

Baptist Progress

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THE INFORMING AND EQUIPPING MINISTRY OF THE BAPTIST MISSIONARY ASSOCIATION OF TEXAS | SEPTEMBER 2021 | VOL. 108 | NO. 09

INSIDE



PAGE 5

BMA TEXAS MISSIONS



PAGE 7

missions:world NEWS



PAGE 11

BMAA DISASTER RELIEF
HELPING HURRICANE VICTIMS

Compassionate Hope—Reaching out to eastern Europe

By **PAUL GAUNTT**

Baptist Progress Correspondent

When the Lord brought Russ Noggle and Joanna Gresham, who were both widowers, together in 2009, they not only became marriage partners but ministry partners as well.

Because each had been involved in ministry in Romania and Ukraine, it became evident God had groomed both for a special mission work, and both had a deep interest in eastern Europe, especially Moldova, Romania and in the lower parts of Ukraine.

The Lord quickly worked it out for them to become acquainted with Oleg and Marina Reutki of Moldova, each couple sharing a desire to not only help needy children, but to work with local pastors.

Fort Worth native Joanna Gresham, who has served at various times at the Texas Baptist Home for Children in Waxahachie since 1969, and Russ, who had experience pastoring and serving on staff in several churches and in the Bible distribution ministry, soon realized God was opening doors for them with a ministry which they named, Compassionate Hope.

Joanna shared how God especially blessed the ministry in Moldova in 2019.

“It was the biggest year so far with 56 children’s camps and 4,600 children attending our orphanage camps,” she said. “And this past year, even with all the COVID restrictions, we still had 34 camps with 2,090 kids in the camps—primarily in Moldova and lower part of Ukraine.”

After Russ was called home to be the Lord in 2018, Joanna has made two trips a year, and when they are not able to be in the country, they have a couple that keeps the ministry coordinated.

“While Russ was still living, we would spend five months over there—a month in the spring, three months in the summer, and one month in the winter,” she said.

Compassionate Hope, which is approved as a non-profit organization, has its own board which governs the legal affairs of the ministry. Since its inception in 2009, the ministry, in addition to the camps, has trained national workers in the Outreach Bible Camps, meeting with local pastors and providing training and sponsored Youth Clubs in 24 villages, which disciples children that have been reached in the Bible camps. Bible distribution has also been another great component of the ministry. Over 100,000 Bibles have been distributed throughout Moldova, Ukraine, Romania and Turkey. Compassionate Hope prepares



▲ Joanna Noggle (far right) and Garris Baggett (far left) meeting with Moldovan pastors



COMPASSIONATE HOPE continued on p. 13



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MAKING PROGRESS

What a time

By **JERRY FULTON**

I am extremely excited to serve as the director of what is now the informing and equipping ministry of the Baptist Missionary Association of Texas. This past year, *Baptist Progress* has provided two workshops and an interim pastor training. Fifteen men took part in the recent interim pastor training. Another workshop will be conducted in the BMA of Texas Building Sept. 16.

The workshop, *Reaching People Through Social Media and Websites*, will be led by Matthew Prather, pastor of The Bridge, Waxahachie. During the workshop, Prather will tell then show participants how to use social media and church websites to more effectively reach people. The workshop will begin at 10 a.m. and end around 3 p.m. Lunch will be provided for a cost of \$10. Register at the bottom of our "Resources" page on our website, baptistprogress.org, or call 972-923-0756. You can register for the workshop on the day of the workshop if you let me know you are coming ahead of time.

ANNIVERSARY OFFERING

Since our last issue, *Baptist Progress* has received three more Anniversary Offering donations. Thanks to First Missionary, Cleburne (\$109); Mahl, Nacogdoches (\$109); and Joanna Gresham (\$109) for your donations. Your donations bring our Anniversary

Offering grand total to \$7,319. We had hoped for a total offering of \$12,000, but we are thankful for all we received. The Anniversary Offering helps *Baptist Progress* to meet budgetary needs each year.

NEXT ISSUE

The October issue of *Baptist Progress* will include recommendations and proposed budgets from each BMA of Texas department and committee as well as reports from the director of each department. Departments and committees are asked to submit all recommendations and proposed budgets by Oct. 4, if at all possible.



▲ Jerry Fulton

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

Be sure to mark your calendar for and attend the 2021 BMA of Texas Meeting at New Harmony, Tyler Nov. 4. This year's meeting, like the last, will be a one-day meeting. A schedule for the meeting will be included in the October issue of *Baptist Progress*.

Baptist Progress

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Birthdays party for Frances Heflin limited to family only due to COVID, cards and birthday wishes welcome

By THE HEFLIN CHILDREN

Due to COVID cases being on the rise, those attending the 90th birthday party of Frances Heflin, advertised in the last issue of *Baptist Progress*, will be limited to immediate family members. We would still love for you to participate by sending a birthday wish for this special occasion. If at all possible, it needs to arrive by the end of September at P.O. Box 134, Fairfield, TX 74840.



▲ Frances Heflin

Thank you for helping us make this milestone a momentous occasion. We are very disappointed that other guests will not be able to attend, but thank you for understanding the need for this health precaution.

Jed Whitaker ordained to the Gospel Ministry

By CHARLES JOHNSON

Pastor of Rosewood, Gilmer

A presbytery of 23 ordained ministers and deacons was formed at Antioch, Gilmer to ordain Bro. Jed Whitaker to the Gospel Ministry Aug. 22. Bro. Whitaker has recently been elected to the pastorate of Enon, Gilmer.



▲ Jed Whitaker and Ray Thompson

Bro. Whitaker was questioned by his son-in-law, Bro. Michael Pool, pastor of Antioch. He stood the questioning well and gave a stirring testimony of his salvation and call to preach experiences.

Dr. Ray Thompson, the recently retired pastor of Enon, Gilmer, brought an inspiring message and charge to the candidate and to the sending and receiving churches from 2 Timothy 2:1-7 concerning "Metaphors of the Ministry."

Bro. Charles Johnson served as the moderator of the proceedings, and Bro. Wayne McKay was the clerk. Bro. Todd Davidson, a deacon at Enon, Gilmer, led the ordination prayer before the laying on of hands by the presbytery members.

Bro. Whitaker and his wife, Glenice, have served in the Antioch congregation for the past 39 years. He has worked in many capacities including as a deacon, treasurer, and music director. Both Jed and Glenice are retired educators. He had a long career at Harmony I.S.D. where he served as a teacher, coach, athletic director, high school principal and superintendent.

BMA of Texas Pastors Retreat Oct. 4-6, 2021



Space is available for six men to attend a BMA of Texas pastors retreat Oct. 4-6.

The cost of the retreat is \$125, with all but one meal included. Scholarships are available.

The retreat will take place on a working cattle ranch nestled in the Piney Woods of east Texas, two miles north of Tyler State Park, off of Farm-to-Market 14. Participants can fish, hike trails or just sit on the front porch. Each participant will have his own house to himself. The purpose of the retreat is to help pastors relax, refocus and recharge.

If you would like to attend the retreat, email Todd West, BMA of Texas pastor connections coordinator at todd@bmatexas.org or call 972-923-0757.



