

BOOK *of* REPORTS

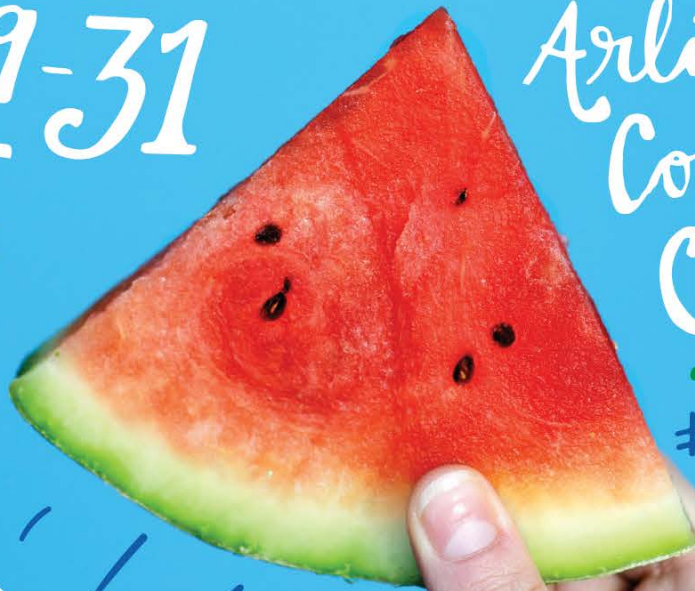
TEXAS BAPTISTS

FAMILY GATHERING

July 29-31
2018

Arlington
Convention
Center

#TXBFamily



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2018 has been a year of progress, conversation and exploration for our Texas Baptist family. I'm prayerful and hopeful about the future of our collective mission and ministry work in this state and beyond.

Over one year ago we initiated a partnership with the Baptist Convention of Brazil to mutually support indigenous missionaries along the Amazon. Under the leadership of our own Jair Campos, this mission work has grown to almost 50 "Texas Baptists" missionaries and we are seeing much fruit. If you are interested in participating in this partnership contact our office.

Earlier this year, under the leadership of Great Commission Team Director, Delvin Atchison, a new Director of Evangelism was named. I'm so pleased that Dr. Atchison and his team were led by the Lord to appoint Dr. Leighton Flowers to this significant role. As a Convention of churches, we certainly do want to see the people of Texas come to a saving faith in Jesus Christ. No one is more capable, called and prepared to lead us in this effort than Leighton. Please invite Dr. Flowers to come to your church. He will train and motivate your congregation to do the work of evangelism.

Every year we continue to start new churches. Dr. Josue Valerio, has been exploring how to broaden our church starting models so we can start more healthy churches who will in turn start healthy churches. Currently we have 1000+ churches across the 5-year spectrum of starting. This means they are somewhere between just beginning or about to rotate out of our funding. Well done Texas Baptists! We are making progress! But there's more work to be done.

This year we began exploring how the BGCT, working with, in and through our affiliated child-care partners, can more effectively address the Foster Care problem in Texas. The need is very real. Our partners are doing great work in this area, as are some of our churches. However, there is much more we can and should be doing. So, please "stay-tuned" and join us in praying for open doors and good solutions. We can and will make a positive difference. If this issue strikes a chord with you please contact our offices and join us in doing this good work.

Earlier this year I addressed our Executive Board with an idea which has led to conversations about our Annual Meetings. The idea was simple: One year have a meeting like we are currently doing. However, the next year instead of a Convention, have a strong and powerful Evangelism and Discipleship Conference. I mention this to you to simply ask for your prayers. I've been a Texas Baptist most of my life and know that we want to be about the business of the Great Commission. This conversation is ongoing and you will be hearing more about it soon.

Also, many of our churches have begun to send their own missionaries in addition to the traditional support they provide to our historic partners. Between the process we've supported for years, to the new MAP work with Brazil (and new, emerging partners) to church based mission sending, it's clear that our churches want to see the world come to faith in Christ and are pursuing many options and methods to make that happen. As a Convention we exist to help you and your church fulfill the command of Acts 1:8 however The Lord leads you.

I've been looking forward to this year's Family Gathering ever since we all met in San Antonio in 2013. Thanks for being a part of this great cooperative work and I'm anxious for us to gather again in Waco in 2019!

In Christ,

David Hardage



**DAVID
HARDAGE**
Executive
Director

**BECKY
BROWN**
Executive
Assistant



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BAPTIST GENERAL CONVENTION OF TEXAS

MAJOR ACTIONS OF THE EXECUTIVE BOARD SINCE THE LAST SESSION OF THE ANNUAL MEETING INCLUDED:

Approved the 2017 proceedings on the 132nd Annual Session of the Baptist General Convention of Texas that met November 12-14, 2017 in Waco, Texas.

APPROVED THE FOLLOWING ACTIONS FROM THE AUDIT COMMITTEE

Recommendation to Secure 2017 Independent Auditor

Approved the firm Weaver conduct the financial audit for the year 2017. Such audit is estimated to cost \$49,500 based on a one-year contract.

