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**A Purpose-filled Summer  
 By: Bentley Hill**



What do the following three things have in common? Great preaching, sweaty kids, and tasty snow cones

**Upcoming Events**

2nd Pastor’s Fellowship  
 LBA @ 11AM

16th Pastor’s Fellowship\*  
 LBA @ 6:30pm

\*Dinner provided by Set Free Ministry

Mark Your Calendars

**September**

26th Annual Meeting\*  
 Heavener 1st @ 2pm

\*more details to follow

**October**

6th Brotherhood  
 Southside at 7pm

If you guessed Kiamichi Baptist Assembly, you can give yourself a pat on the back. For 79 years now, KBA has been welcoming campers and sponsors to get to know God better under towering pine trees and through biblical preaching. Last year, all the weeks of careful planning had to be placed on hold; however, I can’t help but believe those circumstances have simply made this year even sweeter. It has been so great to hear the laughter of the campers echoing across the campground and see the good crowds under the tabernacle roof. Jay and Martha have done an amazing job rebooting KBA and making this a special summer for everyone involved. We have had two youth camps and a children’s camp with one children’s camp remaining. Churches have brought young people who have experienced God’s life-changing love, some of them for the very first time. It would seem that God has again blessed this sacred place in the Winding Stair mountains.

In addition to the decisions and growth that takes place at KBA, I also believe God is pleased with the cooperative effort that goes into making this camp all that it is. While the camp is located in LeFlore Baptist Association, it is actually a cooperative effort of five associations: Atoka-Coal, Frisco, LeFlore, Pittsburg, and Sans Bois. Representatives from these five associations meet annually to seek God’s direction for speakers and music, and churches provide financial support through monthly giving and the Father’s Day offering. Because of these investments, many of us can testify that God moved in our lives at KBA. Thank you for being a part of what God has done and continues to do at this camp. Once again we are reminded that we are better together!

**LEFLORE BAPTIST  
 ASSOCIATION  
 OF CHURCHES**

106 Flanagan St., Ste. A,  
 Poteau, OK 74953  
 Phone: (918) 647-8271  
 Fax: (918) 647-8273  
 www.lefloreaassociation.org

**THE LEFLORE COUNTY  
 BAPTIST  
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Hello from Choices Pregnancy Center!

Matthew 5: 45 states “so that you may be sons of your Father who is in heaven. For He makes His sun rise on the evil and on the good, and sends rain on the just and on the unjust.” and hasn’t it been wonderful? We serve an awesome God who knows our needs before we even ask but He sure likes to know who we are before we ask. We are loved by our Father!

You know, the Bible is full of parables and stories that people of old could relate to. That being said, I’ve had an interesting week in the kennel. As some of you know I raise dogs. Not for profit lol but for stress relief mainly. Anyway this last week I had a momma dog have puppies. She had 5 but one was weak from the start. And just as nature would have it, she knew instinctively that there was something wrong with it. As any good mother DOG would do, she picked out the four healthiest ones and pushed this one aside to die. I watched for a full day as she allowed this to happen right before her eyes. I just couldn’t take it any longer so I took it in the house and I’m still in the process of trying to save it. It may be a fruitless effort but I’m giving it a go.

I told you this to ask this question, have we literally gone to the dogs or worse? As human beings we were created to be above the animals but yet I wonder. When a woman can take a child in her womb that has been created in the image of God, and just kill it before she ever knows it, are we not worse than dogs? And the bigger question here is, do we have as much compassion for unborn babies as we do animals? It was just in my nature to try to save that tiny non thriving little puppy. And I’ve had to work diligently to do it. And the convicting question still comes to me....do I love people like I do animals? Am I as concerned about an unborn baby as I am this puppy? Thank you dear Father for life lessons in the little things. Please continue to support Choices ministry. Yes life is important, babies are important, but knowing Jesus as your Lord and Savior is above all things! If you do not know him as your savior, I ask that you call us here @ 918-649-3650 or find a pastor to talk to or right now where you are just:

- 1-Admit you’re a sinner and that you need a savior.
2. Ask Jesus to come into your heart and cleanse you from your sins.
3. Thank him for salvation and shedding his blood for you.
4. Be victorious! Find a church to worship Him and get to know fellow Christians.

