Caprock Plains Baptist Area 2301 Utica

Plainview, Texas 79072 Phone: 806-296-2751 Fax: 806-296-2755

Email: caprockplains@nts-online.net

Website: CaprockPlains.org

## **AREA STAFF**

Dr. Lester B. Griffin—Director of Missions Susan Barkley—Ministry Assistant Katle Trimble—Webmaster John Silva—New Church Start Consultant Hispanic Church Consultant

## VBS CONFERENCES, TRAINING AND INFORMATION

For tons of information about training, supplies, craft ideas, decorating ideas, music and previews, check the VBS website at: www.lifeway.com/vbs2012/yourvbs/

You can contact **Jim Wolfe**, SBTC, Church Ministries Director, at jwolfe@sbtexas.com. Call 1-877-753-72**82**. You can contact **Bethany Frisch**, BGCT, at www.texasbaptists.org/biblestudy, click on VBS. Call 214-828-5205.

Here is a listing of churches in our area that will have VBS Conferences:

Redbud Baptist Church of Lubbock - February 25, 2012, from 9 AM to 3 PM. Call 806-799-3832.

Highland Baptist Church of Lubbock - February 20, 2012, from 6 PM to 8:30 PM. Call 806-795-6453.

First Baptist Church of Amarillo will hold a conference in April - For information call 806-358-1972.









# HISPANIC PASTORS APPRECIATION DINNER

An appreciation banquet was held on December 2, 2011 at FBC of Floydada to honor the Hispanic Pastors of the Area.

Pictured here on the back row, from left to right are Jose Guadalupe Silva, pastor of Calvario-Kress, Carlos Hinojos, pastor of Genesis-Plainview, Jesus Caballero, pastor of Primera-Lockney, Bernardino Hernandez, pastor of Primera-Petersburg, Moses Blanco, pastor of Templo Salem-Lockney, and on the front row, from left to right are Dr. Les Griffin, Director of Missions, Miguel Contreras, former pastor of Primera-Plainview, now in Parras, Mexico, Victor Hernandez, pastor of Iglesia del Carpintero-Hale Center, and Lupe Rando, pastor of Primera-Floydada.





## CONSTITUTION AND BYLAWS WORKSHOP — Monday, January 23, 2012 @ 10:00 AM WBU HcClung Building, Room 211

Micheal Summers and Dr. Les Griffin will be facilitating a workshop designed to help local churches develop their own or make revisions to an existing Church Constitution & Bylaws. Several pastors who have recently gone through this process will share their experiences. Participants will be given procedural outlines as well as current examples from local West Texas churches. This workshop will be jointly sponsored by Caprock Plains Baptist Area and Wayland Baptist University. Wayland will also provide lunch at \$5 each.



## Miguel & Lupita Contreras Parras, Mexico



Continue to pray and support Pastor Miguel and his wife Lupita Contreras in their new church start in Parras, Mexico.

We will be continuing to send your financial support their way. Send gifts to (CPBA) Caprock Plains Baptist Area at 2301 Utica, Plainview, Tx 79072. Include a note that this is for the Parras Ministry.

Miguel and Lupita will be keeping us informed with their progress. As always, they seek your ongoing prayer support.

# Windows on the Area JANUARY 2012



## **HAPPENINGS AROUND THE AREA!**



Fellowship and Singing at the

Companerismo De Los Planos

Sunday January 8, 2012

> Primera Iglesia Lockney

The Companerismo de los Planos met at Primera, Lockney, on Sunday afternoon and evening on January 8 for their first meeting of 2012. It was a splendid event with each church providing special music. The service, which began at 3:00 and concluded at 7:00 with a stirring rendition of "The King is Coming" by the combined choir of all those who had presented music earlier in the day. The music was led by Carlos Martinez and the final number featured he and Alfred Martinez on trumpets. There was a great attendance of 189! Thank you Primera Lockney and your wonderful pastor Jesse Caballero!

# CELEBRATION OF SERVICE

Primera Iglesia Bautista of Lockney recently celebrated the dedicated service of several of their members. Those honored included Maria Silva who has a total of 50 years of service, including serving as their church clerk; Rumaldo Chavira, who has



served at Primera for many years as a deacon, and Rosa Camacho, who has served at Primera as church treasurer. Dr. Griffin and John Silva attended and participated in this celebration. Pictured above, left to right are: Dr. Griffin, Maria Silva (mother of John Silva), John Silva (BGCT Church Consultant), Pastor Jesus Caballero, Deacon Rumaldo Chavira (seated) and Rosa Camacho.



Tim Tebow has moved beyond simply being the transforming quarterback of the Denver Broncos to a national phenomenon. Some would say not necessarily a phenomenon but only a fad that will soon fade; however, even non-football folks are starting to focus on his now famous act of Tebowing, which is lowering himself to one knee to pray and thank God in one of the most unusual places, NFL football stadiums.

will have to admit that my interest with Tim Tebow picked up significantly following the Broncos improbable win over the powerful, intimidating Pittsburg Steelers. The real attraction for me started after the "quickest overtime win" in NFL history as we looked at the stats for that game. The yards passing were 316. The average catch was 31.6. Tim Tebow's favorite verse in college football was John 3:16, which he had stenciled under his eyes for much of his Heisman trophy

career at the University of Florida. Like many others, all of the sudden all I could say was "I believe!"

Tebow is a polarizing figure in today's culture because there is a strong feeling that religious faith and fervor is reserved for churches and not NFL end zones. But some would argue that if that is the case, then sports fervor belongs only in stadiums and not in churches! By that standard I suppose you could also say that science belongs in the laboratory but do not talk about it at a basketball game, or you practice medicine at a hospital but do not mention it at work. Economics would only be discussed at the mall. So what do you do with politics? I guess the only time you can talk of politics is to yourself in a voting booth. We could only hope! The fact is we all know that life cannot be compartmentalized this easily. As the pastor of a local church, I often said things such as, "You should not be one person on Sunday and a different person on Monday!"

The belief that a Christian should not compartmentalize his life is firmly based on the words of Jesus when he said "You are the salt ... you are light ... a city set on a hill cannot be hidden." Quite frankly we are to be seen and felt and to make a difference in the world in which we live! Even as I say that, let me mention that I have a new flashlight with a powerful LED light element with a warning that says "Do not point at your eyes or anyone else's eyes." This flashlight is so bright that is can hurt! Sometimes we have to use discretion in how to appropriately be salt and light to the world around us.

The internet definition of Tebowing is, "to get down on one knee and start praying, even if everyone else around you is doing something completely different." The depth of controversy this particular act has brought can be noted on the internet when you can find articles discussing it on ESPN.com and in the Wall Street Journal. The entire phenomenon raises the painful but appropriate question for each one of us: How will I show in the public square the faith that I claim can make all the difference in the world? Specifically, should we take the message that Jesus Christ is God's Son and make a huge difference in anyone's life ... anvwhere?

At the end of the Gospel of Matthew, there is a curious verse which says, "Go unto all the world and make disciples." Most believe "all" means "all," including football stadiums, schools, hospitals and even our homes. It could also mean other countries as well. Acts 1:8 gives a clear indication of what God had in mind when He said, "witnesses in Jerusalem, Judea, and Samaria and to the ends of the earth." I can safely assume that anything short of sharing the Gospel to the ends of the earth would be considered a failure by God and also should be considered a failure by His people. We understand that as we share the message that makes the difference, making disciples, it oftentimes will cause a stir. Some even call the practice of encouraging others to be believers in God's Son Jesus Christ proselytizing and not something that should be prized.

We all know one way Tim Tebow has chosen to show his faith. Not many have the opportunity to be a winning NFL quarterback standing in the end zone after throwing a touchdown pass; however, the question still remains. On the stage that God has given you and me, how do we choose to demonstrate our faith and be missionaries where God has placed us? What will your "Tebowing" look like?

#### **Experience Mission 2012**

(Speaking of various ways of doing missions), lets talk about Experience Mission 2012! This is a great opportunity to see firsthand many different ways of sharing Jesus and making disciples. Elsewhere in this newsletter you will see just a partial list of the opportunities that will be available to you on April 21. Also, you will have the opportunity to become familiar with different mission organizations. You or your church might choose to partner with one of them. I would remind you that there is only one message of Jesus Christ but that there are many ways of 'Tebowing' that singular message! What will yours be?

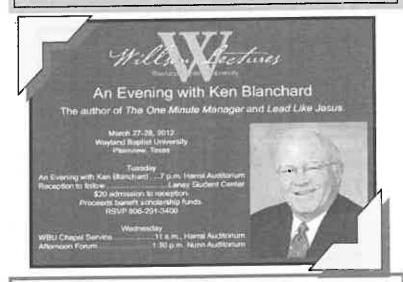
### A Word of Personal Missions

It is my distinct joy and privilege to be able to join with Dr. Kelly Warren and his group going to Kenya this May 12 through June 1. Also I am very thankful that with the help of Dr. Rick Shaw and the Mission Center of Wayland Baptist University, the School of Business will be sponsoring this trip to strengthen pastors and community leaders in leadership skills and lifestyle. I especially appreciate the opportunity of joining with Dr. Warren, students and others in this opportunity of both sharing the Gospel and encouraging pastors and community leaders. I would covet your prayers for this bold undertaking! If you would like to explore the possibility of joining with us, please contact myself or Dr. Kelly Warren of WBU.

## **MUSICAL CONCERT FEATURED RUSS TAFF**



On November 13, 2011, FBC of Dimmitt was blessed by the music of Christian Music Artist, Russ Taff. Pictured here from left to right are Music Minister Barry Hazel and his wife Julie, Pastor's Wife Charlotte Young and Pastor Clint Young, Russ Taff (Christian music artist) and Craig Woody, Interim Youth Minister. After the service the church enjoyed a traditional Thanksgiving lunch.



## FIRST MEETING OF 2012 AREA COMMITTEE

Caprock Plains Baptist Area began the new year with a new group of Area Committee members. This will be a year full of opportunities for our Area and for your church.

Moderator: Dr. Stacy Conner, Pastor, FBC Muleshoe Caprock Association: Les Reed, Pastor, FBC Crosbyton

Tim Franks, Pastor, FBC Floydada Patrick Adair, Pastor, FBC Matador

Llanos Altos Association: Dr. Stacy Conner, Pastor, FBC Muleshoe Brian Mullins, Pastor, FBC Bovina

Gary Johnson, Pastor, Grace Baptist of Friona Staked Plains Association: Dr. Don Raney, Pastor, FBC Petersburg

Gary Yates, Associate Pastor/Education

College Heights Baptist Church J.D. Templeton, Pastor, FBC Cotton Center

We appreciate these members who meet faithfully throughout the year to conduct Area business and serve the churches of the Caprock Plains Baptist Area.

## **EXPERIENCE MISSION 2012** April 21, 2012

A strategy planning group for Experience Mission 2012 is putting together the different personalities and representatives from various mission organizations that will be participating by holding seminars and workshops throughout the day's events.

Seminars and groups include:

Faith Comes by Hearing Wycliffe Bible Translators Jesus Film Project Voice of the Martyrs Hale County Literacy Council **Builders for Christ Muslims for Christ** South Plains Food Bank Mission Arlington Restorative Justice Go Now Missions

Several missionaries and representatives from the International and Home Mission Boards, Cooperative Baptist and Worlds Missions groups as well as many others will be participating.

For details about seminars and activities go to experiencemissionnow.com

Your congregation is also encouraged to consider assisting one of these representatives or missionaries with their travel and food expenses. Your church may even feature one of them in your Sunday service. If you are able to help financially in any way, contact:

Dr. Richard William Shaw, PhD

**Assistant Professor of Religion** Director of Kenya Program and Wayland Mission Center

806.291.1162 office 806.291.0111 home 806.543.8871 mobile email: shawr@wbu.edu



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You can contact SBTC **Jim Wolfe** (Church Ministries Director) at jwolfe@sbtexas.com or call 1-877-753-7282. You can contact BGCT **Bethany Frisch** at www.texasbaptists.org/biblestudy, click on VBS or call 214-828-5205.

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### YOLANDA GODSEY RODRIQUEZ HONORED BY UNION FEMENIL MISIONERA



Pictured here at the calebration in Lubbock at Alliance Church, from left to right, are Eli Rebotloso, Past President of UFM of Texas (Hispanic WMU), Yolanda Godsey Rodriguez and Santos Rodriguez

Yolanda Godsey Rodriguez, wife of Santos Rodriguez, who is pastor of Iglesia Bautista Date Street of Plainview, and daughter of the late Rev. Glen and Mary Godsey, was honored by the Hispanic WMU of Texas at Alliance Church in Lubbock at their annual celebration in January, for her faithful service and ministry, not only with women's ministry, but in the faithful service to her family, her church and her community.



I can do all things through Christ, who strengthens me!

Philippians 4:13

## MUSICAL CELEBRATION AT FBC OF FLOYDADA



Terry Simmons, Music Minister, Barry Croft and Jacob Taylor (the Two Tenors), and pastor Tim Franks

FBC of Floydada enjoyed a celebration of music and fellowship when the "Two Tenors" performed in a recent evening service.

Barry Croft and Jacob Taylor offer a unique blend of voices and styles and perform together in many churches and various events.

# Ministry Update from Parras, Mexico

We received the following email message from Liliana Saenz Escareno, a member of a neighboring church where Miguel and Lupita are serving.