APPROVED THE FOLLOWING ACTIONS FROM THE COMMITTEE ON NOMINATIONS FOR BOARDS OF AFFILIATED MINISTRIES

Recommendation to Approve Change to the UMHB Board of Trustees

Approve the change to the University of Mary Hardin-Baylor Board of Trustees to move the following trustee currently serving in a board-elected position into a BGCT-elected position: Anne Halbert First Baptist Church – Waco, TX.

Recommendation to Approve Change to the Baylor Scott & White-Hillcrest Board of Trustees

Approved the change to the Baylor Scott & White-Hillcrest Board of Trustees to move the following trustee currently serving in a board-elected position into a BGCT-elected position: Paul McClinton Columbus Avenue Baptist Church – Waco, TX.

APPROVED THE FOLLOWING ACTIONS FROM THE FINANCE COMMITTEE

Recommendation for 2018 Proposed Budget

1. Approved a budget for 2018 of \$37,135,129 from the following sources of revenue:

Texas Cooperative Program \$ 29,600,000
Investment Income 4,650,000
Net Texas Budget 34,250,000
North American Mission Board 300,000
Conference and booth fees 1,819,358
Product sales 614,731
Other revenue 151,040
Total Texas Budget \$37,135,129

2. Approved that the percentage allotment of the adopted budget continue at 79% BGCT – 21% Worldwide, with each church selecting the recipient(s) of the Worldwide portion.

Recommendation for 2018 Texas World Mission Initiatives and Partnership Allocations

Approved a 2018 proposed allocation of \$1,161,000 of Cooperative Program Texas Worldwide Missions Initiatives and Partnerships as follows:

Missions and Partnerships

Missions Mobilization \$ 363,000
River Ministry & Mexico Endeavors 219,000
Texas Partnerships 136,000
Baptist World Alliance 75,000
Intercultural International Initiatives 69,000
Go Now Missions 194,000

Texas Baptist Initiatives

Hispanic Education Task Force 51,000
Chaplaincy 54,000 Total \$ 1,161,000

Recommendation for Church Start Funding

Approved \$350,000 of the investment income from the J.K. Wadley Mission Fund be allocated as needed to fund church starts.

Recommendation for Loan to Baptist University of the Americas

Approved a loan to Baptist University of the Americas in the amount of \$1 million with the following requirements: 1. Principal amount is due in 10 years 2. No interest during the first five years 3. Interest at 5% per annum during the remaining five years 4. For each net additional \$1,000,000 in endowment funds raised by BUA during the first five years, interest on the loan will be reduced by 1% to a maximum reduction of the full five percent. Further, we recommend the loan be funded from the BGCT Wills and Trusts Distributions Reserve Fund with the eventual principal and interest repayments being returned to this fund

Recommendation for University of Texas BSM Property

Approved: Page 2 of 2 1. the sale of the property at 2204 San Antonio Street, Austin, Texas for approximately \$8.6 million to Lincoln Ventures or their assignee. 2. the BGCT to purchase up to 14,000 square feet of ministry and office in the new building to be built at that address at a price not to exceed \$200 per square foot. The purchased space is to be structured as a condominium type legal arrangement. 3. the BGCT to pay closings costs, lease temporary space, finish out the purchased space, and purchase furniture for the new space from the proceeds of the sale at a total cost not to exceed \$2.1 million 4. at completion of the project invest remaining proceeds of at least \$3.8 million in a Board Designated endowment benefitting Baptist Student Ministry. Further, we approve David Hardage, Steve Vernon or Jill Larsen to sign all documents needed to sell the above referenced property, purchase the new property, and lease temporary space.

Recommendation for Funding of Campus Missionary Interns

Approved \$100,000 of current income from the J.K. Wadley Mission Fund be used to fund Campus Missionary Interns in 2018.

Recommendation for Funding to Replace Church Relationship Management Software

Approved the Salesforce software implementation with capital expenditure funding from 5 Board Designated funds at a total implementation cost of \$675,000.

Recommendation to reallocate 2017 JK Wadley Endowment Fund Earnings

Approved \$454 thousand of available JK Wadley Endowment Fund earnings be allocated to 2018 needs as follows:

| | |
|--|-----------|
| Houston Area Missionary..... | \$100,000 |
| Collegiate Ministries for Building Maintenance... .. | \$100,000 |
| Bounce..... | \$100,000 |
| Western Heritage..... | \$100,000 |
| Missionary to Muslims..... | \$54,000 |
| Total..... | \$454,000 |

Recommendation to revise Cooperative Program and Special Mission Offering giving options (Joint recommendation from the Administrative & Finance Committees)

Approved removal of Cooperative Baptist Fellowship (CBF) as a Cooperative Program giving option and further recommend the removal of CBF Global Missions as a giving option on the BGCT Gift Remittance Form.

APPROVED THE FOLLOWING ACTIONS FROM THE INSTITUTIONAL RELATIONS COMMITTEE

Recommendation to change the relationship between the Baptist General Convention of Texas and Baptist Community Services of Amarillo

Approved that the relationship between the Baptist General Convention of Texas and Baptist Community Services of Amarillo be changed from an affiliated relation to a relationship by special agreement.

