up?” (verse 25).

But David’s confidence was not in Saul’s arsenal; (verse 38-39) but rather in the power and authority of the God of Israel (verse 45). David remembered God’s victory work in his life previously, by enabling him to slay a lion and a bear (verses 34-36). Anytime one is discouraged from stepping out on faith and doing the impossible, it would be wise to remember God’s past provisions. Israel had a history of forgetting past blessings from God. All through their wilderness wanderings, even when God gave them victory after victory, they still couldn’t completely trust Him.

David gave God all the glory. In verse 47, he said, “And all this assembly shall know that the Lord saveth not with sword and spear; for the battle is the Lord’s, and he will give you into our hands.” The victory was the Lord’s, not David’s.

The application: The victory is ours as we go in God’s strength – not our own.

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](mailto:pop.gauntt@gmail.com).



## The ugliness of jealousy

By PAUL GAUNTT

DATE: November 11, 2018

TEXT: 1 Samuel 18:6-16

There are many factors, which contribute to a jealous heart, but none as pronounced as being upstaged.

Saul was more than ready to pass his duties off to little shepherd boy David, because he was void of courage. But he was not ready to share the limelight with him.

Saul never heard the saying, which has become popular in recent years: “As long as the job gets done, it doesn’t matter who gets the credit.” But it did matter to the King. And his jealous rage intensified when he heard the women of the kingdom singing, to the accompaniment of tablets (a tambourine type of instrument) and dancing. The lyrics to their song was, “Saul hath slain his thousands, and David his ten thousands” (verse 7).

It was bad enough for the king to be viewed as a coward, but to sing and dance to a song about it was more than the king could stand.

Nothing will destroy a person more quickly, than being enraged over feeling upstaged. Pastors, do you feel that ministry is your responsibility, alone? Do you refuse others in the body from doing it for fear of being upstaged? We are called to equip the saints to do the ministry. If the saints begin upstaging us by

excelling in ministry, and we work ourselves out of a job, praise the Lord!

Consider these few thoughts about jealousy:

**1. Jealousy begins to slowly eat away at the one carrying it. It registers in the eye (verse 9).** “Saul eyed David from that day and forward.” It wasn’t an eye of adoration—it was an evil eye.

**2. Jealousy leads to murder—or at least attempted murder (verse 11).**

**3. Jealousy will drive the spirit of God out of a man. (verse 12).** Even though Saul was being driven insane by the rage and jealousy, he still had enough presence of mind to understand God was with David.

**4. Jealousy will drive one to plot revenge.** Saul wanted to portray himself as gracious by offering his eldest daughter Merab, to him as his wife. When David acknowledged to the king’s servants that he had no dowry to offer the king, they told him to just go and kill 100 Philistines. Saul was plotting for David’s death in battle, using the Philistines to give him his much-desired revenge. It did not work — David continued to have victory.

But David behaved himself “wisely.” One will always behave wisely as they honor and obey God.

## Patience tested

By PAUL GAUNTT

DATE: November 18, 2018

TEXT: 1 Samuel 24:1-22

In verses 1-7 of 1 Samuel 24, we find that David is given the opportunity to put an end to Saul’s pursuit of him. Saul and David happen to be in the same cave at the same time. David is counseled by his own men to slay the king. As he was about to go through with it, he stopped short after cutting a piece of cloth from the king’s robe. Matthew Henry notes that David “rendered good for evil,” a command God gives to all His Children. We are commanded to overcome evil for good.

In verses 8-15, we see the results of false accusations. David was falsely being accused of seeking to assassinate Saul. One would conclude that David would be justified, since Saul has been trying to kill him. But David would not do it — he determined to trust God to be the Avenger.

In verses 16-22, we see the results of rendering good for evil. Saul was touched by David’s willingness to resolve this feud between him and Saul by not seeking to destroy the king.

David referred to himself as a “dead dog” and a “flea.” In doing so, he was expressing his feeling of lowliness and his acknowledgement that God alone, is the righteous Judge. The king was touched by Samuel’s vow to guard the King’s legacy and not bring harm to his offspring.

The application: Often, it seems appropriate for us to take action to protect or vindicate ourselves, but God wants us to wait on Him to do that, in His own time, and His own way.

## Can we escape judgement?

By PAUL GAUNTT

DATE: November 25, 2018

TEXT: 1 Samuel 21:1-13

Saul had been anointed by Samuel to defend Israel from the Philistines (9:16). But tragically, Saul meets his death by suicide as the Philistines won a decisive victory.

Saul’s humiliating defeat is a fulfillment of Samuel’s prophecy to him as found in 1 Samuel 28:15-19. Samuel told Saul that God would take the kingdom out of his hands and give it to his neighbors as a result of his disobedience to God.

Saul and his three sons’ deaths on Mount Gilboa is reminiscent of the plight of Eli and his sons, Hophni and Phinehas. Both occurred because of disobedience to God.

The Philistines beheading the dead body of Saul was obviously a response to their champion Goliath being beheaded by David.

Sometimes God’s judgement is swift, and sometimes it is delayed.

Matthew Henry said “the scripture makes no mention of what became of the souls of Saul and his sons after they were dead; but of their bodies only: secret things belong not to us.”

