



# The Challenger

January 2009

## PRESS ON

One of my favorite texts of Scripture is Philippians 3:13-14: "Brethren, I do not count myself to have apprehended; but one thing I do, forgetting those things which are behind and reaching forward to those things which are ahead, I press toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus." As we come to the end of 2008 and begin 2009, we are provided an excellent opportunity to wipe the slate clean and make a fresh start. These verses tell us how.

First, we should renounce self-satisfaction - "I have not yet apprehended." If the great Apostle Paul had not yet become all that he could be, how could we make such a self-righteous claim?

Second, Paul had a single-minded focus on one thing - "this one thing I do." There is to be one great, all-consuming goal for every believer - to be conformed into the image of Christ. We must discard anything that stands in the way of being in the center of God's will.

Third, we must develop a wise forgetfulness of the past. This means we need to forget about past forgiven sins, old grudges, mistakes and failures. Often we are tempted to hold on to these things and they become like a ball and chain we drag around with us. How can we run the race that is set before us when we do not lay aside every weight and the sin that so easily slows us down (Heb. 12:1-2)?

Fourth, we must press on - "reaching forward to those things which are ahead, I press toward the goal of the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus." There is fruit to bear for the glory of our Lord and spiritual gifts to exercise in the His service.

As the song "Press On" by Selah says so well;

"When the valley is deep, when the mountain is steep, when the body is weary, when we stumble and fall, when the choices are hard, when we're battered and scarred, when we've spent our resources, when we've given our all, In Jesus' name we press on. Dear Lord, with the prize clear before our eyes, we find the strength in you to press on. In Jesus' name we press on."

It is my prayer that 2009 will be an outstanding year for the Bryan Baptist Association. Let's press on.  
Terrell

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## November 2008 Contributions

Armstrong—Monty Wood ——— \$ 125.09  
 Bennington - Heath Murrell ----- \$ 540.00  
 Blue - Tony Fields ----- \$ 57.24  
**Bokchito:**  
 First - Preston Burns ---- \$ 369.00  
 Brown - Dale Ballard ---- \$ 165.68  
 Calera—Jacob Toews—\$ 260.19  
 Cartwright, First-Ray Earley ----- \$ 460.17  
 Cobb - Bruce McLaughlin ----- \$ 37.67  
 Colbert - Roy Vinson ———\$ 505.89  
**Durant:**  
 Fairview - Bill Ledbetter ----- \$ 745.00  
 First-James Robinson-\$ 1,271.98  
 Grace - Anthony Williams----- \$ 1,153.28  
 Lakepoint - Jared McIntire----- \$ 300.00  
 Western Meadows - Darrell  
 Edwards - \$ 697.51  
 Hendrix - Olan Bullard --- \$ 110.86

**Mead:**  
 Mead - Kerry Groce - \$ 287.96  
 Emmanuel - Randy Lewis ----- \$ 100.00  
 Streetman Rd - Darren Wallace - \$ 189.63  
 Platter—John Heath—\$ 62.06  
 Roberta—Bud Jenkins —\$ 150.75  
 Robinson - Donald Ford - \$ 74.46  
 Wade—Charles Williams \$ 63.25  
 Yuba - Marty Hutchings - \$ 113.30

**Account Balances as of November 30, 2008:**  
 BBA Checking ----- \$ 2,444.38  
 Falls Creek ————— \$ 7,791.81  
 Disaster Relief ——— \$ 5,023.98  
 Carrell Hooper Mission \$ 2,891.04  
 Sunset Cove ----- \$ 4,195.28  
 Roadrunners ----- \$ 2,096.31  
 Block Party ----- \$ 1,297.54  
 SC Bldg Fund ----- \$ 5,052.70  
 Ethnic Ministry ----- \$ 10,522.79

**Attention:** This report reflects only what was received by the BBA during the reported month. Churches contribute however they choose: weekly, monthly, quarterly or annually.

## EVANGELISM



Merry Christmas and Happy New Year from your evangelism strategy team. Your team members are: Pete Wilson, Garry McNeill, Brad Willis, Danny Spoon, Jon & Amanda Richards, Brice Watkins, Dale & Liz Watkins, GERALYN Watkins, Alex Benito, Jared McIntire, and Anthony Williams.

We held our second meeting on December 4th with GERALYN, Brice, John and Bro. Anthony present. We mainly followed up on our discussion we had in our November meeting and prayed for our evangelism efforts in the BBA.

Our next scheduled meeting is on January 12th, 6:00 P.M. at Grace Baptist Church. We will continue to pray for souls to be saved and get in-put from our Youth Team members on how we can reach more youth for Christ.

With each issue of The Challenger, I have asked and encouraged each of our readers to be involved in evangelism by building relationships and sharing the love of Christ with at least one person per month. How are you doing? Have you been witnessing to anyone? Have you led anyone to Christ in the past two months?