Recommendation to approve the changes in the Dallas Baptist University Certificate of Formation

Approved the Certificate of Formation changes proposed by Dallas Baptist University with the understanding that clarification detailed in the letter from President Adam C. Wright be included in the next restatement of the Certificate of Formation proposed for the coming year.



**DELVIN
ATCHISON**
Director

DEBY MILLER
Administrative
Assistant

Conversations are essential in life. They happen daily. Conversations occur on multiple levels. Friend to friend. Family member to family member. Father to son. Son to father. Heavenly Father to believer. Believer to the lost.

Our Great Commission Team is second to none in being on the receiving end of countless conversations, while also leading out in creating conversations that speak into the decisive elements of Discipleship, Evangelism and Music & Worship. We operate daily with the instruction of Colossians 4:6 as it states, "Let your conversation be always full of grace, seasoned with salt, so that you may know how to answer everyone." (NIV)

How incredibly significant that we focus our lives and ministries on conversations – the accumulation of words woven together with a divine purpose – since the Gospel of John begins by assuring us that "In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God." (John 1:1) And, again in verse 14 "The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us," Our words are incredibly important because we represent The Word made flesh.

As you glance through the reports to follow, please know that they represent the efforts of every member of our Great Commission Team, giving voice to their personal calling in the areas of Discipleship, Evangelism and Music & Worship.

Join the conversation.

It seems that every year as we talk about what happened over the previous 12 months, we inevitably say, "This was an unusual year." But, every new challenge and opportunity only helped us realize that it is not our work, but God's.

I hope you read the following stories and information as we reflect on the pleasure that is ours to serve the Lord by serving Texas Baptists.

Preschool and Children's Ministry

To some, Preschool and Children's Ministries are either glorified babysitting or fun and games! But, what are the achievers saying?

The BGCT Preschool and Children's Ministry Certification program gave me the opportunity to further my education in ministry at my pace. It helped me develop relationships with other ministers and allowed me to grow in my faith and confidence. It was a pleasure and privilege to attend and complete the certification program! (LeeAnn Smith, FBC Killeen)

When we only measure by numbers, we are missing out on the families who have been changed through the ministry. But, numbers are important because they represent people. We had a total of 940 participate in the following: Preschool and Children's Ministers Retreat, Special Friends Retreat, Certification Program and Childhood and Family Ministry Summit.

I am proud to be a Texas Baptist because of the tremendous value we put on the Preschool and Children's Ministry of the church!

Adult Discipleship - We focus on providing tools, resources, training, and encouragement to churches, ministers, and volunteers who work with adults in a variety of areas, including, but not limited to: Adult Sunday School/Small Group Teachers and leaders; Senior Adult and Boomer Ministry leaders; Single Adult Leaders; Marriage and Family Ministry Leaders; and Ministers of Education. Here are some of the ways we saw impact in this ministry in the last year:

2017 National Boomer Ministry Conference, "Catch the Boomer Wave", held at Park Cities Baptist Church in Dallas. We had approximately 250 total attendees from 14 states, Canada, and Australia attend, encouraging them as they seek to reach and effectively minister to this huge group of adults that are entering their retirement years at the rate of 10,000 per day, every day, through 2029.

TBE Retreat - An annual event, planned by and for Texas Baptist Educators that is designed as a relaxing yet educational getaway. In 2017, 85 were present and enjoyed a session entitled **"Christian Education meets Real Life"**, a discussion of ethics, church administration, evangelism, marriage, and leadership.

Sunday School Training and Speaking Engagements - I had the opportunity to lead training/speaking engagements in 30+ churches and or associations, consulted with numerous pastors and educators, provided demographic information and planning tools to 40+ churches, and much more.

Pre-Marriage Assessment tools: Began development of a plan to allow any pastor who is looking for a top-notch Pre-Marriage assessment tool to have free access to the normally \$200 facilitator training for SYMBIS, **"Saving Your Marriage Before It Starts"**, by Les & Leslie Parrott.

Youth Discipleship - Many of our churches seek to connect the generations, and FBC Clifton provides a model. I enjoyed the opportunity to present research, information, and ideas to 80 adults of all ages gathered around tables. The next week, they participated in ice-breakers and activities with the youth group to get to know each other and make connections. There is much excitement in that congregation!



PHIL MILLER
Associate
Director, Great
Commission
Team/
Discipleship
Team Lead

KEITH LOWRY
Adult Sunday
School/Single
Adults/Family
Ministry/Senior
Adult Specialist

JANE WILSON
Youth Ministry
Specialist

DIANE LANE
Preschool/
Children/Special
Needs Specialist

DEBY MILLER
Administrative
Assistant

SHERYL PAGE
Adult
Discipleship
Ministry
Assistant

SARAH JOHNSON
Preschool/
Children
Discipleship
Ministry
Assistant

BEKA MULLINS
Youth
Discipleship
Ministry
Assistant



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**LEIGHTON
FLOWERS**
Team Lead /
Apologist

**JASON
RICHARDS**
Super Summer
Specialist

**CYNTHIA
ATHERTON**
Lead Ministry
Assistant
Evangelism

**DAVID
GONZALEZ**
Hispanic
Evangelism
/ Congreso
Ministry
Assistant

**LINDSEY
BROWN**
Youth
Evangelism
Ministry Program
Coordinator

The Vision for Evangelism

The hard fact is that most Christians do not share their faith or invite the lost to attend church.

