



FAMILY OF CHURCHES COMMITTED TO A MISSION

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So, my little red Hyundai broke down the other day. Jill and I were going to McAlister to grab a sandwich and run a few other errands. About half way over, two warning lights came on (emergency brake light and battery light). That is odd I thought to myself and told Jill the same. Still, the car was running fine so we continued on. Never gave it much thought. A couple of day later, I jumped in the car to go to Executive Board meeting and never gave it a thought then either (after all it started). Got down the road about 6 or 7 miles and the ABS light came on. A few miles further and another light came on. A few miles further and all kinds of red light came on, started flashing, the radio quit and the headlights grew increasingly dark (okay, I couldn't see much of the highway). I finally pulled into the Association office drive way and the car began sputtering and quit, rolling to a stop. (No taking this puppy home tonight)

Went to the meeting and found someone who could give me a ride home. So when I got home, I got on the internet and checked probable solutions to crises. I guessed it was the alternator. Went to Google and You tube and sure enough...I was right. Not only that, when the battery and the emergency brake lights come on together, it is the car telling you the alternator is shot. Drove back over the next morning and put the battery charger on with the intention of going back in about 4 hours (should be enough time for the battery to charge up enough to drive home) and bring car home. Four hours later I find a friend to drive me over to get car. They tell me they will follow me home "just in case!" Start the trek home and about 6 miles from home, trouble begins. The car starts spitting and sputtering and shaking and shimmying. Fuel pump is quitting for lack of electricity to pump fuel to engine ("Aye Captain, I am giving her all I got but we need more dilithium chrystals...") So I do the only thing I know to do, PRAY and get the car going as fast as I can. Two miles from the barn I am taking it to work on it and the red Hyundai begins to stall. I take the corner to turn going way too fast but something happens because it starts running. "Come on Baby, just another 1 ½ miles. You can do this...for me" (Yes, I am sweet-talking my car). "Lord I'm almost there, just a little further." I make the next corner at the section line and now am going only 35 miles an hour, still stalling and running, stalling and running. I get to the gate, make it up the hill to the cattle guard and....nothing. I am stopped DEAD on the cattle guard. I am within walking distance of the barn. I can see the part. I am only 50 yards away (so close but yet so far). My friend pulls up with the pickup "What you want to do preacher?" "Give me a push. Just get some speed on this flat drive and I will coast up to the corner and put the charger back on." And that is what we did. Got to the corner of the barn, stopped and hooked back up the charger. Two day later, I tear the whole front end of the car off to get to the alternator and replace and within 48 hours I am back and running. Quite an experience. But I figured out something. I could have saved myself a lot of stress and anguish if I would just have heeded the warning lights. Now there are a couple of life lessons here for all of us. Let me share briefly a few. First, the warning lights are put on cars for a reason. We need to heed them. God gives us warning lights also, it is call the Bible. His word is full of warning lights: Thou shall not & he who has ears just to name a few. His word is light to our path giving direction. When we feel that tinge of guilt, go down the path we know we shouldn't, look at the picture, drink the drink, take the second look...get the picture. Second, trying to do a quick fix or temporary fix only prolongs the inevitable. The light comes on, I put a battery charger on and think I can make it a little while and that is all I got, a little. We see the light God gives as a warning so we turn to the Bible for relief, go to church and get a quick fix or charge or maybe say that prayer to impress or satisfy our own conscience. Just like my car, it only gets you a little ways. Eventually, it catches up with you ("your sins will find you out" Finally, I had to be pushed to the final destination to repair the car. I could have just taken it there before things got bad. Why not heed the warning light now, voluntarily rather than have to have someone carry you to the church.

Watching for the Warning
 Bro. Tim Perkins pastor of Lequire Baptist

CHURCH MISSION GIFTS

CHURCH	%	January
Antioch	1	256.45
Bowers	9	1,125.97
Calvary	5	230.94
Cambria	5	6.76
CP Wilburton	4	809.70
Enterprise	1	30.00
Featherston	5	-0-
Gowen	3	80.61
Grace Country	1	50.00
High Bridge	1	-0-
Keota 1 st	3	-0-
Kinta 1 st	3.5	572.45
Lequire	6	437.75
Lutie	6	-0-
Main Street	2.5	281.45
McCurtain	5	91.55
Mountain Home	5	9.99
N Rock Creek	5	185.45
Panola	5	156.58
Porum		-0-
Quinton 1 st	8	1,120.52
Red Oak 1 st	4	772.34
Rocky Ridge	5	55.00
Southside	4	-0-
Stigler 1 st	3	1,457.92
Sulphur Springs	3	-0-
Thessalonian		-0-
Trinity Stigler	5	275.00
Unity, Keota	5	383.00
West Liberty	10	1,646.00
Whitefield	6	678.12
Wilburton 1 st	5	874.58
TOTAL		\$11,588.13

CHURCH DECISIONS*

January	P	B	L	R	O
Antioch		3			
Cambria			2		
High Bridge		2			
Quinton		1			
Red Oak	2	1	2		

*Legend: P=Professions, B=Baptisms,
 L=Letter, R=Rededication, O=Other

March 2018

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
April 1 Easter April 10 Executive Brd Mtg Assoc. @ 7pm Host: N Rock Creek	April 17 Assoc. VBS Clinic April 20-21 Youth Spring Explosion @ KBA			1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
-----March 4-11-----Week of Prayer for North American Missions / Annie Armstrong Easter Offering-----						
11 Daylight Savings Time Believe in Better On the Border Small Church BiVo Conf. Ft. Smith FBC	12 Mike Newberry (Keota FBC)	13 Executive Board Meeting@ 7:00pm Association Center Host: Thessalonian	14	15	16	17
18 Lance Burnett BCM, Eastern	19	20	21	22 Chaplain's Manual / Operational Stress First Aid (OSFA) Training BGC0 Instructor: Dr. Naomi Paget Cost: \$50 for Both March 22-24 \$15 for OSFA March 22 \$35 for Chaplain's Manual March 23-24 Contact Cindi Edwards for registration at cedwards@bgco.org	23	24
25	26	27 Prevention of and Response to an Active Shooter in Houses of Worship Stigler FBC 6:30pm	28	29 Johnny Montgomery (Red Oak)	30 Elbert & Barbara Owens (retired)	31