A word from your Missions Office

By **HEITH MITCHELL**

A new school year means new opportunities for your missionaries like it does for many of you. Redemption Hill, Fort Worth publicly announced their church this month with a well attended worship celebration. This celebration comes after much time and energy has gone into church membership, discipleship and healthy church systems with a growing group of people.

We were surprised by the homegoing this month of our dear



brother and your missionary Isaias Rojas. This faithful and fruitful man of God has made it to his eternal home. Many, many others will be there to join him because he has been faithful to share the good news of Jesus Christ. He will hear, "Well done." He brought passion, wisdom, prayer, faith and hard labor to your mission movement. We will all miss him while we wait to join him. Please pray for his wife, Rosa. We trust God to comfort and provide for her every step.



Isaias and Rosa Rojas

A word from your missionaries

ISAIAS ROJAS OSECHAS— CHURCH PLANT IN SPRING

If the Lord lays it on your heart to help Mrs. Rosa in this hard time, you can send a gift to BMA Texas Missions designated for Isaias to P.O. Box 73, Waxahachie 75168 or give it online to Isaias' work fund at bmatexas.org.



▲ **Isaias Rojas Osechas**

MIKE WATT & TREVOR COWAN— CROSS-WORK MISSION, TAHOKA MIKE.WATT@CROSSWORKCHURCH.ORG

Please pray for our outreach efforts in the next few months. We have several opportunities to be in the community and share the gospel. Pray that we are bold and that God blesses our efforts. The Harvest Festival Sept. 25, and we want to train our people to have gospel conversations. Every Friday in September and October is a football game, and we want to be intentional in our community then as well. In addition, we are looking at having evangelist outreach events at the schools. We need Jesus to bless our efforts.



▲ **Mike Watt**



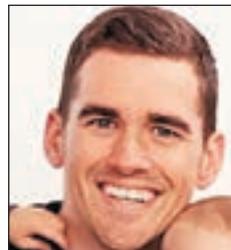
▲ **Trevor Cowan**

BRAD HOLCOMBE— REDEMPTION HILL MISSION IN FORT WORTH BRAD@REDEMPTIONHILLFW.COM

Psalm 27 has been a consistent encouragement for me. I would encourage you to read it for yourself, your family and your church in the coming weeks.

Prayer Needs:

Please pray for our family and specifically our middle child who has epilepsy. Pray the Lord Jesus would heal his body and mind. And please pray for strength for my wife and me.



▲ **Brad Holcombe**

ISAIAS MARTINEZ— NEW SPANISH MISSION AT NORTHSIDE, CONROE ISAIASMJ1966@GMAIL.COM

Thank you for allowing me to be a part of you.

Prayer Needs:

Pray for the difficult health, food and political situation in our country of origin, Cuba.



▲ **Isaias Martinez**



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

First of all, thank you for your support through prayers and supporting the BMA Texas Missions. We need you! Thank you for being the backbone of missions through your generosity. We at Anchor, Austin believe and commit our Lives to doing God's Work and you are collaborating along with us in His mission on this earth.

Prayer Needs:

Continue to pray for our outreach projects and reaching out to those pockets of people who never have tasted God's love or never knew who Jesus Christ is.



▲ **Chris Mindi**



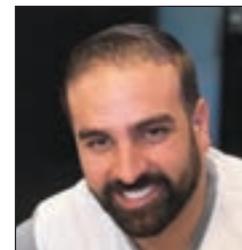
▲ **Jesse Hales**

TIMOTHY ALBA— NEW MISSION IN SEAGOVILLE TIMALBA1986@GMAIL.COM

This month, I have learned the value of serving one another from a pastoral perspective. The Bible tells us that we are to shepherd His people and encourage them each week. It is our duty to love and serve them on many levels. This involves time and patience as we do ministry and equip the saints both in word and deed. I pray that each of us learn that our capacity as leaders does not end at the pulpit, but continues throughout the week as many of our people have needs beyond a sermon. We are to faithful and available to those in need and help whoever we can along the way. We are also responsible for keeping them accountable so we all can be on mission together.

Prayer Needs:

Pray that God would continuously give our church wisdom in these trying times.



▲ **Timothy Alba**

BMA Texas Missions cont.

**KINGSLEY NDUKA /
ADEREMI BADRU—
LIGHT HOUSE MISSION IN HOUSTON
KINGEDU700@GMAIL.COM /
REMIBADRU44HOPE@YAHOO.COM**

Thank you for all your support.

Prayer Needs:

Pray for us that God will open the door of ministry for us in our community, that God will open the door of faith in the heart of the people that we are reaching with the gospel and that God will bless Kingsley and I with good health to continue to do our work faithfully.



▲ Kingsley Nduka



**CESAR LEAL—
NEW MISSION IN SAN ANTONIO
CESARLEAL2002@YAHOO.COM**

External circumstance continue to change. The world continues its process. Sometimes, it improves and sometimes, it gets worse, but our gaze is not set on this world. We have our eyes set on Jesus, the Author and Finisher of our faith (Hebrews 12:2).



▲ Cesar Leal

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

I am excited as the past month marked our local school going back for the year. With that comes a great opportunity for us to minister to our community by hosting our local Cub Scouts and Girl Scouts at the church. It is such a blessing to be able to show love to our community by being available to them, even when the world seems to be going crazy around us.



▲ Robert Lee

Prayer Needs:

Pray for new opportunities for showing Christ's love to our community in the coming months.

**JAIME HENRIQUEZ—
FUENTE DE VIDA ETERNA MISSION, HOUSTON
DAIRYJENY@YAHOO.COM**

We are happy to report what the Lord is doing in our mission.

Souls are being saved and lives are being transformed by the power of the Holy Spirit. This past month, we started discipling three new brothers, and attendance has been steady. Please continue to pray for us as we serve the Lord.

Prayer Needs:

Pray that the Lord will continue to use our ministry to reach others for Christ.



▲ Jaime Henriquez



**BICHITRANANDA SATPATHY—
INTERNATIONAL BAPTIST MISSION, FORT WORTH
BICHITRANANDA31@GMAIL.COM**

"Let us not become weary in doing good, for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up" (Galatians 6:9).

Prayer Needs:

Please pray for those who received the gospel tracts and heard the gospel. Pray for Aaron who underwent hernia surgery for his complete recovery and D' mone who has been suffering from Sickle Cell Anemia.



▲ Bichitrananda Satpathy

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

"I was glad when they said to me, 'Let us go to the house of the Lord'" (Psalm 122:1).

I'm praying The Lord will continue to move throughout our churches glorifying His name.

Prayer Needs:

Please continue to lift us up in prayer, for our city, our church and the ministry we have here.



▲ Ronnie Mills

Heith Mitchell is the director of BMA of Texas Missions.

Contact him at P.O. Box 73, Waxahachie, Texas 75168, 972-923-0757 or hmitchell@bmatexas.org. For more information, visit www.bmatexasmissions.org.



GOD'S GIFT

HEAVEN IS A FREE GIFT!