LifeWay Research reported in 2012 that 61% of Christians had not shared their faith in the previous six months; in 2014 that number rose to 78%. Furthermore, 59% of Christians have not invited an unchurched person (one who does not regularly attend church) to church.

Yet, most church leaders and members surveyed believe they and their churches are intentionally evangelistic. They hear the slogans, see the programs, participate in the events and therefore conclude that they and their churches have a vision and intention for reaching the lost. But slogans are not a vision and programs do not invite people to engage with Christ, only the people can do that.

Because evangelism depends upon the involvement of individuals, our vision for the Evangelism team must start with the individual, not the denomination or even the local church. Our vision must comprise of a specific strategy to move individuals from passive participants in programs and events to engaged personal evangelists. We must assist churches to disciple individuals in how to share the gospel and discover the necessity of incorporating evangelism in their daily lives. In short, our vision is...

To challenge, equip and train Texas Baptists, by the power of the Holy Spirit, to passionately fulfill God's call to reach all people with the gospel of Jesus Christ.

In the Great Commission, Jesus called each one of us to be a disciple-making witness (Matt 28:19-20; Acts 1:8). His commission to "go" means that one is to live with the purpose of sharing Christ as part of daily life. Church leaders must challenge church members not to be content with passive attendance but help them discover the joy of reaching others for Christ.

To assist churches in training individuals with engaging the lost, the Evangelism Team created five regions within the Lone Star State. Each region is served by a Regional Evangelism Associate. These Evangelism Associates, along with our Hispanic Evangelism Specialist and our African American Evangelism Specialist, are tasked with the work of connecting with churches and associations to provide evangelism consultation, encouragement, and training in evangelism. This will allow for a greater number of churches to be assisted and equipped to engage their communities with the gospel.

The statewide prayer initiative known as Pray 4 Every Home assists churches to engage their communities, one home at a time. Take the 4xFour Challenge assists Texas Baptists congregations in overcoming the insouciance to personal evangelism.

Our Apologetics ministry continues to help believers remove the obstacles to evangelism created by a rapidly changing culture and secularized society. KidsFaith continues to assist parents in fulfilling the Great Commission in their respective homes, equipping them to talk with their children in matters of faith. Our adult and youth evangelism conferences have reached hundreds with the gospel message, while inspiring, motivating, and equipping thousands to fulfill the Great Commission in their respective mission fields.

The Music & Worship team is here to help and encourage Texas Baptist churches by offering consulting to the Worship Pastor, Senior Pastor and Music Search Committees. Our prayer and desire is to be an encouragement to the church and worship leadership. In addition to consultations, we offer several training events for the church music and worship leadership throughout the year. Some of these are:

Children's Worship University (CWU)

Our premier children's choir/children's worship/children's week-day preschool music training event was held in January at First Baptist Richardson. Expert clinicians from all over the nation led and trained Texas Baptists from across our state with the theme, "Piece by Piece". Kimberly Ingram was the keynote speaker. We continue to attract registrants from all over the nation and even had two ladies from Ontario, Canada. Kelly King told us that she received so many great things three years ago for their children's choir of over 100 members that they had to come back!

Worship Summits

Worship Summits took place on the campuses of East Texas Baptist University, and The University of Mary Hardin-Baylor. Summits offer a day of inspiration, fellowship and networking primarily for the Worship Pastor and Church Music major. The keynote address at UMHB was John Bolin, Minister of Worship & Arts at Houston's First Baptist Church.

Instrumental Convergence

In this one-day training event, church orchestra players come together for a time of inspiration with a nationally known clinician. Composer/Arranger, Richie Kingsmore, led our 2017 event at Tallowood Baptist Church in February.

Handbell Festival

This past year's festival was at Trinity Baptist in Kerrville with almost 100 ringers from 12 churches participating under the direction of Stevie Berryman of Houston.

Singing Men of Texas

Six chapters and 604 men comprise the Singing Men of Texas. The Singing Men of Texas are looking forward to a combined trip to New York City this Fall. They will sing in Carnegie Hall and Central Park and partner in mission activity with the Metropolitan New York Baptist Association.

Singing Women of Texas

Eight chapters and 363 ladies make up the Singing Women of Texas. Plans are being made for a 25th anniversary recording and combined celebration concert next Summer at the University of Mary Hardin-Baylor.

Social Media Presence

Our social media presence in Texas Baptists Music & Worship continues to grow. As an example, the Facebook page for TXBmusicandworship has grown 1,400 percent in the past two years!

Thank you for your support and continuing to spread the word!

Follow us social media!