Spanish: "Hla buen dia, solo para saludar e informar que el Pastor Miguel Centreras y su esposa Lupita se encuentran bien, evangelizando, en companerismo con las diversas Iglesias de nuestra ciudad, asi mismo se esta hacienda cargo do nuestra Iglesia que nos quedamos sin pastor."

English Translation: "Hi! Greetings! We are writing to greet you and inform you that Bro. Miguel and his wife Lupita are doing well. They are evangelizing in association with various churches of our city. Also, Bro. Miguel is also working with our church at this time since we are without a pastor."

You can send your financial support to the Area Office: CPBA, 2301 Utica, Plainview, Tx 79072. Miguel and Lupita have maintained a local account so we can easily continue support for this ministry.



### TI'S TIME FOR BIBLE DRILL!

If your church is involved or interested in involving your children in **Bible Drill** check these two websites for materials.

For BGCT dates and materials: www.texasbaptists.org/bibledrill For SBTC dates and materials: www.sttexas.com/bibledrill

# Windows on the Area FEBRUARY 2012





Pictured L to R: Kraig Cox, Darrell Reynolds, Rank Cogdell, Jim Estes and Derrel Johnson.

## DEACON ORDINATION FBC SILVERTON SUNDAY, JANUARY 29

FBC of Silverton ordained five men to the Deacon Ministry on Sunday, January 29, 2012. The deacon candidates offered their personal testimonies. The message, "The Call of the

Deacon, from 1 Timothy 3:8-13" was brought by Dr. Lester B. Griffin, Director of Missions, charge to the church and prayer by former pastor Chad King, now pastor FBC Childress, and the charge to the deacons and prayer was given by former pastor Les Reed, now pastor of FBC Crosbyton. Charles Davenport, BGCT, presented the deacons with their ordination certificates.

### March 4-11, 2012

Week of Prayer North American Missions Annie Armstrong Offering

What can my gift do?



- \$1 Door hangers to announce church start
- \$5 Hot meal in a homeless shetter
- \$10 Story Bible for a child
- \$15 Bible for a new believer
- \$20 Discipleship materiels for small group
- \$50 Training tools for missions team
- \$100 Supplies for neighborhood event
- \$200 Scholarship for inner-city child to attend Christian summer camp

## CHURCH CONSTITUTION & BYLAWS SEMINAR

On January 23, over 30 pastors, church staff and laypersons met for an information-packed seminar on Church Constitution and Bylaws Seminar sponsored by the Caprock Plains Baptist Area and hosted by WBU. The genesis of the seminar was with one pastor asking Dr. Griffin for help in writing a church constitution and bylaws.



Pictured left to right: Will Fish, Micheal Summers, Lanny Voss, Brian Mullins and Dr. Les Griffin.

Speakers provided materials on developing a Brian Mullins and Dr. Les Griffin.

Church Constitution and Bylaws, personnel policies, incorporation, and provided resources available to assist the church in day-to-day functions, as well as information regarding the potential legal



and liability issues facing the church and its individual members. A jump drive was provided for those present with all these materials.

Featured speakers were Micheal Summers, WBU Church Services, Will Fish, pastor of FBC Kress, Brian Mullins, pastor of FBC Bovina, and Plainview attorney Lanny Voss.

## Lianos Altos ASSOCIATIONAL FELLOWSHIP



The Llanos Altos Association held their meeting at FBC Anton on January 31. The program for the evening featured Whitney Moore, a student at West Texas A&M at Canyon. Whitney participated in summer missions in which she traveled to London and visited various college campuses, promoting Baptist Student Ministries. Pictured here with Whitney are her parents. Steve and Nancy Moore. Fellowship, meal and a short business meeting followed.



It is an adventure! Almost every Sunday, we are visiting another church. As the miles add up, it is amazing the variety of people, pastors and worship styles we enjoy across our three associations. While I am attending the worship hour, that is not the only "hour" of Sunday morning. Just as important is the time that we traditionally call the Sunday School hour.

In one church I recently visited, they had a Sunday lunch to honor all Sunday School teachers. The pastor spoke words of appreciation and

encouragement. It was a great idea that was simple and effective. As I went to each of the 10 tables, I found many teachers who have been teaching for a long time with great appreciation for the group to which they minister. I could quickly tell that they loved the people in their class and the Bible they taught.

In another church, I walked around their U-shaped education building and through the glass windows was able to see classes from preschool to senior adult, each one having a great number of people present. Some call it Sunday School and others Bible Study, but it makes no difference. It is on the frontline of Christian growth. There are those who will cynically say that the Sunday School is the most wasted hour of the week. Well, if a teacher comes in late, the class takes 30 minutes reliving Friday night's ballgame, 20 minutes taking prayer requests, 2 minutes praying for prayer requests, and then finally getting to the lesson with 5 minutes to go, perhaps so. Studying the Bible carefully in a group that is similar in age or interest with appropriate application and encouragement is vital to our churches. Also, I am acutely aware that the Sunday School many times is the "first responder" to crises of their members, great places for new people to become part of the church, a wonderful place to find Christ for the first time, and a place to build the fellowship one relationship at a time. There is no church anywhere that long survives without grouping its members in small enough groups where the Bible can both be taught and applied in daily lives.

May God bless the literally hundreds of Sunday School and Bible Study group leaders, whether you meet on Sunday morning or on Thursday night. May God continue to bless you in your efforts to influence others for the cause of The Gospel.

In His Service, Lester Griffin



Charles Davenport, BGCT Strategist, along with Dr. Les Griffin, DOM, present a matching grant from the Church Architecture division of BGCT to pastor Carlos and Sylvia Hinojos of Genesis Baptist Church of Planview. Your giving to the yearly Mary Hill Davis Offenng makes grants like this possible.



David Azam, Peter Lord and Gary Kirksey

On Sunday, January 15, paster David Aram and his congregation at FBC Olton were honored to hear a message from Peter Lord, reknown paster, anthor and speaker. Peter Lord, now in his 80s, is in demand across the nation, ministering and challenging listeners to growth and maturity in their Christian walk. Peter Lord pastered for many years around the nation, in Florida chirches alone for over 40 years, and still travels, speaks, writes and maintains a ministry website at www.peterlord.net. Also participating in the service was Gary Kirksey, paster of Cityview of Lubbook. It was a stirring and challenging morning

www.caprockplains.org

Check out our updated website for current & back newsletters, updated staff page, and area church spotlights. Featured this month are FBC Farwell and FBC Quitaque. We are continuing to update this site, thanks to Katie Trimble, Webmaster!



Wayne & Penny Davis of Plains Bapt Assembly, Brent & Jane Anderson of Seth Ward BC, & Betty & Les Griffin of CPBA.

## Valentine's Banquet 2012

About 64 from several

area churches met on Saturday, February 11, for an evening of fellowship. The idea started when Seth Ward's pastor **Brent Anderson** approached Dr. Griffin about having a banquet for our smaller churches of Staked Plains Association,

and what a wonderful idea it turned out to be! Brent Anderson welcomed us and led in an opening prayer. We were then treated by Wayland Baptist University to a ribeye steak dinner with all the trimmings as well as red velvet cake for dessert. Richard Miller, pastor of Happy Union BC, introduced the Happy Union church choir, who performed several worshipful and stirring songs of God's love. Dr. Griffin then led in a fun message to remind us to celebrate our shared love.





## PASTOR MORIN'S LAST SUNDAY AT ALFA OMEGA



Dr Les and Betty Griffin, Yolanda and Tony Morin

Iglesia Bautista Alfa y Omega of Plainview honored pastor Tony and Yolanda Morin on their last Sunday with them on January 22nd. Pastor Tony and his wife Yolanda will be greatly missed as they have been so faithful and supportive of their congregation. Please pray for them as they go on to further ministry and pray for the congregation of Alfa y Omega as they begin their pastor search.

## PBA Trustees Retreat and Groundbreaking February 3-4





Pictured with shovels, left to right, are PBA Trustees: Kathy O'Guinn, Michael Holster, Wayne Davis, and Duane McQueen.

February 3-4 marked a weekend of planning, celebration and fellowship for the trustees of Plains Baptist Assembly. At the meeting the business included the budget and calendar planning for the year as well as future plans at the PBA campus. A good time of fellowship followed as part of the weekend was a retreat for the trustees. A special time was also part of the weekend when a groundbreaking ceremony was held on the property to begin excavation of a pond for fun camp activities such as canoeing. A full year is planned at PBA, including camps for families as well as the regularly scheduled children's and youth camps throughout the summer. Congregations are also encouraged to schedule meetings throughout the year for retreats, Bible studies, or seminars. Contact the PBA staff at 806-983-3954 or check the website www.pbacamp.org for more information.

## EXPERIENCE MISSION 2012 April 21, 2012 Psalms 96:3 "Declare His glory among the nations..."

What is Experience Missions 2012? This is a day-long conference that will be filled with workshops that will challenge and inform the young and the old about missions around the world and opportunities to share the Gospel. Numerous mission-minded organizations will be participating. Some of those include:

Faith Comes by Hearing Wycliffe Bible Translators Jesus Film Project Voice of the Martyrs Hale County Literacy Council Builders for Christ Go Now Missions Muslims for Christ South Plains Food Bank Mission Arlington Restorative Justice

For details about seminars and activities go to experiencemissionnow.com

This is a huge undertaking. Your congregation is also encouraged to consider assisting one of these representatives or missionaries with their travel and food expenses. Your church may even feature one of them in your Sunday service. If you are able to help financially in any way, please contact Dr. Richard Shaw at 806-291-1162.

Sponsored by the Wayland Mission Center and Churches and Associations of the Panhandle Plains of Texas

**Caprock Plains Baptist Area** 2301 Utica

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### AXEA YOUTH PARTICIPATE IN SPRING BREAK MISSION PROJECT

I'm the second year in a new, Calvary Paperst Church of Friona, led by youth minus or Dryin Litch and First Raptist Church of Early, led by youth minister Frie Kaiser sent their is enagers to Amania during Spring Break to participate in a mission project.

Partnetter with kell Pusons, 6 ector of his sion arounde. these two youth giocps part sipales in various ministry conits

in the mornings the group from Calvary painted the exterior of the home of an eldrily with a They were able to paint the calme house in four marnings. Her was also do was

more than coough of a reward for the han! work! The tecurgers of FDC Farth, a gamzed the stor trees n of the three mustry called "A Step Ur." Fear gars sorted arganized and took revenions of even 1000

In the afformaces, teenages, conducted Kul's Clubs in apartment complexes that have residents from mound the world, Ethiopia, Iran, Juag, Burrow, Indonesia, Sudan, and many other places Most of his families are refugice of war that have found safety in the United States

Mission Amarillo provides competing to ministries and needs in Amerika left charges NOTHING for his survices H. Lelp's facilitate weekly Bible spoke, at these apartment complexes, this mention



I you are looking for missions opportunities you on contact I. I Para as by going to

See how Got is at work in the Panhandle of Texas

## Robert Black Honored at RETIREMENT CONCERT



Mr. Robert Black was honored on April 3rd at FBC Plainview with an appreciation concert and reception. The program included Wayland students and faculty, FBC musicians, hymn singing, pianists, organists and Robert conducted a mass choir. Robert has touched

untold numbers of students at Wayland and numerous churches here in Plainview and around Texas. His career has spanned many facets of the music industry, including his position at Word Music. He has blessed many of us. Pray for Robert and Martha Jo as they enter this new time in their lives.

## SOUTH PLAINS YOUTH CAMP WORK DAY

God blesses us each year at SPYC, so now it is time for us to give back. We can paint cabins, carve hiking trails and trim trees to prepare PBA for all the campers that will take part in the ministry PBA provides, God is at work at PBA. You can be a part of MISSION 1248 on Saturday, May 5th. PBA will provide our meals. Sign up at www.southplainsyouthcamp.org. Let us know how many you'll be bringing by Monday, April 30 @ 10am. We ask that you bring 1 adult for every 6-7 teenagers.

"From everyone who has been given much, much will be demanded; and from the one who has been entrusted with much, much more will be asked." (Luke 1248b)

## **News from Parras, Mexico**



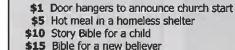
Lupita called the Area Office with a big THANK YOU for the continued support and prayers. They are settling into their home and doing well Miguel was very excited to report that he was able to purchase a

horse, which will be his main mode of transportation into the small villages where he ministers, many of which are not easily accessible by a vehicle

### Your support has made this possible!

You can send your financial support to the Area Office CPBA, 2301 Utica, Plainview, Tx 79072.

Miguel and Lupita have maintained a local account so we can easily continue support for this ministry.



\$20 Discipleship materials for small group

\$50 Training tools for missions team \$100 Supplies for neighborhood event

\$200 Scholarship for inner-city child to attend Christian summer camp

## **North American Missions Emphasis Annie Armstrong Easter Offering**

For detailed information about Annie Armstrong, home missionaries you can pray for, mission study resources and more,

visit **AnnieArmstrong.com**. call the North American Mission Board 1-800-749-7479 or email aaeo@namb.net.



