

ANNUAL COMPAÑERISMO DE LOS PLANOS CELEBRATION AT FBC OF FLOYDADA



Pictured above are Yolanda Ybarra and Lavonne Meacham.

This year's Christmas-time celebration honored pastors and their wives with a wonderful banquet by the **Compañerismo de los Planos**, the area's Hispanic Fellowship. **Dr. Gene Meacham**, retired Director of Missions, served as the banquet speaker and shared moving personal stories from Christmases with his family while they served on the mission field.



The ladies of the **Compañerismo** also honored his wife, **Lavonne**, with a surprise birthday cake! It was a great evening for the pastors and their wives. The congregation of **FBC Floydada** hosted this great time of fellowship and there was a wonderful group in attendance!



A VISIT WITH FBC OF ANTON

Dr. Griffin had the privilege of visiting on a Sunday with one of our great congregations, the **First Baptist Church of Anton**. As he went through the facilities to see the ministries that were



going on that morning, one great example was in the **Youth Department** where he found they had an energetic group of young people for Bible Study! What a wonderful group studying and growing in their Christian walk. This is also a great outreach into their community as they reach youth for Christ! During the morning worship, the choir led in a wonderful worship service. The pastor, **David Carpenter**, far left, joins in with the choir!



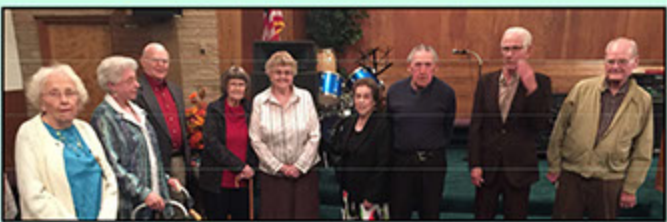
wonderful gift. Please, continue to pray for this congregation, their pastor and his family!

IGLESIA BAUTISTA JUAN 3:16 ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

The congregation at **Juan 3:16** marked a milestone recently as they celebrated their Third Anniversary. Dr. Griffin witnessed a great group in this celebration, with guests from **FBC Muleshoe**, the sponsoring church, to include pastor **Dr. Stacy Conner** and music minister **Robert Black**. Honored at this service were the past members of **Trinity Baptist Church** (pictured below to the right) who lovingly gifted these beautiful facilities to the new Hispanic work in Muleshoe. Many of them are now members of **FBC Muleshoe**. **Pastor Torres** prepared a gift for each one of the families represented, a smaller personal version of the beautiful crockery jar pictured to the left, to commemorate their



Pictured above L to R are Dr. Griffin, Elias Torres, Pastor of Juan 3:16, Robert Black, FBC Muleshoe Minister of Music and Dr. Stacy Conner, Pastor of FBC Muleshoe, the sponsoring church.



Caprock Plains Baptist Area

January 2016

Serving churches of the Caprock, Llanos Altos and Staked Plains Associations

WEEK OF PRAYER FOR
North American Missions
March 6-13, 2016

ANNIE ARMSTRONG
EASTER OFFERING®

Each year, we honor the life and advocacy of Annie Walker Armstrong (1850-1938) when we give to the **Annie Armstrong Easter Offering® for North American missions**. As a tireless servant of God and a contagious advocate and supporter of missions efforts throughout the world, Annie Armstrong led women to unite in missions endeavors that ultimately led to the formation of the **Woman's Missionary Union**.

For teaching and promotional materials, prayer guides and

Last year, through your generous gifts, our area churches gave \$76,530 towards this offering!

general offering supplies visit anniearmstrong.com or call 770-410-6000. **This missions offering helps to support more than 5,000 missionaries who are working to reach the lost and planting churches across North America.**

HERE I AM SEND ME.
ISAIAH 6:8

DR. PAUL SADLER LEADS IN OUR 2016 JANUARY BIBLE STUDY



We had a great group attending our January Bible Study on the 18th at the Brown Conference Center on the Wayland Plainview Campus. **Dr. Paul Sadler, Dean of Religion/Philosophy and Professor of Religion**, led us this year in a great time of spiritual enrichment and in-depth Bible Study.

Many pastors and ministry leaders use the January Bible Study materials throughout the year in sermons, teachings and Bible study groups. This year's material was on **Second Corinthians**, referred to in this study as a "Handbook on Church Ministry". Paul's letter to the Corinthian church gives believers insight into the timeless nature and practice of ministry. We also enjoyed a great time of fellowship at lunch provided by WBU and CPBA.



A Word from the Director:



Being a Good Neighbor

The after Christmas blizzard of 2015 was a travel stopper. I found myself shoveling snow on my driveway at the same time my neighbor Gus Hernandez was cleaning his. It was not long before we were not cleaning the driveway but talking about the best way to clean the driveway! Men love to talk about the best way to get the job done, sometimes even ignoring actually doing anything! We both agreed that snow soon gets very heavy! While we were visiting, a red pickup got stuck down the block. We went to help. After clearing snow in front of the tires we just knew that this big red four-wheel Cummins diesel pickup would go forward but even with all four wheels spinning nothing would happen. More digging and the same result. So we attacked the sides of the tires and soon discovered that the tires were actually five inches off of the pavement. This truck was high center on the snow. The young man who owned the truck then laid down in front of the truck and began to dig snow out from underneath it. As a Good Samaritan there are limits to what I will do for safety reasons! The only way he got his truck off high center was when another truck came by with a big chain. Sometimes a church can get themselves "high center." We try a lot of things but to no avail. Churches can get "high center" when the ministries we do were best suited for earlier times, worship runs routine, prayer becomes an afterthought, we do not dream or the context for ministry around the church is ignored. Pray that your church will not become "high center" this year but keep moving forward with the Lord.



A Big Thank You

A big thank you to Dr. Paul Sadler, Dean of Religion/Philosophy of Wayland Baptist University, for the marvelous job he did in teaching the Winter Bible Study on 2 Corinthians. He shared great insights on this book both from an academic and pastoral perspective.

Great Weekend

Betty and I had a marvelous weekend in Farwell, Texas. On Saturday we observed FBC Farwell's ministry to the community with their monthly clothes closet where each item is just 50 cents. Preceding that time is a time of worship. Russ and the mission pastor Olmos Guerrero brought a beautiful message with music provided by Santos Cuevas. This ministry, like any other, is driven by both vision and hard work. I watched as the pastor and his wife, Kim, along with church members took up the chairs in the fellowship hall, put tables in, and then when they were finished took tables up, moved the chairs back for Sunday worship! Then moved all the unsold clothing out! Ministry is a blessing but someone has to be willing to pay the price. The dream for this ministry started in Kim Ponder's heart. Are you willing to pay that price in your church/community for the ministry that God has laid upon your heart?

Clothes Closet Ministry at FBC Farwell



Mission Pastor Olmos, FBC Farwell pastor Russ, and music minister Santos lead in the time of worship.



Pastor's Wife Kim Ponder with Jana Barrett

ANNUAL TEXAS BAPTISTS CONVENTION MEETS AT FRISCO THIS YEAR

Dr. Griffin attended the Annual Convention this year at Frisco and it was a great time to connect with pastors and leaders around the state. Others he saw there included Jonathan Sullivan, (pictured left) who is the Pastor of FBC Dimmitt.

Dr. Griffin also visited with the officers of the Texas Baptist Ministry Assistants organization, one of whom is Candy Carroll (pictured to the right) of the Lubbock Area Baptist Association (LABA). TBMA is a key organization for church secretaries and ministry assistants to reconnect and assist one another in training and fellowship. This year's annual meeting is in San Antonio and Susan from the area office is planning to attend that in April. If you would like more information on this event, you need to contact Candy Carroll at 806-791-4442 so she can get you information and reservation materials.

During the Texas Baptist Convention our own Parkview Baptist Church of Plainview was awarded "Top Percentage Giving for Mary Hill Davis State Mission Offering for 2015." Pictured here, Dr. Griffin presented this award to Pastor Steve Martin and his congregation during a special holiday service honoring their commitment to state mission giving!



TBMA officers from around the state are Pam King, Terri Jones, Cindy Eoff, and Candy Carroll of LABA, who serves as President.



Can't believe it is already a new year! We are looking forward to great things for our area this year. One of those will be the **Annual After Easter Pastor/Staff Retreat**. Easter comes early this year so you need to put this on your calendar now...**March 28-29!** That's the Monday and Tuesday after your worship weekend on Easter Sunday! Plains Baptist Camp & Conference Center of Floydada does a great job hosting our event each year. The Area Office will share the details about lodging, meals, and reservations as time draws near.



We are going to focus this year on **STRENGTHENING THE CALL TO MINISTRY** and we are pleased to announce that we will have **Dr. David Bowman, Executive Director of the Tarrant Baptist Association**. Dr. Bowman has a great heart for pastors. He leads several conferences and seminars throughout the year for those in ministry and we look forward to what he will share with us this.

We also received word that **David Hardage, Executive Director of Texas Baptists**, and **Joe Loughlin, Connections Director**, will be available after lunch Tuesday to visit with pastors who are new to the area and any interested pastors and staff. This would be a great time to learn more about the resources and ministry of Texas Baptists.

Caprock Plains Baptist Area

Serving the churches of the Caprock, Llanos Altos & Staked Plains Associations

Dr. Lester B. Griffin
Director of Missions
Susan Barkley
Ministry Assistant

2301 Utica Street
Plainview, Texas 79072
Office: 806-296-2751
Email: caprockplains@nts-online.net
Web: caprockplains.org



NEW PASTOR AT BETHEL BAPTIST OF PLAINVIEW

Dr. Griffin visited with the congregation at Bethel recently following the calling of their pastor **Phillip Hamilton**. Phillip previously served as pastor for FBC Halfway. He is the publisher of the Olton Enterprise. Phillip and his wife Ursula have three children, and are very dedicated homeschoolers. They are excited about this new opportunity to serve and Bethel is excited about their new journey together.