Facebook TXBmusicandworship

Instagram Txbmusicandworship

Twitter TXBmusicworship



TOM TILLMAN
Music &
Worship Lead

KAREN WITCHER
Ministry Program
Coordinator



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**R. JOSUE
VALERIO**
Director

STACEY RICE
Lead Ministry
Assistant

This report informs and celebrates what God is doing through the Missions Team in partnership with local churches and Texas Baptists. We live and minister with a sense of mission that God has chosen His people (the church) to make known among every people group the good news of Jesus Christ. We are excited to be a part of the mission of God and to have passion in loving the Lord and our neighbors. Missions is about making an impact in the name of Jesus in our communities, our state, the US, and the world. We like to develop a missions' partnership with you and your church for sustainable impact as we minister together in bringing the gospel that is the power of God for salvation to everyone who believes.

The Missions Team, through the different ministry programs, and in collaboration with churches and church organizations, have seen over 27,900 professions of faith, and 6,690 baptisms. Currently we are working with over 1,000 new church plants through the traditional church starting program (400) and the house/Philippi churches among the prison system (600). We rejoice with you in the many lives that are being transformed and the disciples that are being formed. Some of the ministry programs that are part of the Missions Team are: River Ministry/Mexico Missions, Multi-Housing/House Congregations/Philippi Churches, BOUNCE, Missionary Adoption Program (MAP), Church Starting, Hope 1:8 Experience, Urban Missions/Partnerships, Texas Baptist Missionaries, Missions Grants, and Minister of Missions. You will read a snapshot in each one of the programs' reports regarding information, opportunities and resources that are made available thanks to your church's support of CP and The Mary Hill Davis Offering.

We would like to provide a customized approach to you and your church as you are obedient to the Great Commission. We have contacts with sister churches, conventions, and missions' organizations around the world for each church member of BGCT to connect, be equipped, and engage with God's mission.

We believe that connecting, equipping the church, and engaging with God's mission is a learning process over time and not just a series of events. Our experience has shown us that training/equipping in missions needs to be connected to prayer, the harvest, and the challenges faced in today's world by the church and every follower of Jesus Christ. So, regardless of the size of a church, its budget, and building or no building, the Lord has called all churches to engage in His mission of transformation. We want to partner with you and your church in the fulfillment of the Great Commission and the Great Commandment.

By August 1, 2017 **BOUNCE Student Disaster Recovery** had established a schedule for the 2018 ministry year. However, the events of August 25, led to a significant schedule change. **Hurricane Harvey** made landfall at approximately 10 PM in Rockport, Texas as a category 4 storm with winds topping 130 MPH. For a period of 5 days a combination of winds and record rainfall battered the Gulf Coast Region of Texas.

The **BOUNCE Advisory Team** felt it was imperative we revise our 2018 schedule to respond to the catastrophic events associated with Harvey. After touring the **Harvey Affected Areas** and seeing the devastation along Texas' Gulf Coast, there was no doubt there would be plenty of opportunities for **BOUNCERS** to restore **HOPE**; rebuild **COMMUNITIES**; and reflect **CHRIST**. It is for this purpose **BOUNCE** exist.

BOUNCE began it's 2018 ministry year by mobilizing just under 500 **BOUNCERS** from 24 Texas Baptist Churches to the Houston area for Spring Break **BOUNCE**. Twenty-seven ministry projects were tackled for the week which included drywall removal and installation; floor, door, and cabinet installation; debris removal; siding repair; and much more. Approximately 14,310 man-hours of work were completed.

Gay Stevens' home of 32 years received 4 feet of water during Harvey. She and her husband cleaned out their retirement fund to clean up as best they could. During Spring Break of 2018 her home was flooded with **BOUNCERS** from **First Baptist Church Tyler** and **Mimosa Lane Baptist Church of Mesquite** to assist with recovery efforts. Through her tears, Stevens said of the **BOUNCERS**, "I'm so proud of them. They're my heroes. This group has offered me hope, and I can see we can re-do it, and move on."

In addition to the hands-on mission service, **BOUNCERS** conducted 47 spiritual conversations in the community; presented the Gospel 37 times; saw 15 people trust Christ; and completed 150 other intentional acts of kindness.

BOUNCE also mobilized students for 5 Summer Missions throughout the **Harvey Affected Areas** of Texas's Gulf Coast.



DAVID SCOTT
Director

GLORIA TILLMAN
Ministry Assistant



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BAPTIST GENERAL CONVENTION OF TEXAS



PAUL ATKINSON
Director

JOHN SILVA
West Texas

NOE TREVINO
South Texas

MATEO RENDON
North Central Texas

CLAY JACOBSON
Northeast Texas

THOMAS REVILLA
Central Texas

DUSTIN PAYNE
Southeast Texas

TERRY LYNCH
Ministry Assistant

JULIE GALINDO
Ministry Assistant

Impact Church had a great time on Christmas Eve. This year, instead of doing a normal worship service for Christmas Eve, we decided to sing a few songs together and then drop off baked goods and love on some nursing homes, fire stations and police departments in our community. It was really neat to see our people being outwardly focused.

2018 has been special for Impact so far. The past six weeks, we have been averaging right at 100 people on Sunday mornings! In January, I did a sermon series called, "Words that Give Life." As a church, we read through a Proverb a day on our own. I received such good feedback from our people getting into the Word throughout the month, that we decided to read through the book of Matthew during the month of February.

Small Groups

In January, we kicked off our home small groups. We have 5 adult small groups meeting weekly now. Our youth group is meeting in a home weekly as well.