It is not earned or deserved. No amount of effort or good works can earn a place for you in heaven. Why?

Because . . .

MAN IS A SINNER.

"For all have sinned . . ." (Rom. 3:23) Because of this, man cannot save himself. GOD. On the one hand, God is merciful and does not want to punish us. Yet God is just and must punish sin. God solved this problem for us in the Person of . . .

JESUS CHRIST.

He died on the cross to pay the penalty for our sins and rose from the grave to purchase a place for us in heaven—"the Lord has laid on Him (Jesus) the iniquity of us all" (Isa. 53:6).

THE GIFT IS RECEIVED BY FAITH.

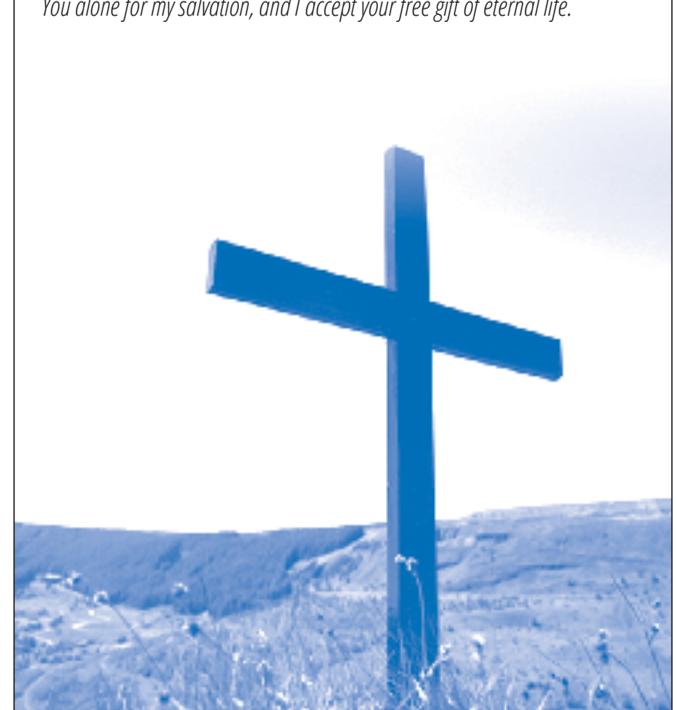
Saving faith is trusting in Jesus Christ alone for eternal life. It means resting on Christ alone and what He has done, rather than what you or I have done to get us into heaven. "Believe on (or trust in) the Lord Jesus Christ and you will be saved" (Acts 16:31).

SO MAY WE ASK . . .

Have you received God's free gift of eternal life? The Bible assures us in 1 John 5:13 that we can know we have eternal life.

Do you know for sure that you are going to heaven when you die? The Bible says, "Whoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved."

If you are willing to repent (turn away from your sin and to the Lord Jesus) you can receive the free gift of eternal life by simply praying: Lord Jesus, I know I am a sinner and do not deserve eternal life. But I believe You died and rose from the grave to purchase a place in heaven for me. Jesus, come into my life, take control of my life, forgive my sins, and save me. I am now placing my trust in You alone for my salvation, and I accept your free gift of eternal life.





I'm just sayin': Insurmountable Hope

By **JASON CURRY**

Hope. The way we use this word is often outside of faith in God like, "I hope things work out for you," or in answer to a question, "I hope so." These statements and others seem many times to lack faith, either unaware or completely rejecting the identity of God, who is all-powerful and will accomplish wonderful things for His glory.

The Bible says In Romans 15:13, "Now may the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit."

Hope is a gift of the Holy Spirit and is not subject to the doubts that sometimes seem insurmountable. I am inspired by a previous TBHC president from 1913 to 1920, J.M. McClung. He resonates with me because he unapologetically walked in hope from the spirit and rejected the "hopeful talk" found in our language. During his first year, He saw success because he began traveling from church to church asking for financial help. After his first year, he appeared before the association and announced their success at getting out of debt and providing for the kids that year. The churches responded by inquiring if that meant he would give them a break from having to give to the orphanage. He must have been a great advocate for kids because he responded that "he would never ask for another collection if they would supply him with children that did not need food, clothing nor shelter."

His personality was sarcastic and, I imagine, entertaining. His hope was not insurmountable. Years later, one church pastor said they would give as soon as the weather cleared up and "the birds starting singing." McClung replied that he appreciated his thoughtfulness but that he would appreciate a few words of advice on what to feed the orphans until the birds started singing."

This style of coaxing people to give is brash but seemed to be what was needed to get pastors to remember the orphanage. McClung was instrumental in churches and associations establishing a day of support for us. Without him, our current method of associations coming together to raise money for TBHC would not be what it is today. Your hope is not insurmountable.

All of you have demonstrated time and time again faith in God! Thank you all for living up to the legacy of support many years ago. You are a special member of a family of churches that have given, loved and supported what God is doing in the lives of children.

If the words of McClung teach us anything, I hope it is this: That good people's intentions are not God's people in action. What actions has God been moving you towards today? If you have questions about TBHC's ministry and how you can give until Jesus comes reach out to us, we would love to share how you can do that. We will always need your help because we will always have children that need food, clothing and shelter. But it is so much more than food, clothing and shelter. Our children desperately need the God of hope.

I'm just sayin'

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





Every Sunday Bulletin Service

To order bulletins from *Baptist Progress*, contact us at 972-923-0756 or visit www.baptistprogress.org. You may also email editor@baptistprogress.org for more information.

Baptist Progress

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 Aug. 1-31, 2021.

HONORARIUMS:

JOHN ALLEN: CHARLES AND CHARLOTTE JOHNSON

DONNY AND PAULA CHAMBERLAIN'S 50TH WEDDING: CHARLES AND CHARLOTTE JOHNSON

DENISE GASTON: ROSEWOOD BAPTIST CHURCH

CHARLOTTE JOHNSON: ROSEWOOD BAPTIST CHURCH

KARL PACE: KELLY PENICK

RED SPRINGS BAPTIST CHURCH KITCHEN COMMITTEE: JERRY NULL

WANDA PATTERSON: DONNY CHAMBERLAIN, COLDWATER BAPTIST CHURCH

BARBARA AND TERRY SARTOR: PATRICIA COTHRAN

BRO. WAYNE WHITEHEAD'S 40TH YEARS IN MINISTRY: CHARLES AND CHARLOTTE JOHNSON

MEMORIALS:

LARRY AND ROSELEN BOBO: JAMES BOBO

SAM BODKINS: LINDA DEAN

LAVEOUNIA BRANSON: LINDA DEAN

LUCILLE CARTER: JERRY CARTER

JOEL CONROY: SALLY CONROY

LISA HART: CALEB AND JAMI DAVIDSON

BILLIE JEAN HENDERSON: LEONA WALKER

CHARLENE JOHNSON: WILLS POINT HIGH SCHOOL CLASS OF 1984

NATHAN JORDAN: ROSEWOOD BAPTIST CHURCH

SANDRA RIGGS JONES: LEONA WALKER

REEVES C. JUNGKIND: HEVERT AND KARLA JONES

WAYNE KEELING: BILLY KEELING

VERNON LEE: CHARLES AND CHARLOTTE JOHNSON

LARRY WAYNE MCKAY: RED SPRINGS MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH

MR AND MRS HARRY J. MEYER: ROY AND ELIZABETH TALBOT

MACK MULLINS: LOIS TUCKER

LICITA LOU OUIMET: JAMES OUIMET

FLORENCE PEBWORTH: MRS DONALD MACHESNEY, MARGARET GRASSLE

PERRY PUGH: LIBERTY BAPTIST CHURCH

LEE O. SCOTT: ROY AND JOANNA MARTIN, BILLY AND D'ANDRA SMITH

MIKE VANDIVER: GERALD AND DEBORAH ZOLMAN

NEIL AND WANDA SNOW: LENA GREEN

REV. C.B. STANLEY: DAVID AND SUE STANLEY

DOROTHY WRIGHT: THOMAS JETER

memorials-honorariums

mission:world

NEWS

Reading and Writing in Rizal

BY: Enrico Pillazar
BMA Missions
bmamissions.org

I am Pastor Enrico G. Pillazar from Balayan, Batangas, Philippines. I accepted the Lord Jesus Christ as my Savior in 1984 and was later baptized on June 7, 1985. Several days after I was baptized, on June 17, 1985, our senior pastor took me to Quezon City to study at a Bible institute. In 1987, after I graduated from the Bible institute, I began to serve the Lord in a mission to the Mangyans in the mountains of Calavite, Occidental Mindoro. In addition to the missions in Batangas and Mindoro, I was also able to help with missions in several other areas of the Philippines. In 1999, by God's grace I married my wife, Elizabeth. The Lord has blessed us with two children, Shekinah Faith and Adams Matthew.

After serving in missions in many different provinces of the Philippines, my family and I are currently serving at Baptist Missionary Mission Southville Montalban in Rodriguez, Rizal. As of July 30, 2021, we will have been serving here for one year.



Currently, we have three Bible studies in different areas, two children's evangelism ministries, and a new children's ministry in the next village where three of our youths who live there teach the children. In our youth department, we encourage them to get engaged in various roles like leading in prayer, being a scripture reader, serving as a song leader or guitarist, or teaching children's Sunday school. In our children's ministry, in addition to teaching them Bible stories and verses, my wife teaches the children how to read and write. I thank the Lord that even through a pandemic we have been able to hold regular Sunday services and prayer meetings, except during quarantines where we were prohibited from meeting in person.

Ministry has been challenging for us since arriving here. Just as with any new location, we must determine the best way to share the gospel. The people in this area have many different beliefs and thoughts about God and how to get to heaven. By God's grace, we pray and trust in His leading as we obey and share the gospel as best as we can. Pray for the believers who follow and serve our Lord Jesus Christ that they will grow as they are discipled, that they will be able to plant new churches, and that they will be able to conduct Bible studies in the areas where they work. Pray for the gospel to be shared to all those around us.

I thank the Lord and the Baptist Missionary Association (BMA) of America for this wonderful opportunity to share the ministry we have been blessed with here in the Philippines. I hope that all of us will be able to reach more people and plant more churches all over the world so that the gospel is heard by all.

mission:world

NEWS

BY: Nestor Vibas
BMA Missions
bmamissions.org

Children Without a Childhood

Greetings in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ who continues to show us extraordinary favor. We would like to extend our sincere gratitude and appreciation to the Baptist Missionary Association (BMA) of America for giving us this opportunity to share our ministry with everyone, for visiting us through BMA teams, and for helping us during the 2020 lockdown. By the grace of God we were able to share some goods with the community in our mission field during the lockdown.

Baptist Missionary Church—Upper Pintor is located in Sitio Pintor, San Isidro, Rodriguez, Rizal, Philippines. Upper Pintor Church is a daughter church of Baptist Missionary Church—Pilot. The mission church was started in 2015 through a Bible study.

I am Nestor R. Vibas, Jr. I am 27 years old. I serve as a mission worker in Baptist Missionary Church—Upper Pintor under the supervision of Pastor Vincent Ferrer our senior pastor and association church planter. I visit the mission twice a week. I go to the mission Saturday early in the morning and I return home every Sunday after Sunday services are finished.

Upper Pintor is spread around the entrance to Rizal Provincial Sanitary Landfill. The people living here are squatter families, living in shanties made from whatever items they can salvage from the dump. They don't have electricity, water, or sanitation; and the only occupation in this place is scavenging.

Transportation is another problem we face in Upper Pintor. There are times that we need to hitchhike rides on a garbage truck. It is very challenging for us. And because of the lack of transportation, it is very challenging for the children in Upper Pintor to go to school.

Because of these living conditions, nearly all the children in this place have no proper education and teenage pregnancy is very common. The average age

for a girl to get pregnant here is somewhere around thirteen or fourteen years old. These young girls are unprepared for motherhood and rely upon their own mother when they become a mother.

Seeing these situations is heartbreaking; but we have hope that through God's grace they can receive a proper education. Hardly any child can enjoy their childhood. Starting at a young age, children babysit their younger brothers and sisters because their parents need to scavenge in the dumpsite. Other children help their parents collect junk materials. Because of this, these children can't go to school to study or play.

Our mission, by the grace of our Savior Jesus Christ, is to share the love of God through His Word with the people of Upper Pintor. We strive to help them to dream big and to finish their studies. And we pray for them to be successful followers of God someday.

Every Saturday morning, we host a children and young teens fellowship. The children's fellowship is for children ages five through twelve. We begin with a greeting, followed by prayer, songs, games, a Bible story, activity, more songs, and a closing prayer. The young teen's fellowship is for teenagers from thirteen to sixteen years old. This fellowship also begins with a greeting, followed by singing, Bible study, and a closing song. During the Bible study portion, we teach them Bible principles and we provide godly advice to help them to dream big.

Our Sunday services begin at 9:30 in the morning.

Our dream is to continue serving the Lord in this place and to share the gospel with everyone. We want the children in this place to be able to go to school and to be faithful followers of God.

Please pray for the people of Upper Pintor. Pray that they can be free from poverty; pray that they can go to school; and most of all pray for more souls to be saved in this place. God bless us all.



mission:world

NEWS

A CHALLENGE TO COMMIT TO MISSIONS PHILIPPINES

BY: Alfred Suico
BMA Missions
bmamissions.org

The Bible clearly commands us as Christians to do missions. Jesus said in Matthew 28:19-20, “Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost: teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the world.” In response to Christ’s command, God impressed upon my heart the desire to commit to missions. I am currently working on a mission here in Leyte in Tigbawan, Maasin City.

Barangay Tigbawan is home to the mission work. It began as a children’s outreach program during the late 1990s. This work was continued through the years by different pastors. For several years Bible studies had been done in Tigbawan as pastors from neighbouring churches came to visit and help the ministry. Those who benefited from the children’s outreach program were encouraged to join in the Bible studies with their whole family. This served as a way to bring people to God. From its inception in 1998 until 2018 no regular Sunday church services were held due to a lack of workers. This changed in January of 2019.

