



# CELEBRATING SERVICE

2016 TEXAS BAPTISTS ANNUAL MEETING

## 2016 BOOK OF REPORTS

BAPTIST GENERAL CONVENTION OF TEXAS

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**DAVID  
HARDAGE**  
Executive  
Director

Institutional work is a cold term for a warm, personal and vital ministry in Texas. The Texas Baptist Institutions, or perhaps better phrased, mission organizations in Texas, meet human needs by touching millions of lives each year through health care, education, child and family care, and elderly care.

This Book of Reports is, well, a book of reports from key ministries and ministry partners of the Baptist General Convention of Texas. These brief outlines showcase the work and accomplishments of 2016. These accomplishments are your accomplishments when you partner with the BGCT through Cooperative Program mission giving. I hope you will read through the ministry work and join me in rejoicing in the lives reached.

In this book you will notice the five ministry teams of the BGCT – the Great Commission Team, the Missions Mobilization Team, the Christian Life Commission, the Church Connections Team, and the Collegiate Ministries Team. These team members are dedicated to meeting the spiritual, emotional and physical needs of our Jerusalem, Judea, Samaria and around the world.

Celebrating the ministry achievements of institutions around the state is a focus at the 2016 Annual Meeting. In the history of the BGCT, institutions have played and will continue to play a vital role in reaching the state and nations with the love and hope of Christ. In fact, Baylor University and University of Mary Hardin-Baylor pre-dates the formation of the BGCT.

Amazingly, these 28 institutions touch over 10 million lives each year. An individual's contact with any one of these institutions alters his/her life for the better. The deep impact our institutions provide falls under several categories: education, caring for orphans, matching a child with a forever home, rebuilding the lives of disaster victims, sheltering refugees, or physical healing.

The numbers are phenomenal. The work, unprecedented. But we still have areas of the state that need more collective effort. To be part of this work now, please continue giving to your church through the Cooperative Program, special state offerings like the Texas Baptist Hunger Offering and the Mary Hill Davis Offering for Texas Missions. To be an ongoing part of these ministries after your death, consider leaving some part of your estate to Texas Baptist causes and our Texas Baptist Missions Foundation can help you with that.

Also included is a complete review of our finances for you to examine and ask questions of us, should you have them. We are transparent with finances and financial reporting. If you would like more information on our finances or on affiliating with the BGCT, please do contact us.

Thank you for the continued opportunity to serve as your executive director. I covet your prayers as together we continue to engage a changing culture that needs established and new approaches of living out the love of Jesus.

In Christ.

David Hardage



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## **MAJOR ACTIONS OF THE EXECUTIVE BOARD SINCE THE LAST SESSION OF THE ANNUAL MEETING INCLUDED:**

Approved: 2015 proceedings on the 130th Annual Session of the Baptist General Convention of Texas that met November 9-10, 2015 in Frisco, Texas.

## **APPROVED THE FOLLOWING ACTIONS FROM THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE:**

### **Recommendation to Change Sectors for Executive Board Members**

We approved the proposed map and sector configuration be adopted by the Executive Board of the BGCT. Further, we recommend those board members from sectors with changes be allowed to fulfil their current terms with the sector adjustments accomplished by attrition.

## **APPROVED THE FOLLOWING ACTIONS FROM THE ADMINISTRATION SUPPORT COMMITTEE**

### **Recommendation to Revise Policy 400 Executive Board Structure**

We approved that Policy 401 through 431.1 of the Policy Manual be amended and Policy 432 and 432.1 be added as described in the attachments to reflect the organization structure changes made effective 5/1/2015.

### **Recommendation to Revise Policy 525 Clergy Sexual Misconduct**

We approved policy 525 be replaced with a new policy focused on providing education and information to BGCT churches regarding their responsibility to avoid instances of clergy sexual misconduct and to compassionately address misconduct when it is alleged and/or proven to be true.

### **Recommendation to Revise Policy 701 Business and Financial Plan**

We approved Policy 701 Business and Financial Plan be revised to bring it into alignment with the revised Policy 705, to bring it into alignment with common current business practices, and to correct some technical issues.

### **Recommendation to Revise Policy 705 Investment Policy**

We approved Policy 705 Cash Management/Investment Policy be replaced to be more comprehensive, better define roles and responsibilities, and clarify various considerations for investing funds by BGCT.

## **APPROVED THE FOLLOWING ACTIONS FROM THE INSTITUTIONAL RELATIONS COMMITTEE**

### **Recommendation for the Baptist University of the Americas Indebtedness Increase**

We approved of an increase in indebtedness by Baptist University of the Americas beyond the Policy 602 prescribed limit of 20 percent of total audited net assets.

### **Recommendation for University of Mary Hardin-Baylor Indebtedness Increase**

We approved that Policy 602 applicable for University of Mary Hardin-Baylor is being modified to allow University of Mary Hardin-Baylor to enter into debt which causes debt to audited net assets ratio to exceed 20% as long as guidelines and ratios included in the University of Mary Hardin-Baylor Debt Management Policy dated October 18, 2013 are followed. No further action is required by BGCT to consent to such debt.

## APPROVED THE FOLLOWING ACTIONS FROM THE FINANCE COMMITTEE

### Recommendation for 2016 Texas World Mission Initiatives and Partnership Allocations

We approved a 2016 proposed allocation of \$1,470,000 of Cooperative Program Texas Worldwide Missions Initiatives and Partnerships.

### Recommendation for Re-Designation of Capital Expenditures Fund

We approved the use of the Capital Expenditures Fund be expanded to allow use of the earnings for infrastructure operational needs related to IT.

### Recommendation for Church Start Funding

We approved that one-half of the investment income from the J.K. Wadley Mission Fund be allocated as needed to fund church starts.

### Recommendation for Proceeds from Sale of Parking Lot and Vacant Lot

We approved \$750,000 of the proceeds from the sale of the Washington Street parking lot and vacant lot be used to establish the “Historical Collection Building Operations and Capital Improvement Fund” as a quasi-endowment at BFT with the income designated to building operations and capital improvements of the Historical Collection Building.

Further we approved the remaining proceeds of \$486,908.58 be added to the “BSM Building Capital Improvement Fund” quasi-endowment at BFT with the additional income designated to capital improvements of BSM buildings.

### Recommendation for Re-Designation of Baptist Building Sale Proceeds

We approved \$250 thousand of the unspent proceeds from the Baptist Building sale be added to the “Historical Collection Building Operations and Capital Improvement Fund” as a quasi-endowment at BFT with the income designated to building operations and capital improvements of the Historical Collection.

Further we approved any remaining unspent proceeds from the Baptist Building sale be added to the “2015 Building Proceeds Ministry Fund” quasi-endowment with the income being used to support BGCT ministries.

### Recommendation for Funding of Sexual Misconduct Prevention

We approved \$100,000 of income from the J.K. Wadley Mission Fund be set aside for three years funding of the clergy sexual misconduct prevention training and web resources.

### Recommendation for Funding of Missionary to Muslims

We approved \$180,000 of income from the J.K. Wadley Mission Fund be set aside for three years of funding for the Missionary to Muslims to include contract labor, travel and other program costs associated with this ministry.

### Recommendation for Funding of Western Heritage and Church Starting Consultant

We approved \$300,000 of income from the J.K. Wadley Mission Fund be set aside for three years funding of the Western Heritage and Church Starting Consultant to include salary, benefits, travel and other costs associated with this ministry.

## APPROVED THE FOLLOWING ACTIONS FROM THE AUDIT COMMITTEE

### Recommendation to Secure 2015 Financial Auditor

We approved the firm BDO USA, LLP conduct the financial audit for the year 2015.





**DELVIN  
ATCHISON**  
Director

## Moving vs. Movement

As Baptists, we believe in meetings. We know about being on the move going from one meeting to another. You've heard the Baptist nursery rhyme. "Mary had a little lamb. It was quite a sheep. Until it joined the Baptist church, and died from lack of sleep." If you have been reading through this volume of reports about Baptist work (which obviously is the result of confinement through prolonged illness, injury or some form of Baptist punishment) you have seen Baptist busyness at its best.

In Luke 18: 22-23, the story of the rich young ruler, Jesus extends the invitation for him to "Come follow me." He wasn't asking him to move from Point A to Point B. He was inviting him to join a movement. Jesus was the movement. He is the movement. The work of Texas Baptists, we believe, is more than simply showing the activity of moving from place to place, but actually being deeply involved in a movement of God.

In the creation of the Great Commission Team, the intent was not simply to illustrate the ability to move groups of people into a different organizational matrix. The desired result was to capture the momentum of a movement. Jesus still is the movement.

The Great Commission Team comprises, for the first time in Texas Baptists history, the work of Discipleship, Evangelism and Music & Worship, into one organizational team. In the days to come, our hope is that Texas Baptists will experience a greater collaboration of these invaluable entities – not just in the multitude of staff, resources and events that engage our churches – but, more importantly, in the movement of God taking place in our churches and institutions throughout Texas.

As you read the following reports you will experience the activity of our Great Commission Team moving from Points A to Z, all around Texas. Our prayer is that you experience the movement of God taking place in the hearts of Texas Baptists engaged in Discipleship, Evangelism and Music & Worship in new, fresh ways. We believe that each event and ministry is truly indicative of the activity of God. We see this throughout the year, throughout the state. We pray you will as well.

The population tapestry of Texas has become more diverse. People with similar values, languages, and worldviews are clustering in our cities and towns. While the population numbers seem daunting, for each number, there is a face and a name – a person who God loves and who needs to know Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior. God is at work in the hearts of those who know Him and those who have yet to meet Him through a personal relationship with Jesus.

The call to fulfill the Great Commission is not merely an option for Christians. It is an imperative. With this understanding, the Evangelism Team has been committed in assisting Texas Baptists churches to do everything possible to share the good news of Jesus Christ with everyone – everywhere – starting at our own doorstep. Pray 4 Every Home has allowed Christians to begin impacting their communities, one home at a time, through an intentional evangelistic prayer initiative. The 4xFour Challenge, a catalytic and evangelistic process for continued church growth, is assisting Texas Baptists congregations in overcoming the insouciance to personal evangelism. [un]Apologetics continues to remove the obstacles to evangelism created by a rapidly changing culture and pluralistic society. KidsFaith continues to assist parents in fulfilling the Great Commission in their respective homes, equipping them to talk with their children in matters of faith.

Our adult and youth evangelism conferences have reached hundreds with the gospel message, while inspiring, motivating, and equipping thousands to fulfill the Great Commission in their respective mission fields. Below is one testimony of God's transforming power through the evangelistic Super Summer ministry of Texas Baptists:

*"One of my students, Kaylin, who had been absent from church for the majority of the spring semester, started hanging out with my church intern and I during the weeks leading up to Super Summer. She wanted to go to Super Summer but was afraid to ask about it because she had been absent for so long. I was unsure about whether or not to let her go. She didn't really show much passion in coming to church in all the previous months. I kept an open mind and told her that if she continued to "show" me that she wanted to go I would think about it.*

*Four days before we left for camp one of our other girls had to back out, which left an open position for Kaylin. I took that as God telling me that Kaylin was supposed to go, so we substituted her in. Kaylin came up to me after Rainbow on Tuesday night at Super Summer and informed me that she wanted to get baptized. I was floored. I talk to her about it and we both celebrated. As the night went on I was encountered by Kaylin once again. She then informed me that not only did she want to be baptized but that she had made a profession of faith for the first time. She explained to me that she didn't know exactly what it meant and that her dean helped her realize that she never really made the decision to make Jesus the Lord of her life. Baptism just seemed to be the right answer. My heart was overjoyed as she finished talking to me. I exclaimed, "You weren't even going to come!" It was then that I realized that God gave me an incredible opportunity to celebrate the "coming to life" of one of my students. God's faithfulness to pursue and transform the heart of a student who wasn't even going to attend, won out!!"*



**JOSHUA DEL RISCIO**  
Director



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**LEIGHTON  
FLOWERS**  
Director

Every year the Youth Evangelism staff hear great testimonies of God's faithfulness. Here a couple of those encouraging stories from this past summer:

*During the week at Super Summer I worked with green school. I was the worship leader of an amazing group of students. During one of the sessions our dean, Craig, asked the kids to write out the names of four people that need Jesus. After the students wrote them down he asked them all to say the initials of their four people. As the week went on Craig would continue to ask them to pray for those names.*

*During Friday's last session, Craig once again asked the students to say the initials of the names. But this time he asked certain students individually. He came to young boy named Kaleb and asked him to share the initials of his four people. After Kaleb finished saying the initials Craig took a moment and realized all the people shared the same last initial. Craig then asked, "Kaleb, are these your family members?" To which he replied, "Yes sir." We immediately stopped and prayed for Kaleb and for his family. And that's how we ended our time in green school. Praying for a student to be a light to his family who is in darkness.*

God is so good. We are blessed to serve!

Whatever the size, whatever the style, Music and Worship are vital components of every church's ministry. We are here to encourage and to provide resources for the development of church music leadership and ministries through training events, consultations, opportunities for fellowship, and facilitation of peer interaction and support. Events characterized by spiritual challenge and musical excellence are offered for all age groups from preschoolers to senior adults. We work to create opportunities for Texas Baptist musicians to put feet and hands to their training in ministry, both locally and abroad.



**TOM TILLMAN**  
Director

### **The Singing Men and Singing Women of Texas**

Over 1000 men and women in music leadership and all over Texas make up 8 Singing Women of Texas chapters and 6 Singing Men of Texas chapters that impact their state and the world for Christ. SMOT and SWOT, which reach into every corner of the state, meet independently once a month, from September-May (except for December) to rehearse, fellowship, network, and present a concert in an area church or other community venue.

**Singing Men of Texas** celebrated their 40th Anniversary with a combined concert at the Texas Baptists Annual Meeting in November, 2015. Sam Prestidge, Director of Music for Texas Baptists, 1960-1994 was honored for 34 years of service to Texas Baptists and founder of the Singing Men of Texas. Over 400 SMOT members, friends and family of Sam and Geneva Prestidge were honored with the establishment of an endowment in their name. The Sam and Geneva Prestidge endowment will enable persons to fulfill their calling from God in the area of Music and Worship.

**Children's Worship University** convened once again in January 2015 at First Baptist Church Lewisville. Registering were 161 children's music leaders from 38 churches across Texas with the desire to be encouraged and inspired by expert clinicians. Keynote speaker Darlene Abbott encouraged the attendees how to teach children through practical, hands-on activities what it means to truly worship God.

Senior Adult Choirs attended two **Everlasting Choir Celebrations for Boomers and Beyond** in Dallas and Lubbock. Chuck Bridwell, retired Minister of Music encouraged 730 Senior Adults and Boomers from 31 churches to continue to use their voice to serve and minister in Senior Adult Choirs.

### **SOME OF MUSIC AND WORSHIP'S LEADERSHIP TRAINING EVENTS THIS YEAR**

Texas Baptist Handbell Festival trained and encouraged 108 Ringers from 12 churches. Worship Summits - 67 attendees from 50 churches shared ideas and encouraged each other in music ministry.

Instrumental Convergence - Training was provided for 90 orchestra members from 20 churches by expert clinician, Camp Kirkland



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**PHIL MILLER**

Associate  
Director, Great  
Commission  
Team/  
Discipleship  
Team Lead

**KEITH LOWRY**

Adult Sunday  
School/Single  
Adults/Family  
Ministry/Senior  
Adult Specialist

**JANE WILSON**

Youth Ministry  
Specialist

**DIANE LANE**

Preschool/  
Children/Special  
Needs Specialist

## RELATIONSHIP & SERVICE

The world begins and ends with relationships. We start with father, mother, son, daughter; grow into husband, wife; and graduate with grandchildren. (Grandkids are the blessing of God for not killing your kids when they were teenagers.) God blesses us with a multitude of relationships, and this is especially true for our Discipleship Team. As we connect with Texas Baptists all around the state, we begin or enrich relationships as we train some of God's finest servants – Bible study leaders in your churches. Consider the following:

### In Student Ministry

After the conclusion of a conference session concerning biblical leadership, one of the attendees told me of a situation he was facing as a supervisor at work, and how he had spent a great deal of time considering how to handle it. His heart's desire was to conduct his business and the employee relationships in the most Christ-like manner, and he planned to immediately implement what he had learned. A youth leader exemplifying service in both church and workplace.

### In Childhood Ministry

Laura loved teaching in the after-school program of her church. When the Childhood Minister position became available, she had the heart of ministry, but little training. A friend suggested the Childhood Ministry Certification Program. Laura began the program, finding practical and applicable methods of leading ministry. The Certification Program equipped Laura with the framework of ministry by giving her the skillset to see the totality of ministry—not just Sunday morning, but also family ministry and discipleship. A willing leader, now trained for service in childhood ministry.

### In Adult Ministry

A Minister of Adults at one of our churches had been attending “Catch the Boomer Wave” conferences for several years. He heard again and again that the best way to begin an effective boomer ministry (separate from the traditional senior adult ministry) was to gather a “boomer dream team” of interested, forward thinking, open minded leaders; and have them study Amy Hanson's book, “Boomers and Beyond”. What's scary is that he did everything we've been suggesting, and has had a tremendous success in developing a thriving boomer ministry. A motivated leader with adults, trained to serve in new ways.

## SOME OF DISCIPLESHIP'S HALLMARK EVENTS OF THIS YEAR

Childhood Ministry Certification Program equipped 30 new ministers during 2016.

Special Friends Retreats – 550 individuals with special needs met at two locations in Texas during fall, 2015.

Youth Conclave (2015) had 673 total attendance representing 256 churches from 71 associations.

National Boomer Ministry Conference (2015) had 225 adult leaders in attendance from 17 states.

The Missions Team exists to connect and mobilize Texas Baptists with mission opportunities in their communities, in the state, in the U.S., and in the world. Our prayer is that Texas Baptists will see the world the way that Jesus sees the world and be moved by compassion. “When He saw the crowds, He had compassion on them, because they were harassed and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd.” Matt.9:26

We would like to see every person that participates in mission with Texas Baptists to experience the power of God in becoming conformed to the likeness of Christ and also to know that they are being obedient in fulfilling the Great Commission of making disciples of all nations.

### Why?

Because we are called to obey the Word of God and to fulfill the Great Commission, and when we do this, the Spirit of God works in such a way that the outcome is the result of the work of the Holy Spirit. Currently, we have missions’ partnerships in Mexico, Peru, Spain, Canada and soon we’ll be adding Brazil and the Middle East. We are so blessed to serve the Lord alongside brothers and sisters from these regions of the world.

In this annual report, you will find the reports on each area of the Missions Team including: River Ministry/Mexico Missions, Urban Missions, Hope 1:8 Experience, Texas Volunteer Missions, Oilfield Ministries, House Churches, Multi-housing Ministries, BOUNCE (pre-packaged missions experience), Disaster Recovery, Minister of Missions, and Missional Grants to help churches reach those who are not yet the people of God (the church).

One of the new initiatives in missions is the ‘Missionary Adoption Program’ – MAP. We are partnering with the Brazilian Baptists to reach the people groups living along the Amazon River. MAP is designed for churches from Texas and Brazil to adopt and financially support a national missionary from this region of Brazil. We are very excited about what the Lord is going to do through this program because all types of churches big and small will be able to participate in this adoption program. A Baptist church from Texas together with a Baptist church from Brazil will adopt a missionary for a specific period of time to reach the lost and establish a new church in the Amazon.

If you are already participating in missions with Texas Baptists, we are so grateful for this collaboration. However, if you have not yet started to participate with us in missions, we pray that our Lord will use this report to inspire you and consider different possibilities to do so.



**R. JOSUE  
VALERIO**  
Director



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**STEVE SEABERRY**  
Volunteer  
Missions  
Director

### ***“Your Partnership with us in the Faith...”***

The old adage – “Two heads are better than one” – is widely accepted as truth. In Christian ministry, “partners in ministry” is equally widely accepted as truth. Partners... co-workers...co-laborers all describe the joy found in Volunteer Missions. Come and join us in a short stroll through 2015-2016 to hear stories of Volunteer Missionaries working together as co-workers in God’s service.

[from Oil Patch Chapel Ministries] “We received a call from Monica at a hotel in Schulenburg. Her husband had been laid off from the oil patch and they had found employment at the motel. They were completely out of money and were in need of food, which we bought them. We then learned that he was in need of heart surgery. We await hearing their next need. Through us a physical need was met.”

**[from Origin Church, Vancouver]** “[During a special campus outreach] ... our students were able to engage in many thoughtful conversations with others about matters of faith and the spirit.... We had the opportunity to invite many students to consider matters of the soul and the hope God offers through Jesus.”

**[Oil Patch Chaplain]** “Robert Fowlkes had witnessed to a young man for many months when God used the free counseling service offered through Oil Patch Chapel Ministries as a venue to meet this man’s need for understanding his troubled marriage. Robert drove him to the counseling site every week for several months. Through his caring actions, this young man accepted Jesus as His Lord and Savior.”

**[from Ekklesia Church, Vancouver]** – “God has knit the heart of Ekklesia to the heart of a group of pastors in Nepal. Two of our members are in the Terai region of Nepal for six weeks working with a Nepali church planter / pastor. [Our ladies] are teaching Bible stories to 165 children in a school owned by a Hindu but administrated by a Christian. They are allowed to teach Old Testament stories about God but nothing about Jesus. They have seen several lives changed by God already in their first two weeks.”

**[from Shift Church, Nederland]** – Refinery workers cannot attend regular church services due to shift work hours, but no doors have opened until now! Michael Boyd, a shift worker, found it difficult to attend regular church services due to his work schedule. Thinking of refinery workers, he realized there were medical staff, police, firefighters and many other professions with a similar situation. Plans are being made to meet the needs of these many shift workers through this new ministry of FBC, Nederland.

**[from Oil Patch Chapel Ministries]** – “As we walk among the people, we always leave words of encouragement, a Bible or our new devotion book: ‘Making the Trip with God on Route 316’. After giving the devotion book to many truck drivers last week, Robert Fowlkes and Larry Martinez were stopped at a hotel and visited with the managers. Larry shared the Good News of Jesus with both and they prayed asking Jesus into their lives. They are now believers in our Lord.”

Thank you, Texas Baptists, for your “partnership in ministry” through Volunteer Missions.

Thank you for your faithful support of Texas Baptist Volunteer Missions by your contributions through the Cooperative Program and the Mary Hill Davis Offering.

It is difficult for me to share about what is happening in River Ministry/Mexico Missions with just one or two stories. One or two stories could not begin to tell the story of all the ministry that was done and all the lives that were touched through River Ministry/Mexico Missions this past year.

If I only share one or two stories, I would not be able to tell you about the 14 children's feeding centers we help support in Juarez and how those feeding centers help to reach the community. I would not be able to share about the 10 house churches we helped start in Laredo, Texas in partnership with the Multi-housing/House Congregations Ministry of the BGCT and how the River Ministry Missionary, Lorenzo Ortiz, helped provide training and guidance for all the house church leaders.

I would not be able to share about the Pastor Family Conferences we had in Juarez, Mexico City, Guadalajara, Ciudad Acuña and Monterrey, Mexico. I would not be able to share about the 3 medical teams that went to El Paso during Spring Break from the BSM's of South Plains College and UT Southwestern Medical Center and how Jesus Galarza, the River Ministry Missionary in the area, organized 20 medical clinics in the city for them.

I would not be able to share with you that over 3,000 church leaders from both sides of the border participated in leadership training conferences on topics such as No Mas Violencia, 4XFour Evangelism, Coaching and Mentoring, House Churches, Dealing with Families in Crisis and Sunday School training. I also would not be able to share about the 4th annual No Mas Violencia Soccer tournament held in Guadalajara and the over 1,000 children and youth that participated in the tournament this year; or about the FBC Refugio's VBS kids that adopted this soccer tournament for their mission project and raised over \$700 for evangelistic soccer balls for the tournament. I also would not be able to tell you how our new River Ministry Missionary in Del Rio, Shon Young, was able to partner with Books for the Border, a BGCT ministry, to start 3 summer literacy programs in 3 housing projects in Del Rio. Shon is now seeking to be trained in House Church Ministry so that he can follow up with the parents of the children that participated in the literacy program.

I certainly would not be able to share with you about the 9 national church planters/promoters and the 20 regional church planters we help support in Mexico. I would not be able to share with you how River Ministry Missionary Vanessa Quintanilla is helping start food ministry programs in the Rio Grande Valley while she is also taking groups to Mexico City to support the new church starts in that city. I would not be able to tell you how River Ministry Missionary Osvaldo Lerma received a call from the UT-RGV BSM about the possibility of helping Mission Arlington and Essilor Vison Foundation plan a free 3 day children's eye exam health fair. The result were 360 eye exams and 220 children received glasses. I also would not be able to share about the BSM mission teams from UT-El Paso and UT-RGV going to Guadalajara to help restart the BSM ministry in the universities of that city.

I would not be able to share all of this with one or two stories. If you want to talk about what is happening in River Ministry/Mexico Missions, we have a lot to talk about.



**DANIEL  
RANGEL**  
Director



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**RYAN  
JESPERSEN**  
Director

Frustration, and concern is often the demeanor of leaders of long established churches that are in urban communities that have changed. In 2015-2016 The Texas Baptists Office of Urban Missions has been working diligently to give these churches and church leaders' new hope going forward. In 2015-2016 we worked with Dallas Baptist University to develop a concentration in urban ministry that is beginning in the fall of 2016, in both the Master of Arts in Global Leadership, and the Master of Arts in Christian Ministry. Specifically, the office of Urban Missions worked to develop the course entitled "The Urban Church in transition" as well as worked to develop the rest of the classwork. In addition to this work we are currently in the process of putting out a Certification in Urban Church leadership which will soft launch in the Fall of 2016. This material is designed to help Urban Church leaders who do not desire to do Masters level work but want the knowledge to work effectively in urban areas. Much of the work of the Office of Urban Missions is connecting with urban pastors throughout the state. We have peer groups that meet regularly, and on a regular basis we meet with pastors who are struggling. We recorded meetings with 138 church leaders in a one year period, though that number is likely higher. Our favorite story of the year was when we were able to point an urban pastor to the Provisional M.Div. program at Truett Seminary something he would have known nothing about if we had not met with him.

The Church based Missions Sending program had a good year, allowing churches to send 11 Missionaries to different parts of the globe. From these missionaries we saw 233 professions of faith, 105 Baptisms, an average of 395 people being discipled each month, and an average of 2,938 people served per month. In the recent refugee crisis, Church Based Missionaries Jeff and Alicia Lee from First Baptist Church Abilene worked hard to serve the needs of refugees from Syria. This report came from Alicia Lee: "Jeff continues to coordinate the refugee response of the faith community in Skopje and it has been great to see how people from different churches have come together to serve shoulder to shoulder."

This report came from the Tidwells who are laboring at New Day Orphanage in Zambia:

*"This past month, during one of our church services, a youth stood up and announced that he had accepted Christ as his Savior. While a decision like that is always important, this one had a little extra significance. We had no idea who he was. A few months ago, some of our staffers at New Day started (of their own initiative) a youth Bible study. They have been meeting for several weeks, and this past month saw their first salvation. This was important because it is a second generation salvation. We minister directly to some, and the goal is for them to turn around and minister to others, thereby multiplying the ministry. We were very excited to see this and look forward to more! "*

Our Texas Baptists Missionaries have also done great work this year. From this group we have seen 828 spiritual conversations, 5 professions of faith, 2 baptisms, they are discipling 59 people and serving 412 people on average. This group is growing with an average of 2-3 new missionaries coming on every month who will be raising support to do missions in their area.

It continues to be a joy to work with urban pastors, and missionaries here in Texas and all over the world.



## TEXAS BAPTISTS DISASTER RECOVERY

Since May of 2015 the state of Texas experienced 12 disasters. Texas Baptists Disaster Recovery (TBDR) mobilized a total of 1,445 volunteers to assist disaster victims in many of these counties affected by flooding and tornados.

Deweyville, a small town in Southeast Texas, was hit hard by flooding in March 2016. Calvary Baptist Church was devastated by the flood waters, and like most homeowners in Deweyville, did not have flood insurance. TBDR volunteers were able to assist Pastor John Fortenberry and Calvary in their recovery efforts. Calvary member, Leena Barrow, who lost her husband of 64 years in February, was a victim of the flood. BDR Volunteer teams rebuilt Leena's home.



**DAVID SCOTT**  
Director

## SHALOM BUILDERS

Shalom Builders continue to support families in the long-term recovery phase of rebuilding homes. Shalom Builders from FBC Pasadena, dedicated themselves to assist Clarissa, a homeowner who lives in the twice-flooded Blanco Garden area of San Marcos. In May 2015, Clarissa had 22 inches of water inside her home. "We were just starting to get things fixed when the October (2015) flood struck". First Baptist Church of Pasadena Shalom Builders made trips to San Marcos in March and December of 2015. During a final trip January 25-29, 2016, the work was completed. Texas Baptists Disaster Recovery seeks to bring God's Shalom (wholeness) to areas affected by disasters and particularly to the uninsured, under-insured, disabled or elderly families who are recovering from a disaster. For more information on serving with Texas Baptists Disaster Recovery and Shalom Builders visit [www.texasbaptist.org/disaster](http://www.texasbaptist.org/disaster).

## BOUNCE Student Disaster Recovery

BOUNCE returned to the San Marcos/Wimberley area to assist in recovery efforts from the 2015 floods. Two-hundred and eighty-three BOUNCERS descended on the area for Spring Break mission service and completed 26 projects. Manchaca Baptist Church of Austin, a great partner to BOUNCE, hosted BOUNCERS for the third time.

During the 2016 summer edition of BOUNCE, missions were conducted in Dallas, Bartlesville, OK, Mineral Wells, and Waco. BOUNCERS helped improve the quality of life for residents in the communities by installing new roofs, siding, painting, and building wheel chair ramps, among other projects.

Although there were many grateful homeowners who benefitted from the ministry of BOUNCE, one of the most memorable was Rhonda Waller. Mrs. Waller shared her story with the students who helped repair her home. She recalled how she had lived in the home for 61 years, and through that time, many problems developed. She was unable to fix any of them. "I just couldn't afford it," she said. Waller said, "For two years I prayed that God would send help. Through Waco Community Development I applied for BOUNCE, and WOW. This is what He sent me!" Regarding the student participants, Waller said, "It's awesome how these kids give of their summer to help people like us. It's amazing."

For information on how you can mobilize students through BOUNCE, check [www.texasbaptists.org/bounce](http://www.texasbaptists.org/bounce).



**TEXAS BAPTISTS**  
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**MARIO  
ALBERTO  
GONZALEZ**  
Director

## Non-traditional churches

This year the Lord has allowed us to continue growing to fulfill the Great Commission by starting several non-traditional churches. They are simple congregations that have their meeting at homes, student dorms, restaurants and even at jails and prisons. The given name of the churches in the penitentiary system of Texas is Philippi Churches, or Iglesias Filipos, (in Spanish).

### Take a look of some examples of these churches:

Jay Castro is one of our catalysts in the Houston area. He has started a house congregation out of an aggressive evangelism effort to reach his community. He sent this report: "Please see what the Lord has done. I evangelize with two brothers on a regular basis and have built a bond with them through time and fellowship. The Lord in His time and by His Spirit brought us together not only to evangelize but with the same vision and passion to plant house churches. Through much prayer we committed to start a house church where we meet every week and evangelize in that community as well. As a result, we see Brother Mohammed, his wife Jenny, and their children and also Brother Stephen, his wife Tammy and their children attending our first house church meeting. Mohammed and his family accepted the Lord, so they decided to live the Muslim ideas and follow Jesus. We have received much confirmation and encouragement from the Lord that He has brought us all together."

Another story is told by Lorenzo Ortiz. He serves in Laredo Texas leading the simple church movement with the Laredo Baptist Association. "We visited with Mary who is a single mom that opened up her house to do home church. We are meeting once every 2 weeks, and because of this, her children have been attending church. We are praying for them to accept Jesus Christ as their savior. After they visited the first time they started inviting more of their friends to our house church and also to youth activities. This community neighborhood is very positive to all the outreach events we have had in the area." This was written some months ago, but now this congregation is growing with non-believers or new believers; their goal is to reach the unreached people. The local association is now paying attention to the plans we have to reach Laredo through house church planting.

Similar things are happening in Amarillo, El Paso, San Antonio, East Texas, The Dallas, Fort Worth Metroplex and many other places.

## This is something that everyone can do for the Kingdom

You don't need to be an ordained pastor or a key leader in your church to start a house group. The only thing you need is the calling from the Lord and a desire to fulfill the Great Commission. Since this is a simple church model, the strategic plan is not a complicated one. By the way, we are here to help with the process if you want to start a non-traditional church.

This last year the Lord blessed us with many results that came out of these 557 ongoing congregations: There were 3,953 Professions of faith and 498 people obeyed the Lord with baptism. The office was able to provide 23 LifeCall grants for churches that are developing outreach events or programs to reach people for Jesus outside the church buildings. Another blessing was the opportunity to start 24 new Philippi churches inside jails or prisons. This is another mission opportunity we have as Texas Baptists to reach those who are considered offenders of our society and that also represent the Samaria in Acts 1:8.

The Christian Life Commission experienced an eventful year from July 2015 through June 2016. We continue to affirm Micah 6:8 as the foundational verse that serves as the North Star guiding our ministry. Thanks to God for Texas Baptist leaders who utilize CLC-developed resources in their ministries. The CLC continues to speak to Baptists on current issues as evidenced at the Micah 6:8 Conference. I am thankful to God for the opportunity to serve Him through the ministry of the Christian Life Commission.

