

TOM'S THOUGHTS

I recently read an interesting article on observations of pastor. In his article he offered a few thoughts he was taught from his ministry to a very special elderly widow. As I read this article, I was reminded of similar people and similar learning experiences from my own ministry experiences.

His first was learning through ministering to one who had "walked in the Lord" longer than he and I had been alive. I learned when I was willing to listen, she or he had a few things to teach me, and it would not be the great theological truths of the word. What I learned was how to love and care for others and especially care for senior saints. I discovered their great strength of character. There was also the disclosure of their unusually strong faith, their strong walk with their Lord, and their amazing prayer lives.

The second came from lis-

tening to their often amazing stories about their modest living and even meager lifestyles. I listened to one man who shared how he remembered when the telephone and television were invented, and also when electricity came to his small rural town. One widow gave me an historical perspective, as she was still using a wood burning stove for cooking, still used a hand pump in her sink and still used an outhouse. Another shared how his family used their farm truck with a large belt around a tire rim to run a generator making it possible to have an evening to listen to the radio.

I was also taught of the value of hard work. This lesson came from many, however one in particular shared of untiring, dedicated work ethic. She spoke of milking cows, often more than one hundred, twice a day, day in and day out, while serving in several capacities in her church, teaching, and helping others in the church and community

when they were in need.

As I listened, I was amazed how nearly all of them, spoke without complaining. They had an amazing sense of contentment in Christ just like Paul wrote, **1 Tim. 6:8... 'If we have food and covering, with these we shall be content.'** The author of the article on this wrote, *"Too often, we say we are content in Christ and yet race around seeking the things of this world in a way that proves the opposite is true."*

So what is my point? Ministry is about people. I am confident that most who read this have their own stories to tell. The stories of special people who have taught them how to be better servants. A couple of weeks ago, I was honored to participate in a deacon ordination. The message was about serving others and not serving self. May we all be challenged by the Lord and by our ministries, to learn how to give our lives first to the Lord and then to others.

In His Love,
Tom Freeman, Interim
Associational Missionary

Inside this issue:

Gibson Baptist Camp	2
May BD/Ann	2
Church of the Month	3
News	3
Finances March	4
Minutes March	5
VBS/ FALLS CREEK/ CAMP	6

Check out our website!
www.pbaok.org

Above & Beyond Offering 2017 receipts

\$27,077.00 to date

EMAILS addresses: let us know yours!

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Tom Freeman
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CALENDAR EVENTS

April

22-25 Revival Services,
Keys FBC

28 Work Day @ Gibson
Baptist Camp, 9-?

May

6 Gospel Concert,
Texhoma FBC, 6 p.m. Er-
nie & Jason Couch

13 Mother's Day

14 Executive Board, 10
a.m., Guymon Sunset Lane

28 Office Closed, Memorial
Day Observance 30
DEADLINE for Day Camp,
June 9

June

9 Day Camp, 10 a.m.- 3

p.m.

10-11 WMU/Pastor's Con-
ference, Dallas TX

13-14 Southern Baptist
Church Dallas TX

11-15 Freedom Crossroads
Camp GBC

13 DEADLINE for Girl's Mis-
sions Camp, June 25

18 Executive Board, 10 a.m.

22 Women's Event Planning 11
a.m., Guymon Ambassador Inn
Restaurant

25-28 Girl's Missions Camp

27 DEADLINE for Boy's Missions
Camp, July 9

July

4 Office Closed, Independence
Day

PANHANDLE BAPTIST ASSOCIATION

GIBSON BAPTIST CAMP

We are quickly approaching another camp season! Activity has really picked up these last few weeks as we prepare to host around 300 campers through June and July. First, I would like to thank Chuck Payne for his time and hard work on the installation of emergency lighting and exit signs in the cabins and cafeteria. I can assure you that it was no small task crawling around in attics laying conduit! Of course, Chuck wasn't finished there. He also spearheaded the replacement of the back entrance to our cafeteria. This involved tearing out the old deck which was full of warped, splintering lumber and protruding

nails and screws. Then, we formed up and poured around 200 cubic feet of cement. As a result, we have a nice wide and safe wheelchair accessible entrance to our cafeteria. As a bonus, Chuck also built the hand-rails to match the existing fence and rail work out here. Great job!

Another round of thanks belongs to Rock Creek Baptist Church of Shawnee. About two dozen of their members, along with pastor, Danny Napier, spent two days and three nights with us doing some spring cleaning, tree trim-

ming, painting, and landscaping work. They fought chilly mornings, high winds, and vicious sand burs! You won't have to duck under a low hanging branch or wade through a pile of dead leaves as you walk around the campus.



Also, you might notice the fresh coat of paint

on Beaver cabin. Evidently, I didn't work them hard enough because they are planning to come back in May!

There are others who have given of their time and talents this past couple of months whose names are

lost on me as I write this. We can be sure they are storing up treasures in heaven.