As we are approaching Christmas and the New Year, what an appropriate time to get our focus back on our main purpose and that is to win souls for Christ. Let's not let our Savior down.

In His Service, Bro. Antony

## News around Bryan Baptist Association



**Hendrix Baptist Church** invites you to attend their Watch Night Service on December 31. The Service will begin and 8:00. Singing, fellowship, and welcoming the New Year will be the events of the evening. Join together with us as we Praise God the last evening of 2008.



In April of 2009 over 250 people will board a plane toward Armenia. Why? The doors have been opened and God is leading The Singing Church Men to the people of Armenia. **Your prayers and financial support** will help to see lives transformed in this country. Historically

The Singing Church Men have been on mission to Spain, China, Russia, Australia and others places. Still, to this day we receive reports of the impact left in those places.

We need your **prayers**. Many wonderful and exciting opportunities have been opened for this mission. Please pray that they remain open and we are able to share the gospel through our music. The people of Armenia need your **prayers**. Please **pray** for their hearts to be softened to the message of salvation in Jesus Christ.

This mission is a massive undertaking and will leave a significant impact on the nation of Armenia. It will quite possibly be the fire this nation needs to begin spreading the grace of Christ throughout their land. This mission is expensive. With over 250 people purchasing plane tickets, hotel beds, food and travel buses the tab runs high. However, the people of this great county, and state, no doubt are the some of the most giving people on the planet. (Some of our men have their way taken care of already.) Some give with much flare while others give quietly; some give millions and others give pennies. Nevertheless, we give. On a journey such as raising funds for this mission, every last dollar is important. **Pray** that you will give from your heart. If you have questions about donations or the trip email Jim Pena at [printnetmarketing@gmail.com](mailto:printnetmarketing@gmail.com), or go to his website at [printnetmarketing.com](http://printnetmarketing.com) and click on Armenia Mission, he can make it very easy for you do donate online and to learn all about the trip.



Happy New Year! As this year begins, let us all be in prayer and ask God where He wants us to serve in our local church or in other areas doing work for His glory. There are so many lost people in this world and only a few people willing to GO AND TELL THE GOOD NEWS OF JESUS CHRIST.

Our team has some exciting events for you this year and we know you will enjoy them and receive and blessing, if you attend. Watch the calendar for dates of these events.

Sally and WMM Team



One has to look with amazement at the Sunset Cove Ministry and in so doing see how gracious the Lord has been in His blessings to us. The Activity Building at the Cove is progressing: the plumbing is almost completed thanks to a gracious donor and his friend for the supplies and labor. The electrical work is about to be started and a brother in the Lord is going to do it as a voluntary gift and for that we are thankful also. The one most important task yet to be done is the "wrapping" of the building with the metal siding and roof.

I am most anxious about this project. It will afford us a attractive secure building in which we can store articles and supplies with which we will finish the undertaking of a meeting place, and activity building where we'll enjoy the beauty of the scenery God has provided for us to enjoy on Lake Texoma. If you've not been out to the Cove and seen the progress I invite you to drive out and get a glimpse at your ministry in the making! This is your project for which you can be proud.

For those who have donated their time and efforts... we are thankful and grateful. For the churches of Bryan Baptist Association who have contributed funds and materials we say thank you. And, if your church is not presently contributing funds to the Sunset Cove Ministry specifically, please consider doing so. Your cooperation will be greatly appreciated.

Thank you for allowing Mary & me to serve you as managers of the Sunset Cove Ministry. In His Service, Winston & Mary Smith

## Happenings Coming Soon !!

### February

10th - WMU Focus Week Banquet

### March

1st-8th- Annie Armstrong Easter Offering Week of Prayer

7th - Disaster Relief Training at Durant FBC

10th - Singing Churchwomen of OK at Calvary BC

30th - Falls Creek Organizational Meeting

### April

2nd - Spring Conference for church secretaries

3rd & 4th - OK Ladies Retreat at Falls Creek

10th - Good Friday (BBA office closed)

12th - EASTER

17th & 18th - WMU Retreat at the Helm

20th - Executive Board Meeting at Red River Valley CC

24th & 25th - "Rewired" State Men's Retreat at Falls

**Thank you** to all that prayed and/or contributed in any way to the **Operation Christmas Child Project!**

We delivered **915 shoeboxes** to our collection site at Prestonwood Baptist Church in Plano, TX.

They sent over 35,000 to the distribution center in North Carolina! Start saving your shoeboxes and collecting items to put in them now for next year!