My name is Alfred Suico, Jr. I am a sinner saved by grace and called by the Lord to serve Him as a missionary here in Tigbawan. God used missionary Stan Scroggins to encourage me and to plant a vision and desire in my heart to do missions. I came here on January 4, 2019, and am currently serving as the missionary pastor of New Testament Tigbawan Baptist Mission.

When I first started the work here in 2019, I initially came to serve just for the first four months. However, God had other plans for me. His Spirit worked quickly and efficiently on the people here, and I saw 19 people baptized that same year. God wasn’t done yet though. He used our sister church, New Testament Baptist Church in Sullivan, Missouri, to provide for roofing renovations on our church building. God has blessed the people here in Tigbawan. We celebrated our first mission anniversary and held a thanksgiving celebration on December 22, 2019. What began as a short-term missions project has continued for the past two years for me.

We are still working to make progress on our church building, using the little that we have and relying on God’s provision. In 2020, we saw God work in more lives. The initial 19 people who were baptized invited others to church and won more for Jesus. As a result, we now have many people who are interested in Christ attending our church. During 2021, despite the Covid-19 pandemic, God is still moving and making ways for the church to grow through our discipleship program. This program is geared toward candidates for baptism. Our building also continues to see improvements due to God’s provision.

Our prayer is that the Lord will continue to bless the mission work, the people, and also the workers of God. This coming December 22, 2021, we will be celebrating our third mission anniversary. At the same time, we will hold our Thanksgiving celebration. We are also hoping to finish putting tiles on our building. We covet your prayers for the mission work here in Tigbawan. I also want to personally extend my gratitude to Baptist Missionary Association (BMA) Missions for their support and love, and for their partnership in the mission.

Acts 20:24 says, “But none of these things move me, neither count I my life dear unto myself, so that I might finish my course with joy, and the ministry which I have received of the Lord Jesus, to testify the gospel of the grace of God.” Mission work is tough, especially for a young missionary (I am only 23 years old). But it is not impossible because we have a God who works the impossible.

I want to finish with a challenge to anyone who might be reading this. Let us go for God. Committing to missions is hard; Christ did not promise us a life free from troubles. However, in the middle of trials, He is there to help us through them. Will you be like the prophet Isaiah who responded to God’s call? “Here I am, send me.”

If you want to read more updates for the mission work here, you can add me on Facebook (Alfred Jay-R Suico) or like our Facebook page (New Testament Tigbawan Baptist Mission). Be our prayer partners in the ministry. To God be all the glory!



Lifeworld[®]

NEWS



LIFEWORLD SUNDAY ALLOWS *Lifeworld TO Reach* THE World

BY: Donny Parrish
Lifeworld
lifeworld.org

70,000 people who live in groups unreached by the gospel die every day. Let that sink in for just a second. 70,000 souls lost to eternity. The thought is really overwhelming, isn't it? Millions of people entering eternity without the Savior. Millions destined to spend eternity tormented without ever having the opportunity to hear the saving message of Jesus. When we live in a day of such incredible communication opportunities the thought that anyone would die without having the opportunity to hear is a scandal of immeasurable proportions.

October 24, 2021 is Lifeworld Sunday across the BMA. It is the one day of the year when Lifeworld asks the church's of our Association to take special time to pray for the ministry of Lifeworld and to give so that others can know The Savior.

Lifeworld is determined to answer the call of the Master. He very last words to His followers before He ascended to the Father were, "But you shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be witnesses to Me in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth."

Acts 1:8.

Jesus met with all kinds of people during His ministry. He encountered Jewish people, Gentiles, Roman soldiers, prostitutes, tax collectors, men, women, couples, families, people possessed by demons, people with horrible diseases, and the list could go on. The ends of the earth to Jesus meant people. All people. People dealing with all sorts of hang ups.

Lifeworld is reaching out to people all around the world. In fact, today Lifeworld offers a gospel presentation in over 130 languages spoken around the world. Our goal is to be at 200 languages within the next five years and we are well on our way to reaching that goal. But more than just speaking into the heart language of people, Lifeworld is interested in speaking their cultural language as well.

Through the use of social media, today's version of the town hall, Lifeworld is presenting the gospel right where people are living. With roughly 2.89 billion users monthly, Facebook is the biggest social media network in the world. In fact, if Facebook were a country it would be the largest country on the planet. During the first quarter of 2021, the company reported that 3.51 billion people were using at least one of the company's core products, WhatsApp, Instagram or Messenger each month.

Lifeworld is leveraging the power and reach of social media to speak to people in their cultural language.

When radio was the primary source of information for the world and the best way to use media to reach the people of world, Lifeworld was primarily a radio ministry. Today video has become essential. So, Lifeworld has shifted gears and made video along with radio a primary communication tool.

Through various programs in English and Spanish Lifeworld is reaching into the cultures of America through video, radio and social media. We are expanding our video studios in Conway to produce more video content to impact different English speaking demographics. And we are training media missionaries around the world to use video and audio to reach their own people as well.

A great Lifeworld Sunday response from BMA churches is essential to the success of the ministry of Lifeworld. On October 24, Lifeworld is asking each church in the BMA to give a one time special offering so that others can hear the message of salvation. To register for Lifeworld Sunday visit us at www.lifeworld.org/lifeworldsunday. There you

will also find a promotional video to show to your church family, bulletin inserts and Lifeworld Tshirts to help your church family celebrate the day.



TO THE *Ends*
OF THE *Earth*
LIFEWORLD SUNDAY 2021

BMA of America



Students sending students



▲ Students receiving the Darlene Carey VSM Scholarship for 2022: Tori Menzies, Edwin Sierra, Lainey Scruggs, Catie Cox, Camden Clark, Gabriel Ancarrow, Abby Faulk, Katie Mencll, Madison Mourot, Marie Akard, Loren Reynolds, Bobbie Stallings, Danae Jones

By ANGELA RICE

Short Term Missions Coordinator

At SOAR conference 2021, students were challenged to help send student missionaries to serve in the summer of 2022. The result of that challenge? SOAR attendees gave almost \$7,000 for Volunteer Student Missions through the Darlene Carey VSM Scholarship Fund!

I am so excited about students sending students to the mission field through this offering, which provides \$500 scholarships to 13 students. I am thankful for those who felt led to give to this fund.

I am also thankful to carry out the legacy of Darlene Carey, who encouraged and mentored many students to serve on the mission field. Darlene was a faithful servant who gave her life to missions as a student. She spoke at SOAR many times and inspired attendees to be missionaries. Why is short term missions so important? For several reasons:

- God calls both leaders and students to full time missions.
- God gives others a heart for local missions.
- God changes your heart for people and cultures both locally around the world.

Throughout three decades of SOAR conferences, countless BMA young people have responded to the challenge and accepted the call to serve. Our prayer is that through short term missions, God will also call students to be lifetime supporters of missions.

If you would like to help send students to the mission field by donating to the VSM Darlene Carey Scholarship Fund, send your offering to BMA Missions/VSM Scholarship Fund PO Box 878 Conway, AR 72033.