Here are a few ministry highlights:

- The CLC hosted its inaugural Micah 6:8 Conference March 31-April 1, 2016, at Trinity Baptist Church in San Antonio. More than 400 attendees heard from keynote speaker Jen Hatmaker on the call of all Christians to pursue justice. One encouraging blessing was the significant number of millennials attending the event. The conference also featured more than 20 workshops on issues ranging from payday lending reform to human trafficking and responding to same-sex relationships with truth and grace. The Micah 6:8 Conference was designed to equip Texas Baptists to pursue justice, love mercy, and walk humbly with God. The next conference will be in 2018.
- We said goodbye to one long-term staff member, Julie Valentine, in May 2016. Julie had served as ministry assistant in the Austin office since September 2001. She played an important role in our public policy work throughout the period and had also assisted our hunger and care ministries in recent years.
- The CLC welcomed two new employees in the first half of 2016 — Rand Jenkins as CLC specialist and Bianca Barajas as ministry assistant. Jenkins has a background in communications, public relations, and marketing. He will assist all CLC ministries in this regard. This position represents a collaboration between the CLC and Baptist Child and Family Services, headquartered in San Antonio. Barajas will be supporting the work of all three CLC emphases, as well.



**GUS REYES**  
Director

**RAND JENKINS**  
CLC Specialist

**MARILYN DAVIS**  
Congregational and Commission Specialist

## CHRISTIAN LIFE COMMISSION MEMBERS FOR 2015-2016

**Michael Evans**, Mansfield (Chair)\*

**Ken Barnes**, Fort Worth\*

**Linda Brian**, Amarillo

**Delcia Chisolm**, Kingsville

**Chuck Gartman**, Cleburne

**Les Hollon**, San Antonio

**Elmo Johnson**, Houston

**Grant Lengefeld**, Hamilton\*

**Ben Raimer**, Galveston\*

**Brenda Rincones**, San Antonio

**Homer Rockmore**, Longview\*

**Moises Rodriguez**, San Antonio

**Taylor Sandlin**, San Angelo

**Carol Shattuck**, Houston

**Dwaina Six**, El Paso

**Jacob West**, Stanford

**Jorge Zayasbasan**, San Antonio\*

\*Representatives from Executive Board



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**FERRELL  
FOSTER**  
Director

The Ethics & Justice office represents the educational work of the CLC, which has been evident since its beginning in 1950. During this reporting period, the Ethics & Justice director focused on restructuring the office's web pages -- [texasbaptists.org/ethicsjustice](http://texasbaptists.org/ethicsjustice).

The web site is intended as a resource to ministers and church members who want more information on varied ethical and justice issues from a biblical and informed perspective. The site is not fully populated yet, but it is organized as follows:

Christian Living (basic principles, civility in communication, ethical decision-making)  
 Church & State (citizenship, religious liberty)  
 Creation Care  
 Education  
 Family (marriage, parenting, divorce)  
 Human Trafficking  
 Hunger & Poverty  
 Immigration & Refugees  
 Justice (criminal justice, death penalty, restorative justice)  
 Life, Health & Dying (abortion, aging and dying, health and medicine)  
 Minister Ethics  
 Money & Work (economics, work, gambling)  
 Race Relations  
 Sex & Gender Issues (harassment, pornography, same-sex marriage, transgender)  
 Terrorism, War & Peace

Texas Baptists also are invited to send links to resources they have produced on the above topics for reference on the site.

All of the information is provided as a resource to help Texas Baptists think through issues from a Christian perspective. The CLC seeks to explain the issues and to provide relevant Scripture.

The director of ethics and justice also led workshops at various conferences and churches. He also joins other staff members in writing regular blog posts.

Micah 6:8 guides our ethics and justice work:  
 He [God] has told you, O mortal, what is good;  
 and what does the Lord require of you  
 but to do justice, and to love kindness,  
 and to walk humbly with your God? (NRSV).

Another key passage is what is called the "Great Commandment."

He [Jesus] said to him, "'You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind.' This is the greatest and first commandment. And a second is like it: 'You shall love your neighbor as yourself.' On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets" (Matthew 22:37-40, NRSV).

During the legislative interim (time between legislative sessions), the CLC continued to work on policy priorities like payday lending and criminal justice reform. The CLC hosted several training sessions in local churches on how the church can respond to payday lending. Several churches have begun working to pass payday lending ordinances in their cities and also send comments in response to the CFPB's new payday rule. The CLC will approve new public priorities for the 2016-2017 Session in September. The Public Policy Director made presentations during chapel services on several Baptist University campuses. Thanks to God for the leadership of Kathryn Freeman with regards to the Micah 6:8 Conference.



**KATHRYN  
FREEMAN**  
Director





**ALI HEARON**  
Specialists

The Christian Life Commission's Hunger & Care Ministries equips and empowers Texas Baptists to practically apply Christian faith to life through community ministries.

## Texas Baptist Hunger Offering

Micah 6:8's call to "Love Kindness" served as the Texas Baptist Hunger Offering theme for the year. The offering funded 198 hunger relief and development ministries with 41 percent of funds staying in Texas, 2 percent to other states, and 57 percent disbursed internationally. Texas Baptists gave \$699,320 in 2015, and the 2016 offering budget is \$700,000. In 2016, we begin preparing to celebrate the 20th year of the Texas Baptist Hunger Offering. Join us at the Annual BGCT meeting luncheon/celebration November 15th, 2016.

The Dorika Women's Project is an offering recipient in eastern Congo. Led by Pastor Seth Simisi of Afrika Community Church in Dallas, Dorika teaches job skills to victimized women. Simisi reflects:

*Ms. Sylvia was a victim of sexual violence. She is as a result a single mother. A few years ago, her parents were brutally murdered by a Rwandese militia group operating in Eastern Congo, and she was left in the care of her uncle. One day she was sent to fetch for water early in the morning. Unfortunately, she was spotted by 3 armed militia men who kidnapped and repeatedly raped her. She was a 17 year old virgin girl when she was assaulted by these men. Left unconscious, she was later found by neighbors who took her to the clinic. Fortunately, she survived.*

From her story, Sylvia states, "Through the Dorika women project, I have been able to acquire some skills that empower me make my own dresses and dresses for my baby. I have also acquired a sewing machine that has started helping me feed my baby and myself. I hope my baby grows to become a strong boy and go to finish school."

Ms. Sylvia's story is just one of thousands of individuals and families impacted by the offering.

The Eula Mae and John Baugh Foundation became a significant supporter of offering ministries during this time period, providing \$15,000 for refugee relief in Serbia and \$50,000 for various international ministries.

## Community Care

The CLC is using \$221,926 in 2016 Community Care funds to support 66 ministries engaged in restorative justice, community development, deaf and special needs, community health, and hunger across the state.

The Hospitality House in Huntsville is one supported ministry that provides respite for families of incarcerated men and women. Debra McCammon writes: "Execution day again... a family in tears and shock as they sit at the Hospitality House too stunned to even eat or talk. A Christian family devastated by the upcoming death of their son/brother by lethal injection. A young man who prior to this had never committed a crime. A hurting family that no one cared about except the staff of Hospitality House and some chaplains who prayed and comforted them."

## Literacy Missions

Imagine not being able to read this sentence. One in almost five adult Texans cannot do so because of a lack of language and/or literacy skills. The CLC works through Literacy ConneXus to address literacy needs around the state.

"Teaching English with Excellence" (TEX) program equips church volunteers to make an impact in the name of Jesus Christ, by teaching English — and much more — to foreign language speakers. Literacy ConneXu trained 361 volunteers TEX ministry.

Near the border with Mexico, children in Del Rio and Harlingen feasted on books as well as sandwiches at noon this summer. The "What's for Lunch?" initiative encourages churches to volunteer books, creativity, and manpower to USDA Summer Meals sites, to provide nourishment for kids' minds as well as their bodies.

"Ready for School" is a highlight of our ministry, reaching out to refugee children and their families. The 10-week program uses church volunteers to impart knowledge, skills, and preparation necessary for early school success.

Dr. Jesús Romero leads the CLC's Immigration Service and Aid Center (ISAAC), which provides immigration law training and immigration service ministry.

ISAAC's fifth Summer Institute on Basic Immigration Law was held June 13-17, 2016, at Woodland Baptist Church in San Antonio. We had 31 participants. The law firm of De Mott, McChesney, Curtright, and Armendáriz continued to work in partnership with ISAAC, providing the faculty for our training events. Of the 31 attendees, 30 passed the final test for certificate.

The ISAAC San Antonio office continued to reach out to the immigrant community. We represented 49 clients in 2015-2016 on the campus of Baptist University of the Americas. ISAAC has not lost a single case involving family-based visas or citizenships since it opened its doors in September 2013.

The highlight of the year was recognition of two immigration ministries. Pastor Exequiel San Martín, from Iglesia Bautista El Camino in El Paso, received accreditation for Christian Immigration Services at Iglesia Bautista El Camino Sept. 5, 2015. Pastor Rafael Solís, from Azle Avenue Baptist Church, also received accreditation. ISAAC advised and helped them both with the application process.

We welcomed new staff members this year: BUA students Edith Franco and Samuel Zabala.



**DR. JESÚS  
ROMERO**  
Director



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**JOE  
LOUGHLIN**  
Director

The Pastor/Church Connection is the primary connection point between Texas Baptists pastors and the vast array of resources and ministries of the BGCT. Whether providing direct resources for pastoral leadership development, or acting as a connecting guide to other resources provided by the BGCT, we are here to serve Texas Baptist pastors and their congregations.

## **WELCOME PASTOR DAY**

Welcome Pastor Day is a biannual event introducing new pastors to resources, ministries and experts available through the BGCT. This year we hosted events in Dallas, Houston and West Texas to meet the needs of our pastors in those regions, with the goal of hosting more events in 2017 to reach the rest of the state.

## **MINISTER CONNECTION**

[texasbaptists.org/minister-connection](http://texasbaptists.org/minister-connection)

Minister Connection is a simple tool for churches to submit their open ministry positions and view resumes from across Texas and beyond. By answering a few simple questions, they are able to connect with potential candidates and find the right fit for their position.

This year Minister Connection provided services to over 225 churches and 350 potential candidates. If you have any questions or comments about the site, please email [alyssa.stiglets@texasbaptists.org](mailto:alyssa.stiglets@texasbaptists.org) or call 214-828-5294.

Here are some stories about some New Church Starts. We hope this will give you a glimpse into what it means to start a Texas church.

## Penuel African Baptist Church

Penuel African Baptist Church is a Swahili language church. Pastor Patrick Maboko attended our African Church Conference in Lubbock last year and has remained in contact with Pastor Freddy Mutabazi, thus a vision was planted. Donnie Lane, pastor of Sponsor Church City Church was already reaching out to the African Community. This church plant has brought a great partnership in this effort. Amarillo recently made national news for being ranked among the highest cities for refugees (1.3 % of population) followed by Fort Worth (0.69%), Dallas (0.52%), Houston (0.47%) and then San Antonio (0.52%), There have been 2,700 refugees settled in Amarillo in the last 5 years. This new work and others are prayerfully needed



**PAUL ATKINSON**  
Director

## Bridging the Culture Gap: Hiz Houze Church Reaching Into Urban Hip Hop Culture

As the speakers broadcast the Hip Hop sound throughout this Waco Housing Project, faces appear in windows, and kid, moms, dads-people of all ages-begin to make their way to the vacant lot next to 'tha blue house'. Soon the Bouncy House is filled with youngsters who have registered for the latest weekly installment of Hip Hop Hope complete with a Hot Dog Meal, Fun and Games, and Christian Hip Hop Music.

"In just a few months, we have grown to over 60 on Sunday mornings and over 100 on Tuesday Nights. Many of the folks in the projects don't have transportation to come on Sundays, so on Tuesday Nights we bring church to them, on their turf."

The response to the gospel has been something only God can do. This summer, over 30 have prayed to receive Christ and 15 have been baptized.

Hiz Houze is truly a church. 'Tha' Blue House' is used for follow up counseling with all who make decisions and it is the site of an ongoing bible study. Recently at Hip Hop Hope, a new believer, in her 'street' way, lovingly but firmly confronted Pastor Juan with "Where were you on Bible Study Night." I came at 6:30, and there was no one at Tha' Blue House." Pastor Juan then informed the eager, growing new believer that Bible Study is at 7:30, not 6:30! All the new believers are encouraged to begin bible study, and immediately find a place of service, not just receiving but giving as well. Offerings are growing as well, in spite of the fact that so many of those who now call Hiz Houze their church live in poverty. Pastor Juan says "We not only believe that we will become self supporting as a church, but we will help start other churches in the future".

Pastors Juan and Deanna have expressed great appreciation for BGCT Church Starting, Waco Regional Baptist Association, and their 2 sponsor churches. They are grateful for the Sound System, Monthly Budget Support, Start-Up Gift for Hip Hop Hope, and the ongoing Coaching the Pastor receives through the partnership. This support is made possible by The Cooperative Program, Mary Hill Davis Offering, and the generous giving of individuals to Texas Baptists Church Starting.

## Coaching New Church Planters

My coach was an awesome coach! I loved that I could talk to her about anything, that it was confidential, and that she never judged me for how I felt. I appreciate the wisdom, insight and resources she shared with me and guided me too. She was a blessing to work with!

Thank you Texas Baptists for making this possible.



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**TIM  
WATSON**  
Team Leader  
Service Area 7

**CHARLES DAVENPORT**

Area 1 Representative  
(806) 290-4087

**ROBERT CUELLAR**

Area 2 Representative  
(325) 201-6153

**NOE TREVIÑO**

Area 3 Representative  
(361) 920-2481

**FRED ATER**

Area 4 Representative  
(210) 913-1891

**ERNEST DAGOHY**

Area 5 Representative  
(832) 646-4965

**RICHARD MANGUM** (Deceased 7/6/16)

Area 6 Representative

**STEVE FAULKNER**

Interim Area 6 Representative  
(830) 857-3213

**TIM WATSON**

Area 7 Representative  
(903) 261-1929

**DOWELL LOFTIS**

Area 8S Representative  
(210) 385-0456

**JOHN NGUYEN**

Area 8N Representative  
(214) 289-3401

**LARRY VOWELL** (Retired 7/31/16)

Area 9 Representative

Here is a list of our Area Representatives. Their job is to build relationship with pastors and staff and to help you be aware of the wonderful resources and work of Texas Baptists. Please call on them anytime you need help!

## Journey

Claven Williams is a very professional businessman. He is also Deacon Claven Williams at Journey Baptist Church in Cedar Hill, Texas, a small congregation of 50+ in attendance. We've been looking at property, meeting, and praying with Deacon Claven numerous times. His congregation is struggling to find a permanent church home. Church Architecture ministry is assisting them with building and property planning that will help them make the most effective use of their limited resources. They also touch lives and ministry in their small scope of the community. Many small congregations are on the same journey.

## Ministry

Texas Baptists Church Architecture is a ministry. Church Architecture helps churches develop their facilities for more effective ministries. This past year 69% of the Texas Baptists Churches Church Architecture assisted were 200 in attendance or less. 51% of the churches we provided assistance to were 100 in attendance or less.

In many cases these small churches, low income churches, language group churches, are of no interest to the commercial market. Architects, engineers, vendors and contractors are scarce for many of these churches because there is very little money in these situations.

## Strategy

Church Architecture does not provide architectural/engineering services. We provide strategic planning assistance for ministry effectiveness, something very thin on the commercial market regardless of price. We help local church pastors and leaders deal with their changing congregations and changing world.

We work with numerous language group churches trying to adjust to codes and regulations in order to stay in ministry in their Texas communities. We work with churches of various income levels to tackle their building needs. We work with new congregations that may never own land or their own building. We also help churches with disaster recovery.

## Relevant Ministry

I just did an on-site consultation with Pastor Michael Luster, New Beginning Fellowship, Mesquite, Texas. This is a new church start that just inherited a church building from a previous congregation. I was helping him with compliance requirements, adjustments for their ministry needs and handicap accessibility issues. Very little budget to deal with as a new congregation. We are equipping and strengthening this congregation. Listen to Pastor Mike's words:

*"This past Sunday our church was led by The Spirit to give our weekly offering back to the people in need. One gentleman said, he needed it to start a new job. He had no gas money. There was a young single mother who needed it to pay her light bill. We blessed a college student who was headed to school. Also one lady said she was behind on bills. A mother who went through a divorce needed it to transition. So at Our church we really are through the Holy Spirit giving people a New Beginning."*

## All Kinds of Churches

The rest of our team is working with all kinds of churches all over Texas. We are helping them be "the church" in their context. All size congregations, new churches and long-time churches, traditional, contemporary, language groups, cowboy churches and vaquero churches are part of our ministry to help them develop their churches for more effective ministries.



**KEITH CROUCH**  
Team Leader  
Director

**KAREN YOUNG**  
Loan & Grants  
Manager/Ministry  
Assistant to the  
Team Leader

**RUSSELL MADDOX**  
Church  
Architecture  
Specialist

**PAT EKERN**  
Church  
Architecture  
Specialist

**KEN HUNNICUTT**  
Church  
Architecture  
Specialist

**FRANK PALOS**  
United We Build  
Specialist



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**IRA  
ANTONIE**  
Director

## What a Fellowship, What a Joy Divine!

What do you get when you put an Anglo construction worker, an African American professional dog breeder, and a Hispanic IT professional in a room? We call them a fellowship of Bivocational pastors. Two Bivocational fellowships were established this past year.

One group meets in the South Dallas area and the other in Houston. Once a month 15-20 Bivocational pastors gather to equip, encourage, and engage each other. The fellowships are pastor/peer-led which allows the group to grow organically. They receive some MHD support to assist in providing training that is relevant to their context.

One pastor shared how the fellowship helped him cope with ministry as a Bivocational pastor. He struggled with balancing work, church, and family. He felt defeated and was on the verge of depression but the fellowship pastors ministered to his needs. He is encouraged in his work.

Another pastor expressed his joy in receiving training that is relevant to their context. The church averages 20-30 in weekly attendance with most of the members being new converts. The pastor works 45-50 hours per week and have no formal theological training. There was a need for personal and congregational training. Through the fellowship, the pastor and the church received training in personal and congregational evangelism during a weekend equipping event.

What a fellowship, what a joy divine to be able to assist Bivocational pastors in their efforts to be truly-called, well-equipped Texas Baptists pastors.



**KARL  
FICKLING**  
Coordinator

Imagine a leading church in the BGCT, running well over 1000 through the 1970s, 80s, and into the 90s. Then, imagine this church starting to slightly decline. A new pastor seeks to transition the church into a new culture to reach younger people, but ends up watching 1/2 (mainly older) of the church leave to form another church. Then, over another decade, more people wander away until the church is 1/4 the size it was in its brighter days. With a large number of younger families, a significantly reduced giving stream, and much more building than they need, the pastor resigns under pressure. The various camps in the church blaming each other, fellowship is broken, hope is lost and survivability is in question. Can you imagine that? You don't need to imagine it, because it really happened.

But something else happened, too. The church entered into the IIM. They called the oldest interim pastor candidate available to them. They realized they didn't need to call someone like the pastor they need next. They needed to call an interim whose experience and wisdom could help them transition again. The interim's last IIM pastorate had been 90+% retirement age, but the next pastor saw 90 new members his first year, almost all of whom were young families. Maybe lightening can strike twice?

It's too early to tell what will happen with the next pastor, as they are still looking for a pastor. But during the self-study portion of the IIM, the church:

- Learned to talk again. They gathered together to hear each other's stories and opinions. They learned to talk kindly and to create a safe environment. They pulled back together with forgiveness and grace.
- They made decisions about future emphases in their community, including reaching the university across the street with the assistance of the BGCT's BSM.
- They made necessary adjustments to prepare the church for the next pastor, including dealing with conflicted people in leadership.

Now, imagine a church full of hope and new possibilities, because the future looks different than it did a year ago. Imagine it? I'm believing it.



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**KATIE SWAFFORD**  
Director

This past year, Counseling Services has been able to assist ministers and their families in several different ways with counseling resources. Here are a few examples:

A minister contacted me describing feelings of burnout. Everything in the church had been going well, but numerous family issues, particularly loss of several extended family members, had taken a toll on him and his wife. Counseling Services was able to connect this minister and spouse to a retreat facility and assist financially to enable them to attend. The retreat offered much needed physical and spiritual rest, an opportunity for them to reconnect as a couple and participate in sessions to enrich their marriage, and have their lives poured into by others who understand how taxing ministry life can be at times.

Sexual abuse is not an issue that any one likes to talk about, but Counseling Services was able to assist a minister and family this year in dealing with the aftermath of this extremely difficult issue. The child received specialized counseling to address the trauma, hurt, and shame that often comes with being a sexual abuse survivor and the minister and spouse were able to meet with a counselor to address the myriad of emotions that come with learning your child has endured such a horrific experience. Hopefully, the referral and financial assistance provided by Counseling Services helped to lessen any additional heartache for this family.

Counseling Services was able to assist several ministry families with college age children this year as well. When students are away from home, issues can surface for both the student and the family. Fortunately, the ministers were aware of the assistance we can provide and quickly contacted our offices to find out the resources available to them and their children.

Regardless of the struggle Texas Baptists find themselves walking through, we are here as a resource to help connect you to the mental health assistance you may need.

Our prayer in Counseling Services is that you do not encounter circumstances in your life that prompt you to need our assistance. However, should you find yourself facing one of life's storms head on, know that we are glad to help you find the mental health resources you need and count it a privilege to come alongside you in a difficult time.

Texas BSM exist to engage the 1.5 million college students to follow Christ and transform the world! Your BSM Missionaries are on approximately 115 campuses with these priorities: Evangelism/Discipleship, Missional lifestyle, Leadership development and Church life. They are involved weekly in the “Harvest”, going to the campus discovering where God is a work and joining Him! This year Texas BSM touched the lives of over 124,000 students with over 10,500 involved weekly. Below are a few stories of the exciting ministry of BSM on campuses in Texas:

### **Houston Baptist University: Mark Warrington Director**

Houston Baptist University had 4 orientation sessions spread out over two weeks in June where future freshmen come on to campus for 2 days to get registered for classes and make arrangements for the fall. The BSM and the Spiritual Life Department were able to interact with these freshmen through organization fairs and worship services each night of the orientations.

**Go Now Missions:** Over 527 students served this year! Students served around the world sharing the Good News.

### **MCC Waco - Stephen Galarza - Part time Director**

“God began to open many doors through our partnerships with local churches. We have been having around twenty five to thirty students coming every week to the free lunches. Our group is catching the vision to share Christ with non-believers on campus.

### **Beach Reach: South Padre Island**

Over 186 Salvations, 62 baptisms, 11,000 pancakes served, thousands of Spiritual conversations, ministry to police and emergency personnel.

### **Tarleton: Clayton Bullion**

“Two girls came looking for the BSM on a Tuesday after someone told them if they needed help go to the BSM. They were sick of the party lifestyle. After having conversations with these two girls a student leader lead one of them to Christ and the other rededicated her life to Christ. Then, on Wednesday of the same week, one of our student leaders shared the gospel with her roommate and she accepted Christ.

### **West Texas A&M: Buddy Young, Director**

Buddy Young, missionary at WT teaches a class on the campus. In one of his classes he told his story of transformation. He told the class how he met Christ while he was in college. After this particular class one of his students caught him after class and said “he felt he needed what [Buddy] had.” Buddy then had the privilege of sitting with him in the student center and telling him about Jesus. This student is now a follower of Jesus!

### **Texas Tech: Jeff Kennon, Director**

Last year, Trent\* had a roommate whom he continued to try to share the gospel with, but it seemed nothing was happening. In fact, he thought he was having no impact. Trent wondered if his roommate might actually be moving farther away from God than closer to him. Needless to say, Trent was shocked when he arrived back to Tech this fall to hear that his roommate from last year had become a believer over the summer. No doubt God used Trent and his faithfulness to make an impact.

### **UNT-Stephanie Gates, Director.**

This year the new UNT BSM building was dedicated. This building sits across the street from the newly renovated campus student center. Over 17,000 pass by the BSM facility every day!

**Texas Baptist Churches** – Churches are a critical part of reaching students for Christ. Hundreds, both large and small are involved in ministry to college students. Churches like Crestview Baptist Church in Georgetown have a lunch on Mondays for Southwestern University students and staff. Over 500 attended their last luncheon this spring. First Baptist Denton reaches over 800 per week from TWU and UNT.

Thank you Texas Baptists for being a part of one of the greatest mission fields in Texas!



**BRUCE  
MC GOWAN**  
Director

**JOYCE  
ASHCRAFT**  
Ministry/  
Resource  
Coordinator

**BRENDA  
SANDERS**  
Missions  
Consultant

**RICK  
SPENCER**  
Regional  
Coordinator

**ROBERT  
HOOKER**  
Evangelism  
Consultant

**GINGER  
BOWMAN**  
Collegiate  
ChurchLife  
Specialist

**147 BSM  
STAFF**  
Members  
(employed and  
volunteer)



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**CHRIS  
LIEBRUM**  
Director

**BARBARA  
FORBIS**  
CP Specialist

This has been our first full year to tackle the important task of raising awareness among Texas Baptists of the results of cooperative giving and of encouraging increased support of the Cooperative Program. In these next few paragraphs you will find a short report of our activities plus a few plans we have for the coming year.

**THANK YOU VISITS...**In July 2015, we identified the 100 top-giving Texas Baptists churches. These generous churches come in all sizes and are located in all parts of our state. It has been my privilege to visit all 100 of these churches during our office's first year of work. Some visits were a one-on-one meeting with the pastor, and others allowed me the privilege of speaking to the church body during a Sunday or Wednesday gathering time. In each case, I had the honor of saying "thank you" for their generous support of missions all around the world and of sharing with them some of the wonderful stories about how God is using their gifts to reach the lost with the love of Jesus Christ.

**CP GIVING RECOGNITIONS...**At the 2015 Texas Baptists Annual Meeting held last November in Frisco, we were given the opportunity to recognize nine churches for their exemplary commitment to cooperative giving. Five recipients were from different size categories determined by average worship attendance. Four were from our African American, Chinese, Hispanic and Vietnamese Fellowships. Churches in these same categories will be recognized again this year in Waco at the 2016 Texas Baptists Annual Meeting.

**STORIES...**People love to hear how lives have been changed through missions and ministries supported by their CP giving. To fill that need, we have begun developing a library of short videos, two to three minutes each, telling the stories of individuals, churches and others whose spiritual and physical needs have been met through CP giving. So far, four videos are available on our website with 11 others to be completed by the end of 2016.

**PRINTED RESOURCES...**Are you wanting to communicate to your church the value of the Cooperative Program? Do you need a visual piece to help you do so? On our website are several resources free to download and print in whatever quantity you need. Whether you need something as simple as a card showing what percentage of the CP budget is allotted to specific areas, or something more detailed such as our first-ever CP ANNUAL REPORT listing total dollars spent in 2015 and how those dollars were used, you can find it at [texasbaptists/cp.org](http://texasbaptists/cp.org). Check back often for new pieces and for our 2016 CP Annual Report.

Because of your generosity, for over 90 years Texas Baptists have used Cooperative Program giving to fund and fuel mission work across our state, our nation and our world. Thank you for your continued support.



The Texas Baptist Missions Foundation helps individuals use their financial resources to change the world through present gifts, planned gifts, and estate gifts. From July 2014 through June of 2015, we assisted 4,522 donors who made 9,077 gifts for a total of \$5,650,599.09 in cash and gifts in kind, with an average gift amount of \$574.07. Here are some of the ways TBMF connected these donors with ministry needs in Texas:

### The Robertson Family

Richard and Carolyn Robertson have spent their lives serving the Lord through their local church and through their involvement in missions all over the world. They met at River Oaks Baptist Church in Houston. Richard worked for an airline and Carolyn for an oil company. Richard was a choir member and deacon chair; Carolyn worked in the library. Their involvement in church led to their involvement in missions outside the church. This gave them a vision for what the Lord wanted to do through them, not only while they were alive but after they had gone to heaven.

Carolyn says this about their first mission trip: “We went to Santiago, Chile, and my first visit was with a lady in a wheelchair – not a good wheelchair, but a wooden straight back chair with roller skates nailed to the legs. The woman accepted Christ and while I was a part of helping introduce her to Jesus, I also wanted to do something about her chair. When I got back to Houston, I told the story of this lady and someone in the church had a wheelchair that I could send to this lady. Because Richard worked for an airline, it was easy for me to travel so I took the chair to her myself. Seeing the expression on her face did more for me than for her! We were hooked on missions and, because our schedules permitted, we went on trips whenever we could.”

While the Robertson family gives generously to missions now, they also understand that the need for mission support will go on for generations. Years ago, they began to set aside funds that would not only take care of them in retirement, but support mission work through the Missions Foundation after they are gone. “Richard worked as hard at growing our mission fund as he did at being an airline employee,” Carolyn said.

Richard passed away in June, but Carolyn continues to work with the Missions Foundation to make sure their plan will provide for their church and for mission needs around the world.

### New Building at UNT

In February of this year, the Wilson Hodges Baptist Student Center building was dedicated at the University of North Texas. The \$2,300,000 building was the result of the prayers and generosity of many Texas Baptists. Led by a naming gift of \$500,000 from the McNatt family, a \$400,000 grant from the Mabree Foundation and a \$375,000 gift from Richard and Carolyn Robertson, the building began serving UNT students in the 2016 spring semester. The 10,000 square foot building replaced one that was built in 1960 when there were about 7,000 students; there are now more than 35,000 students on that campus. UNT estimates that more than 17,000 students a day walk by the new building which is across the street from the student center. There could not be a better place to have a Christian witness and God is using this new building in a wonderful way.

The Foundation staff will gladly work with anyone who would like ideas on how to support missions in Texas or around the world.



**BILL  
ARNOLD**  
President

**LARRY  
THOMAS**  
Vice President

**JERRY  
CARLISLE**  
Vice President



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**DAVID  
ADAMS**  
Director

## Church Administration

Responding to pastors and leaders concerned about same sex marriage, we partnered with associations to help over 700 church leaders explore the legal and ministry opportunities in a changing culture. Daily we respond to requests from individual church leaders like you on topics like

- church policies
- tax status
- constitution and bylaws
- personnel management
- open carry gun laws
- new rules for paying overtime
- financial guidelines for churches
- and more

*The office of Church Administration exists to help church leaders address these and other issues as faithful stewards of church resources.*

Connect with us at [texasbaptists.org/churchadmin](http://texasbaptists.org/churchadmin), where you can ask a question or find free downloads on a variety of topics.

## Developing Young Leaders

Leadership Texas Baptists is a year-old initiative with emerging leaders in the Texas Baptists family. Nine months of seminars and interactive experiences bring this group of young leaders into contact with current convention leaders, allows them to explore what we do together as Texas Baptists, and challenges them to grow as leaders. One member of last year's very first cohort put it this way:

[Leadership Texas Baptists] broadened my view of the work we do at Texas Baptists. I think before then, even being a church plant inside of the organization, I didn't really have a good grasp on the scope of the work that we do....I was awestruck, honestly. The more people I talked to, the more leaders I was introduced to, the more I was able to see the bigger picture and how that played a part in my church."  
– Lynn Harper, Promised Land Missionary Baptist Church

Cohort 2 is now in full swing and joins us at this year's Annual Meeting. Keep an eye out for them while you are here. And visit [texasbaptists.org/leadershiptxb](http://texasbaptists.org/leadershiptxb) for more information.

## Play Golf—Help Pastors

The third annual Texas Baptists Golf Classic was held April 25, 2016, at the Dallas Athletic Club with 260 golfers. This event is primarily to encourage fellowship among our pastors, staff, and others, and has become a fantastic networking event for all friends of Texas Baptists. Plan to join us on April 24, 2017, for the next Classic at the Golf Club of Houston, home of the PGA's Shell Houston Open. See [texasbaptists.org/golf](http://texasbaptists.org/golf) for information or to register as a player or sponsor.

Syrian family leaves their house at 4 a.m. amidst intense shelling. A bomb detonates and they see their home destroyed. They walk for days, two adults and seven children in tow, to cross over the border into Lebanon. They escape the war, only to face 60 straight days of snow and a brutal winter in Lebanon's Bekaa Valley.

But with the help of Texas Baptists faithfully supporting the Refugee Relief effort in Lebanon, families displaced by the Syrian war and exposed to the elements have found more than just the warmth of blankets and heaters, they have found an expression of the love of Christ.

This is simply one story. There are so many more.

The Communications Team informs Texas Baptists churches of the vast array of ministry resources available through the Convention, and tells the story of the great work God is doing in and through Texas Baptists both in the state and around the world.

The primary channels through which we deliver information and stories are online at [texasbaptists.org](http://texasbaptists.org) and [txb.life](http://txb.life), through social media at [facebook.com/texasbaptists](https://facebook.com/texasbaptists), [twitter.com/texasbaptists](https://twitter.com/texasbaptists) and [instagram.com/texasbaptists](https://instagram.com/texasbaptists), and in print via Texas Baptists Magazine and [txb.life](http://txb.life).

Every day you access a Texas Baptists website, social media account or print publication you will find rich, theme driven content designed especially for you, the church leader. Whether you're looking for resources to strengthen your church, or stories about the ministry made possible by your Cooperative Program giving, you're sure to be informed and inspired by real accounts of transformation.

If you have not already, we recommend you subscribe to our recently redesigned Texas Baptists Magazine. We've heard from a number of churches that this publication, complete with a new spotlight featuring topical stories, has been a blessing.

One church member called in to our Counseling Services after reading a series of articles on mental health and the church that appeared in a recent issue. The pastor of her church had been struggling and the stories she read helped her to know where to go to get him the help he needed.

In another instance, after reading a series of articles on our Bivocational Pastors Ministry and the changing landscape of the pastorate, a church member was moved to give a special donation simply so that this crucial work could continue and expand. Attendance at regional bivocational connections groups also increased as a result.

Whether you're an early adopter glued to the latest mobile device, or a faithful Christ follower miles from the nearest hot spot, we count it a blessing to find new and compelling ways to tell the story of what God is doing, and to help our churches fulfill the Great Commission and the Great Commandment.

