

# The Challenger

December 2005



## From the Desk of the DOM

### Week of Prayer for International Missions December 4 - 11



Are you looking for a wise way to invest your money? What about the **Lottie Moon Christmas Offering**? Every dollar of your gift goes to support some 5,238 international missionaries. People from all over the world are responding to the gospel in amazing numbers. There were 607,132 overseas baptisms recorded last year with 21,028 new churches planted. I am extremely grateful to be a Southern Baptist and be part of such a fantastic mission enterprise. It is all for the building of the Kingdom of God. What better investment could there be?

I want to challenge every BBA church to set a high LMCO goal this year, higher than ever before. Use all the resources available to educate your people in missions. The better people are informed the more generously they will give.



### Have a Blessed Christmas

Deepest gratitude is extended to all of you from the staff of the Bryan Baptist Association for your loving and faithful support. What a high privilege and awesome responsibility it is to serve our churches. Some very exciting things are going on in the BBA for which we praise the Lord. The year 2006 promises to be one of the greatest years in our history. I look forward to it with great anticipation. May the Lord's grace and peace abound toward all of you during this Christmas season.

Let us serve you. Terrell Suggs

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## October Financial Report

Achille, 1st -Bob McLean ---- \$ 64.32	Cartwright - Ray Earley ----- \$ 272.31	Kemp -Roger Spears ----- \$ 0	Sunset View -Harry Boydston ----- \$ 0
Albany - Jackie Robinson --- \$ 118.95	Community - Bob Stevens - ---- \$ 0	Kenefic -Hillary Dean ----- \$ 90.38	Utica --Jay Perry ----- \$ 297.43
Armstrong ----- \$ 73.14	Cobb - Bruce McLaughlin ----- \$ 0	Lake Point - Jared McIntire ----- \$ 42	Wade - Charles Williams ---- \$ 172.50
Bennington - Neil O'Donnell ----- \$ 0	Colbert - Les Roberts ----- \$ 398.48	Mead - Kerry Groce ----- \$ 277.27	Western Meadows ----- \$ 256.47
Blue - Randy Lewis ----- \$ 61.38	Durant, 1st-James Robinson-- \$ 985.86	Platter, 1st --Bruce Almy ---- \$ 143.33	Yuba -Joe Smith ----- \$ 241.32
Bokchito, 1st - Preston Burns-- \$ 430.80	Emmanuel - Charles Loyd --- \$ 191.31	Reynolds Chapel----- \$ 870.42	<b>Account Balances as of Sept. 30:</b>
Brown ----- \$ 104.12	Fairview - Darrell Edwards --- \$ 539.26	Roberta - Bud Jenkins ----- \$ 0	BBA Checking ----- \$ 5004.16
Bushnell - Kim McGehee -- \$ 1182.80	Faith, Bokchito----- \$ 165.73	Robinson - Donald Ford ----- \$ 84.63	Falls Creek ----- \$ 859.51
Caddo - Jim Baker ----- \$ 190.30	Grace - Anthony Williams ----- \$ 0	Silo -Buddy Johnson ----- \$ 493.95	Disaster Relief ----- \$ 9967.16
Calera - Jacob Toews ----- \$ 262.19	Hendrix -John Max Cox ----- \$ 341.00	Stone Creek -- Fred Resz ----- \$ 58.58	Carrell Hooper Mission ---- \$ 1819.11
Calvary - Darel Bunch ----- \$ 631.03	Iglesia Bautista -Alejo Benito ----- \$ 0	Streetman Rd ----- \$ 547.17	Sunset Cove ----- \$ 3748.24

## Judgment House at Calvary Baptist Church

We finished up our Judgment House on Saturday October 29th after a blessed week of sharing the gospel in an untraditional way and were able to see amazing things happen for the Glory of God. Judgment House is an eight scene drama of the reality of life and death. This is not a haunted house. Our objective is not to scare anyone into a relationship with the Lord, but to prepare them for an appointment that we will not be late for (Hebrews 9:27). Judgment House takes 80-90 individuals nightly that believe in this ministry as much as I do to successfully perform the ministry that God has called us to do. We had over 1600 people come through from the ages of 10-90. We were able to see 181 first time professions of faith and 263 rededications. We had close to 50 churches in Oklahoma and Texas come from as far as 2 hours away. I can't believe Bro. Darel and I had the opportunity time after time to draw the net during our invitation time and the amazing response and not only from children, but also from adults. This event takes up to 6 months of planning and is easily a 3 week campaign within our church. The week prior to the event the church is scurrying around trying to get sets together and put finishing touches on everything, then the week of the event, and the week after the event is full of visitation. We don't want to drop the ball with our follow-up. Every church that attended with students that made decisions for Christ received a letter and the forms the students filled out in our counseling room that has all of their contact information on it so they can ensure proper follow-up. Brother Darel, calls our counseling time "triage" where we offer the plan of salvation every 10 to 12 minutes. We appreciate all those who were involved, and especially Christ for the amazing outpouring of His Holy Spirit. Praise God for the great things He has done.