Many of the kids we host each summer come from harsh situations. Broken homes, violence, abuse, drugs, poverty, and homelessness are not uncommon to many of them. Yet, for just a few days each summer, they come and find a clean, safe place where they get three square meals a day, a nice bed to sleep in, lots of sunshine, and a wonderful team of people who show them true love and hope found only in Jesus Christ.

So, thank you all for your continued support and prayers. You are helping to change lives and save souls among the most vulnerable of our society.

Trace Farthing, Director

**CELEBRATING BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES
MAY**

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
2	Tom Huggins	Guymon, FBC Music Minister
3	Lilliana Facio	Beaver, Hispanic Mission Pastor's wife
4	Thad Hopkins	Turpin BC Youth Minister's son
6	Matt Bolinger	Beaver, FBC Secretary's husband
6	Taegryn Moore	Guymon, Sunset Lane Pastor's daughter
7	Levi Townsend	Guymon, FBC Missions Pastor's son
19	Mark Thompson	Keyes, FBC Pastor
19	Mark & Christy Thompson	Keyes, FBC Pastor & Wife
23	Hailey Facio	Beaver, Hispanic Mission Pastor's daughter
24	Malinda Carpenter	Texhoma, FBC Pastor's Wife
27	Tim Baldridge	Boise City, FBC Youth & Music Minister
29	Tyler Vickrey	Forgan, FBC Pastor's daughter

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

*Hardesty, First
Jesse Martin, lay leader*

Pastorless churches

Hardesty, Bethel; Balko BC ; Guymon, Grace Southern; Goodwell BC

Other Events at Camp Gibson:

Freedom Crossroads: June 11-16

Wall-Byrd Wedding: July 14

Camp Good News: July 16-20

Turpin Mennonite Retreat: August 11-12

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.

Have you ever wanted to be a frog?

At our summer "Day Camps" children will learn about being F.R.O.G.s, those who Fully Rely on God. The children will enjoy Bible Study, recreation (including swimming), crafts, missions, and music. HELP IS NEEDED, so if you are willing to serve, please contact Karen Freeman at 580.461.9209 or the PBA office.



2018 Finances

March

YTD Receipts

Balko Baptist	165.93	766.20
Beaver, FBC	2,359.95	4,004.95
Beaver Hispanic	0.00	416.94
Boise City, FBC	958.74	3,122.65
Boise City, FHBC	100.00	100.00
Felt, FBC	508.36	2,483.22
Felt, Mission	0.00	0.00
Forgan, FBC	1,035.03	2,035.08
Goodwell BC	199.55	906.09
Guymon, FBC	458.00	2,632.00
Guymon, FHBC	96.00	232.42
Guymon, Grace	0.00	0.00
Guymon, Sunset Lane	664.56	1,988.64
Hardesty, Bethel	307.43	774.53
Hardesty, FBC	0.00	0.00
Hooker, FBC	719.02	2,359.54
Hooker, FHBC	122.25	355.59
Kenton BC	212.00	1,048.16
Keyes, FBC	553.30	2,109.99
Texhoma, FBC	179.25	593.65
Turpin BC	639.91	1,457.52
Tyrone BC	268.41	750.78
Wheless BC	235.20	510.94
BGCO	218.42	655.26
Other Income	82.99	504.18
Interest Income	.98	2.99
GBC Income	1,018.05	6,190.37
Total:	\$11,103.33	Total: \$36,001.69



March 31, 2018 Balances

PBA/GBC Checking:	
Beginning Balance (02/28/18)	\$8,043.15
Total Income:	\$ 11,103.33
Total Expenses	\$ 12,447.81
Ending Balance (03/31/18)	\$6,698.67
Special Funds balance:	
Disaster Relief Balance	\$5,058.91
Mexico Crusade Balance	\$1,281.53
GBC Major Improvements	\$35,496.29
Panhandle Hispanic Missions	\$13,554.09

Panhandle Baptist Association

Executive Board

March 19, 2018

In Attendance: Darren Carpenter, and Tommy Jones, Texhoma, FBC; Jerry Rice, Kenton Baptist Church; Wayne Moore, Forgan FBC; Matt Townsend Guymon, FBC; Tom Freeman and Lula King, PBA office.

Tom Freeman led a brief devotional from Acts 2:44 focusing on fellowship and partnership. He emphasized the 'togetherness' of the PBA churches.

Wayne Moore, Vice-Moderator (moderating in the absence of Orden Hartley) called the meeting to order.

The minutes from the Executive Board Meeting of February 26, 2018 were presented. Jerry Rice moved for their acceptance. Matt Townsend seconded the motion. The minutes were accepted as printed.

The financial report for February was provided. Tom Freeman provided a few clarifying comments on the current financial state of the PBA. A motion to accept the financial report was made by Darren Carpenter. The motion was seconded by Jerry Rice. The motion was approved.

