

August 2025

The Connector

Smith Baptist Association
3226 Old Jacksonville Hwy. • Tyler, TX 75701
<https://www.facebook.com/SmithBaptist>
<https://smithbaptist.org> • Tyler BSM Newsletter

Whoooooooooooo knows what is going on at Smith Baptist Association?

pickensphotos.



From the Interim Director of Missions
David L. Jones

What a great way to end the month of July! The Night of Celebration with humorist Dennis Swanberg was a tremendous evening as 600 people joined together for worship, fellowship, and recognition of His ministries in our SBA churches. Seventeen exhibitors shared how the Lord was leading them in their unique way to enhance the Kingdom of God. Since that wonderful Monday evening's gathering, I have

received countless words of encouragement from everyone I have met on how blessed they were, and how they are looking forward to the next time the SBA gets together. What an encouraging testimony! My prayer is that we continue to uplift our fellow SBA church ministries, as collectively we share a unified message of God's love to our community. I want to express a heartfelt thank you to all who made the evening such a huge success – the Flint Baptist Church staff and volunteers, Texas Baptist and Southern Baptist of Texas Convention representatives, our guest exhibitors, staff and members of our SBA churches who attended, and most of all - our guests, who were introduced to the SBA. All had a great time!

Pastors & Staff – Don't miss out on the initial CDFP in the AM (coffee, doughnuts, fellowship, and prayer in the morning) happening Wednesday, 8/6/25, at 8:30 am at the SBA Office on 3226 Old Jacksonville Road. Please call, text, or email your reservation to help us prepare better. See you there!

Continue to pray for the Administration Team as we seek the Lord's guidance in the DOM search process. This is a difficult yet so spiritually profound opportunity as we strive to understand the complexity of ministering through God's Church in today's world. Your prayers are vital as together we will discern His good and perfect will for the SBA.

Blessings, David

Are you looking for a way to reach-out in your community?
Here's some ideas



Smith Baptist Association
Ministry Opportunities
Is your church looking for a Mission Outreach Opportunity?

AMAZON OUTREACH
The Amazon Outreach program is a unique way to reach the underserved communities of the Amazon basin. Participants are trained in basic life skills, health care, and evangelism. This program is currently accepting applications for the next cohort.

CHURCHES SERVING SCHOOLS
Churches are invited to partner with local schools to provide after-school programs, tutoring, and other educational services. This initiative aims to support students and strengthen the church's presence in the community.

BSM
The Baptist Sunday Morning (BSM) program is a weekly gathering for church members and guests. It includes worship, teaching, and fellowship. Applications for new members are welcome.

Bible Drill
A Speakers' Tournament where churches compete by sending teams to participate in Bible knowledge quizzes. This is a great way to engage members and promote biblical literacy.

THE FOSTERING COLLECTIVE
A network of churches and individuals who foster and adopt children. This program provides a loving home for children in need and supports the families involved.

FREEDOM SEEKERS
A program that provides spiritual and practical support to refugees and immigrants. This includes language classes, job training, and pastoral care.

CHRISTIAN WOMEN'S JOB CORPS
A program specifically designed for women, offering job training, mentorship, and support in various fields. This initiative helps women gain employment and financial independence.

 <p>August 5th Rev. Abel Urieta Semilla de Mostaza</p>	<p>August 12th Rev. Sedrick Moore St. Paul Baptist</p>
<p>August 17th Rev. Brandon Holiski Southern Oaks Baptist</p>	<p>August 18th Rev. Jason White Colonial Hills Baptist</p>

Congratulations, Dr. Ron Klingsick, on your retirement as Pastor of Emmanuel Baptist Church, Arp. Dr. Ron served for 31 years. May God continue to bless you and your family in the days and weeks ahead.

Sincerely, Smith Baptist Association



★ TEXAS BAPTISTS[®] ANNUAL CHURCH PROFILE

As we prepare for the 2025 Annual Church Profile (ACP)

Did you know that ACP helps to...