Serving Him Together, Jay

## A New Look this Holiday Season

God is at work at Southeastern...and we are so thankful to be a part of what He is doing. The fall semester is nearly 80% completed and it won't be long before students from Southeastern and across the country will head home for Christmas break. For many of these students it will be their first opportunity to spend a significant amount of time with family and friends. All of those relationships will have changed to some extent; a son will demonstrate more responsibility or independence; a daughter might spend more time with a younger brother or sister; another son will be more defiant; and there will certainly be a daughter who will have to break the difficult news of an unexpected pregnancy; many parents will be shocked with the report cards that arrive over the holidays, both for good and bad. My prayer is that for the students we have had the opportunity to minister to and influence this semester, that they would embrace their role as Christian men and women and begin investing in the lives of others around them. Maybe a student will take the time over the break to encourage a grandparent or elder about the influence and impact they have made in their life. Perhaps an old high school friend (or enemy) will be contacted and a new relationship will ensue that will give Christ glory. Hopefully every student will go home and show honor, love, and respect for mom and dad...or for many step-mom or dad. A second prayer of mine is that they would be lovingly received whatever their circumstances, good or bad. Often the subtle changes that occur through the college years go unnoticed, especially by us family members who have a tendency to type-cast younger family members (the kids) into behaviors and personalities they possessed when they were fourteen. So this year, let me encourage you to take a new look at your son or daughter, your granddaughter or grandson, what is God doing in their life today? Are they reflecting the wonder and greatness of the Creator? Are they even following Christ at all? Sadly, many of us will let these precious times pass us by without so much as a thought of the changes God is bringing about in the lives of the students we know and love and without a fresh look at what God is doing in us. Take time this season to be a family, take time and invest in each other in ways that will last forever.

Your Blessed...Be a Blessing. Brandon



## Women's Missions & Ministries



### Mead Baptist Church had a GA Recognition Service August 31st.

The theme was "Go Light Your World". WMU Director Betty Stout welcomed the Girls in Action. The scripture focus was Matthew 5:14-16.

"Ye are the light of the world. A city that is set on a hill cannot be hid. Neither do men light a candle, and put it under a bushel, but on a candlestick; and it giveth light unto all that are in the house. Let your light so shine before men that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven."

Since Jesus' ministry was a constant witness of letting His light shine, everyone joined in singing "This Little Light of Mine".

Pastor Kerry Groce spoke about the importance of children in action in the church followed by the Commitment Service Program coordinated by GA Director Gloria Vazetten, and Assistants Kathy Gooch and Tabatha Sexton. An illuminated candle was presented to each GA by Assistant WMU Director, Lynda Tolbert, then special music, "Go Light Your World", was performed by the GA's. Awards and badges were presented by the GA Leaders along with denim purses made by the women of the church to be used for display of the badges. Missions Challenge was given by Pastor Groce, and Bryan Baptist Association Missionary, Bro. Terrell Suggs led the closing prayer.

There were 26 GA's and leaders participating in the program including future GA, Katy Gooch.

## Lights For Life

The Pregnancy Center of Bryan County is sponsoring the 6th Annual "Lights for Life"

Purchase a light in honor of or in memory of the life of a loved one for \$5.00 each

Lighting Ceremony is;

**Monday December 12, 2005 at 7:00pm at the Pregnancy Center 308 N. 2nd, Durant**

Open House and refreshments following the ceremony.

Please send your "purchases" to the

**Pregnancy Center of Bryan County**

**PO Box 1441**

**Durant, OK 74702**

with your name and the name of the person you want to honor or remember.

## Disaster Relief Update

Thank you all so much for the awesome outpouring of generosity during the weeks after Hurricane Katrina. The whole disaster relief team is extremely appreciative!

The Oklahoma Baptist Disaster Relief Ministry has pulled out of Louisiana as of Nov. 17. That is good news that the people there are getting on their feet well enough that they don't need our help any longer, but we still have money that has been designated to go to Hurricane Katrina Relief. There really is not a good way to send it to Louisiana but there are disasters of other kinds all the time that the team needs funds to answer the call.

The BBA and the Disaster Relief Team would like to be free to use these funds to help in any disaster. We are asking, if you gave money designated to Hurricane Katrina and would like us to find a way to get it to that cause specifically, please call the BBA office before the end of the month. If we don't hear from you we will assume it is okay with you to put this money in the disaster relief fund that will go to help wherever the next disaster happens.

Thank you again and may God Bless you all abundantly!!