## Happy Birthday & Happy Anniversary !!

### Birthdays

1/12 - Kerry Groce

1/12 - Doris Arp

1/16 - Jeni Pappas

1/19 - Norma Fullen

1/19 - Robert Fullen

1/26 - Lisa Osuna

### Wedding Anniversaries

1/11 - Darel & Cindy Bunch

1/28/69 - Garry & Marsha McCain

1/28/77 - Donald & Cindy Ford

### Ministry Anniversaries

1/01 - Sonya Geiger - Calera

1/05 - Ashley McLarry - Silo

1/00 - Billie Robinson - Silo

1/99 - Darel Bunch

1/21/07 - Royce Couch - Kenefic



## Upcoming Senior Events

**Trips:** (Please call the BBA office to reserve your place on the bus, leave your name and phone number.)

Jan. 23 - Kingston to "BG's" - Leave at 4:30 from Fairview BC. Bus fee \$2

Feb. 20 - Denison Showcase & Dinner

### Luncheons:

Jan. 14 - Silo

Feb. 11 - Wade

Mar. 11 - Lakepoint



Please come  
join us!!

If you or your church has any announcements or news you would like to be in next month's Challenger, please call the BBA office before

**January 15th. 580-924-2351**



## Literacy Missions Spread God's Love by.....

### ...teaching someone to read & write;

95% of nonreaders want to learn to read, so they can read the Bible for themselves.

70% of unemployed adults have reading or writing difficulties.

### ...teaching someone to speak English;

Have you ever felt called to the mission fields, but have not gone?

### ...tutoring children & youth;

Children who cannot read grow up to be adults who cannot read.

Workshops available to be certified to teach. Call the BBA office for more information!

"DivorceCare, a divorce recovery seminar and support group continues at First Baptist Church, 124 W. Evergreen,



Durant, with a new 13-week series starting January 7, 2009. Weekly sessions are Wednesdays from 6:00-7:30 p.m. in Room 205. There is no obligation to attend First Baptist or any church to participate in this seminar/support group. All persons in the area who are currently experiencing separation or divorce or have experienced divorce even years ago are encouraged to attend.

DivorceCare features on DVD nationally recognized experts on divorce and recovery topics. Some of the session topics include: 'Facing My Loneliness,...My Anger...My Depression,' 'New Relationships,' 'Kidcare,' 'Single Sexuality,' 'Financial Survival,' and 'Forgiveness.'

The cost to attend is \$15.00, with scholarships available.

**DC4K** (DivorceCare for Kids), designed for children ages 5-12, will meet in Room 202 during the time parents are meeting for DivorceCare, at no cost. Free childcare will be provided for preschool children.

Pre-registration is requested. For more information, or to pre-register, call the church at 924-3573, Katherine Brown at 924-1472, or Amy Tubbs at 924-0675 for DC4K."

## Positions Available

### Please pray for our pastorless churches:

Blue River, Hendrix, Yuba

### Volunteer Drummer Needed - Grace Baptist Church.

If interested please contact Bro. Anthony at 580-916-0221.

**Pews for Sale** - 14 padded pews 9' long. Will sell one or all \$100 each. Call 580-775-3682.

**ASSOCIATE PASTOR - MINISTER OF MUSIC:** On mission church seeks a shepherd to develop a blossoming program of music and worship. Prefer someone who can serve as a Minister of Education also, but not necessary. Seeking fulltime or bi-vocational. Send resume to **Fairview Baptist Church**, 1200 W University Blvd., Durant, OK 74701 or [durant\\_fairview@sbcglobal.net](mailto:durant_fairview@sbcglobal.net).

**First Baptist Church of Sherwood Shores, TX** is seeking a **couple as part-time youth directors**.

Contact Wendell Glen at 903-815-5569 or 903-523-5056 or Mr. Clements at 903-523-4904.

**Eastman Baptist Church in Overbrook, OK** is

searching for a **part time youth/music minister**. Please send resume to [Eastmanbaptist@gmail.com](mailto:Eastmanbaptist@gmail.com).



Phone: 580-924-2351  
 Fax: 580-924-2357  
 Email: bbadom@sbcglobal.net  
 dpenabba@sbcglobal.net  
 Website: bryanbaptistassociation.com

Director of Missions-----Terrell Suggs  
 Moderator-----Bill Ledbetter  
 Vice-Moderator-----Heath Murrah  
 Clerk-----Darrell Edwards  
 Treasurer-----J.C. Curtis  
 Administrative Assistant ---DeeDee Pena  
 Office Hours - Mon. - Thurs. 8:30 - 4:30  
 Fri. 8:30 - 1:00



## January 2009

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				<b>NEW YEAR BLESSINGS</b> BBA office closed	2	3
4	5 Pastor/Staff Conference 10:30am Fairview	6	7	8	9	10
11	12*Leading Like Jesus** Seminar @ Durant FBC	13 MTI Class Begins	14 Roadrunners Luncheon at Silo BC	15	16	 Emmanuel BC 9:30
 Sanctity of Human Life Sunday	19 Pastor/Staff Conference  Executive Board Meeting @ Brown BC	20	21	22	23 Roadrunners trip to BG's in Kingston	24 Wild Game Cook Off @ Bokchito FBC
25	26 Pastor/Staff Conference  State Evangelism Conference	27	28	29	30	31