



Volume 18, Issue 2

CHEROKEE STRIP BAPTIST ASSOCIATION

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February 2018 580-234-2512

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OH,
HOW HE
Loves
US!

This is how we know what love is:
Jesus Christ laid down his life for us.

1 John 3:16 NIV

ARE PASTORLESS CHURCHES REALLY PASTOR-LESS?

Seems like just as soon as I tell somebody that almost all our associational churches have pastors, things happen, and suddenly we end up with several who lose their pastor all at once. Maybe I'll just keep quiet next time!

Please be praying for our churches that are either presently or soon to be without pastors:

First Indian Baptist Church (since January 2017)

Kaw Street Chapel (since July 2017)

Garland Rd Baptist Church (since end of December 2017)

Graceway Baptist Church (since end of January 2018)

Your Family Church (end of February 2018)

In meeting with these churches to encourage and advise them during the transition period until a new pastor comes, my first word is always **PATIENCE**...it may take a long time to get a new pastor but often that's normal and necessary. Your church needs time to process the departure of the previous pastor, especially if he was long-tenured. The typical Southern Baptist church can expect the search process to take 6 months to a year. So, it's ok to go slow.

Even though you go slow, in time you will eventually get a new pastor. It's like a woman being pregnant...eventually a baby's coming! Some pregnant women are careful to watch their health in anticipation of the baby coming, whereas others don't seem to care what they eat or drink during their pregnancy. **How will your church use the time while waiting for a new pastor?** Will the waiting time be "wasted" time or will it be time well-spent in strengthening the core and renewing the vision of your church? There are men trained to be transitional pastors who can help churches make the most of the time before a new pastor comes.

Finally, remember that just because your pastor left doesn't mean you're totally pastor-less. There are leaders God's put in place in your church who will step up and carry on some of the "pastor" roles. And bottom line, your church still has its cornerstone and foundation the Chief Shepherd, Jesus Christ (I Peter 2:25, 5:4). **You've lost a leader but not your Founder** (Isaiah 28:16). In the end, it's His church—as the hymn reminds us, "The church's one foundation is Jesus Christ her Lord!" (see I Corinthians 3:11).

Matt Spann, CSBA Director of Missions

ENGAGE

TURNING **EVERYDAY** CONVERSATIONS INTO **GOSPEL** CONVERSATIONS

SATURDAY, MARCH 10

9:30AM - 12:00PM

GRACEWAY BAPTIST CHURCH

2310 W. HUNTERDALE - FRED, OK

FREE EVENT

WE'LL HELP YOU ENGAGE...

- COWORKERS**
- MILLENNIALS**
- UNCHURCHED NEIGHBORS**
- AND MORE IN GOSPEL-CENTERED CONVERSATIONS!**



**CHEROKEE STRIP
BAPTIST ASSOCIATION**

with Special Guest Speaker



BRIAN BALDWIN

BGCS
ENGAGING YOU THROUGH TRUTH, HOPE & LOVE

QUESTIONS?

CALL US:
580.234.2532

EMAIL US:
CHEROKEE.BAPTIST@GMAIL.NET

WEBSITE: WWW.CHEROKEESTRIPBAPTISTASSOCIATION.COM

February

- 3 Keyboard Festival, FBC-Enid
- 6 Ministers' Conference
- 13 Ministers' Conference
- 16 State Associational VBS Clinic,
So. Hills
- 20 Ministers' Conference
- 26-27 Priority of Preaching Conference

March

- 4-10 Week of Prayer NAM
- 6 Ministers' Conference
- 10 Evangelism Training, Graceway
- 13 Ministers' Conference
- 18-24 Spring Break
- 30 Good Friday—CSBA closed

Pray for the Church of the Month

Emanuel Iglesia
Saulo Flores, pastor

Pray for our Pastorless Churches

First Indian Church
Garland Road Baptist Church
Graceway Church (watch-care)
Kaw Street Chapel, Perry

February Birthdays/Anniversaries

- | | | |
|---------------------|----|--------------|
| 3 Les Washnock | P | Pond Creek |
| 7 Dana Spade | S | Cherokee |
| 9 Jeanne Quick | PW | Sumner |
| 16 Dana/Steve Spade | S | Cherokee |
| 22 Ron Stone | MM | Garber |
| 26 Greg Hook | P | Retired |
| 26 Heather McNeill | PW | Cherokee |
| 28 Saulo Flores | P | Emanuel Igl. |

Giving Report 2017

Church	%	December	Year to Date
Ames	-	\$	\$ 6,033.00
Bethlehem	10%	\$ 942.00	\$ 6,786.30
Billings	6%	\$ -	\$ 3,555.31
Cherokee	4%	\$ 2,282.98	\$ 19,518.69
Covington	3%	\$ 329.93	\$ 2,938.09
Calvary	1%	\$ 56.47	\$ 1,074.35
CT Cowboy	-	\$ -	\$ 100.00
Emmanuel	-	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 24,000.00
Emanuel Ig.	3.0%	\$ -	\$ 600.00
Enid FBC	3%	\$ 2,156.21	\$ 28,138.10
1st. Indian	5%	\$ -	\$ -
Garland Rd.	2.5%	\$ 879.00	\$ 6,780.00
Graceway		\$ 100.00	\$ 1,300.00
Liberty S.	5%	\$ 421.00	\$ 3,717.81
Trinity	3%	\$ -	\$ 1,236.55
Y.F.C.	3%	\$ -	\$ 2,366.30
Fairview FBC	2%	\$ -	\$ 2,945.26
Garber FBC	4%	\$ 1,107.91	\$ 4,461.71
Hunter	3%	\$ 24.75	\$ 218.10
Int. Ch. Grace	-	\$ -	\$ 100.00
Marshall	6%	\$ -	\$ 2,156.28
Medford	4%	\$ 336.92	\$ 3,998.76
Perry FBC	3.00%	\$ 1,631.09	\$ 13,903.30
Perry Kaw St.	4.00%	\$ -	\$ -
Pond Creek	5.00%	\$ 168.20	\$ 3,080.98
Ringwood	7.00%	\$ 1,742.80	\$ 12,016.31
Ridin'4 Him	1.00%	\$ 100.00	\$ 600.00
Sumner	4.00%	\$ 133.12	\$ 662.02
Waukomis	2.00%	\$ -	\$ 127.29
BGCO		\$ 230.83	\$ 3,000.79
Misc. Receipts		\$ 500.00	\$ 2,131.61
Total Income		\$ 15,143.25	\$ 157,546.91
Expenses		\$ 17,452.22	\$ 154,132.21
Net Income		\$ (2,308.97)	\$ 3,412.70
Monthly Req. \$16,583			