## Windows on the Area



March 30, 2012

#### First Annual

## PASTOR/STAFF RETREAT

Plains Baptist Assembly May 14-15, 2012

Caprock Plains Baptist Area will be hosting a Pastor/Staff Retreat on May 14-15, 2012, at Plains Baptist Assembly. We will start with a steak supper at 6:00 PM and conclude at noon the next day with lunch.

The purpose of this retreat is to strengthen, encourage, and renew the vision of our pastors and staff on the South Plains to God's kingdom work in the local church. We are thrilled that Pastor Mitch Wilson will be leading this conference with music by Bryce Howard and special speakers Dr. Clinton Lowin and Judge Bill Sowder. We have 37 private rooms. These will be available on a first-come, first-serve basis. Bunk beds are FREE, RV parking is also FREE, Registration is required.

At the close of the conference at noon on Tuesday, PBA has made several activities available, including golf at the Floydada Country Club, skeet shooting and the zipline at the camp. Contact the Area Office at 296-2751 to obtain a registration form.



Pastor **FBC Shallowater** 



**Bryce Howard** Contemporary Worship Leader



Dr. Clinton Lowin Assistant Professor of Religion and Philosophy Wayland Baptist University



District Judge

## **EXPERIENCE MISSIONS 2012 - SATURDAY, APRIL 21**

9:00 AM Registration in the Laney Center, WBU Campus

Workshops, Children's & Youth Tracks 10:00 AM

12:00 Noon Lunch will be provided by Texas Baptist Men Disaster Relief Unit

**Workshops and Tracks Resume** 1:30 PM

5:30 PM **World Banquet** 

The Area Office will

close on April 6

for Good Friday.

Sunday, April 8, is

Easter Sunday. Cele-

brate the Risen Lord!

6:15 PM

Mission Celebration Message by Jesse Rinconnes, Pastor of Alliance Church of Lubbock and President of the Hispanic Baptist Convention of Texas. Music by Pre-Flight, contemporary Christian group, FBC of Canyon.

> Meet with missionary guests from around the world. Workshops and tracks will take you through a missions experience that you won't want to miss!

Come and meet representatives from numerous mission organizations, including: The Jesus Film Project, Wycliffe Bible Translators, Mercy Street Mission of Dallas, Mission Arlington, Mission Amarillo, Muslims for Christ, Faith Comes by Hearing, Go Now Missions, Christian Women's Job Corps, Voice and the Martyrs and many more!

For further information go to experiencemissionsnow.com or contact Dr. Rick Shaw at Wayland Baptist University by calling 806-291-1162 or email shawr@wbu.edu.



Servant Leaders? Can a leader also be a servant? The well-received Willson Lecture Series at Wayland Baptist University, guest lecturer Ken Blanchard certainly believes so. For Dr. Blanchard, the president of a company and a one who works in the workroom can both be servant leaders. A person's role in life does not determine either component. The night before Jesus was crucified He was a servant as he washed the disciples' feet

and yet stated, "You say that I am teacher and Lord and you are correct" in John 13. In reality the president of a company may be more of a servant than the person working in the mailroom. A servant is not so much a position as it is the attitude of one's spirit. This explains the surprise that I had in reading the book, <u>Lead Like Jesus</u>. I was amazed that the first four chapters basically dealt with one's personal spiritual walk with the Lord. If you are going to *lead like Jesus*, it helps to walk with him as well, and I pray that I will.

Excited about a meeting? The honest answer would be, not often; however, this coming Thursday, May 26th, we will be having a combined meeting with all of the mission teams from the three associations here at the Area Office. We will consider the Gordon Benson Mission Offering, what our churches have been doing in missions, and the direction we need to take as an area. I will keep you posted on the results. If you have any ideas, give me a call.

The Social Media and Ministry. At our conference on the social media and ministry, it is obvious that our pastors and staff are well connected with laptops and individual electronic tablets! Each of our presenters did a fabulous job. Our first speaker, Eric Kaiser, and our last speaker, Russ Ponder, stated it clearly, while Facebook is great, "nothing takes the place of personal contact in ministry." Amen! However, there are certainly many ways that we can broaden our imprint of ministry. All the handouts and Powerpoint presentations that were made are available electronically for you through the Area Office. Email us and we will certainly get you the information.

Whatever it Takes! This is the theme of this year's Annie Armstrong Easter Offering. I trust that you and your church are being bold in your giving and praying for God's work here in North American. It has been a great joy of mine in visiting churches during this last two months and hearing of great goals that are set and great goals that are being reached. May we be faithful to help those who are making an impact in North America. Also, don't you love the materials given by NAMB with the pictures of individual North American missionaries. Seeing the face of missions means so much! May the Lord also see our face in this mission endeavor.

## **AREA PASTOR RETIRES**

Lupe Rando and his wife Janie were honored at a retirement reception at Primera Iglesia Bautista of Floydada on Saturday, March 17. Lupe and Janie are moving to Henderson, Nevada, to be near their children. We will greatly miss Lupe and Janie and their dedication and involvement in area and associational activities and fellowships.



Their new mailing address is: 2903 Ardoch Avenue, Henderson, Nevada 89044. His cell phone remains the same at 940-765-7376.

## 25th ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

Saturday, April 14th 2 PM College Heights 802 Quincy Plainview



Pastor Don Robertson and his wife Barbara will be honored at a reception at College Heights Baptist Church for their 25 years of service to that congregation.

Contact Linda at 806-293-3644 or email chbcplv@sbcglobal.net for further details.

## VBS IS FLYING HIGH THIS YEAR

At the latest Companerismo on March 4 at Iglesia Bautista Genesis of Plainview a VBS presentation was made to

Plainview a VBS presentation was made to highlight the coming VBS opportunities.

Children will have a high-flying time at Vacation Bible School. The children pictured here are: Avah Resendiz, Jose Resendiz, Candy Gonzales and Adrianna Resendiz of Petersburg and Imbry Gomez of Hale Center.



Making this year's presentation were enthusiastic instructor pilots, Annabell Mirelez of Alfa y Omega Plainview and Moses Blanco of Templo Bautista Salem Lockney, pictured on the right ready for flight.

## 2012 OPPORTUNITIES AT PLAINS BAPTIST ENCAMPMENT

FAMILY CAMP (3 sessions available): May 25-28, July 4-7, Aug 31-Sep 3

YOUNG EXPLORERS CAMP, GRADES 1-3: July 1-3

WEST TEXAS ADULT CAMP: May 6-9

CAPROCK GIRLS CAMP, GRADES 1-7: June 18-21
SOUTH PLAINS YOUTH CAMP, GRADES 7-12: June 25-29
BOYS, COURAGEUS & CHALLENGERS, GRADES 1-6: July 11-14





The facilities are also available for various types of events. Some of those include Home School Camps, Public and Private School Camps. Just a few of the fun activities available are geocaching, hiking, team building, archery, and hayrides. There are various types of lodging available, as well as RV hookups. The camp is open for meetings, retreats, and family getaways. The camp also offers Child Protective Training for camp workers. There are numerous staff and volunteer opportunities throughout the year. There are

even opportunities for your group of volunteers to help us with campus improvement projects. For more details, dates, registration, pricing, etc., contact Director Wayne Davis:



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www.pbacamp.org
Plains Baptist Camp is on Facebook!



Caprock Plains Baptist Area 2301 Utica

Plainview, Texas 79072 Phone: 806-296-2751 Fax: 806-296-2755

Email: caprockplains@nts-online.net

Website: CaprockPlains.org

### **AREA STAFF**

Dr. Lester B. Griffin—Director of Missions
Susan Barkley—Ministry Assistant
Katie Trimble—Webmaster
John Silva—New Church Start Consultant
Hispanic Church Consultant



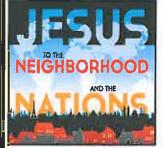
## **Mexico Missions Support**



Your continued support for Miguel and Lupita Contreras makes possible Miguel's transportation to the small villages around their home in Parras, not accessible by car. He was able to purchase a horse, which

takes him from village to village as he reaches this area for Christ!

You can send your financial support to the Area Office: CPBA "Contreras Ministry", 2301 Utica, Plainview, Tx 79072.



# The 2012 Southern Baptist Convention Annual Meeting

June 19-20, 2012 Ernest N. Morial Convention Center 900 Convention Center Blvd. New Orleans, LA 70130

For information go to: www.sbcannualmeeting.net



## CHURCH SECRETARIES and MINISTRY ASSISTANTS

Make plans to attend the 48th Annual Church Secretaries Retreat July 11-13, 2012



If you have never attended, this is a wonderful time of inspiration and fellowship. We stay on campus at Wayland and many activities are planned for you.

If you would like to attend, contact:

Micheal Summers
Director of Church Services
1900 W 7th St
CMB 552
Plainview, Tx 79072

email summersm@wbu.edu call 806-291-1000

Susan at the Area Office at 806-296-2751 can also tell you more about the program

Don't miss the fun!

# Windows on the Area..

May 2012





# PBA staffer Mark Hammer helps pastor Ed LeCompte and music minister Justin Ogden of Bethel Plainview as well as worship leader Bryce Howard and pastor Mitch Wilson of FBC Shallowater get ready for their first attempt at the zipline.

## 2012 PASTOR & STAFF RETREAT AT PBA

Area pastors & staff got ready to take the *zipline* as part of the fun following the pastor and staff retreat. This year Caprock Plains Baptist Area teamed with Lubbock Area Baptist Association and Amarillo Area Baptist Association for two days of study, inspiration, relaxation and fellowship. About 37 pastors and staff attended this first of hopefully many such events for pastors and staff in the area. Inspirational speakers included Pastor Mitch Wilson of FBC Shallowater, Bill Sowder, Lubbock District Court Judge,

and Dr. Clint Lowin, Professor of Religion at Wayland Baptist University. Many others assisted in worship time, including Bryce Howard and fellow musicians of FBC Shallowater. Also, during one session the entire staff of FBC Shallowater presented a short program to help pastors understand the workings of the staff. Some of the pastors stayed for an afternoon of golf at the nearby country club. All enjoyed themselves and look forward to future events.

## LIFEWAY EVENT FOR Directors of Missions

Dr Griffin was invited to visit Lifeway in Nashville for a two day conference to share all the Bible Study materials and resources available to our churches.



Pictured here from left to right are: Joe Walton, DOM of the Double Mountain Association, Tom Henderson, DOM of the Bell Association, Dr. Griffin, and Mike Perry, Lifeway Christian Resources Director.



# The Gordon Benson 2012 Associational Missions Offering Goal \$10,000

### "CARING FOR CLINT"

Pueblo Nuevo of Clint, Texas Construction efforts, VBS, medical clinics, children's ministries, shoe drives, school supply and backpack drives.

Our goal was established by these Associational Missions Committee members.

Caprock
Les Reed
Doris Moore
Walter Davis
Luther Hernandez
Kay Tinney

Llanos Altos Dr Brian Hill Robbie Boyd Garie Campbel

Itos Staked Plains
Hill Donnie Brown
oyd Lydia Castillo
Inpbell Matthew Veals
Richard Miller



The Gordon Benson Associational Mission Offering: We have three associations in our area. Each association has it's own mission committee. On April 26, all three associations had 100% of their members present at the Area Office to plan the Gordon Benson Offering for 2012. The group was divided into three subcommittees and no less than eight major ideas were considered. The final mission focus fell on the Pueblo Nuevo church at Clint, Texas, east of El Paso.

This fine church is in the process of building a much-needed community ministry/activity center. This is where the \$10,000 area-wide goal would be focused. The needs in Clint are not simply of building but also medical missions, children's ministry, and specialized Bible studies. Your church can be a part of this ministry with mission trips over the next two years. It is hopeful that the financial goal can be reached by the end of June. May God bless you as you share this need and receive this offering!

Pastor-Staff Retreat 2012: On May 14-15, 37 pastors and staff met at Plains Baptist Assembly for a time of inspiration and encouragement. We were blessed to hear the keynote speaker, Mitch Wilson of FBC Shallowater, with his messages on vision, church renewal, staff development and present trends in church ministries. Perhaps the highlight was Tuesday morning as he brought six of his staff to share their ideas on improving inter-staff relationships. Judge William Sowder spoke Monday evening. He brought an encouraging message of hope and focused on practical aspects of ministry from the layman's point of view. He stated clearly that leadership is servanthood in the local church. Dr. Clinton Lowin of Wayland Baptist University shared the importance of mentoring and ministry from Exodus 33. In this passage Joshua is watching Moses in preparation for his coming day of leadership responsibility. Dr. Lowin illustrated the passage with powerful stories. I want to personally thank our wonderful administrative assistant Susan Barkley in all the preparation she made for this retreat and for the assistance from her husband Brian. Also, a great thanks to the PBA Staff, with the work of Executive Director Wayne Davis, assisted by Mark Hammer.

Experience Missions 2012—Go Into All the World: The long-awaited and extensively planned missions conference arrived on a beautiful Spring day. As the day unfolded, it was filled with inspiration and activities that focused our lives on the importance of missions. I am personally very thankful for those who gave leadership to this endeavor from the Caprock-Plains Area. They are J.D. Templeton of FBC Cotton Center, who coordinated the children's track, Elias Garcia of FBC Plainview, who coordinated the youth track, Debbie Wiley of WBU Mission Center, who coordinated the SKIRTS program, Dr. Gene Meacham, retired Director of Missions, who was involved in mission event coordination, and Mrs. Janice Henson of FBC Quitaque, who worked with publicity. Also, a special thank you to Dr. Rick Shaw, Director of the WBU Mission Center, and all the churches that gave so generously and hosted many missionaries in their churches on Sunday. To God be the glory!

