



The Connector

Smith Baptist Association

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

Office Hours - M-T-W 8:30 - 4:30 (Closed for lunch 11:30-12:30)

Phones answered remotely on Thursdays



**From
the
Director
of
Missions**

**David L.
Jones**

HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE SMITH BAPTIST ASSOCIATION SEMI-ANNUAL MEETING MONDAY 7-27-26 • COLONIAL HILLS BAPTIST

Together We Are One, based on Ephesians 4:1-6, was the theme for July's Semi-Annual Meeting at Colonial Hills BC here in Tyler. It was a great night of fellowship, worship, and spiritual inspiration for the SBA Church Family. Three of our own pastors shared poignant words of wisdom and encouragement on the evening's theme and scriptural foundation. Carlos Delgado of Primera Iglesia Bautista Bilingue shared that we all are dealing with hardships and difficulties, no matter what ethnicity or cultural background, and that it is the common unity and faith of the church family that helps to keep us together in pursuing God's ministries. Scott Moore of Tyland Baptist Church encouraged us that we, as His people, are to be bound together in love and purpose to uplift the name of Jesus in all that we do. He also admonished us that there is no room in our Christian witness either personally or collectively for distrust, infighting, or separation. Dr. Maurice McMillian from Faith Baptist Church, Owentown, concluded the testimonials with an excellent overview of the text that states there is but one body, one Spirit, one calling, one hope, one Lord, one faith, one baptism, and one God and Father of all. He also said that God would not send anybody to a divided family. He also admonished us that we all need revival!

The keynote address of the evening was presented by Dr. Joe Osteen, East Texas Regional Director of Baptist Student Ministries, who was formerly the BSM Director of UT Tyler. His message brought a freshness to the evening as he shared about Padre Island's Spring Break Beach Reach Ministry where 338 college students gave their lives to Christ. He informed us that the current GEN Z student population is desperately looking for churches with a genuine spirit and are true followers of the loving tenets of the Gospel. According to Joe, they are very keen and sensitive to any form of "fakeness." Therefore, we must be sincere and be committed to the Gospel that we espouse to follow. He stated, "The Gospel came to you on the way through someone else." This means that we should be doing the same thing. His address for the evening was the "bow on the present" that exemplified the purpose of the evening. Together, we can do more, accomplish greater things, and be a stronger witness in the Tyler community when we are unified as one body, serving one message, about the salvation and Lordship of the one and only true loving God!

I wish to send a heartfelt thank you to everyone who helped make the SBA July Semi-Annual Meeting such a meaningful and successful evening. May the Lord continue to shine His light upon us and bless us in His Kingdom's work here in the Tyler community, in Texas, in our nation, and around the world.

Serving Jesus, David

Rev. Jerry Calaway, Music Pastor at Colonial Hills, welcomed the forty-seven people who represented twenty-two churches and organizations throughout the Smith Baptist Association area. The meeting was called to order by Rev. Mickey Matlock, Moderator. He announced the names of the newest pastoral staff in SBA. They are as follows: Bro. Lance Larison, Pine Springs Baptist Church, Tyler; Rev. Josh Hall, Green Acres Baptist Church, Flint Campus; Rev. Mitchel Yost, FBC Hawkins, Rev. Kevin Gray, Emmanuel Baptist Church, Arp, and Rev. Scotty Short, Carmel Baptist Church, Lindale.

David Jones, Director of Missions, updated the messengers and guests regarding his recent activities in the Association.

- I helped three churches with constitution/by-laws updates, led worship, preached, and was just a guest worshipper.
- I was privileged to share in the deacon ordination services of FBC Mineola and St. Paul BC in Jacksonville.
- Bethlehem BC invited me to share in their church facility note burning worship celebration, and folks, that was exactly what happened – it was a great celebration!
- Starting in this coming September's issue of The Connector, I would like to publish a summation of all the SBA's summer missions and ministry emphasis. The report should include who, what, when, where, and a few brief sentences of the results. I think it would blow everyone's minds to see how extensively the members of our SBA Family are engaged in, and how blessed they are with an opportunity to be missionaries. To comply with this request, your church information needs to be in an electronic format and in our office by Friday, 8/21/26."