Old Business

Updating the *Panhandle Baptist Association Operations Manual*. A draft of the updated operations manual was provided with additions indicated by highlights and deletions indicated with strikethrough. Matt Townsend noted a mistake in **Operations Guide for Gibson Baptist Camp, Section 1c** concerning **Swimming Pool**, which will be fixed prior to voting on the updated operations manual. A change made in **Article 3 Section 8** was noted by Tom Freeman; concerning a change from the Gibson Baptist Camp Committee to the Personnel Committee in the search for and discharge of a Camp Director. Discussion ensued, no action was taken.

New Business

Tom Freeman made those present aware of a legal matter concerning Falls Creek Baptist Camps. Those churches who attended camp week 2 of 2016 may receive a subpoena regarding safety forms used for that camping week.

Karen Freeman has agreed to be the Day Camp Coordinator for Gibson Baptist Camp for the summer of 2018. Jerry Rice moved that we accept her as the Day Camp Coordinator. Darren Carpenter seconded the motion. The motion was passed.

There was discussion concerning the need for security training for local churches.

Reports

Associational Missionary

Tom Freeman continues to visit churches in the PBA as well as work at Gibson Baptist Camp.

Some of the work that has been done at GBC is:

- 1 Heating unit in a cabin has been fixed, leaving 2 more in need of repair or replacement
- Programmable thermostats have been installed in the Dining Hall
- AC / Heating Units have been checked

Hispanic Report

Reports for the months of January and February were submitted as printed

Tom Freeman noted that the annual crusade has been canceled for this year

Gibson Baptist Camp

Report was submitted as printed due to Tracy Farthing work at camp with a mission team

Work was completed on the new handicap accessibility ramp into the Dining Hall.

Chuck Payne will be servicing the John Deere tractor this week.

BCM

No report given

Tom Freeman mentioned that a new sink and garbage disposal have been installed in the BCM kitchen.

Organizational / Committee Reports

Nominating Committee is working

First Baptist Forgan will have a Deacon Ordination service on April 15. Brad Vickrey invited the Pastors of Panhandle Baptist Association churches to participate with the ordination council at 1:30pm.

First Baptist Church Guymon will have Donald Whitney speaking about prayer at their Winter Bible Conference on March 23-25. Matt Townsend invited all Panhandle Baptist Association Churches to attend. Meeting times are 6pm March 23 & 24; on March 25 the meeting times will be 9:30am & 10:45am.

Panhandle Seniors for Christ is thinking of new ways to reach more people; possibly with regional meetings.

Those in attendance were reminded that camp date for Gibson Baptist Camp could be found on the front page of their Executive Committee Meeting Packet.

Tom Freeman showed a video from the North American Mission Board focused on ethnic diversity in ministry.

A motion to adjourn was made by Matt Townsend and seconded by Jerry Rice. The motion passed.

Jerry Rice closed us in prayer.

Respectfully Submitted

Matt Townsend (substitute clerk)

PANHANDLE BAPTIST ASSOCIATION

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Guymon OK 73942
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pbaok221@gmail.com

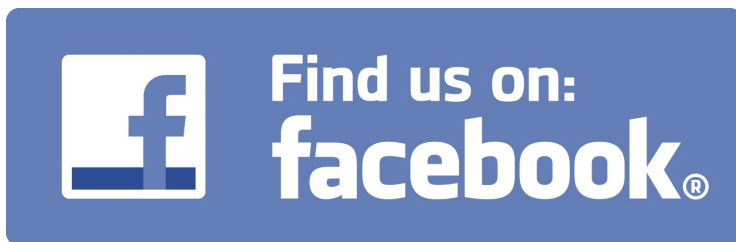
Phone: 580.338.6259
Fax: 580.338.3452

RETURN ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED



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

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



Known dates

Vacation Bible School

May 20-24 Boise City FBC
May 21-25 Hooker FBC
May 20, 23, 30, June 6, 13 Goodwell BC
June 4-8 Guymon Sunset Lane
June 4-8 Felt FBC
June 20-22 Guymon FBC
July 2-6 Keyes FBC
July 15-19 Turpin BC
July 16-20 Forgan FBC
July 16-20 Tyrone BC

Falls Creek Dates

July 9-14 Hooker FBC
July 22-28 Boise City FBC
July 23-28 Forgan FBC
July 22-28 Keyes FBC

Other Youth Camps

June 11-15 Guymon FBC

GIBSON BAPTIST CAMPS

Girl's Missions Camp: June 25-28 \$120.00

Boy's Missions Camp: July 9-12 \$120.00

Day Camps: June 9 OR July 21 \$15.00

All of these camps are for boy's and or girl's who have finished 1st through 6th grade

Please let us know how many are coming 12 days ahead of camp

Background checks need to be current (ran in last 18 months) on all sponsors 18 years of age or older.

