

# LEFLORE BAPTIST ASSOCIATION

## July

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### Upcoming Events



|            |                                   |
|------------|-----------------------------------|
| 4th        | Independence Day<br>Office closed |
| 11th-15th  | KBA Youth 2                       |
| 24th-28th  | Southside VBS                     |
| 25th-29th  | KBA Children's 2                  |
| 31st-Aug 4 | Forrester VBS                     |

### Measuring Up By: Bentley Hill

I remember as a child thinking how much fun it was to play with a tape measure. I would pull it out and let it go, and it would magically retreat back inside of its tiny, metal home. This created hours of cheap entertainment. Later on in life, I learned the tape measure was more than a toy; it had a purpose. I could use it to measure things to find their length. I could look at an object and guess its size, but with the tape measure, I could know for sure.

I kind of think of the Bible as a spiritual tape measure. We don't have to guess what God's desire for our life is; we can know for certain. God's word shows us the way to live. Now, there may be times we don't like the direction that it gives. It might not fit the way we want to live. But just as we wouldn't argue with a tape measure, it seems futile to argue with the standard set forth in Scripture. As God's children, we are not free to live as we think best or to pick and choose what parts of God's word we will follow. It's reliable from beginning to end.

As Southern Baptists, we are a Bible-believing people. We follow God's word and do not expect it to change for us and our circumstances. When change needs to happen, we make the change in our lives whether it is individually, in the local church, or at the state or national levels. At the recent National SBC Convention, there were some questions where to go and what to do as a denomination. The answer is simple; we must continue to follow God's word. There may be those that think this answer is too simplistic, that there are more variables involved in the 21<sup>st</sup> century. It is my opinion that we often make things harder than they have to be by trying to make the Bible agree with the world instead of encouraging the world to conform to the standards already established in Scripture. Romans 12:2 says, "Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing, you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect." As God's people, we need to refuse the temptation to play with the tape measure or rely on our own best judgment. Instead, let's stick to what God says and follow Him faithfully.

### LEFLORE BAPTIST ASSOCIATION OF CHURCHES

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THE LEFLORE COUNTY  
BAPTIST  
USPS 309-120  
Second Class Postage PAID  
Poteau, Oklahoma 74953



Sunday, June 26, 2022 Southside Baptist Church licensed Clay Caughern. He is currently serving at interim at Perry Chapel.



Interested in helping others in the name of Jesus?

For information about Oklahoma Baptist Disaster Relief

[okdisasterhelp.org/about/](http://okdisasterhelp.org/about/)

Orientation & Credentialing available for active Southern Baptists

at least 18 years old

Poteau Southside Baptist Church, 505 Holden Ave

Saturday, August 27, 8:30-Noon

Pre-registration for this event [okdisasterhelp.org/volunteer-training/](http://okdisasterhelp.org/volunteer-training/)



Happy Freedom America! And to prove that we are still free, our Supreme Court Justices made a conscience choice last week to overturn Roe v Wade and allow states to decide whether or not to murder its own. Oklahoma, I am proud to say, will stand with life. Thank you Lord Jesus for the babies that will have a future because we have SCOTUS that have a moral conscience and choose to stand up for what they believe should be left up to "We the People" instead of the federal government. But as with any law that is made, it will be broken, there will be some that will seek abortions elsewhere. What concerns me also at this point is will crisis pregnancy centers be needed all the more? Will we need more adoptive parents ready to take a newborn, will we need more foster parents on standby? Where will the money come from to help women keep their babies in an economy that is in the middle of recession/ depression? I have found over 25 verses in the Bible that say WE as Christians are supposed to take care of these children. I think my favorite of these verses is the most convicting. 1 John 3:17 says *But if anyone has world goods and sees his brother in need, yet closes his heart against him, how does God's love abide in him?* Does that not put us on the spot? Are we as Christians who are called to take care of the orphans, fatherless, going to sit idly by and do nothing? I think we should start preparing for the coming crisis this wonderful life saving law is going to create. I feel our role as a crisis pregnancy center may be changing. The fact remains there will still be abortion minded women out there, they will truly need our love, understanding, guidance and support in the days ahead. Please pray for Choices. Pray that God will place someone in your church, with a burden for women and babies that will need our help, to start now making it a financial priority to give to this ministry. Let's do what God has called us to do. Our future leaders, preachers, president may be among the ones we help.

In His service,  
Angela



## KBA FALL PASTORS CONFERENCE

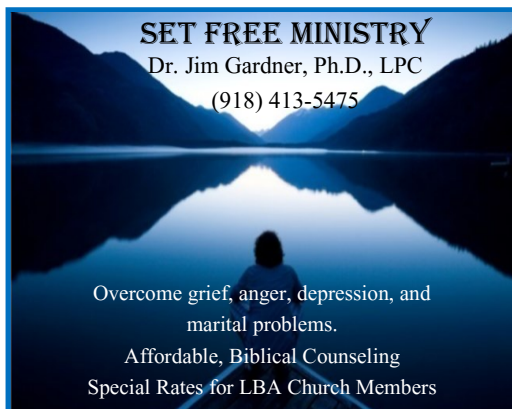
Iron sharpens iron, and one man sharpens another.