David thanked Jerry Calaway for his help with the meeting. He also wanted to recognize Jerry for his 40 years of ministry here at Colonial Hills BC. Jerry will be retiring December 31, 2026. Sue Sexton was recognized for her 23 years of service at SBA. "You have been a blessing to the SBA Family for over 23 years and have been such an inspiration to so many. Please receive this gift as a small token of appreciation for your dedication and support for the SBA Family," as he concluded his report.

The Theme of the meeting was: Together We Are One (Eph. 4:1-6). There were testimonials given by Rev. Carlos Delgado, Primera Iglesia Bautista Bilingue, Tyler; Rev. Scott Moore, Tyland Baptist Church, Tyler; and Dr. Maurice McMillian from Faith Baptist Church, Owentown. The Keynote Speaker for the evening was Dr. Joe Osteen, East Texas Regional Director, Baptist Student Ministries.

The meeting ended with the attendees singing "Bind us together, Lord, bind us together with chords that cannot be broken. Bind us together, Lord, bind us together, bind us together in Love. There is only one God. There is only one King. There is only one body. That is why we must sing."

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY		
	AUGUST					1		
2	African/American Fellowship Mtg. 6 p.m. SBA Office	3	4	5	6	7	8	
9	Admin. Team Mtg. 1 p.m. SBA Office	10	11	Coffee Donuts Fellowship Prayer in the SBA Office 8:30 a.m. Wednesday 8/26/26	12	13	14	15
16	17	P.A.V.E. So. Side BC 10-1	18	Coffee Donuts Fellowship Prayer in the SBA Office 8:30 a.m. Wednesday 8/26/26	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	On the Road So. Side BC 10-2	27	28	29	



- 8-5 Rev. Abel Urieta, Semilla de Mostaza, Tyler
- 8-12 Rev. Sedrick Moore, St. Paul Baptist, Jacksonville
- 8-17 Dr. Brandon Holiski, Southern Oaks Baptist, Tyler
- 8-18 Rev. Jason White, Colonial Hills Baptist, Tyler

PROJECT LEADER



WORKSHOP



Everybody is invited!

Whether you're a new Project Leader, Church Leader or seasoned volunteer, **this workshop is for YOU!**

SATURDAY, AUGUST 29TH
9 AM – 2 PM
MT CARMEL BAPTIST



BREAKOUT SESSIONS

Gain practical tools, share ideas, and be encouraged as we work together to reach more children with the Gospel!



LUNCH PROVIDED

Lunch will be provided by the MCBC OCC Team!



SPECIAL GUEST SPEAKERS

We are excited to welcome special guests **Mark and Cherry Brumbelow!**



MT. CARMEL
BAPTIST CHURCH
Love Serve Tell

10519 FM 344 E
Whitehouse, Texas 75791



Hear from

MARK & CHERRY BRUMBELLOW

as they share their heart and experience in ministry and mission!

"We know God has a special purpose for every shoebox."

LET'S WORK TOGETHER
TO SHARE THE
LOVE OF JESUS –
ONE SHOEBOX AT A TIME!

Scan to Register!

This will help us get a head count for lunch and breakout sessions!

Free boxes to each registered church / group!



LoveThyCity

As the world grows colder,
we're called to...



ONE
ANOTHER

AS I HAVE LOVED YOU.

**Click here to download
the
CHURCH MEDIA KIT**

The Main Event
Saturday, August 22, 2026
10:00 AM to 3:00 PM
W.T. Brookshire
Conference Center, Tyler, TX