## Sunset Cove

Some exciting things are happening at Sunset Cove. For a long time we have been in need of a mission volunteer to live and work at the cove. Well, he has arrived. Winston and Mary Smith are on the scene and things are beginning to move. We are so thankful for their commitment to our work. Within the next 2-3 weeks we will have 3 new RV sites prepared and ready for occupancy. These will be available to those that would like to volunteer time at the cove, or for those wanting a place to stay with their RV. WORK DAYS at the cove have in the past been on a 'come as needed' basis. NOW, we have begun a regular WORK DAY each Thursday of the week for those able and willing to volunteer some time and effort. There will always be someone there to direct you to a needed job. Come join us each week. We will still have need of you on Saturdays anytime you can be there. A THANK YOU to those churches and individuals that faithfully support Sunset Cove. You are making it possible for the work to continue on this marvelous mission opportunity. Jerry Rethford

### Upcoming Senior Events

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

Dec. 8 - Denison, TX - Christmas Light Display & out to eat. **(This is a change in the schedule)**

Jan. 20 - BBQ Pit in Madill

#### **Luncheons:**

Dec. 14 - Wade Baptist **(This is a change from the schedule)**

Jan. 11 - Albany

Feb. 8 - Bokchito, First



### Happy Birthday and Happy Anniversary !!

#### **Birthdays:**

12/3 - Jim Baker

12/5 - Gene Jackson

12/7 - Clint Whitehurst

12/8 - Donald Ford

12/10 - Charles Williams

12/11 - Vicki McLarry

12/17 - Vesta Baker

12/21 - Darel Bunch

12/21 - Janice Roberts

12/21 - Adine Stevens

12/22 - Amy Earley

12/26 - Bruce Almy

12/30 - Joe Springer

12/31 - Quintin McLarry

#### **Wedding Anniversaries**

12/21 - Neil & Vickie O'Donnell

12/23 - Gerald & Iva Kelly

12/26/55 - Andy & Dorothy Anderson

12/27 - Jared & Michelle McIntire

12/28/73 - Brenda & Tommy

Rowland

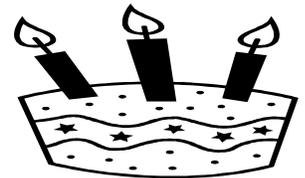
12/28/03 - Clint & Bethany Whitehurst

#### **Ministry Anniversaries**

12/1/03 - Ken Bartholomew - Durant, First

12/1/97 - Bill Goodin - Colbert

12/04 - John Max Cox - Hendrix



Streetman Road Baptist Church has a new interim pastor. **Bill Page** will be serving the Lord in this capacity. Welcome Bill!

### Mexico Mission Trip Dates Changed

The dates for the associational mission trip to Guanajuato, Mexico have been changed from June 23 - July 2 to **August 4 - 12**. If you would like to go or have questions, please call BBA office.



Thank you all so much for participating in the Samaritan's Purse Christmas Child Shoeboxes. It was a huge success. We took **676** boxes to Plano on November 21. Start saving your shoeboxes now for next year!

Do you or your group have events going on that would be of interest to the rest of the association? Would you like to have your event on the annual handbook calendar? Be sure to call the BBA office **BEFORE December 22. 580-924-2351**



### Positions Needed

**Pastors are needed at the following churches:** Armstrong, Brown, Reynolds Chapel, Streetman Rd, Western Meadows, Faith

**Music Ministers Emmanuel Baptist Church,** Mead, OK - For their traditional Sunday services and to work with their adult choir. Please send resume to Emmanuel Baptist Church, P.O. Box 235 Mead, OK 73449.

**Caddo First Baptist** - part time - Contact Pastor Jim Baker at 580-367-2235.

**Youth/Music Ministers Albany Baptist Church** is searching for someone that could possibly do **music and/or youth**. Please send your resume to Albany Baptist church, PO Box 97, Albany, OK 74721.

**Faith Baptist Church** is looking for a youth/music minister. Please call 580-295-3488.

**Secretary/Treasurer - Caddo First Baptist** - part time - Contact Pastor Jim Baker at 580-367-2235.

Return Service Requested

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Director of Missions-----Terrell Suggs  
 Moderator-----Darrell Edwards  
 Vice Moderator-----Ray Earley  
 Clerk-----Gerald Kelly  
 Treasurer-----Ron Bennett  
 Administrative Assistant ---DeeDee Pena  
 Office Hours - Mon. - Thurs. 8:30 - 4:30  
 Fri. 8:30 - 1:00

*Jesus  
 is the Reason for  
 the Season !!*



## December 2005

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				<b>1</b> Sunset Cove Prayer & Workday 9:00am - ?	<b>2</b> BBA Leadership Appreciation Banquet	<b>3</b>
<b>4</b>	<b>5</b> Pastor/Staff Conference,	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b> Roadrunner Trip Christmas Lights at	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b> RA Racers
<b>Week of Prayer/Mission Study for International Missions and Lottie Moon Christmas Offering Dec. 4 - 11</b>						
<b>11</b> Lottie Moon Christmas Offering	<b>12</b> Pastor/Staff Conference, Fairview 10:30	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b> Senior Luncheon at Wade BC	<b>15</b> Sunset Cove Prayer & Workday 9:00am - ?	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b>
<b>18</b>	<b>19</b> Pastor/Staff Conference, Fairview 10:30	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b> Sunset Cove Prayer & Work- day 9:00am - ?	<b>23</b> BBA Office Closed 23 - 26	<b>24</b>
<b>25</b> Merry Christmas	<b>26</b> BBA Office Closed	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b> Sunset Cove Prayer & Workday 9:00am - ?	<b>30</b>	<b>31</b>