## YOU ARE INVITED TO AN ORDINATION SERVICE TAYLOR WOOD

Minister of Discipleship and Youth
First Baptist Church of Crosbyton

Ordination Council - 3 PM Ordination Service - 5 PM
The message will be brought by Taylor's father,
Kevin Thomas Wood of Kansas, Former IMB Missionary

FREE BIBLE STUDY MATERIALS: A local church has numerous Bible Study materials available for a small church or study group. These are in great condition, most are brand new. Materials available are from Baptist Way Press the Explore the Bible Series.



If you are interested in any of these materials please contact Charlotte at 806-296-6318 and she will be glad to help.

## **UPCOMING CONVENTIONS AND SEMINARS**



## Youth Evangelism Conference

UT at Arlington—June 22-23

Go to the website at: www.youthevangelism.com

## Hispanic Baptist Convention of Texas

BUA San Antonio—June 24-26

Call: 214-887-5424

Email: Rolando.rodriguez@texasbaptists.org





## Bivocational/Small Church Conference

BUA San Antonio—July 13-15

Email: brother ray@juno.com or bivolink@flash.net

## African American Fellowship/Evangelism Conference

Westside BC, Lewisville, Tx—July 17-19

Call 972-221-5668 or visit website at texasbaptists.org/aafc



That's not all! There are numerous conferences, events, and seminars coming this summer. You can check out the event calendars on websites <u>texasbaptists.org</u> or <u>sbtexas.com</u> to get more information. Check these sites regularly to stay aware of programs that would be helpful to your congregation.

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CAMP XTREME, GRADES 4-6: July 16-20



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ties for your group of volunteers to help us with campus improvement projects. For more details, dates, registration, pricing, etc., contact **Director Wayne Davis**.

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Plains Baptist Camp is on Facebook!



2301 Utica

Plainview, Texas 79072 Phone: 806-296-2751

Fax: 806-296-2755 Email: caprockplains@nts-online.net Website: CaprockPlains.org

Check us out on Facebook.

### **AREA STAFF**

Dr. Lester B. Griffin-Director of Missions Susan Barklev-Ministry Assistant **Katie Trimble—Webmaster** John Silva—New Church Start Consultant **Hispanic Church Consultant** 



Jonnie Reed (right), trustee-FBC Kress, presents Albert Aguirre, deacon-El Calvario, with the deed!

A Day of Celebration In Kress June 10, 2012

Mision Bautista El Calvario Established 1962 After 50 blessed years becomes

Iglesia Bautista El Calvario! Established June 10, 2012



Dr. Les Griffin, Director of Missions, brings the message:



Pastor Joe Silva is honored by the Area for his over 26 years of service in ministry at



Dr Griffin, Pastor Will Fish (FBC Kress), Pastor Joe Silva (El Calvario), deacons of El Calvario, Albert Aguirre, Juan Porras, Jose Luis Martinez, and Martin Navarro, Deacon of Iglesia Petersburg.



A great group of members and guests came to celebrate this momentous occasion

This building was donated by Lakeview Baptist Church west of Petersburg, in 1962.

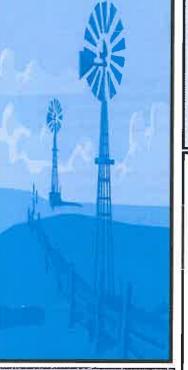
These wonderful pictures were provided by JoAndrew Espinoza grandson of Joe Silva



Dr Griffin and Pastor Silva pray for Iglesia Bautista el Calvario!

What are you doing this summer? We love to share your pictures and your stories. If you have a church event, revival, mission activity, camp or VBS story to tell, please call the office at 296-2751 or email us at caprockplains@nts-online.net





## CHURCH SECRETARIES and MINISTRY ASSISTANTS

Make plans to attend the 48th Annual Church Secretaries Retreat July 11-13, 2012



"Breaking Free"

If you have never attended, this is a wonderful time of inspiration and fellowship. We stay on campus at Wayland and many activities are planned for you.

If you would like to attend, contact:

Michael Summers Director of Church Services 1900 W 7th St CMP 552 Plainview, Tr. 79072

email summers n nwbu edu call 805-291-1000

Susan at the Area Office at 806-296-2751 can also tell you more about the program

Don't miss the fun!

# Windows on the Area ...

June 2012

## The Gordon Benson 2012 Associational Missions Offering



Area-Wide Goal: \$10,000 Received So Far: \$4,500

"CARING FOR CLINT"

Pueblo Nuevo of Clint, Texas Construction efforts, VBS, medical clinics, children's ministries, shoe drives, school supply and backpack drives.

We will continue to collect your support for this ministry. Also, there will be more opportunities coming during the year, including mission trips to help with the efforts listed above. If your group is interested, just contact the Area Office and we will get you more details.

Thanks again to the continued efforts of our Associational Missions Committee members: Caprock Association: Les Reed, Doris Moore, Walter Davis, Luther Hernandez and Kay Tinney

Llanos Altos Association: Dr. Brian Hill, Robbie Boyd and Garie Campbell Donnie Brown, Lydia Castillo, Matthew Veals and Richard Miller

## AREA VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL REPORTS

Calvary Baptist Church of Friona recently completed a week of "Amazing Wonders Aviation" VBS, June 4-8, and reported an average daily attendance of 114 with 16 decisions made. The children gathered an offering of \$394, which will be given to the City Church ministry of Amarillo.

FBC Tulia finished their week of VBS, June 11-15, and reported a total registration of 203 children and 90 workers! God blessed them with great teachers and eager children, ready to learn!



This picture was captured from a video made by FBC Earth. They shared this with us and you can see it on our Facebook page! They had a great turnout and a wonderful group of workers and kids!

This is a great summer for VBS!

## **Upcoming Enrichment Opportunity**

The Texas Baptist Men have offered to our churches, pastors, church groups, and families

## **Experiencing God Retreat** at Plains Baptist Assembly

This is planned for August 10-11, 2012, starting at 5:30 PM on Friday and going through Saturday at 2:30 PM.

This would be a great church and family activity as activities and childcare are available for all ages. We will be getting more details regarding this retreat soon, as far as lodging and meals and we will send out further information. Contact the Area Office at 296-2751 if you are interested

### **Contreras Mexico Missions Support**

Miguel and Lupe Contreras were recently in the Area visiting family and expressed their "thank you" for the support that they have received from some of our churches if you are wondering how you can help in this ministry, funds for needed for all-terrain tires for Miguel's pickup because the trails are mountainous, extremely rocky and very hard on tires:

> **Caprock Plains Baptist Area** Contreras Ministry" 2301 Utica



Prayer Rocks and Praying for Others: Have you ever heard of "prayer rocks?" Moses said it was a sin not to pray for his people. Paul said that he always remembered his people in prayer. Jesus said, "I pray for them." Intercessory prayer is important! It is always a joy to see Miguel and Lupe Contreras again. This former pastor of Primera Plainview now serves as our missionary in the mountains of north central Mexico.

As I was helping them download their video camera to put the pictures and video on a DVD, I came across a picture of white rocks with blue names on them. When I asked what this was, pastor Miguel's and Lupe's faces lit up. "Those are the prayer rocks on top of the mountain!" I was told that it takes the pastor two hours on horseback to get to a place of prayer on top of a nearby mountain. One day as he was praying on the mountain he decided to paint the names of the children that he was praying for on the rocks. Well, word got out. All of the children of that area wanted to make sure that their names were on the rocks on top of the mountain so that they could be prayed for. Soon, they also wanted to go and see for themselves these rocks. Below you can see pictures of the children and the prayer rocks.

Visualize this if you will. You ride a horse for two hours, alone, to get to a special place of prayer for others. You don't forget their names because their names are on the rocks! Miguel did not say how long he prayed on the mountain but it is clear for him the journey is the joy. Intercession is always critical, no matter how it is done!

"Caring for Clint" Our associational offering for area-wide ministry in Clint, Texas, is off to a great start. You will note on the front page we have already received almost half of this goal. If your church has not taken the offering, why not do so this next Sunday? The positive results would not only be the reaching of a goal but doing it together as an area.

If you are like me, sometimes you wonder how the resources that are given will be used and if they will be used wisely. The same committee that came from the three associations and set this goal will meet later this summer to decide how best to use the funds to help the church at Clint and help our associational churches in going on missions trips to Clint. I am thankful for our associational mission committees that share in this responsibility. To God be the Glory!

**Experiencing God:** On August 10-11 at Plains Baptist Assembly the Baptist Men of Texas will host a kickoff weekend for churches who would like to implement Experiencing God in their church in the Fall of 2012. This will be a great opportunity to return to a productive tool of discipleship or to use it for the very first time.

Mission Trips: Our next newsletter will be dedicated to mission trips taken by area churches. You can help by sending us a picture, information on where you went, who made up the group, and the major emphasis for the trip. I try to keep up with what is going on in the area through newsletters, but this is a challenge at times because not all churches have newsletters. Please help us out by sending the information of your mission trip to the Area Office via email.







## YOU ARE INVITED TO AN ORDINATION SERVICE

## **TAYLOR WOOD**

Minister of Discipleship and Youth
First Baptist Church of Crosbyton
Sunday, July 1

Ordination Council - 3 PM Ordination Service - 5 PM

The message will be brought by Taylor's father, Kevin Thomas Wood of Kansas. Former IMB Missionary

## CONGRATULATIONS TO DEVIN & BRANDI FITCH!



Devin, student pastor at Calvary Baptist Church of Friona, and his wife Brandi celebrated the birth of their first child, **Joshua Owen**, on June 13, 2012. Joshua arrived at 6.41 PM at BSA Amarillo and weighed 9.1 pounds and measured 20.5 inches long

## **UPCOMING CONVENTIONS AND SEMINARS**

## Hispanic Baptist Convention of Texas

BUA San Antonio—June 24-26

Call: 214-887-5424

Email: Rolando.rodriguez@texasbaptists.org





## **Bivocational/Small Church Conference**

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Email: brother\_ray@juno.com or bivolink@flash.net

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CAMP XTREME, GRADES 4-6: July 16-20

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806-963-3954 3001 Love Road Floydada Tx 79235 adventures@pbacdmp.org www.pbacamp.org Plains Baptist Camp.is on Facebook



The "BLOB" has proven to be a big hit with this year's campers at the new "lake" with its diving platform as well as new canoes, kayaks, paddles and life vests.

year. There are even opportunities for your group of volunteers to help us with campus improvement projects. For more details, dates, registration, pricing, etc., contact Director Wayne Davis.

## CAMP DISCOVERY HIGH PLAINS RETREAT CENTER July 27-29, 2012

This is a great opportunity to do missions in your own backyard! This is a three-day and two-night camp designed for children of refugees and low-income families in the Amarillo area. The camp is designed to evangelize the lost and disciple the committed. It is held at the High Plains Retreat Center near Canyon, Texas, and begins on Friday and continues through Sunday, July 27-29.

Your teenagers and adults will have opportunities to serve with their gifts in many ways:

Teaching, recreation, crafts, relationship building and even discipline. If you are looking for an inexpensive missions opportunity, here is your chance.

If you would like more information, contact Eric Kaiser,
Youth and Music Pastor, FBC Earth, at 806–257–2036
or email fbcearthyouth@yahoo.com

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## What's Been Going On in the Area!

During a recent ordination service at FBC of Floydada, Josh Burgett was ordained to the Gospel Ministry. Josh serves FBC as Minister of Youth. The sermon was brought by his grandfather, Rev. Walter Goodnight, who pastored in many churches in the area, and is currently pastoring at Whitharral.

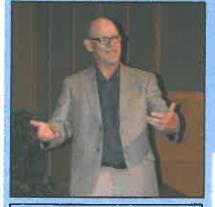


Participating in the service and on the ordaining council were: (Front L-R Eddie Smith, Walter Goodnight, Josh Burgett, Tim Franks, Terry Simmons, and Back L-R Dr. Griffin, Donnell Gowens, A.C Pratt, Kyle Smith, Kerry Pratt, Jerry Livingston, Clar Schacht, Sheldon Sue, Melvin Lloyd, Jim Finley, and Jerry Finley.

FBC Floydada pastor Tim Franks, Josh Burgett, wife Mallory, daughter Kambree, and Josh's grandfather, Rev. Walter Goodnight



On Sunday, July 1, the Youth/ Discipleship Minister at FBC Crosbyton, Taylor Wood, was ordained to the Gospel Ministry. The sermon was brought by his father, Kenneth Wood, who is a former missionary.



Kenneth Wood, Taylor's father, brought the message.



Participating in the service and on the ordaining council were: Front L-R: Mark Appling, Jacky Dewbre, Taylor Wood, Joe Hargrove, Bill Mammaro, Middle L-R. Les Reed and Ray Hindman, and Back L-R: Joe Cargile and I ance Morris.



Taylor has served under two pastors at FBC of Crosbyton; Les Reed, the current pastor, and Dr. Les Griffin, previous pastor and now our Director of Missions.









Many churches from the area participated at Glorieta this year. Pictured here are youth from FBC of Plainview.