Texans On Mission

**Disaster Relief
Awareness Day**

**Sunday, August 23rd
9-Noon**

**South Spring Baptist Church
17002 Hwy. 69S.
Tyler, TX 75703**

For more information contact
LSturrock@southspring.org

TIM MILLER
LIBERTARIAN INTERNATIONAL
FOUNDER
RETIRED
SECURITY SERVICE

GEOFF RICE
RETIRED
FEDERAL LAW
ENFORCEMENT
OFFICER
ATTENDEE
LAS VEGAS
SHOOTING

DAVID YOUNG
RETIRED FBI
EXPERT BEHAVIORAL
ANALYST

GERALD IRWIN
CHIEF OF POLICE,
LIBERTY
UNIVERSITY

RESERVE YOUR SEATS

TEXAS CHURCH SECURITY COALITION
TRAINING WORKSHOP 2026
PRACTICAL TRAINING • REAL SOLUTIONS

Expert-led Security Training
 Active Shooter Response
 Team Development
 Ministry Protection Strategies
 Fellowship & Networking

**FRIDAY & SATURDAY
AUGUST 28-29**

**CROSSWALK EVENT CENTER
GREEN ACRES BAPTIST CHURCH
1607 Troup Highway, Tyler, Texas**

REGISTER TODAY!
USE DISCOUNT CODE
EARLY26
TO RESERVE YOUR SPOT.

**SPONSORED BY
RIGHT TO BEAR
PURE PEACE OF MIND**

*Prepared Today,
Protect Tomorrow.*

If there is an Associational-wide event, please let us know so that we can put it on our calendar and help you spread the word.

Thank you for allowing us to help you.
SBA



<https://www.texansonmission.org/>

Congratulations to ♦ ♦ ♦

St. Paul Baptist Church, Jacksonville
in the Ordination of two new Deacons
Bobby Knowlton and Lee Carpenter

Rev. Derry Hinton and
David L. Jones participated in the service.
Rev. Sedrick Moore, Pastor



Coffee
Donuts
Fellowship
Prayer in the A.M.

You are invited to attend

SBA OFFICE - 8-12

2nd Wednesday of each month at 8:30 a.m.
3226 Old Jacksonville Hwy, Tyler, TX 75701

FBC MINEOLA - 8-19

3rd Wednesday of each Month at 8:30 a.m.
204 N. Johnson St., Mineola, TX 75773

**JUNTAS MENSUALES
PARA PASTORES BAUTISTAS
HISPANOS**

SABADO, 8-15
Iglesia Baustista Broadway
Pastor Frank Zea

SABADO, 9-12
Iglesia Bautista de Fe
Pastor Jose Sanchez

SABADO, 10-17
Primera Iglesia Baptist Bilingue
Pastor Carlos Delado

Para Mas Informaciones
Contactar (903) 780-7902

Sammy Joe Calhoun & Martha Jean Calhoun
Family Scholarship for Ministerial studies.
Deadline is 3-1-2027.

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/>

**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

Questions?
East Texas Communities Foundation
903.533.0208 or 1.866.533.3823

Application opens January 1, 2027, and closes March 1, 2027

SAVE THE DATE

Mark your calendars for our annual

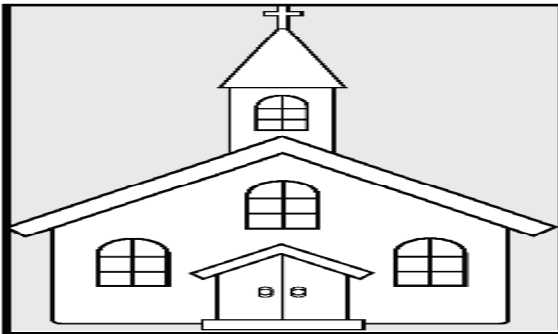
**RA TURKEY SHOOT
AND
CAMPOUT**

OCTOBER 16-17, 2026

Details to come



We are Ambassadors for Christ



**V
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UPCOMING EVENTS

• AUGUST



Texas Baptist Church Revitalization Strategy designed to help pastors customize revitalization for their context by equipping them with resources and placing them in cohorts to be trained by a coach and encouraged within a community of pastors.

For more information, contact pave@texasbaptists.org.

Tuesday, August 18, 2026

SBA and Texas Baptists are sponsoring an introduction to the PAVE Pathway: New Paths for Church Growth, in a preview discussion/ lunch setting from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. at Southside Baptist Church, 15330 FM 2493, Tyler, TX 75703. Dr. Tom Howe, Director of Church Health and Growth with Texas Baptists, will lead this SBA event. This is a prelude to an in-depth conference to be held at ETBU on September 28-30. The subjects are: Five practices to increase giving in your church. Strategies for onboarding and developing new leaders. How to share Christ in your community. Practical community engagement for your church. Registration is required - call, email, or text the SBA office.