Pictured here on a Sunday morning (L to R) are Phillip & Ursula with their children Savannah, Shiloh and Sterling, as well as Lydia Castillo, who serves the congregation as interim worship leader.



WOMEN'S MINISTRY

SIMULCAST EVENT

FBC MATADOR

February 5-6

The Women's Ministry of FBC Matador will be hosting a Simulcast Event for area ladies on Friday and Saturday, February 5th and 6th, and invite your group to attend. For details contact the church at 806-347-2345 or Pastor Branch at his email address at justinbranch026@gmail.com. Please RSVP by Monday, February 1, 2016.



The LifeWay bookstore of Amarillo will be here with materials for our overview!

Saturday, April 16, 2016

First Baptist Church
Tulia, Texas
101 N. Crosby Avenue
LUNCH: 12 Noon
Music Demo: 12:30 PM
Materials Overview & Breakout
Sessions from about 1:00 to 2:30 PM

Breakout Sessions:
Crafts Demonstrated
Mission Videos

Training Sessions for:
VBS Directors
Preschool Teachers & Workers
Children's Teachers & Workers (Grades 1-6)

Contact Information:
FBC Tulia
806-995-3591
fbctulia@suddenlink.com
Caprock Plains Baptist Area
806-296-2751
caprockplains@nts-online.net

RSVP: If your church plans to attend, notify us at one of these numbers listed to the right by **Tuesday, April 12**, so we will know how many to prepare for.





Sunday Mornings at First of Littlefield



Pictured above, the 4th-5th graders are led by Amanda Cantu and Adam Enloe.

Pictured top left, Pastor Tanner Wilson shares the morning message.

Pictured above, Joel Griffith's Young Married Class.

Pictured on the right, Dr. Griffin and Betty spent a great Sunday welcoming the Wilson family to the Llanos Altos Association. Pictured with them are Tanner, Cassi, and sons Kyron (5) & Eli (3).



A WINTER REVIVAL GATHERING AT FBC FLOYDADA

Christian musician and speaker of New Life Ministries, David Crain, led a very moving series of winter revival services at FBC Floydada this past week. The church served a meal before each service and welcomed their members, visitors and friends from the community to share in these wonderful times of worship and fellowship.

Pictured here (L to R) are David Crain, Pastor Tim Franks, and new staff member, Music Minister Steven Kelley.



We Enjoy Area Office Visitors!



It is always great to have guests here at the Area Office. This past week Arnold and Dorothy Hodges came to share time with Les and Betty Griffin. The Hodges are long-time faithful members of FBC Crosbyton and Dorothy served as administrative assistant for Dr. Griffin in time past. Arnold is a gifted artist and presented Dr. Griffin with a wood carving of praying hands, which were modeled from a picture of Dr. Griffin's hands. What a great day we had spending time with old friends.



Serving churches of the Caprock, Llanos Altos and Staked Plains Associations.

WEEK OF PRAYER FOR North American Missions

March 6-13, 2016

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**HERE
I AM SEND
ME.**
ISAIAH 6:8

STRENGTHENING THE CALL TO MINISTRY

Fifth Annual West Texas Pastor/Staff Conference

Our Annual After Easter Retreat

March 28-29

We are preparing for a great conference for our pastors and staff this year. Our conference speaker, **Dr. David Bowman** has a great heart for pastors and is looking forward to being with us this year. We are working on registration forms and information about the conference and will be emailing that to our churches. **Contact the Area Office** if you need information to be mailed to you. *You need to register early because Dr. Bowman will be bringing a book by Will Mancini called God Dreams and he wants to be able to provide one for each of you.* Last year we had quite a crowd and camp staff even had to scramble at the last minute to provide everyone adequate lodging, so it is very important that you contact us here at the Area Office to make your lodging and meal reservations. Dr. Bowman is excited to be able to invest in your ministry and has a great desire to serve pastors and staff in our churches today as we strive to **strengthen our call to ministry!**



Dr. David Bowman
Executive Director
Tarrant Baptist Association



- ⇒ **Lodging at Plains Baptist Camp:** \$45 single occupancy/\$50 double (linens provided)
- ⇒ **Meals:** \$30 (Includes a Steak Dinner on Monday, Breakfast & Lunch on Tuesday)
- ⇒ **Bunk/Dorm Lodging:** \$5 per person (bring bedding and towel)

Contact Susan at the Area Office 806-296-2751 or caprockplains@nts-online.net to get your registration materials for the conference, lodging and meals so we can reserve a place for you!

REMINDER: David Hardage, Executive Director of Texas Baptists, and Joe Loughlin, Connections Director, will be available after lunch Tuesday to visit with pastors who are new to the area and any interested pastors and staff who wish to stay and visit with them.

A Word from the Director:



Formby Prison Chapel Moving Closer to Completion!

The past few days have seen great progress on the Formby Prison Chapel. **Galen Mannin** and his crew have successfully completed connecting all the utility lines. Pictured below is Mr. Mannin and **Lance Obenhaus** with the boring machine which allowed them to run lines under existing sidewalks. Awesome! This week we will see the floor sealant placed down by a great group of volunteers from the Mennonite community west of Plainview. Later this week I am grateful that Wayland Baptist University's own **Steve Long** will be installing the video and sound equipment. We are drawing close to completion of this mission project!

What is being done here is being replicated across the state of Texas. I and others in our group have received calls of inquiry from interested parties in doing the same type of chapel project in their area. This is very exciting news and a great blessing for the Kingdom of God.

New Staff in Our Area

Please note that we have new staff around the area. In this newsletter you will see three new ministers. **Tanner Wilson** is the new pastor at FBC Littlefield and is off to a great start! Also, at College Heights of Plainview they are welcoming **Jason Elvington** as the new Minister to University and Youth. Jason is an energetic young man with a great vision for work in Plainview. We welcome them and pray for them. During the holidays FBC Floydada welcomed a new Minister of Worship and Education, **Stephen Kelley**. Look for the items about these new staff members in our newsletter today.

Remember our Annual After Easter Retreat

Pastors, please note the information about the **Fifth Annual West Texas Pastor/Staff Conference** at Plains Baptist Camp & Conference Center. It is on Monday and Tuesday after Easter, as always. Please note that information on the front page.



Galen Mannin & Lance Obenhaus using the boring machine to install underground utility lines.



Fred Willis, Chuck Humphries & Dr. Griffin in the chapel celebrating the fresh paint and electrical lighting!



Fred Willis checking things in the mechanical room.

CHAPEL

Caprock Plains Baptist Area
Serving the churches of the Caprock, Llano Alto & Staked Plains Associations

Dr. Lester B. Griffin, Director of Missions
Susan Barkley, Ministry Assistant

2301 Utica Street
Plainview, Texas 79072
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Email: caprockplains@nts-online.net
Web: caprockplains.org

Caprock Plains Baptist Area



Pictured L to R: Region 5 Chaplain David Schlewitz, Assistant Warden Arlene Franco, Warden Charles McDuffie, State Director Larry Miles, Dr. Griffin, and Wheeler/Formby Chaplain Mike McCreight.

F
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M
B
Y

My To Do List

☒ Pray

☐ Pray

☐ Pray

1 Thessalonians 5:17

CHURCH ANNIVERSARIES

125-Years Celebration
July 16-17 FBC Tulsa
August 7 FBC Hale Center
Sept 10-11 FBC Floydada
Sept 23-25 FBC Lockney
90-Years Celebration
Date TBA FBC Earth



Plains Baptist Camp & Retreat Center 2016 Summer Schedule

There are numerous opportunities at camp for any age! If you have a group looking for a place for a retreat, a group event, or even a family getaway, contact the Plains Baptist Camp & Retreat Center!

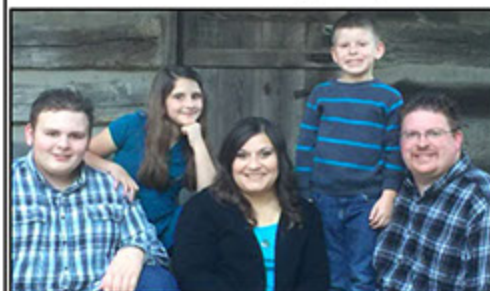
June 14-17
June 23-26
June 27-July 1
July 8-July 12
July 13-16
July 18-22
July 28-31

Caprock Plains Girls Camp
LABA Girls Camp
South Plains Youth Camp
Explorers PreTeen Camp
Camp C3 (RAs)
Camp XTreme
Floydada Kids Kamp

For information about these or other opportunities:
Plains Baptist Camp & Retreat Center
3001 Love Road
Floydada, Tx 79235
806-983-3954 www.pbacamp.org

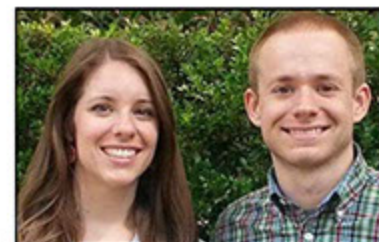


FIRST BAPTIST OF FLOYDADA Welcomes the Kelley Family



Stephen Kelley was called to serve as Minister of Worship and Education in January of 2016. He married Christy in July of 1997 and they have 3 children: Logan is 16, Harmony is 10 and Gavin is 6. Stephen has a Bachelor's Degree in Church Music from Bartlesville Wesleyan College and has served in churches in Oklahoma, Kansas and Texas.