Students receiving the Darlene Carey VSM Scholarship for 2022: Tori Menzies, Edwin Sierra, Lainey Scruggs, Catie Cox, Camden Clark, Gabriel Ancarrow, Abby Faulk, Katie Mencll, Madison Mourot, Marie Akard, Loren Reynolds, Bobbie Stallings, Danae Jones

EIM is wanting to help your church

By MICHAEL GOODWIN

EIM President & Program Director

Evangelistic International Ministries (EIM) would like to make ourselves available to our BMA of America churches. This past summer, God opened up new doors for us since we were limited in doing overseas travel. For over 10 years, EIM teams have traveled overseas conducting Overseas Bible Schools. These are done much like Vacation Bible Schools here in the states.

God has laid it on our hearts to begin helping local churches that may not have the manpower nor the finances to have a Vacation Bible School. EIM is wanting to schedule three to four Vacation Bible Schools here in the states for next summer. We would be honored to bring a team of 10-18 to your church to help you reach children and parents with the gospel and to help make new contacts for your church.

We conducted two Vacation Bible Schools here in the states this past summer. We were able to work with Bethel, Clayton as well as New Hope, Eugene, Oregon.

Here is what Pastor Chris Price said after we worked with him and his dear church:

“Since EIM came to Bethel, the hearts of our members are full of joy again. Jesus used EIM to restore hope to a people who have been hurt and were halted because of it. With the hurt gone, hope restored and hearts healed, we have new faces and new families we are ministering to.”

Pastor Clint Perdue had this to say:

“There was one key element that stood out to me above all the rest that made the week with EIM special, that was the love that was on display. Each of the team members loved Jesus, and it was obvious. It was shown in the love for

the gospel, for the people that attended the VBS, and it was shown to the church, as well.”

If you would like more information on how EIM could help, please contact me at mgoodwin@eimworldwide.org or call 870-234-5319. You can also go to our website at www.eimworldwide.org and see what God is doing globally through the ministry of EIM.

EIM is a partner of BMAA Missions and Lifeword. We are a registered 501(c)3 non-profit organization which began in 1998 and is sanctioned and endorsed by First Baptist Church of Magnolia, Arkansas.



▲ Happy the Clown at a EIM Vacation Bible School

BMAA Disaster Relief/Just the Crumbs responding to Hurricane Ida victims

By BETH BURKES

Just the Crumbs

BMAA Disaster Relief/Just the Crumbs are making preparations to respond to the devastation caused by Hurricane Ida. The initial relief station will TFA Church, located at 1150 Highway 3185 in Thibodaux, Louisiana. As of this writing, plans were for the ministries will feed God's Pit Crew, first responders and members of the community affected by the storm Sept. 7.

Volunteers, food, supplies and most of all prayers for guidance are needed as the ministries bring aid to the victims. Supplies from Walmart can be sent directly to relief station. Monetary donations may be given through PayPal at justthecrumbs21@gmail.com or

by mail to Just the Crumbs, 10 Wagon Trail, Sumrall, MS 38482 or BMA Mission Department, P.O. Box 878, Conway AR 72033. Please, designate to Just the Crumbs.



Compassionate Hope—Reaching out to eastern Europe cont.

their own materials and crafts for the camps.

Garris Baggett, who served as pastor of Mount Olive, Scurry for 18 years, had begun to pray about going in a different ministry direction. Baggett came from Tennessee where he received his degree from Tennessee Temple University.

“As I began to pray about the Lord’s direction, the Lord laid on my heart, Compassionate Hope,” he said. “I just felt like the Lord was telling me to step out on faith, and so I resigned my church on a Sunday morning, and the next day I had a visit with Joanna. She told me she had been praying for God to send somebody to help in the ministry.”

Financial support for the ministry has come from several sources.

“Support comes from the East Fork Baptist Association where I first became acquainted with Garris,” Joanna said. “East Fork, along with some other local churches that knew us, exceeded anything we ever expected. Whatever God sent to us; we would use it all for the ministry. Since Russ and I had our Social Security, we took no support from Compassionate Hope.”

Joanna explained that orphanages in Moldova, had an age limit which created hardships on the children. So Compassionate Hope introduced a program to them that would provide help.

“We introduced transition homes to them—much like the transition home we had for children at the Texas Baptist Home for Children here in Waxahachie,” she said. “When a child turned 15 or 16 years old, they had to leave the home, so we helped them set up transition homes.”

Joanna said human trafficking was a huge problem in those countries because it targeted children from orphanages.

“Those kids were easy targets for human trafficking because they knew no one would miss them,” she said. “So, we work with local pastors to go into orphanages and become well acquainted with children in order to track them in order to keep them safe.”

When asked about plans for the future, Baggett said, “There’s so much more we can do in eastern Europe. Our long-term vision is to help more missionaries in other countries,” he said. “They’re hungry for the gospel, and doors are opening there now. I would love to provide help to more churches and pastors in other countries.”

Joanna and Garris related how remarkable it is that God directs in most unusual ways in the ministry.

Joanna said Russ and Matthew Loafman, who was a member at Heritage, Waxahachie, co-wrote a pamphlet, and about 25,000 copies have been published and distributed in Russia, Romania and Turkey.

“Just this summer, the translator, Victoria, who worked for Garris when we were there last, had lived in one of our transition homes and had been saved as a result of one of the camps,” Joanna said. “She had just gotten married, and the young man she married had also come to know the Lord at one of the orphanage camps just a few years earlier. So, in many instances, the ministry comes full circle.”

For further information about how to support Compassionate Hope, contact Joanna Noggle at 324 Choctaw Trail, Waxahachie, Texas 75165 or at 972-415-7401 or Garris Baggett at 972-743-8966. Garris would love the opportunity to come and share the ministry with any interested church.



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UNTIL SEPTEMBER 6, 2021

DOUBLETREE DALLAS MARKET CENTER

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FOR MORE INFO AND TO REGISTER GO TO WWW.BMAAMERICA.ORG/RECHARGE

CHURCH HEALTH

Discipleship Dashboard

By LARRY BARKER

Cars have a dashboard with gauges that keep you informed of oil pressure, water temperature, fuel level and other important data. What does a discipleship dashboard look like and how can you gauge your progress from the first encounter you have with someone who is far from God? Should our approach be 100 percent organic, or should there be more intentionality involved in the process?

Spiritual endeavors require the Holy Spirit's presence and direction. Prayer is not an optional component in the making of disciples. You must be obedient in doing what God guides you to do then ask God to do what you cannot do.

In his book *New Wave—Discovering the 21st Century Church*, Steve Pike builds metrics based on Luke 19:10 where Jesus makes it clear that His mission was to seek and to save the lost. Everything Jesus did as God incarnate can fit into one of these two categories: He was either deliberately connecting with people who were lost (seeking) like Zacchaeus and the woman at the well, or He was deliberately helping followers (saving) to grow in grace and truth like the twelve disciples, Mary, and her sister Martha. Jesus said He had come to do the Father's work, which was helping people find and follow Him.