Proverbs 27:17

September 16-17, 2022



This conference is designed to have something for everyone. Whether you are the pastor of a church, or a transitional pastor please join us.



## Pray for Uvalde

### By Jim Gardner, June 23, 2022

On May 24, 2022, an 18-year-old, high-school dropout from Uvalde, Texas shot and killed 19 third and fourth grade students and two teachers in Robb Elementary School. He came from a broken family that had a long history of legal problems, and he was full of anger and hatred, just as our country is full of anger and hatred. This shooting in Uvalde was the 27<sup>th</sup> U.S. school shooting in 2022.

On that same day, the President passionately advocated banning guns to stop the violence, and the Governor of Texas strongly advocated increasing mental health services to stop the violence. The truth is that violent actions are caused by anger, and banning guns will only lead to more violence since law-abiding citizens will not be able to protect themselves. The truth is also that mental health professionals do not know how to help people overcome their anger, because anger management does not

work, and psychiatric medications actually lead many people to become agitated and violent. The government does not know how to stop the violence.

The only hope for our society is the church, because it contains the principles and truths that lead men to salvation and to emotional freedom. Ephesians 4:26-27 tells us **“Be angry, and sin not. Do not let the sun go down on your anger, and do not give the devil an opportunity.”** What this tells us is that when we are hurt or harmed in any way, it is ok to become angry, but we must release this anger “before the sun goes down.” In other words, we must make a deliberate choice to give our anger to the Lord and ask Him to take it from us. This is also called forgiveness, and when we do not forgive others, Paul tells us that it gives “the devil an opportunity.” Anger leads to marriage problems, to fighting, to drug and abuse, and to violence.

What happened in Uvalde is symbolic of what is happening all across our nation. Our country has abandoned God, has rejected prayer in schools, has embraced immorality and abortion, and has even embraced homosexual marriages. As a result of these social changes, forty percent of our children are growing up without their father in their home, and they are full of anger. Some of them are so full of anger and hatred that they commit mass violence, like the young man in Uvalde. However, there are children in every city and high school that are full of anger and who are capable of doing the same thing.

What happened in Uvalde could easily happen in Poteau, Heavener, or Howe and our churches need to wake up and do something about it. I have made two trips to Uvalde to help them learn how to find healing from the trauma, through the Lord. I wrote a book about how to stop the violence, called *“Before the Sun Goes Down.”* In this book I explain how to release anger: 1) Make a list of the reasons for your anger, and 2) Tell the Lord why you are angry and ask Him to take your anger from you. This book is available at the LBA office.

### Here are four things we should all be praying for Uvalde:

1. Pray that they will seek peace and healing from the Lord, and not from mental health professionals who do not know how to help people with their grief, anger, or sadness.
2. Pray that this will be a wake-up call for the churches in Uvalde, and everywhere else, to pray corporately and fervently for the protection of our children.
3. Pray that each adult Christian in Uvalde will not just pray, but will also make a vow to never again let the sun go down on their anger, and teach it to their children, to demonstrate to the world how to forgive. This is the only solution to the violence in our country.
4. Pray that a revival will come from this tragedy, in Uvalde and all across our country, we will humble ourselves and pray and seek His face and turn from our wicked ways, because the Lord promises that if we do this He will “hear from heaven, forgive [our] sins, and heal [our] land” (2 Chronicles 7:14).

May God wake up our churches and may God heal our land as we jointly pray for Uvalde!



You are invited to join us Aug 2nd at 10:30 am for bible study and fellowship.

We will be watching Beth Moore speak about Hagar. Followed by discussion and prayer.

We hope you can all join us.

Please call the LBA office or email [rmarrow@lefloreaassociation.org](mailto:rmarrow@lefloreaassociation.org) if have any questions.

Printed monthly by and for the  
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ASSOCIATION  
OF CHURCHES**

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

| <b>Budget Summary<br/>May 2022</b><br>(Received as of May 31, 2022) |           |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------|
| Requirements                                                        | \$ 14,238 |
| Undesignated                                                        | \$ 11,840 |
| Under                                                               | \$ 2,398  |

**Pastorless Churches**

Howe Faith  
Independence  
Liberty Hill  
Perry Chapel  
Pilgrim Rest  
Prairie Grove  
Springhill  
Whitesboro

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



**TABERNACLE WORSHIP  
@  
SUMMER CAMP  
KBA**



**Calling all Crafters and Teachers!**

Someone had donated a Cricut die-cut machine to the office. This machine will allow us to design and create just about any project imaginable. It is great for VBS, Sunday School crafts, T-shirt making. We have it set up and ready to use. I would be happy to serve you in anyway possible. We have a bible imprinter, small laminator, and printer as well.