# Windows on the Area...



July 2012

## The Gordon Benson 2012 Associational Missions Offering



ner International

Area-Wide Goal: \$10,000 Received So Far: \$7,500

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Pueblo Nuevo of Clint, Texas
Construction efforts, VBS, medical clinics, children's ministries, shoe
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Les Reed, Doris Moore, Walter Davis, Luther Hernandez and Kay Tinney

Llanos Altos Association:

Dr. Brian Hill, Robbie Boyd and Garie Campbell

Donnie Brown, Lydia Castillo, Matthew Veals and Richard Miller

This year's CONVENCION HISPANO BAUTISTA DE TEXAS was electrifying! Our theme was Forward in Missions (Adelanta en misiones) Our local churches were well represented with members from Abundant Grace, Primera, and Getsanami, as well as Salem and Primera of Lockney General sessions included great music and great speakers including President Jesse Rincones, pastor of Alliance Church of Lubbock, Luis Lopez, Director of Lifeway Espanol, Samuel Rodriguez, President of National Hispanic Leadership Conference, and Albert Reyes, President of Buck-

000



2012 WMU Officers include Frances Barrera, President, Plainview, Ofchia Ortega, 1st VP, Midland, Bonnie Martnez, Secretary, El Paso, and Horteneia Contieras, 2nd VP, San Antonio.

There was a registered attendance of 1,874! The mission project this year was Shoes for Orphans Souls with over 2,119 pairs of shoes donated. There was a commissioning of Hispanic Summer Missionaries and BSM Hispanic Consultants. There were also 24 student scholarships awarded. The yearly budget for the Convencion was approved at \$60,000

We are all excited about next year's annual meeting where all three conventions (BGCT, African American Convention, and the Convencion Hispano Bautista de Texas) will come together in San Antonio, July 14-17, 2013 for "The Gathering." Hope to see you there!

Finally, I am humbled to have been elected as President of the Hispanic WMU of Texas.

This report was provided by Frances Barrera. She is the wife of Joe Barrera (pastor of Abundant Grace) and she is a Vice President at Hale County State Bank of Plainview.



Yolanda Godsey Rodriguez gives her testimony at Convencion



### Finishing a Mission Project

This has been a great summer of mission trips and projects. There is one project still unfinished, a new roof for Primera of Lockney.

For Primera Iglesia Bautista of Lockney the funds have been raised, grant money from the BGCT has been received, the roof measured, the color of metal selected and we were all ready to start roofing. However, the lead person can no longer finish the project. It is all about leadership!

I am so thankful that Clay Lewis of College Heights has been asked and will now be working with us. He will need others to help put down the metal. Since we will not need to take off the old shingles, we can start and stop as needed. We do not have to worry if rain interrupts our work. We will take the rain anytime!

About one-third of the roof line has a severe angle and the rest is moderate. We need skilled folks with their power drills. If you could help please call Clay Lewis at 806-292-3721 or the Area Office at 806-296-2751.

If metal roofing is not your specialty, we are going to try to repaint the church at the same time. Anyone can paint! If you would like more information, call the Area Office.

What is so wonderful here is that the funds for all the materials are in hand; we just need some hands to get the mission project finished! Do you have the hands we need?



### Finishing the Ride

It was an honor to ride my bicycle in "Finishing the Ride" in Tulia July 14. This bike ride was to raise money for the Aaron Ross Scholarship Fund. He was a young 20-year-old who was tragically killed in a bicycling accident on October 16, 2011. He was a Wayland student at the time of the accident. The "ghost bicycle" memorial is about 4 miles north of Kress on the old 87 highway.



### Finishina the Gordon Benson Offerina

We have received \$7,500 of the \$10,000 goal for "Caring for Clint." This is a very special offering for reaching people for the gospel in Clint, Texas. I am praying that by the end of August we be able to meet again with the associational mission committees to continue our plans for ministry in Clint.

## **Contreras Mexico Missions Support**

Miguel and Lupe Contreras were recently in the area visiting family and again expressed their "thank you" for the support that they have received from some of our churches If you are wondering how you can help in this ministry, there is always a way you can help. Funds recently provided all-terrain tires for Miguel's pickup because the trails are mountainous, extremely rocky and have destroyed several of his truck tires. Your support can be sent to us here at the Area Office, made out to CPBA, and designated on the memo area of your check as "Contreras Ministry" so that we will get those funds directly to their ministry fund.

Susan Barkley, CPBA Ministry Assistant, attended the: 48th ANNUAL CHURCH SECRETARIES RETREAT at Wayland Baptist University, July 11-13

"We heard fabulous speakers: Dr. Tim Marrow, pastor of FBC Plainview, Sharon Tillery, wife of Director of Missions from Artesia, New Mexico, Dr. Stan DeMerritt of Wayland, and Mr. Michael Cox of Wayland. We heard inspirational and supportive messages and were given timely information to assist us in our role as the church secretary or ministry assistant at our church or religious organi-



zation. Since a lot of the facilities were under construction at Wayland we did have to change locations of our activities and meals, but Patricia Summers, wife of Micheal Summers, Director of Church Services, provided our meals and we were definitely blessed! On Friday night we had our banquet at The Cotton Patch where Sharon Wright, La Mesa (Plainview) Elementary Principal, presented a wonderful devotional, personal testimony, and motivational message. Thanks to all of you who made this year a great success!"



Patricia Summers rovided our meals. What a feast!



Sharon Wright Principal. La Mesa Elementary of Plainview





## **CONVENTIONS AND SEMINARS**

AUGUST 7 \* BGCT WELCOME PASTOR DAY \* This event takes place at the Baptist Building in Dallas. For information call 888-244-9400 or email judy.hackler@texasbaptists.org.

AUGUST 16-18 \* EQUIP MEGA RETREAT \* This event combines 14 events at one location in Ft Worth. For more information call 877-953-7282 or email kpriest@sbtexas.com.

OCTOBER 29-31 \* TEXAS BAPTISTS ANNUAL MEETING \* This event takes place at American Bank Center of Corpus Christi. For more information call 888-244-9400 or email annualmeeting@texasbaptists.org.

That's not all! There are numerous conferences, events, and seminars coming this summer and fall. You can check out the event calendars on websites texasbaptists.org or sbtexas.com to get more information. Check these sites regularly to stay aware of programs that would be helpful to you, your church staff and your congregation.

## **CAMP DISCOVERY at HIGH PLAINS RETREAT CENTER** July 27-29, 2012

This is a great opportunity to do missions in your own backyard! This is a threeday and two-night camp designed for children of refugees and low-income families in the Amarillo area. The camp is designed to evangelize the lost and disciple the committed. It is held at the High Plains Retreat Center near Canyon. Texas, and begins on Friday and continues through Sunday, July 27-29. Your



teenagers and adults will have opportunities to serve with their gifts in many ways: Teaching, recreation, crafts, relationship building and even discipline. If you are looking for an inexpensive missions opportunity, here is your chance. If you would like more information, contact Eric Kaiser, Youth and Music Pastor, FBC Earth at 806-257-2036 or email fbcearthyouth@yahoo.com

Edna Evans, coordinator of Girls Camp, forwarded this note SOCKS FOR SOLDIERS AMARILLO wants to say THANK YOU to the more than 230 girls who attended Caprock-Plains Area Girls Missions Camp. You chose SOCKS FOR SOLDIERS as your special project and it was a great blessing for us. Your donation of socks, snacks and toiletry items will soon be on their way to 170 troops in Afghanistan. They will especially enjoy the notes and cards that you wrote. One of the notes will be put in each "care package" Thank you for your loving and caring hearts Doug and Carolyn Miller

## Summer 2012 at Plains Baptist Assembly

What an exciting year it has been at PBA! With numerous improvements to the facilities ongoing, and the addition of new recreational items available such as The Blob, this summer has been full of excitement. Numerous camps have already been completed and some are going on right now. The facilities at Plains Baptist Assembly are available for various types of church events as well as home school camps, public or private school camps. Just a few of the fun



806-983-3954 3001 Love Road Floydada Tx 79235 adventures@pbacamp.org www.pbacamp.org Plains Baptist Camp is also on Facebookl

activities available are geocaching, hiking, team building, archery, hayrides, and the zipline! Lodging is available as well as RV hookups. The camp is open for meetings, retreats, and family actaways. The camp offers Child Protective Training for workers. There are numerous staff and volunteer opportunities. There are even opportunities for your group of volunteers to help us with campus improvements. Contact the Executive Director, Wayne Davis for information.

2301 Utica

Plainview, Texas 79072 Phone: 806-296-2751 Fax: 806-296-2755

Email: caprockplains@nts-online.net

Website: CaprockPlains.org Check us out on Facebook.

### **AREA STAFF**

Dr. Lester B. Griffin-Director of Missions Susan Barkley—Ministry Assistant **Katie Trimble Woody—Webmaster** John Silva—New Church Start Consultant **Hispanic Church Consultant** 

## Nine days in Guatemala

Last year our youth minister, Elias Garcia, FBC Plainview, related an opportunity to serve at an orphanage named Fundacion Salvacion, in Huehuetenango, Guatemala. We prepared for a year for this trip and finally by July 15th, a group of 20 students and 10-15 college students and adult sponsors left the church parking lot on an increasingly mysterious and ominous trip out of the safety of the United States.

After our flight through DFW and a connecting flight over the Gulf of Mexico, we landed on the single runway of one of Central America's largest airports. Our comfort level with the "normal" of Guatemala City ended the next morning, when we hit the road for a six-hour drive to Huehuetenango where we were captivated by a land of volcanoes, forests, nearly vertical slopes of crops growing on the side of the highway, rundown villages, gallons of homemade diesel fuel dotting each mile of the road, hundreds of stray dogs nicknamed the "Chew-Chews", and a checkpoint for illegal fruit smuggling,

Once in Huehuetenango, our real work began as we rolled into the gated orphanage a few blocks from our lodging. Nearly a hundred children from newborn infants to seventeen-year-olds call a concrete complex of child-painted murals and secondhand equipment their home, and honestly, I don't think they could be happier. To say these kids were excited to see us might be the understatement of the century for the second we climbed off the bus, kids were grabbing every appendage we owned, welcoming us from the bottom of their hearts to their home. From the moment I climbed out, I was embraced by a little guy named Tino and his friend Miguel, Although we struggled to have a conversation, I think from the first moment we met we connected on a huge level. I had no idea how much I was going to be connected to these two kids in particular.

During the afternoons we led Vacation Bible School. Later in the week, our team applied a new paint job to the interior of the compound, and most of the guys in the group helped debag and store several thousand pounds of rice for the kids' meals. We also constructed some new shelves out of spare lumber. Another project was the gift of new shoes for all the children. We met for an evening meal with Dr. Cesar, husband of Sandra, the founder of Fundacion Salvacion. Sandra was recently killed in a terrible accident involving a drunk driver, and you could see she had left a large hole in the heart of the orphanage and the community.

Our final project included loading our bus with eighty gunny sacks full of old clothing and heading into the nearby mountains to meet people in the villages. Most of the people living in these areas were incredibly poor, and for us to hand out these clothes that most Americans would throw away was a true blessing to them.

It was amazing how quickly time passed by and our days in Huehue had come to an end. It seemed like we had known these kids our entire life. By the end of the week, they were practically family. As we began our travel back to the big city of Plainview, I thought of how many lucky breaks, how many homeruns we had hit, and how great our trip had gone. I was so thankful for the opportunity to go on this trip. I met so many new people and I gained so much appreciation for what we have. I found that often the people who have nothing are the most content. They don't need the newest phone, the best car, or the best house. They get joy from others, from their family and friends, and from faith in God's ability to provide what they need.

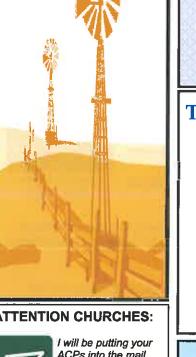
-David Barkley, (son of Brian and Susan Barkley), Freshman at Wayland Baptist University, member of First Baptist Plainview

(This article was condensed for this newsletter... it was published in the Plainview Daily Herald on Sunday, August 19, 2012)



Guatemala

July 2012



### **ATTENTION CHURCHES:**



ACPs into the mail this week. I was out of town last week for a family trip.

Watch for the large, white envelope when it crosses your

I have to receive a copy of your completed ACP here at the Area Office by October 8 because annual meetings begin the following week. If you complete your ACP online, please send me a copy of your report so your data can be included in our reports for the year.

If you have any questions or need any help, call me at the office

296-2751

Susan Barkley Ministry Assistant



## Contreras Mexico **Missions Support**

Your continued support can be sent to us here at the Area Office, made out to CPBA, and designated on the memo area of your check as "Contreras Ministry" so that we will get those funds directly to their ministry fund

CPBA

2301 Utica Plainview Tx 79072





August 2012

## The Gordon Benson 2012 Associational Missions Offering

Area-Wide Goal: \$10,000 **Received: \$9,000** 

## "CARING FOR CLINT"

Pueblo Nuevo of Clint, Texas

Construction efforts, VBS, medical clinics, children's ministries, shoe drives, school supply and backpack drives.