To learn more about our print publications, and to find out how to subscribe, simply email our team at [subscriptions@texasbaptists.org](mailto:subscriptions@texasbaptists.org) and we will be happy to start sending you issues right away.

To learn more about the Refugee Relief program go to [texasbaptists.org/refugeerelief](http://texasbaptists.org/refugeerelief).



**JOSHUA SETH MINATREA**  
Director

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News

**NATHAN BRANDENBURG**  
Web

**MELISSA KIBBY**  
Marketing

**NIGEL ROBINSON**  
Marketing

**MARITZA SOLANO**  
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**ALAN J. LEFEVER**  
Director

**NAOMI TAPLIN**  
Associate  
Director

**PHIL HASSELL**  
Manager  
Texas Baptist  
Historical  
Museum

**HEATHER MOONEY**  
Coordinator  
of Community  
Outreach and  
Research

The Texas Baptist Historical Collection marked its 83rd year of operation by continuing to collect, preserve, and communicate the history of Texas Baptists. After more than a year of preparation, the TBHC moved into its new home in January. The majority of 2016 has been spent unpacking and arranging the Collection at our new home.

The new address for the TBHC is 209 North 8th Street Waco, Texas 76701. The new location includes a small museum and a large conference room. The conference room is available for use by BGCT churches. Please contact Autumn Hendon for further information ([autumn.hendon@texasbaptists.org](mailto:autumn.hendon@texasbaptists.org)).

The Collection opened for researchers and those interested in Baptist History once again on September 1, 2016. During the Annual Meeting in Waco, the TBHC staff encourages messengers and visitors to stop by and see our new facility.

The TBHC would like to display a historic stained glass window from a Texas Baptist church in its new home. If your church or someone you know might have a stained glass window that they would like to donate to the Collection for this display, please contact Alan Lefever ([alan.lefever@texasbaptists.org](mailto:alan.lefever@texasbaptists.org)).

Many rural churches have played an important role in the development of the BGCT. In recent years some of these churches have closed their doors. The TBHC is actively seeking minutes and historical information on these churches so that their ministry and impact will not be lost. If you have any information on any of these type of churches, please contact the TBHC ([historicalcollection@texasbaptists.org](mailto:historicalcollection@texasbaptists.org)).

The church library ministry continues to be a vital component of the Collection's ministry. The annual Church Library Conference will resume in October of 2016. Please contact Naomi Taplin ([naomi.taplin@texasbaptists.org](mailto:naomi.taplin@texasbaptists.org)) for information.

The Texas Baptist Historical Museum at Independence had a successful year with thousands of visitors seeing the new displays. A small recreation of a blacksmith's shop was recently added to the grounds of the museum and displays blacksmith tools and farm implements which would have been used in Texas in the 1800s. To arrange a tour of the museum please contact Phil Hassell ([phil.hassell@texasbaptists.org](mailto:phil.hassell@texasbaptists.org)).

Once the move is complete the TBHC will continue to provide the following services:

#### **Research Assistance**

The staff of the Collection is available to assist researchers in locating information on Texas Baptist churches and individuals. Requests may be made by phone, mail, in person, or by email.

#### **Photograph Reproductions**

The Collection has the ability to duplicate photographs of individuals and churches held within the TBHC.

#### **Preservation**

Churches who wish to deposit their records and minutes in the Collection for safekeeping may do so at no cost. Churches maintain the rights to the minutes and may remove them at any time.

#### **Consultations**

Collection staff members conduct on-site church history and preservation consultations with church history/heritage committees, church staff members, and other interested persons.

#### **Baptist History and Heritage Awareness**

The Collection staff members conduct Baptist heritage events around the state emphasizing our Texas Baptist history as well as the history of the entire Baptist denomination. The TBHC also has Texas Baptist heritage tour brochures for anyone interested in visiting historic Texas Baptist sites.

One of the keys of any successful organization is the collaboration of those who lead in the work. One of the joys experienced in the office of the Associate Executive Director is to collaborate with so much of the Baptist family including staff, churches, associations, institutions and individuals.

Internally the staff in the office has the opportunity to work with the ministries of the BGCT. This includes the five teams of the BGCT organization, Christian Life Commission, Great Commission Team, The Connections Team, Collegiate Ministries Team, and the Missions Team. These teams form the heart of ministry to churches across the state. The work done through these teams makes a difference in the state of Texas for the Kingdom of God.

The Associate Executive Director has the opportunity to work with Chaplaincy endorsement and support. This amazing ministry has grown to more than 800 chaplains with the potential for even greater growth. Every day chaplains serving in the military, in hospitals, at hospices, in industry, and in countless other ways make a difference in ministry where they serve. For many they are the touch of the Lord on the lives in which they interact.

The Associate Executive Director has the opportunity to work with the Cultural Engagement staff led by Lorenzo Pena. This group does amazing work with the different ethnic groups across the state promoting every aspect of the work of the BGCT.

Working with the institutions of the BGCT is a very rewarding part of the work done in this office. As Texas Baptists we have a relationship with 9 universities, 5 hospitals, 4 human care institutions, a mission center, an academy, Baptist Church Loan Corporation, the Baptist Standard and a school of Christian Studies. Additional opportunities this year included awarding special scholarships to those called to local church ministry. Each of these institutions touch the lives of hundreds of people each year.

The oversight of the Office of Theological Education is another rewarding part of the work of the AED. Under the guidance Bill Tillman, young ministers at each of our universities and seminaries are shaped to be the leaders for the future in Texas Baptist life.

In the office of the Associate Executive Director we support the work of the Executive Board of the Convention. This includes orientation of directors, overseeing the registration process, and making arrangements for the meetings. The Associate Executive Director's office also oversees the training and meeting facilitation of the committees of the BGCT. Hundreds of Texas Baptists fill elected positions in the governing bodies of institutions and entities related to the BGCT. This is the office that coordinates that work. This includes working with the Committee to Nominate Executive Board Directors, the Committee to Nominate Boards of Affiliated Ministries and the Committee on Committees. Other committees that the office coordinates are the Committee on Convention Business, the Committee on Memorials, the Committee on Credentials, and the Committee on Resolutions.

It is an honor and a privilege to represent Texas Baptists at churches, events, and at other meetings across the state and across the nation. The opportunities to share the Gospel through preaching and speaking in churches on a weekly basis gives the opportunity to know the heartbeat of churches as they seek to reach the state with the hope of the Gospel.



**STEVE  
VERNON**  
Associate  
Executive  
Director



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**BOBBY SMITH**  
Director

**ERIC WHITMORE**  
Associate Endorser-Administration

**JIM BROWN**  
Associate Endorser-Calling/Endorsement

**WILL BEARDEN**  
Associate Endorser-Pastoral Care and Support

**DAN FRANKLIN**  
Associate Endorser-Training and Crisis Response

The Office of Chaplaincy Relations endorses, supports, and trains Texas Baptist chaplains and pastoral counselors. These ministers provide pastoral care in a variety of specialized ministry settings.

The office provides ecclesiastical endorsement through a process that affirms to an employer that a chaplain or pastoral counselor has met all of the basic requirements of the endorser to practice ministry in a specialized setting. Basic requirements include personal, spiritual and professional accountability; educational, moral and ethical standards; ability to work in a pluralistic environment; doctrinal stability; and active membership in a local Baptist congregation. Legal issues require each endorsement applicant also pass a criminal and sexual abuse background check.

The Chaplaincy Endorsement Council is elected by the BGCT Executive Board and serves as the endorsement agency on behalf of the BGCT. It reports its work to the Institutional Relations Committee of the Executive Board. The Council establishes guidelines for endorsement requirements. State and federal institutions require chaplains to be endorsed by an officially recognized faith group. The U.S. Armed Forces Chaplains Board on July 24, 2002, approved the BGCT as a recognized endorsement agency. Every major federal, state and civilian institution recognizes Texas Baptist chaplaincy endorsement.

2016 saw continued growth of the Office of Chaplaincy Relations. Under the Director/Endorser are four Associate Endorsers directing three separate functions. Two Associate Endorsers for Calling, Endorsement, and Administration coordinate communication with individuals interested in chaplaincy as they pursue their chaplaincy calling. The office manages the endorsement process, including new endorsements, updates, and transfers, and directs office staff and budget issues.

The Associate Endorser for Chaplaincy Pastoral Care and Support maintains relationships with endorsed chaplains and provides timely and quality support to meet their needs. The office's primary responsibility is pastoral visitation and counseling support.

The Associate Endorser for Chaplaincy Training and Crisis Response coordinates training to maintain chaplain certification and professional qualification to serve in various institutions. The office also manages training and mobilization of crisis response chaplains.

The Office of Chaplaincy Relations is committed to training Texas Baptist congregations to become authentic Christian caregivers through pastoral ministry skill training by offering courses such as Hands On Ministry and Applied Suicide Intervention Skills Training.

#### **Endorsement Totals (2002-2016):**

Chaplains Endorsed .....	858
Chaplain Endorsements New .....	675
Chaplain Endorsements Transferred .....	193

People need hope and God's Word has the power to change lives! The mission of BaptistWay Press® is to serve churches by helping connect people to God through His Word. BaptistWay Press® has been crafting quality Bible study resources for over eighteen years, serving Baptist churches in Texas and beyond. Here are some highlights from the past year.

**Quality Ongoing Bible Study Resources...**During the past year, BaptistWay Press® published the following Bible study products:

- *Romans: A Gospel-Centered Worldview*
- *Jesus: King or Concierge? (A Study of Matthew)*
- *Choices & Consequences (A Study of Joshua/Judges)*
- *Faith>Fear*

Each study in English includes a *Study Guide*, a *Large Print Study Guide*, and a *Teaching Guide*. The following support materials are also available: *Premium Bible Commentary*; *Premium Bible Teaching Plans*; and *Teaching Resource Items*. Kindle editions of the Study Guide were also produced and placed on amazon.com/kindle. You can find these by going to amazon.com and searching for "BaptistWay."

**Upcoming Bible studies for adults from BaptistWay include:**

- *Terror & Triumph: A Study of Revelation (Fall 2016)*
- *On Your Mark: The Gospel in Motion: A Study of Mark (Winter 2016)*
- *Power & Purpose: God Unveils the Universe: A Study of Genesis 1-11 (Spring 2017)*
- *Called to Serve (Summer 2017)*

**Milestones for the past year included:**

- **The Rebranding of BaptistWay Press®:** The new name for our ongoing curriculum line was launched with the release of our Winter 2016 Bible study. **Connect 360: All the Bible for All of Life** is the new name of our adult curriculum. Our goal is for people to **Discover**, **Believe**, and **Live** the truths of the Bible. Our first study, complete with new covers and a new interior design was entitled *Jesus: King or Concierge? – A Study of Matthew*.
- **Launch of New Website and E-commerce Engine:** November 2015 marked the launch of our new website/e-commerce system. Our quality resources, in print and digital formats, are now readily accessible and can be ordered and purchased with a click. We are excited that our studies are now easy to find and easy to buy. Check out [www.baptistwaypress.org](http://www.baptistwaypress.org).
- **Publishing Provider for the Baptist General Convention of Texas:** BaptistWay Press® partnered with the Great Commission Team to publish *Ready: Recognizing and Responding to God's Call* for students who are considering a call to vocational ministry. We also worked with the Texas Baptist Mission Foundation to publish the book *The Last Leaf on the Tree: How to Make the Most of the Rest of Your Life* by Paul Powell. BaptistWay also published the leader and staff preparation materials for BOUNCE Student Disaster Recovery, a ministry which mobilizes teenagers to serve in areas affected by disasters.
- **Intercultural Ministry:** Thanks to the generosity of Texas Baptists through their gifts to the Mary Hill Davis Offering, BaptistWay continued to add new, free, downloadable Bible studies for language groups. In the last year, two new resources were produced in Chinese and three in Korean. In addition, four new resources (each) in Laotian and Simplified English were completed as well as new (free) VBS resources in English and Spanish.

**Moving Toward the Future...**BaptistWay Press® will continue to seek to expand its reach in serving churches by connecting people to God through His Word. We will support the ministry teams of the BGCT as their publisher and leverage our new website to serve more churches.



**SCOTT STEVENS**  
Publisher

**STAN GRANBERRY**  
BaptistWay  
Press, Specialist



**TEXAS BAPTISTS®**  
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**BILL  
TILLMAN**  
Director

In recognition of the divine call sensed by those who minister, the churches of the BGCT provide financial assistance to Baptist students in Texas Baptist schools who are preparing for careers in church ministry. The Ministerial Financial Assistance program (MFA) is managed through the Office of Theological Education which monitors and ensures distribution of scholarship funds to the appropriate university officers in our partner schools:

- Baptist University of the Americas
- Baylor University
- Dallas Baptist University
- East Texas Baptist University
- Houston Baptist University
- Howard Payne University
- Hardin-Simmons University
- University of Mary Hardin-Baylor
- Wayland Baptist University
- George W. Truett Seminary
- Logsdon Seminary

The Theological Education Office works closely with those in each of the universities and seminaries known as Ministry Guidance Professionals (MGPs). The MGPs are those faculty persons assigned to the specific work of consulting with and guiding students into vocational ministry roles. They maintain a close connection with the students. Jeter Basden, the Director of Ministry Guidance for Baylor University, notes about the TEC:

Baylor undergraduate ministry students are benefited greatly by the Ministerial Financial Assistance funds provided by Texas Baptist churches through the Office of Theological Education. Without such funds, some of these ministry students would have to assume student loans to pay for their undergraduate education. MFA funding helps to eliminate the need for student loans or reduce the amount of loans. Students are more able to progress from their undergraduate study to the next step in ministry without the burden of excessive student loans. Baylor ministry students also benefit from the visit to Introduction to Ministry classes by BGCT personnel to introduce students to the cooperative work of Texas Baptist churches and their ministry partnerships.

Meredith Stone, MGP at Hardin Simmons University, relates:

When students come to Logsdon Seminary, it is because they feel called, not because they have money to burn on a graduate degree. Each semester Logsdon students sacrifice greatly to invest in ministerial formation at Logsdon. One of our students left a career and moved across the country with his wife and five children to study at Logsdon even though he did not have job in Abilene when he moved. Because of the generosity of individuals and churches across Texas, nearly 40% of this student's tuition costs were covered. After he graduated in May, the grateful student is now looking for a Texas Baptist church in which he can serve and give back to the group of Baptists who invested in him. His story is only one of many in which Logsdon Seminary students are able to grow in ministry because of the gifts of Texas Baptists.

In the portion of the immediately past academic year from June, 2015 through May, 2016, the Office of Theological Education has disbursed funds to undergraduate students in the amount of \$1,367,725 and to graduate and post-graduate students in the amount of \$1,465,920. Into non-credit programs, the office has disbursed over \$189,825.

The Office of Theological Education extends deep appreciation to BGCT churches for their generosity in contributing to the funds which can be applied to students' financial assistance needs. The contributions are investments in the future of Texas Baptist congregations with the dividends being these students becoming our congregational leadership in the next generations. The Office of Theological Education counts it a great privilege to be a part of this network making a positive impact in the state of Texas and beyond on behalf of the Kingdom of God.



The most ambitious project of Decision Support for this past year was to examine the types of Baptist churches that cooperate through the Baptist General Convention of Texas to share the gospel story and minister to such a large and diverse state as Texas. In 2016 our state numbers 27.6 million population with 12 million of those not related to any faith community. In terms of diversity: 43 percent are Anglo, 38 percent Hispanic, 13 percent African American, 5 percent Asian, and 2 percent other or multiple races.

The project created seven views of BGCT churches based on: size of church, predominant race/ethnicity of the membership, age of the church, geographical location of the church, pastor's employment status (fully funded or bi-vocational), length of pastor's tenure, and amount of Cooperative Program support. Information from the project is being used to develop resources and to target communication with the various types of church audiences. How does your own church fulfill its mission in the light of these seven facets?

One spinoff of the audience project was a closer look at Western Heritage congregations. Every association related to BGCT now has at least one cowboy church. Since the first cowboy church was formed in 1999, the BGCT has seen 228 others started plus 3 older Anglo churches transition to cowboy churches. Another spinoff was a look at churches located in low income neighborhoods—241 BGCT churches are located in communities where the median income for all households within a mile of the church is below the poverty level; 613 additional churches are in communities where median income is just over the poverty level. Such churches are faced with great challenges to minister to people living right outside their doorsteps.

During this past year Decision Support produced 195 demographic reports and 70 ten-year church profiles to help churches plan for growth and outreach in their communities. Some of these reports were provided to new pastors or to pastor search committees who used them as reference material for pastoral candidates. Expanded population studies were produced for ten large churches as they sought to better understand their primary church fields.

Sometimes working with data completely changes the direction of an intended ministry. For instance, an Eritrean ministry was being considered for the Amarillo area. However, the sum of five years of Census surveys did not reveal any persons who had been born in Eritrea. The surveys did show potential for ministries to other language groups since there were 658 persons who had been born in Thailand, 602 in Laos, 354 in Iran, 338 in Sudan. In another case a Korean ministry was being considered for a zip code area in eastern Denton County but the data showed relatively few Korean households in the area. The need was two to three times greater for ministries to households speaking Tagalog (Philippines), or Cambodian, or Urdu (Pakistan).

Lastly, more churches are starting to use market segmentation, sometimes called lifestyle data, as a different way to examine community population. Market segmentation combines demographic data to describe different types of households. One suburban Baptist church is using this type of information to reach out to "Promising Families" in contrast to other churches in the area that have excelled at reaching older household types identified as "Golden Year Guardians" and "Autumn Years." The ability to apply this type of information is expected to expand in the next few years.



**CLAY PRICE**  
Director



**TEXAS BAPTISTS**  
BAPTIST GENERAL CONVENTION OF TEXAS



**LORENZO  
PEÑA**  
Director

## Associational Ministry

Texas Baptists continue to partner with the 101 associations of churches across our diverse state to do what they cannot do alone. One association focused on creating unity with their Hispanic churches by assisting them in forming a Hispanic fellowship through evangelistic and community ministry events. They also hosted an appreciation event for military soldiers who were stationed at North Fort Hood as they prepared to be deployed. Our 800 soldiers, and their families were blessed as were the members of the 12 churches that hosted the event.

Other examples of how we partnered with associational churches to do ministry are:

**Church Revitalization:** The Association has been able to assist a number of congregations to re-vision and consider what they can do to minister to their communities in new ways.

**Camp Discovery Outreach:** This Camp for inner-city youth and children provides evangelism and outreach to those who have no other opportunity to hear the Gospel in a camp setting.

**Mercy Heart Chapel Ministry:** Mercy Heart trained a team of 10 volunteers from 5 Association churches to lead this ministry. A local layperson goes into the county jail weekly to minister to inmates, delivers Bibles and discipleship material, and asks the inmates to complete a form allowing our Mercy Heart team to contact the family. As of December, 18 participants regularly attend the weekly meeting.

**The Gathering:** Is a women's conference put on by the Paluxy Baptist Association. The event consists of 28 churches within the association as well as churches in our surrounding area. The event includes a speaker, worship leader, breakout sessions. The desire is the unchurched and churched women come and hear the Word of the Lord. The conference has held over 120 women.

**Providing Hispanic Leadership Training:** by partnering with BUA to teach Hispanic leaders for two semesters and its churches. Six students were trained this year.

## Texas Baptist Partner Camps

What is Christian camping in the state of Texas? It is twenty-eight Texas Baptist partner camps providing a contextual venues for evangelism, discipleship and training. Some of the services provided by our partner camps include:

- **Youth, Pre-Teen and Children's Camps** – A contextual venue designed to reach and teach specific age levels and to provide appropriate life applications
- **Retreats and Conferences** – Camps provide an opportunity for churches and ministries to retreat to a setting conducive to training, relaxation and rejuvenation.
- **Outdoor Education Programs** – Several Texas Baptist camps offer education programs designed to meet the needs of local school. Students attend camp for several days and are schooled in the environmental sciences while being at a Christ-centered camp facility.
- **Community Connections** - Many of our camps are deeply integrated into their local communities providing services that meet community needs.

**How does Christian camping affect our state?** Last year our camps hosted more than 300,000 guests and recorded:

- 8,000 – First-time decisions to follow Christ
- 7,500 – Individuals who make spiritual recommitments
- 1,400 – Individuals committing to life-long Christian service

## “Something New and Different”

There’s a popular expression that suggests: “If we keep doing the same things repeatedly we will continue to get the same results.” Well, the 2016 African American Fellowship & Evangelism Conference took the risk of “Something New and Different.” Actually there were several projects that were included in the annual program under the category of “something new and different.”

Some of the “new and different” ways the conference went beyond the usual:

- “S.H.O.P.” is “Sweet Hour Of Prayer” (the opening night event)
- Informational seminars (offered three mornings)
- “Four Top Giving Churches” were recognized during the Annual James W. Culp Banquet.
- Inspirational worship (featured in two evening services)
- New affiliation orientation luncheon (for new churches affiliating with BGCT)
- Closing worship service of Unity celebrating The Lord’s Supper

However, the most impactful of all that took place was the “something new and different” Evangelism and Missions opportunities that happened each afternoon. “Make Christ Known” and “Help Thy Neighbor” captivated the entire week. There were a dozen or more opportunities for the conference participants to share Christ in the community of The Colony, Texas.

The listing of opportunities were available with the online registration. An overwhelming majority of the participants chose their projects and signed up before arriving for the week’s conference. “Pray for Every Home” (694 homes were prayed for), along with 1,206 prayers recorded. 10 of 15 “Help Thy Neighbor” work projects were completed during the three days. Others were ongoing even weeks later. A group of participants were assigned to an area Adult Living facility to share in Bible Study and fellowship with the residents. Backpacks and other school supplies were collected and distributed to one of the elementary schools in The Colony. The AAFC participants worked with two BGCT churches in The Colony (Friendship Baptist and Dayspring Bible Fellowship) to follow up on the decisions that were recorded and to begin the discipleship program for new persons whose lives were impacted for the kingdom.

There were several other projects that were completed through the efforts of conference participants who went beyond the usual conference attendance for information and inspiration without having the opportunity to do some implementation of what was learned.

### OUR OBJECTIVES

- We serve as a facilitator and liaison to African American churches, Texas Baptists and other ministry partners.
- Implement and develop leadership training for pastors, ministers, leaders and others.
- Provide consultation to churches, associations, and Texas Baptist staff in cross-cultural relationships, evangelism, discipleship, worship, stewardship and orientation to new affiliating pastors and churches to the culture of Texas Baptists.
- Conduct research and studies to determine issues important to African American culture.

### OTHER CONFERENCES AND EVENTS

The following is a short menu of transformational training other than the annual African American Fellowship & Evangelism Conference

- **African American Leadership Workshop**
- **Camp Exalted**
- **Seasoned Saints Conference**
- **Equippers’ Conferences** are offered regionally in various parts of the state.
- **Short term mission trips** are offered on an annual bases.
- **The Annual Worship Rally on the Sunday evening before the annual meeting.**



**ROY  
COTTON**  
Director



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**ROLANDO  
RODRIGUEZ**  
Director

The Hispanic Ministries Department (HMD) exists to encourage, inform, and assist the 1,100+ Hispanic congregations aligned with the BGCT. We do this through a wide array of programs and services.

John Maxwell said that “Everything rises and falls on leadership”. No one questions the need for more churches, especially Hispanic ones. Demographics definitely point towards an ever-increasing Hispanic population. And one of the primary obstacles to having more Hispanic churches, is leadership. A survey conducted by our office in 2007, showed leadership development as the top need among Hispanic congregations.

To meet that need, Texas Baptist’s began Entrena-T to train both pastors and lay people in leadership skills. This training now takes place in 10 centers with more than 300 students taking part in 2016. The goal is for at least 500 students by 2017. And this is very reachable since ninety percent of Hispanic pastors are bi-vocational. For most, quitting their jobs and moving to a city with a seminary is not feasible or affordable.

An example of the above is Fernando Rojas. He is the Associate Pastor of Azle Avenue Baptist Church in Fort Worth. Four years ago Fernando enrolled in the Entrena-T program. Today Fernando is the instructor of the Entrena-T training center in Fort Worth. Texas Baptists are truly making a difference through the Entrena-T program.

## ONGOING MINISTRIES

### Cooperative Program (CP) Strategy for Hispanic Churches

In March of 2016, our office began to implement a strategy designed to have one-on-one face-to-face visits with the pastors of every Hispanic Texas Baptist congregation. Since BGCT consists of more than 1,000 Hispanic congregations, we’ve partnered with other Hispanic staff members in order to visit each by 2017. Besides cultivating a relationship with our pastors, the main goal of this strategy is to increase CP giving. So far, we’ve seen churches increasing their contributions; others have begun to give.

### CLAY

6 year curriculum for leaders, parents and youth. Composed of 12 volumes (84 lessons). Designed to transform lives. Core components: leadership courses, team-building activities and action steps.

### Regional Training Events

These are scheduled during regular meetings of local Hispanic fellowships and are focused on developing leaders in multiple areas of church ministry.

### La Visión Magazine

Publication designed to communicate news and information related to Texas Baptist Hispanic work.

### Church Consultations

Consultations are provided to Hispanic and non-Hispanic congregations seeking for pastors, looking for ways to reach their communities and facing difficult situations.

## EVENTS

### Hispanic Leadership Conference

#### Compañerismo (Hispanic Fellowship) President’s Meeting

Every year our department gathers the presidents of the 40+ Hispanic fellowships around the state. These are made up of Hispanic Baptist churches in the area. During this meeting, relationships are being developed, leadership training is given and a lot of information related to Texas Baptist work is shared.

### Hispanic Rally

Annually, just prior to the BGCT annual meeting, we hold a Hispanic Rally on Sunday night.

### Hispanic Men’s Retreats

Every year, partner with Hispanic fellowships (Compañerismos) to support their Hispanic men’s retreats.



**GABRIEL  
CORTEZ**  
Acting Director

The Texas Baptist Hispanic Education Initiative (HEI) exists to help Hispanic students reach their educational potential. We recognize that God has a plan for every person He creates. He wants each of us to accomplish something significant, to become someone that brings glory to His name during our lifetime and beyond; reaching our educational potential is a critical part of this.

Frederick Douglass said, “It is easier to build strong children than to repair broken men.” And this is one of the reasons for which we have partnered with Focus on the Family and their program “Raising Highly Capable Kids” (RHCK). RHCK is a 13-week parenting program designed to be offered primarily in public schools through local churches. By June 2016, our office had started 46 RHCK groups, with 605 parents participating in 17 schools and 18 churches. The program has been so successful, especially in north Fort Worth, that some parents couldn’t attend their RHCK graduation. Why? Because that same night they were starting classes at Tarrant County College. Moms and dad were not just challenged to help their kids, they were also challenged to be all they can be for their children’s sake.

Another key part of our Initiative, is our Hispanic Summer Missionary program funded primarily by the Mary Hill Davis State Missions Offering. For 5 years we have assigned 15-20 Hispanic college students to serve in local congregations during the summer. Their main focus is to train and equip parents and youth with the tools necessary to finish high school, apply for college and financial aid, and reach the full potential for which God created them. Missionaries will not see the full impact of their ministry, but they will be able to see what the Lord does in them through this ministry. And as I try keep up with our missionaries, I’m amazed to see and hear how God uses them in ways they never thought possible. Serving as a summer missionary impacted their own personal life in a special way. They are not who they were.

Finding money for college is key in most reaching their educational potential. This is why over 6 years ago our Initiative began raising and awarding money for college scholarships. In that time span, over \$100,000 were raised and awarded; \$1,000 scholarships to more than 100 students. In June 27, 2016 we awarded 20 of these. For many students, the scholarship made college accessible, a dream come true. For others, it was just what they needed to finish paying their bill and graduate. How much of a difference can \$1,000 make? I’ll let our students tell you:

- “Receiving the HEI scholarship has encouraged me to continue my education despite trials and temptations faced in a university environment.” Alex Menjivar
- “The HEI scholarship has given me the opportunity to study what I love, and has helped pave the path for my future career. It has been a blessing in my education.” Karina Zapata
- “I am so thankful I was chosen to receive this scholarship. It’s made my dream of going to college a reality!” Erika Valdez

In the Texas Baptist Hispanic Education Initiative we’re about training and empowering. We do this by what we described above, but also through:

- A youth track at the Hispanic Leadership Conference
- An online GED Prep program in Spanish and English
- Providing educational information at regional/statewide events and conferences

Thank you Texas Baptists for your many gifts that empower us to help others reach their God-given educational potential!



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**PATTY LANE**  
Director

**MARK HEAVENER**  
Strategist

Ever wonder how a convention of over 5,000 churches and 69 languages becomes the Texas Baptist family? In part what makes this happen is the Intercultural Ministries office. Within this office we support and facilitate 8 language/culture fellowships. This includes working with the officers, assisting in planning training and providing contextualized materials and events. Let me tell you about one of our newest fellowships with one of our newest people groups.

In recent years we have seen a huge increase in refugees from central Africa. This includes Congo, Burundi, Rwanda, and other people groups from that region. Many of these refugees are Christian and the ones who aren't are looking for something more in their lives. This has created a perfect opportunity for Texas Baptists to reach out with hospitality and open space for these new Americans to have church and to help them as they share the gospel with others from their homeland. Texas Baptists grew from 1 Central African church 7 years ago to 11 in 2016. These churches are in Houston, Dallas, Amarillo, Fort Worth, Lubbock and Abilene. The pastors and leaders have started to gather and pray and plan together and held their first training conference in June. It is exciting to see how God is moving among the Central African people and building strong, evangelistic church here in Texas.

In addition to working with the over 300 individual intercultural congregations in Texas, we also host Camp Fusion each summer. This camp allows for youth from the intercultural churches to come together and play, study the Bible hear the message and worship all within a cultural context that helps them understand themselves in their work better. Some of our first campers are now out of college but still so committed to attending Camp Fusion as a leaders. We hear from them how meaningful camp was in their spiritual development and that encourages us to continue to provide this unique opportunity to meet these third culture students' needs. This year was our largest attendance with over 350 participants and 20 professions of faith, 115 rededications and 55 open to full time ministry.

#### **Other ministries include:**

Over 30 contextualized events a year

Individual pastor and leader consultations

Intercultural Advisory Council - intercultural leaders who meet and assist in planning and implementing new initiatives and who speak to Texas Baptists about concerns and issues that impact their communities and churches.

Project Start - a refugee referral center in one the densest refugee populated areas in Texas.

Cross-cultural mobilization - Intentionally training and mobilizing Texas Baptist churches to reach out to people of other faiths with the gospel

Texas Baptists, through Intercultural Ministries, provides a place to belong and feel at home no matter the language or culture. We bond in our love for Christ and for each other. Together we are family, a Texas Baptist family, and a vital part of Texas Baptist life.

## Great Year for Country Churches!

Country Churches since 1886, has been the glue that spurred BGCT to become what they are today. For many years they have supported the mission causes of Texas Baptists. In the last few years we have been re-digging some of those wells by starting Country Churches in the Cities and also transitioning several declining churches into the Country Model. You know what they say, *"In Texas there are those who are from the Country; those who live in the Country; those who wish they lived in the Country."* I appreciate the leadership of Texas Baptists who are willing to reach out to unchurched and lost and reach them through another model called "Country Church."

This past year we saw the following new Country Church Starts in Mt. Vernon; Georgetown and Tarkington. We also saw the Harding Baptist Church in Phelps become the Country Church of Phelps. First Baptist Church of Tehuacana transitioned into a Country Church in 2016. They are now called the Country Church of Tehuacana.



**CHARLES  
HIGGS**  
Director



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**JILL  
LARSEN**  
Treasurer/CFO

My team completed relocating the Dallas staff to new facilities this year in addition to the typical work of the Treasurer's office. The moves of our headquarters office, warehouse and the Historical Collection involved new systems, new processes as well as preparation of the new locations. It has been an exciting time. Those moves were completed on time and under budget while the sale of the Baptist Building allowed the Executive Board to establish quasi-endowments for the on-going work of the Convention.

In 2014, the BGCT purchased the Baptist University of the Americas campus relieving BUA from the debt service that the property had required. We received an offer to sell the property in 2015 with several amendments to the agreed upon contract negotiated during this past year. We expect that sale to close during 2016. These transactions have allowed BUA to purchase and move to a new building near their student housing that has space for their classes, library and administrative offices with room to expand in the future.

The work of the Treasurer's Office includes overseeing endowments, legal coordination, financial matters, human resource, information technology, and conference and events. You will see in the following reports how this staff responds to the needs of BGCT staff and to the needs of our churches.

Thank you Texas Baptists for allowing us to serve the ministries of BGCT!