COLLEGE HEIGHTS BAPTIST CHURCH OF PLAINVIEW WELCOMES



Jason comes to the staff of College Heights Baptist Church after serving for 2-1/2 years as a youth minister at Homeland Park Baptist Church of Anderson, South Carolina. He is a graduate of Clemson University and of Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary in Wake Forest, North Carolina. He and Elizabeth have been married for 3-1/2 years. She will be working from her home office as a Biomedical Engineer with the Poly-Med Co., Inc. Welcome Jason & Elizabeth to the Caprock Plains Baptist Area and the Staked Plains Association.

2016 TEXAS BAPTIST MINISTRY ASSISTANTS CONFERENCE April 6-9 in San Antonio



TBMA officers from around the state are Pam King, Terri Jones, Cindy Eoff, and Candy Carroll of LABA, who serves as President.

TBMA is a vital organization for church secretaries and ministry assistants to reconnect and assist one another in training and fellowship. This year's annual meeting is in San Antonio at the historic Menger Hotel.

If you would like more information on this event, you need to contact **Candy Carroll** of the Lubbock Area Baptist Association at 806-791-4442 so she can get you information and reservation materials.

VBS 2016
Preview & Training

The **LifeWay** bookstore of Amarillo will be here with materials for our overview!

Saturday, April 16, 2016

First Baptist Church
Tulia, Texas
101 N. Crosby Avenue
LUNCH: 12 Noon
Music Demo: 12:30 PM
Materials Overview & Breakout
Sessions from about 1:00 to 2:30 PM

RSVP: If your church plans to attend, notify us at one of these numbers listed to the right by **Tuesday, April 12**, so we will know how many to prepare for.

Training Sessions for:
VBS Directors
Preschool Teachers & Workers
Children's Teachers & Workers (Grades 1-6)

Contact Information:
FBC Tulia
806-995-3591
fbctulia@suddenlink.com
Caprock Plains Baptist Area
806-296-2751
caprockplains@nts-online.net

Caprock Plains Girls Missions Camp

June 14-17-2016
Grades 1-7

It doesn't matter if you do Team Kids, Awana's, G.A.'s or whatever you call your children's group. All are welcome!!

MISSIONARIES BIBLE STUDY (By Grades)
MUSIC WORSHIP CRAFTS
RECREATION
Zip Line, Climbing Wall, Volleyball & More!
LAKE ACTIVITIES
Canoes, The Blob, The Rocket, and Kayaks!

FUN! FUN! FUN!
Mission Projects
Guest Band: Double Edge

Start making plans now for your girls to attend. You will need one sponsor for every 8-10 girls.

Contact Information:

Edna Evans
806-684-2394
Kim Vaughn
806-241-4002



COMPAÑERISMO DE LOS PLANOS

March 6 Fellowship at Gethsemane Baptist Church of Plainview at 3 pm

March 19 Women on Mission Covered

Dish at Templo Salem of Lockney at 6:30 pm

April 1 Pastor/Spouse Dinner (Location TBA) at 6:30 pm

Contact
Julio Mendoza
806-983-6544
for details



THREE AREA CHURCHES COOPERATE TO SERVE IN INDIA

FBC Dimmitt (pastor Jonathan Sullivan), Primera of Dimmitt (pastor Salvador Carrasco) & FBC Springlake (pastor Rob Norris) recently partnered on mission in India. This team held four medical camps, two Vacation Bible Schools, a women's encounter, a pastor's conference, and several street preaching events.



Pictured from L to R: Elaine Heard, Jackie Ethridge, Amelia Barrera (Primera, Dimmitt), Tonya Ethridge, Emmett Heard, Coby Gilbreath, Kent Parish (FBC Springlake), Jonathan Sullivan (FBC Dimmitt). G.S. in the center was the local contact.

Medical camps served small villages which were largely rural, agricultural communities of about 3,000. Most of these villagers receive very little medical care and suffer from malnutrition and parasites.

In preparation for the pastor's conference the team had 100 Bibles. About 75 were expected but when word got 115 showed up! The team from Dimmitt spoke on servant leadership. The caste system is no longer legal but the ramifications are still present in their culture.

Please pray for the churches that the team ministered to. God planted many seeds through this work and many have already come to the Lord since the team was there!

FBC CROSBYTON HOSTS COMMUNITY-WIDE CELEBRATION



Crosbyton held a community-wide festival recently called SOAR MUSIC FEST. Four bands participated, Carrie Thompson of Amarillo, Silver Threads of Crosbyton, Tyler Reed & Garrett Laing of Abilene, Terry Hitt as well as a praise team from the local Catholic church. The group shared music, hot dogs and the Gospel!



Above, Pastor Les Reed shares the Gospel story with the crowd.



FBC Tulia Church Secretary Faye Henthorn, Pastor Jason Stone, and Youth Leader Penny Marten.

VBS OVERVIEW & TRAINING AT FBC TULIA

The VBS training at FBC Tulia was a big hit! The ladies served us a delicious lunch beginning at noon. Following a welcome and introduction of the session leaders a group from the FBC youth demonstrated the music and movements for *Submerged*, one of the VBS products that are available. During the afternoon, attendees broke for sessions geared towards age groups, led by a great group of volunteers from area churches. Various sessions were offered like Missions, Crafts and Music. There were representatives from the Amarillo Lifeway Store who provided a variety of materials as well as expert assistance in ordering materials for VBS. Thank you FBC Tulia and all the people that made this event possible, with special thanks to Faye Henthorn, who spent lots of time recruiting volunteers and organizing this event!



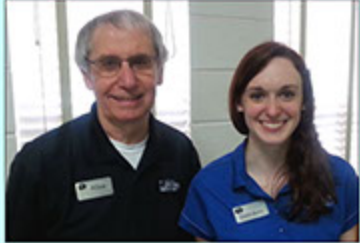
Ginger Bumgardner
Interim Children's Minister
FBC Plainview



Richelle Culifer (FBC Tulia) &
Glinda Dempsey (FBC Happy)
Craft Breakout Session Volunteers



Ron Warren
Minister of Spiritual
Development & Leadership
FBC Plainview



Atlee Runyan and Bethann Ervin
Representatives of the Lifeway Store
Amarillo



Joy Cole
Children's Minister
Paramount Bapt of Amarillo

Caprock Plains Baptist Area

APRIL
2016

Serving churches of the Caprock, Llanos Altos and Staked Plains Associations

2016 West Texas Pastor/Staff Conference



Dr. Griffin, Bryan Houser, Dan Nelson and Dr. David Bowman

This year's After Easter event at Plains Baptist Camp and Conference Center featured Dr. David Bowman, Executive Director of the Tarrant Baptist Association in Fort Worth. Dr. Bowman shared with the group great information regarding APPS, websites, and social media that can be of great help to pastors and staff in their day-to-day ministry. Also, he provided a new book for each attendee by Will Mancini called GOD DREAMS and reviewed portions of that work with the group during the main session, sharing the



authors ideas and tools for ministry.

Our music and worship were provided by Dan Nelson, who serves as worship minister for FBC Farwell. The Amarillo Area Office assists us in sponsoring this great event every year, led by Bryan Houser, Executive Director. The



conference draws a great group of pastors and staff from our area and from surrounding areas.

PBA serves as host for this conference with lodging and meals, providing a great opportunity for fellowship!

TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF CRIMINAL JUSTICE HONORS BAPTIST BUILDERS

At the 21st Annual Governor's Criminal Justice Volunteer Service Awards held at the Crowne Plaza Hotel in Austin a group very special to all of us in this area were being honored. The Texas Baptist Retiree Builders were given the Correctional Institutions Division Award for their wonderful work in the building of the chapel at the Formby Unit. We are excited to see them get this recognition.



Dr. Griffin attended along with Fred Willis, Bill Mason, and Chuck Humphries (pictured lower right). These gentlemen have worked tirelessly from the beginning over two years ago to get this chapel completed. We have been very blessed to work with some great people during the chapel building process.



Pictured to the left with Dr. Griffin is Chaplain Ernie Brown, who also helped us along with this work.





A Word from the Director:

DEDICATION OF THE FORMBY PRISON CHAPEL: I am grateful to announce to you that the **Dedication Service** for the **Formby Prison Chapel** will be on **Wednesday, May 18, at 10 AM**, at the chapel on the Formby Unit. Our churches, through the **Gordon Benson Offering**, have given over **\$45,000** with others and foundations to make this chapel possible. It is a beautiful, functional facility. I encourage you to join with us to be a part of the service. If you are not a volunteer, this could be one of the few opportunities that you would have to actually go into the prison and see the inside of the chapel. All that we ask is that you be over 18 and that you present your Texas driver's license or identification. No purses, billfolds or cell phones are allowed. You can only carry your driver's license and your keys into the facility.

I want to express special appreciation to the **Area Committee** that voted in February of 2013 that we would participate with **Here To Eternity, Inc.**, a multidominational group, to share in the accomplishment of this project.

On Friday, April 15, it was great to be at the **Crowne Plaza Hotel in Austin**, to recognize the **Baptist Builders** for their work on this chapel as the **Outstanding Volunteer Group in Region V**.



Baptist Builders at Crowne Plaza Austin

RENEW THE VISION 2016! Sounds familiar, does it not? That is because there was a most successful **Renew the Vision 2014**, a great time of emphasis on discipleship in the local church. We will have the 2016 edition of conferences on Sunday School, small groups, Wednesday night activities, and other specialized ministry conferences including conferences in Spanish. You can go to Dallas, Los Angeles and Atlanta for training and ideas. However, **Renew the Vision 2016** will not only have highly qualified conference leaders, but there is an additional advantage. You will be sitting next to people who are ministering on the **South Plains of Texas** just as you are, facing some of the same challenges and situations. Remember the scripture, *"It is more blessed to give than to receive."* Your coming and bringing your church group will add to the discussion in things that you have found helpful or that should be avoided. We will have this **Vision 2016** in two locations. The first will be on **September 11 at FBC Muleshoe** for those in the **Llanos Altos Association**. The second will be on **September 18 at FBC Plainview** for the **Caprock and Staked Plains Associations**. You are welcome to attend at either location. The conference begins in the afternoon at 2 PM with registration ending with an evening meal and special speaker.