## Thanks again to the continued efforts of our Associational Missions Committee members:

Les Reed, Doris Moore, Walter Davis, Luther Hernandez and Kay Tinney

Llanos Altos Association: Dr. Brian Hill, Robbie Boyd and Garie Campbell Staked Plains Association: Donnie Brown, Lydia Castillo, Matthew Veals and Richard Miller

## LLANOS ALTOS ASSOCIATION **BAPTIST MENS/WOMENS MEETING**

Dr. Stacy Conner, pastor FBC Muleshoe, and Brady Mason, Minister of Music/Education, FBC Muleshoe, grilled up hamburgers and all the trimmings for the latest associational meeting. Pastors, staff, church leaders and workers meet regularly to conduct business, plan the yearly calendar, and for worship and fellowship



If you would like to be on the mailing list for the dates and times of these meetings, contact FBC Muleshoe at 272-4224 or the Area Office at 296-2751.



## PASTOR/WIFE RETREAT THE LODGE AT CLOUDCROFT OCTOBER 5-7

Pastors: If you are interested in the pastor/wife retreat at Cloudcroft, you need to contact the Area Office for details.

We have to confirm with The Lodge how many we will have in our group and send in a deposit.

Church Leaders: Perhaps you might encourage your pastor to take some time away with his wife. Remember, October is Pastor Appreciation Month!

The time is now to make your decision in order for us to confirm these dates!



## Remembering Yolanda Godsey Rodriguez

Ten days before Yolanda's death she received a pass to leave the hospital. Where would she go? She made two stops. First, she went to her home where she was reminded again of her husband's faithfulness, remembering the foster children, nieces, nephews, and hosts of family who were so dear to her, espe-

cially 8-year-old Madi.

The next stop was Iglesia Bautista Date Street, her church. This is the place she loved. She loved her church and the Savior of her church, Jesus! She looked at the classrooms where people were taught about God. She noticed the place where people fellowshipped and then the sanctuary where she worshipped, sang and prayed. She went to the two places she loved the most. I am so thankful she made this journey.



Yolanda Rodriguez 1954—2012

Many years ago while I was on the Plains Baptist Assembly board I worked with her in arranging the Hispanic Youth Camp. She was quick to tell me that the goal of the camp was, "to train our young people to be leaders." She believed in the importance of not just believing in the next generation but to train it!

It was 18 years ago that she came to FBC Crosbyton to help in revival. She was our special guest musician for the evening. I can still remember her love, energy and her clear message of Christ Jesus. It was the same enthusiastic message I saw in her life just two months ago as she shared with the Companerismo in Petersburg.

Two years ago as we were leaving an associational Christmas party, Yolanda and I sat down to visit. I asked her how she was feeling. With a shrug of her shoulders she replied, "I guess, okay." Then she proceeded to tell me how her illness had no cure and her only hope was the slim hope of an experimental drug that she would have to qualify to receive. She qualified for that drug and I believe it, and even more so the grace of God, added days to her life. Her health was so frail.

Though her health was frail, her life was strong. She was strong in her love for her friends, strong in her faith, and strong to the end. I am blessed for having known her. In this I join a host of others!

## Remembering a Great Summer!

You will see two more stories of mission adventures for the Lord by those in our area in this newsletter. I trust that as you read them you will be inspired and encouraged as you continue to plan your outreach to see others come to know the Lord our Savior. As associations you have given in a beautiful way to the Gordon Benson Offering. We are less than \$1000 now from reaching our goal of \$10,000. But, more than that, these resources will allow us to plan diligently and carefully for ministry in Clint, Texas, this year and into the next.

## Remembering Him



This past Sunday evening I visited one of our area churches. As soon as I entered the sanctuary I noticed that the Lord's Supper was on the communion table. While I was a pastor I led in the planning and serving of the Lord's Supper hundreds of times with many wonderful deacons. You instantly know what the Lord's Supper is all about! The singing in the service was warm and inviting. The pastor lovingly and carefully explained the meaning of 1 Corinthians 11. His words touched my heart. As I sat there I realized that I had not taken the Lord's Supper in over a year and a half. That's too long! By His blood I am forgiven. By His broken body I am made whole. It was good for me to stop and be reminded again.

## Remembering Your Prayers

I want to thank so many of you for praying for our grandson, Grant James Griffin. He now is at home. Though he still has a feeding tube, he is getting stronger each day! Your prayers made the difference. Thank you.

## JOIN IN THE JOURNEY Women's Christian Conference 2012



Saturday, October 6, 2012 Floyd County Unity Center (Located at Muncy, Tx) 10 AM to 3 PM

## Unpack Your Bags!

Relinquish the baggage that hinders your ability to live the abundant life that God planned for you

> The state of the same of the s Contact: Connie Johnson 983-3441 Karen Houchin 983-5556 Tickets \$20 each (includes lunch)

> > Message Mendy Ferguson Music Sherman & Tammy Aten

> > > Proceeds benefit the Christian Women's Job Corps

## CAPROCK-PLAINS-LUBBOCK AREA WOMEN'S RETREAT September 7-8, 2012

Plains Baptist Assembly



Theme: Walking with Jesus--Unhindered Speaker Linda Hutcherson "Your Personality Traits"

Missionary Erica Parka

Conference Choices Include. The Story Lives On-Kimberly Quintanilla Prayer—Linda Fish How Well do you Know Yourself-I inda Hutcherson

Age-Level Unhindered—Billie Downing Conference in Spanish—Hope Villarreal

Contact Edna Evans at ednaevans@midplains.coop or 806-684-2394 or 292-0014

## \* OCTOBER 29-31 \* TEXAS BAPTISTS ANNUAL MEETING \*

Texas Baptists will gather in Corpus Christi, the city named for the body of Christ—to BE the body of Christ together! The 2012 annual meeting promises a new beginning for the Texas Baptist family: "Living out HOPE...It All Starts Here!" The expanded format provides opportunities to live out the hope we have in Christ as we worship Him together. This event takes place at American Bank Center of Corpus Christi. For more information call 888-244-9400 or email annualmeeting@texasbaptists.org.

For convention, event and seminar information around the state go to texasbaptists.org or sbtexas.com and check out their event calendars. Check these sites regularly to stay aware of programs that would be helpful to you, your church staff and your congregation.

## FBC Dimmitt Summer Mission Project 2012



From June 16-21, ten people from FBC Dimmitt participated on a mission trip to Coleman, Texas. There they partnered with Fellowship Baptist Church Coleman who was in need of some more people to help them with VBS this year, and the youth group of FBC Dimmitt was ready to participate. The youth group was re-

sponsible for interacting with the kids of VBS and helping the church prepare for the event each evening. Both the students and the kids at VBS had a great

During the day, the students and leaders tackled some service projects around the church facility. One group completely repainted a children's Sunday school room for future use, and another group scraped and painted

metal parking bumpers around the church. They also helped clean and organize a storage area that will eventually become the church's worship center. All felt that this little mission trip in our own backyard of Texas was rewarding and fruitful!

Those that went on the trip. Seth and Amy Pitman; Jordan Pitman; Hunter Pitman; Sara Espinosa; Cheyenne Becker; Nicole Espenson, Shelby Espenson; Haydon Miller; and Payton Miller

Youth and Education Minister First Baptist Church Dimmitt





2301 Utica

Plainview, Texas 79072 Phone: 806-296-2751 Fax: 806-296-2755

Email: caprockplains@nts-online.net

Website: CaprockPlains.org Check us out on Facebook.

### **AREA STAFF**

Dr. Lester B. Griffin—Director of Missions
Susan Barkley—Ministry Assistant
Katie Trimble Woody—Webmaster
John Silva—New Church Start Consultant
Hispanic Church Consultant

## A New Congregation Celebration!

August 26 marked the celebration of the merger of two area congregations in Plainview. Jericho Fellowship and Genesis Baptist Church have become Gethsemane Baptist Church.



### A Brief History.

In April of 2000, Jericho Fellowship was established and began meeting in a downtown storefront at 200 E 5th St in Plainview. Pastors Joe Hernandez and Joe Barrera served initially as co-pastors. In May of 2000 the church organized and requested fellowship with the Staked Plains Association and with the area Companerismo de los Planos. At that time Iglesia Bautista Date Street served as a church sponsor. In August of 2001 they were accepted into the Staked Plains Association. In February 2002 after seeking a permanent home they purchased the property from Bethel Baptist Church on Independence. During the years following Joe Barrera's leadership, from about 2007 until the present time, faithful lay pastors Alfred Martinez and Ruben Rodriguez served the members of the congregation. Genesis Baptist Church has a history of being a mission start by FBC of Plainview in 1982 and during the early years was known as Templo Bautista. In 2003, under the leadership of Leonel Gonzales, it became know as Genesis Baptist Church. Bro. Gonzales pastored until 2008. Carlos Hinojos became pastor in 2008. Bro. Hinojos is a bivocational pastor, employed by the Plainview ISD. Over time, the two congregations entered into a conversation about how to better reach their community and ultimately decided upon blending their congregations. On August 26, 2012, a service was held to celebrate this union. The name of the new congregation was selected... Gethsemane Baptist Church... and would meet at the location 2110 W 10th Street location, pastored by Carlos Hinojos.



Participating in the service and pictured here are. Ed Sena, Lubbock Area Baptist Association, Mark Martinez of Gethsemane, John Silva, BGCT Church Starter, Carlos Hinojos, pastor, Alfred Martinez, lay pastor of Jericho Fellowship, and Dr. Les Griffin, Director of Missions, Caprock Plains



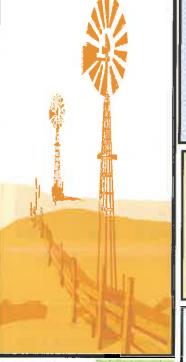


Pictured here to the left after installing their new sign are:

Johnny Rodriguez, Jeff Vera, Carlos Martinez and Pastor Carlos Hinojos.



Trustees of Jericho Fellowship and Genesis Baptist Church review the document of merger and incorporation to form Gethsemane Baptist Church. From left to right are: Heather Martinez, pastor Carlos Hinojos, Arnulfo Betancourt, Johnny Rodriguez, Yolanda Ybarra and Ofelia Lopez.



# Windows on the Area...



September 2012

### YOUR ANNUAL ASSOCIATIONAL MEETINGS!

Caprock Baptist Association \* Sunday, October 14 @ 4 PM \* FBC Floydada
Staked Plains Association \* Sunday, October 21 @ 4 PM \* FBC Plainview
Llanos Altos Association \* Sunday, November 4 @ 4 PM \* FBC Muleshoe

Don't miss this time of reports, worship, fun and fellowship with area churches!



The Gordon Benson 2012 Associational Missions Offering
Area-Wide Goal: \$10,000
Received: \$10,427

Funds will support the "CARING FOR CLINT" ministry of Pueblo Nuevo Church of Clint, Texas, to support construction efforts, VBS, medical clinics, children's ministries, shoe drives, school supply and backpack drives.

## **ATTENTION CHURCHES:**

I have to receive a copy of your completed ACP here at the Area Office by October 8 because annual meetings begin the following week. If you complete your ACP online, please send me a copy of your report so your data can be included in our reports for the year. If you have any questions or need any help, call Susan at 296-2751.

# CAPROCK ASSOCIATION ANNUAL FISH FRY at FBC FLOYDADA

Once again, the men of FBC of Floydada and Caprock Association hosted another successful fish fry on August 27 at FBC Floydada. The evening was filled with good music, good preaching and good fellowship. This



the food coming!

Bart Greer and Marty Covington frying up another batch, keeping

Thanks again

year's stirring message was brought by Rev. Kenneth Jackson. It is always a blessing to hear a message from Bro. Jackson. The music was brought by several musicians, groups and choirs from around the area.

Put this event on your calendar for next year! It is usually scheduled the last week of August. You won't want to miss it!

Thanks again to all who made this event happen!



Dr. Les Griffin, speaker Rev. Kenneth Jackson, and Tim Franks, pastor of FBC Floydada.



Pictured here are Jay Lackey, Jon Jones, Stan Payne, Ty Heflin and Kerry Pratt.



When It's Hot and Windy! The Wichita Falls Bicycle Endurance Ride is the largest bicycle ride in the world. This year, some 12,000 showed up for the event. This was my 19th time to participate at 100 miles in this yearly classic on the weekend before Labor Day. Across the years they

have changed the course several times in how we go to places like Electra and Burkburnett. This year we went west out of Wichita Falls to new places like Kamay (don't forget to take your camera!) Another change was that the last turn went due south. I knew that this would be trouble. As I turned to head to the finish line, a south wind of 18 miles per hour greeted me and all my many friends! I had a great ride and a great time until I turned south. It is always hard when your effort is increased and your speed decreases. When you are going fast



the effort does not seem as bad! The wind changes all of that! When you are headed home, you don't want to go into the wind. Having a great ride now became simply a desire to finish.

The stated purpose by those who plan the ride at Wichita Falls was to allow all riders to go through Sheppard Air Force Base. I will admit it was fun to ride down the flight line between a bevy of military planes from a C5A down to the famous F18. Frankly, I was too tired to notice much. I just wanted to grind it out and be finished with this hour plus of riding. I was thankful that it was only 92 degrees!

Then I heard them. I was told that they would be there. Before the ride it did not seem very important; however, past the planes and beyond the huge hangers were two city blocks lined on both sides of the street with airmen and airwomen there to cheer us on. At my last rest stop I could barely get back on my bike. Now I sat up proudly, soaked it all in, and high fived as I rode quickly past. Their cheers rang in my spirit long after their cheers had died in my ears.