## THE EXECUTIVE BOARD OF THE BAPTIST GENERAL CONVENTION OF TEXAS

**STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION**

As of December 31, 2015 and 2014

	2015	2014
<b>Assets</b>		
Cash and cash equivalents	\$1,661,911	\$2,750,976
Accrued investment income	1,911,618	1,771,945
Contribution receivable, net	12,745	413,623
Inventory	187,155	693,286
Other assets	4,942,804	2,404,164
Notes receivable, net	5,007,588	487,500
Loans receivable from churches, net	1,808,117	2,231,719
Investments	117,166,688	107,373,908
Beneficial interest in trust held by third parties	731,736	9,623,465
Receivable from charitable gift annuities	67,781	74,633
Reserve fund investments	6,812,198	7,053,440
Property and equipment, net	11,021,505	14,262,062
Total assets	<u>\$151,331,846</u>	<u>\$149,140,721</u>
<b>Liabilities and net assets</b>		
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	\$8,579,932	\$8,661,515
Accrued postretirement benefit cost	9,239,674	9,288,544
Notes payable	2,374,646	2,908,550
Total liabilities	20,194,252	20,858,609
<b>Net Assets</b>		
Unrestricted	-	-
Board designated	48,646,036	40,609,972
Total unrestricted net assets	48,646,036	40,609,972
Temporarily restricted	61,835,448	67,031,290
Permanently restricted	20,656,110	20,640,850
Total net assets	131,137,594	128,282,112
Total liabilities and net assets	<u>\$151,331,846</u>	<u>\$149,140,721</u>

## THE EXECUTIVE BOARD OF THE BAPTIST GENERAL CONVENTION OF TEXAS

**STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES**

Year ended December 31, 2015 and 2014

	2015	2014
<b>Church Support &amp; Revenue</b>		
Cooperative Program Income	\$31,651,274	\$33,194,953
Cooperative Program Expenses	36,684,926	40,730,496
Excess of Program Revenues over Program Expenses	(5,033,652)	(7,535,543)
<b>Other Program Support</b>		
Investment Income	7,976,084	10,434,862
Realized and Unrealized Gain on Investments (Net)	(10,070,869)	1,874,358
Other Program Income	3,504,040	3,645,505
Other Program Expenses	(6,695,014)	(7,053,640)
Gain on sale of property	7,891,619	778,858
Depreciation	(720,179)	(1,140,671)
<b>Designated Gifts</b>		
Endowment Contributions	1,567,343	787,013
Worldwide Designated Revenues	11,696,182	12,402,125
Worldwide Designated Expenses	(11,696,182)	(12,402,125)
State Designated Revenue	7,078,013	8,802,629
State Designated Expenses	(2,641,903)	(4,653,717)
Change in Net Assets	2,855,482	5,939,654
Net Assets, beginning of year	128,282,112	122,342,458
Net Assets, end of year	<u>\$131,137,594</u>	<u>\$128,282,112</u>

The Human Resources Department is, foremost among our responsibilities, here to serve. In fact, our stated mission is: to support the mission and ministries of the BGCT and a number of ancillary organizations by helping leaders attract, train and retain quality staff members. We have many statistics that help to measure and validate how well we accomplish this mission. If you'd like, please let us know and we'd be happy to share that statistical information with you.

But, we wanted to, instead of just listing statistics, share a few examples of things we've done or been a part of this year that we feel better illustrates our commitment to our Human Resources ministry – which is – to help the collective BGCT ministries happen.



**ROLLIE  
RICHMOND**  
Director

### **The Move to Rambler Park – A Human Resources Perspective**

As you can imagine, the move to our new location was stressful for our staff. While the amount of stress varied by individual, everyone was affected by the move and Human Resources was there to help. We employed our expertise in change management and employee relations to advise on ways to honor our past as well as embrace our new future – all the while being sensitive to the personal impact that our move made in the lives of our employees both then and now. One of the outcomes of the move on Human Resources was up close and personal. With some HR staff moving on, we hired and trained a completely new HR support staff. They have done a wonderful job and I encourage you, if you get a chance, to welcome both LaTamra Sells and Anna Rosales!

### **Taking the Issue of Child Abuse Head On**

Few things affect all of us more than the thought of a child being abused. Here at the BGCT, we took this issue head on to determine how best we could serve our churches and our own organization to do the best we can to eliminate this horrible problem. Human Resources leadership played a key role in working with other leaders at the BGCT to examine the problem and determine how we best could respond to this critical need. As a result of this effort, we have begun to roll out a new, learning centered, approach to equip our churches to prepare for and address this issue. Please stay tuned to learn more about how your church can take advantage of resources and support to help.

### **HR – A Resource to Our Churches**

We regularly receive inquiries from our churches to help them with Human Resources-related issues. While we always counsel our churches to seek professional legal and financial advice, this year we were able to offer suggestions relating to a variety of topic, including hiring, employee relations issues and Affordable Care Act compliance. One area of universal concern that we addressed is the new regulation relating to exempt and non-exempt status for employees. We have published information to help clarify this issue and its impact and will continue to provide insight as we move closed to the mandated December, 2016 implementation. Stay tuned.

These are but a few examples of the ways that we have worked every day this year in service to our BGCT staff, churches and ministries. We in HR are blessed and we thank you for the opportunity that you give us to serve in His name. We look forward to hopefully being able to help you in some way this coming year.



**JIM  
REED**  
Controller/  
Assistant  
Treasurer

The Office of Finance & Accounting provides accurate and timely processing of receipts from voluntary contributions, mission gifts, event registration fees and BaptistWay Press product sales. The Office also provides assistance with budgeting and accounting information on the corporate and individual level.

The primary ministry emphases are cash receipts, accounts payable, general ledger and financial reporting. During the 12 months ended June 30, 2016 our ministry team:

- Received and recorded more than 90,000 contributions, mission gifts, product sales transactions and event registration payments.
- Processed over 15,100 cash disbursement checks and electronic payments.
- Recorded information into and prepared reports from more than 60,000 accounts in the general ledger and subsidiary ledgers.
- Provided church tax information upon request.
- Continued to provide accurate financial reporting for the yearly audit.
- Coordinated the preparation of the 2016 budget.

The financial statements of Texas Baptists are audit annually by an independent certified public accounting firm. Also, the Controller insures proper internal controls are in place to avoid financial improprieties.

This office is also responsible for risk management. Responsibilities include determining levels of insurance coverage, negotiating rates and coordinating claims.

Recently, we assisted a church whose pastor was completing paperwork with U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS). We provided a letter stating the church is affiliated with Baptist General Convention of Texas accompanied by our group ruling exemption letter from the IRS. This helped the church finalize paperwork with USCIS providing their pastor with appropriate immigration status.

All members of the Finance & Accounting Staff consider our work a ministry to Texas Baptists churches. Thank you for allowing us to serve you.

Texas Baptists Information Technology (IT) exists to equip and enable the many ministries of the BGCT and WMU through technology solutions. We are called to minister - just as other teams at the BGCT are - and our ministry is helping make the ministries of the other teams happen.

## The Year of the Moves

In 2015 we moved our server, network, and telephone system infrastructure to the Cloud. In 2016, we dispersed our ministries from the Baptist Building on Washington Avenue in Dallas to 3 new locations.

- Summer 2015 featured the move of our warehouse materials to the new WMU Offices/Warehouse on Brockwood in Dallas, just over 4 miles from the new headquarters.
- In September 2015, we moved most of our staff to the Dallas Rambler office.
- February 2016 saw the relocation of the Texas Baptist Historical Collection to a new building in Waco.

We also upgraded the Austin Christian Life Commission Office to be part of our network. BGCT computers can now connect at any of our offices seamlessly. We have office security systems that we manage at Rambler, Warehouse, and Waco locations.

## IT User Support

We have continued to move forward with the technology solutions we provide to accomplish the ministry goals of Texas Baptists:

- Moved nearly all of our PCs from Windows 7 to Windows 10
- Replaced over 70 laptops with powerful, lightweight Microsoft Surface Pro tablets
- Moved many in-office staff to use wireless instead of wired internet connections
- Implemented the same network management across all offices - upgraded Austin CLC and implemented in the new WMU/warehouse, Dallas Rambler, and Texas Baptists Historical Collection Waco offices.
- Upgraded our Citrix CPUs and memory to address Cloud performance issues and improve stability

**Information Management Team** - Information Management Team (IMT) continues to partner with other Texas Baptists Ministry teams in order to maintain the most current and up to date database of churches and their respective staff and leaders. IMT updated 159,500 church leaders; created 15,438 activities (or church touches) for Area Reps and ministry teams; processed 3,121 WMU Missions Materials order forms; created 293 targeted mail lists and custom reports; answered 9,708 incoming calls; downloaded 9,194 online donations; created 15 new reports to view church and church staff information and made 66 existing report modifications to improve those reports and 39 CRM system enhancements. IMT is committed to partnering with BGCT ministries to support what they do in the local church by doing ministry data entry, evaluation reports and other custom data collection and reporting tools.

**Support Services** - When we transitioned to the new offices at Rambler Park, our 5-member Building Engineering team was replaced by 1 Receptionist. Our staff can resolve many building issues, but for many issues we count on our property management partner to address them.

We established new warehouse processes for handling our materials for events, shipping, and other purposes and have been refining them since our 7,555 square foot warehouse is not located under our new building. In the process, we eliminated the expense of additional storage space for Events and Meetings and Super Summer. We resolve most requests the same day and almost all others by the next day. This was our first year to support Super Summer's material-intensive preparation, loading, unloading, and inventorying processes at our new warehouse.

Information Technology and Support Services has made significant improvements to better serve the ministries of Texas Baptists in 2016, and we strive to serve better every year.



**DAVE  
LYONS**  
Director



**COLEEN WALL**  
Director

**REX CAMPBELL**  
Media  
Production  
Specialist

**WENDY MORRIS**  
Planning  
Coordinator

Meeting planning is not a linear process—there is no Step 1, Step 2, Step 3. Planning involves the coordination of many elements much like piecing together a jig-saw puzzle. With the right team of people working on the puzzle, events will culminate into one cohesive picture that achieves desired goals and outcomes. The ministry of the Conference & Event Team is to serve the ministries of the Convention to provide the most effective events that deliver synergy with maximum value for minimum costs. The Conference & Event Team uses “lessons learned” and meeting industry knowledge in developing and implementing meeting design strategies as well as assisting to align our resources and expertise to provide the convenience of full-service planning capabilities.

## What we help with:

- Meetings, Conferences, Conventions, Annual Meetings, Special Events, Retreats, Camps, Conventions, Board Meetings, Workshops or Training Programs.....we are logistics specialists
- Consultations & Project Management
- Research all aspect of meeting/event (e.g. Housing, Vendor, Suppliers, Venue, Production, Catering, Exhibits, Transportation)
- Assist with Request for Proposals (e.g. Housing, Vendor, Suppliers, Venue, Catering, Exhibits, Production, Creative Production)
- Contract Negotiation (e.g. Housing, Vendor, Suppliers, Venue, Catering)
- Budget Planning
- On Site Management (e.g. Hotel, Meal, Exhibits, Production, Workshops, Transportation)
- Assistance in Planning, Program and Work Timelines
- Staffing and On-Site Management of Volunteers, Committee and Staff
- Negotiations, Management and Liaison for Speakers, Special Talent and Bands/Musicians
- Creative Production, Stage Design, Event Production, Sound & Lights, Audio Visual, Stage Management, Live Streaming, Archival Recording and Basic Editing.
- Organizational Compliance, Risk Management, Crisis Management, Labor and Liabilities Best Practices.

A sampling of some of the ministries and their events that we have had an opportunity to work alongside with include: Love In Deed Conference, Hispanic Evangelism Conference, Annual Meeting, Boomers Conference, African American Fellowship Conference, Retiree Retreat, Texas Baptist Golf Classic, Executive Board, UnApolgetics, Convencion, Baptist World Alliance, Conclave, NOVA Chaplaincy Training, WMU of Texas Annual Meeting, PreSchool/Children's Minister Retreat, and African American Leadership Conference

We received some great notes from the ministries we served this past year:

*On behalf of the Sisters Who Care Council and WMU, I want to express our sincere thanks again for allowing us to partner with you in ministry again this year. You made the luncheon seamless for us as usual and we say "A Huge Thank You".*

*"I just wanted to let you know what a great job C&E Planning team did for us for the Micah 6:8 conference. We would have had a very hard timing pulling it off without them. Their expertise is invaluable and we appreciate so much their sweet attitudes!!! They are a great asset to Texas Baptists and we are fortunate to have every one of them!"*

We are honored to assist the ministries of the BGCT accomplish their ministry assignments through Conferences and Events.



*"Praise God from whom all blessings flow!"*

The words of the hymn resonate in our hearts at Baptist University of the Americas as we look back at the past year. We are writing from the offices of a new campus that, without a shadow of a doubt, is a gift from God who continuously blesses us as we answer his call. We completed the 2015-2016 year with a sense of gratitude and affirmation in our mission toward "the formation of cross-cultural Christian leaders" in the Hispanic context.

Throughout the year, God poured out extraordinary blessings on us! We completed the payments to the last of our loans associated with the building of our housing complex. We secured a new loan that allowed us to purchase a medical building and remodel it into a college campus. This new campus gives us in a single two-story facility enough space to house all our administrative and educational activities, provides a great space to students, includes a beautiful library, houses a 150-people chapel, and communicates to all who visit us that indeed we have started a new journey!

We had excellent enrollment numbers in the fall (336 students) and spring (286) semesters. Those numbers represent the result of a new initiative offered in the fall semester directed to serving our congregations in the area through a tuition-free course in Congregational Leadership and of significant increase in interest among prospective students. Among the baccalaureate programs, Biblical/Theological Studies (71 students in the fall and 78 in the spring) and Business Leadership (47 students in the fall and 61 in the spring) attracted the largest number of students. The other baccalaureate programs (Human Behavior, Music, and Spanish Language and Literature) have maintained an average of 25 students per program. The certificate program in Spanish and the English as a Second Language program continue to grow and have an impact on our ability to serve Hispanic congregations at the point of need and on the integration of non-English speakers into our degree programs and in the community at large.

During the 2015-2016 academic year we received approval from the Association for Biblical Higher Education to start an extension site and online courses as alternative instructional delivery systems. We enrolled 18 students at the Dallas-Fort Worth Extension site during the year and are geared to offer two courses online during the fall semester of 2016. We expect that those two initiatives will allow us to expand our ability to fulfill our mission among students who are not able to come to our campus in San Antonio.

Our students are motivated to serving the Lord through their ministries in local congregations, community, and the mission field. Several of them participated in mission projects in San Antonio, Texas, and in other countries such as Mexico and Nicaragua. Our graduates are a living example of commitment to Christ and of the impact of education in their lives. Sixty-five percent (65%) of our graduates are serving in churches, denominational organizations, and the mission field; 35% of them have continued their education in graduate programs at other universities and seminaries. As it has been throughout our history, our recent graduates are now becoming leaders in the denomination and in the organizations where they serve.

We are grateful to God! We are grateful to Texas Baptists and to our friends and donors for partnering with us! We are humbled by what we have received! We rejoice as we move forward in a new journey!

*"To God be the glory for the things He has done!"*



**RENÉ MACIEL**  
President

7838 Barlite  
Blvd.  
San Antonio, TX  
78224-1336

bua.edu

# **BAPTIST UNIVERSITY OF THE AMERICAS STATISTICAL INFORMATION 2015-2016 SCHOOL YEAR**

Enrollment, Fall .....	336
Enrollment, Spring.....	286
Number of students on full or partial scholarships funded by institution* .....	214
Number of students receiving BGCT Ministerial Tuition Grants* .....	149
Estimated total number of students preparing for ministry* .....	249
Approximate percentage of Baptist students .....	71%

\*"Non duplicating" totals for the 2015-16 school year.

## **BAPTIST UNIVERSITY OF THE AMERICAS SUMMARY FINANCIAL STATEMENT**

### **Operating Revenue**

Tuition and fees .....	\$1,174,676
BGCT appropriations.....	651,236
Auxiliary enterprises .....	510,301
All other sources .....	3,276,290
<b>Total operational revenue .....</b>	<b>\$5,612,503</b>

### **Operating Expenses**

Educational and general, not including scholarships.....	1,395,953
Institution funded scholarships & financial aid .....	390,029
Auxiliary enterprises .....	305,036
All other expenses.....	2,492,696
<b>Total operational expenses.....</b>	<b>4,583,714</b>
Excess revenue over expenses after transfers.....	\$1,028,789

### **Endowment and Net Assets**

Total Endowment (Market Value) .....	\$2,961,854
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### **Net Assets**

Unrestricted .....	\$5,679,455
Temporarily Restricted.....	2,064,348
Permanently Restricted.....	2,593,248
<b>Total Net Assets.....</b>	<b>\$10,337,051</b>



**DAVID E.  
GARLAND**

Interim  
President

One Bear Place  
#97096  
Waco, Texas  
76798

[www.baylor.edu](http://www.baylor.edu)

Baylor University in Waco, Texas, is a private Baptist university and a nationally ranked research institution. Chartered in 1845 by the Republic of Texas and affiliated with the BGCT, Baylor is the oldest, continually operating university in Texas. Baylor's mission is to educate men and women for worldwide leadership and service by integrating academic excellence and Christian commitment within a caring community.

The 2015-2016 academic year moved forward under Baylor's strategic vision, Pro Futuris, which connects Pro Futuris – “for our future” – with the University's foundational motto – Pro Ecclesia (“for Church”), Pro Texana (“for Texas” and for the world), reminding us that our past is linked to our future, and that responsibility to God and to the world continues to lead us.

In fall 2015, Baylor's record enrollment of 16,787 students included a class of 3,394 freshmen. Truett Seminary enrolled 361 students and began celebrating its 25th anniversary year. In addition to special anniversary services, Truett hosted conferences and lectures, including the Dobbs Lectureship, Parchman Lectures, T.B. Maston Lecture, Willson-Addis Lecture and Drumwright Colloquium. Truett also received a \$600,000 grant from Lilly Endowment Inc. to establish the Youth Spirituality and Sports Institute: Running the Race Well.

In fall 2015, 30.1 percent of Baylor students were Baptist. Nearly 3,000 students indicated an interest in vocational Christian ministry, including preaching, missions, music and education.

In 2015-2016, Baylor's department of religion enrolled 7,526 students in religion courses, with approximately 153 undergraduate students majoring or minoring in religion and 57 students in the graduate program. Seven students earned the Ph.D. in religion. Baylor had 213 undergraduates who received the BGCT Ministry Scholarship.

On Oct. 5, 2015, Baylor hosted its annual Missions Fair, during which international and domestic missions and ministry organizations shared about their work and how students can partner with Christians around the world to address complex issues.

For the eighth year in a row, Baylor and the City of Waco hosted Congreso – the largest annual gathering of Hispanic Baptist young people in Texas – April 22-24, 2016. The event on campus included worship sessions, missions opportunities and small-group training in evangelism and discipleship.

Baylor Missions lived out its purpose in 2015-16 by focusing on discipline-specific missions in which groups of students concentrated on using their academic strengths and passions in service to Christ and the world.

During spring break in March 2016, Baylor Missions sent 10 teams of 138 Baylor students, faculty, staff and alumni to Colombia, the Dominican Republic, Guatemala and Haiti, and to serve in Texas and Alaska.

In May 2016, Baylor Missions sent 15 teams of 215 Baylor students, faculty, staff and alumni to Brazil, Ghana, Guatemala, Malaysia, Taiwan, Uganda, Vietnam/China, Zambia, Laredo and Washington D.C. They explored hunger in America, raised awareness of human trafficking, consulted with businesses and young entrepreneurs, addressed health care concerns, performed concerts and during church services, taught leadership skills to women and girls, held sports camps in local schools, empowered and supported teachers, and ministered in prisons, villages, churches and orphanages.

In August 2016, Baylor Missions partnered with New Student Programs to send a team of 17 incoming freshmen, five upperclassmen student leaders and two Student Life staff to Antigua, Guatemala, for a combined missions trip and Baylor Line Camp experience. The trip allowed the freshmen to learn about Baylor history and traditions while exercising their faith and serving internationally as new members of the Baylor community.

Baylor had 28 active urban missions teams that contributed 6,200 hours of local service through children's ministries and recreation, eldercare, special needs ministries, education and tutorials, and special interest teams such as urban gardening.

# **BAYLOR UNIVERSITY STATISTICAL INFORMATION 2015-2016 SCHOOL YEAR**

Enrollment, Fall .....	16,787
Enrollment, Spring.....	15,834
Number of students on full or partial scholarships funded by institution* .....	14,090
Number of students receiving BGCT Ministerial Tuition Grants* .....	215
Estimated total number of students preparing for ministry* .....	2,593
Approximate percentage of Baptist students .....	30%

\*"Non duplicating" totals for the 2015-16 school year.

## **BAYLOR UNIVERSITY SUMMARY FINANCIAL STATEMENT - UNAUDITED**

### **Operating Revenue**

Tuition and fees .....	\$654,294,000
BGCT appropriations.....	1,521,000
Auxiliary enterprises .....	51,464,000
All other sources .....	216,557,000
<b>Total operational revenue .....</b>	<b>\$923,836,000</b>

### **Operating Expenses**

Educational and general, not including scholarships.....	598,699,000
Institution funded scholarships & financial aid .....	266,868,000
Auxiliary enterprises .....	37,718,000
All other expenses.....	-
<b>Total operational expenses.....</b>	<b>\$903,285,000</b>
Increase in net assets from operating activities .....	\$20,551,000

### **Endowment and Net Assets**

Total Endowment (Market Value) .....	\$1,153,535,000
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### **Net Assets**

Unrestricted .....	\$727,247,000
Temporarily Restricted.....	280,599,000
Permanently Restricted.....	747,358,000
<b>Total Net Assets.....</b>	<b>\$1,755,204,000</b>

The above amounts are "Preliminary & Unaudited" as of May 31, 2016 and are subject to change.

The purpose of Dallas Baptist University is to provide Christ-centered quality higher education in the arts, sciences, and professional studies at both the undergraduate and graduate levels to traditional age and adult students in order to produce servant leaders who have the ability to integrate faith and learning through their respective callings. During 2015-2016, the University was blessed with many important achievements toward this end.

The University was blessed with an enrollment of 5,319 total students during the fall 2015 semester, which includes 2,004 students in the graduate school. DBU's total number of graduates through the May 2016 commencement is 32,755. In addition, DBU ended the fiscal year in the black for the twenty-eighth consecutive year.

DBU is now offering doctoral programs with the Ph.D. in Leadership Studies, the Ed.D. in Educational Leadership, and Ed.D. in Educational Leadership (K-12). Based upon a unique academic model rooted in classical studies with an emphasis on the field of leadership and its related disciplines, students engage in advanced study in specific areas of individual concentration. An important aspect of the programs is the focus on the servant leadership model.

For the eighth consecutive year, DBU has been recognized for its community service efforts. For 2014, the University was named to the U. S. President's Higher Education Community Service Honor Roll with Distinction. DBU received this honor in recognition of its efforts to instill a spirit of servant leadership in each of its students.

Jim and Sally Nation Hall, the newest academic building, which is home to the Gary Cook School of Leadership, was dedicated in September 2015. Following in the Colonial Georgian architectural tradition, Nation Hall is patterned after Thomas Jefferson's Monticello and aims to serve as a beacon where Christian servant leaders can discover spiritual and intellectual rejuvenation.

In the spring of 2016, the university opened its newest building, the Dr. William B. Dean Learning Center. Modeled after Harvard Hall, the building allowed DBU to bring together its student services efforts in one central location, and is the home to the Dr. William B. Dean Service-Learning Program, as well as the Department of Online Education, College of Professional Studies, Career Development Center, Student Government Association, Office of Student Life, and the Office of Student Success.

The National Council on Teacher Quality's 2014 Teacher Prep Review recognized DBU as the number one elementary preparation program in the nation.

In order to better serve the needs of students throughout the Dallas-Fort Worth Metroplex, two regional academic centers have been established. DBU North is located in Plano and serves students in Collin County. Serving students in Tarrant County, DBU Hurst-Colleyville moved into the new Patsy and Herman Smith Center in Hurst, in January 2009. Both regional academic centers offer students a full complement of student services, including admission, registration, advising, and cashier services.

In keeping with our mission statement, Dallas Baptist University offers students numerous opportunities to serve the world in which they live. International opportunities to share Christ have included trips to China, South Korea, Guatemala, Russia, Taiwan, Swaziland, and Peru.

We are most grateful to fellow Texas Baptists for their generous support of Dallas Baptist University.



**DR. ADAM  
WRIGHT**  
President

3000 Mountain  
Creek Parkway  
Dallas, Texas  
75211-9299  
dbu.edu

## DALLAS BAPTIST UNIVERSITY STATISTICAL INFORMATION 2015-2016 SCHOOL YEAR

Enrollment, Fall .....	3,315
Enrollment, Spring .....	2,969
Number of students on full or partial scholarships funded by institution* .....	2,648
Number of students receiving BGCT Ministerial Tuition Grants* .....	314
Estimated total number of students preparing for ministry* .....	1,332
Approximate percentage of Baptist students .....	42%

\*"Non duplicating" totals for the 2015-16 school year.

## DALLAS BAPTIST UNIVERSITY SUMMARY FINANCIAL STATEMENT

### Operating Revenue

Tuition and fees .....	\$95,457,850
BGCT appropriations.....	1,468,040
Auxiliary enterprises .....	11,763,951
All other sources .....	1,998,296
<b>Total operational revenue .....</b>	<b>\$110,688,137</b>

### Operating Expenses

Educational and general, not including scholarships.....	75,637,289
Institution funded scholarships & financial aid .....	20,139,788
Auxiliary enterprises .....	7,808,886
All other expenses.....	7,090,465
<b>Total operational expenses.....</b>	<b>\$110,676,428</b>
Excess revenue over expenses after transfers.....	\$11,709

### Endowment and Net Assets

Total Endowment (Market Value) .....	\$41,605,681
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### Net Assets

Unrestricted .....	\$134,756,128
Temporarily Restricted.....	8,826,552
Permanently Restricted.....	30,028,985
<b>Total Net Assets.....</b>	<b>\$173,611,666</b>

East Texas Baptist University educates students by integrating biblical faith and learning to develop mind, body, and soul through community engagement to prepare graduates to be Christian servant leaders in their calling to God and humanity.

As God draws more students to be a part of what He is doing at ETBU, the University is committed to providing a transformational, Christ-centered educational experience. Enrollment increased 3.7% in 2016. New master's degree programs fueled a 34.4% growth in graduate students this past year. To accommodate future growth, on-campus residential options are expanding with the construction of the University Park Row Houses and the renewal of other student housing.

## Integrating Faith

With Christ as the Cornerstone, the spiritual formation of students is foundational to the ETBU experience. Students are challenged to embrace their faith through Chapel services, Bible studies, discipleship, prayer, mentoring, and worship. The University connects students with local churches for ministry and fellowship for growth in their faith. ETBU students have a passion to share the love of Christ in the community and around the world.

Over 300 students participated in local mission opportunities through Beach Reach, ETBU Cares, Habitat Collegiate Challenge, Mission Marshall, Neighborhood Renewal Initiative, and Hope Springs Water projects. ETBU commissioned almost 200 students and faculty to learn and serve across the globe in Belize, China, Ecuador, England, Greece, Ireland, Israel, Philippines, United Arab Emirates, Vietnam, and Zambia.

## Preparing Graduates

ETBU is a scholarly Christian community devoted to seeing students succeed. Faculty teach students to approach their learning through a Christian worldview. ETBU's teacher education program pass rate for state licensure was 100% in 2015. The School of Nursing graduates continued to score a 100% pass rate on the National Council Licensure Examination.

ETBU expanded its degree programs with a Bachelor of Science in Sports Management and Master of Science in Kinesiology. To provide for students whose schedules and lifestyles require greater flexibility, ETBU reinstated its bachelor's degree completion program for adults, added an Online MBA, and expanded online course offerings.

## Equipping Christian Servant Leaders

Co-curricular programs like SGA, student organizations, intramurals, club sports, and athletics empower students to develop their servant leadership. Last year, ETBU students served over 58,000 hours locally and globally. All freshmen students volunteered as mentors and tutors to students in all elementary schools in Marshall ISD.

Throughout the year, students participate in numerous local ministries such as food pantries, backyard Bible clubs, clothes closets, and ministries to the homeless. In 2015-2016, ETBU hosted four Tiger Serve events in which the campus community served its neighbors in a wide array of projects. For the 5th consecutive year, ETBU was named to the U.S. President's Higher Education Community Service Honor Roll.

Tiger Athletics experienced one of its most successful seasons in program history while each team volunteered with a local ministry. ETBU Football won a share of the 2015 American Southwest Conference Championship. Tiger Softball continued their winning tradition with their 10th appearance in the NCAA Division III Regionals after winning the 2016 American Southwest Conference Championship. Two Tiger Softball players were selected as All-Americans. Two Tiger student athletes qualified for the NCAA Division III National Championships in pole vault and tennis. The Tiger Baseball team led the nation



**J. BLAIR  
BLACKBURN**  
President

One Tiger Drive  
Marshall, Texas  
75670

[www.etbu.edu](http://www.etbu.edu)



in homeruns. Three ETBU baseball players were named All-Americans by multiple national organizations, and one player was selected in the MLB draft.

East Texas Baptist University appreciates the faithful support of Texas Baptists in partnering with us as we strive to reflect the light of Christ and develop a new generation of Christian servant leaders.

## **EAST TEXAS BAPTIST UNIVERSITY STATISTICAL INFORMATION 2014-2015 SCHOOL YEAR**

Enrollment, Fall .....	1,308
Enrollment, Spring .....	1,148
Number of students on full or partial scholarships funded by institution* .....	1,080
Number of students receiving BGCT Ministerial Tuition Grants* .....	43
Estimated total number of students preparing for ministry* .....	136
Approximate percentage of Baptist students .....	55%

\*"Non duplicating" totals for the 2015-16 school year.

## **EAST TEXAS BAPTIST UNIVERSITY SUMMARY FINANCIAL STATEMENT - UNAUDITED**

### **Operating Revenue**

Tuition and fees .....	\$25,200,455
BGCT appropriations .....	651,434
Auxiliary enterprises .....	7,819,494
All other sources .....	4,329,957
<b>Total operational revenue .....</b>	<b>\$38,001,340</b>

### **Operating Expenses**

Educational and general, not including scholarships .....	17,495,375
Institution funded scholarships & financial aid .....	10,537,100
Auxiliary enterprises .....	5,573,509
All other expenses .....	4,326,475
<b>Total operational expenses .....</b>	<b>\$37,932,459</b>
Excess revenue over expenses after transfers .....	\$68,881

### **Endowment and Net Assets**

Total Endowment (Market Value) .....	\$66,615,261
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### **Net Assets**

Unrestricted .....	\$42,959,099
Temporarily Restricted .....	24,506,048
Permanently Restricted .....	32,981,859
<b>Total Net Assets .....</b>	<b>\$100,447,006</b>

Hardin-Simmons University continued to offer students a high quality education enlightened by Christian faith and values. Recognized by U.S. News and World Report in the Top Tier of its Best Universities in the Western Region, HSU offers a 12:1 student-to-faculty ratio where students enjoy personal attention in over 70 fields of undergraduate study and 22 programs of graduate study.

In 1891, the founders stated the purpose of HSU would be threefold: "To bring young men and women to Christ; to teach them of Christ; and, to train them for Christ." Hardin-Simmons strives each year to fulfill these dreams of its founders.

### ACADEMIC HIGHLIGHTS

HSU partnered with the Abilene Independent School District to establish the Holland Early College Medical High School, the first Early College partnership between a private university and an independent school district in Texas.

A new concentration in Health Care Professions was added to the Doctor of Education in Leadership; graduated members of the first cohort for the Ed.D. program.

Dr. Rob Sellers, Connally Chair of Missions, was elected as Chair of the Board of the World Parliament of Religions.

Dr. Mark Puckett, Professor of Music and Artist in Residence, was honored as the Collegiate Teacher of the Year by the Texas Music Teachers Association.

Mr. David Stuckey, Associate Professor of Fitness and Sports Science and Director of Athletic Training, will be inducted into the Southwest Training Association's Hall of Fame.

Students and faculty from the Physical Therapy Department conducted a summer mission trip to Haiti.

### MINISTRY PREPARATION

Logsdon Seminary experienced a record enrollment for the third consecutive year, with three year enrollment increasing by 27%.

Logsdon Seminary celebrated its 20th year of seminary programs with a three day event, including a preaching conference led by Dr. Paul Scott Wilson from the University of Toronto.

Dr. Myles Werntz joined the faculty as the new T.B. Mason Chair of Christian Ethics. Logsdon Seminary's San Antonio extension will begin offering complete MDiv, MA Family Ministry, MA Religion, and DMin programs (pending final approval from SACS) without the need for students to travel to Abilene.

The George Knight Lectures featured Dr. Nancy deClaissie-Walford from the McAfee School of Theology.

The T.B. Maston Lectures in Christian Ethics featured Dr. Will Willimon of Duke University.

In spring 2016, Logsdon faculty guided students on international mission and travel course to Greece and Israel.

Logsdon hosted the annual Texas Baptists/BGCT Day in the fall with Dr. Steve Vernon as the featured speaker.

### BAPTIST STUDENT MINISTRIES

BSM students participated in evangelism efforts during Spring Break's annual Beach Reach

More than 1000 students were fed through BSM Noon Lunches

Developed outreach initiatives to HSU's men's soccer team and theater department

Woven, a women's ministry was developed, resulting in 10 women responding to a vocational ministry call

The Fall Break Mission Trip assisted residents of Wimberley, TX after flooding

### OTHER HIGHLIGHTS

Transformation 2020 surpassed \$54 million in gifts and pledges



**LANNY  
HALL**  
President

2200 Hickory  
Street  
Abilene, Texas  
79601

hsutx.edu

1,299 degreed undergraduate alumni made gifts to HSU – the 2nd highest number of gifts on record

The number of endowed scholarships surpassed 550

A new tennis complex was dedicated and renovations completed on our recital hall

Homecoming drew over 1200 guests

### ATHLETICS

HSU competed for five conference championships and claimed four American Southwest Conference Championships.

HSU won ASC titles in football, men's basketball, women's soccer and women's track and field.

HSU had more student athletes named to the ASC All-Academic team than any other school in the conference.

Over 60% of the athletes at HSU recorded a GPA of a 3.0 or higher for the Fall, 2015 semester.

## HARDIN-SIMMONS UNIVERSITY STATISTICAL INFORMATION 2015-2016 SCHOOL YEAR

Enrollment, Fall ..... 2,112

Number of students on full or  
partial scholarships funded by institution\* .....1,846

Number of students receiving  
BGCT Ministerial Tuition Grants\* ..... 163

Estimated total number of students  
preparing for ministry\* .....221

Approximate percentage of Baptist students .....48.8%

\*"Non duplicating" totals for the 2015-16 school year.

