



When I was twenty five I was a first time pastor; full time work, part time pay. I was struggling because there were many critics. I had just finished seminary, thought I knew everything, and wanted to change the world but there was a large group of deacons that felt a God-given duty to shoot down every idea I had.

During those seasons of discouragement, I would shut the door to my office and meet with God, hammering out my theology. One time I had been in the office since about 4 am, when about noon one of the leaders of the church stopped by. In the course of discussion he said, "You spend a great deal of time in the office, you must be one of those lazy preachers." I was discouraged enough to leave the ministry after only a year of service.

My Mom and Dad came around Thanksgiving. I took my dad on a trip to see the back side of the mountain and told him my story. I shared my fears and hurts. My Dad spent time processing all that I had said. He told me, "I think this is great! I am so glad you are here!" I was stunned. Asking my Dad to explain, he began to say God is at work developing a young pastor with some rough edges and at the same time God was at work challenging the church to begin to work again. He explained that I had need to be in the conflict to begin to respond like Christ and the church needed to begin to minister to people in the community.

My Dad had taught me to thank God in every circumstance just like First Thessalonians 5:18 teaches. It was the most important lesson of my ministry.

In just a few months my Dad would develop Chronic Leukemia and he began to thank God for everyday that he had left. Dad called me to tell me about his condition but he said, "Do not pray for my healing but pray that my life would bring Glory to God." His key phrase became, "Let's do something for the Lord today because this could be my last day." In the 12 years with Leukemia my Dad did more ministry than the rest of his life put together.

I learned by my Dad's example. "In everything give thanks: for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus concerning you." I Thessalonians 5:18

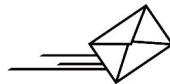
Life could be really hard for you but God will work in new ways when we thank Him by faith!

Keep Looking Up
Dan



Send Elaine your email address to receive the Association E-Newsletter

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"Every single day Jesus pursues you.

Every single day Jesus fights valiantly for you.

Every single day He gazes on your face and brings you one step closer to seeing His.

Do you have the audacity to take what He's done personally?

Do you have the audacity to believe to your bones that He has adventurously, daringly, and boldly pursued you with a passion as fiery red as blood?"

From Beth Moore's book, Audacious.

November 2015

Eastern Border
Baptist Associations
Newsletter

Serving Others
in **Jesus Name**



Did You Know...

About our associations' websites?

On these you can find:

- Announcements
- Our newsletters (old and new)
- Forms to download to request the Ministry Trailers or Bouncy Elements.
You can check the calendar to see if one of those has already been reserved.
- You can find the names and addresses of our churches and leader names.
- You can find links to other helpful sites.

We would like to add pictures and news from our churches about their recent activities. These would also be good to share in our newsletter once we have additional space in the coming E-newsletter. Please forward your pictures and news from your church for consideration to the associational office.

The website for Eastern is: www.easternbaptist.net

The website for Tucumcari is: www.yourtba.com

Prayer Needs

Up coming mission trips to India and Lithuania.
Missionaries on the field without their families.
Missionaries that are being sent home early.

Looking Ahead

Nov 29 – Dec 6: Week of Prayer for Foreign Missions
Dec 24 – Jan 1: Association office closed
Feb 29 – Mar 2: State Evangelism Conference - Sagebrush Community Church, Alb.

Budget At A Glance

Tucumcari Baptist Association:

Receipts	\$1,301.18
Disbursements	\$1,403.40
Ending Balance	\$16,826.44

Eastern Baptist Association:

Balance Forward Oct 1st	\$5,960.98
Receipts	\$8,635.19
Disbursements	\$10,668.15
Ending Balance Oct 31st	\$3,928.02

Eastern Border Associations

Tucumcari Baptist Association & Eastern Baptist Association

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Elaine Williford - Office Assistant

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Office Address: 1100 West Manana Blvd. • Clovis, NM 88101

Prayer Meeting Mondays 10:00 Sandia, Clovis
Prayer Meeting Tuesdays 2:00 University, Portales

TBA website: www.yourtba.com
EBA website: www.easternbaptist.net