In HIS service,  
Angela

## Meet the Pastor



I’m Brad Hill, pastor of the First Baptist Church in Monroe. I surrendered my life to ministry at KBA as a high school student while a member at Monroe. Since that time, God has given me the privilege of serving as a youth minister for 14 years and as a pastor for 17 years in other local churches. I have been married to the love of my life, Kristi, for 30 years. We have a daughter and son-in-law, Shelbey and Chad. It is so amazing how God works in our lives. I have been blessed with the opportunity to come full circle back to my home church. My family and I are so happy to be serving Christ at Monroe First Baptist Church. It is such a blessing to see what God is doing now, and we are looking forward to what He has planned for the future!

## Heavener First

Would like to invite you to their

### *Ladies Retreat*

September 18  
Check-in 8:00 am  
Opening 9:00 am  
Closing 2:00 pm

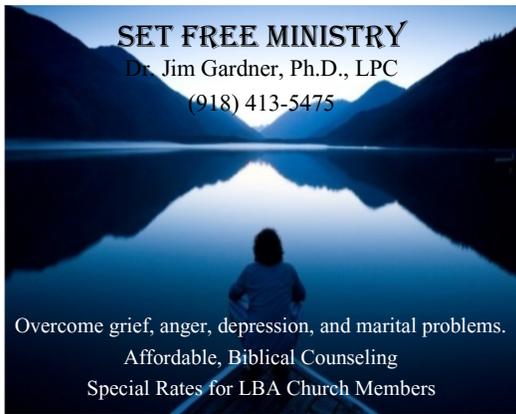
Different local speakers will be presenting in breakout sessions. There will also be a mission project. Breakfast, lunch and child care will be provided.

Cost: \$10 per person

Deadline to sign up: August 26th, 2021

Please call Pam or Karen with you name, church name and if you are bringing children to register.

Pam Tuck (918) 982-6066  
Karen Sullivan (918)635-0758



## Marriage and Divorce

By Jim Gardner 7/26/21

### The Blessings of Marriage

Before Jesus entered the world, the Roman empire was full of immorality and homosexuality, but Jesus changed the world profoundly by His teachings about morality and marriage. In John chapter 2, He celebrated marriage between a man and a woman when He was invited to a wedding, and He turned water into wine. Then in Matthew 19 He was asked about divorce and said, “**He who created them ...made them male and female and said, ‘For this reason a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, and the two shall become one flesh?’**” (Mt.19:4-5). Marriage is foundational to our society and when marriages suffer, children suffer, and crime and social problems increase. Strong marriages are foundational to strong families and a strong society.

### The Damage of Divorce

Divorce is a significant loss that leads many people to become angry and depressed and it often leads to drug or alcohol abuse and infidelity. But the most devastating impact of divorce is upon the children. One study found that the death of a parent led children into depression that gradually decreased over time, but when parents divorced it led children to have anxiety, depression, anger, oppositional behavior, and substance abuse that never diminished over time. This is why the Lord said, “**I hate divorce,**” (Malachi 2:16). In Matthew 19:6 when Jesus was asked by the religious leaders about divorce, He said, “**What therefore God has joined together, let no man separate.**”

### Divorces in The Church

George Barna, a Christian pollster, has taken numerous polls over the years to gain a clear picture of the state of marriages in our country. In 2004 he concluded from his research that most people still desire to get married, because “among all adults 18 and older, three out of four (73%) have been married and half (51%) are currently married. However, he also found that “among those who have been married, more than one out of every three (35%) have also been divorced... 18% of them divorced multiple times.” He reported, sadly, that “the likelihood of married adults getting divorced is virtually identical among born again Christians and those who are not born again.”