You have no idea what someone cheering you on when you are dead tired can do for your outlook. It was a revival of my mind, body and spirit. Well, I am not sure about the body, but the mind and spirit were certainly improved!



I don't think any of us would ever deny that from time to time we need encouragement. Sometimes in life we feel like we are headed straight into the wind. We never know what burden someone may be carrying and need to be sensitive to how we can help. Also, there are times when we are encouraging to others and do not even realize it. I have visited in churches in our associations with complete strangers but very quickly I sensed their encouragement as we share a common commitment to Christ and great friends we have become!

I am thankful for people who ask how things are going in my life and encourage me. Surely I can do the same. I want to thank you for the many ways you have encouraged me in this new role as Director of Missions.

> But encourage one another daily so long as it is called today. (Hebrews 3:13 NIV)

Front Page: Surely you have noticed on the front page the glorious report on the Gordon Benson Associational Mission Offering going over our 2012 goal of \$10,000. Amazing! Blessed! Thankful! What a great witness to those at Pueblo Nuevo in Clint, Texas. I know we are going to be blessed as we continue this missionary journey together. I am thankful for those who have prayed and given and now for those who will go! Our mission team will be meeting and you will soon see ways that you can go on mission in Clint.

Also, please note the time and place for our three Associational Annual Meetings. This is a great time for fellowship, celebration and challenge. I hope to see you there!



I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me!

Philippians 4:13

## TEXAS BAPTISTS ANNUAL MEETING **OCTOBER 29-31**

Texas Baptists will gather in Corpus Christi, the city named for the body of Christ—to BE the body of Christ together! The 2012 annual meeting promises a new beginning for the Texas Baptist family: "Living out HOPE...It All Starts Here!" The expanded format provides opportunities to live out the hope we have in Christ as we worship Him together. This event takes place at American Bank Center of Corpus Christi. For more information call 888-244-9400 or email annualmeeting@texasbaptists.org

### October 15-17 Conclave

**Arlington Convention Center** For Adults Who Work With Youth

## October 18-20 No Need Among You

Crestview Community Center in Waco Learn how to empower the poor and revitalize communities.

## **November 11-13 SBTC Bible Conference** and Annual Meeting

Castle Hills FBC of San Antonio

For convention, event and seminar information around the state go to texasbaptists.org or sbtexas.com and check out their event calendars. Check these sites regularly to stay aware of programs that would be helpful to you, your church staff and your congregation.

Baptists across Texas have numerous opportunities to give and to serve!



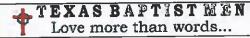












## JOIN IN THE JOURNEY

Women's Christian Conference 2012

Saturday, October 6, 2012 Floyd County Unity Center (Located at Muncy, Tx) 10 AM to 3 PM



### Unpack Your Bags!

Relinquish the baggage that hinders your ability to live the abundant life that God planned for you

> Contact Connie Johnson 983-3441 Karen Houchin 983-5556 Tickets: \$20 each (includes lunch)

Message. Mendy Ferguson Music. Sherman & Tammy Aten

> Proceeds benefit the Christian Women's Job Corps

### **Contreras Mexico Missions Support**

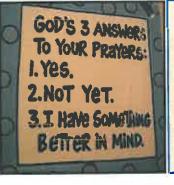
Your continued support can be sent to us here at the Area Office, made out to CPBA, and designated on the memo area of your check as "Contreras Ministry" so that we will get those funds directly to their ministry fund

mail to: 2301 Utica Plainview Tx 79072

## Area Office Hosting Annual Tax Seminar In December



The Area Office will again be hosting a Tax Seminar for Pastors and Church Staff A tentative date has been set for <u>December 13</u>. Begin making note of your questions for this event. Our special guest for this seminar is Daniel Whitehurst, a CPA from Kilgore, Tx. He has been working with pastors and churches for many years. He is associated with the Association of Baptist Foundation Executives, the Southern Baptist Business Officers Conference, and Texas Bankers Association. You won't want to miss this seminar. It is full of important information for ministers and their staff. We will confirm this date and send out more information soon!



We enjoy getting your news events and pictures If your church would like to share an upcoming date or a past event, send your report and pictures to the Area Office at caprockplains@nts-online.net or give us a call at 296-2751 so we can include them in our monthly newsletter!



## ABUNDANT GRACE Of PLAINVIEW

HOLDS CELEBRATION SERVICE AT LOCAL HOLIDAY INN EXPRESS



Worship leader Rick Garcia



Special 5 4 1 music By Jovanna Barrera Daughter of Joe and Frances Barrera

Abundant Grace is a recent church start, led by Pastor Joe Barrera. On Sunday, September 23, the congregation met at a local Holiday Inn Express where they had 45 in attendance. The pictures here tell of this wonderful time of praise and worship, food and fellowship, as well as baptism of six individuals, some of whom had made decisions that very day! The pool at the Holiday Inn provided the perfect spot for the baptismal service. Abundant Grace is sponsored by Parkview BC of Plainview and they meet regularly in the chapel of FBC of Plainview. For more information: jab4jesus@gmail.com or (806) 296-7231.



A great day of worship, celebration and fellowship always includes food!







sions made and lives that are changed!



Celebrating with cake are pastor Joe Barrera, Adrian Montes, Benito Hernandez, Dora Mireles, Dr Les Griffin and Rudy Gonzales.



ad the joy Dota



Pictured with Pastor Joe is G K. Reddy (right), owner manager of Holiday Inn Express, who graciously facilitated the use of the facilities by Abundant Grace for this event



Check us out on Facebook.

scripture in eparation for the baptismal service

Pastor Joe shares

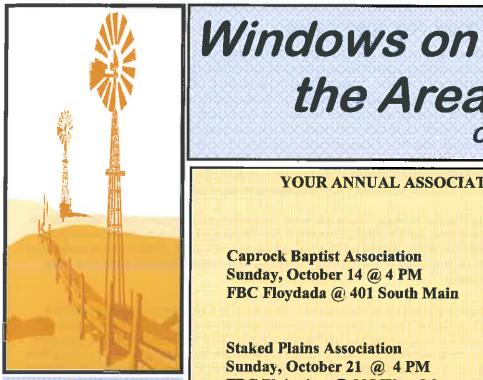
Romans 6:1-3

**CAPROCK PLAINS BAPTIST AREA** 2301 Utica Plainview, Texas 79072 Phone: 806-296-2751 Fax: 806-296-2755 Email: caprockplains@nts-online.net Website: CaprockPlains.org

Pastor Joe rejoices for the six baptisms at Holiday Inn Express during Abundant Grace Church services. Pictured here are Dora Mireles, Pastor Joe. Rudy Gonzales, Benito Hernandez, Adrian Montes, Roland Castillo & Matthew Posado.

### **AREA STAFF**

Dr. Lester B. Griffin-Director of Missions Susan Barkley—Ministry Assistant Katle Trimble Woody—Webmaster John Silva-New Church Start Consultant **Hispanic Church Consultant** 

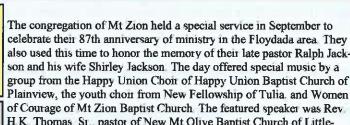




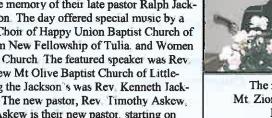
Your ACP is due here at the Area Office NOW!

If you completed your ACP online please send me a copy of your

report so your data can be included in our reports for the year. If you have any questions or need any help, call Susan at 296-2751



Plainview, the youth choir from New Fellowship of Tulia. and Women of Courage of Mt Zion Baptist Church The featured speaker was Rev H.K. Thomas, St., pastor of New Mt Olive Baptist Church of Littlefield On the program honoring the Jackson's was Rev Kenneth Jackson, brother of Ralph Jackson The new pastor, Rev Timothy Askew, also brought a message Bro Askew is their new pastor, starting on August 7, 2012



Featured Speaker

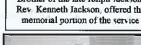
Rev. H.K. Thomas, Sr.

New Mt Olive of Littlefield



The new pastor of Mt Zion Baptist Church Floydada Rev Timothy Askew

Brother of the late Ralph Jackson, Rev Kenneth Jackson, offered the







## YOUR ANNUAL ASSOCIATIONAL MEETINGS!

the Area...

**Caprock Baptist Association** Sunday, October 14 @ 4 PM FBC Floydada @ 401 South Main

**Staked Plains Association** Sunday, October 21 @ 4 PM FBC Plainview @ 205 West 8th

Llanos Altos Association Sunday, November 4 @ 4 PM FBC Bovina @ 308 3rd St



October 2012

Special Guest

John Silva CHURCH STARTS



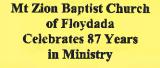
EAM LEADER Special



Guest

Chris Liebrum DIRECTOR, EDUCATION/ DISCIPLESHIP CENTER

Don't miss this time of reports, worship, fun and fellowship with area churches!





Members of Happy Union Baptist Church Chair of Plainview



Members of Youth Choir from New Fellowship of Tulia



Women of Courage Singers of

Mt Zion of Floydada



MISSIONS AND READING THE BIBLE THROUGH: In the fourth grade I received for Christmas my first adult Bible. It was leather bound King James Version with no pictures! I carefully noted that the back cover edge was stamped in gold "Genuine Leather. I was inspired to say the least. Very soon I responded to the challenge to read the Bible through in a year. I was captivated with the thought by reading just a few chapters a day, everyday and in a year I would read the entire Bible! In actuality, this proved to be a daunting task. Generally somewhere in the heart of winter I would stall in the book of Leviticus. Leviticus is tough on a fourth grader! It can be challenging for an adult! The New Testament was so far away! I never got there. While in seminary I came up with a little bit more practical way of reading the Bible. I divided the Bible into four sections, Old

Testament History, Prophets, Gospels, and the Letters to the Churches. Each section was marked with its own ribbon and post-it notes to keep up with the exact chapter. Each day I could/can sample the four distinct portions of the Bible.

It has been a while since I have read Revelation but that is where I am at this week. Sometimes my eyes glaze over when I come to Revelation and trying to understand all the symbolism, and the "hidden meaning". I am encouraged by words of two of my professors of years gone by. Dr. MacGorman said that you should read Revelation through the eyes of a child. That is getting harder to do these days. Dr. Hendricks said many times we come up with hair-brained interpretations of Revelation because we are not living through the turbulent times for which it was written.

Have you noticed with me how Revelation is gaining in relevance? Revelation 6 starts with the four horseman of the apocalypse. This weekend we had earthquakes in of all places Dallas, Texas. I remember growing up in the metroplex area where it was said because of the ground formations of North Texas we would never have earthquakes there! There are diseases today that are resistant to our medicines. It seems like each day a new friend finds themselves in overstuffed chairs in a clinic with drugs entering their body seeking a cure. We pray fervently for them. Our financial markets never seem to find a firm footing. We fear for what happens to a government when it no longer has money to spend or borrow. Could that really happen? Then there are wars. This week in Afghanistan we marked the 2000th American soldier who has given his/her life in this land of the Middle East. This area of the world is now by far the longest place of US military engagement. The Revelation in chapter 7 speaks of martyrs and a great host of people who cry out for God's justice. They have been in difficult times! Chapter 7 ends with a very simple verse and it almost seems out of place, "And God will wipe away every tear from their eyes." Thus at the end of two chapters of world wide turmoil we have this beautiful verse on the fact that God loves and cares for the individual. He really does.

The main message is clear to me. It is our "mission message" that in the turbulent world today we are to share with love and caring the hope of Jesus Christ our Savior! Revelation is very clear about this, this message is the only rescue that will stand.

As I was thinking of this, I was thrilled as our administrative assistant, Susan Barkley, reminded me that the Gordon Benson offering now has reached in excess of \$12,000. Wonderful! May God's Kingdom be glorified as we strive with His energy to see His kingdom grow in our mission trips and mission message where we live!

CLOUDCROFT PASTOR/WIFE RETREAT: Betty and I are looking forward to hosting seven pastors and their wives in beautiful Cloudcroft, New Mexico, this weekend of October 5-7. This retreat is designed to give pastors and their wives a break from their service in their respective local churches. I want to thank their churches in making this possible. It is a fabulous way of saying thank you to a pastor and his wife. I know the Lord will use this refreshing time away to strengthen them personally in the ministry that God has blessed them.

LAST CALL: Our annual meetings are here. I look forward to seeing you at one of three. I am looking forward to being at all three!



## Congratulations!

Patrick and Jeni Adair announce the birth of their baby girl Meagan Autumn Adair 7 lbs and 3 oz 20 1/4 inches long

She was born September 30th at 1:56 p.m. Patrick is the pastor at FBC of Matador.

### **REVIVAL SERVICES IN CROSBYTON**

FBC Crosbyton celebrated a revival the week of September 23rd. This was a great time of fellowship music and worship Pictured here (left to right) are:

Evangelist Jonathan Hewitt, Youth Minister Taylor Wood, Pastor Les Reed, and music evangelists Sherman and Tammy Aten. You can contact Jonathan at makeitplain.org or call 214-726-6601 You can contact the Atens at www.a10s.org or call 817-578-3510.