SAVE THE DATE: Southern Gospel Night of Praise! There will be a **Southern Gospel Night of Praise** on **October 9, 2016**, at 7:00 PM at the **Harral Auditorium**. This will feature local choirs, groups and soloists. You are invited to be a part of this group individually or as a group from your church. It will be a glorious night. This **Night of Praise!** is being led by **Greg Hall** of FBC Plainview. Plan now to bring a group. If you would like to be a part of this choir contact **Greg** at 806-296-6318.

CHURCH DEDICATION: Below you will see the inside of the beautifully remodeled sanctuary of **Templo Salem of Lockney**. It was my honor to bring the message of dedication at this service. I was so appreciative of the marvelous work that they did to make this sanctuary a great tribute to God's love and their desire to worship Him. This remodeling process has taken a while. They started in 2010 with a grant from Texas Baptists to remodel the fellowship hall and then they moved on to other areas of the church. Congratulations to Pastor **Moses Blanco**.



Congregation Celebrates with Dedication Service

The congregation and guests of **Templo Salem of Lockney** met on Sunday afternoon to dedicate their newly-remodeled facility. Dr. Griffin brought the message as members, guests and the area-wide **Compañerismo** (Hispanic fellowship) celebrated this event together.

The facilities are beautiful and a tribute to the dedication and faithfulness of this congregation. Their pastor is **Moses Blanco**. The pastor and his congregation have a great heart for their community. This total church remodel began in 2010.

WELCOME NEW PASTOR AND ORDINATION SERVICE

First Baptist Church of Littlefield has had a great time of celebration this year, including the calling of their new pastor **Tanner Wilson**, and now in the ordination of that pastor! There were a great group present including numerous special guests. It was a moving service as Tanner's father, **Mitch Wilson**, preached the message. The congregation then held a reception and there was a wonderful time of fellowship.



Tanner and Mitch



Participating in the ordination service were Lee McClure, Pastor of Experience Life-Downtown Lubbock, Joel Griffith, Deacon Chairman-FBC Littlefield, Tommy Martin, Executive Pastor of Indiana Ave Baptist of Lubbock, and Steve McMeans, Senior Pastor of Indiana Ave Baptist of Lubbock.



Serving the churches of the Caprock, Llanos Altos & Staked Plains Associations

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Susan Barkley, Ministry Assistant
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Caprock Plains Baptist Area

NEW PASTOR—FBC SUDAN

When FBC Sudan began their search for a new pastor their quest didn't take them very far. **Mike and Leighann Woods** (pictured with Les and Betty) are no strangers to our area or to the Llanos Altos Association. Mike served with FBC Farwell as Student Minister for some time and is greatly loved. FBC Sudan is also blessed with a talented group of musicians who serve regularly in worship. Pictured here are **Ashton Shultz, Missy Shultz, Mike Hill & James Conn**.



FBC Sudan recently held a special service to ordain Pastor Woods to the Gospel Ministry. Pictured to the right, **Billy Tiller**, Moderator of the the Council, **Pastor Woods**, and **Jerry Bel-lar**, Deacon Chairman, present the pastor's ordination certificate.



Joy THE LORD HAS DONE GREAT THINGS FOR US AND WE ARE FILLED WITH JOY {psalm 126:3}



Welcome to the Area

New Jerusalem Baptist Church of Plainview presents a new ministry team! Pastor Ben and his wife **Brenda Roberts** are a great team and have been faithfully ministering together for some time. Brenda is a very gifted musician from a family of great ministers and musicians. Ministry is a partnership with this great couple and they are looking forward to great things at New Jerusalem and here in Plainview.

~ORDINATION SERVICES~

May has been a month full of activity. Here at the Area Office we have celebrated with two congregations in the ordination of five men to special service. We recognize the process of ordination as a setting apart and acknowledgement of the dedication of these men after observing their commitment to serving in a special capacity either as a deacon in their congregation or as a minister of the Gospel.

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF ANTON



At FBC of Anton, Dr. Griffin participated in the ordination service of men who had been called of God as **Deacons** to participate in their church's family ministry as deacons.

Pictured left to right, are **Crystal & David Carpenter** (the pastor), **Ron & Lavetta Coleman**, **Joe Adkins**,

Connie & Weldon Swan, Jamie & James Fields.

Pursue righteousness, godliness, faith, love, steadfastness and gentleness.

1 Timothy 6:11

Pictured to the right, the ordaining council "lays hands" on each of the candidates in prayerful support and encouragement.



PROGRESS BAPTIST CHURCH



At Progress Baptist Church we witnessed the licensing and ordination to **The Gospel Ministry** of their long-time pastor/teacher **Daniel Patterson**.

Pictured left to right are **Brian Mullins** of FBC Bovina who served as moderator of the ordaining council, **Bobby**

Broughton, pastor of Calvary Baptist of Friona, **Emily & Daniel Patterson**, **Gary Johnson**, pastor of Grace Baptist of Friona, and **Dr. Griffin**.

The music for the program was capably and graciously led by two wonderful ladies who have been longtime members at Progress. They are **Glenna Copley** and **Debra Noble**, who both play the piano. Debra as well as Emily Patterson shared some special music selections during the service.



CAPROCK PLAINS BAPTIST AREA

MAY 2016

Serving churches of the Caprock, Llanos Altos and Staked Plains Associations

"Assisting churches to fulfill the Great Commission"

Dedication of the James and Eva Mayer Chapel

"The House That Love Built"



On Wednesday, May 18, we marked a milestone at the Formby Prison Unit just east of Plainview with the dedication of the Mayer Chapel. People of many backgrounds came together to mark a great day of celebration that has been a long time coming. Beginning several years ago as a dream of a few, through prayer and dedication of many the prison chapel has become a reality. Pictured on this page you will see the finished chapel and the special people who made this chapel possible.



Without the support of this group of men and many others of **Here to Eternity, Inc.**, this chapel would not have gotten off the ground. Pictured with Dr. Griffin (far right) are (from left to right) **Dr. T. Coe Branch**, **Rev. Ted Wilson**, **Fred Willis**, **Bill Mason**, and **Chuck Humphries**. These men worked tirelessly to keep this project moving forward!



We were greatly blessed in the worship celebration special by the musical group the **Rock City Worship Team**. This is a family affair as they are siblings and have been singing together all their life. Pictured above left to right are the **Chaplain Mike McCreight**, sister **Arriaga**, and brothers **Jeff** and **Mike**. Jeff is the pastor of Rock City Church Lubbock. Chaplain Mike has been a great help during the building of the chapel, helping with many details as we went through this building and preparation process.



Above, (left to right) we were honored to have **State Senator Charles Perry** as part of our dedication program. **Warden Charles McDuffie** helped us in every step to facilitate this chapel building process. **Larry Miles** shared a powerful personal testimony in closing remarks and prayer. He is a minister and a member of the State Board of Texas Department of Criminal Justice.

Pictured below, honored guests included **wardens** from the 16 prison units of **Region V** who came to be with us to witness this chapel dedication.



Without the jumpstart of the building process by the **Texas Baptist Retiree Builders** our job would have been bigger than what we could have done alone. Pictured above are representatives from that 23 member building team. From left to right are **Dan & Pat Middleton**, **Ann & Ron Beard** (who is the director), and **Evalyene and Gerald Graham**.



Helping us with the task of the Audio/Visual setup was **Steve Long** of Wayland Baptist University and FBC Plainview.



Assisting us each day during the building process were a great group of prison staff, guards and officers! Also, on the left is **Christopher Adams** of Channel 34 who graciously shared our story!



A Word from the Director:

A New Logo!

This edition of our newsletter marks the introduction of a **New Logo** and **Branding** for the **Caprock Plains Baptist Area**! This logo will be seen on all our communications to you. We trust this will help you identify quickly and easily the information you receive from the area office.

The process for developing the logo began at the start of the year with a meeting with our designer Ian Pyeatt, assisted by Katie Woody. They listened carefully as we explained the basic characteristics of the ministry of CPBA. These ideas were then incorporated into the logo.

The logo communicates several things. First, the three leaves stand for the three associations. They are autonomous and yet in a circle together to show that we partner with each other. The leaves are random to symbolize being "blown by the wind" as with the winds of the South Plains, but more importantly the movement of the Spirit of God among us! The leaves are not alike and no one of our associations, churches, or individuals are alike, but all are loved and directed by God individually and with collaborative kingdom goals.

Color and words complete the "branding." In our name we see that "**Caprock**" refers to a specific area of Texas where we live and where our churches are located. "**Plains**" speaks not only of a place but a way of life that is short on trees but long on relationships. "**Baptist**" expresses a common core of beliefs that are dear to all of us. Our beliefs, in this fast changing culture, are going to become even more important in the days ahead both in defining and living them! We are not in agreement at all points, but certainly there is agreement in the core areas. "**Area**" is made up of three, **Caprock**, **Staked Plains**, and **Llanos Altos**, which form one unit. Our color is **green** representing growth. While perhaps in this part of the Kingdom of God our *biggest* days could be behind us, our *best* days are before us! The branding concludes with our mission statement, the overarching direction that we are going, "**Assisting Churches to Fulfill the Great Commission.**" We trust that you will find this new logo and branding of colors and words not only helpful in identifying us but to rejoice in what God is doing among us!