Baptism

On January 28th, Impact had its first baptism! We have had a couple more decisions since then, so we are planning on baptizing again soon.

Impact 101

In the beginning of the year we had our first new member class after the service. Other than our charter members, who were a part of the launch team, this was the first opportunity for people to officially join.

Thank you for your constant support, encouragement and prayers. I can't wait to see how God continues to work in Impact Church!

This is but one example of how all our new church plants communicate to us, God's call by telling us their visions, values and goals. In Impact Church's case God has blessed in some very specific and wonderful ways. They have ministered to their community, they've learned what it means to personally dig into God's Word, they've started small group Bible studies. In the first 3 months of 2018 they have seen 6 Professions of Faith and 3 Baptisms. Because of this they have been able to start a new members class which has placed this church on a path to becoming a strong church within our Texas Baptists Family.

This is one of 412 churches that the Church Starting Team is currently working within our 5 year process; to which we have a 94% success rate. Combined these churches have had 21,001 Professions of Faith and 5,743 Baptisms. They have given \$2,441,682.00 to the Cooperative Program.

We are currently working with Church Planting Centers in El Paso, Birdville, Fort Worth and Belton. These Centers are residency programs that work to coordinate training in Assessment, Formation, Leadership, Strategy and Support to prepare future Church Planters to start successful Church Plants.

Through Texas Baptists Missions' new partnership with the Brazilian Baptist Convention, the Missionary Adoption Program partners churches in the US with churches in a host country to jointly sponsor a missionary. These missionaries focus on evangelism, discipleship, and church planting. Local Baptist conventions, associations and fellowships provide training, support, and regular check-ins. With MAP, Texas Baptists participate directly in planting churches among the nations. Any Texas Baptist can pray for a missionary by name, give directly to that missionary, engage the field by going and working alongside the missionary and mobilize others by sharing about MAP with family, friends, and their church.

The Missionary Adoption Program is moving forward with great excitement and experiences for what God has done and is going to do. Since its beginning, we are seeing a growing number of churches, church groups and individuals adopting one, two, and more missionaries. Many types of churches have adopted missionaries, like new church start Igreja Batista Ebenezer in Hidalgo who adopted missionaries Gutemberg and Raquel Oliveira. This missionary couple is planting a church in the community called Moreira, located in the Amazon, Brazil. In the case of IB Ebenezer, Pastor Samuel Rivera shares constantly how their step of faith in adopting 2 missionaries with \$300.00 per month, while still facing economic challenges as a new church with little financial means, experiences the joy of planting a new church in the depths of the Amazon.

Frelsburg Baptist Church has also been supporting 2 missionaries, Alysson and Miria Reis, who are working among the Nyengatu Tribe, also in the Amazon. In July of 2017, Pastor Gary Henneke, departed on a flight from Houston to Manaus, took a single engine airplane on to Sao Gabriel da Cachoeira, then a small boat to where the Nyengatu people are located. There, he served alongside Alysson and Miria, encouraging them in their work and providing hope and love to their new adopted missionaries. What a difference he made in the lives of Frelsburg BC adopted missionaries!

Because of you, Texas Baptists, there are now 500 people being personally discipled, 70 communities being reached, and many more indigenous missionaries being called and feeling encouraged by the support of their brothers and sisters in Texas.

Together, 27 Texas Baptist churches, Sunday School classes, small church groups, and individuals are adopting 50 missionaries in the Amazon and 2 in the Greater Vancouver area. MAP is adding Myanmar and Mexico, and we are working diligently to add several other partnerships with Baptist church organizations in countries like Peru, Portugal, Spain, Ecuador, and regions like the Middle East and Asia. In Brazil, we are expanding MAP to the Southern and Northeastern regions.

By the time you read this report, representatives from 18 Texas Baptists churches have traveled to the Amazon to serve alongside MAP missionaries. This was our 1st MAP Mission Trip. They have seen hundreds come to faith in Jesus Christ and witnessed the passion and sacrifice the missionaries in the Amazon are making to be an instrument in God's hand to share the Gospel and plant churches in the Amazon among the 113 unreached people groups still there. Through MAP, you, your small group, church, or even business can have a direct impact on what God is doing across the world. Will you adopt a missionary today?

To find out how your church can join in this new partnership, visit texasbaptists.org/map or contact our Director, Jair Campos at jair.campos@texasbaptists.org, 713-494-2841 or our Ministry Assistant, Gloria Tillman at gloria.tillman@texasbaptists.org, 214-828-5182.



JAIR CAMPOS

Director

GLORIA TILLMAN

Ministry Assistant



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**MARIO
ALBERTO
GONZALEZ**
Director

SHELBY GOFF
Ministry
Assistant

A calling to fulfill His commandments

Texas Baptists are doing whatever it takes to fulfill the Great Commission; so, we want to thank you for your contributions to do this task. We recognize also that our Lord is blessing any effort to start simple churches. These congregations are small groups that can have their meetings in houses, restaurants, parks, and even in jails or prisons. Through the ministry of Multi-housing/House congregations, we work with catalytic missionaries who develop networks of house churches at different locations in Texas.