- See the movement of God across Texas and beyond
- Inform churches of trends in attendance, giving, professions of faith and baptisms
- Give churches access to historical records
- Determine messenger representation at both Texas and National Annual Meetings.
- And more!

There are two easy ways you can complete your church's ACP:

- Fill out the form online starting **August 1**
- Request a personalized paper booklet by **Monday June 16**

If you would like to download a blank copy of the ACP to gather information before using the online form, one will be available to download at txb.org/acp on **August 1st**.

If you will be returning the paper copy and not using the online format please select the button below. Be sure to indicate the requesting Church Name and City in the email.

[Request a paper booklet](#)

Revive

A STUDY ON BIBLICAL LAMENT

Praying our way back to hope & healing
Written & taught by Leslie Bowers & Carye Gillen

Tuesdays
August 5th, 12th & 19th
9:30am, 6:30pm, Online

Join Leslie Bowers and Carye Gillen as they walk you through Revive! This three week study will teach you how to pray your way back to hope and healing through difficult and heavy seasons.

903-525-1141 GABC Women's Office

sbtc
annual
church profile (acp)

ACP 2025 information will
be announced late
summer/early fall

Coffee
Donuts
Fellowship
Prayer in the A.M.

You are invited to attend



Wednesday, Aug. 6th • 8:30 • SBA Office
3226 Old Jacksonville Hwy., Tyler, TX 75701

**RSVP by Aug. 4 to 903-581-6139
or paula@smithbaptist.org**

Call to Prayer & Fasting Among our SBC

1st Thursday of the month

Monthly Focus of Collective Prayer

Broken Before The Throne Prayer Ministry

<https://bibt.church/index.html>

FOCUS: Revival of our Churches
Spiritual Awakening for our lost masses

Up
Next

August 7, 2025

All day fast from food and / or drink.

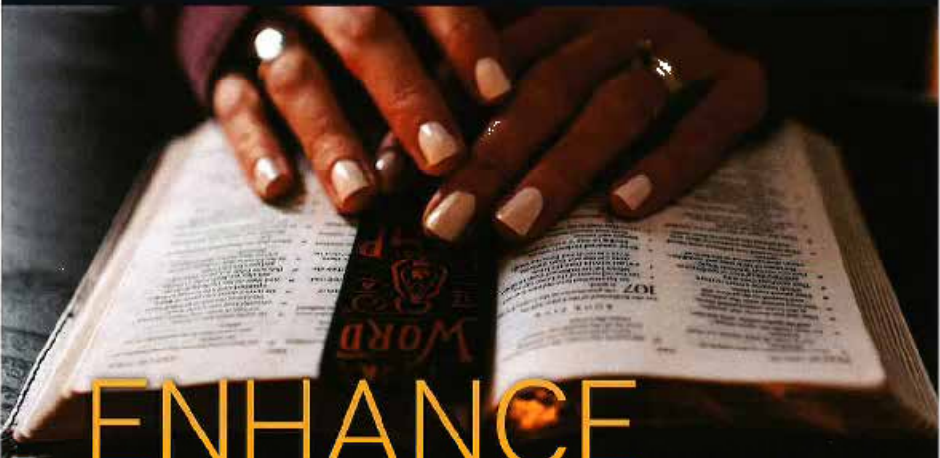
FOCUS: Seminaries & other
schools starting a new school
year this month

Oh Lord, how we need You!
Hear our humble cry; while on others Thou
art calling, please do not pass us by.

If your church has any events we can help publicize, please contact paula@smithbaptist.org. Include any printed materials you are using to promote the event. Thank you for allowing us to help.



EAST TEXAS BAPTIST UNIVERSITY



ENHANCE
YOUR SERVE

Taught by professors with both academic and practical ministry experience, the certificate program provides a foundational theological education accessible in East Texas. Whether preparing to teach a Bible study or personally exploring Scripture, the courses equip students with the resources and knowledge necessary to effectively communicate the gospel of Jesus Christ.

CERTIFICATE IN MINISTRY CLASS SCHEDULE

Tyler Site

Green Acres Baptist Church

1607 Troup Hwy, Tyler, Texas

Mondays, 6:00 - 9:00 p.m.