### The Major Cause of Divorce

Many mental health professionals believe that the major causes of divorce are finances, in-laws, communication problems, affairs and lack of conflict resolution skills. These are issues that can create conflicts in a marriage, but in my 40 years of experience I have found that the major cause of marital problems is anger toward the spouse and toward other people in their past. Couples overreact to each other in anger when they have unreleased anger from the past, and when they harbor resentments and do not forgive one another “**before the sun goes down**” (Eph. 4:26).

### Finding Healing from Divorce

Divorce can be devastating to the spouses and to the children. Many Christians go through a divorce unwillingly when their partner leaves them, and they can do nothing about it. I know two mature Christian men whose wives left them for petty reasons (I know they were petty because I spoke with both of their wives). These men did everything possible to save their marriages and their wives still divorced them. In the wake of such a devastating loss, most people struggle with feelings of anger, grief, shame and depression, and the devil will try to use these feelings to destroy them. But the Lord wants us to release these feeling so that we can live productive lives for Him.

### Getting Help for your Marriage

This week at our Set Free meetings on Thursday evening (July 29th), we will be discussing “How to Overcome Divorce” and two weeks later, “How to Overcome Marital Problems.” The meetings start with a **free meal** at 6:00 pm, then from 6:30 to 7:30 there is a **teaching time**, and at 7:30 **prayer** will be offered to those who want a personal prayer session with a trained prayer minister. Join us and bring a friend who is struggling with a divorce or with their marriage.

### **Springhill Baptist Church Outreach Free Oil Change**

Every 3rd Saturday of each month  
 We need no less than 2 days notice before the 3rd Saturday  
 to obtain the correct oil/filter  
 Contact Don Alexander @ 479-652-2086 for more  
 information and directions.

### Topics to be discussed in August:

August 5: **The Truth about Marijuana**  
 August 12: **Overcoming Marital Problems**  
 August 19: **Overcoming Hurts and Aloneness**  
 August 26: **Overcoming Sinful Habits**

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106 Flanagan St., Ste. A,  
Poteau, OK 74953  
Phone: (918) 647-8271  
Fax: (918) 647-8273  
www.lefloreaassociation.org

Bentley Hill, Director of Missions  
bhill@lefloreaassociation.org

Rachael Marrow, Admin. Asst.  
rmarrow@lefloreaassociation.org

**LBA OFFICE HOURS:**  
8 am-5 pm, Monday-Thursday

Pastorless Churches

Big Creek  
Howe Faith  
Pilgrim Rest  
Whitesboro

Please pray the Lord brings the right man and family for these churches.

Budget Summary For June 2021	
Requirements	\$ 14,465
Undesignated	\$ 15,430
Over	\$ 965

**Poteau Trinity Cabin for Sale**

Trinity Baptist Church in Poteau has decided to sell their cabin located at Kiamichi Baptist Assembly. For information on this or to schedule a time to see the cabin, please contact:



**Pastor LeRoy Billy**  
**(918) 649-7540**

**Interested in Serving?**  
**These churches could use some help.**

- \* Poteau FBC is looking to start a **contemporary worship service** and would like to call a part time worship leader, that can also serve as a youth and college minister. If interested please email [pastortroy@fbcpoteau.com](mailto:pastortroy@fbcpoteau.com)
- \* Hodgen Baptist is looking for a youth leader. Please email John McAlester at [jmcalester@heavenschools.org](mailto:jmcalester@heavenschools.org)
- \* Arkoma FBC is in need of a music leader and piano player. Please contact Chuck Karch @ (918)448-0336 or email [karch78@yahoo.com](mailto:karch78@yahoo.com)

