

October 2025

The Connector

Smith Baptist Association
3226 Old Jacksonville Hwy.
Tyler, TX 75701 • 903-581-6139



From the Interim Director of Missions
David L. Jones

As we begin to wind down the 2025 church year, I would like to encourage each church in the SBA family to compile its annual church survey and send the report to the SBA Office. This documentation helps us evaluate our year more effectively and will serve as a guide in preparing ministry plans and budgets for the upcoming new year. I would also ask that each

Pastor and Staff member to encourage your 2026 church budget planning committee to include the SBA in their deliberation process. We are delighted to have seventy-one churches in the SBA, and we are excited as we look forward to a wonderfully rewarding new year of working together in reaching our communities with the Gospel. Collectively, we can make a difference by supporting one another in presenting a unified, positive witness that promotes the benefits of living life as a Christian.

Fall is always a significant time in the life of the church as we begin a new school year with cooler weather and all the exciting family events and holidays on the horizon. Let us be committed to ending 2025 in a prayerfully meaningful spiritual way, so that it will serve as a sound launching pad for 2026.

Especially considering the serious events that have gripped our nation in these few weeks. Many people are discussing spiritual matters and reading the Bible for the first time. They are attending our churches seeking answers for their pain, suffering, and confusion. Let us be sensitive and mindful in how we can be positive, loving, caring, and understanding as the Lord ministers through us in their time of desperation and need. Yes, the fields are white unto harvest, but let us not be too few laborers for our Lord to use. Please pray with me, "Lord, here am I, send me!"

Blessings, David



- 10-2 Rev. Mickey Matlock, Pleasant Hill BC
- 10-10 Rev. Jeremiah Dollgener, FBC Swan
- 10-13 Rev. David Mahfood, Gateway BC
- 10-20 Dr. Maurice McMillion, Faith BC
- 10-28 Rev. Mike Midkiff, Faith BC, Quitman

Happy Work Anniversary

10-1-2003 Rev. Mike Morrow
Cross Brand Church
10-5-1996 Dr. James Hawkins
Higher Heights Baptist Church
10-14-2024 Rev. Scott Moore
Tyland Baptist Church

REMEMBER
REMEMBER

ANNUAL CHURCH PROFILE TIME
AGAIN!

It's That Time Again! We at SBA want to make this as simple as possible for both conventions. Please click [HERE](#) to fill out the SBA online version and submit. The completed ACP will be sent directly to our office, and Paula will submit it to the convention that your church supports. The deadline for returning the ACP will be October 30th. If you have any questions, contact Paula at 903-581-6139.

Call to Prayer & Fasting
Among our SBC

1st Thursday of the month
Monthly Focus of Collective Prayer

Broken Before The Throne Prayer Ministry
<https://bbt.church/index.html>

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

Up Next

October 2, 2025
All day fast from food and / or drink.



THE SMITH BAPTIST ASSOCIATION ADMINISTRATIVE TEAM MET IN EXECUTIVE SESSION DURING ITS REGULARLY SCHEDULED MEETING ON MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 8, 2025, TO CONSIDER THE DIRECTOR OF MISSIONS POSITION. FOLLOWING CONSIDERABLE DISCUSSION, THE MOTION WAS MADE, SECONDED, AND ADOPTED TO OFFER THE POSITION TO DAVID L. JONES, CURRENTLY SERVING AS THE INTERIM DIRECTOR OF MISSIONS.

W. C. BROWN,
ACTING MODERATOR

THIS ACTION WILL BE PRESENTED FOR CONFIRMATION AT THE WINTER ANNUAL MEETING.

Coffee
Donuts
Fellowship
Prayer in the A.M.

You are invited to attend



SBA OFFICE - 10/01

1st Wednesday of each month at 8:30 a.m.
3226 Old Jacksonville Hwy, Tyler, TX 75701

FBC MINEOLA - 10/08

2nd Wednesday of each Month at 8:30 a.m.
204 N. Johnson St., Mineola, TX 75773

JUNTAS MENSUALES PARA PASTORES BAUTISTAS HISPANOS

SABADO, 10/11
Smith Baptist Association Office

SABADO, 11/8
Iglesia Bautista de Fe
Pastor Jose Sanchez

Para Mas Informaciones
Contactar (903) 780-7902

EAST TEXAS BAPTIST UNIVERSITY



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.

Fall 2024

MINS 1115, Acts and the Pauline Epistles
Sep. 22, 29, Oct. 6, 13, and 20

MINS 1116, The General Epistles and Revelation

Oct. 27, Nov. 3, 10, 17, and 24

WESTERN HERITAGE CHURCH RALLY

CELEBRATING
THE ANNIVERSARY
OF THE COWBOY
CHURCH
MOVEMENT.

Deadline - October 23, 2025

[REGISTRATION LINK](#)

Workshop:
Ethical Leadership in a
World without a Compass
Tuesday, Nov. 18 • 8-9 a.m.

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 16
4:00 – 6:30 P.M.
ABILENE CONVENTION CENTER
FREE ADMISSION (MEAL INCLUDED)



PHBC Kids presents:

TRUNK OR TREAT

October 29 Wednesday, 5:30pm - 7pm
Public Welcome!



