

FROM THE A.M. DESK

In recent years our association has struggled with our camp, Gibson Baptist Camp, aka Camp Gibson. Some of us are questioning the need for the camp. I will admit our camp is a challenge. However, a friend of mine who recently visited the camp with me said, "this camp is... 'a diamond in the rough.'" So what did he see in the camp that makes it have such great value?

For some time I have been praying for our camp. In my prayers I have been asking God questions like... "Do we need the camp?" As I prayed, thoughts came to me like: "The camp is like a church." Our camp has been an extension of the churches of the panhandle for about sixty years. Another thought, our camp is like many of our churches which are also struggling and not growing. Are we to just give up on them?

This past Sunday, I was privileged to bring a message to a church which is struggling, Bethel Baptist. My message was from Acts 26, and I focused on Paul's words to King Agrippa. A large crowd had been invited to make a spectacle worthy of the King. Everyone who was somebody was there to hear Paul. When Paul was given the opportunity to speak, he gave a brief description to his ministry, and then he said,

v.19... 'So, King Agrippa, I did not prove disobedient to the heavenly vision...'

Paul was clear, he had lived his life faithful to his Lord's vision. The, '**...heavenly vision...**' was his Lord's will, His plan, His purpose for his life to which he had been called. This word vision had been used of God through the generations to describe His calling of men and women to special tasks, a certain lifestyle. And I shared that I believe that we as individuals, and collectively as churches, also experience God's vision for our lives.

Like the camp, many of our churches have existed for many years, with several for over a hundred years. So what was God's vision for these churches? We will all agree, the vision for the churches was to be used by Him to be in the making of disciples, and to bring Him glory. And this has not changed, for we know God does not change, as He is the same yesterday, today and tomorrow. So what was God's vision for those who established the camp, was it any different than the churches?

This past Sunday I asked Virgil if he knew what his grandfather's vision was for the camp. Virgil told me a short story of how his grandfather had taken a group to Fall's Creek. While there the men had to sleep on the ground, while the women slept on a flat bed trailer. He

thought and presented to others a vision of how he believed they could do better in the panhandle. He was so determined, he gave the land for the formation of the camp. The other churches of the panhandle sensed the same vision and soon there was a camp with ten cabins and other buildings. The camp became a tool in the hands of God. As men and women of the churches used the camp for a ministry of teaching the truth of God's word to the children and adults of the panhandle.

So has the vision changed, has the camp ceased to be used of God? I think not. I think back to the words of my friend, he saw something. Just as I believe that the other churches of the panhandle are still holders of the Lord's vision for their existence, I believe that it is the same for the camp. So why the struggle? The answer may be simple, as our having allowed the vision of our existence and purpose of our lives to grow dim.

So what is the solution? It, too, is simple let us do as James wrote, '**...draw near to God and He will draw near to us...**' Let us seek a refreshing... a renewal of the vision which God had given to the men and women, he used to start the churches here in the panhandle. And just like the churches, we also need a renewal of His vision for the camp.

In His Love,
Tom Freeman, Interim Associational Missionary

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Check out our website!

www.pbaok.org

**Above & Beyond
Offering 2017
receipts**

\$26,707.00 to date

**EMAILS addresses:
let us know yours!**

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CALENDAR EVENTS

March

3 Panhandle Seniors for Christ, Texhoma FBC @ noon

4-11 Week of Prayer for Annie Armstrong Easter Offering and North American Missions

10 VBS Clinic, Guymon FBC, 8:30 a.m. registration—12:00 p.m.

10 Daylight Saving Time begins, Spring Forward

16 Women's Event Planning, 11:15 a.m. Ambassador Inn Restaurant

19 Executive Board, 10

a.m.

April

1 Easter

2 Office Closed, Easter Monday

16 Executive Board, 10 a.m.

19 DOM Training

May

21 Executive Board, 10 a.m.

28 Office Closed, Memorial Day Observance

June

2 Day Camp, 10 a.m.—4 p.m.

11-15 Freedom Crossroads Camp

PANHANDLE BAPTIST ASSOCIATION

BAPTIST COLLEGIATE MINISTRY

I LOVE what I get to do, and I LOVE where I get to do it! I was telling the members of one of our churches on a Sunday night that I know I am doing what God has called me to do, in the place he has called us to live and that's an amazing feeling. I hope you can experience the same thing. Here is an example of why I look forward to getting up everyday and working with college students.

We have a guys Bible Study that meets on Wednesday nights at 9 p.m. It's one of the most diverse groups we have and it's awesome. In that room are men from all walks of life, all different parts of the country, and all different stages in school. There are multiple races, freshmen to seniors, athletes, non-athletes, guys from the big city, and guys from the middle of no-

where. These are guys who, on a normal day, may never interact with each other. However, in that room they are all united by a common desire to passionately follow Christ and be open and honest with each other in the process. I have seen these guys cry with and pray for one another with genuine sincerity and love. I LOVE THIS!! It fuels my fire and makes me excited to get up every morning to see

what God has in store for us next.