## HARDIN-SIMMONS UNIVERSITY SUMMARY FINANCIAL STATEMENT - UNAUDITED

### Operating Revenue

Tuition and fees ..... \$38,613,619

BGCT appropriations..... 662,384

Auxiliary enterprises ..... 1,779,894

All other sources ..... 15,563,373

**Total operational revenue ..... \$60,621,270**

### Operating Expenses

Educational and general,  
not including scholarships..... 36,345,408

Institution funded scholarships  
& financial aid .....16,958,382

Auxiliary enterprises ..... 5,472,730

All other expenses.....1,763,440

**Total operational expenses..... \$60,539,960**

Excess revenue over  
expenses after transfers..... \$81,310

### Endowment and Net Assets

Total Endowment (Market Value) ..... \$145,248,547

### Net Assets

Unrestricted ..... \$37,126,149

Temporarily Restricted..... 41,519,070

Permanently Restricted..... 98,683,416

**Total Net Assets..... \$177,400,635**

From its home in the heart of Houston, Texas, one of the nation's largest and most diverse metropolitan areas, HBU provides a learning experience that instills in students a passion for academic, spiritual, and professional excellence. This mission serves as the driving force behind our continued efforts to enrich the total student life experience and to accomplish the goals in our 12-year vision, *The Ten Pillars: Faith and Reason in a Great City* ([www.hbu.edu/vision](http://www.hbu.edu/vision)).

HBU continues to be ranked on multiple national college rankings, including The 50 Best Christian Colleges and Universities, 50 Best Value Christian MBA Programs, 50 Most Beautiful Christian Colleges in the U.S., Top 50 Nursing Schools in the Southwest, and 25 Most Affordable Christian Colleges and Universities in the West 2016.



**ROBERT B. SLOAN**  
President

7502 Fondren  
Houston, Texas  
77074-3298

[hbu.edu](http://hbu.edu)

## New And Noteworthy

- Through the generosity of The Robert and Janice McNair Foundation, HBU is one of the six universities in the nation to boast a McNair Center for Entrepreneurship. The Center for Entrepreneurship will allow students across all disciplines to learn the central features and practices of entrepreneurship, provide experience-based mentoring and practice, and integrate entrepreneurship and ethics at a deep and pervasive level.
- Graduate enrollment and total enrollment were the highest in the University's history.
- HBU launched its first doctoral program, the EdD in Executive Educational Leadership, as well as five other new programs: a Bachelor of Arts in Mass Media Arts, a Bachelor of Fine Arts in Cinematic Arts, a Bachelor of Science in Kinesiology, a Master of Divinity, and the RN to BSN competency program, which is 100% online. With a doctoral program, HBU is now a comprehensive, national university, and The Guild was able to offer its first doctoral scholarship.
- HBU is celebrating its Spirit of Excellence Gala. Honorees include Elizabeth and John Gibson, Jr.; Mary Ann Belin; Linda Higginbotham; Dr. Stewart Morris, Sr.; and in special recognition of ten years of phenomenal leadership, Dr. Robert and Sue Sloan.
- To continue the expansion of the Ten Pillars vision, HBU has announced the formation of the Houston Theological Seminary. With the collaboration of local church leaders, courses are offered on the HBU campus, other campuses, and online. Degrees offered through Houston Theological seminary will include Master of Arts degrees in Apologetics, Biblical Languages, Christian Leadership, Theological Studies, and the Master of Divinity.
- Dr. Cynthia Simpson was named as Provost and Vice President of Academic Affairs of the University.
- Sharon Saunders, Vice President for Advancement and University Relations, was recognized by Houston Women's Magazine as one of "Houston's 50 Most Influential Women of 2015."
- Dr. Craig Evans was named the John Bisagno Distinguished Professor of Christian Origins and dean of the School of Christian Thought. Dr. Evans is one of the foremost scholars alive today in the study of the historical Jesus, focusing especially on His death and resurrection.

## Campus Update

- McNair Plaza was dedicated in honor of Janice and Robert McNair and their support of the HBU football program.
- The Looper Learning Commons space was named after Doris and Terry Looper in recognition of their significant support of the renovation of Moody Library.

- With the addition of an NCAA Division I sand volleyball team, the University now offers 17 varsity sports.
- The development of HBU's retail zone - known as "The Pillars at HBU" - began in February and will have a transforming effect on our campus and on our community. The Pillars at HBU will eventually include an office building, a hotel and conference center, a parking garage, and a special events arena.

## HOUSTON BAPTIST UNIVERSITY STATISTICAL INFORMATION 2015-2016 SCHOOL YEAR

Enrollment, Fall .....	3,160
Enrollment, Spring .....	2,913
Number of students on full or partial scholarships funded by institution* .....	2,332
Number of students receiving BGCT Ministerial Tuition Grants* .....	37
Estimated total number of students preparing for ministry* .....	177
Approximate percentage of Baptist students .....	26.8%

\*"Non duplicating" totals for the 2015-16 school year.

## HOUSTON BAPTIST UNIVERSITY SUMMARY FINANCIAL STATEMENT - UNAUDITED & PRELIMINARY

### Operating Revenue

Tuition and fees .....	\$75,871,861
BGCT appropriations.....	316,521
Auxiliary enterprises.....	8,560,046
All other sources .....	19,728,112
<b>Total operational revenue .....</b>	<b>\$104,476,540</b>

### Operating Expenses

Educational and general, not including scholarships.....	44,488,721
Institution funded scholarships & financial aid .....	37,034,528
Auxiliary enterprises .....	15,223,682
All other expenses.....	2,374,578
<b>Total operational expenses.....</b>	<b>\$99,121,509</b>
Excess revenue over expenses after transfers.....	\$5,355,031

### Endowment and Net Assets

Total Endowment (Market Value) .....	\$78,375,111
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### Net Assets

Unrestricted .....	\$79,737,706
Temporarily Restricted.....	31,096,951
Permanently Restricted.....	53,619,977
<b>Total Net Assets.....</b>	<b>\$164,454,634</b>

Howard Payne University's mission is to be a Christ-centered academic community dedicated to excellence by developing and equipping the whole person for intellectual inquiry, personal and professional integrity, and service to God and humanity. A low faculty-to-student ratio allows HPU to provide individual attention to every student, insuring the highest-quality academic experience in a wholesome, Christian atmosphere. HPU is proud of its long-standing relationship with Texas Baptists, who are a perpetual source of support and encouragement.



**WILLIAM N. ELLIS**  
President

1000 Fisk Street  
Brownwood,  
Texas 76801  
hputx.edu

## **Institutional Advancement and Fiscal Highlights**

The total number of gifts increased for the second consecutive year, this time by more than 21% over the previous year. This is evidence of increased engagement by alumni and friends, an increase in those making regular (e.g. monthly) gifts and the faithfulness of alumni and friends working to complete their pledges to the A Call to Send Campaign. Overall giving approached \$3 million. HPU is thankful to God, the author of all good gifts.

## **Academic Highlights**

In Science Technology Engineering and Mathematics (STEM), HPU's engineering science major continues to grow, with 30 majors after only three years. In addition to support faculty in physics, physical science and mathematics, HPU employed a new Ph.D. in electrical engineering. Among the 210 students participating in Commencements were HPU's first two forensic science majors, one in December and one in May. These graduates are gainfully employed, one with a private forensics lab and one with a company that sells chemicals to forensic labs.

Other important developments include the expansion of curriculum to include the Master in Criminal Justice. Substantive Change notification to the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges was positively received, and the first courses will be offered in fall 2016. HPU was eager to employ one of its own undergraduate students who had continued her graduate education in law and criminal justice.

## **Student Life Highlights**

HPU students experience opportunities to build relationships, develop leadership skills, grow in relationship to Christ, exhibit personal responsibility, serve the campus and community, and have fun. Activities included Jacket Journey, S.W.A.R.M. (local service projects), Homecoming, Cupcakes with the President, Movie on the Lawn, Laser Tag, Christmas on the Plaza, Trivia Night, Pancake Suppers, Black Light Bingo, Spring Sing and HPU Fest. Chapel provided a weekly, encouraging community experience. Residence Life promoted positive community living and hosted events including Hall Olympics, All Hall Cook Out & Lawn Games, Ice Cream Social, Glow-in-the-Dark Capture the Flag, Slip-n-Slide Kickball, Coffee House, Bingo and Community Meals. Student organization leaders participated in training to enhance HPU's 29 student organizations. Sixteen students attended the annual Christian Association of Student Leaders (CASL) Conference.

## **Campus Ministries**

With a leadership team of 32 students overseeing 12 ministries, HPU's Baptist Student Ministry reached many people with Jesus' love. Through Freshman Council, more students engage in leadership endeavors early in their university experiences. A new ministry has led students to adopt a wing of a residence hall, pray for students and talk with them weekly, resulting in many opportunities for spiritual conversations. Student-Led Worship has been a consistent occasion for students to worship and participate in ministry with attendance of 50-200 students. HPU BSM took 18 students on a spring break mission trip to Oregon, assisting apartment churches and partnering with Northwest Collegiate Ministries to share the gospel on two campuses. Eighteen students served through Go Now Missions during Christmas break, summer and fall.

# **HOWARD PAYNE UNIVERSITY STATISTICAL INFORMATION 2015-2016 SCHOOL YEAR**

Enrollment, Fall .....	1,079
Enrollment, Spring.....	951
Number of students on full or partial scholarships funded by institution* .....	1,017
Number of students receiving BGCT Ministerial Tuition Grants* .....	69
Estimated total number of students preparing for ministry* .....	118
Approximate percentage of Baptist students .....	35.40%

\*"Non duplicating" totals for the 2015-16 school year.

## **HOWARD PAYNE UNIVERSITY SUMMARY FINANCIAL STATEMENT - UNAUDITED**

### **Operating Revenue**

Tuition and fees .....	\$24,430,338
BGCT appropriations.....	715,012
Auxiliary enterprises .....	3,556,521
All other sources .....	5,689,169
<b>Total operational revenue .....</b>	<b>\$34,391,039</b>

### **Operating Expenses**

Educational and general, not including scholarships.....	18,642,572
Institution funded scholarships & financial aid .....	11,572,757
Auxiliary enterprises .....	1,717,785
All other expenses.....	2,290,055
<b>Total operational expenses.....</b>	<b>\$34,223,169</b>
Excess revenue over expenses after transfers.....	\$167,870

### **Endowment and Net Assets**

Total Endowment (Market Value) .....	\$52,168,936
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### **Net Assets**

Unrestricted .....	\$27,820,858
Temporarily Restricted.....	20,259,074
Permanently Restricted.....	37,111,843
<b>Total Net Assets.....</b>	<b>\$85,191,775</b>



The University of Mary Hardin-Baylor is dedicated to preparing students for lives of leadership, service, and faith-informed discernment in a global society. Academic excellence, personal attention, broad-based scholarship, and a Baptist vision for education distinguish our Christ-centered learning community.

## Academics

This year we have been blessed with our eighth consecutive record freshmen enrollment. Despite consistent growth, the university remains committed to the personal attention that has always been a cornerstone of the UMHB experience for more than 170 years.

The University of Mary Hardin-Baylor offers bachelor's degrees in 47 undergraduate majors, and graduate degrees in six master's programs in business, counseling, education, exercise physiology, information systems, and nursing. The university's Doctor of Education program offers doctorate degrees in P-12, Higher Education, and Leadership in Nursing Education. The university is also home to a Doctor of Physical Therapy program, and this fall saw the launch of UMHB's Doctor of Nursing Practice program.

This fall, UMHB celebrated the beginning of construction on its new performing arts center. Once complete, the 40,725-square-foot facility will include multifunctional rooms that will allow it to be easily utilized for both learning and performance purposes. The center will also feature a 546-seat theater with a proscenium stage, fly space, and orchestra pit. The design also includes a 2,000-square-foot ensemble room, which can be used as a classroom, a venue for small concerts or recitals, or a reception space for social gatherings.

## Student Life

UMHB students take active and personal roles in spreading the good news of Jesus Christ across the world. Last year, more than 130 Crusaders spent their Christmas vacations, spring breaks, and summers taking part in mission activities in 27 countries. Baptist Student Ministry students also raised nearly \$9,000 for Go Now Missions.

In March, UMHB held its 77th Annual Easter Pageant. The student-led production depicts moments from the life and ministry of Christ, including His triumphal entrance into Jerusalem, crucifixion, and resurrection. This event has become a tradition for many Central Texas families. This year's pageant featured hundreds of UMHB students, faculty, and staff, along with many children of employees and current students. The show's three performances drew an estimated 6,000 total spectators.

## Athletics

This has been another banner year for UMHB athletics. Crusader football won its 13th American Southwest Conference (ASC) championship in 14 years. Thirteen of our student-athletes earned All-American honors, and another 54 were recognized as members of ASC All-Academic teams. The university also had two of its golfers compete in the NCAA Division III National Championships.

## Many Thanks

The University of Mary Hardin-Baylor is able to fulfill its mission and continue to strive toward its vision of being the university of choice for Christian higher education in the Southwest through the support of the BGCT, UMHB alumni, and other friends who share the university's commitment to helping students prepare for lives of Christian leadership. Together we are making a difference in our world!



**RANDY  
O'REAR**  
President

900 College  
Street  
Belton, Texas  
76513  
umhb.edu

**UNIVERSITY OF MARY HARDIN-BAYLOR  
STATISTICAL INFORMATION 2015-2016 SCHOOL YEAR**

Enrollment, Fall .....	3,898
Enrollment, Spring .....	3,592
Number of students on full or partial scholarships funded by institution* .....	3,516
Number of students receiving BGCT Ministerial Tuition Grants* .....	32
Estimated total number of students preparing for ministry* .....	86
Approximate percentage of Baptist students .....	38%

\*"Non duplicating" totals for the 2015-16 school year.

**UNIVERSITY OF MARY HARDIN-BAYLOR  
SUMMARY FINANCIAL STATEMENT - UNAUDITED**
**Operating Revenue**

Tuition and fees .....	86,357,320
BGCT appropriations .....	725,940
Auxiliary enterprises .....	12,619,042
All other sources .....	2,247,721
<b>Total operational revenue .....</b>	<b>\$101,950,023</b>

**Operating Expenses**

Educational and general, not including scholarships .....	\$-
Institution funded scholarships & financial aid .....	19,513,274
Auxiliary enterprises .....	4,647,670
All other expenses .....	77,709,079
<b>Total operational expenses .....</b>	<b>\$101,870,023</b>
Excess revenue over expenses after transfers .....	\$80,000

**Endowment and Net Assets**

Total Endowment (Market Value) .....	\$75,344,828
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**Net Assets**

Unrestricted .....	\$141,009,451
Temporarily Restricted .....	32,766,855
Permanently Restricted .....	49,020,538
<b>Total Net Assets .....</b>	<b>\$222,796,844</b>

Wayland's Board of Trustees announced the appointment of Dr. Bobby L. Hall as Wayland's 13th President. Dr. Hall succeeds Dr. Paul W. Armes, who retired after serving as Wayland's Chief Executive Officer since February of 2001. Following a national search, Dr. Hall assumed the presidency on July 1, 2016 after serving previously as Wayland's Executive Vice President and Provost, the chief operating and academic officer of the 13-campus system. He is a Plainview native and graduate of Plainview High School. Dr. Hall and wife Laurie, also a PHS and Wayland graduate and the university's Director of Health Services, have two children, Alexis and Lucas. The Halls are members of First Baptist Church in Plainview.



**BOBBY L. HALL**  
President

1900 West  
Seventh Street  
Plainview, Texas  
79072  
[wbu.edu](http://wbu.edu)

Three of Wayland's nine academic school deans will transition in 2016–2017. Dr. Estelle Owens retired as Dean of the School of Behavioral and Social Sciences but continues in her role as University Historian with a view towards completing her book on Wayland's history. In the School of Education, Dr. Jim Todd stepped down as dean and now serves as Professor of Education. Dr. Paul Sadler also stepped down as Dean of the School of Religion and Philosophy and now serves as Director of Church and Denominational Relations. Each of these very special individuals has given a significant portion of their professional lives to Wayland. New deans are Dr. Peter Bowen in the School of Behavioral and Social Sciences, Dr. Gene Whitfill in the School of Education, and Dr. Clinton Lowin in the School of Religion and Philosophy.

Wayland received a \$600,000 grant from the Lilly Foundation to launch the KALEO Youth Theology Institute through the Ministry Guidance Program of the School of Religion and Philosophy. KALEO is designed to partner with the local church to help prepare students for Christian leadership by allowing high school sophomores and juniors to serve as participants for a month long immersion experience and a year-long mentorship.

Construction is completed on the new Jimmy Dean Museum, which will be formally opened on September 28, 2016. The new facility is an addition to the current Museum of the Llano Estacado. Dean's widow, Donna Dean Stevens, donated \$5 million to cover the cost of construction. The new museum is located next to the Jimmy Dean Hall men's dormitory that opened in 2012, named for the entertainer and sausage mogul who previously donated \$1 million to the university.

The School of Business enrolled its first cohort of students in the new Doctor of Management degree program. The program is offered completely online and takes 2.5 years or 10, 11-week terms to complete. The program was approved by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges.

Wayland's athletics program finished third in the NAIA's Learfield Sports Directors' Cup standings. The competition measures each institution's overall athletic program success by awarding points based on national finishes in up to 12 sports. WBU's previous best finish was fourth place in 2014–15. The Learfield Cup was developed as a joint effort between the National Association of Collegiate Directors of Athletics (NACDA) and USA Today. Wayland athletic teams also had an outstanding academic year, with 10 of the 21 being designated as NAIA Scholar Teams for having cumulative grade point averages of 3.0 or higher.

## WAYLAND BAPTIST UNIVERSITY STATISTICAL INFORMATION 2015-2016 SCHOOL YEAR

Enrollment, Fall .....	5,223
Enrollment, Spring.....	5,070
Number of students on full or partial scholarships funded by institution* .....	1,257
Number of students receiving BGCT Ministerial Tuition Grants* .....	51
Estimated total number of students preparing for ministry* .....	309
Approximate percentage of Baptist students .....	21.99%

\*"Non duplicating" totals for the 2015-16 school year.

## WAYLAND BAPTIST UNIVERSITY SUMMARY FINANCIAL STATEMENT

### Operating Revenue

Tuition and fees .....	47,597,498
BGCT appropriations.....	702,768
Auxiliary enterprises .....	6,579,693
All other sources .....	5,880,254
<b>Total operational revenue .....</b>	<b>\$60,760,213</b>

### Operating Expenses

Educational and general, not including scholarships.....	47,847,067
Institution funded scholarships & financial aid .....	5,808,168
Auxiliary enterprises .....	3,855,615
All other expenses.....	3,122,060
<b>Total operational expenses.....</b>	<b>\$60,632,910</b>
Excess revenue over expenses after transfers.....	\$127,303

### Endowment and Net Assets

Total Endowment (Market Value) .....	\$82,293,754
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### Net Assets

Unrestricted .....	\$85,036,464
Temporarily Restricted.....	15,149,583
Permanently Restricted.....	24,389,697
<b>Total Net Assets.....</b>	<b>\$124,575,744</b>

Unique among Texas Baptist institutions, San Marcos Baptist Academy is the only college preparatory school supported by Texas Baptists. Our mission for the past 109 years has remained consistent: “to educate young men and women in a nurturing community based upon Christian values.” The vision of SMBA is to produce leaders whose lives are built on integrity, a strong moral compass and a total commitment to life-long learning and who exemplify Christ’s devotion to service and His compassionate concern for others.

## Looking Back at 2015-16

The 2015-16 school year at San Marcos Baptist Academy was marked by changes and celebrations. The most significant change was the appointment of Interim President Jimmie W. Scott as the school’s 14th President in June of 2015. Under Scott’s leadership, the middle school was expanded to include a sixth grade; a 5-day boarding option was added to the residential life program; and a city-wide Easter Sunrise Service was reestablished as an annual tradition. Campus security has also been enhanced through the addition of new personnel, upgraded technology and improved training protocols.

In athletics, our football, tennis and swim teams celebrated state championships, while individual athletes achieved state-wide recognition for track, golf and twirling. The SMA band was the overall Outstanding High School Band in the Lone Star Showcase of Music, and members of the Class of 2016 earned close to \$1.4 million in college scholarship offers. Our 57 graduates were accepted to prestigious schools across the country, including Texas A&M, Houston Baptist, Colorado School of Mines, University of Mary Hardin-Baylor, University of Texas at Austin, Penn State, Auburn, Baylor, Belmont, Dallas Baptist, Virginia Military Institute, Boston College, Purdue, University of Alabama, Ole Miss, United States Air Force Academy and Syracuse. Many of our seniors also earned college credit hours through our dual-credit partnership with Hardin-Simmons University.

## Reaching Ahead to 2016-17

“Reaching” was chosen as the theme for the 2016-17 school year, conveying our need to reach up to God through faith; reach into our own hearts and souls for self-examination; and reach out to others in love, remembering that God is always reaching down to us with unfailing grace and mercy. The Academy is fully committed to impacting the lives of young people for Christ and enthusiastically promoting our Christian heritage with the students we enroll. Because our students represent many foreign countries and various faiths, we are keenly aware of the mission field in which we are privileged to serve and the opportunity we have to share the gospel in our classrooms, athletic venues, chapel services and residence halls.

SMBA is proud to be one of only three schools maintaining continuous accreditation for more than a century by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools/AdvancEd. We not only provide teaching excellence in the traditional classroom, but also offer an online and blended curriculum to meet the needs of students who desire academic enrichment or who need academic credit recovery.

This year, we are proud to celebrate the centennial anniversary of the Academy’s Junior ROTC unit, one of our flagship leadership programs. We will also be returning to the Texas Association of Private and Parochial Schools (TAPPS) after participating the past two years in T-CAL. SMBA was a charter member of TAPPS, and we look forward to the wider array of fine arts, academic and athletic opportunities in this league.

Our partnership with Texas Baptists dates back to 1910, and we are grateful for their generous support. For the past four decades, our students have served as pages at the annual BGCT meeting; they will be assisting at the 2016 meeting in Waco as well.



**JIMMY W. SCOTT**  
President

2801 Ranch  
Road 12  
San Marcos,  
Texas 78666  
[smabears.org](http://smabears.org)

## SAN MARCOS BAPTIST ACADEMY STATISTICAL INFORMATION 2015-2016 SCHOOL YEAR

Enrollment, Fall .....	268
Enrollment, Spring.....	284
Number of students on full or partial scholarships funded by institution* .....	73
Number of students receiving BGCT Ministerial Tuition Grants* .....	N/A
Estimated total number of students preparing for ministry* .....	N/A
Approximate percentage of Baptist students .....	10%

\*"Non duplicating" totals for the 2015-16 school year.

## SAN MARCOS BAPTIST ACADEMY SUMMARY FINANCIAL STATEMENT - UNAUDITED

### Operating Revenue

Tuition and fees .....	\$6,510,974
BGCT appropriations.....	180,084
Auxiliary enterprises .....	417,954
All other sources .....	1,888,323
<b>Total operational revenue .....</b>	<b>\$8,997,334</b>

### Operating Expenses

Educational and general, not including scholarships.....	5,734,864
Institution funded scholarships & financial aid .....	555,655
Auxiliary enterprises .....	1,962,772
All other expenses.....	323,537
<b>Total operational expenses.....</b>	<b>\$8,576,828</b>
Excess revenue over expenses after transfers.....	\$420,507

### Endowment and Net Assets

Total Endowment (Market Value) .....	\$7,687,497
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### Net Assets

Unrestricted .....	\$11,047,816
Temporarily Restricted.....	957,031
Permanently Restricted.....	7,062,240
<b>Total Net Assets.....</b>	<b>\$19,067,087</b>

A

NO  
PHOTO

**JAMIE  
CAMPBELL**  
Center Director

3700 E. Harrison  
Harlingen, Texas  
78550

[vbmec.org](http://vbmec.org)

The Lord has continued to bless us at Valley Baptist Missions Education Center (VBMEC). This year the partnership ministry with BCFS has continued to grow as more refugees from Central America come across the border. We are now hosting more than 400 youth per day from ages six to seventeen. These young men have the opportunity to go to worship service weekly. The participation rate is high and they are responding to the Word, with more than 1,300 making a decision to follow Jesus. We have been using the booklet First Steps put out by Texas Baptist for follow-up discipleship. They are with us for 30 to 90 days on average, so we see new faces every week looking for hope.

With this growth we are continuing to grow our physical campus as well. This year we have built a new twenty-five thousand square foot mission team housing lodge. This is the third housing unit built on the campus in the past eight years. In addition to the growth on the main campus we have leased the Cone Oasis Camp from the Rio Grande Valley Association for the next six years. A complete remodel and update of that campus is currently wrapping up.

This year our mission teams have led 23 VBS ministries in local churches, parks and neighborhoods. Always our focus has been to build up and strengthen the relationship with the local church. Many of our mission teams worked on those local churches helping to finish construction projects, doing maintenance and repairs. Many times we repaired the homes of widows in the churches and families homes around the church in need. We have been excited to see many of these churches grow in the past year as we continue to partner with them.

Through our Holy Present ministry we gave out over 25,000 presents to kids on both sides of the border. We had teams come help lead ministries for 7 weekends through November and December. We saw 2,432 professions of faith during this time. All the groups went home excited about God's use of the shoe boxes, stockings and Joy bags to reach so many for Christ. We want to invite those of you that are doing a shoe box ministry to take it to the next level and come be a part of this ministry this year.

Our Education side has been active as well. In the Spring Term 2016, Valley Baptist Mission Education Center is supporting one hundred five (105) students that are enrolled in The Wayland University certificate program. Classes are being held in different locations around the Rio Grande Valley of Texas (Brownsville, Harlingen, Weslaco, and Pharr) In the summer term 2016, seventy-one (71) students are enrolled in the certificate program. On August 13, 2016 fifteen (15) students were graduated and they received a certificate in Biblical Studies. We are committed to educating and training people that have been called into the ministry. Mentoring and coaching is also being provided to pastors and church leaders. VBMEC is grateful to God and all those that are participating and supporting this ministry. Great ministry is happening in the Rio Grande Valley.

All in all it has been an awesome year. It has come with its challenges and rewards. We always keep in mind that God is in control and we are here to serve. We invite you to come be a part of what God is doing through VBMEC. Join us for a mission experience that will open your eyes and heart to the amazing things God has planned for you.



## VALLEY BAPTIST MISSIONS EDUCATION CENTER STATISTICAL INFORMATION 2015-2016 SCHOOL YEAR

Enrollment, Fall .....	71
Enrollment, Spring.....	105
Number of students on full or partial scholarships funded by institution* .....	ALL
Number of students receiving BGCT Ministerial Tuition Grants* .....	-
Estimated total number of students preparing for ministry*.....	ALL
Approximate percentage of Baptist students .....	ALL

\*"Non duplicating" totals for the 2015-16 school year.

## VALLEY BAPTIST MISSIONS EDUCATION CENTER SUMMARY FINANCIAL STATEMENT

### Operating Revenue

Tuition and fees .....	\$-
BGCT appropriations.....	23,293.58
Auxiliary enterprises .....	-
All other sources .....	2,037,153.71
<b>Total operational revenue.....</b>	<b>\$2,060,447</b>

### Operating Expenses

Educational and general, not including scholarships.....	26,000
Institution funded scholarships & financial aid..	26,963.98
Auxiliary enterprises .....	-
All other expenses .....	1,076,701
<b>Total operational expenses .....</b>	<b>\$1,129,665</b>

Excess revenue over expenses after transfers .... \$930,782

### Endowment and Net Assets

Total Endowment (Market Value) .....	490,504
--------------------------------------	---------

### Net Assets

Unrestricted.....	\$5,469,676
Temporarily Restricted.....	1,705
Permanently Restricted .....	485,968
<b>Total Net Assets .....</b>	<b>\$5,957,349</b>

BCFS is an international system of six not-for-profit organizations that offers a broad spectrum of far-reaching programs and services to respond to the life needs of millions of children, adults, families and communities faced with severe circumstances and seemingly insurmountable challenges. For more than 70 years, BCFS has developed and managed exceptional health and human services programs and has established a superior emergency management division. BCFS is on the front lines helping individuals, families and communities recover from floods, fires, hurricanes, and other natural disasters. BCFS also offers comprehensive foster care and adoption services in the United States and abroad, transitional programs for at-risk youth with counseling and case management, HeadStart programs for 3 and 4 year olds, assisted living for adults with intellectual disabilities, residential services and emergency shelters, and international humanitarian aid around the world. Often, BCFS has been the only agency that would — or could — respond and meet crisis needs.

The work BCFS does is first and foremost part of our vision and mission to be the hands and feet of Christ; to provide care, service and compassion that is pleasing to our Lord and honors His love of all mankind. We take very seriously our responsibility to carefully manage all resources entrusted to our stewardship. Whether working as a government partner, or through the gifts we receive from our generous philanthropists and private entities who enable us to share the Gospel of Christ across the nation and around the globe, doing the right thing has built a solid path for BCFS to expand our reach through the years.

At BCFS, we are ever mindful that our job is helping people. Our “stakeholders” are children from abused and neglected homes, mothers and fathers who want to become better parents, grandparents who find themselves as the heads of household, seeking guidance and direction as they raise their grandchildren; they are those children beckoned by human traffickers with a promise of money and food, preyed upon for their simple, yet overwhelming desire to leave behind their unstable lives of brutal poverty; they are the children of Eastern Europe who we supply with socks and shoes to help them survive the violent, unforgivingly cold winter months; and they are the families in the cities and communities ravaged by natural disasters, finding in BCFS a glimmer of hope in an otherwise dark hour as they struggle to find the answers to rebuild their homes and provide the basic needs for their families.

BCFS continues on a stable, yet swift trajectory of growth that will allow the agency to address the numerous challenges and unmet needs of those we serve. Our growth, however, does not indicate monetary riches. We preserve a Christ-like, mission-driven mindset that strives to expand our capabilities through initiating strategies to overcome obstacles and build on our service to humanity. We are big, not rich. Every cent gifted or awarded to our agency advances our mission; helping those in need grow toward a better life, creating lasting change. This people-first philosophy allows us to expand our services and develop our delivery, fortified in the knowledge that the more we have, the more lives we can impact.



**KEVIN  
DINNIN**  
President

1506 Bexar  
Crossing  
San Antonio,  
Texas 78232

[bcfs.net](http://bcfs.net)

**BCFS STATISTICAL INFORMATION, 2015-2016**

Provided on-campus or residential care .....	9,791
Served in own homes and off-campus care .....	124,842
Provided financial aid only .....	531
Provided college education or special training .....	4,454
Served through other ministries .....	4,071,472

**Total number of individuals served  
through ministries (non duplicate) ..... 4,188,865**

Professions of Faith ..... 2,510

**Number of Employees**

Full-Time Employees..... 1,709

Part-Time Employees..... 1,191

**BCFS SUMMARY FINANCIAL STATEMENT, 2015-2016**

BGCT Appropriation.....\$325,600

Contributions from churches..... 88,468

Residential Support..... 153,349,220

Other Income..... 3,104,716

**Total Income ..... \$156,868,004**

Total Expense..... 157,143,314

Funds available for continuing ministry ..... \$275,311

**Total Net Assets..... \$52,560,549**

Baptist Community Services (“BCS”) is a multi-organizational system that operates and provides a variety of facilities and services to the Texas Panhandle region of the State. BCS’ primary focus is on the provision of quality, spiritual-based services to senior adults.

**The Park Central** campus near Downtown Amarillo is comprised currently of seven facilities which provide independent living services, assisted living services, and long term care services to senior adults. Apartment facilities and services are provided at Park Place Towers, The Continental, The Talmage Apartments, and the Plemons Court Apartments. Park Place Towers and The Continental facilities provide a full array of services to their respective residents, including a Nurse Navigator program (health care access services), a chaplaincy program, dining services, housekeeping, and transportation services. The Talmage Apartments and the Plemons Court Apartments provide affordable housing facilities for lower income senior adults, with access to the services of the Park Central campus. A complete range of assisted living services are provided at The Harrington and the Winfred and Elizabeth Moore Assisted Living Center. The Ware Living Center provides comprehensive long term care services, including Alzheimer/Dementia and a Namaste program which provides compassionate end of life care for residents.

As a new addition to the Park Central campus, BCS is constructing a 32,000 square foot assisted living facility which will provide specialized memory care/dementia services for up to 52 residents. This facility is scheduled to open in the last quarter of 2016.

**The Roving Chaplaincy Program** ministry consists of seven chaplains provided by BCS, who provide spiritual care for residents and families, as well as the staff/employees of 19 senior living facilities (i.e. nursing homes, assisted living centers, etc.) in the Amarillo area.

**The Arbors** is a skilled nursing facility located near the Harrington Regional Medical Center in Amarillo, Texas. This facility is Medicare certified, and provides a comprehensive level of skilled nursing/rehabilitation services in coordination with local acute health care facilities at the adjacent medical center.

## BAPTIST COMMUNITY SERVICES REPORT, SUMMARY FINANCIAL STATEMENT AS OF 12/15

BGCT Appropriation.....	\$25,790
Residents Support.....	\$25,620,115
Other Income.....	\$3,706,476
<b>Total Income.....</b>	<b>\$29,326,591</b>
<b>Total Expense.....</b>	<b>\$29,582,167</b>
Funds available for continuing ministry .....	(\$229,786)
<b>Net Assets .....</b>	<b>\$36,674,542</b>

NO  
PHOTO

**STEVE  
DALRYMPLE**  
President/CEO &  
General Counsel

701 Park Place  
Amarillo, Texas  
79101

parkcentral.org

**BAPTIST COMMUNITY SERVICES REPORT,  
STATISTICAL INFORMATION AS OF 12/15 - PARK CENTRAL**

Independent Living Residents .....	235
Long Term Care Residents .....	125
Assisted Living Residents .....	87
Total Residents/Patients .....	447

**Chaplaincy Program**

# chaplains serve .....	6
# Professions of Faith.....	9

**Employed Staff**

Full-Time Employees.....	317
Part-Time Employees.....	34

**BAPTIST COMMUNITY SERVICES REPORT,  
STATISTICAL INFORMATION AS OF 12/15 - THE ARBORS**

Long Term Care Residents .....	14
Skilled Nursing Patients.....	32
Assisted Living Residents .....	
Total Residents/Patients .....	46

**Chaplaincy Program**

# chaplains serve .....	1
-------------------------	---

**Employed Staff**

Full-Time Employees.....	73
Part-Time Employees.....	1

## Can You See It?

Nearly 140 years ago, R.C. Buckner looked through the telescope of his day into the future. He saw a day when Texas Baptists would reach across barriers and boundaries to fulfill the “Jesus agenda” of ministry to the outcast and unwanted found in Luke 4.