# EVENTS

## 118TH ANNUAL SESSION OF THE BAPTIST MISSIONARY ASSOCIATION OF TEXAS

**DATE:** November 5-6, 2018

**PLACE:** Calvary Baptist Church, Fairfield, Texas

## SENIOR ADULT CONFERENCE

**DATE:** November 12-14, 2018

**PLACE:** Hilton Convention Center, Branson, Missouri

**REGISTER:** [discipleguide.org/senior/](http://discipleguide.org/senior/)

## CHURCH LEADERS CRUISE

**DATE:** January 19-24, 2019

**REGISTER:** [discipleguide.org/cruise/](http://discipleguide.org/cruise/)

# pastor & staff changes

**CHRIS MARSH** is the new pastor of New Hope, Saint Elmo (Streetman).

**MATTHEW LOAFMAN** has resigned as pastor of First Missionary, Cleburne.

**TERRY BOLTON** has resigned as pastor of Cross Roads, Winnsboro to become pastor of Greenpond, Como.

## ORDINATION

Stephen Davenport was ordained to the Gospel Ministry Sept. 23. Stephen has earned both his MAR and MACM from the Baptist Missionary Association Theological Seminary. He is the new pastor of Enterprise Baptist Church, Jacksonville. Members of the presbytery included Dr. David Hellwig, Dr. Ronnie Johnson, Dr. David Erickson, and Dr. Jim Shine (full-time and adjunct faculty for BMATS). Also included were Dr. Charley Holmes (President BMATS), Dr. Philip Attebery (Dean BMATS), Bro. Chris Proctor (Business Manager BMATS), and Dr. James Blaylock (recently retired Library Director for BMATS).



# personnel & positions

## AVAILABLE POSITIONS

**PASTOR**—New Bethlehem, Cut and Shoot is seeking a bivocational pastor. Send resume to 14630 Millmac Road, Conroe, Texas 77303 or [nbbc2112@consolidated.net](mailto:nbbc2112@consolidated.net).

**PASTOR**—Cross Roads, Winnsboro is seeking a pastor. Send resume to the church at 1314 County Road 4870, Winnsboro, Texas 75494.

**YOUTH/MUSIC MINISTER**—College Avenue, Levelland is accepting resumes for a Youth/Music Minister. Housing included with salary. Send resume to Jedediah Lane, P.O. Box 1244 Levelland, Texas 79336 or email to [youth@cabclelland.org](mailto:youth@cabclelland.org).

10/18

**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](mailto: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](mailto:james@firstbaptistcarthage.com).

11/18

**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](mailto:plstokley@gmail.com).

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](mailto:fbcdesototx@gmail.com) to schedule an appointment. Call 972-223-7448 for more information.

**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.

## 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.

**NEW HOPE, SAINT ELMO (STREETMAN)** would like to welcome Bro. Chris Marsh as their new pastor and his wife, JoAnn. He comes to the church from Rockwall, and is retired from the Dallas Police Department where he served as a chaplain for 11 years.

# CHURCH REVIEW

September 16, 2018

CHURCH	SS	WORSHIP	ADDITIONS
First, Omen	33	62	
First, Palmer	36	50	
Glade Creek, Gilmer	18	36	1 by letter
Jackson, Joaquin	84	121	
Little Flock, Jewett	5	18	
Little Mound, Big Sandy	38	53	
New Harmony, Tyler	314	378	2 by letter
New Hope, Mineola	97	130	
Olde Tyme, White Oak		72	
Pilgrim Rest #2, Golden	43	55	
Rosewood, Gilmer	132	240	2 by baptism, 2 by letter, 2 by statement
Security Calvary, Cleveland	21	44	1 by statement
Yellowpine Macedonia, Hemphill	19	27	

September 23, 2018

CHURCH	SS	WORSHIP	ADDITIONS
Anthony Drive, Ennis	54	110	
First, Omen	37	80	1 by baptism, 1 by letter
First, Palmer	49	84	
Glade Creek, Gilmer	20	37	
Jackson, Joaquin	84	120	
Little Flock, Jewett	7	23	
Little Mound, Big Sandy	38	47	2 by letter
New Harmony, Tyler	255	316	
New Hope, Mineola	80	127	
Olde Tyme, White Oak		47	
Pilgrim Rest #2, Golden	37	54	
Rosewood, Gilmer	126	205	1 by letter
Security Calvary, Cleveland	21	41	
Simmons Hill, Diana	13	16	
Yellowpine Macedonia, Hemphill		27	

September 30, 2018

CHURCH	SS	WORSHIP	ADDITIONS
First, Omen	34	65	
First, Palmer	49	71	
Glade Creek, Gilmer	19	44	
Jackson, Joaquin	83	132	
Little Flock, Jewett	5	29	
Little Mound, Big Sandy	37	45	
New Hope, Mineola	89	134	
Olde Tyme, White Oak		47	
Pilgrim Rest #2, Golden	34	49	
Rosewood, Gilmer	131	222	
Sand Flat, Grand Saline	42	63	
Security Calvary, Cleveland	31	43	
Simmons Hill, Diana	15	22	
Yellowpine Macedonia, Hemphill	17	21	1 by baptism

October 7, 2018

CHURCH	SS	WORSHIP	ADDITIONS
First, Omen	24	60	
Glade Creek, Gilmer	17	33	
Jackson, Joaquin	84	139	
Little Flock, Jewett	4	18	
Little Mound, Big Sandy	43	61	
New Hope, Mineola	80	135	1 by letter
Olde Tyme, White Oak		37	
Pilgrim Rest #2, Golden	52	68	
Rosewood, Gilmer	141	221	
Simmons Hill, Diana	21	37	
Yellowpine Macedonia, Hemphill	11	20	



**2018**

***United Thanksgiving Offering***

**SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 18, 2018**

**OVERALL GOAL: \$125,000**

**GOAL PER CHURCH: \$1,500**

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

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