Site director and primary instructor

Dr. Danny Pickens

Fall Semester 2025 (Tyler)
MINS 1114, The Interbiblical Period and the Gospels Aug. 18, 25, Sep. 1, 8, and 15
MINS 1115, Acts and the Pauline Epistles Sep. 22, 29, Oct. 6, 13, and 20
MINS 1116, The General Epistles and Revelation Sep. 22, 29, Oct. 6, 13, and 20



Fall Friendship Dinner September 9th

6-8:30pm Crosswalk Conference Center

Fall Friendship Dinner is our highlight event of the year, and we are planning for 1,250 women! This is a great opportunity for you to connect with other women and also invite women from your community to come. You will enjoy a delicious dinner (served by our Deacons, staff guys, and connect group men), and an inspiring message!

Our tables are decorated with items to bless local ministries. We hope you will join in and get creative with your “gifts”. [REGISTER](#)

EAST TEXAS BAPTIST UNIVERSITY PRESENTS

THE GREAT EAST TEXAS

Hymn Sing

"O COME, LET US SING FOR JOY TO THE LORD."
-PSALM 96

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 12, 2025 | 1:30 P.M.

BAKER CHAPEL | ROGERS SPIRITUAL LIFE CENTER

CHURCH GROUPS AND CHOIRS WELCOME!

Fellowship reception immediately following

903.923.2071 | advancement@etbu.edu | www.ETBU.edu/HymnSing





Project Leader Workshop

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 13, 2025

DOORS OPEN AT 8:00 AM

YOU'RE INVITED!

Join us & bring a friend!

WE ARE SO EXCITED TO INVITE YOU TO OUR YEARLY NATIONAL OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD PROJECT LEADER WORKSHOP

P.S. YOU DON'T HAVE TO BE A PROJECT LEADER TO ATTEND! EVERYONE IS WELCOME!



SPECIAL GUEST SPEAKER
DIOANY YOSUNO
SHOEBOX RECIPIENT

DISCOVER HOW GOD USED AN OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD SHOEBOX IN HER LIFE...
"MY SHOEBOX MADE ME FEEL LIKE I HAD A FRIEND ON THE OTHER SIDE OF THE WORLD WITH A BIG, BIG HEART!"

QUESTIONS, CONTACT OUR
NECHES RIVER AREA COORDINATOR, AME THOMPSON
903-386-8839 OR AMETHOMPSON9@GMAIL.COM



MT. CARMEL
BAPTIST CHURCH
10519 FM 344 E
WHITEHOUSE, TEXAS 75791

When a disaster hits...

Be the response.

Train with Texans on Mission to respond to people in crisis after disasters.

Learn how to:

- Become a Texans on Mission Disaster Relief volunteer
- Clean out homes damaged by floods and fires
- Provide thousands of meals a day
- Cut and remove fallen trees
- Run mobile shower/laundry units
- Provide asset protection around a disaster relief site
- And more!





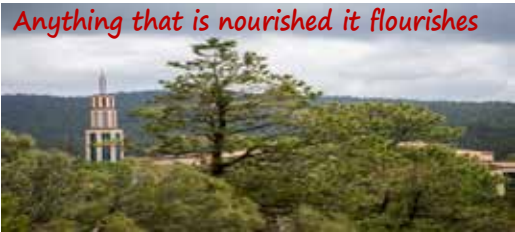
SEPTEMBER 27

Register now!