Thank you so much for supporting the BCM! Your prayers and, generous giving enable us to continue to see this type of transformation in college students and see God glorified on campus!

In Christ,

David Coffey
 BCM Director
 OPSU

**CELEBRATING BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES
 MARCH**

Pray for our Church Staff and their families:

Make a habit of praying for these individuals and their ministry on their birthday. That is a great day to think of them and lift them before the Lord.

Date	Name	Church
8	Michael Carter	Guymon, FBC Pastor
8	Hessed Facio	Beaver Hispanic, Pastor's Daughter
9	Tyler Thompson	Keyes, FBC Pastor's Son
10	Jacee Coffey	BCM Director's Daughter
11	John & Linda O'Leary	Guymon, FBC Secretary & Husband
11	David Moore	Guymon, Sunset Lane Int. Pastor

BCM Needs: We are planning to replace the people mover with a new 15 passenger van; estimated cost will be \$23,000. 00 We have been promised a matching donation amount \$12,500.00 towards the purchase. Thank you in advance for considering this opportunity.

Please call David Coffey for more details: 580.651.1851

Donations may go directly to the BCM: PO Box 70, Goodwell OK 73939.

Thank you for your support of this vital ministry.

Position Opening: First Baptist Church of Beaver is seeking God's leader to serve as our Bi-Vocational Youth Minister. Contact the church for further information: 580.625.3382 or send resume to PO Box 6, Beaver OK 73932

Pray for our Church of the Month

*Guymon, Sunset Lane
David Moore Bi-Vocational Pastor*

Pastorless churches

Hardesty, Bethel; Balko BC ; Guymon, Grace Southern

Congratulations to Guymon Sunset Lane as they have a bi-vocational pastor: David Moore who has been their interim. David, Danae, Trighton, Taegryn and Tenyon are welcomed!

Please send all mail for **Gibson Baptist Camp** to the PBA office, 221 NE 12th St, Guymon OK 73942.

PHONE at camp is 580.888.4591



If you know someone who would like to receive the newsletter, let us know. It is snail mailed, emailed, and posted on our website monthly.



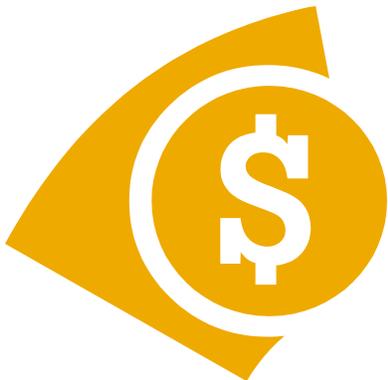
Trevor, Melissa and Cooper Bulls announce the arrival of Claire Abigail, Thursday, February 8, 2018. She weighed 6 # 14 oz. and was 19" long. Congratulations!

2018 Finances

January

YTD Receipts

Balko Baptist	265.95	265.95
Beaver, FBC	1,645.00	1,645.00
Beaver Hispanic	0.00	0.00
Boise City, FBC	983.76	983.76
Boise City, FHBC	0.00	0.00
Felt, FBC	1,695.62	1,695.62
Felt, Mission	0.00	0.00
Forgan, FBC	1,000.05	1,000.05
Goodwell BC	458.51	458.51
Guymon, FBC	1,486.00	1,487.00
Guymon, FHBC	65.71	65.71
Guymon, Grace	0.00	0.00
Guymon, Sunset Lane	531.99	531.99
Hardesty, Bethel	262.87	262.87
Hardesty, FBC	0.00	0.00
Hooker, FBC	553.56	553.56
Hooker, FHBC	180.90	180.90
Kenton BC	488.96	488.96
Keyes, FBC	1,217.14	1,217.14
Texhoma, FBC	231.85	231.85
Turpin BC	817.61	817.61
Tyrone BC	152.81	152.81
Wheless BC	75.58	75.58
BGCO	218.42	218.42
Other Income	345.00	345.00
Interest Income	1.01	1.01
GBC Income	2,513.92	2,513.92
Total:	\$15,192.31	\$15,192.31



January 31, 2018 Balances

PBA/GBC Checking:	
Beginning Balance (12/31/17)	\$3,761.13
Total Income:	\$ 15,192.31
Total Expenses	\$ 9,356.44
Ending Balance (01/31/18)	\$9,597.00
Special Funds balance:	
Disaster Relief Balance	\$3,649.32
Mexico Crusade Balance	\$1,268.47
GBC Major Improvements	\$34,871.57
Panhandle Hispanic Missions	\$13,805.34

Panhandle Baptist Association

Executive Board

January 22, 2018

In attendance: David Coffey, BCM; Tom Freeman, Treasurer; Jerry Rice, Kenton BC; Darren Carpenter, Texhoma FBC; Orden Hartley, Felt FBC; Michael Carter, Guymon FBC; Wayne Moore, Forgan FBC; Trevor Bulls, Boise City FBC; Mark Thompson, Keyes FBC; Tracy Farthing, GBC; Chuck Payne, guest.