Steve Pike gives us excellent dashboard metrics and gauges that help us track progress. The purpose is not to count the numbers but to focus on doing what Jesus called us to do: make disciples. How do we get the 99 sheep that have already been found to focus on seeking the one lost sheep?

Too often we bypass the awareness, connections, and relationship stages to jump right into spiritual conversations. Trust has not yet been built because they do not know us and are unsure of our motivation. It can sound more like a sales pitch where you need to seal the deal rather than the love of Christ compelling you to share the gospel. Our discipleship metrics dashboard requires us to look at the following gauges:

Awareness Gauge: To how many people in the last week have you made yourself or your church aware of in a positive way? This is the hardest metric to measure because it's difficult to get a "real" number, but strive to track it anyway.

Connections Gauge: In the last week, how many people from your awareness category do you know by name, they know your name, and you are praying for them on a regular basis? You have learned their names, remembered their names, and you are praying for them by name!

Relationships Gauge: For how many people in the connections category do you know their story, they know you know their story, and you connect with them on a regular basis (at least every two to three weeks)? Because you know "Richard's" name, you have a cup of coffee together! Because you know "Betty's" name, you go shopping together! Because you know the neighbors' names and stories, you invited them over for dinner.



Spiritual Conversations Gauge asks this: How many from the relationships category know that you know Jesus and know you want them to know and/or grow in Jesus?

A great metric for all of us is this: How many spiritual conversations did you have in the last month that were built on awareness, connections, and relationships. The more you make lost people aware of you, the more you are connecting with them by praying for them, the more you are building relationships with them, the more spiritual conversations you will have with them. They will not be as awkward or contrived because in the natural flow of life, you cared enough to get to know them for who they are and remained engaged with them. These four gauges lead us into the other six gauges on the discipleship metrics dashboard:

Belong Gauge: How many from the "spiritual conversations" category are you gathering together regularly in community?

Believe Gauge: How many from the "belong" category have made a public profession of faith?

Engage Gauge: How many from the "believe" category are engaged in the everyday life of the community of believers?

Grow Gauge: How many from the "engage" category are intentionally seeking to mature in their walk with Jesus?

Minister Gauge: How many from the "grow" category have found a place of regular ministry and service in the community of disciples?

Multiply Gauge: How many from the minister category have become activated disciple makers by doing the following:

- making people aware of them in a positive way
- praying for people by name
- cultivating redemptive relationships
- enjoying spiritual conversations
- inviting outsiders to belong
- helping belong-ers believe
- enabling believers to engage
- encouraging the engagers to grow
- challenging the growers to minister
- inspiring those ministering to multiply?

This is why in missions we talk about Go, Disciple, Plant, and Repeat. Are we seeing discipleship occur to the fourth generation (2 Timothy 2:2)?

Thanks again to my friend Steve Pike for building a dashboard that enables us to gauge whether or not what we are doing is what Jesus called us to do: Making Disciples!

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.



Auxiliaries

Daniel Springs—You can make a difference

By **GLENDA CHAMBERLAIN**

The Texas WMA needs your help to raise funds for Daniel Springs Baptist Encampment in Gary. You can make the difference the camp needs for major repairs.

Bro. Jason Prewitt, camp director, works diligently to reach the lost and share the saving grace of our Lord and Savior with each camper and sponsor, who arrives at the camp. Daniel Springs is a wonderful blessing to our BMA churches and youth groups. At the time of this article, we have only raised \$6,100. We

need your help to reach our goal. Please send your donations to support this godly ministry to: Jo Strong, 149 NW Suzanne Terrace, Burleson, TX 76028. Donations for Daniel Springs must be received by the end of October. Please lift-up Bro. Jason, Jessica and their family in prayer as they continue to spread the gospel.

If you need some fundraising ideas here are a few from Texas WMA Project Promoter Diana Morris.

A cornhole tournament is the perfect game for the no frills, no sweat fall athlete. Determine the MVPs in your church with a laid-back tournament. Borrow boards from church members and be sure to serve concessions. You could charge a small entrance fee to the event with a cake or pie for the champion.

Home run derby players are given a time limit to hit as many homeruns as possible. The players with the most can then be put head-to-head for a grand finale. You can charge people to enter the competition and offer a prize for the winning hitter. As you change out hitters have your volunteer "outfielders" (little ball players) to pickup all the balls on the ground and run them back to home plate. Make this a church picnic day. Prize for top hitter could be a box of cracker jacks or a large bottle of coke and popcorn. Little ball players win an ice pop for grounding the balls.

Calendars are a great idea. There is just something great about a paper calendar. Print a 31-day calendar, have people pick a date on the calendar and give that amount toward the project. Example: October 1=\$1, October 15=\$15. As people donate, write their names on the squares. A possible \$496 could be raised per each 31-day calendar.

Host an adult and kid's bingo night. This is a church-wide event that all ages participate. Bingo is a fun and easy game



that even the youngest children can play. Since everyone loves prizes be sure you have plenty of inexpensive prizes on hand. Throughout the night, remind attendees of what you are raising money for and encourage them to make contributions during the event. However, most of your proceeds will come from selling admission ticket and concessions.

TEXAS WMA TO MEET IN NOVEMBER

The WMA of Texas will be meeting at the New Harmony Community Center, one-half mile from New Harmony Baptist Church in Tyler, from 11 a.m. to 1:15 p.m. Nov. 4. The church will be running shuttles during the 15 minutes immediately before and after the meeting since there is limited parking available.

Registration for the WMA meeting will be at the same time and location as the registration for the Baptist Missionary Association of Texas (BMA of Texas) Meeting, but at a separate table. The officers will meet earlier, at 7:30 a.m., in a room the church has made available in their family life center.

The BMA of Texas will begin at 9 a.m. with the president's Message followed by the first business session, and then there will be a break so ladies can shuttle to the New Harmony Community Center for the WMA meeting. We will meet until noon, break for lunch, which New Harmony will serve us at the community center, and then around 12:30 p.m., continue meeting and conclude at 1:15 pm.

Kristi Key, second vice president, has planned this year's meeting around the theme *Shipwrecked* and we will continue this theme throughout the meeting. To conclude the meeting, our newly elected second vice president will install the officers and announce the new theme.

NATIONAL SUNBEAMS

The theme for the New Year is *Sunbeam Warriors*. Little ones need to know the only way we can be warriors is to be strong in the Lord. National Sunbeam Promoter Sandra Kizer commented, "As spiritual leaders we need to pray for our children and be the example God would want us to be. We all need to stand strong and unite together to be a stronger force against Satan. We need to teach godly morals and values to be Christian warriors."

The National Sunbeams have selected Moral Action, an agency of the Baptist Missionary Association of America as their new project, with \$5,000 set as the goal. Please join Sandra Kizer and Sunbeam Promoter Assistant Linda Dertinger, in praying for our Sunbeams, leaders and our project. In today's world, we see the decline of moral and ethical values. They ask for your support to go beyond the goal to help support the Moral Action and the values for which the

agency stands. They are warriors fighting a spiritual battle for our young ones and us.

OCTOBER IS MINISTRY APPRECIATION MONTH

October is *Ministry Appreciation Month*. It is an occasion to acknowledge those who work in service to the spiritual needs of others.