If interested please give us a call. (918)647-8271

| Building Fund and General Fund Receipts<br>May 2022<br>(received as of May 31, 2022) |      |             |               |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------|-------------|---------------|
|                                                                                      | %    | May         | YTD           |
| Albion                                                                               | 3.0% | \$ 193.26   | \$ 1,604.81   |
| Arkoma                                                                               | 6.0% | \$ 387.47   | \$ 3,828.44   |
| Big Creek                                                                            | 4.5% | \$ 777.24   | \$ 7,054.74   |
| Big Creek, Hispanic                                                                  |      | \$ -        | \$ 75.00      |
| Bokoshe                                                                              | 6.0% | \$ 342.22   | \$ 3,538.22   |
| Buffalo Valley                                                                       | 4.0% | \$ 215.70   | \$ 1,955.48   |
| Calhoun                                                                              | 4.0% | \$ 231.20   | \$ 1,832.76   |
| Cameron                                                                              | 4.5% | \$ -        | \$ 54.00      |
| Cowlington                                                                           | 5.0% | \$ -        | \$ -          |
| Double Branch                                                                        | 3.0% | \$ 309.60   | \$ 2,651.23   |
| Falfa                                                                                | 3.0% | \$ 122.24   | \$ 913.58     |
| Forrester                                                                            | 3.0% | \$ 187.77   | \$ 1,428.72   |
| Friendship                                                                           | 3.0% | \$ 182.32   | \$ 1,471.64   |
| God's Ctry. Cowboy                                                                   |      | \$ 100.00   | \$ 800.00     |
| Heart O' The Hills                                                                   | 2.0% | \$ -        | \$ 1,636.71   |
| Heavener, First                                                                      | 1.5% | \$ 864.00   | \$ 7,512.00   |
| Heavener, Trinity                                                                    | Flat | \$ 150.00   | \$ 1,200.00   |
| Hodgen                                                                               | 3.0% | \$ 350.10   | \$ 1,521.23   |
| Hontubby                                                                             | 3.3% | \$ 348.00   | \$ 2,152.00   |
| Howe, Faith                                                                          | 5.0% | \$ 108.25   | \$ 652.15     |
| Howe, First                                                                          | 2.0% | \$ -        | \$ 912.00     |
| Independence                                                                         | 3.0% | \$ 100.00   | \$ 800.00     |
| LeFlore                                                                              | 7.0% | \$ 77.65    | \$ 561.81     |
| Liberty Hill                                                                         | 6.0% | \$ -        | \$ 2,951.76   |
| Loving                                                                               | 3.0% | \$ -        | \$ 1,200.00   |
| Monroe                                                                               | 2.5% | \$ 210.00   | \$ 1,493.00   |
| Mt. View                                                                             | 5.0% | \$ -        | \$ -          |
| Muse                                                                                 | 2.0% | \$ 78.00    | \$ 505.00     |
| Nueva Nacimiento<br>En Cristo                                                        | 4.0% | \$ -        | \$ -          |
| Octavia                                                                              | 4.0% | \$ -        | \$ 8,615.09   |
| Page                                                                                 | Flat | \$ -        | \$ 100.00     |
| Panama, First                                                                        | 3.0% | \$ 91.96    | \$ 689.78     |
| Perry Chapel                                                                         | 3.0% | \$ -        | \$ -          |
| Pilgrims Rest                                                                        | 1.0% | \$ 37.62    | \$ 280.42     |
| Pocola, First                                                                        | 3.0% | \$ 349.58   | \$ 1,916.48   |
| Pocola, Trinity                                                                      | 2.0% | \$ 187.05   | \$ 1,718.33   |
| Poteau, First                                                                        | 4.0% | \$ 788.73   | \$ 4,330.88   |
| Poteau, Hispanic                                                                     |      | \$ -        | \$ -          |
| Poteau, Cross<br>Comm. Imm                                                           | 1.0% | \$ 200.00   | \$ 1,600.00   |
| Poteau, Southside                                                                    | 4.0% | \$ 1,309.81 | \$ 12,465.36  |
| Poteau, Trinity                                                                      | 5.0% | \$ 117.00   | \$ 1,096.00   |
| Prairie Grove                                                                        | 7.5% | \$ 283.28   | \$ 2,438.42   |
| Shady Point                                                                          | 4.0% | \$ 237.00   | \$ 2,304.00   |
| Spiro, Calvary                                                                       | 3.0% | \$ -        | \$ -          |
| Spiro, First                                                                         | 3.0% | \$ -        | \$ 7,000.00   |
| Springhill                                                                           | 3.0% | \$ 826.08   | \$ 10,359.48  |
| Stapp-Zoe                                                                            | 5.0% | \$ 187.56   | \$ 1,271.47   |
| Summerfield                                                                          | 5.0% | \$ 100.00   | \$ 1,190.00   |
| Talihina                                                                             | 4.0% | \$ 463.13   | \$ 5,757.33   |
| Victory                                                                              | 5.0% | \$ -        | \$ -          |
| Whitesboro                                                                           | 2.0% | \$ 188.00   | \$ 1,704.00   |
| Wister, Bethel                                                                       | 4.0% | \$ -        | \$ 5,179.65   |
| Wister, First                                                                        | 2.5% | \$ 99.16    | \$ 863.11     |
| Total                                                                                |      | \$10,800.98 | \$ 121,186.08 |