



# Bigbee Baptist Association

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## Brother Brad's Box...

Hi Friends!

I trust that your 2019 has gotten off to a wonderful start! Two months have come and gone since our last newsletter, which is our regular schedule. My mother told me that time flies as you get older. I just thought I would be a lot older before time started starting going this fast!

Time. What is it? We each have the same twenty-four hours in our days. We fill those hours with any number of things that are good, bad, and indifferent. We sleep away a full third of our lives. That leaves two-thirds that we use for everything else.

When we were young, our parents and other adults in our lives dictated the fullness of our days somewhat. But as we grew and began to make our own choices and demands, our schedules changed. And, sometimes, so did we.

Take your checkbook for instance. Chances are that the thing or place you see written in your checkbook most often is the very thing that is most important to you, whether you realize it or not.

Now look at your clock, your schedule, or your calendar. The very things that fill your hours are the things that you consider to be the most important. Think about that. Just one hour, perhaps two, on average, are spent by God's children in His house every week. That should concern us greatly.

While sitting in a church makes you no more a Christian than sitting in a garage makes you a car, it certainly makes the difference in your week. As I've heard said, "I don't have to go to church to be a Christian!" This is true. You don't have to wear a parachute to jump out of an airplane either, but it certainly helps.

I'm not preaching, just sharing what has become much more of a great concern to me. If God's people aren't in His house, then where are they? How do we, those the world needs to so desperately see loving on them, spend our time? I'll be the first to tell you that a "quiet time" can be had anywhere at any time. Bible study is necessary as well, and everyone has their own schedule for that too.

But when is the last time you actually thought about how you choose to spend your time? And yes, I said 'choose'. It is our choice. Dr. Benjamin E. Mays is credited with writing a short poem that I learned as a kid. It goes like this...

I have only just a minute, Only sixty seconds in it.  
Forced upon me, can't refuse it. Didn't seek it, didn't choose it.  
But it's up to me to use it.  
I must suffer if I lose it. Give account if I abuse it.  
Just a tiny little minute, but eternity is in it.

A minute is just a short period of time. And then, if we admit it, so is a lifetime. How are you spending yours? As you pray for your year ahead, I hope you will include the activities of our Association in your list. Aside from going into the highways and byways to share the Good News, gatherings of God's people in God's house to worship Him are some of the best ways to spend our time. Don't you agree?

P.S. We need representatives from your churches to be at our quarterly Associational Executive Committee meetings. This is the time we share calendars, events, and activities you need to be aware of.

With much admiration and prayer,  
--Brad

## Calendar of Events

### MARCH

- 3-10 Week of Prayer for North American Missions and Annie Armstrong Easter Offering
- 4 Pastors Conference, 10:30 a.m., BBA Office
- 9 Wild Game Night, Christian Valley, 5:30 p.m.
- 10 DAYLIGHT SAVING TIME BEGINS

### APRIL

- 1 Pastors Conference, 10:30 a.m., BBA Office
- 4-6 State Disaster Relief Training, Disaster Relief Center, Prattville, AL
- 9 Associational Bible Drill, 2:00 p.m., BBA Office
- 14 Executive Committee Meeting, 2:00 p.m., BBA Office
- 15 District Bible Drills, Fairhaven BC, Demopolis  
3:30 p.m. Check-In, 4:00 p.m. Bible Drills
- 21 EASTER SUNDAY

### MAY

- 5 Associational VBS Clinic, 2:00 p.m., BBA Office
- 16 Senior Adult Rally, 10:30 a.m., Cuba
- 21 Deacon/Pastor/Spouse Conference, 6:30 p.m., Siloam

## Wild Game Supper

Saturday, March 9

5:30 p.m.—Christian Valley Baptist Church

Speaker: Dr. Sammy Gilbreath, Evangelism Director, ALSBOM

FREE \* Door Prizes \* Food Other than Wild Game too!

## Mark your calendar for the Associational VBS Clinic Training



Sunday, May 5

2:00 p.m.

BBA Office

### CHURCH NEWS...

Bible Study with Dr. Raymond Leake, March 10-13, 6:00 p.m. At York Baptist Church.

### TIME CHANGE

"Spring Forward" on March 10, 2019