What Dr. Buckner saw caused him to spur Texas Baptists into action and the result was the founding of Buckner Orphans Home in 1879. Father Buckner could see it long before it was a reality. In 2016, that vision is seen in the ministries of Buckner International as we protect children, strengthen families and serve seniors.

Like our founder, we are once again casting a vision for the future. What we see, both for today and tomorrow, is a world with growing needs; a world desperate for Texas Baptists and Buckner to “preach good news to the poor, proclaim freedom to the prisoners, recovery of sight for the blind, release for the oppressed and to proclaim the year of the Lord’s favor.” We do that every day at Buckner in both word and deed.

While we see growing needs in the future, we also see growing innovation and opportunity to use the creative spirit God gives us to meet those needs. That has been the spirit of Buckner since 1879 and it is our heartbeat today.

Out of that spirit of innovation, we have developed two programs in recent years designed to keep children where they belong – in their own families. The Buckner Family Hope Center serves vulnerable families in 21 locations in seven countries. These centers are geographically located where there is the greatest need. Through a holistic approach, we are lifting families out of crisis and creating an environment of safety and a bright future for children.

A second ministry designed to keep families whole is our Buckner Family Pathways program. This family preservation program helps single-parent families with academic, vocational and rehabilitation services with the goal of keeping the family together.

Both of these ministries have as their ultimate goal meeting the needs of vulnerable children, much as R.C. Buckner’s vision was to provide a safe place for orphans to live in his day. Our vision is the same, but changes in our society require us to once again look through the telescope of our day into the future. That willingness to keep one eye focused on the future has been a key to Buckner International’s longevity through nearly 14 decades of ministry.

For Dr. Buckner’s vision to become a reality he summoned Texas Baptists to the task and they answered the call by supporting Buckner with their time, talents and treasures. We know as we follow God’s leadership and vision for the future of our ministry, we must once again engage like-minded partners to come along side us, not for the future of Buckner, but for the future of those who need us.

We serve a creative and redemptive God. Because he is both a creator and redeemer, he calls us to be his creative and redemptive agents on earth. That means that, like our God, we cannot be content with the status quo. In Isaiah 43:19, God says, “See, I am doing a new thing! Now it springs up; can you see it?” As we look to the future and our calling to serve the most vulnerable children, families and seniors in the name of Jesus, we are called to see what God is doing and to “make a way in the desert and streams in the wasteland” for those we serve.



**ALBERT L. REYES**  
President/CEO

700 N. Pearl  
Street, Suite  
1200  
Dallas, Texas  
75201

[buckner.org](http://buckner.org)



**TEXAS BAPTISTS®**  
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**STATISTICAL INFORMATION & FINANCIAL INFORMATION (as of 12/15)****BUCKNER CHILDREN AND FAMILY SERVICES, INC.**

Provided residential and foster care: .....	1,243
Number served through adoption: .....	167
Service in off-campus care:.....	145,515
Contributions from Churches: .....	\$922,000
BGCT: .....	\$296,000
Client Support: .....	\$13,329,000
Other: .....	\$31,545,000
Total Income: .....	\$46,092,000
Total Expenses: .....	\$46,278,000
Funds Available for	
Continuing Ministry: .....	\$(186,000)
Total Net Assets .....	\$36,294,000

**BUCKNER ADOPTION AND MATERNITY SERVICES, INC.**

Contributions from Churches: .....	\$0
BGCT: .....	\$13,000
Client Support: .....	\$22,000
Other: .....	\$913,000
Total Income: .....	\$948,000
Total Expenses: .....	\$955,000
Funds Available for	
Continuing Ministry: .....	\$(7,000)
Total Net Assets.....	\$(28,000)

**BUCKNER RETIREMENT SERVICES, INC.**

Number served: .....	2,870
Contributions from Churches:.....	\$22,000
Client Support:.....	\$49,985,000
BGCT:.....	\$9,000
Other:.....	\$709,000
Total Income:.....	\$50,725,000
Total Expenses: .....	\$51,854,000
Funds Available for	
Continuing Ministry: .....	\$(1,129,000)
Total Net Assets.....	\$1,321,000

**BAPTIST MEMORIALS MINISTRIES, INC.**

Client Support: .....	\$15,320,000
BGCT: .....	\$157,000
Other:.....	\$1,854,000
Total Income:.....	\$17,331,000
Total Expenses: .....	\$17,606,000
Funds Available for	
Continuing Ministry: .....	(\$275,000)
Total Net Assets.....	\$34,716,000



## Serving Children. Strengthening Families.

The Children At Heart family of ministries envisions hope and a promising future for all children and families. Thanks to the faithfulness of Texas Baptists and other generous donors, we see this vision become a reality in the lives of those we serve every day!

In 2015, our four direct care ministries were able to serve over 21,000 children and families across the state of Texas. Those who walked through the doors at Gracewood, Miracle Farm, STARRY, and Texas Baptist Children's Home found the hope and healing they needed in order to overcome difficult circumstances. But let me encourage you to look beyond the numbers. Each number represents a child or family member and the difference that you have helped make in their life. The numbers, while important, are not nearly as significant as the transformation that is happening now and for future generations.

Because of the generosity of Texas Baptists and other donors, we are so thankful to be able to offer healing and restorative services to those who need it most. Each day we celebrate the services that your support allows us to provide!

This has been an exciting year at **Gracewood** in Houston! Not only was Gracewood able to serve over 2,100 clients with the home, hope, and healing they needed, but we also announced Travis Jones as the new Executive Director! Travis has a deep desire to see families overcome difficult circumstances in order to be successful and lead healthy lives. He is a great addition to the Gracewood family and we're excited to have him on board.

In Brenham, **Miracle Farm** had the privilege of caring for 27 boys who came to our ministry in need of guidance and support. Regardless of their circumstances, all of these boys came from hard places in life and in need of a second chance. At Miracle Farm, they've been able to heal and have the opportunity to succeed in life because they now have the support they need in order to grow into healthy young men.

This year **STARRY** was able to serve an astounding 13,181 children and families who were in desperate need of hope and healing through the counseling services offered in 32 counties. We also celebrated 12 children being adopted into their forever families, and STARRY licensed 65 different foster families to serve children in need of safe, loving homes.

**Texas Baptist Children's Home** was able to offer grace, stability, hope, and support to over 2,100 children and families in the greater Round Rock community. We also celebrated the announcement of TBCH's new Executive Director, Debbie Rippstein, who came to the Children's Home from Gracewood!

It is hard to share all the great things happening in the lives of children and families through Children At Heart Ministries in a short snapshot. But, I am pleased to point you to our five brand new websites where our goal is to share more and more of the stories of God's blessings evidenced in the lives of the children and families we serve. We hope these new sites provide you with great perspectives of all that you are a part of all across the Children At Heart family! Be sure to visit them (CAHM.org; Gracewood.org; MiracleFarm.org; STARRY.org; and TBCH.org) and look around to learn more about the many ways we serve together.

Thank you again for your partnership in this significant work. It is an honor for our family of ministries to join with Texas Baptists in accomplishing such great things for the kingdom of God!



**TODD ROBERSON**  
President & CEO

1301 N. Mays  
Round Rock,  
Texas  
78664- 2945

[www.CAHM.org](http://www.CAHM.org)



**TEXAS BAPTISTS**  
BAPTIST GENERAL CONVENTION OF TEXAS

**2015 CHILDREN AT HEART INFORMATION BY MINISTRY****Texas Baptist Children's Home, Inc.**

Provided on-campus or residential care .....	419
Community ministry and off-campus care .....	1,761
Assisted in college education or special training .....	9
Total known spiritual decisions.....	9
Number of employees:	
Full-Time .....	40
Part-Time .....	8
BGCT appropriations.....	\$135,384
Contributions from churches.....	152,152
Residential support .....	34,538
Other Income.....	3,576,946
<b>Total income</b> .....	<b>\$3,899,020</b>
Total expenses.....	4,092,575
Funds available for continuing ministry .....	(\$193,555)
<b>Total Net Assets</b> .....	<b>\$3,896,588</b>

**STARRY**

Children served through the emergency shelter .....	46
Children served through foster care.....	133
Counseling and other ministries.....	16,495
SAFE (Shelter Alternatives & Family Empowerment) Community .....	541
Total known spiritual decisions.....	1
Number of employees:	
Full-Time .....	42
Part-Time .....	28
BGCT appropriations.....	\$135,384
Contributions from churches.....	28,265
Other Income.....	4,694,286
<b>Total income</b> .....	<b>4,857,935</b>
Total expenses.....	4,815,266
Funds available for continuing ministry .....	\$42,666
<b>Total Net Assets</b> .....	<b>\$2,527,849</b>

## Miracle Farm

Provided on-campus or residential care .....	27
Served through community ministry and off-campus care.....	792
Assisted in college education or special training .....	3
Total known spiritual decisions.....	3
Number of employees:	
Full-Time .....	17
Part-Time .....	-
BGCT appropriations.....	\$135,384
Contributions from churches.....	30,037
Residential support .....	10,892
Other Income.....	1,956,960
<b>Total income .....</b>	<b>2,133,273</b>
Total expenses.....	2,087,309
Funds available for continuing ministry .....	\$45,964
<b>Total Net Assets .....</b>	<b>\$1,264,690</b>

## Gracewood

Provided on-campus or residential care .....	66
Served through community ministry and off-campus care.....	1,171
Assisted in college education or special training .....	11
Total known spiritual decisions.....	3
Number of employees:	
Full-Time .....	7
Part-Time .....	1
BGCT appropriations.....	\$135,384
Contributions from churches.....	105,886
Residential support .....	9,725
Other Income.....	1,688,541
<b>Total income .....</b>	<b>1,939,536</b>
Total expenses.....	1,468,680
Funds available for continuing ministry .....	\$470,856
<b>Total Net Assets .....</b>	<b>\$2,029,958</b>





**ERON  
GREEN**  
President

PO Box 1210  
Beeville, Texas  
78104-1210  
stch.org

At South Texas Children's Home Ministries (STCH Ministries) we are committed to building healthy families. When we first began our ministry it was to provide a safe home for orphaned children. Now over 60 years later, we have transformed our ministry to provide homes for children and families. We have also grown to provide services, such as counseling, job training, and mission trip opportunities, that can help heal and strengthen the families we serve. Our STCH Ministries family is privileged to be a partner ministry of Texas Baptists, as we continue to build healthy families together in Christ's name.

STCH Ministries Core Values are excellence, accountability, vision, glory, and integrity. Trust is the key to any relationship and we will build this trust each day by choosing to walk in truth, understanding, and wisdom. "It is the Lord who gives wisdom; from Him comes knowledge and understanding. He provides help and protection for those who are righteous and honest. He protects those who treat others fairly, and guards those who are devoted to Him." Proverbs 2:6-8 GNT

Our purpose at STCH Ministries is to come alongside the families we serve and work together to help them build healthy relationships. It is an amazing blessing to be a part of STCH Ministries and to witness God working every day in the lives of people we serve and in the lives of our staff. In our summer 2016 issue of the Messenger we rejoiced with many children and families as their lives were impacted in positive ways. Eight children in our Homes for Children ministry graduated from high school and most are enrolled in college this fall. We celebrated the continued service of Dorretta Brown in our International Ministry and highlighted several stories of success in what the Lord is doing in many lives. Building healthy families together:

**Homes for Children** – Just outside of Pettus, our Boothe Campus provides a loving, family environment for children. Houseparents tend to the daily and spiritual needs of each child, providing opportunities to be involved in school and church activities. On-site caseworkers and licensed therapists give hope to a brighter future and a reconnection with family.

**Homes for Families** – Nestled among the backroads of Goliad, our Marshall Ranch Campus is a safe-haven for mothers and their children, whose families are in crisis. We provide counseling services, Bible study, computer classes, job preparation skills, and encouragement to help them grow in their faith and in their independence.

**Family Counseling** – Blessed with professional, licensed therapists we are able to provide Christian-based counseling services. We offer family, marriage, and individual counseling in Corpus Christi, Gonzales, Rockport, Stockdale, San Antonio, Beeville and Victoria, as well as, have plans to open offices in Houston in October 2016.

**Jobs for Life** – Located in the heart of Corpus Christi's most desperate area, our ministry helps women build their self-esteem while taking classes to help them prepare for interviews and for jobs, as well as, learn about themselves and how unique and special they are in Christ. We encourage the women who graduate to come back, serve, and most importantly to be the change needed to inspire their community. In addition to Corpus Christi, there are plans for Jobs for Life ministry in San Antonio to begin in 2017.

**International Ministry** – Our family friendly mission trips to the Dominican Republic are truly unique. These trips allow families, churches, and organizations to work together side-by-side with the Dominican people we serve, creating a lasting bond that is beyond compare. With year-round mission trips and our Dominican staff we insure that our ministry continues daily in the communities we serve.

## SOUTH TEXAS CHILDREN'S HOME MINISTRIES STATISTICAL INFORMATION JANUARY 1 - DECEMBER 31, 2015

Provided on-campus or residential care .....	142
Served in own homes and off-campus care .....	813
Provided financial aid only .....	79
Provided college education or special training .....	12
Served through Family Counseling .....	12,282
Served through International Ministry .....	9,744
Served through Jobs for Life-Corpus Christi (participants & volunteers) .....	1,151
Church and community related ministries .....	18,473
Served through other ministries .....	2,124
Total number of individuals served through ministries (non-duplicate) .....	44,820
Professions of Faith .....	445
Number of employees:	
Full-Time .....	77
Part-Time .....	8
Dominican Contract Individuals .....	4

## SUMMARY FINANCIAL STATEMENT FOR JULY 1, 2015 TO JUNE 30, 2016

Texas Baptists Appropriations through the BGCT .....	545,110
Appropriations from Supporting Corporations (South Texas Children's Home and South Texas Children's Home Land Management) .....	5,975,280
Other Income .....	711,625
<b>TOTAL INCOME .....</b>	<b>\$7,232,015</b>
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES .....</b>	<b>\$7,069,000</b>
Funds available for continuing ministry .....	163,015
<b>TOTAL NET ASSETS .....</b>	<b>\$1,463,170</b>



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**CODY S. KNOWLTON**  
President

750 East  
Mulberry Avenue,  
Suite 325  
San Antonio,  
Texas 78212-  
3107

bhfsa.org

The Baptist Health Foundation of San Antonio is committed to improving the health of our community by fostering and funding clinical, educational, spiritual and scientific initiatives while honoring God and our Baptist heritage. The Foundation is one of the Lord's conduits to provide spiritual and healthcare services to His people and be a reflection of His presence in the community.

With a commitment to the above mission and vision, the Lord greatly blessed the Foundation in 2015 through positive investment returns which enabled 86 organizations in the San Antonio area to receive \$6,655,901 in health related grants. The 2015 grants boosted total grants awarded since inception to 792 grants totaling \$55,468,903.

The Annual Grant Awards Ceremony was held at First Baptist Church on December 3rd and was attended by more than 300 nonprofit leaders. In addition to the uplifting music of Jairo Varela, inspirational testimonies were heard from several grant recipients. At the ceremony, the fourth recipient of the Spirit of Health Award was honored. This award recognized the life changing sacrifice of Lindsay Painter, a 1st Grade Teacher at Hoffman Lane Elementary School in New Braunfels. Mrs. Painter donated one of her kidneys to one of her students, Matthew Parker. A donation was made to Transplants for Children in Lindsay's honor.

A milestone in the Foundation's history was reached with a grant of \$1,050,000 to the University of Texas Health Science Center at San Antonio for the expansion of the Biggs Institute for Alzheimer and Neurodegenerative Diseases. The institute honors the memory of Glenn Biggs, a long-time Baptist and San Antonio philanthropist, who had a diagnosis of Alzheimer's disease and died in 2015. This grant was the largest amount ever given in the Foundation's history.

The Board of Trustees granted the following dollars: Disaster Relief - \$75,000; Responsive Grants - \$3,157,885; Strategic Initiatives Grants - \$2,175,816; Scholarship Grants - \$1,069,900; and Community Impact Grants - \$177,300.

In 2015, BHFSa awarded 5 Baptist-related Community Impact Grants in the San Antonio area. Grant recipients were: Baptist University of the Americas - \$7,500; Empowerment Fellowship Church - \$7,500; Kingdom Outreach Center - \$3,750; Life Church of San Antonio - \$3,750; and Woodlawn Hills Baptist Church - \$5,625.

During 2015, Pierre McCarble established a scholarship fund in memory of his beloved wife, Juanita McCarble, for nursing students at the Baptist Health System School of Health Professions. Mrs. McCarble was a 1951 nursing graduate of the Baptist Health System School of Health Professions.

During the Texas Baptists (BGCT) annual meeting held in November, Nate Thomas, Dr. Tom Patterson, and Mary Brogan were elected to three-year terms. Trustees also re-elected Dr. Ken Andrews, Marilyn Elliott, and Noah Rodriguez to three-year terms.

Dr. Dowell Loftis was elected as Chairman of the Board of the Foundation. Toby Summers was elected to serve as Vice Chair. Earl Cutler was elected to serve as Treasurer and Jim Elkins was elected to serve as Secretary.

Associate Trustees elected to serve for one year included: Alane Cameron, Janet Hudson, Penne Jaster, Connie Jones, Denise Martin, Manny Ruiz, Patty Villarreal, and Jorge Zapata.

To God Be the Glory for all things that have been accomplished in 2015. The Board of Trustees remains focused on glorifying God by awarding grants that improve the health of the community.



**KEITH  
BRUCE**  
Vice President,  
Mission and  
Ministry

215 E. Quincy,  
Suite 200  
San Antonio,  
Texas 78215

baptisthealth  
system.co

Baptist Health System (BHS) of San Antonio traces its beginnings to 1903 and the establishment of the Physicians and Surgical Hospital by San Antonio Associated Charities, an entity founded by local physicians and businessmen. In 1948 what by then was the Medical and Surgical Memorial Hospital became affiliated with the Southern Baptist Convention and was renamed Baptist Memorial Hospital. Related to the Baptist General Convention of Texas (BGCT) since 1952, Baptist Health System is today a fully integrated healthcare provider anchored by six acute care hospitals along with an extensive network of ancillary organizations.

Baptist Health System, which is now a part of Tenet Healthcare, remains committed to its historic faith-based values and ministry as expressed in its mission statement, “We help people achieve health for life through compassionate service inspired by faith.” A meaningful connection with the BGCT is maintained through a significant percentage of local Baptist trustees who are elected by the Baptist Health Foundation of San Antonio (BHFS). Additionally, a Mission and Ministry Committee also affirmed by BHFS is charged with giving oversight to the faith-based ministry of BHS. The Division of Mission and Ministry under direction of the Vice President of Mission and Ministry is specifically responsible for fostering the Baptist and Christian mission throughout the system.

Over the past year, BHS has been blessed to achieve several significant milestones, including:

- Establishing a partnership with South Texas Children’s Home Ministries that enabled that organization’s expansion of its Family Counseling Ministry to San Antonio with a primary office located at Mission Trail Baptist Hospital;
- Integrating Resolute Health Hospital of New Braunfels as a part of the BHS family of hospitals;
- Breaking ground on two new Baptist Emergency Hospital facilities, with one of those strategically located to provide care to underserved populations in San Antonio. Upon completion these micro-hospitals will serve the community at seven locations;
- Achieving the designation as a Comprehensive Stroke Center at St. Luke’s Baptist Hospital, the first hospital in all of South Texas to receive this prestigious standing;
- Opening a new institute dedicated to orthopedic innovation in the fall of 2016 at its North Central Baptist Hospital; and
- Reaching a record enrollment of some 800 students in its Baptist School of Health Professions, which is also launching a master’s-level nursing program.

Patients, their families, and BHS associates receive spiritual care through the ministry of 16 full-time chaplains who are board certified or eligible for certification. A robust Clinical Pastoral Education program provides training for six year-long chaplaincy residents and 18 interns in extended programs throughout the year. A new program called “S-3” was implemented to provide dedicated support to BHS associates who are impacted by traumatic events they may have experienced at work or in their personal lives.

Thank you, Texas Baptists, for your role in fostering Baptist Health System as a distinctly Christian ministry and for your continued prayerful awareness and support.



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## BAPTIST HEALTH SYSTEM STATISTICAL REPORT, FISCAL YEAR JAN - DEC 2015

Licensed Beds .....	1,773
Patients Admitted.....	64,994
Out Patients Treated.....	285,841
Charity Patients Admitted.....	1,174
Charity Outpatients.....	877
Estimated Value of Charity Care.....	\$55,808,175
Enrollment in Professional Education Programs.....	803
Clinical Pastoral Education.....	17
School of Health Professions.....	786
Number of Employees (FTE).....	6,432

### Amount of Discounts Allowed:

Medicare .....	\$1,231,902,030
Other .....	\$343,090,840

### Number of Chaplains:

Full-Time .....	16
Part-Time .....	6
CPE Residents .....	6
Volunteer .....	8
<b>Total Number of Chaplains .....</b>	<b>36</b>

Known Professions of Faith .....	9
Known Rededications/Recommitments .....	15
Patient Visits by Chaplains.....	137,765
Worship Services Conducted.....	370

## BAPTIST HEALTH SYSTEM SUMMARY FINANCIAL STATEMENT FISCAL YEAR JAN - DEC 2015

BGCT appropriation.....	\$-
<b>Total Operating Revenue.....</b>	<b>\$1,029,282,979</b>
Total Operating Expenses .....	\$836,272,381
<b>Total Assets .....</b>	<b>\$754,993,154</b>

For over sixty years, Baptist Hospitals of Southeast Texas has been dedicated to providing quality health services in a Christian environment. Licensed for 483 beds and providing services at our Beaumont and Orange campuses, Behavioral Health Center and Cancer Center, our Partners in Caring – our physicians, our nurses and staff, practice a philosophy that inspires an environment of teamwork, respect, encouragement, opportunity and trust. Our efforts continue each day as we strive to offer newer and better programs, services and technologies for the members of our community. Over the past years, the campuses have added services and programs directed to meet the needs of those we serve. Our commitment remains the same, providing the right care right here in Southeast Texas.

As the only Behavioral Health Inpatient facility in Southeast Texas, a strong emphasis has been placed on serving patients struggling with mental and/or addiction disorders. New programs have been designed to support those in need of intensive outpatient therapy, group therapy, medical detoxification and crisis stabilization.

The NewLifeNow Bariatric Program was implemented and has received Accreditation as a Metabolic and Bariatric Surgery Center. This recognition means there is an uncompromising commitment to quality that has earned the confidence, respect, and trust of patients making a lifetime commitment to healthier living. A monthly support group has also been established to complement this nationally recognized program.

The new Critical Care Decision Unit and as well as the Centralized Monitoring Unit assures that every patient is receiving the appropriate care – these units serve as a second pair of eyes for physicians. With continuous monitoring of vital signs such as blood pressure, pulse oximetry levels, respiratory rates, and ventilator alarms, physicians are able to be notified in advance if there is a deceleration in their patient's condition.

A new partnership with UT Health Physicians has allowed for an outpatient clinical setting to accommodate unassigned emergency room patients. Located within walking distance of Baptist Beaumont Hospital, this provides an extension of services once patients are discharged from the emergency department.

During the past year, employees, physicians and volunteers have worked together to receive numerous recognitions including the Workforce Solutions Employer of Excellence Award, the designation as a Blue Cross Center of Distinction for Spine, Hip and Knee Replacement Surgery, certified by the Center of Improvement in Healthcare Quality as a Provider of Quality Care in the Performance of Hip and Knee Surgery, certified as a Primary Stroke Center and Community Comprehensive Cancer Center.

The mission of Baptist Hospitals of Southeast Texas will always be dedicated to providing quality health care and Sacred Work in a Christian environment to all who need it. Together, we continue to assist the community in meeting our vision to build a healthier Southeast Texas, one patient at a time. 2016



**DAVID  
PARMER**  
President/CEO  
3080 College  
Street  
Beaumont, Texas  
77701  
bhset.net



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## BAPTIST HOSPITALS OF SOUTHEAST TEXAS STATISTICAL INFORMATION

Licensed Beds .....	483
Patients Admitted.....	16,713
Out Patients Treated.....	81,708
Charity Patients Admitted.....	1,406
Charity Outpatients Treated.....	3,457
Estimated Value of Charity Care.....	\$55,052,161
Number of Employees (FTE).....	1,589

### Amount of Discounts Allowed:

Medicare .....	566,622,696
Other .....	556,853,910

### Number of Chaplains:

Full-Time .....	4
Part-Time .....	-0
Volunteer .....	-0
<b>Total Number of Chaplains .....</b>	<b>4</b>

Professions of Faith.....	3
Rededications/Recommitments .....	21
Patient Visits by Chaplains.....	8,750
Worship Services Conducted .....	263

## BAPTIST HOSPITALS OF SOUTHEAST TEXAS SUMMARY FINANCIAL STATEMENT

Income from patients .....	\$248,457,573
BGCT appropriation.....	154,580
Other income .....	6,652,160
<b>Total Income .....</b>	<b>255,264,313</b>
Total expenses .....	-
Funds available for continuing ministry .....	255,264,313
<b>Total Assets .....</b>	<b>206,630,846</b>

Baylor Scott & White Health (BSWH) is a non-profit, faith-based health care system that includes 46 hospitals, more than 900 patient care sites, more than 9,000 active physicians, approximately 44,000 employees plus the Scott & White Health Plan, Baylor Scott & White Research Institute and Baylor Scott & White Quality Alliance, a network of clinical providers and facilities focused on improving quality, managing the health of patient populations, and reducing the cost of care. Its mission is to serve all people by providing personalized health and wellness through exemplary care, education and research as a Christian ministry of healing. BSWH provides its patients quality care while creating a model system for a dramatically changing health care environment.

### Ongoing record of excellence

BSWH led the state of Texas in the number of accolades earned in *U.S. News & World Report's* "Best Hospitals" 2016-2017 report. Fifteen Baylor Scott & White hospitals received national rankings or high-performing ratings, more than any other Texas health system.

Baylor University Medical Center at Dallas maintained its ranking as the No. 1 hospital in the Dallas metropolitan area and No. 3 in Texas. The Heart Hospital Baylor Plano ranked No. 18 nationally for cardiology and heart surgery in the first year it was eligible for recognition.

### Ground-breaking Partnerships

In the past year, BSWH struck strategic alliances with renowned organizations to enhance its healing mission as the largest not-for-profit health care system in Texas.

BSWH entered into a joint venture with Tenet Healthcare Corporation to own five hospitals in North Texas. Three of those hospitals -- Centennial Medical Center in Frisco, Doctors Hospital at White Rock Lake and Texas Regional Medical Center at Sunnyvale -- bear the Baylor Scott & White brand. BSWH also acquired Lakeway Regional Medical Center in Lakeway, Texas.

BSWH and the Dallas Cowboys are teaming up to create a sports medicine, research and performance facility at The Star in Frisco, home of the new Cowboys corporate headquarters. The 300,000 square-foot facility will focus on prevention, research and wellness for athletes at all levels by early 2018. It also is the first collaboration between an NFL team, a health system and a school district (Frisco Independent School District).

### Office of Mission & Ministry

Through the generous funds provided by the Human Welfare Coordinating Agency, Texas Baptists directly support BSWH's Office of Mission & Ministry (OMM) that ministers to a service area that includes about nine million Texans.

OMM includes three divisions -- Pastoral Care, Pastoral Education and Faith in Action Initiatives -- to build direct relationships and foster partnerships that minister Christ's healing love to people whose lives have been disrupted by illness, injury and the stresses of life.

OMM also provides tangible support resources to patients, family members, staff and communities in Texas and throughout the world. Last year, BSWH chaplains recorded 240,490 pastoral encounters. Fifty-seven BSWH employees received partial scholarships for medical missions work. Clergy, seminarians and qualified laypersons earned 101 student units of clinical pastoral education systemwide.

BSWH is increasing its direct spiritual care to inpatients, their family members and to staff members as the system continues to expand its ministries through a growing number of North and Central Texas hospitals. OMM also is engaging North and Central Texas congregations to improve access, provide needed patient and family education and enhance the health of congregations through its rapidly growing Faith Community Health program, led by Dr. Donna Stauber. Faith Community Health collaborates closely with BSWH's Office of Equitable Health



**JOEL T.  
ALLISON  
FACH**  
President/CEO  
3500 Gaston  
Avenue  
Dallas, Texas  
75246  
baylorhealth.  
com



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## BAYLOR SCOTT & WHITE HEALTH STATISTICAL INFORMATION

Licensed Beds .....	5,676
Patients Admitted.....	208,789
Out Patients Treated.....	10,073,806
Charity Patients Admitted.....	13,645
Charity Outpatients Treated.....	151,664
Estimated Value of Charity Care.....	\$735,071
Enrollment in Professional Educational Programs #/# Hours.....	1,002 Enrolles / 1,903,347 Hours
Number of Employees (FTE).....	44,822

### Amount of Discounts Allowed:

Medicare.....	\$7,083,702
Other.....	\$8,630,583

### Number of Chaplains:

Full-Time.....	62
Part-Time.....	69
Volunteer.....	151
<b>Total Number of Chaplains .....</b>	<b>282</b>

Professions of Faith.....	472
Rededications/Recommitments .....	2,762
Patient Visits by Chaplains.....	240,490
Worship Services Conducted.....	4,293

## BAYLOR SCOTT & WHITE HEALTH SUMMARY FINANCIAL STATEMENT

Income from patients.....	\$7,137,871
BGCT appropriation.....	312,000
Other income.....	1,234,383
<b>Total Income .....</b>	<b>8,372,566</b>
Total expenses .....	7,862,271
Funds available for continuing ministry .....	\$510,295
<b>Total Assets .....</b>	<b>\$5,034,232</b>

Hendrick Health System continues its tradition of delivering high quality healthcare services to the residents of Abilene and the Big Country, emphasizing excellence and Christ-like compassion. This goal, expressed in our mission, has remained constant since our founding in 1924. While meeting the challenges of twenty-first century healthcare we maintain a timeless commitment to high quality service within the framework of financial stability. Our Baptist identity is a vital aspect of our profile and we value our relationship with Texas Baptist churches and institutions.

Our services range from a Level III Trauma Center to state-of-the-art surgical procedures to inpatient and outpatient rehabilitation. Hendrick has been recognized as an Accredited Chest Pain Center and Certified Primary Stroke Center by the Joint Commission. In addition to advanced neuro, cardiac and cancer care, and birthing services, Hendrick operates a freestanding rehabilitation hospital, a pediatric intensive care unit, skilled nursing and extended care facilities, and a health club. Auxiliary services are provided by Hendrick Hospice Care, Palliative Care, Hendrick Sleep Disorder Center, and The BirthPlace© at Hendrick.

Highlights of 2016 include: opening a new 40,800 square-foot care center for Hendrick Hospice Care, containing 16 inpatient rooms with additional potential for 8 additional rooms; a new cross-town location called Hendrick Medical Plaza; new operating rooms for neurological and cardiovascular procedures and robotic surgical equipment; new MRI, CT-scanner, and interventional bi-plane suites, and a new digital radiology room.

Hendrick partners with ContinuCare to provide a long term acute care hospital inside the medical center, for patients, who require a longer-than-average acute care stay. Hendrick partners with other institutions to develop trained healthcare personnel. Texas Tech University operates Schools of Pharmacy and Nursing and Public Health on our campus. Patty Hanks Shelton School of Nursing, Angelo State University, Cisco College, and Texas State Technical College offer nursing education. Respiratory therapists train through Cisco College; and radiology techs, in our School of Radiography.

Hendrick strives to make the workplace a safe and productive environment for our employees and physicians. Employee longevity testifies to the effectiveness of this goal. Of 2,963 current employees, 808 have worked at Hendrick for ten or more years. Additionally, for the ninth consecutive year Hendrick received the Gallup Great Workplace Award, a rare honor among healthcare institutions.

Hendrick employees volunteer their talents and specialized abilities to various civic and religious organizations, such as Connecting Caring Communities and the Abilene Transition Center for homeless youth in Abilene. Employees also participate in numerous Christian mission efforts. Employees are eligible to receive up to one week additional Paid Time Off for approved mission efforts. In 2016, Hendrick employees traveled on such trips to: Cuba, Ecuador, Ethiopia, Guatemala, Guyana, Haiti, Ireland, Israel, Mexico, Philippines, and Zambia, as well as several homeland mission points.

Expressions of our Christian mission include pastoral and spiritual care services. A healthcare ministry educational program is offered to students of the three Abilene universities. Chaplains conduct weekly chapel services and deliver daily inspirational messages through hospital media. Bible verses placed in the hallways remind us and our customers of our spiritual mooring.

A statue, located at our main entrance, represents the matrix of ministry and medicine that describes our heritage. It depicts a mother holding her child, who is being examined by a physician, while a minister with an open Bible compassionately looks on. Hendrick strives to meet the physical, spiritual, and emotional needs of our patients and to improve the health of the people of West Central Texas, with a sense of Christian compassion and care. To that end, we are grateful for the gracious and prayerful support of Texas Baptists.