Dedication of the Formby Chapel

On Wednesday, May 18, we dedicated the Formby Chapel, now **Mayer Chapel**, with an overflow crowd of some 220+ people in attendance. Pictures on the front page give a representation of the excitement and the joy in the completion of this building. Deep appreciation goes to so many, many people, certainly beginning with the **Texas Baptist Retiree Builders** who started it all, **Here to Eternity, Inc.**, masterful in planning and execution, **Caprock Plains Baptist Area**, and many, many more. I especially want to note three. Firstly, **Bill Mason** and the dream that remained in his heart for some seven years. Secondly, **Fred Willis** and **Chuck Humphries**. These two fine Baptist laymen were at the chapel virtually every day from August 2015. They not only worked individually, they helped welcome and coordinate the different contractors and groups that came. These two close friends made it possible for this building to be finished. Chuck Humphries was known to the Warden as "Mr. Perfection." That was the kind of work these men did and led others by example to do the same. Also, I want to express my appreciation to our Ministry Assistant **Susan Barkley** for her work on the scheduling and financial matters of this build. **To God Be the Glory!**

Gethsemane Baptist Celebrates!



Gethsemane celebrated the calling of their new pastor **Sergio Bernal** and his wife **Linda**. He began in January of 2016!

Congratulations to **Pastor Bernal**, who graduated from South Plains College and **Laura and Monserrat Rivera**, who graduated from Plainview High School.



ABUNDANT GRACE PLAINVIEW A Ribbon Cutting And Dedication Service!

The Plainview Chamber of Commerce held a **Ribbon Cutting** at **Abundant Grace Baptist Church**, where **Joe Barrera** is pastor. They have been working diligently on making improvements on the large building, which formerly served at a Staples store. The results are beautiful and functional! Pictured above, members of the **Chamber of Commerce**



were on hand as well as members of the congregation and friends from the community. The church also recently held a dedication for their building, which was well attended by numerous members of the community, as well as numerous church leaders from around the area.

Pictured on the left, (from left to right) are **Steve Martin**, pastor of Parkview Baptist of Plainview, **John Silva**, BGCT/Texas Baptists Church Starter, **Jesse Rincones** of the Hispanic Baptist Convention, **Dr. Tim Marrow**, pastor of FBC Plainview, and **Joe Barrera**, the pastor of Abundant Grace.



RECOGNIZING GRADUATES



Churches around our area have been honoring their graduating seniors. FBC of Olton recognized their seniors in a special service. Student pastor **Craig Woody** led the service with a sermon from Ezekiel and the

story of the dry bones. On stage (l to r) **Craig Woody**, **Travis McCullough** and **Paula Alcorn** introduce the Seniors as **Troy Allcorn** (front left) presents Bibles to the graduates, **Damon Jones**, **Jacob Jalomo**, **Kenli Gunter** & **Kevin Bravo**.

Individuals from the congregation, representing the families, friends, and former teachers or directors of the



seniors then gathered to offer prayer and support for these graduates as they begin these important first steps into adulthood. *May the Lord give guidance to all our seniors!*



With summer coming, I am sure you have camps, Vacation Bible School, mission trips, and church trips scheduled. There are lots of things going on! If you are looking for something to do, check out the calendars on these websites:

www.caprockplains.org
www.pbacamp.org
texasbaptists.org
sbc.net
wmu.com
convencionbautista.org
sbtexas.com
lifeway.com



We also want to hear about your summertime activities at your church, so share your pictures and stories with us!



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[Caprock Plains Baptist Area](https://www.facebook.com/CaprockPlainsBaptistArea)

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

Across Our Area



"Crazy Day" at FBC Littlefield.



Engaging in Bible Study at FBC Hart.



Learning through Music and Worship at FBC Olton.



Enjoying outdoor fun at FBC Earth!



Enjoying Craft Time at Bethel Baptist of Plainview.



Preparing for Group Time at College Heights of Plainview!



Beating the heat with cool Summertime Fun at FBC Plainview!



Family Night at FBC Tulia.

CAPROCK PLAINS BAPTIST AREA

JUNE 2016

Serving churches of the Caprock, Llanos Altos and Staked Plains Associations

"Assisting churches to fulfill the Great Commission"

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL Across Our Area

We've already witnessed several great Vacation Bible School events at churches all across the area. Pictured to the right, FBC Plainview celebrated on Family Night with a Children's Program and a Hot Dog Supper!

Vacation Bible School remains an outstanding tool for churches to serve the families in the neighborhoods around them and to reach children and their parents for Christ!



July 17	FBC Tulia celebrates 125 years - 806-995-3591 - fbctulia@suddenlinkmail.com
August 7	FBC Hale Center celebrates 125 years - 806-839-2405 - billyesuesherrod@yahoo.com
August 28	FBC Earth celebrates 90 years - 806-257-2036 - robbie@fbcearth.org
September 11	FBC Floydada celebrates 125 years - 806-983-3755 - melissa@fbcfloydada.org
September 25	FBC Lockney - 125 years - 806-652-3361 - office@fbclockney.com

A LITTLE BIT OF HISTORY: Do you wonder why so many churches are celebrating their 125th anniversaries? In 1891, 11 churches met to organize a Baptist association. Those included FBC Plainview, FBC Tulia, Floyd County, Hale City (FBC Hale Center), Della Plains, Lockney (FBC Lockney), Floyd City (FBC Floydada), Whiteflat, Wright, New Hope and Alpha Estacado. We have been blessed with a great heritage of faith!



Our summertime newsletters will be focusing on your church events, including VBS, mission trips, summer church activities, church celebrations, summer camps and new church staff, so enjoy the pictures we will share. *If you have more, send them our way!*

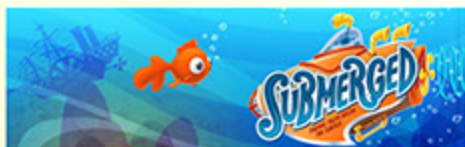


A Word from the Director:

The Good Ole' Summertime!

Summer is a great time for missions. In this edition of the CPBA newsletter we feature many churches and their Vacation Bible School mission endeavor. From what I am seeing and hearing, God is blessing in a great way this

summer, both in the number of children attending and the large number of children making decisions for Christ. A double blessing and praise to our Heavenly Father! For many in VBS, they certainly did not "sink" but "submerged" deep into God's Word and way. Still, about one third of our churches will be having Vacation Bible School later this summer. We are not only thankful today, but pray that God's continued blessings would be upon these efforts as we pray with expectant heart.



New Staff

I cannot remember a time when we had more **new staff** members listed in our newsletter than this one. How grateful I am for the Lord's blessings. I understand how finding new staff at times can be challenging, but with the great new ministries that are going to open up through the people on the opposite page, God is going to bless our churches in a great way. We are thankful for the advancement of the Kingdom of God!

Cash for Prayers

I read this week of a website that is also advertised on Facebook with 1.3 million followers. It is called the "Christian Prayer Center" that will intercede for you and your family for only a small fee, from \$9 to \$39 per intercession! When I brought this to someone's attention, I loved the response, "Imagine, for all these years we have been doing it for free!" In our world today, virtually nothing would surprise me. I just wonder if they will take cash, check or credit card?

Not for a fee, but because it is one of our great privileges, may we pray for those in our family, church, associations and world today! It makes a difference. *Intercessory Prayer is one of the greatest gifts that you can give to someone. Pray for others today!*



VISION 2016 is coming to a place near you this fall. Vision 2016 is an expanded version of the very popular Renew the Vision 2014. This September we will have two conferences with expanded areas of emphasis, including help with Sunday School, Discipleship, Home Groups, Sermon Preparation, Legal Issues in the Church, and many other age-related helps. Also this year there will be conferences in Spanish as well. You will see the list of conferences in July. There will be two **Vision 2016** conferences. The first will be on **Sunday, September 11, at FBC Muleshoe**. The second will be on **Sunday, September 18, at FBC Plainview**. Both conferences will begin at 2 PM with registration followed by three sessions, and an evening meal. This was a fabulous opportunity for many who attended two years ago, and we are glad to work together again this fall.

A REPORT FROM THE PLAINS BAPTIST CAMP & RETREAT CENTER:



Summer and Camp season are in full swing on PBC! Recent **Caprock Girls Camp** reported **220** in attendance! God is good! Camp staff, volunteers and builders are working on the **new gym construction** (pictured here). Funds for this build and for other projects are needed, with a goal at this time of \$100,000. Support from churches, groups and individuals is vital for the area camp. A **new adventure course** is up and running and is being enjoyed by all ages! God is moving in the camp with amazing groups coming out and our Summer Missionary Team serving in any and all capacities. Remember, the camp is available to area churches, study groups, age groups and families. Contact the camp for more information. **Also, pray for camp staff, ongoing projects and especially for the campers that come and experience a new or renewed relationship with Christ!**

Plains Baptist Camp & Retreat Center
3001 Love Road
Floydada, Tx 79235
806-983-3954
Wayne Davis, Executive Director
wayne@pbacamp.org

WELCOMING NEW CHURCH STAFF

First Baptist of Farwell



Beginning Sunday, June 19th, **FBC of Farwell** welcomes the addition of their new **Student Pastor** and his wife, **Logan and Camilla Sharp**.

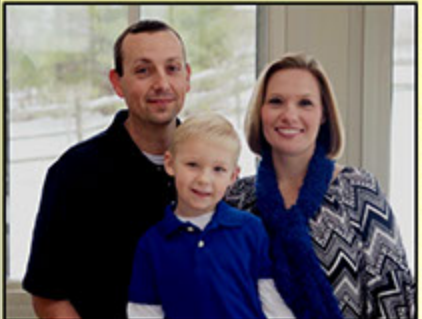
Logan is from Virden, Illinois. He attended Robert Morris University of Springfield where he has a degree in Applied Science/Graphics Design. He will graduate from Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary with his Masters in Christian Education/Student Ministry in the Fall. He has served as an intern in youth and college ministries. Logan and Camilla married in 2012.

