

BSM Ministry

Student ministry at Tyler Junior College and the University of Texas continues to be a major focus of SBA. Over twenty-three percent of our operating budget currently goes to support these ministries. With the support of your church we reach young people from around the world with the Gospel. Students from your church who attend these campuses are ministered to as well.



Education

Smith Association can provide a custom designed conference for your church to train and equip committees, Sunday School leadership, and other church leaders.



East Texas Baptist University offers a Certificate in Ministry program at Green Acres Baptist Church each Monday evening. Men and women desiring to learn more about the Bible and ministry are eligible to participate. Costs vary and are the responsibility of the church or individual. The classes are fully accredited and may be applied to a degree.



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Resources

There are a variety of items available for churches to use in their respective ministries. There are two digital video projectors that may be checked out. We also stock a large number of DVD Bible Studies. They may be checked out as well. A listing of the studies is available on our website - www.smith-baptist.org (Resources) [Video Library](#).

Fellowship

Various opportunities for fellowship are offered for pastors, staff, and their wives.



Retreats, prayer breakfasts, and lunches are made possible through grants as well as the support of our churches.

Help Not Needed?

If your church does not require these services, know that your financial support for SBA is critical. Of the seventy-three churches we support, two-thirds have one hundred or fewer attendees in Sunday School. Your support allows the services listed in this brochure to be available to them. Your support allows their ministry to flourish and the Kingdom of God to grow.

SBA Staff

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Baptist Student Ministry

Amber Brommers - UT Tyler

TIMBERLINE CAMP

Tom Roots

1/15/25





SBA
wants to
help with ...

Consultations

Personal consultations are available for staff and/or leadership and are held in strictest confidence. As a pastor's pastor, The Director of Missions will provide guidance and counsel in a variety of areas, whether personal or church related.

Consultations regarding legal matters are available. When necessary referrals are made to a specialist who is trained in the legalities of incorporation, lawsuits, tax-exempt status, and other matters.

Help is available for budget and finance committees if needed. Specifically, suggestions can be provided for staff benefits and salaries. Local comparisons are not available; however, we do have resources available to compare nation-wide benefits and salaries for a church your size. Should your church treasurer have questions, we are happy to connect them to the appropriate person.

Consultation is available for development or revisions of your church Constitution and By-Laws. The Director of Missions can meet with your committee or provide sample documents.

Strategic Planning is another service offered at a nominal fee. When contacted, Dr. Pickens will meet with appropriate church representatives to initiate the process of strategic planning for the future growth of the church.

Certified Life Coaching as well as Life Coach Training is available through SBA. Dr. Pickens will assist an individual who is working through the process of decision-making as well as facilitate a training clinic for a group who is interested. The coaching is free for pastors of SBA affiliated churches. The Life Coach Training is offered at a nominal fee.

Your Church

Demographic studies can be provided for your church or for the community surrounding your church. These studies can be used to develop ministries in your church or to reach out to the lost in your area. The studies are done using the latest census data as well as other available resources.

Facilities are provided at SBA for small group meetings. A conference room and small kitchen are available for staff planning, Sunday School classes, and committees at no charge. There is a projector and screen for power point presentations.

Dr. Pickens is trained in conflict/resolution and provides these services at no charge to member churches. Possible scenarios include staff/member disagreements, member/member disagreements, or staff/staff disagreements.

Serving as moderator for business meetings in cases where the pastor or regular moderator needs to be free to speak is another service offered by Dr. Pickens. This is particularly helpful in meetings where pastor/staff issues are being discussed.

Providing assistance in securing someone to preach or lead worship as a supply source or in an interim situation is another service that is provided. Help in locating an intentional interim pastor during a transition period is also provided.

Training for pastor/staff search committees is a valuable help. Materials and consultations can be provided for the committee from the start to the completion of the process. In addition, securing a place for the committee to hear a potential minister preach or sing at a neutral site is also available.

Individuals

SBA Provides

- Counseling services for pastors and staff in regard to personal issues, church conflict and other matters.
- Personal consultations regarding ministry opportunities that might be available in Tyler or other areas and help to match people to those opportunities.
- A listing of Christian Counselors listed at <http://smithbaptist.org/recommended-christian-counselors/>. Referrals are made for marriage counseling and relationship counseling for couples.

Missions Global

Assistance is available in planning and customizing foreign mission trips specifically for your church. We will work with you to develop a contact or work with an existing liaison in a foreign country, plan and schedule the trip, secure insurance, and help with other issues related to a trip of this nature.

We plan and conduct overseas mission trips as an Association when possible. Churches and individuals are encouraged to participate in these multi-church partnerships. The Association subsidizes finances, but the bulk of the cost is the responsibility of the individual or church.

We provide connections to missionaries abroad for mission organizations to maintain an ongoing correspondence. When possible we link these missionaries with the local church to do programs or speak while home on state-side assignment.

Local

We provide funds and expertise for starting local culturally diversified missions through your church. We partner with churches and state conventions to begin these works. In years past, we have assisted in starting churches for African-American congregations, Hispanic congregations, Chinese congregations, Cowboy culture congregations, and churches for people who prefer traditional or contemporary worship styles.

Financial assistance is available to local mission churches on a limited basis. It's important to note that funds are distributed on a decreasing scale, which allows for a gradual transition to self-sustainability.

One way we have discovered to help the SBA churches is to use a Community Missions Grant for local mission efforts in their communities. These grants are available through our website <https://smithbaptist.org/community-missions-grant>. Grants are available until the funds are depleted.

We provide help in ministering locally. Occasionally, we partner with Habitat for Humanity to build homes. Churches can be teamed with local missions to offer help with Bible Schools, light construction, surveys, and other tasks.

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