**TIM LANCASTER**  
President/CEO

1900 Pine Street  
Abilene, Texas  
79601

hendrickhealth.  
org



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## HENDRICK HEALTH SYSTEM STATISTICAL INFORMATION 2015-2016

Licensed Beds .....	530
Patients Admitted .....	21,280
Out Patients Treated .....	281,292
Charity Patients Admitted .....	1,150
Charity Outpatients Treated .....	9,959
Estimated Value of Charity Care .....	\$43,646,587.26
Number of Employees (FTE) .....	2,677

### Amount of Discounts Allowed:

Medicare .....	\$878,837,193
Other .....	\$650,996,841

### Number of Chaplains:

Full-Time .....	3
Part-Time .....	12
Volunteer .....	33
<b>Total Number of Chaplains .....</b>	<b>48</b>

Professions of Faith .....	1
Rededications/Recommitments .....	53
Patient Visits by Chaplains .....	10,149
Worship Services Conducted .....	412

## HENDRICK HEALTH SYSTEM SUMMARY FINANCIAL STATEMENT, 2015-2016

Income from patients .....	\$1,929,394,367
BGCT appropriation .....	161,449
Other income .....	35,763,304
<b>Total Income .....</b>	<b>1,965,319,120</b>
Total expenses .....	378,941,396
Funds available for continuing ministry .....	\$1,586,377,724
<b>Total Assets .....</b>	<b>\$479,927,470</b>



Dear Friends,

We chose this year's theme of "All Projects, Great and Small" because, at Baptist Church Loan Corporation, not every church interaction starts – or even ends – with a loan. After all, we consider this work our mission in the ultimate goal of building God's kingdom. So from our first meeting with church representatives, this attitude informs every step of every project with undertake.

- First, we pray. We also listen to the congregation's story, evaluate projects, review existing bank debt for possible refinancing – all to gain insights that may help us provide sound advice. And sometimes this is all church leaders need. If so, we're fine with that. If they need more, we're ready to help.
- Next, we lay the groundwork—with advantages no bank can match: lower rates, gentler terms, and closer, more personal involvement. Many church clients are new, small or unable to find commercial financing, so our intention is to see that each one winds up with what it needs, but never more debt than it can handle.
- Then, we build the framework– with loans for virtually any purchase or construction project a church requires: land, sanctuary, education building, family life center, satellite facilities, mission churches, general renovations, roof replacement, storm or fire repairs, playgrounds, parking, signage, security lighting, HVAC, technology, and more.
- Finally, we cement lasting relationships. Once a loan is made, we follow the progress of each project and lend support as it's needed. When work is complete and even long afterward, we stay in contact. In fact, we have relationships that go back decades...nearly to our founding in 1952. Because there are no stronger bonds than those created from sharing a goal and giving God the glory.

I hope that you'll contact us if we can help your church with its next project, however large or small it may be.

Blessings,

Gerald R. James, Jr.



**GERALD R. JAMES, JR.**  
President/CEO

baptist  
churchloan.org

## BAPTIST CHURCH LOAN CORPORATION STATISTICAL FINANCIAL INFORMATION FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2016

Loan Requests - Texas Baptists.....	\$62,191,088
Loan Requests - Southeastern States.....	\$118,132,613
Equity / Assets.....	67%
Assets per employee .....	\$20,119,232
Average Church Loan Rate .....	3.71%



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**JEFF W. SMITH**

President/CEO

1601 Elm Street,  
Suite 1700 Dallas,  
Texas 75201

www.  
highground  
advisors  
.org

## LAUNCHING NEW INITIATIVES

We want to be a great player. That was the underlying goal of Baptist Foundation of Texas in 2015 as we moved forward with our new marketing and branding initiative. This initiative was based on the need to evolve our organization and ensure its products and services continue to be relevant to our Baptist organizations and other similarly situated nonprofit organizations in today's changing marketplace.

We began this effort in 2014 with the understanding it would take several years to complete. We have made significant progress since then. Our leadership team made it a priority to observe, examine and scrutinize every aspect of our operations. We also conducted a brand perception study to ensure we had reliable information and data to guide our thinking. Though the operational review and the study revealed many positives, each also provided opportunities for improvement.

Plans were developed in 2015 to provide current and prospective clients with a greater mix of financial products, services and tools. But perhaps the most important outcome is the promise we made to protect, strengthen and grow our clients' assets. It's a commitment in harmony with our mission to encourage, receive and manage charitable gifts for nonprofit organizations dedicated to transforming lives.

We decided to change the name of the organization as well. It is no secret that we unveiled our new identity in early 2016: HighGround Advisors and HighGround Trust Company. The HighGround name and logo is symbolic of our commitment and obligation to protect, strengthen and grow our clients' assets, while upholding our faith-based legacy. It carries with it an air of sophistication while reflecting our white glove service.

## 2015 Trends

During 2015, HighGround Advisors assisted the donors of our institutions in establishing gift arrangements totaling \$11.4 million. The somewhat more volatile markets encouraged the use of cash as opposed to appreciated securities for gifting. The year also saw an increase in the number of qualified charitable gift annuity arrangements established, representing two-thirds of all new gift arrangements. This is a trend that has been expanding over the past several years, reflecting the growing popularity of this gift vehicle.

## Top Quartile Performance

HighGround's performance continues to rank in the top quartiles of our nonprofit peer group, although 2015 was a difficult year for investments. As a result of this performance, HighGround remitted over \$92 million to our Baptist institutions and their donors in 2015. Another positive outcome was that distributions for the 2016 calendar year from endowment accounts were increased by 1.3% over 2015 distributions. We further diversified HighGround's endowment strategy by adding a new global bond allocation to fixed income, increasing the allocation to private equity and reducing international equity's strategic weight. We also added five new asset class funds.

## Looking Ahead

As we turn the page in the next chapter of our journey, I am reminded that God has a plan for all of us. It is His journey and path that we seek to follow. As James 1:5 reminds, we ask God for His wisdom to know the correct path. HighGround Advisors is honored to have served the Baptist family since 1930 and is dedicated to contributing to a better world, and taking care of the details so our institutions can focus on serving their *higher calling*.



**MARV  
KNOX**  
Editor &  
Publisher

P.O. Box 259019  
Plano, TX  
75025-9019

(214) 630-4571

baptiststandard.  
com

People often make two assumptions about the *Baptist Standard*. First, the staff works “in the Baptist Building,” or, nowadays, the BGCT Executive Board’s suites on Rambler Road in Dallas. Second, the Cooperative Program unified budget subsidizes our ministry. Their misunderstandings are understandable. News organizations affiliated with most state Baptist conventions operate in their Baptist buildings. And every Baptist news organization except the *Baptist Standard* receives a budget subsidy from its affiliated convention. So, no wonder folks think we would function the same way.

The differences date back more than 100 years. Texas Baptists founded the *Standard* in 1888, in part to provide a unifying voice to support the then-new BGCT. During the first years, private owners operated the *Standard*. In the early 1900s, a small group of Texas Baptist leaders—including R.C. Buckner and George W. Truett—bought the *Standard* (from none other than the “Texas Tornado,” J. Frank Norris). They wanted the BGCT to begin electing the *Standard*’s board. But the convention demanded the new owners pay off the *Standard*’s debt, which took about five years.

So, from the beginning, the BGCT and the Baptist Standard have expected and cultivated a unique independent-yet-beneficial relationship. Because the *Standard* has survived on its own—beyond control of BGCT purse strings—it has enjoyed the most freedom of any denominational news organization. And because of that freedom, Texas Baptists have received an unprecedentedly reliable, unfettered flow of news and information across generations.

Of course, freedom demands responsibility. The editors never have viewed their freedom as license to publish whatever they wish. They have held their freedom as a Baptist/public trust. They have been responsible for exploring, questioning and reporting events and issues of their day, so Texas Baptists can understand the context of their common life together and respond accordingly to needs and opportunities.

Across the years, some Texas Baptists have wished the *Baptist Standard* would be governed by the Executive Board and led by its executive director. But that would not serve the purposes of the BGCT, or the *Standard*, or readers. Because the *Standard* is free, Texas Baptists know it is not the BGCT’s mouthpiece. That fact lends credibility to the *Standard*’s favorable reporting of the convention and authenticity to its occasional loving criticism. Because readers can trust the *Standard*, they have greater reason to trust the convention.

Why do you need to know this? Two reasons.

First, the *Baptist Standard* is not bought and controlled. While the *Standard* gratefully and faithfully stands alongside the convention, including its fellow institutions, it does so out of conviction and not compulsion. We report on the BGCT because we are committed to Texas Baptists and their need and right to know about our common endeavors. We still believe Texas Baptists can accomplish more together than we can apart, and solid, reliable information is glue that binds us.

Second, the *Standard*’s mission is broader than the BGCT. We’re church-centric rather than convention-centric. News of what you might call the BGCT “bureaucracy” comprises only a part of our coverage. We invest our resources in reporting trends and issues and ministries taking place in and among Texas Baptist congregations, as well as people of faith across the nation and around the world. We observe the cultural context in which we all live our Christian lives. We love the BGCT, but we exist to help Texas Baptists follow Jesus faithfully in a complex world full of opportunity.

If you don’t receive the *Baptist Standard* or our magazine, *CommonCall*, visit our website, [www.baptiststandard.com](http://www.baptiststandard.com), to subscribe.



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### JIM DENISON

DFTC CEO and  
Co-Founder,  
Theologian in  
Residence for  
Texas Baptists

17304 Preston  
Road Suite 1060  
Dallas, TX 75252

www.  
denisonforum.  
org

The Denison Forum on Truth and Culture was established in 2009 by Jim Denison and Jeff Byrd. DFTC helps Christians change their culture by resourcing believers to experience and advance God's Kingdom. More than 112,000 subscribers in 203 countries receive Dr. Denison's daily article, which looks at today's news in spiritual perspective. The ministry also provides spiritual formation resources, Christian Parenting resources, and Bible studies through a variety of digital and printed platforms.

Cultural Engagement and other resources -  
[denisonforum.org](http://denisonforum.org)

Spiritual Formation resources -  
[first15.org](http://first15.org)  
[craigandracheldenison.com](http://craigandracheldenison.com)  
[janetdenison.com](http://janetdenison.com)

Christian Parenting resources -  
[Christianparenting.org](http://Christianparenting.org)

### Highlights for 2015-2016

- First15.org, launched an email subscription in early 2016 reaching over 16,000 subscribers to date. The daily devotional seeks to give believers of all backgrounds a consistent and impactful experience with God in the first 15 minutes of their day. First15 will also have an app available for download later this fall.
- Christianparenting.org launched in the summer of 2015 provides biblical wisdom and practical help for parents of all ages. The website features a variety of authors with advice and resources available by age as well as topic. A vital Christian parenting community is also growing via social media and weekly 'conversations' on the web site.
- JanetDenison.com contains Janet's blog focusing on biblical wisdom and bible studies written by Janet applying God's word to everyday life. To date her blog has over 11,000 subscribers.
- Denisonforum.org hosts Dr. Denison's daily article (formerly called the Cultural Commentary) as well as a new offering launched in 2016 named the Daily Briefing. The DB is curated by Nick Pitts, offering biblical insight into the top news stories of the day. In addition, the website offers various articles that thoughtfully engage the issues of the day with biblical truth.

### DFTC STAFF

**Jeff Byrd**  
President and Co-Founder

**Evan Burton**  
Creative Director

**Billie Byrd**  
Donor Relations  
Coordinator

**Morgan Byrd**  
Social Media Coordinator

**Mark Cook**  
Administrative and  
Marketing Coordinator -  
Spiritual Formation

**Craig Denison**  
Program Coordinator -  
DBU Institute for Global  
Engagement

**Janet Denison**  
Director of Spiritual  
Formation

**Rachel Denison**  
Administrative and  
Marketing Coordinator -  
Spiritual Formation

**Ryan Denison**  
Theological Research  
Assistant

**Chris Elkins**  
Communications and  
Development Manager

**Minni Elkins**  
Correspondence  
Coordinator

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Information Technology  
Coordinator

**Kelley Matthews**  
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Parenting

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**Nick Pitts**  
Director of Cultural  
Engagement

**Kaitlyn Slight**  
Creative Intern

**Cynthia Yanoff**  
Executive Assistant to the  
CEO

"The Year of Efficiency" was the theme that guided our work during 2015 as we challenged our team to look at people, process and procedures to determine how to improve our efficiency for the benefit of all GuideStone's participants.

In 2015 Mission:Dignity continued to enhance the financial security of retired ministers and their widows through much-needed grant assistance. Mission Dignity is funded primarily through the gifts of individuals, groups and churches across the SBC. Because of the faithful contributions of churches, individuals, Sunday school classes, GuideStone employees and trustees, we provided increases in gifts to Mission:Dignity recipients. Gifts from donors increased by \$500 thousand. Assistance payments totaled \$6.79 million. Qualifying individuals now receive \$225 per month; couples are eligible for \$300. The neediest individuals with at least 25 years of Southern Baptist ministerial service may qualify for double those amounts.

Investors will remember 2015 as the year that volatility and fear returned to the financial markets. After several years of very low volatility and high investor risk appetite, a number of factors conspired to alter the tone of the markets. The Federal Reserve initiated its first Fed Funds rate hike since 2006. China's economic growth slowed. Commodity prices fell some 30 percent lower. For the full year, investment returns were meager at best and painful at worst, while "safer" asset classes outperformed "riskier" asset classes.

In March 2016, the U.S. Supreme Court heard appeals by several ministries, including GuideStone, to the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services mandate that would require certain ministries served by GuideStone to provide abortion-causing drugs and devices or face crippling penalties. The Supreme Court ruled unanimously May 16, ordering the government to work out a solution to the contraceptive mandate that would actually protect the religious beliefs of the objecting religious organizations. The court ruled that the government cannot fine the ministries as the cases proceed. GuideStone, local churches and a very narrow class of other ministries are exempt from the mandate and its penalties, but hundreds of evangelical Christian ministries that rely on GuideStone for their health benefits are not exempt.

The GuideStone executive team worked throughout 2015 on an update to *GuideStone 100*, the long-range plan that will reach its fruition in 2018. *GuideStone 100* is entering its final stretch; the major objectives of that strategic plan are largely completed or underway. A new plan *GuideStone 2020* was presented to trustees at the 2016 February trustee meeting. It will overlap with the final years of *GuideStone 100*.

In the fall of 2013 GuideStone began the project of replacing our aging insurance system which has been in use by GuideStone since 1993. The complexity of our business, plus the scope of changes to all of GuideStone's supporting systems, has resulted in The Genelco project becoming the largest technology project at GuideStone in more than a decade. The final state will be a modern insurance system that provides the flexibility needed to serve our participants. In February, GuideStone provided an option allowing participants to make loan payments online. Rather than purchasing a cashier's check or money order, participants can simply login to their *MyGuideStone™* account to pay off a loan, make up a missed payment or submit an additional payment toward the principal of their loan. From February 17 until year-end, some 2,435 payments were made totaling almost \$10 million.

Books authored by O.S. Hawkins continue to benefit Mission:Dignity. 2016 saw the launch of *VIP: Very Influential Person*. One more book is due out in the fall of 2016. All author proceeds benefit Mission:Dignity.

## STATISTICS AS OF JUNE 30, 2016

Number of active churches in the Church Retirement Plan: ..... 1,695

Percentage of churches active in the Church Retirement Plan: ..... 41%

Number of persons in TX receiving retirement income: ..... 6,062

Number of persons in TX helped by Mission: Dignity ministry: ..... 253

If you want more information about the products and services of GuideStone Financial Resources, call us toll-free at **1-888-98-GUIDE (888-984-8433)**, call your **Baptist state GuideStone representative** or visit our web site at [www.GuideStone.org](http://www.GuideStone.org). We want to serve you.



**O. S.  
HAWKINS**

President

2401 Cedar  
Springs Road  
Dallas, Texas  
75201-1498

[GuideStone.org](http://GuideStone.org)



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**MICKEY B.  
LENAMON**

Executive  
Director

5351 Catron  
Dallas, Texas  
75227

texas  
baptistmen.org

The goal of the **Water Ministry** is to share Christ and demonstrate His love to others. The desperate need for clean water and good hygiene has given us an avenue to many. This past 12 months we have drilled water wells in India and Zambia, and trained a group from Venezuela to drill wells. We shared hygiene methods and the gospel to over 900 people from Nigeria, Peru, Venezuela, and "Youth with a Mission" missionaries serving in Mexico. Our Peru well restoration work has brought water to around 4,000 people, and our filters will provide safe water to over 200 families in Nicaragua, and 125 in Venezuela. At the completion of each project we have a dedication ceremony and testimonies with many making professions of faith. Pending projects include the Philipppians, Vietnam, Guatemala, and Nicaragua.

**Disaster Relief** has had a very busy year in Texas with 26 responses; three of those responses were assisting other states. Texas Baptist Men has provided 134,416 meals, assisted 1,200 families with recovery operations, 5,000 showers, 3,000 loads of laundry and handed out over 24,000 boxes to assist families with personal belongings. As a result of 1,500 Gospel presentations and Chaplain Contacts, we witnessed 47 Profession of Faith. We also trained 930 new volunteers.

**Church Renewal** led five Experiencing God Weekends: two were in Texas churches; two in New England; one in Maine and Vermont. All were highly accepted and very effective in the churches. One very significant weekend happened in Robinson, Illinois, as a result of the simultaneous weekend in Peoria, Illinois, the year before. Men's Ministry led two No Man Left Behind trainings in Texas associations with approximately 25 churches participating. Eight members of Couples on Mission participated in an evangelistic mission trip to Rio de Janeiro, Brazil. There were 24 salvation decisions and many needs prayed for and the local church was strengthened. The Military Fellowship had the privilege of feeding two meals to 2,000 members of Gold Star Families at the Snowball Express. The Builders had an outstanding twelve months from July 2015 thru July 2016. Through their ministry, hundreds of lives have been touched. Not only were the Builders busy sharing The Gospel with the communities they worked in, but they had over 56 projects during this period. We are still working on the new building which will house the Builders and store their equipment and tool trailers. One of the most touching times was when our Builders built the Chapel in the prison at Plainview, Texas. The prisoners, community, and the chaplains were so excited to have this chapel; they couldn't stop thanking the Builders. The Builders responded by telling them it was all about JESUS CHRIST.

**Royal Ambassadors and Challengers** conducted 19 camps across the state with a total of 2,613 campers and 357 decisions for Christ recorded. We trained 15 State Staffers and 15 Associational Staffers served at the Camps with the volunteer Leaders. The Campout & Missions Mania event was held in November with 640 participants from 43 churches with 20 decisions recorded during the event. We had a total of 26 teams that participated in the Challengers State Basketball Tournament with 210 young men and leaders making a public decision to follow Christ. The State Race was held in April with 198 registered participants from 32 churches with 100 event leaders for a total of 298 participants. The Lord is still working in the hearts of fathers. This past year we conducted 25 Regional Training Conferences for Royal Ambassadors and Challengers Leaders. Currently we are receiving numerous calls from churches interested in beginning Royal Ambassador Groups.



Woman's Missionary Union of Texas believes in the restoration of brokenness through hope in Christ. We passionately tell His story. We creatively empower leaders. We obediently engage the world.

Three stories will provide a glimpse of the scope of our work, but will by no means exhaust the ways God has seen fit to use WMU to positively impact the lives of His children as He uses them to grow His Kingdom.

Flo Campbell, site coordinator of Dallas Christian Women's Job Corps Center, was diagnosed with acute myeloid leukemia in 2012 and told she only had a few months to live. God had other plans, however, and she has continued to change the lives of women who come to the CWJC feeling hopeless and without direction.

She is proud of the contributions Texas Woman's Missionary Union has made to the ministry she leads. Funds from the Mary Hill Davis Offering allowed the purchase of computers to offer GED classes to women looking to start their lives on a different path. The Dallas CWJC was able to minister to more than 270 women in 2015, including women incarcerated at the Dallas County Jail. A teacher goes each Thursday to teach life skills, "but more than anything, we share the gospel," Campbell said.

"And the ladies who come here, that's what they want. They come for the job skills and career piece, but they always say, 'What I really love is the Bible studies.' When you don't have Jesus, there's always that piece missing. And so many women are broken, because they don't have Jesus—he is the piece that's missing."

First Baptist Church in Goldthwaite is just one of many Texas Baptist churches to use mission education curriculum to teach children not only about Jesus, but also about the great blessing it is to serve him both at home and around the world. In Goldthwaite, more people attend on Wednesday nights than on Sunday morning. The majority of this attendance is children who come and learn about the Savior who came to save them through Mission Friends, Girls in Action, and Royal Ambassadors.

Texas WMU provides training and consultations across the state using curriculum that puts missionary faces to the stories they hear about those who dedicate their lives to telling others about Jesus around the world.

Before Victoria Hernandez was a National Acteens Panelist, she was homeless. It was through her Acteens leader at Freeman Heights Baptist Church in Garland, that she found not only stability, but also the meaning for her life.

Hernandez, now a college student, finds her purpose as the site manager of the church's feeding ministry as she makes sure impoverished children have a meal each Saturday.

"I want to show others that love and grace has been shown to me, and it will be shown to them as well," she said.

Texas WMU is honored to not only play a small part in each of these stories, but hundreds of others. We are well aware that we do not change lives; only God can change a life.

We count it a blessing, though, that as we share the stories of Christ's love and the missionaries who live His love out daily, God uses us in small ways that have eternal consequences.

May God continue to glorify Himself through our work. May He guide us as we seek to serve Him by meeting the needs of Texas Baptists. We are here to help you. If we can assist in any way with your mission's education and involvement needs, please do not hesitate to contact our office.



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BAPTIST ASSOCIATION**

Bryan Houser  
2123 S Van Buren St  
Amarillo, TX 79109-2404  
(806) 372-6566  
ababryan@arn.net

**ASOCIACION BAUTISTA HISPANA  
NORTE CENTRAL DE TEXAS**

Zenon Garcia  
PO Box 87  
Denison, TX 75021-0087  
(903) 815-6598  
garcia.pz@sbcglobal.net

**ASOCIACION BAUTISTA LATINO  
AMERICANA**

Antonio Gamiochipi  
7300 Lawndale St  
Houston, TX 77012-2920  
(281) 722-6233  
gamiochipiantonio@msn.com

**AUSTIN BAPTIST ASSOCIATION**

David Smith  
3811 Harmon Ave  
Austin, TX 78751-4425  
(512) 454-2558  
david@austinbaptist.org

**BASIN BAPTIST NETWORK /AREA**

Donald Cortimilia  
PO Box 60180  
Midland, TX 79711-0180  
(432) 563-3700  
admin@basinbaptist.org

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PO Box 1447  
Belton, TX 76513-5447  
(254) 939-0761  
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PO Box 334  
Fairfield, TX 75840-0006  
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PO Box 2125  
Vernon, TX 76385-2125  
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janna@bifork.org

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PO Box 1488  
Marfa, TX 79843-1488  
(432) 729-4349  
ambigbend@gmail.com

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3901 Charco Rd  
Beeville, TX 78102-2111  
(361) 358-9420  
blancobaptist@sbcglobal.net

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Robby Partain  
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PO Box 391  
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325 Ancient Oaks Dr  
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(830) 693-0934  
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(806) 296-2751  
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PO Box 575  
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(432) 693-2385  
francisjuan6259@yahoo.com

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712 W D Ave  
Kingsville, TX 78363-3632  
(361) 595-5523  
cbba361@gmail.com

**COLLIN BAPTIST ASSOCIATION**

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970 S Highway 5  
McKinney, TX 75069-9461  
(972) 529-5222  
vince.smith@collinbaptist.com

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1515 Briar Ln  
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(979) 532-0233  
casey.dubose1946@yahoo.com

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jeff@cvba.org

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jmccull356@peoplepc.com

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8001 E R L Thornton Fwy  
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rochelle@dentonbaptist.org

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PO Drawer 1112  
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joewdmba@att.net

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PO Box 546  
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etba@eastex.net

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2012 Grant Ave  
El Paso, TX 79930-1017  
(915) 544-8671  
EPBA@elpasoba.org

**ELLIS BAPTIST ASSOCIATION**

Richard Cody  
3080 W Highway 287 Byp  
Waxahachie, TX 75167-5000  
(972) 937-9320

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Timothy Ellis  
PO Box 928  
Linden, TX 75563-0928  
(903) 756-7331  
enondom@valornet.com

**F I R M BAPTIST AREA**

Charles Cole  
PO Box 192  
Cameron, TX 76520-0192  
(254) 697-6505  
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**FANNIN BAPTIST ASSOCIATION**

Jerry Christopher  
1505 Silo Rd  
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(903) 583-2210  
jchristopher@cablone.net

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Jimmy Smith  
PO Drawer P  
Pearsall, TX 78061-1415  
(830) 334-2061  
frba@sbcglobal.net

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Bobby Fletcher  
PO Box 1806  
Sherman, TX 75091-1806  
(903) 868-9361  
svestgba@verizon.net

**GREGG BAPTIST ASSOCIATION**

Vacant  
121 Gilmer Rd  
Longview, TX 75604  
(903)-753-9900  
greggba@gmail.com

**GUADALUPE BAPTIST ASSOCIATION**

Walter Jackson  
2601 N Ben Jordan St  
Victoria, TX 77903  
(361) 575-5281  
jfiveplus@gmail.com

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Donald Hintze  
2700 E Highway 35  
Angleton, TX 77515-2904  
(979) 849-2477  
mail@gulfcoastbaptist.org

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BAPTIST ASSOCIATION**

Randel Trull  
403 Daingerfield St  
Pittsburg, TX 75686-1405  
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hpbadam@gmail.com

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(214) 683-4006  
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2900 Eastland St  
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(903) 454-2690  
khunt@argontech.net

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Ernest McCoulskey  
PO Box 708  
Terrell, TX 75160-0013  
(972) 563-8023  
kuban@netportusa.com

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Keith Simpson  
PO Box 639  
Ballinger, TX 76821-0639  
(325) 365-2585  
lakeiviebaptist@yahoo.com

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Dennis Adams  
PO Box 1373  
Lamesa, TX 79331-1373  
(806) 201-0595  
dradams1164@gmail.com

**LAREDO BAPTIST ASSOCIATION**

Hector Almanza  
PO Box 1634  
Laredo, TX 78044-1634  
(956) 693-1136  
lbalaredo@gmail.com

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Alan Grisham  
PO Box 609  
Cenerville, TX 75833  
ebcpastor@hughes.net

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Jerry Joplin  
4207 34Th St  
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(806) 791-4442  
candy@lubbockbaptist.com

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nrbaoffice@valornet.com

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Ferel Gage  
PO Box C  
Mineral Wells, TX 76068-0079  
(940) 325-3433  
ferelgage@yahoo.com

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Glenn Ward  
1844 Acton Hwy  
Granbury, TX 76049-5900  
(817) 579-5111  
gwarddom.pba@gmail.com

**PARKER BAPTIST ASSOCIATION**

John Thielepape  
118 E Park Ave  
Weatherford, TX 76086-5614  
(817) 599-6586  
john@parkerbaptist.org

**PECOS VALLEY****BAPTIST ASSOCIATION**

Dudley Mullins  
PO Box 1105  
Kermit, TX 79745-1105  
(432) 586-6601  
edmullins1952@att.net

**PERMIAN BAPTIST ASSOCIATION**

Phillip Golden  
202 Sw Avenue B  
Seminole, TX 79360-4321  
(432) 758-3291

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Mike Fortenberry  
2320 Clarksville St  
Paris, TX 75460-6260  
(903) 785-2890  
redriversvalleybaptist@gmail.com

**REHOBOTH BAPTIST ASSOCIATION**

Kent Pate  
1139 Industrial Dr E  
Sulphur Springs, TX 75482-3326  
(903) 885-2868  
info@rehobothonline.org

**RIO GRANDE VALLEY****BAPTIST ASSOCIATION**

Robert Cepeda  
617 W Expressway 83  
Weslaco, TX 78596-4326  
(956) 968-3161  
rgvdom@gmail.com

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smsba@suddenlinkmail.com

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Jerry Redkey  
PO Box 159  
Kirbyville, TX 75956-0159  
(409) 423-2224  
jredkey@snbarea.org

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Darrell Horn  
5807 W Ih 10  
San Antonio, TX 78201-2800  
(210) 525-9954  
darrellh@sanantonio.org

**SAN FELIPE BAPTIST ASSOCIATION**

Sam Waltman  
1105 San Jacinto St  
Rosenberg, TX 77471-3641  
(281) 232-8556  
sawaltman@earthlink.net

**SAN JACINTO BAPTIST ASSOCIATION**

Randell Gilchrist  
PO Box 1533  
Baytown, TX 77522-1533  
(281) 422-3604  
sjba@sanjacintobaptist.com

**SMITH BAPTIST ASSOCIATION**

Danny Pickens  
3226 Old Jacksonville Rd  
Tyler, TX 75701-7503  
(903) 581-6139  
danny@smithbaptist.org

**SODA LAKE BAPTIST ASSOCIATION**

Randall Babin  
2109 Victory Dr  
Marshall, TX 75672-3625  
(903) 938-0756  
sodalake@sbcglobal.net

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Tommy Wilson  
PO Box 603  
Gonzales, TX 78629-0603  
(830) 672-3830  
scba@southcentralarea.org

**SOUTH PLAINS  
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Elvyn G Lambright  
PO Box 185  
Smyer, TX 79367-0185  
(806) 893-8578  
spba.1@netzero.com

**SOUTHWEST METROPLEX  
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601 N Nolan River Rd  
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(817) 645-8222  
dom@swmba.net

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918 S Interstate 35  
Georgetown, TX 78628-4127  
(512) 930-0965  
deb@wbates.org

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David Bowman  
4520 James Ave  
Fort Worth, TX 76115-2117  
(817) 927-1911  
frontdesk@tarrantbaptist.org

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James Greer  
PO Box 300  
Pampa, TX 79066-0300  
(806) 665-3152  
topotx@yahoo.com

**TRI COUNTY BAPTIST ASSOCIATION**

Genoa Goad  
PO Box 1151  
Cisco, TX 76437-1151  
(254) 442-4568  
tricountybaptist@suddenlinkmail.com

**TRI RIVERS BAPTIST AREA**

Richard Ray  
PO Box 45  
Gatesville, TX 76528-0045  
(254) 865-1299  
tririversdom@gmail.com

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David Williams  
P.O. Box 1269  
Liberty, TX 77575-1269  
(936) 336-9232  
david@trbatexas.org

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Roger Yancey  
PO Box 2408  
Conroe, TX 77305-2408  
(936) 856-2001  
sbrown@teba.org

**UNION BAPTIST ASSOCIATION**

Tom Billings  
2916 W T C Jester Blvd Ste 200  
Houston, TX 77018-7051  
(713) 957-2000  
diankidd@ubahouston.org

**UNITY BAPTIST ASSOCIATION**

Stephen Parks  
3507 Daniel McCall Dr  
Lufkin, TX 75904-7143  
(936) 634-3734  
unityba@gmail.com

**WACO REGIONAL  
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Timothy Randolph  
PO Box 1848  
Waco, TX 76703-1848  
(254) 753-2408  
admin@wacobaptists.org

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 Trinity TX 75862-0707  
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 Fax (936) 594-5085  
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**TEXAS BAPTISTS®**  
BAPTIST GENERAL CONVENTION OF TEXAS

**Article I – Name and Nature**

**Section 1.** The name of this corporate body shall be The Baptist General Convention of Texas, hereafter Convention.

**Section 2.** This Convention is and always shall remain, only and solely a medium through which Baptist churches may work harmoniously in cooperation with each other, promoting the work and objects set forth in this constitution. It has not, to any degree, and shall never have any ecclesiastical authority. It shall not have and shall never attempt to exercise a single attribute of power or authority over any church, or over the messengers of the churches in such wise as to limit the sovereignty of the churches, but shall recognize the sovereignty of the churches under the one Sovereign, Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Article II – Object**

The object of this Convention shall be to awaken and stimulate among the churches the greatest possible activity in evangelism, missions, Christian education and benevolent work and enterprises; to cultivate a closer cooperation among the churches and promote harmony of feeling and concert of action in advancing all the interests of the Redeemer's Kingdom.

**Article III – Membership**

**Section 1.** This Convention in session in all its meetings shall be composed of messengers elected by Baptist churches that shall voluntarily cooperate with the Convention. All messengers must be members of the church by which they are elected. A messenger must be enrolled at the Convention in session to be qualified to vote. The messengers have no right to act except for annual or special meetings constituting the Convention in session for which they have been elected by their cooperating churches.

**Section 2.** Each church cooperating with this Convention shall be entitled to:

- A Two messengers for the first one hundred (100) members or fractional part thereof. Two additional messengers for the first two hundred fifty dollars (\$250) given during the previous fiscal year to the Texas budget as adopted by The Baptist General Convention of Texas in annual session, and
- B. One additional messenger for each additional hundred members and each additional one thousand dollars (\$1,000) given during the previous fiscal year to the Texas budget as adopted by The Baptist General Convention of Texas in annual session, and
- C. If, as calculated under B above, a church's giving surpasses its membership, then one additional messenger for each two thousand dollars (\$2000) given during the previous fiscal year to the Texas budget as adopted by The Baptist General Convention of Texas in annual session, not to exceed six additional messengers, provided, however, that
- D. No church shall be entitled to more than twenty-five messengers.
- E. A mission church shall be considered a church under the Constitution solely for the limited purpose of electing messengers to the Annual Meeting if it is identified as a body of believers separate from its sponsoring church; it contributes to the BGCT in an identifiable way either directly or through the sponsoring church from its own resources; it exists to address some specific mission need, such as language, culture or location, it regularly practices baptism and the Lord's Supper separate from its sponsoring church; and it identifies itself with, aligns itself with, and endorses, generally, the purposes and work of the Convention. The total number of messengers a mission may qualify for is four (4) as specified in Article III, Section 2.A.



## **Article IV – Meetings**

**Section 1.** The Convention shall meet annually at such a time and place, based on Convention site guidelines, as determined by the messengers at least two years prior to the annual meeting.