You are invited to:
The Annual Chautauqua Experience October 2025
For Ministers and Spouses 55 years and up
Glorieta Conference Center, **October 1-5 2025**,
see Aspiretoday.org for more information, cost and registration

Ministers' full time or completed full time ministry, need time away for renewal, inspiration, mindful reflection, rest from daily routines and responsibilities, fellowship with colleagues, and support in a fallen world, all essential for a ministers and spouse well-being.
Warren Wiersbe said "One needs to take spiritual time off from the demands of ministry and life"

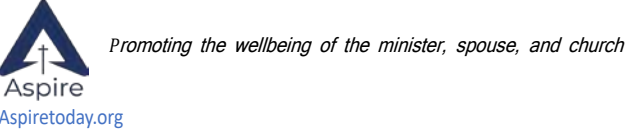
Take some spiritual time off this fall with former and new colleagues in the beautiful mountains at Glorieta, New Mexico for the **Chautauqua Experience for ministers and spouses**.
Enjoy fellowship with colleagues in the fresh cool mountain air among aspens, inspiration from well-known faith leaders, worship and music to renew and refresh one's faith.



2025 Chautauqua Conference leaders
Claude King-Experiencing God, David Apple – Engaging Prayer, Steve Stanley – Dare to Define Your Destiny
Ruby Stanley – Women breakout sessions, Randy Willis – Master life highlights, Roy Cotton-music, Ted Harvey – Pastor. Afterglow fellowships following worship services

2026 Chautauqua expands and includes:
• Churches and its members 55+
• CORE 7 for ministers/spouses 55+
• Music week: involves worship pastors, choirs, orchestras, hymn sings, praise band, gospel artists and Aspires nights of worship and celebration with afterglow fellowships
• Senior Adult minister's breakout sessions
• Dr. Michele Dean (former pastor of Travis Avenue Baptist Ft. Worth Tx will be the Pastor.
• Dr. Randy Lind will be the Music pastor for worship and director of music week,

The Chautauqua weeks once hosted by Lifeway Resources at Glorieta and Ridgecrest is revived and expanded. Hosted by The Aspire International Foundation, churches and individual sponsors bringing together a wider community of churches, known faith leaders, conference speakers, musician's, choirs and gospel artist, to minister to the 55 and up demographic for spiritual guidance, inspiration, renewal, strengthening one's faith and servanthood providing a broader connection for believers and churches for support in a fallen world.



**Hispanic Pastor/
Leadership Retreat
October 2-4, 2025**
**Iglesia Bautista Broadway
1900 N. Broadway
Tyler, Texas**
Pastoral Leadership Planning Meeting



2025 THEME: STRONG & COURAGEOUS

SPEAKERS



OCTOBER 20 & 21
PRESTONWOOD BAPTIST CHURCH

TEXT STRONG TO 74788
FOR DETAILS.

PRESTONWOODPASTORSCONFERENCE.COM

We wanted to reach out to you personally because we would love your help in inviting Pastors and Church Leaders to our upcoming Pastors Conference on October 20 and 21 here at Prestonwood. We pray that this would be a blessing to many and that God would use this conference in a mighty way.

The conference theme is Strong & Courageous from Joshua 1:9. We have an amazing lineup of keynote speakers including Pastor Jack Graham, J.P. Pokluda, Greg Laurie, Skip Heitzig and Gilberto Corredera. We'll also have a variety of breakout sessions focusing on church planting, coaching, navigating AI in ministry, creating dynamic worship experiences, reaching the next generation, and more!

We're thrilled to have English and Spanish tracks for all of our breakouts. You can find details and registration here: prestonwoodpastorsconference.com.

We are grateful for your partnership in Kingdom ministry throughout Texas, and we would love to have you partner with us in these 3 ways for the Pastors Conference:

- Pray with us. One of the big focus points of this conference will be prayer. Praying for pastors, churches, leaders, families, revival and more. Please start praying with us now for God to use this conference and do what only He can do (Ephesians 3:20–21).
- Be present. We would love to have you to join us. Register today as our Super Early Bird price of \$150 per person is only for 3 more weeks.
- Invite other pastors and church leaders.

Let us know if you have any questions and we look forward to hopefully connecting soon!

God Bless,
Jack Raymond
Minister to Pastoral Care and Connections
972-820-5512



OCTOBER 20 & 21

REGISTER NOW! LEARN MORE

THEME: STRONG & COURAGEOUS

Therefore, my beloved brothers, be steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, knowing that in the Lord your labor is not in vain.

— 1 Corinthians 15:58