First Baptist of Tulia



In May, **FBC of Tulia** welcomed **James and Laura Holder** as well as their young daughters, **Zoe and Sophia**. Originally from Devine, Texas, and both graduates of Wayland, they are excited to be back in the Texas Panhandle. **James will serve as the Youth and Family Pastor.**

First Baptist of Petersburg



A new pastor has been called to **Petersburg**.

We would like to welcome **Nick DeLay** along with his wife **Shelly** and their son **Blake**. Nick served as a youth pastor in Colorado and in Stephenville, Texas. He has been a high school and junior high school teacher and coach, living in Muleshoe, and is working on his Master's Degree at Wayland Baptist University.

First Baptist of Hale Center

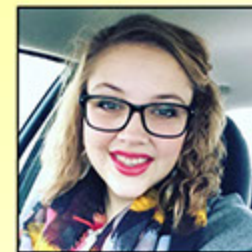


June 5th marked the first day of work for a new staff member at **FBC of Hale Center**. **Bryce Hollingsworth** has been called as the new **Youth Minister**. Bryce is a current Wayland student and his hometown is Burkburnett, Texas.

First Baptist of Muleshoe

A new **Minister of Children & Family** has been called to **FBC Muleshoe**.

Abigail "Abby" Manes comes to them from previously serving as Children's Minister at Ransom Canyon Fellowship and at FBC Plainview as an intern. Abby has a degree in Middle School Math Ed at Wayland and is a graduate of Amarillo High School.



HELPFUL WEBSITES

caprockplains.org
pbacamp.org
texasbaptists.org
sbc.net
wmu.com
convencionbautista.org
sbtexas.com
lifeway.com
bpnews.net
guidestone.org
namb.net
lmb.org



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Caprock Plains Baptist Area

ZAMBIA MISSION TRIP

First Baptist Church of Crosbyton took 12 people to work with the New Day Orphanage in Zambia. During the week the group hosted Vacation Bible School with an average of 200 attending each day! The mission group visited some nearby villages and even spent the day in the bush. They also witnessed the installation of a new chief in one of the villages. New Day Orphanage is located on 60 acres of land, purchased for the tidy sum of two chickens and a loaf of bread!



BETHEL YOUTH ATTEND CAMP

A group from Bethel Baptist Church of Plainview attended Youth Camp at Camp Chaparral in Iowa Park this summer. Travis and Mary Ann Newsom served as camp counselors. Pastor Phillip Hamilton rejoices in the fact that the church raised all the money to send their campers and sponsors. The Lord is doing great things at Bethel!



DIMMITT YOUTH PARTICIPATE IN BOUNCE! MINISTRY

As Student Minister of FBC Dimmitt, Micah Roddy was able to lead his group on a great ministry opportunity as they participated during the week of June 13-18 with Bounce Student Disaster and Recovery with the BGCT. A group of 20 total including students and adults were able to bring relief to two

different homes (mostly painting). A total of over 180 students and adults from 7 different churches participated in this ministry event. This succeeded in bringing relief to 11 different homes, all in the South Dallas area. The group from Dimmitt lodged at FBC Duncanville during this project. The mission trip even made the Dallas newspaper and local TV news channel. Bounce Ministry is a part of Texas Baptists, helping to involve young people in service projects around the state following natural disasters. If you are looking for ministry opportunities, the Texas Baptists website offers numerous activities for all age groups.

CAPROCK PLAINS BAPTIST AREA

JULY 2016

Serving churches of the Caprock, Llanos Altos and Staked Plains Associations

"Assisting churches to fulfill the Great Commission"

VISION 2016

One Conference
Two Locations



Our VISION team, pictured L to R are: Cody McMurray, Craig Woody, Mike Woods, Stephen Kelley, Matthew Veals, James Holder, Shawn Sheffy, Gloria Veals, Joseph Tillery, Raymond Gonzalez, Paul Garcia, James Elvington, Eva Garcia, Moses Reyes, Norma Gonzales, Dr. Griffin and Toby Gonzales. (Not pictured are Gary Yates, Ron Warren, Rob Norris and Abby Means.)

This Fall we are pleased to announce that we will offering a great conference designed to equip your leaders and volunteers in a variety of topics. We will have numerous session leaders in cooperation with representatives from Texas Baptists and various highly qualified staff and leaders from our area. We are also excited about being able to provide several sessions in Spanish!

PROJECTED TOPICS TO INCLUDE:

Building, Training, Resourcing and Training Volunteers
Building a Bridge from Children's Ministry to Family Ministry
Helping Students Set Spiritual Goals
Gospel Centered Family Ministry
Crisis Ministry: Ministering Through Crisis

Growing Your Church Through Discipleship
How to Structure your Sunday School/Bible Study
I Am a Church Member, Highlights of the Basics
Church Marketing/Social Media/Public Relations
Deacons Ministry: What It Is, What It Isn't

Sunday
September 11
FBC Muleshoe

Registration at either location begins at
2 PM and continues until 7 PM
with an evening meal included.

Sunday
September 18
FBC Plainview

For more information: Contact the Area Office at 806-296-2751 or email caprockplains@nts-online.net



August 7	FBC Hale Center celebrates 125 years - 806-839-2405 - billyesuesherrod@yahoo.com
August 28	FBC Earth celebrates 90 years - 806-257-2036 - robbie@fbcearth.org
September 11	FBC Floydada celebrates 125 years - 806-983-3755 - melissa@fbcfloydada.org
September 25	FBC Lockney - 125 years - 806-652-3361 - office@fbclockney.com
October 23	FBC Dimmitt - 125 years - 806-647-3115 - walter@fbcdimmitt.com



A Word from the Director:

Mission Trips and FBC Tulia at 125th Anniversary

This newsletter celebrates church mission trips. A trip can be around the block or around the world.

However, when we think of overseas mission trips it was providential that we attended the first of many churches celebrating their 125th anniversary this year at Tulia. We also need to remember that FBC Plainview celebrated theirs last year.

When I arrived in 1984 at what would become my final pastorate, I noticed on the office wall a three-dimensional picture which was a map of Texas and Brazil with pins around these two locations and red string strategically linking them together. They told me that this celebrated a mission trip that the church had taken a few years ago to Brazil with what was called "Partnership Brazil." This was started with then pastor **Charles Davenport** at FBC Tulia in the early 1980s. What is now such a common part of ministry today was new and novel at that time. Before we would pray, give, perhaps be appointed as a missionary, and now we are going on short-term trips to the actual mission field. The purpose of a mission trip can be as varied as the church that goes. In the case of FBC Tulia and other South Plains churches with them it resulted in the establishment of 12 churches. This made "Lottie Moon" up close and personal. In those early days there was something of a novelty to going. Today it is an ever-expanding ministry.

But, let me be very clear. Missions is anywhere you go to influence others for Christ to see the Kingdom of God grow. This is done in a variety of ways and places. The ramifications have been far reaching. It has changed the face of how we do missions. Even the emphasis of the International Mission Board has been restructured because of this changing face of missions.

So, look carefully through this newsletter. Celebrate what others have done and creative ways of following Jesus to the ends of the earth. Perhaps there is a specific place for you as well.

VISION 2016

I have been in many planning meetings, but none more vibrant than Thursday past when 18 people gathered at the Area Office to plan **Vision 2016**. This four-hour time together, including lunch, was amazing. People from across our three associations came together with one goal of having two effective conferences this fall to help churches in Sunday School, discipleship, and outreach. Check the front page for a few examples of the topics to be available.



Dr. Griffin presents a commemorative plaque from the Caprock Plains Baptist Area and Staked Plains Association.

125th Anniversary Celebration

July 16-17, 2016

First Baptist Tulia



Honored Pastors

James Hassell
2006-2010

Jason Stone
2011-Present

Charles Davenport
1974-2005



Pictured with his daughter, Emily Sharp of Lubbock, is long-time member and beloved physician, Dr. L.S. Foreman, recently retired and living in Ft. Worth.



Dr. Griffin is pictured with Betty Ellerd, honored long-time member and dedicated church librarian.

FBC SILVERTON SUMMER MINISTRY IN VERMONT

Summer found a group from FBC Silverton led by pastor **Chris Tucker** and Student Minister **Efrain Gonzales**, ministering to a church in the community of Washington, Vermont.

While they were there they hosted a Backyard Bible Club for the children of the neighborhood. Other activities included remodeling and repairs made to the church facilities which were in great need of repair.

This was a great opportunity for ministry and fellowship with Christian brothers and sisters in their ministry to this community.



SUMMER AT FBC MATADOR

Summertime is full of fun in Matador as they plan activities for all ages.

For the children there were lunches, movie trips and pool parties.

The entire church family also celebrated with a picnic at Roaring Springs Ranch.



FBC HART CALLS A NEW PASTOR!

Dr. Gene Meacham and his wife **Lavonne** continue to serve our area faithfully. Dr. Meacham has been called to FBC Hart as **Pastor**. Dr. Meacham's last place of service in our area was as our Director of Missions for 10 years and at FBC Hale Center as pastor prior to that! The Meacham Family has a long history of ministry, including serving as missionaries in Africa.



MORE VBS FUN AT FBC QUITAQUE



Several churches are still having VBS events, with some in August before the beginning of school! VBS is a powerful ministry to children and families in our communities.



Serving the churches of the Caprock, Llano Alto & Staked Plains Associations

Dr. Lester B. Griffin, Director of Missions
Susan Barkley, Ministry Assistant
2301 Utica Street
Plainview, Texas 79072
Office: 806-296-2751
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Caprock Plains Baptist Area

FBC FLOYDADA GROUP IN NEW ORLEANS

A group of 20 youth and 4 adults have made the trip to New Orleans for a great fellowship event and for the opportunity of ministry to the neighborhoods where they have participated in local service projects as they share the love of Christ with the community. Pastor **Tim Franks** and Student Minister **Logan Lamb** lead this great group of students.