Pleasant Hill
Baptist Church
13590 State Hwy
110 South, Tyler,
TX 75707

Food vendor
available

6th Annual
**TRACTOR
TREAT**

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 29
5:30 PM – 7:00 PM

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

GANDY, FOOD, TRACTOR HAYRIDES, BOUNCE HOUSES, INFLATABLES
AND SO MUCH MORE FREE FUN FOR THE WHOLE FAMILY!
KONA ICE WILL BE AVAILABLE FOR PURCHASE!
SCAN THE QR CODE FOR MORE INFORMATION!




If your church has an event 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 you!

SAVE
THE
DATE!



RSVP by
October 10th

RA TURKEY SHOOT
+ CAMPOUT

October 17-18, 2025
Timberline Baptist Camp

\$10 per person, plus \$5 per meal
(Friday dinner, Saturday breakfast and lunch)
Each group can bring any/all meals or let us provide them.
Ask your RA leader about your group's meal arrangements.

SEE YOUR RA LEADER TO REGISTER

For questions contact Kirk Acheson
903-245-7153
ra.smithbaptist@gmail.com



WE ARE AMBASSADORS FOR CHRIST

Turkey
Shoot
2025

Schedule

Friday

2:00-7:00 PM - Church groups arrive, set up camp, and horse around. We will be tent/hammock camping at Camp Kobe.
7:00 PM - Dinner
8:30 PM - Fireside chat

Saturday

Breakfast (Kirk's famous breakfast burritos)
9:00 AM - Marksmanship Events
11:30 AM - Lunch
12:30 PM - Team building challenges
-Awards/Clean up
3:00 PM -Hang out or head home

SMITH COUNTY BAPTIST
MINISTER SCHOLARSHIP

This scholarship was created through the generosity of a donor who was the child of a Baptist minister. This scholarship will be awarded to dependent children of ordained Baptist ministers serving congregations in Smith County, Texas, that are members of the Baptist General Convention of Texas.

This scholarship is awarded for one year. Recipients may reapply as long as their parent remains a Smith County Baptist Minister.

The following will be required with your on-line application:

- A screenshot of your high school or current college transcript.
- One reference completed by a teacher who has in-classroom experience with you and a character reference.
- A letter from your church stating that your parent is an ordained minister serving a congregation that is in Smith County, and a member of the Baptist General Convention of Texas.

You can start your application process at:

www.etcf.org/scholarships/available-scholarships

Sammy Joe Calhoun & Martha Jean Calhoun
Family Scholarship for Ministerial studies. Deadline is 3-1-2026.

High School Residency - graduating senior or graduate public, private high school, homeschool. Preference is given to individuals that are a member in good standing of the Smith Baptist Association.

GPA - at least 2.5 on a 4.0 scale

College/University Attending - May attend any accredited college or university in Texas.

College Major - a field related to ministerial studies that would prepare them for a career in the ministry.



Financial - FAFSA required

Length of Support - Renewable for up to 3 years or until the degree program is completed for a total of 4 years.

<https://etcf.org/scholarships/available-scholarships/>

MEN'S EVENT

FEATURING
Pastor Ron Ivey & The Labs



WORSHIP
LIKE
MEN

FOOD
&
GUY TALK



WHEN
October 11,
2025
5pm - 8pm

WHERE
First Baptist
Church Troup
Family Life Center
935 S Railroad St
Troup TX

COST
Free
Donations Accepted

PLAN NOW
Put on your calendar
TODAY & let us know you
are coming.

CONTACT
FBC Office:
903-842-3091
office@fbctroup.com
Derek: 469-713-7400

Church
Staff
Vacancies



OCT. 6-7 CONCLAVE NextGen 2025

First Baptist Church • Arlington, TX

Register Now!

MOBILIZE
TO
Multiply
ACTS 1:19-30

OCTOBER
27-28
LUBBOCK
Southeast Baptist Church

Click for Registration Information

TEXAS BAPTISTS

2025 ANNUAL MEETING

Live Out
GC2

LOVE GOD
LOVE PEOPLE
MAKE DISCIPLES

November 16-18 • Abilene Convention Center

Pre-Register Now

IGLESIAS BAPTISTAS UNIDAS DE TYLER

RETIRO DE
PASTORES

Abierto a Esposas y 2 líderes de la iglesia

- Estudio profundo en Romanos (Dr. Bill Warren, NOBTS)
- Workshop para Líderes
- Workshop para esposa de Pastor

2-4 DE OCTUBRE, 2025
IGLESIA BAPTISTA BROADWAY
TYLER, TX

MAS INFO

\$75 por pareja

(281) 221-7189

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](https://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.

Anything that is nourished it flourishes

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.

Promoting the wellbeing of the minister, spouse, and church
[Aspiretoday.org](https://aspiretoday.org)

PASTORS
CONFERENCE
WITH JACK GRAHAM

2025 THEME: STRONG & COURAGEOUS

SPEAKERS

JACK
GRAHAM

GILBERTO
CORREDERA

J.P.
POKLUDA

GREG
LAURIE

SKIP
HEITZIG

OCTOBER 20 & 21

PRESTONWOOD BAPTIST CHURCH

TEXT STRONG TO 74788
FOR DETAILS.

PRESTONWOODPASTORSCONFERENCE.COM