Those serving in ministry are often "on the job" 24/7, making themselves available to their brothers and sisters in Christ. We all have people in our lives that nourish us spiritually and encourage us in our Christian walk. Pastors give to others out of a pure heart and a devotion to God.

Here are a few ideas of ways to show honor and appreciation:

1. Bring them a meal, or make a special treat.
2. Write a letter telling them what their life, example or service has meant to you.
3. Give a gift you know would hold special meaning for them.
4. Offer an evening of free child care or some means for them to have the opportunity to relax and refresh.

Appreciate those in your church who labor in the Lord and faithfully tend to their flock.

Glenda Chamberlain is the Texas Women's Missionary Auxiliary (WMA) editor. Contact her at gcham33@yahoo.com. For more information about the Texas WMA, visit www.texaswma.com.



The Gift That Gives Back

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

Receive

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

Current Rates (3-2020)

Age	Rate
65	4.7%
75	5.8%
85	8.0%

Contact BMA Foundation Executive Director Charles Attebery for more information.
charles@bmaamerica.org or call 501-472-2163

EVENTS

BAPTIST PROGRESS MINISTRY CONNECTION WORKSHOP: REACHING PEOPLE THROUGH SOCIAL MEDIA AND WEBSITES

DATE: Sept. 16, 2021

TIME: 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. with lunch provided
for \$10

PLACE: BMA of Texas Building,
632 Farley Street, Waxahachie

2021 BMA OF TEXAS ANNUAL MEETING

DATE: Nov. 4, 2021

PLACE: New Harmony, Tyler

2021 NATIONAL SENIOR ADULT CONFERENCE

DATE: Nov. 15-17, 2021

PLACE: Chateau on the Lakes,
Branson, Missouri

PERSONNEL & POSITIONS

AVAILABLE POSITIONS

PASTOR—Mt. Calvary, Carthage is seeking a pastor. Send resume to Pastor Search Team, 249 County Road 278, Carthage, Texas 75633 or ritterpd@yahoo.com. TFN

PASTOR—First, Palmer is seeking a pastor. Send resume to pastorsearch@fbcpalmer.org or mail to P.O. Box 70, Palmer, Texas 75152. TFN

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

** If you are aware of pastor and staff changes, please let us know at Baptist Progress by emailing us at editor@baptistprogress.org.*

In Loving Memory



ISAIAS ROJAS OSECHAS

A funeral service for Isaias Rojas Osechas, 69, of Houston and formerly of Venezuela, was held in Houston Sept. 10. He served the Lord faithfully as a denominational leader in his native country for years, and was a state missionary and network leader for BMA of Texas Missions in Spring at the time of his death.



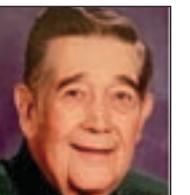
VERNON LEE

A funeral service for Vernon Roy Lee, 69, of Ruston, Louisiana, was held at Cook Baptist Church, in Ruston, Aug. 31. Lee passed away Aug. 26. He pastored several churches in Louisiana, Mississippi, Arkansas and Texas, including First, Jacksonville. Lee also served two terms as the president of the Baptist Missionary Association of America and two terms as the president of the Baptist Missionary Association of Texas, as well as a trustee for Moral Action and BMA of Texas Missions.



T.C. HAYNES

A funeral service for T.C. "Chester" Haynes, 86, of Jacksonville, was held at Autry Funeral Home Chapel in Jacksonville Aug. 27. Haynes passed away Aug. 23. He served as pastor of First, Judson; Antioch, Palestine; Westfall, Pasadena; College Avenue, Levelland; Shiloh Road, Dallas; Afton Grove, Jacksonville and Landmark, Cushing. For several years, he served as chairman of the Baptist Progress Trustees, as well as a trustee of Texas Baptist Home for Children. He retired as a Baptist minister after 54 years of service.



KENNETH RAY CASHION

A funeral service was held for Kenneth "Kenny" Ray Cashion, 74, of Ennis, at J.E. Keever Mortuary Chapel in Ennis Aug. 20. Cashion passed away Aug. 14. He served and retired from the United States Air Force as a Master Sergeant after 20 years. He served as pastor of Calvary, Ennis before retiring a few years ago due to health reasons.



BAPTIST MISSIONARY BMLA LOAN ASSOCIATION

The Baptist Missionary Loan Association (BMLA) offers loans for everything from land and building purchases, to additions, to renovations, to loan refinancing.

Why consider a loan with the BMLA?

We specialize in church building projects.

Since 1953, BMLA has provided loans for churches of the Baptist Missionary Association of Texas. No one understands the needs and goals of BMA congregations and related ministries better than BMLA.

We offer competitive rates and terms.

Unlike many commercial lending institutions, BMLA does not charge for closing costs which saves your congregation thousands of dollars.

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Faithful stewardship finances our loans.

The money invested in BMLA by congregations and individuals finance our loans for building projects and land purchases.

For more information, visit bmla.org.

If you are ready to apply for a loan, download an application from our website and mail or email it to us. If you have more questions, call us at 972-923-0758.

We look forward to helping you make your dreams come true!

BMLA, P.O. Box 73, Waxahachie, TX 75168
www.bmla.org

Help Your Ministry Avoid Hidden Costs

When rebuilding or restoring following a disaster, unforeseen costs associated with local building codes can quickly spiral out of control. Keep in mind that replacing an existing building is nearly always more expensive than building on fresh ground. In addition, the cost of materials and labor can spike drastically when natural disasters cause widespread damage.

1. **Have an appraiser** or your insurance agent survey your ministry property and calculate the estimated replacement cost of each building.
2. **Insure your buildings** to 100 percent of their replacement cost.
3. **Consider adding inflation protection**, a provision that increases your ministry property's replacement coverage by a small percentage over time.
4. **Weigh the benefits of broadened valuation**, which can pay up to 125 percent of a building's scheduled coverage limit after a loss.

Questions about your current coverage?

Contact your local agent today.

Call **844.400.2248** or visit **AmericanChurchGroup-Texas.com**.

Proudly serving the BMA of Texas



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MINISTRY CONNECTION WORKSHOPS



Register now for our upcoming Ministry Connection Workshop

Reaching People Through Social Media and Websites

Sept. 16, 2021

- Led by Matthew Prather, lead pastor of The Bridge Church, in Waxahachie, this will be a hands-on workshop! Matthew will tell you then show you how to use social media and your church's website to reach more people.
 - TIME: 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. with lunch provided for \$10
 - PLACE: BMA of Texas Office Building, 632 Farley Street, Waxahachie
- For more details, call 972-923-0756 or email editor@baptistprogress.org.

Register on the "Resources" page at baptistprogress.org.

NATIONAL SENIOR ADULT CONFERENCE

NOVEMBER 15-17 2021



Kirk Shelton
Conference Pastor



Travis Sellers
Conference Worship



Lauren Talley
Concert Artist



Brian Free & Assurance
Concert Artist

FOR MORE INFORMATION AND TO REGISTER GO TO WWW.BMAAMERICA.ORG/SENIOR