CALVARY of FRIONA HOSTS VBS

Calvary Baptist Church of Friona hosted a great group of children and workers at Vacation Bible School this summer with help from volunteers from FBC Farwell, led by **Logan Sharp, Student Pastor**. This has been a great partnership of ministry. This year there were a total of 47 participants in each day of fun, fellowship, and Bible Study! Pastor **Bobby Broughton** rejoices at this great group again this year!



LOOK AT OUR SCHEDULE OF TOPICS AND LEADERS FOR VISION 2016

AREA/AGE GROUP	SESSION TIME	SESSION TITLE	SESSION LEADER	ROOM
Preschool & Children	2:00 PM 2:40 PM	1. Using Curriculum to Teach Effectively 2. Building a Bridge from Children's Ministry to Family Ministry 3. Small Churches Partnering with Larger Churches for Support and Using Alternative Methods when Digital Media Isn't Accessible	1. Abby Manes 2. Diane Lane (Muleshoe) 3. Eva Garcia	
Youth & Students	3:00 PM	1. How to Engage with Teens in Bible Study in a Way They can Relate 2. Gospel-Centered Family Ministry	1. Kayla Irlbeck (Muleshoe) 2. Cody McMurray	
Adults	3:00 PM	1. Three Essential Vitamins for Sunday School 2. Ministering Through Crisis 3. Spanish Conference I: Como empezar Grupos Pequenos (How to Start a Small Group)	1. Robby Barrett (Muleshoe) 2. Joseph Tillery 3. Mario Gonzalez (Muleshoe) 4. Dr. Joe Rangel	
General Session	3:00 PM	1. Six Tools for Developing an Effective Bible Study 2. Reclaiming Inactive Sunday School Members 3. "I Am A Church Member: Discovering the Attitude That Makes the Difference" 4. Bilingual Ministry Today	1. Steve Taylor of Lifeway (Plainview Only) 2. Dr. Tim Marrow 3. Stephen Kelley (Plainview) 4. Rob Norris (Muleshoe)	
Preschool & Children	4:00 PM	1. Building, Training, Resourcing, Retraining & Appreciating a Volunteer Ministry Team 2. Building Relationships to Reach the Community	1. Diane Lane (Muleshoe) 2. Eva Garcia	
Youth & Students	4:00 PM	1. Staying Spiritually Fresh as a Youth Minister/Worker 2. Helping Students Set Spiritual Goals	1. Kayla Irlbeck (Muleshoe) 2. Dr. Clinton Lowin	
Adults	4:00 PM	1. MAP-A Kingdom-Focused Church 2. Ministering Through Crisis	1. Robby Barrett (Muleshoe) 2. Joseph Tillery	
General Session	4:00 PM	1. Five Characteristics of Groups that Connect 2. Understanding Multicultural Ministry 3. "I Am A Church Member: Discovering the Attitude That Makes the Difference"	1. Steve Taylor of Lifeway (Plainview Only) 2. Dr. Joe Rangel 3. Stephen Kelley (Plainview) 4. Rob Norris (Muleshoe)	
Preschool & Children	5:00 PM	1. Using Curriculum to Teach Effectively 2. Building a Bridge from Children's Ministry to Family Ministry	1. Abby Manes 2. Diane Lane (Muleshoe) 3. Joy Cole (Plainview)	
Youth & Students	5:00 PM	1. How to Engage with Teens in Bible Study in a Way They can Relate 2. Gospel-Centered Family Ministry 3. Gospel Centered Discipleship	1. Kayla Irlbeck (Muleshoe) 2. Cody McMurray 3. Dr. Clinton Lowin	
Adults	5:00 PM	1. The Genius of Sunday School 2. Spanish Conference II: Que Hacer en los Grupos Pequenos (What to do in these Small Groups) 3. Reclaiming Inactive Sunday School Members	1. Robby Barrett (Muleshoe) 2. Mario Gonzalez (Muleshoe) 3. Dr. Tim Marrow	
General Session	5:00 PM	1. Resources for Disciple-Making & Leader Development 2. Legal Issues for Our Churches Today (Importance of Constitution & Bylaws to Protect Your Church, i.e. "The Restroom Mandates", Etc.)	1. Steve Taylor of Lifeway (Plainview Only) 2. Sam Medina	
Gathering Together	6:00 PM	Celebration Supper & Speaker	Dr. Joe Rangel Wayland Baptist University	



CAPROCK PLAINS BAPTIST AREA

AUGUST 2016

Serving churches of the Caprock, Llanos Altos and Staked Plains Associations
"Assisting churches to fulfill the Great Commission"

Sunday
September 11
FBC Muleshoe



Sunday
September 18
FBC Plainview

2016
One Conference...Two Locations!

CONFERENCE SCHEDULE

- 2:00 pm Registration
- 2:30 pm Welcome & Orientation
- 3:00 pm Session I
- 4:00 pm Session II
- 5:00 pm Session III
- 6:00 pm Celebration Supper will be provided!

Featured Speaker
Dr. Joe Rangel
Wayland Baptist Univ.
Department of
Religion & Philosophy



We are excited about the numerous Session Leaders from Texas Baptists who are assisting us as well as the great personalities from our own churches and from the surrounding area. On the back of this newsletter we have the schedule for the day. Great topics for you and your church for a day of inspiration and growth!



Dr. Tim Marrow
Pastor
FBC Plainview



Stephen Kelley
Worship and
Education
FBC Floydada



Kayla Irlbeck
Youth Ministry
Masters Program
Howard Payne Univ.



Joseph Tillery
Pastor
FBC Lockney



Eva Garcia
Pastor's Wife
Educator
Clovis Schools



Steve Taylor
Regional
Representative
Lifeway



Sam Medina
Attorney



Cody McMurray
Student Pastor
FBC Littlefield



Rob Norris
Pastor
FBC Springlake



Robby Barrett
Minister of
Education
FBC Amarillo



Abby Manes
Minister of
Children & Family
FBC Muleshoe



Joy Cole
Minister of
Preschool
Paramount
of Amarillo



Dr. Clinton Lowin
Wayland Bapt. Univ.
Dean, Dept. of
Religion & Philosophy

Diane Lane
Texas Baptists
Preschool &
Children's
Specialist



Phil Miller
Texas Baptists
Associate Director
Great Commission
Team &
Discipleship Lead



Jane Wilson,
Texas Baptists
Specialist
Youth Discipleship



Mario Gonzalez
Texas Baptists
Director
Multi-Housing
House Congregations



John Silva,
Texas Baptists
Church Starter
Service Area 1



Mark Your
Calendar
September
11th or 18th!



A Word from the Director:

VISION 2016 is now a reality! I am so grateful for the 26-member planning team that put this outstanding conference together with over 24 separate sessions of interest. This makes an excellent time for you and your church to be inspired and grow in Bible Study, small groups and outreach. To make this convenient for all of our churches we have one conference taking place in two locations, at **FBC Muleshoe on September 11**, and at **FBC Plainview on September 18**. Our special speaker will be the new **Professor of Religion at Wayland Baptist University, Dr. Joe Rangel**. Dr. Rangel will also host two sessions in the afternoon on **Bilingual Ministry Today** and **Understanding Multicultural Ministry**. These subjects are timely and Dr. Rangel will bring great insight in ministry in these areas.

There is no cost to you or your church to attend. This is a ministry of Caprock Plains Baptist Area in partnership with Texas Baptists and Wayland Baptist University.

KIDS KAMP 2016 at Plains Baptist Assembly



"Kampers" enjoying lunch!



Dr. Griffin visits with the 'busy' PBA Executive Director Wayne Davis during Kids Kamp.

Each year FBC Floydada leads out in the **Kids Kamp** event. This is open to all children in their community and provides a week of fun, fellowship and worship for many children who have never been to summer camp before. This year there was an 'Olympic Theme' and the "Kids" enjoyed all kinds of fun activities, crafts, and Bible Study as well as a great **Family Night** (pictured below)!

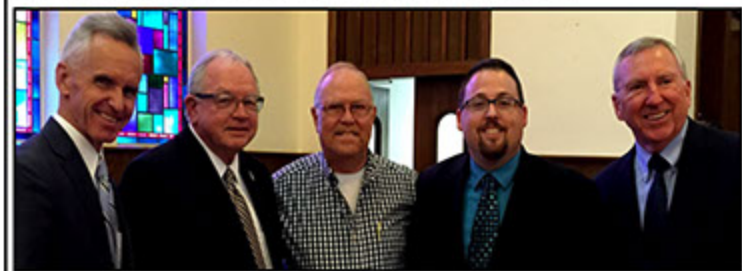


Tim Franks
Pastor
FBC of Floydada



FBC HALE CENTER CELEBRATES 125 YEARS!

Hale Center celebrated over the entire weekend of August 6 and 7 with numerous activities and welcomed many great guests, including former pastors like Dr. Carroll Green and Dr. Gene Meacham. Pictured below are Dr. David Hardage of Texas Baptists, Dr. Paul Sadler of Wayland, Eric Turner, also of Wayland and FBC Hale Center's former music minister, Pastor Kris Knippa and Director of Missions, Dr. Les Griffin.



Dr. Griffin presented the commemorative plaque from Caprock Plains Baptist Area and the Staked Plains Association to Pastor Kris Knippa.



A great fellowship included a Shrimp Boil & BBQ!



FBC Lockney Youth at Summer Camp

A great group of youth and sponsors from First Baptist Church of Lockney attended FUGE this year!

Pictured below enjoying the mudpit at FUGE were Madison Hennagan, Austen Rexrode, Shelby Dunbar and Kaleb Cook.