Trevor Bulls led us in devotional thought from Genesis 1:26-31. Sanctity of Life message. All of the Trinity is included in man's creation. Life is BREATHED into man. Man is made in God's likeness – we are mirrors of His majesty. This is why SIN is so tragic – it mars this creative purpose of God in us. The great Glory of the Gospel is that Jesus has restored us to our original intent and state. Trevor then led us in prayer.

Orden Hartley, moderator, called the meeting to order.

Minutes were presented. Jeff Bradley, clerk, moved their adoption. He was seconded by Wayne Moore. Motion approve.

Financial Reports for November and December were provided. Also, a brief review of the last quarter's finances was provided. Tom Freeman, with a second from Trevor Bulls moved the adoption of November's report. It was approved. Tom Freeman, with a second from Jerry Rice then moved the adoption of December's report. Again, motion adopted.

Old Business

The roof of the Dining Hall at Camp Gibson has been spray foamed and the heating unit has been repaired. This included adding additional ventilation. More ductwork for more ventilation should be completed in the next week or two.

Time, Place, and Preacher Committee made their report. Annual Meeting for 2018 will be at Hooker, First with Trevor Bulls providing the Annual Message. Date will be Sunday, October 14th. Motion by the Committee, Wayne Moore seconded and it was so ordered.

New Business

Jerry Rice moved we accept Eddie Knight's resignation as Interim Associational Missionary (He has taken a Pastorate in Arkansas). Tom Freeman seconded and it was passed.

Wayne Moore, with a second from Jeff Bradley, moved that Tom Freeman be called as Interim Associational Missionary. Motion approved. Tom suggested that as Associational Missionary he would no longer sign checks, as this could be viewed as a conflict of interest. Jerry Rice, with a second from Mark Thompson, moved that we adopt that plan and it was approved.

We are still in need of a Boy's Camp Director. After much discussion, Tracy Farthing agreed to do the necessary organizational work needed for now on that camp. He will need help from the rest of us and we'll need someone to lead the camp once the boys are on the grounds. Trevor Bulls moved that we set Boys camp for July 9 – 12. Wayne Moore seconded and motion was adopted.

Lula continues with cancer treatments. She is in Amarillo a good bit of the time. She is doing as much of her work as she can from there. She needs an IPAD to be able to effectively work from this remote location. A unit with 32 gigs can be bought for \$306. One with 128 gigs would cost \$430. The smaller unit should be more than sufficient but it was agreed that Lula should be authorized to buy the unit she feels would be best. Trevor Bulls, with a second by David Coffey, was made to pay for this out of the unused stipend money that we didn't pay Eddie Knight after his departure. This motion was adopted.

Reports

Associational Missionary

Hispanic Report

Printed in our packet

Gibson Baptist Camp

Emergency Exit signs have been installed in all buildings. New picnic benches are being built. Back entrance to Dining Hall is being redone and will be made handicap accessible. Rock Creek, Shawnee will be sending a mission's work crew out over Spring Break to do necessary work at the camp. At this point, we have 4 weeks of camp use confirmed. Janette King is working on putting together a Jr/Sr High camp if there is enough interest. Day camps again are still being discussed.

BCM

New semester is underway. The Thursday evening Worship time has been moved to Mondays, where there are fewer conflicts with other campus activities. David is currently serving as Interim Pastor at Goodwell Baptist.

Nominating Committee presented Wayne Moore to serve as Vice Moderator. Tom Freeman seconded the motion and it passed.

First Baptist Buffalo has 30-35 beds available in the cabin for Falls Creek if any of our church groups need someone to share a cabin with.

They will be attending the 4th week of camp – June 18-23.

Associational VBS clinic has been moved to March 24th.

Jeff Bradley led us in closing prayer.

Respectfully Submitted

Jeff Bradley

PANHANDLE BAPTIST ASSOCIATION

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Tom Freeman, Interim Associational Missionary
Moises Avalos, Hispanic Liaison
Lula King, Ministry Assistant

Office hours: 9-noon & 1-5
Monday—Thursday



*Forget the snow, Pray
for Rain!*



*Leviticus 26:4 I will send
you rain in its season, and
the ground will yield its
crops and the trees their
fruit.*



Annie Armstrong Easter Offering / Week of Prayer for North American Missions. Please don't forget to support our missionaries. The faces of missionaries have changed, but their purpose has not. "to go anywhere, to do anything, to share the love of Christ".

Give generously, Pray graciously and Go every opportunity you have.

www.anniearmstrong.com