Building Fund and General Fund Receipts June 2021 (received as of June 30, 2021)			
	%	Jun	YTD
Albion	3.0%	\$ 293.22	\$ 1,862.43
Arkoma	6.0%	\$ 625.80	\$ 4,841.61
Big Creek	4.5%	\$ 2,485.94	\$ 17,011.19
Big Creek, Hispanic		\$ -	\$ 28.71
Bokoshe	6.0%	\$ 487.05	\$ 4,244.55
Buffalo Valley	4.0%	\$ 319.36	\$ 2,922.37
Calhoun	4.0%	\$ 231.12	\$ 2,657.27
Cameron	4.5%	\$ 52.72	\$ 302.44
Cowlington	5.0%	\$ -	\$ -
Double Branch	3.0%	\$ 342.20	\$ 3,523.14
Falfa	3.0%	\$ 124.17	\$ 1,007.42
Forrester	3.0%	\$ 211.50	\$ 3,159.91
Friendship	3.0%	\$ 242.88	\$ 3,241.70
God's Ctry. Cowboy		\$ 100.00	\$ 800.00
Heart O' The Hills	2.0%	\$ -	\$ 1,657.35
Heavener, First	1.5%	\$ 983.00	\$ 7,869.10
Heavener, Trinity	Flat	\$ 150.00	\$ 2,100.00
Hodgen	3.0%	\$ 187.68	\$ 1,517.27
Hontubby	3.3%	\$ 203.00	\$ 1,300.00
Howe, Faith	5.0%	\$ 146.25	\$ 3,613.86
Howe, First	2.0%	\$ -	\$ -
Independence	3.0%	\$ 100.00	\$ 880.00
LeFlore	7.0%	\$ 93.91	\$ 823.85
Liberty Hill	6.0%	\$ 475.26	\$ 3,523.34
Loving	3.0%	\$ -	\$ 895.45
Monroe	2.5%	\$ 187.00	\$ 1,934.00
Mt. View	5.0%	\$ -	\$ -
Muse	2.0%	\$ 72.00	\$ 610.00
Nueva Nacimiento En Cristo	4.0%	\$ -	\$ -
Octavia	4.0%	\$ 929.50	\$ 10,303.91
Page	Flat	\$ 25.00	\$ 175.00
Panama, First	3.0%	\$ 136.99	\$ 921.42
Perry Chapel	3.0%	\$ -	\$ 606.68
Pilgrims Rest	1.0%	\$ 49.00	\$ 415.11
Pocola, First	3.0%	\$ 608.66	\$ 2,434.64
Pocola, Trinity	2.0%	\$ 368.17	\$ 1,965.99
Poteau, First	4.0%	\$ 506.11	\$ 5,595.48
Poteau, Hispanic		\$ -	\$ -
Poteau, Cross Comm. Imm	1.0%	\$ 200.00	\$ 2,800.00
Poteau, Southside	4.0%	\$ 1,559.32	\$ 18,953.22
Poteau, Trinity	5.0%	\$ 198.00	\$ 1,467.00
Prairie Grove	7.5%	\$ 330.80	\$ 2,933.72
Shady Point	4.0%	\$ 360.00	\$ 3,017.00
Spiro, Calvary	3.0%	\$ -	\$ -
Spiro, First	3.0%	\$ -	\$ 13,177.22
Springhill	4.0%	\$ 1,621.60	\$ 15,123.67
Stapp-Zoe	5.0%	\$ 195.40	\$ 3,129.53
Summerfield	5.0%	\$ -	\$ 1,324.00
Talihina	4.0%	\$ 634.34	\$ 6,733.00
Victory	5.0%	\$ -	\$ -
Whitesboro	2.0%	\$ 338.00	\$ 2,318.00
Wister, Bethel	4.0%	\$ -	\$ 6,855.29
Wister, First	2.5%	\$ 57.57	\$ 609.78
<b>Total</b>		<b>\$ 16,232.52</b>	<b>\$ 173,186.62</b>