It's just not camp unless you get dirty!



FBC Lockney thanks their adult sponsors this year!

Pictured to the right are Tracy & Shandra Kidd, Chad & Katie Cook, Heath & Jeri Rexrode.



Vacation Bible School and Summer Fun in Lockney

Children participate in Mission Study Groups.



Snack Time is always fun at VBS!
Ronnie Huffman serves the children during snack time.



GA CAMP

Girls also enjoy a great week at GA Camp...truly celebrating Girls in Action!



VBS @ FBC
PADUCAH

Excited about a great group this year!

55 Children
& 36 Adults!



Serving the churches of the Caprock, Llano Alto & Staked Plains Associations

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Find us on FACEBOOK: Caprock Plains Baptist Area

WEEK OF PRAYER FOR TEXAS MISSIONS
AND THE MARY HILL DAVIS OFFERING* 2016
SEPTEMBER 11-18
STATE GOAL \$4,000,000

I am TEXAS MISSIONS



May the Lord make you lean for each other and for everyone else grow by leaps and bounds



Don't Forget! September is the month for the Mary Hill Davis Offering for Texas Missions.

FOR MORE INFORMATION: Free promotional, study and offering materials are available for your church. Call 214-828-5150 or go to the website at wmutx.org/mary-hill-davis.

VISION 2016

**Striving Together for
Better Bible Study,
Discipleship
and Outreach**



L to R: Dr. Stacy Conner, Kayla Irlbeck, Abby Manes, Cody McMurray, Dr. Joe Rangel, Robby Barrett, Rob Norris, Dr. Clint Lowin, & Dr. Griffin.



Abby Manes, Minister of Children & Family, FBC Muleshoe



Cody McMurray, Student Pastor, FBC Littlefield



Joseph Tillery, Pastor, FBC Lockney



Dr. Joe Rangel, Wayland Department of Religion/Philosophy



Joy Cole, Minister of Preschool, Paramount BC Amarillo



Dr. Clinton Lowin, WBU Dean of Department of Religion/Philosophy



Sam Medina, Lubbock Attorney

A special THANK YOU to our hosting churches, FBC Muleshoe and FBC Plainview, our Session Leaders from area churches, as well as representatives from Texas Baptists and Wayland Baptist University.



Check our FACEBOOK page for more pictures than we can share in our newsletter!

CAPROCK PLAINS BAPTIST AREA

SEPTEMBER
2016

Serving churches of the Caprock, Llanos Altos and Staked Plains Associations
"Assisting churches to fulfill the Great Commission"

Southern Gospel

NIGHT OF PRAISE

Sunday Evening, October 9th
7:00 p.m.
Wayland's Harral Auditorium

Presented by area church
choirs and hosted by
College Heights and
First Baptist Church
of Plainview

FEATURING:
The Royal Priesthood -
Happy Union Baptist
Church
Salty Gap Boys
Soloists and
Instrumentalists from
area churches

FREE ADMISSION!!!

MARK YOUR CALENDARS FOR OUR ANNUAL MEETING SCHEDULE!

It is the time of year for crisp air and changing leaves. It is also the time of year when we are gathering the **Annual Church Profiles** from our churches and preparing for our **Annual Meetings**!

Here are some important dates for you to remember!

October 5—Annual Church Profiles need to be returned or a copy sent to the Area Office!

October 16—Staked Plains Association Annual Meeting at FBC Hale Center

October 23—Caprock Association Annual Meeting at FBC Floydada

November 6—Llanos Altos Association Annual Meeting at FBC Farwell

If you have not made it to one of the annual meetings, put the date for your association on your calendar. Each year we have a great time of fellowship, music and worship, as well as a great meal by the host church. We are not all business!

The afternoon business session **begins at 4 PM**, with a break for a fellowship meal and then the evening session and worship will follow! Make plans now to come and spend a great day of celebration with us! It's also a great time to connect or reconnect with friends from our area churches.





Thinking Together...

THE BLESSING OF VISION 2016

Vision 2016 saw three hundred plus people come together from our churches to be better equipped in Bible study, outreach and kingdom building! Vision 2016 started with the strategic planning of twenty-six people from our three associations. We had twenty-six wonderful presenters. Those from Texas Baptists were Diane Lane, Phil Miller, Jane Wilson, Mario Gonzalez, John Silva, Kayla Irlbeck, Joy Cole and Robby Barrett and from Wayland Baptist University were Dr. Clinton Lowin and Dr. Joe Rangel. From Lifeway was Steve Taylor, and Eva Garcia, pastor's wife and educator. Presenters from our churches were Stephen Kelley, FBC Floydada Minister of Worship and Education, Joseph Tillery, FBC Lockney Pastor, Cody McMurray, FBC Littlefield Student Pastor, Rob Norris, FBC Springlake Pastor, Abby Manes, FBC Muleshoe Minister of Children and Family and Pastor and Lubbock attorney Sam Medina. I am grateful to each one of these. Also, a big thank you goes to FBC Muleshoe and their pastor Dr. Stacy Conner and FBC Plainview and their pastor Dr. Tim Marrow being such great hosts in the sharing of their facilities and providing delicious suppers. I would be remiss if I did not acknowledge the great work of Susan Barkley for her organizational expertise!

HONORING FIRST RESPONDERS

Today our nation is challenged to provide justice for all and that those who protect and serve are respected. With this in mind, Happy Union Baptist Church in Plainview served a noonday meal for all police, fire, EMS, and county sheriff's officers at that multipurpose facility two Saturdays ago. Pastor Richard Miller and his people provided a delicious meal and even more, great personal warmth and appreciation to these men and women. It was a joy to sit down and have lunch with these dedicated servants of our community. Betty and I were able to meet Chris, who is a police officer here in Plainview and lives just down the block from us.

Also, other communities in our area have had similar times of honoring first responders. FBC Muleshoe, Pastor Stacy Conner, participated with other churches in a city-wide celebration. Other times of honoring include FBC Dimmitt, with pastor Jonathan Sullivan, FBC Tulia, with pastor Jason Stone and Abundant Grace of Plainview, with pastor Joe Barrera.

UPCOMING OPPORTUNITIES

Note on the front of the newsletter the great opportunity to bring folks from your church to Plainview for an area-wide gospel music celebration at Wayland Baptist University on October 9. Also, note the annual meetings of the three associations. This is a great time to come together to celebrate what God is doing among us.

Remember that the statewide conventions are both meeting November 13-15 with Texas Baptists (BGCT) meeting in Waco and the Southern Baptists of Texas (SBTC) meeting in Austin.

HAPPY UNION BAPTIST CHURCH HONORS LOCAL FIRST RESPONDERS

L to R: Deacon Frank McKelvy, Youth Pastor Rodney Wallace, Pastor Richard Miller, Police Chief Ken Coughlin, Pastor Jason Smith (College Heights), and Deacon Jimmie Collins.



From the Sheriff's Office, L to R: Chief A.J. Bonner, Chief David Cochran, Pastor Miller, Sheriff David Mull & Deputy Debbie Alaniz.

Pastor Miller visits with local Fire/EMS responders enjoying their lunch.



Betty Griffin visits with Officer Chris, who lives on their street.

Other Churches Honoring First Responders
FBC Muleshoe
FBC Dimmitt
FBC Tulia
Abundant Grace-Plainview

FBC LOCKNEY CELEBRATES THEIR 125TH ANNIVERSARY!



Dr. Griffin presents Pastor Joseph Tillery and wife Sharon with a commemorative plaque in honor of this special day.

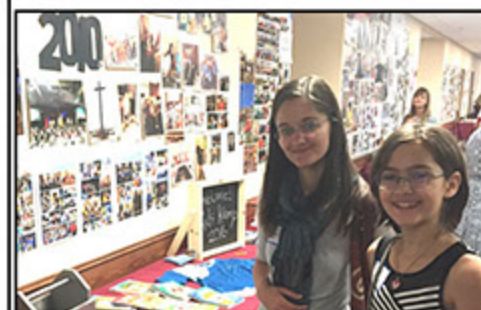
Special musical guests included Homer Tankersley, Ken Sorrell, Paul Tankersley and Bobby Jack Stewart.



Enjoying a great day of celebration are Harold & Kay Abney (1991-2000), Dr. Gene & Louise Hawkins (1961-1967), Betty & Dr. Les Griffin (Director of Missions), and Sharon & Joseph Tillery (current pastor).

FBC FLOYDADA CELEBRATES 125 YEARS "From the Dugout...to the Steeple"

On July 19, 1891, a small group of Baptist families met in the dugout home of Joe Arnold in Floyd County. In the years since, lives have been touched and the community of Jesus Christ has grown through the generations. The church has also faced difficulties during the years, including the tragic burning and the rebuilding of their of their facilities in 2002-2003.



Young ladies enjoying the "Timeline" featured in the church lobby during the 125th Celebration.

"A body of believers gathering together with the purpose of accomplishing the Great Commission." ...Pastor Tim Franks



Dr Griffin presents a commemorative plaque to Pastor Tim Franks with his wife Megan.

BACK TO CHURCH SUNDAY FBC LITTLEFIELD Welcomes friends and families from their community to enjoy a day of worship and fellowship!



CAPROCK PLAINS BAPTIST AREA
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Brian Barkley surprised Susan at work with roses on their 35th Anniversary!

FBC EARTH CELEBRATING MINISTRY SINCE 1926



FBC Earth marked 90 years of ministry in their community! Pictured to the left are Paula and Robbie Boyd (their pastor) with Dr. Griffin as he presents them with a plaque to commemorate this special day.



The people of FBC Earth and their guests enjoyed a weekend of fun activities, worship, fellowship, and of course, food!

CELEBRATING GOD'S FAITHFULNESS 1926-2016