In case of emergency, the Executive Board is empowered to change the time and place of the meeting. The minutes of the annual meeting of The Baptist General Convention of Texas are to be approved by the Executive Board of the Convention at the first meeting of the Executive Board following the Convention.

**Section 2.** No notice of annual or regular meetings of The Baptist General Convention of Texas shall be required. Notice of a special meeting shall be given at least 10 days prior to such meeting by publication in any newspaper of general circulation in the community in which the principal office is located.

**Section 3.** The right to vote is limited to the duly elected and enrolled messengers who are actually present in the session at the time the vote is taken. There will be no proxy or absentee voting.

**Section 4.** The quorum for conducting business during any session of the annual meeting of The Baptist General Convention of Texas shall be a minimum of 25% of the enrolled messengers.

**Section 5.** Special meetings of the Convention may be called by the Executive Board by a two-thirds vote of the votes entitled to be cast by directors of the Board. The call for a special meeting shall state the purpose of the meeting and the date, time and place for the meeting. The special meeting shall be limited to the purpose stated.

## **Article V – Officers**

**Section 1.** The officers of this Convention shall be a president, a first vice president, a second vice president, a secretary of the Corporation, a recording secretary and a registration secretary. With the exception of the recording secretary who serves by virtue of serving as Treasurer, these shall be elected annually by ballot not later than the second day of the annual meeting. By unanimous consent any officer of this Convention may be elected by acclamation. Officers shall hold their offices until the end of the last session of the Convention meeting at which their successors are elected. In case of the death, resignation, or disability of the president, or if the president is no longer a member of a cooperating church, the vice presidents shall automatically succeed to the office of president in the order of their election.

**Section 2.** In any election for office, the nominee who receives the vote of a majority of the enrolled messengers present in the session shall be elected. If on the first ballot no nominee is elected, there shall be a run-off election between the two nominees who received the greatest number of votes on the first ballot.

**Section 3.** No one shall be eligible for the office of president or eligible for the same vice president's office for more than two successive years.

## **Article VI – Committees**

**Section 1.** The committees of the Convention shall be: (1) Committee on the Annual Meeting, (2) Committee on Credentials, (3) Committee on Committees, (4) Committee on Resolutions, (5) Committee on Memorials, (6) Committee to Nominate Executive Board Directors, (7) Committee on Nominations for Boards of Affiliated Ministries. The duties of the committees are included in the Convention Bylaws.

**Section 2.** Special committees may be established by action of the Convention to serve for specified periods of time to perform specific duties that in the judgment of the Convention cannot be effectively performed by one of the regular committees of the Convention or by the Executive Board.

The Convention shall specify the number of members to be appointed to each special committee and the method to be followed in selecting members. In the absence of other provisions, the president and the two vice presidents shall jointly appoint the members.

**Article VII – Executive Board****Section 1. Functions**

The Executive Board speaks for the interest of the Convention and has authority and accountability over the work of the Convention in the interim between annual meetings, except for that which is reserved for the Convention in session as noted in the Articles of Incorporation, the Constitution and the Bylaws.

- A. The Executive Board shall have charge and control, except when otherwise directed by the Convention, of all of the work of the Convention, including missions, education, and beneficence, in the interim between its sessions.
- B. The Executive Board has authority to elect and employ, to evaluate performance and set compensation for the Executive Director who shall serve as chief executive officer of The Baptist General Convention of Texas and its Executive Board.
- C. The Executive Board also has authority to elect an Associate Executive Director and a Treasurer/Chief Financial Officer, both of whom shall serve under the direct supervision of the Executive Director. The Executive Director is authorized to employ other staff as provided by the plan of work and the financial plan of the Convention. The Board shall approve a compensation plan for Convention employees.
- D. The Executive Board shall hold in trust and shall administer all the properties, annuities, trusts, and invested funds of this body except as otherwise provided for by the Convention, and the Board shall report annually to the Convention the state of all funds which the Board administers.
- E. The Executive Board provides the Convention annually with a report of its work and with a complete financial accounting of all funds received and disbursed, including properties, trusts, and invested funds which the Board administers.
- F. The Executive Board determines the organization, functions, responsibilities and working relationships of the Executive Board committees.
- G. The Executive Board maintains an official organization manual setting forth the plan and organization of the Convention and its programs. It shall also maintain a policy manual (including business, financial and personnel) for those policies adopted by the Convention in session and by the Executive Board.

**Section 2. Membership**

- A. The authorized number of elected directors shall be 90 directors from 30 sectors in the Convention. The sectors are based on resident church membership in counties, and such sector criteria will be included in the Bylaws upon recommendation of the Executive Board.

A minimum of three directors will be elected from each sector. The number of elected directors of the Executive Board will exceed ninety (90) until expiration of the terms of directors elected prior to the effective date of adoption of this amended Constitution.

- B. One-third of the number of directors is elected each year to serve a three-year term. Directors are eligible for election to a second three-year term but are not eligible to serve more than six consecutive years.
- C. Voting directors of the Executive Board shall be the elected directors, the convention president, and the two convention vice presidents, and the presidents of the Convention-recognized fellowships, provided that these presidents are members of churches supportive of the BGCT. Non-voting directors of the Executive Board shall be the executive director, recording secretary, and the presidents of Woman's Missionary Union of Texas, Texas Baptist Men and Baptist Student Ministry.

- D. All Executive Board directors, including the ex officio directors, must be members of churches that are supportive of The Baptist General Convention of Texas.
- E. No one who is an employee of the Convention or member of the immediate family of an employee, except an ex officio director of the Board, shall be eligible for membership on the Executive Board.
- F. The membership of the Executive Board shall be generally representative of the Baptist membership in the Convention and shall include men and women, Anglo and non-Anglo persons, persons who are members of larger membership churches and smaller membership churches, and those who have abilities and experience needed by the Board. There shall be a minimum of forty percent (40%) of the persons elected each year who are church/denominational employees and a minimum of forty (40%) who are non-church/denominational employees.

### Section 3. Officers

- A. Officers shall be chairperson, vice chairperson, recording secretary and other such officers as the Executive Board may determine needed from time to time.
- B. Term of service for elected officers is one year. A person is limited to a maximum service of two consecutive years in the same office. The exception to these provisions is the recording secretary who serves by virtue of serving as Treasurer.
- C. Nominations for election of officers are from the floor. A person must be elected by majority vote.

If on the first ballot no nominee is elected, there shall be a run-off election between the two nominees who received the greatest number of votes on the first ballot.

### Section 4. Committees

The Executive Board has the authority to establish and dissolve committees as required to carry out their responsibilities. Duties of the committees will be included in the Executive Board Policy Manual.

- A. The Executive Committee plans, coordinates and monitors the general progress of the Executive Board, including the budget and financial affairs. The Executive Committee will be composed of the chairperson and vice chairperson of the Executive Board, the president and vice presidents of the Convention, and the chairperson of each Executive Board committee. The chairperson of the Executive Board will serve as chairperson of the Executive Committee. The executive director and the recording secretary will serve as ex officio members, without vote.
- B. The Audit Committee is to oversee the financial audit function.
- C. The Institutional Relations Committee is to give broad oversight of the institutions related to the Convention, recognizing that the institutions are managed by a separate board of trustees according to their articles of incorporation and bylaws.
- D. The Church Ministries Committee shall set the direction for the operation of core ministries of the Convention.
- E. The Administration Support Committee shall set direction and recommend general policies for the administrative functions of the Convention. The committee shall include a finance subcommittee for budget development and general financial oversight.

## Article VIII – Affiliated and Related Ministries

### Section 1. General Provisions

- A. Institutions or agencies which associate with this Convention in compliance with this Article are affiliated. Institutions or agencies which associate with this Convention pursuant to an adopted Special Agreement are related.
- B. A new agency or institution may be established or a change in relationship with an agency or institution may be approved by a majority vote of the votes entitled to be cast by the messengers when the vote is taken without regard to the total enrollment at any meeting of the Convention upon the recommendation of the Executive Board, and must be considered by the Executive Board not later than a September meeting of the Board preceding the annual meeting of the Convention. In the case of a new agency or institution, the recommendation must include a comprehensive plan of development, a set of proposed articles and bylaws, and a proposed annual budget.
- C. An affiliation or relationship with an agency or institution may be discontinued by the Convention upon recommendation by the Executive Board and by majority vote of the votes entitled to be cast by the messengers present when the vote is taken without regard to the total enrollment at any meeting of the Convention.

### Section 2. Affiliated Ministries

- A. Trustee Membership of Boards
  - 1. Each institution affiliated with this Convention shall have a board consisting of thirteen (13) or more trustees of which at least a simple majority shall be elected by this Convention in its annual meetings. When the charter of such institution provides for a specific number of trustees, the number so provided for shall be elected. Those persons elected by the Convention to serve as members of these boards shall be active members of cooperating churches of The Baptist General Convention of Texas.
  - 2. No person shall be eligible for concurrent membership on more than one affiliated board or board of related institutions or agencies.
  - 3. Each institution affiliated with this Convention shall be eligible to elect those members of its trustee board not elected by the Convention in accordance with criteria adopted by its board. All trustees so elected shall be active members of a Baptist church and shall meet other criteria established by the Executive Board.
  - 4. Trustees of affiliated institutions shall be elected in classes so that the terms of one class only shall expire with each Convention year. The term of office of each member of the boards of affiliated institutions shall be three years. A member who has served three full successive terms shall not be eligible for re-election until he or she shall have been out of office for one Convention year.
  - 5. The board of trustees and the administrator of an institution may request that a trustee, whose continued service is considered imperative to meet an emergency or a special need, be elected for an additional year. Such an exception must be approved by the Committee on Nominations for Boards of Affiliated Ministries. No more than two exceptions may be made for any given term for any one institution. In the event of such an exception, the position filled by that trustee shall revert to its previous class at the completion of the extra year.
  - 6. No Trustee shall be allowed to name his or her successor by resigning in favor of another person.
  - 7. No elected trustee of the board of an affiliated institution who resigns from that board before the expiration of his or her current term shall be eligible for nomination to another board of the

1st Adoption by Baptist General Convention of Texas in session November 17, 2014  
 Final Adoption by Baptist General Convention of Texas in session November 10, 2015

Convention until one year after such resignation is filed. A trustee elected by the Convention who no longer meets the qualifications for service set forth by the Convention as determined by the Executive Board, shall cease to be a trustee and that place shall be deemed vacant, or the Executive Board upon a 75 percent vote of those present may recommend to the Convention the removal of a trustee.

A vote of 75 percent of the votes entitled to be cast by the messengers when the vote is taken without regard to the total enrollment at any annual meeting of the Convention is necessary for removal. The Articles of Incorporation and bylaws of affiliated institutions shall not contain provision inconsistent with this Section 2 (A)(7).

8. The Recording Secretary of the Convention shall be notified immediately of vacancies that occur on an institutional board for any cause. Should a trustee position elected by the Convention become vacant for any cause, the Convention shall name a replacement trustee for that position through its adopted processes.
- B. The board of each institution affiliated with this Convention shall submit any and all changes or amendments to the institution's charter to the Executive Board for approval. Any changes that significantly alter the mission of the institution or the institution's relationship to The Baptist General Convention of Texas shall be referred to the Convention for approval.

### **Section 3. Related Ministries**

- A. The institution's Articles of Incorporation and Special Agreements with the Convention shall guide the election and terms of trustees.
- B. No person shall be eligible to concurrently serve on more than one related ministry board or affiliated ministry board.
- C. The board of an institution may request, with a 75 percent vote of its board, that the institution relate to the Convention through a contractual Special Agreement rather than as an affiliated institution. Such agreements must be approved by the Convention at its annual meeting and may be considered only after favorable action by the Executive Board. Special Agreements must be negotiated in accordance with policies established by the Executive Board.

### **Section 4. Reports and Reviews to the Convention**

- A. The board of each agency or institution affiliated with or related by Special Agreement to this Convention shall submit to the Convention at each annual meeting such written reports as will keep the Convention fully informed concerning the activities, plans, resources, financial condition, and legal status of the institution.
- B. The board of each agency or institution, except general acute care hospitals and health care systems, affiliated with this Convention shall submit for review and approval to this Convention, or to a committee designated by this Convention, each and every project or policy that involves a level of indebtedness of the institution beyond the policies of The Baptist General Convention of Texas.

## **Article IX – Contributions and Funds**

**Section 1.** The Cooperative Program shall be the chief means through which this Convention shall support its missionary endeavors. The mission causes shall be reviewed and the Cooperative Program Budget through which they are supported shall be adopted annually.

Annual adoption of the budget shall be voted at the Annual Meeting held in the fall. The Executive Board will be responsible for budget adoption at its fall meeting in years when a summer Annual Meeting is held.

**Section 2.** All funds of this Convention shall be raised by voluntary contributions provided this does not prevent acquiring funds, or property, by bequest or use of any income on property that may be bequeathed to or purchased by the institutions or agencies hereof.

**Section 3.** All designated offerings or special gifts shall be strictly applied according to the expressed will and direction of the contributor.

### **Article X – Offices**

The Convention shall maintain a principal office within the State of Texas and shall continuously maintain in the State of Texas a registered office which is identical with the principal office and a registered agent who is the recording secretary of the Convention as required by the Texas Non-Profit Corporation Act. The Executive Board shall, from time to time, amend the Articles of Incorporation of the Convention as necessary to reflect the then current address of the registered office and the registered agent.

### **Article XI – Amendments**

Any alterations may be made in these Articles by two-thirds of the votes entitled to be cast by the messengers present when the vote is taken without regard to total enrollment at any annual meeting of the Convention, provided (1) no amendment may be considered after the second day of the Convention and (2) that an amendment shall be so approved by two successive Conventions.

## Article I – General Provisions

**Section 1.** For purposes of usage in the Constitution and these Bylaws, a church is deemed to be affiliated with the Convention if such church (1) identifies itself with, aligns itself with, and endorses, generally, the purposes and work of the Convention, and (2) is otherwise eligible to send messengers to the annual meeting of the Convention. For purposes of usage in the Constitution and the Bylaws, “supportive” and “cooperating” shall have the same meaning as “affiliated” has in these Bylaws.

**Section 2.** All Convention officers, members of Convention committees, all Executive Board directors, and all non-director members of any special committee, subcommittee, group, team, council or other entity created under or permitted to be created under these Bylaws shall be members of affiliated churches. An exception will be made for members of groups, teams, councils or other entities who are Baptists and live outside the state of Texas.

**Section 3.** If a person named in Section 2 is no longer a member of a church affiliated with the Convention, or otherwise vacates the position, the position will be deemed vacant and the vacancy will be filled according to the provisions of these Bylaws. Determination of vacancies and the date of such vacancy will be made by the Executive Board or a committee of the Board so authorized by the Executive Board.

## Article II – Messengers

**Section 1.** Each messenger shall register with the Registration Secretary by presentation of proper credentials prior to being seated as a messenger to the Convention.

**Section 2.** The credentials of a registered messenger may be reviewed by the Credentials Committee as deemed necessary

**Section 3.** Any challenges to the seating of the messengers of a church will be presented in writing to the Credentials Committee during the Annual Meeting

**Section 4.** Any challenges to the ability of a church to have the opportunity to send messengers to the Annual Meeting will be presented in writing to the Executive Board.

## Article III – Meetings

**Section 1.** The annual meeting of the Convention shall be a gathering for the purpose of worship, fellowship, mobilizing, encouraging, informing and uniting Texas Baptists to accomplish the Great Commission, as well as to elect officers; receiving recommendations and reports of officers, committees and boards; and for any other business that may arise or be scheduled.

**Section 2.** The Convention shall determine its order of business at the first session of the annual meeting.

**Section 3.** Special meetings may be called according to the provisions of the Constitution.

**Section 4.** In all questions covering the proceedings of the Convention in both annual and special meetings, Robert’s Rules of Order (latest revised edition) shall be the authority used by the presiding officers and by the Convention, unless the Constitution or the Bylaws have special rules of order that apply.

## Article IV – Duties of Convention Officers

**Section 1.** It shall be the duty of the president to preside over the deliberations of the Convention and to discharge such other duties as are usually incumbent on the presiding officer of a deliberative body.

If the president is no longer a member of a church cooperating with the Convention, a vice president shall succeed to the office according to provisions of the Constitution, and this fact shall be so recognized by a resolution of the Executive Board.



**Section 2.** The vice presidents shall discharge such duties as requested by the president. In the absence of the president from a Convention session, a vice president in the order in which he or she was elected shall preside.

**Section 3.** It shall be the duty of the recording secretary to keep an accurate record of the proceedings of the Convention, and to file and keep all papers in order deemed important to be preserved.

**Section 4.** The registration secretary shall be responsible for registration of all messengers of the Convention.

The registration secretary shall report to the chairperson of the Committee on Credentials the number of messengers registered as of the hour the Convention convenes and periodically thereafter as prescribed by the chairperson of the Committee on Credentials.

Following the Convention the registration secretary shall provide the recording secretary the number of messengers registered, arranged by associations.

**Section 5.** The duties of the secretary of the Corporation shall be to attest legal papers of the Convention.

### Article V – Convention Committees

Those committees that use sector criteria for membership shall use the same sectors as used for the Executive Board membership in the Bylaws, Article VI, Section 1, A.

**Section 1.** The Committee on Convention Business shall be responsible for recommending the time and place of future annual meetings of the Convention, for selecting the worship leaders and for formulating the agenda for the annual meeting and submitting the agenda to the messengers for approval at the opening session.

The committee shall have eighteen members appointed for three year terms with six appointed each year by the president and the vice presidents acting jointly.

The president and vice presidents may appoint replacements to fill vacancies.

- A. This committee shall provide periods of time during the early sessions of the Convention annual meeting for the introduction of all matters requiring a vote not scheduled on the agenda and when introduced shall fix times for consideration for the same, unless the Convention gives its unanimous consent for its immediate consideration.
- B. This committee shall be responsible for formulating and recommending the Standing Rules of the Convention to the Convention for adoption. The Standing Rules of the Convention may be amended without notice by majority vote.

It also shall be responsible for recommending the disposition of motions made during consideration of miscellaneous business but not finally disposed.

**Section 2.** The Committee on Credentials shall be responsible for verifying credentials of prospective messengers, enrolling messengers, for investigating any contention arising out of the enrollment of messengers, and for reporting its findings to the Convention. Any challenges to the seating of messengers of church that are based upon the assertion that a church is no longer in harmonious cooperation with Texas Baptists will be referred to the Executive Board and not reported on until the next Annual Meeting. At the time scheduled by the Committee on Convention Business, the chairperson of the Committee on Credentials shall report the number of messengers registered as of the opening of the annual meeting or special meeting and periodically thereafter.

The committee when established shall have ten (10) members appointed for two years with five (5) appointed each year by the president and the vice presidents acting jointly. The president and vice president may appoint replacements to fill vacancies.

**Section 3.** The Committee on Committees shall be responsible for nominating persons for election by the Convention to serve on the Committee to Nominate Executive Board Directors and the Committee on Nominations for Boards of Affiliated Ministries, and for such special committees as the Convention shall designate. The committee shall have fifteen (15) members appointed for three-year terms with five (5) appointed each year by the president and the vice presidents acting jointly. The president and vice presidents may appoint replacements to fill vacancies.

**Section 4.** The Committee on Resolutions shall be responsible for receiving all resolutions proposed by messengers and for reporting its findings to the Convention.

The committee shall have ten (10) members appointed for two-year terms with five (5) appointed each year by the president and the vice presidents acting jointly. The president and vice presidents may appoint replacements to fill vacancies.

All resolutions shall be automatically referred to the Committee on Resolutions without public reading or discussion.

This committee is directed to report back to the Convention such resolutions as it deems proper, whether submitted to or prepared by the committee.

**Section 5.** The Committee on Memorials shall be responsible for preparing and presenting to the Convention suitable memorial statements in remembrance of active Baptists whose death occurred during the year preceding the Convention session.

The committee shall have five (5) members appointed for one-year terms by the president and the vice presidents acting jointly. The president and vice presidents may appoint replacements to fill vacancies. Committee on Memorials shall be responsible for preparing and presenting to the Convention suitable memorial statements in remembrance of active Baptists whose death occurred during the year preceding the Convention session.

The committee shall have five (5) members appointed for one-year terms by the president and the vice presidents acting jointly. The president and vice presidents may appoint replacements to fill vacancies.

**Section 6.** The Committee to Nominate Executive Board Directors shall be responsible for nominating persons for election by the Convention to serve on the Executive Board.

- A. The committee shall have fifteen (15) members, five (5) of whom shall be elected each year to serve for three-year terms. Members of this committee shall be elected by the Convention on the nomination of the Committee on Committees

A member may serve one three-year term and is not eligible for re-election until one year has elapsed. No two members of this committee shall be from churches in the same sector.

The committee shall publish its list of nominees at least two full days prior to the day on which directors of the Executive Board are to be elected by the Convention

- B. If a member moves from a church in one sector to a church in another sector that is already represented on the committee, the member shall continue to serve until the succeeding Convention at which time the position will be deemed vacant and the Committee on Committees shall make a nomination to the Convention to fill the unexpired term.
- C. If a member moves from a church in one sector to a church in another sector that is already represented on the committee, the member shall continue to serve until the succeeding Convention at which time the position will be deemed vacant and the Committee on Committees shall make a nomination to the Convention to fill the unexpired term.

If a member resigns or is no longer a member of a church affiliated with the Convention, the position will be deemed vacant and the Committee on Committees may nominate to the Executive Board at its next meeting a person who shall be elected on a temporary basis to serve until the succeeding Convention at which time the membership shall be terminated.

Thereafter, the persons or committee charged with nominating the members of such committee shall make a nomination to the Convention to fill the unexpired term.

- D. The committee shall conduct its work in accordance with a policy adopted by the Executive Board. The policy adopted shall provide for the committee to seek information and suggestions from persons in all sectors.

**Section 7.** The Committee on Nominations for Boards of Affiliated Ministries shall be responsible for nominating persons for election by the Convention to serve on the boards of trustees and boards of directors of all Convention institutions, agencies, and affiliates.

- A. The committee shall have fifteen (15) members, five (5) of whom shall be elected each year to serve for three-year terms.

Members shall be elected by the Convention on the nomination of the Committee on Committees. A member may serve one three-year term and is not eligible for re-election until one year has elapsed. No two members of this committee shall be from churches in the same sector.

- B. All members should be persons with experience in Convention affairs. In the election of the fifteen (15) members, a minimum of six (6) shall be church/denominational employees and a minimum of six (6) non-church/denominational employees.

Spouses of church/denominational employees shall be considered in that category. Retired persons and their spouses who served as church/denominational employees shall be considered in that category.

- C. If a member moves from a church in one sector to a church in another sector that is already represented on the committee, the member shall continue to serve until the succeeding Convention at which time the position will be deemed vacant and the Committee on Committees shall make a nomination to the Convention to fill the unexpired term.

If a member resigns or is no longer a member of a church affiliated with the Convention, the position will be deemed vacant and the Committee on Committees may nominate to the Executive Board at its next meeting a person who shall be elected on a temporary basis to serve until the succeeding Convention, at which time the membership shall be terminated.

Thereafter, the persons or committee charged with nominating the members of such committee shall make a nomination to the Convention to fill the unexpired term.

- D. The committee shall conduct its work in accordance with a policy adopted by the Executive Board. The policy adopted shall provide for the committee to seek information and suggestions from persons in all sectors. The policy adopted also shall provide for the committee to establish one nominating subcommittee for each institutional board, agency, and affiliate to assist the committee by suggesting names of persons who shall be considered for nomination for election to boards. The committee shall determine the composition of each subcommittee and select the members of each subcommittee.
- E. The subcommittee shall develop the lists of suggested nominees in accordance with criteria established by the Executive Board. The committee shall develop its list of nominees on the basis of the list of suggested nominees presented by the subcommittee, screening those lists to eliminate duplications and to assure compliance with established criteria.

The committee shall publish its list of nominees at least two full days prior to the day on which members of institution boards, agencies, and affiliates are to be elected by the Convention.

## Article VI – Executive Board

### Section 1. Membership

- A. The elected membership of the Executive Board shall be ninety (90) directors from thirty (30) sectors in the Convention. At least three directors will be elected from each sector. The composition of the Executive Board shall be that as defined in the Constitution. Additionally, at least thirty percent (30%) of the membership shall be non-Anglo persons.

The sectors are based on resident church membership in counties with additional consideration given to the number of churches and Cooperative Program giving for Texas causes. The drawing of sector boundaries is based on the following weighted criteria by county: resident church membership, fifty percent (50%); number of churches, twenty-five percent (25%); and Cooperative Program giving for Texas causes, twenty-five percent (25%).

Large population counties may contain multiple sectors, and smaller population adjacent counties may be grouped into one sector. Counties containing more than one sector will not be subdivided.

Sector boundaries will be evaluated every five years by the Executive Committee of the Board and any changes recommended to the Board for approval.

- B. The Executive Board shall have ex-officio directors in addition to the ninety (90) elected directors. The ex-officio directors shall be divided into these two classes.

**Class 1.** The president and vice presidents of the Convention and presidents of the recognized fellowships, provided that these presidents are members of churches supportive of the Convention. These persons shall by virtue of office serve with all rights, privileges, and duties of, and shall in all matters be treated as elected directors.

**Class 2.** The non-voting directors named in the Constitution, Article VII, Section 2, C. These persons shall by virtue of office serve with all rights, privileges, and duties of, and shall in all matters be treated as elected directors, except these persons shall not have the right to vote in regard to actions of the Executive Board or in regard to actions of any committee of the Executive Board, and shall not be counted for purposes of ascertaining a quorum of the Executive Board or of any of its committees nor in the number needed for adoption of certain actions.

- C. If a director of the Executive Board moves from a church in one sector to a church in another sector, the director shall continue to serve until the succeeding Convention at which time the membership shall be terminated and the Committee to Nominate Executive Board Directors shall make a nomination to fill the unexpired term.

In order to achieve the purposes and structure dictated by the Constitution, as each incumbent director completes the term to which he or she was elected prior to the adoption of these Bylaws, or in the event any director, prior to the expiration of his or her term, dies, resigns, is no longer a member of a church affiliated with the Convention, is removed by the Convention, or otherwise vacates the office of director, such director's position on the Executive Board determined by the previous provisions shall be deemed eliminated and no vacancy shall be deemed to exist, except as follows: if a sector has less than three directors on the Executive Board or after the time the number of directors positions has been reduced to ninety (90) elected directors, then when a vacancy occurs for any reason outlined in the foregoing sentence, the Committee to Nominate Executive Board Directors shall nominate to the Executive Board at its next meeting a person who shall be elected on a temporary basis to serve until the succeeding Convention at which time the membership shall be terminated and the Committee to Nominate Executive Board Directors shall make a nomination to fill the unexpired term.

Should an ex-officio director resign, be unable to continue to serve, or no longer be a member of a church affiliated with the Convention, the position will be deemed vacant.

The Executive Board shall give the entity responsible for the election of such person written notice that such person's position as a director has been deemed vacant and that such director position shall remain vacant until it is filled by such entity's presentation to the Executive Board of another person qualified to serve as such entity's ex-officio director under the Constitution and these Bylaws.

- D. The Constitution and Bylaw provisions in regard to the composition of the Executive Board directors pertain to directors elected under these Bylaws and not to previously elected directors continuing during the transition period.

## **Section 2. Elected Officers**

The Board shall elect a chairperson and a vice chairperson annually. The treasurer/chief financial officer of the Convention shall serve as recording secretary. The officers shall have the following duties:

### **A. Chairperson**

1. Presides at all meetings of the Board.
2. Chairs the Executive Committee.
3. Assists the executive director as the director provides leadership in the planning and implementation of Convention operations and ministries.
4. Consults with the executive director and secretary prior to each meeting to set the agenda.
5. Appoints special committees as authorized by the Board.
6. Represents the Board in meetings of Convention agencies as invited to do so.
7. Serves the Board by carrying out responsibilities assigned to the chair.

### **B. Vice Chairperson**

1. Assists the chairperson throughout the term as may be requested.
2. Presides at meetings of the Board and Executive Committee in the absence of the chairperson or at the request of the chairperson

### **C. Recording Secretary**

The recording secretary is to keep an accurate record of the proceedings of the Executive Board and to file and keep in order all papers deemed important to be preserved.

## **Section 3. Election of Officers**

### **A. Nominations**

Nominations shall be made from the floor at the last regular meeting of the year. Nominations shall be made in this order: chairperson and vice chairperson.

### **B. Voting**

The election of officers shall be the first order of business on the agenda at the last regular meeting of the year.

Election shall be by show of hands unless the chairperson with the appointed parliamentarian shall agree that the vote be by ballot. A majority of votes cast shall determine the person chosen.

**C. Terms**

Officers of the Board shall serve one-year terms and be eligible for one additional term. Terms begin immediately following the close of the last session of the annual meeting of the Convention. Should for any reason the office of chairperson be vacated prior to completion of the term, the vice chairperson shall become chairperson for the remainder of the term.

In such case, the vacancy of the vice chairperson would be filled at the next regularly scheduled meeting of the Board.

**Section 4. Meetings**

**A. Authority**

The Board shall meet at times and on a schedule that it adopts. The meeting date of the Convention should be a strongly influencing factor in the determination of when the Board meets.

The meetings should be calendared so as to supplement and facilitate the total work of the Convention in support of all Convention-adopted programs.

The meeting schedule of the Board shall be recommended to the Board by the Executive Director.

**B. Meeting Times**

The Board shall determine three-to-five years in advance the three times during each calendar year it meets.

**C. Annual Meeting**

The annual meeting of the Board shall be the one conducted prior to but not necessarily in conjunction with the annual Convention meeting. At this meeting, the Board will elect officers, may appoint committees, and consider other business as may come before the meeting.

**D. Place of Meeting**

The Board may designate any place within the State of Texas as the place of meeting.

**E. Notice of Meetings**

Written notice stating the place, day, and hour of any meeting of directors shall be delivered either personally, by mail, or by electronic means to each director, not less than 10 days or more than 60 days before the date of such meeting by or at the direction of the chairperson.

**F. Special Meetings**

Special meetings may be called by the executive director and/or the chairperson with the consent of two of the following: the vice chairperson of the Board and the president and vice presidents of the Convention; or may be called by not less than twenty percent (20%) of the directors.

The call for a special meeting shall state the purpose of the meeting, and the time, date, and place for the meeting. The special meeting shall be limited to the purpose stated.

**G. There will be no proxy voting.**

**Section 5. Committees**

Descriptions of the committees and duties of the Executive Board Committees will be described in the policy of the Executive Board as adopted by the Executive Board.

**Section 6. Voting by Mail or Electronic Means**

Any action required by law to be taken at a meeting of directors or any action which may be taken at a meeting of directors may be taken without a meeting if consented to and signed by a requisite number of directors of the Executive Board who are entitled to vote, either in writing, by mail ballot, by electronic means, or by some combination of both, with respect to the subject matter thereof.

The requisite number is the number that would be necessary to take that action at a meeting at which the directors were present and voted. Where a specific business item may need action prior to a regular meeting, the chairperson, or the vice chairperson in his absence, may conduct the voting by mail or by electronic means, or by some combination of both.

No vote shall be taken by electronic means or by telephone unless notice of such proposed vote to be taken has been communicated by electronic means, in person, by mail, by telephone, or by any of these means, to all members of the Executive Board or to the committee or subcommittee proposing to take a vote at least three (3) business days prior to the first day on which votes will be accepted. Notice by mail shall be deemed properly given if deposited in the U.S. Mail at least five (5) business days prior to such first day.

Voting by fax, email, dedicated website, any similar technology, or any combination of such means shall constitute "electronic means" for purposes of this and the following section.

"Signing" of a ballot or other confirmation of a vote by way of electronic means shall be broadly construed to permit effective utilization of such means.

In addition, committees and subcommittees of the Executive Board, together with any group authorized under Section F. of this article, but not the Executive Board as a whole, may take votes telephonically as a part of a committee or subcommittee meeting via conference telephone call or any other electronic conferencing media (and without necessity of a signed ballot). Written memoranda or minutes shall be made of all meetings and votes undertaken by electronic means or telephonically or by mail, and shall be entered into the records of the Executive Board or the appropriate committee or subcommittee as of the next meeting in which the members assemble in person.

There will be no proxy voting and therefore voting by mail or by electronic means shall not be considered to be voting by proxy.

**Section 7. Quorum**

The directors holding one-half (50%) of the total votes which may be cast at any meeting shall constitute a quorum.

**Section 8. Compensation**

Directors shall not receive any salaries for their services but may receive reimbursement for appropriate travel expenses.

**Article VII – Convention Employees**

**Section 1. Executive Director/Chief Executive Officer Recruitment**

The Executive Board is to establish a search committee composed of seven (7) members of the Executive Board appointed by the chairperson and vice chairperson of the Executive Board and eight (8) members of the Convention-at-large appointed by the president and vice presidents of the Convention.



The chairperson and vice chairperson of the Executive Board and president and vice presidents of the Convention will nominate a chairperson of the Search Committee from among the fifteen (15) members. The Executive Board is to approve the Search Committee and the chairperson.

**Section 2.** Associate Executive Director/Chief Operating Officer and Treasurer/Chief Financial Officer Recruitment

The executive director with the chairperson and vice chairperson of the Executive Board and the president of the Convention shall compose the search committee for the associate executive director/chief operating officer and the treasurer /chief financial officer as needed.

**Section 3.** Other Employees of the Convention

The executive director is authorized to employ other staff as needed in the plan of work and as provided by the financial plan of the Convention.

**Article VIII – Amendments**

These Bylaws may be changed or amended at any regular session of the Convention’s annual meeting, except the last session of the meeting, provided said change or amendment is offered at the first session of the annual meeting, and carries over to some subsequent session during the same meeting, and then receives a two-third’s majority of messengers present and voting in the session.

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