Texas Baptists will gather in Corpus Christi, the city named for the body of Christ—to BE the body of Christ together! The 2012 annual meeting promises a new beginning for the Texas Baptist family: "Living out HOPE...It All Starts Here!" The expanded format provides opportunities to live out the hope we have in Christ as we worship Him together. This event takes place at American Bank Center of Corpus Christi. For more information call 888-244-9400 or email annu na@texasbaptists.org.

> October 15-17 Conclave **Arlington Convention Center** For Adults Who Work With Youth October 18-20 No Need Among You Crestview Community Center in Waco Learn how to empower the poor and

revitalize communities. November 11-13 SBTC Bible Conference

> and Annual Meeting Castle Hills FBC of San Antonio

For convention, event and seminar information around the state go to texasbaptists.org or sbtexas.com and check out their event calendars. Check these sites regularly to stay aware of programs that would be helpful to you, your church staff and your congregation.

## **WAYLAND MISSION CENTER GLOBAL MISSION OPPORTUNITIES FOR 2013**



larch 9-17 (WBU Spring Break) Detroit & Dearborn

Kiserian, Kenya



July 29-August 12 WBU May Micro)



June 10-23 Izmir & Istanbu Turkey

Contact Dr Rick Shaw at 806-291-3409 or by email at shawr@wbu.edu

These mission opportunities are open to all, not just Wayland students and faculty. They do take a great deal of preparation, so contact the Wayland Mission Center now if you think you might be interested.

### TEXAS BAPTISTS ANNUAL MEETING OCTOBER 29-31

## Unpack Your Bags!

JOIN IN THE JOURNEY

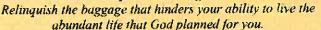
Women's Christian Conference 2012

Saturday, October 6, 2012

Floyd County Unity Center

(Located at Muncy, Tx)

10 AM to 3 PM



Contact. Connie Johnson 983-3441 Karen Houchin 983-5556 Tickets. \$20 each (includes lunch)

Message Mendy Ferguson Music: Sherman & Tammy Aten

Proceeds benefit the Christian Women's Job Corps

### **Contreras Mexico Missions Support**

Your continued support can be sent to us here at the Area Office, made out to CPBA, and designated on the memo area of your check as "Contreras Ministry" so that we will get those funds directly to their ministry fund

**CPBA** mail to: 2301 Utica Plainview Tx 79072

We enjoy getting your news events and pictures. If your church would like to share an upcoming date or a past event, send your report and pictures to the Area Office at caprockplains@nts-online.net or give us a call at 296-2751 so we can include them in our monthly newsletter!



Upcoming Youth Retreat November 3-4, 2012

Get your information and registration forms from Eric Kaiser at FBC Earth, 806-257-2036 or eric@fbcearth.org.



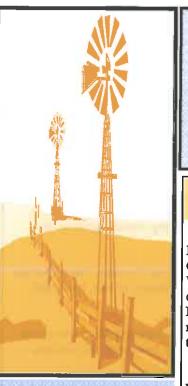
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The Area Office will again be hosting a Tax Seminar for Pastors and Church Staff on December 13. Begin making note of your questions for this event Our special guest for this seminar is Daniel Whitehurst, a CPA from Kilgore, Tx. You won't want to miss this seminar. It is full of important information for ministers and their staff. We will confirm this date and send out more information

## The Gordon Benson 2012 Associational Offering Received: \$12,035

Funds received will support the "CARING FOR CLINT" ministry of Pueblo Nuevo Church of Clint, Texas, to support construction efforts, VBS, medical clinics, children's ministries, shoe drives, school supply and backpack drives. Area Missions Committee will be meeting soon to finalize details on use of these funds and future mission trips to the area. If your group is interested in a future mission trip, contact the Area Office.





Attention

Church Clerks!

If you did not send us your ACP

we would still like to receive

your information for our

Area Book of Reports which will go to the printer soon

Having correct contact information for your church and your staff is very important.

Call us at 296-2751 or email us at

caprockplains@nts-online.net

**AREA STAFF** 

Dr. Lester B. Griffin

**Director of Missions** 

**Susan Barkley** Ministry Assistant

**Katie Trimble Woody** 

Webmaster

John Silva

New Church Start Consultant

Hispanic Church Consultant

**CAPROCK PLAINS BAPTIST AREA** 

Plainview, Texas 79072 Phone: 806-296-2751 Fax: 806-296-2755

2301 Utica

# Windows on the Area...

November 2012



## Important November and December Dates

## November 26-27

### **CLINT PRE-TRIP MISSION OPPORTUNITY**

We will be taking a group of 10 people to Clint (40 miles east of El Paso on I-10) to meet with the pastor of Pueblo Nuevo, the DOM of the El Paso association, and BGCT representatives to determine the best way to meet the needs of this ministry through our Gordon Benson Missions Offering.



Prayer before groundbreaking for a multipurpos uilding at Pueblo Nuevo, Clint, Texas

## December 10

### WINTER BIBLE STUDY and LUNCH WITH DR. HARDAGE



On Monday, December 10, Dr. D. L. Lowrie will begin at 10 AM leading us in our Winter Bible Study, "The Greatest Week in History: Luke's Account of the Passion." During the noon hour, Dr. David Hardage, the new Executive Director of the BGCT, will be visiting with us, reporting his direction for the BGCT and answering your questions. Following our lunch meeting Dr. Lowrie will finish the Winter Bible Study session until about 2 PM. This will be a great opportunity to hear from these two special gentleman on one day! D.L. Lowrie Contact the Area Office if you will be attending.



## December 13

## ANNUAL MINISTERS AND STAFF TAX SEMINAR

On Thursday, December 13, we will be hosting this seminar designed to help church staff and ministers with tax issues. Daniel Whitehurst, CPA, will be leading this seminar. He will provide us with references and tools to help make tax time less painful and to keep us aware of issues that ministers and church staff need to know. We will meet at the Area Center at 2301 Utica in Plainview from 9 AM until Noon. Begin making note of any questions that you have and bring them with you to discuss.



The staff and families of Caprock Plains Baptist Area wish you all a very Happy Thanksgiving!



Our office will be closed for the Thanksgiving boliday, November 21-23.

2012 Lottie Moon Christmas Offering MAKING DISCIPLES, NO MATTER THE COST Matthew 16:24-25



China was not safe for foreigners or Christians. Lottie Moon was both. She didn't let that stop her, and her life of radical obedience touched many. Lottie Moon is the Southern Baptists' most-celebrated missionary and the namesake of the offering that sends missionaries to the field.

Week of Prayer for International Missions December 2-9, 2012

There are resources and mfo available on the website at mb.org/offering or by calling 800-999-3114.



Thanksgiving: A meal, message and memory. It is good to give thanks to the Lord, always and in all circumstances. This theme is found throughout God's Word. Our area churches have celebrated Thanksgiving with many wonderful meals this week. Some of these were after church on Sunday, others on Sunday evening, with a few on Wednesday, some on Tuesday and I know of one on Monday night. The focus for most of these meals is the church family and for others it is the entire community. The largest meal that I am aware of is planned for 800. That is a lot of turkey and dressing!

Thanksgiving is also a beautiful time to remember the message of Thanksgiving, whether it is preached in our individual churches or a community-wide Thanksgiving services. It is true that we need to be thankful the year round, and not just on Thanksgiving. However, as with all great truths, sometimes we simply need to be reminded in a special way, how being thankful gives us the proper attitude and spirit toward life.

Finally, many memories are made at Thanksgiving, especially in our individual families as we gather on Thursday. I trust that this year will be one of those great years for you and your family, not in the large things but in the simple things, of love, hope, and

Upcoming Missions Projects: Immediately following the Thanksgiving holidays, a group of 10 wonderful people will be going to Clint, Texas, to scout out potential associational mission projects. Be in prayer for this group. It will be a quick trip but I am trusting that God will give a vision for us in the future ministry in this area.

Happy Thanksgiving, Lester Griffin

## **Contreras Missions Support**



Caprock Plains Bapt Area "Contreras Ministry" 2301 Utica Plainview Tx 79072



Guatemalan Fellowship

At the recent Llanos Altos annual meeting pastor of Calvary

Baptist Church of Friona, Rick Burton, and BGCT Church Starter, John Silva, met to share regarding their sponsorship/partnership with the recent new church start in Friona, Iglesia Bautista Juan 3:16. This ministry reaches a large group of Guatemalan immigrants in the area, working in local industries. They are rejoicing with growing numbers and decisions for Christ | Calvary Baptist Church of Friona i the sponsoring church from the area



To donate or assist in the Hurricane Sandy relief effort as well as other disaster relief efforts, contact:

Cindy Dickerson Texas Baptist Men Disaster Relief 5351 Catron Dallas, Tx 75227

Phone: 214-275-1177

## ANNUAL **ASSOCIATIONAL MEETINGS**

The three associations of Caprock Plains Baptist Area met for yearly business, annual reports, fellowship and worship.

hosted the Caprock association where Taylor Woods of FBC Floydada brought a message of Leader-



ship & The Church. John Silva of the BGCT gave a report of mission endeavors and shared the example of Jesus hearing the cry of blind Bartimeus. Reports were given by various entities such as Plains Baptist Assembly and Wayland Baptist University.

At the Staked Plains meeting, hosted by FBC Plainview and pastor Dr. Tim Marrow, BGCT representative Paul Atkinson shared an encouraging message of his personal journey with the Lord and how we are starting churches today. Greg Hall and the FBC choir and praise team presented a stirring musical program for everyone.

The Llanos Altos association met at FBC Bovina, where pastor Brian Mullins brought the message on a Life Transformed in Today's World. Dr. Sadler of Wayland Baptist University shared a letter from a young lady from the Alaska campus on how she came to know the Lord through her education at Wayland. Chris Leibrum of the BGCT shared information regarding Disaster Relief efforts. At each of the meetings, Dr. Griffin, Director of Missions, brought a message on "What Makes a Great Association." He shared four important elements: To Share the Word, To Disciple the People, To Give Sacrifically, and To Pray Together. Each meeting shared reports of activities this year by their congregations.

## News from the Annual Meeting at Corpus Christi

BUDGET- Messengers to the Baptist General Convention of Texas Annual Meeting approved a \$38 million 2013 Texas Cooperative Program budget to support missions and ministry throughout the state and beyond. The budget funds efforts to share the gospel through starting churches, ministering along the Texas-Mexico border, endorsing chaplains, evangelism initiatives and strengthening Bible study groups. Treasurer Jill Larsen shared stories of lives that have been transformed by Christ as a result of ministries supported by the Texas Cooperative Program. "That's what this budget is all about: sharing the gospel so men, women and children can know the hope of Christ," Larsen said.



NEW OFFICERS-Messengers to the Baptist General Convention of Texas elected a new slate of officers. Jeff Johnson, pastor of FBC Commerce, was elected president. He has been in the ministry for over 30 years, serving as pastor of churches in Del Rio, Bonham, Sherman and Ivanhoe. He also was a BSM director, youth minister and on staff at Baptist University of the Americas. Byron Stevenson, pastor of The Fort Bend Church in Sugar Land, was elected first vice president after serving as second vice president last year. Kathy Hillman, former president of WMU of Texas, was elected second vice president. A member of Columbus Avenue Baptist Church in Waco, Hillman has been involved in WMU at the association, state and national levels. She

MESSAGE OF BLESSING-John Trent, author of The Blessing Challenge and founder and president of Strong Families, presented a message referencing Deuteronomy 30:19 and used examples to illustrate the necessity of introducing blessings into the lives of others.

"Looking to Christ as the great example," Trent showed how Christ refused to keep living water away from someone and instead, like the woman at the well, poured living water into her life. To engage in a culture of blessing, Trent suggested: First, begin a blessing with the choice to engage someone with an appropriate, meaningful touch. Second, Christians have a choice to offer praise through a spoken word. "There are so many of us that grew up and maybe we knew we were loved," Trent said, "but we never heard it." Third, when the words of praise are given, they need to be attached with high value. False or empty praise does not



convey the blessing, it needs to be heart-felt and personal. Then, a fourth aspect—picture the specific person when the blessing is conveyed instead of seeing differing personalities as an obstacle to overcome. Embrace the individual aspects of the person's life and how those aspects brings value to you, the family, or the organization. Finally, when the blessing is given, Christians need to maintain a genuine commitment to the individual. A commitment to nurturing and continuing the blessing is needed to make a lasting impact.

## **WAYLAND MISSION CENTER OPPORTUNITIES FOR 2013**



March 9-17 Detroit & Dearborn, Michigan May 15-29

Salvador, Brazil June 10-23 Izmir & Istanbul, Turkey July 5-20 Kakamega, Kijabe

& Kiserian, Kenya July 29-August 12

Macedonia, Kosova & Greece

For trip details: Dr Rick Shaw 806-291-3409 shawr@wbu.edu

## **WEDNESDAY NITES** AT SETH WARD

University students from Wayland Baptist University, under the direction of Dr. Clinton Lowin, Professor of Religion, are participating in an outreach adventure with the members of the Seth Ward Baptist Church

On Wednesday evenings they pick up interested kids from the neighborhood. A meal is served along with fun and fellowship, building relationships. The students lead small groups in music and age-related teaching excreises

Already, many decisions have been made for Christ and the members of Seth Ward and youth minister David Pollard are continuing to nurture these kids in their new Christian walk





Partured here are WBU students Rane Carpenter, Lanc-Williams and WBU professor Dr. Chinton Lowin.