Resource-Filled
Lunch/Workshop
for
Pastors and Staff
Thursday, August 27th
10 a.m. - 2 p.m.
Southside Baptist Church
15330 FM 2493
Tyler TX 75703

Topics to be included are

- Leadership
- Spiritual Formation/Discipleship
- Church Revitalization

This is not a conference, but a casual lunch to share resources and discuss pastoral and staff ministry issues.

The leadership team consists of Jeff Lynn, Senior Strategist for Church Health and Leadership, Phil Todd, Spiritual Formation Team Leader, and Anthony Svajda, Pastoral Ministries Associate.

This event is open to any church in the Smith Baptist Association that would like to strengthen its opportunities to enhance its ministries.

Sponsored by the Southern Baptist Convention of Texas and Smith Baptist Association

• SEPTEMBER



ANNUAL CHURCH PROFILE



CONFERENCIA DE
PASTORES
2026

DE 1-3
de Octubre de 2026

Tyler, Texas

Invitado especial:
FABIO Y MÓNICA CASTELLANOS
(NOBTS)

Tyland Baptist Church
2818 Silver Creek Drive
Tyler, TX 75702

Más información: (903) 780-7902
- Jose Sanchez

• OCTOBER

Green Acres Baptist Church
1607 Troup Hwy • Tyler, TX 75701

OCTOBER 18 • 6:00 PM
Doors 5:00 PM

TICKETS: \$10

FOR TICKETS, VISIT
www.GospelMusicHymnSing.com

OR VISIT WWW.GABC.ORG/EVENTS

For more info, call 903-525-1100

"IT'S NOT A TYPICAL CONCERT... IT'S A WORSHIP EXPERIENCE...
IT'S THE GOSPEL MUSIC HYMN SING!"

www.GospelMusicHymnSing.com

MT. CARMEL BAPTIST CHURCH
WILD GAME
Dinner

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 26TH
DOORS OPEN AT 4 PM

DOOR PRIZES
For Adults and Kids!

GUEST SPEAKER
An encouraging word for all!

SILENT AUCTION
Various Items, including Baked Goods

RAFFLE DRAWING
At end of the night!

Great Food
GOOD FELLOWSHIP,
WITH FAMILY
AND FRIENDS!

10519 FM 344 E, WHITEHOUSE, TEXAS

RAFFLE
2 DIFFERENT RAFFLES

RAFFLE # 1 (2 INDIVIDUAL DRAWINGS)

SIGP365 XMACRO
W/OPTIC COMPACT 9MM

SIG SAUER
NEVER SETTLE

RAFFLE # 2

P1913.2LCA 1911
LOADED TARGET

SPRINGFIELD
ARMORY

**MOSSBERG 840
WATERFOWL**

MOSSBERG
SINCE 1919

TICKETS
\$5 Each or
5 for \$20

DRAWING WILL BE HELD
SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 26TH
at the Wild Game Dinner
 (YOU DO NOT HAVE TO BE PRESENT TO WIN)

CHECK
PAYABLE TO: MCBC
MEMO: RAFFLE + NAME

CASH

MEMO: Raffle + Name

Mount Carmel Baptist
 Wild Game Banquet
 Saturday
 September 26, 2026
 903-839-2606
 10519 FM 344 E.
 Whitehouse, TX 75791
 Rev. Charles Hill, Pastor



Texas State W.M.U. Leadership meets to plan

Texas State W.M.U. Leadership met Friday, July 31st at Smith Baptist Association to make plans for their upcoming events. Attending the meeting was Jackie Faughn, President of Texas Baptist W.M.U., Tamiko Jones, Executive Director/Treasurer, Lynne Montgomery, Recording Secretary, and Jayne Richmond, Vice President of Texas Baptist W.M.U. David Jones, Director of Missions was also included.