Some Stories from the Fields:

Ben Hanna led Chris to Jesus a few years back. Since then, he has helped him in discipleship, and even baptized him and his wife. Recently, he helped Chris get a computer, which helped him complete his high school degree. Shortly after that, his two daughters and mother-in-law also decided to trust Jesus and follow him in baptism. Ben is our catalytic missionary in San Antonio. He leads a network of five organic churches. Four of these small groups are meeting at restaurants and one in a multi-housing complex.

Ted Lindwall is a catalytic missionary in the Dallas area that is working with a network of churches inside jails or prisons. We named it Philippi groups. Ted shared a story with us about Mario C., who was imprisoned for money laundering. He was very religious before his arrest, but met the Lord for the first time in jail. He has become a powerful Christian worker and this year opened a new Philippi Prison congregation in the first federal prison where such work exists, Big Spring, TX. We need you to pray specifically for Hispanic volunteers to help start and encourage Philippi prisoners among Spanish speakers. In some prisons, over 50% of the prisoners speak Spanish, but less than 3% of the volunteers speak Spanish. Hispanics are very receptive to this ministry but often have no chance to participate in prison-wide ministries because of lack of volunteers.

Jerry Joule from the McAllen Area told this story: Daniela and Fernando are not Christians, but they have been interested in things of God for different reasons. They have no interest in going to church in the traditional sense. Yet, because of their friendship and trust in Jerry, and their interest in spiritual things, they have asked to host a house church in their home. Dani was the one who asked to start a church in her home, and she invites her friends and family members to come and participate. She owns an event hall which is on the same property as her home. She has stated that she would like to see the entire event center full of people for church. Since many of the attendees are not Christians, the discussions are often very colorful in ways that would be frowned upon in traditional churches, but they are real and pure expressions from people hearing the word of God for the very first time. How amazing that God has given the desire to plant a church in their home and grow it to people who don't even follow Christ! This is the power of the house church; the church comes to the people rather than people coming to the church.

Results

This year the Lord gave us some good results for this ministry 2224 people decided to follow Jesus. 312 were baptized. 64 new simple churches were started. We were able to start 70 new ministries for the community. There is now a total of 614 organic groups, not including the 70 ministries.

Come Help Us Share the Hope of Christ on the Border

For the past 50 years, River Ministry/Mexico Missions has helped Texas Baptist Churches connect to specific Missions Projects on both sides of the Texas/Mexico Border. This year, as part of our 50th Anniversary celebration we have stated connecting churches to ministry opportunities in San Antonio and Houston. Both cities have high populations of recent immigrants from Mexico.

Since 2005 we have also partnered with the National Baptist Convention of Mexico to do ministry projects in the interior of Mexico. New areas of Ministry in Mexico are Baja California Sur, Aguascalientes, and Guanajuato. We have been partnering with Mexican National and Regional church planters in these areas in church planting/evangelism and leadership development. We also continue with our church planting partnerships in the major cities in Mexico: Mexico City, Guadalajara, and Monterrey.

We are currently having another wonderful year of ministry. So far this year, over 2,500 mission volunteers have touched the lives of over 26,000 people. These volunteers participated in ministries such as VBS, sports camps, adult crafts, food distribution, feeding centers, family conferences, leadership training, youth events, personal evangelism, medical/dental clinics. Some of the results of their service are 39 new ministries, 9 new church starts, 16,499 received free medical/dental care, 636 received family/individual counseling, 2,412 participated in leadership training/conferences. The ultimate result was 1,121 people making a profession of faith in Jesus Christ.

All this was possible because Texas Baptist churches were not only willing to give of their time and talents but were also willing to give to the Cooperative Program and the Mary Hill Davis Texas Missions Offering.

Your church can make a difference in the spiritual, physical, and emotional lives of the people they serve, while also fulfilling the great Commission by committing to serve River Ministry/Mexico Missions. Come help us share the hope of Christ on the border.

For more information about River Ministry/Mexico Missions, contact:
Daniel.Rangel@texasbaptists.org or Gloria.Tillman@texasbaptists.org or call 214-828-5182.



**DANIEL
RANGEL**
Director

**GLORIA
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Ministry
Assistant



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TOM HOWE
Director
SHELBY GOFF
Ministry
Assistant

In the summer of 2009 the world's population crossed the threshold of being more urban than rural for the first time in history (according to the United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs). Within the next generation, 70% of the world's population will be in cities. Texas is trending right along the same path. The top six metropolitan areas in Texas account for over 20 million people currently with projected growth of up to 40 million in the next thirty years. To continue to effectively reach our cities now and in the future, Texas Baptists Urban Missions is focusing on four areas:

1. **Texas Baptists Missionaries.** We are supporting churches in sending of missionaries to Texas cities, as well as cities throughout the world. Currently, we have Texas Baptist Missionaries serving in the Texas cities of Houston, Dallas, Austin, as well as throughout the world in Vancouver, Canada; Paris, France; Wiesbaden, Germany and many other places. Texas Baptists will partner with churches to give them one more avenue to help them accomplish their missional goals, whether local, national, or even international. We can assist missionaries in raising funds without any fees. We facilitated over \$200,000 from churches and missional partners into the work of our Texas Baptists Missionaries.
2. **Pastoral health through peer groups.** As budgets have reduced, communities have changed, culture has become challenging, many pastors are discouraged or need assistance and training. The Pastor Peer Groups exist to offer collaboration, encouragement and training to those serving in similar contexts. There are peer groups for senior pastors, women in ministry, and other staff positions throughout Texas. By encouraging and strengthening staffs, we will continue to encourage and strengthen the effectiveness of local churches, and therefore also the Kingdom of God.
3. **Replanting. 80-90% of churches are plateaued or declining.** Replanting is the process of returning life to churches that may not have a current ministry similar to its more glorious past. We are currently developing regional conferences throughout Texas to restore vibrancy and hope to all of Texas Baptists churches.
4. **Missional Partnerships.** We will assist pastors, minister of missions, and other missions-minded people and churches to accomplish their missional goals through our current partnerships in Texas (like our River Ministry along the Rio Grande) and in developing partnerships throughout the world (like our growing partnership with Brazilian Baptists). Churches will be able to reach their Jerusalem, Judea, Samaria and the ends of the earth.

Thank you, Texas Baptists for making all this possible! Urban Missions is here to offer pragmatic assistance for those seeking how to make lasting impact in their cities, state, nation and throughout the world. Call Tom Howe at 214-828-5278 to discover more about reaching the cities of Texas and beyond.

What does a church do when they have just lost their pastor and don't know how to begin the process of finding a new one? How do they get started in this very important process? Who fills their pulpit in the weeks ahead? How can they find an Interim Pastor? What about when a Pastor is having financial difficulties? Where can he turn for help? Where does a Bi-Vocational Pastor look for support, encouragement, and training? Where does a ministerial family turn when in need of confidential counseling services? Who does a Pastor call when he just needs someone to talk to? The Texas Baptists Connections Team exists for all the above-mentioned situations.

The Texas Baptists Connections Team exists to help support Pastors and Churches. The Connections Team consists of Minister Connection, Welcome Pastor Days, Area Representatives, Bivocational Pastors Ministry, The Center for Ministerial Excellence, Texas Baptists Counseling Services, Interim Church Services, and Western Heritage Ministry. We care about our Pastors and Churches and we are here to serve you! On the following pages you will gain a more in-depth understanding of the many facets of your BGCT Connections Team.

WELCOME PASTOR DAY

Welcome Pastor Day is held in various places around the state throughout the year. The purpose of Welcome Pastor Days is to introduce new pastors to the resources and ministries available through the BGCT. Welcome Pastor Days also allow pastors to hear a brief word from our Executive Director, Dr. David Hardage, and have an informal question and answer time with him. Be on the lookout for a Welcome Pastor Day in your area.

MINISTER CONNECTION

texasbaptists.org/minister-connection

Minister Connection is a simple tool for churches to submit their open ministry positions and view resumes from across Texas and beyond. By answering a few simple questions, churches may connect with potential candidates and find the right fit for their position. This year Minister Connection provided services to over 268 churches and 498 potential candidates. If you have questions about the site, please email ministerconnection@texasbaptists.org or call 214-828-5111.



**DOWELL
LOFTIS**
Director

PATTI ADAMS
Lead Ministry
Assistant



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DAN CURRY
Area 9
Representative
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The Area Representatives, comprised of nine seasoned ministers, cover 268,597 sq miles of the Lone Star State. These dedicated individuals were responsible for 10,469 contacts over the last year with our pastors, church members, and institutions. What do these Area Representatives do to add value to our congregations?

In the Fall of 2017, Texas was dramatically affected by the devastation of Hurricane Harvey. But out of great tragedy comes stories of God's power and the unselfishness of His people.

Our Area Representatives for the greater San Antonio and Houston regions, Fred Ater and Ernest Dagohoy, are to be commended for their outstanding ministry during this time. These two unselfish servants connected churches and individuals affected by Hurricane Harvey with congregations and Texas Baptists resources to aid them in regaining some sense of normalcy.

One of the many stories involves Taylor Henry, a fourth grader in the children's ministry at Airline Baptist Church, in Bossier City, Louisiana. This dynamic young lady felt compelled to aid Texas congregations recovering from Hurricane Harvey. She had the idea of making Kleenex package case covers. Her younger brother made hand drawn bookmarks. Taylor sold the Kleenex package covers for \$5 and shipped many out of her home state. Taylor and her brother raised over \$3,800 for Hurricane Harvey relief. She and Jax became local celebrities!

On Sunday, January 28, 2018, Taylor and her family drove from Bossier City and worshiped with the Memorial Baptist Church, Port Arthur, Pastored by Rev. Bill Brazzell. This church was one of several congregations in the Golden Triangle region whose building flooded with 6-8 feet of water. During the service, Taylor shared her testimony of how God impressed on her heart the need to raise money for those affected by Hurricane Harvey. Taylor then presented Rev. Brazzell and his congregation a check for \$2,000. Pastor Brazzell reported the congregation was moved to tears when young Taylor Henry gave her offering to the Texas congregation. The money presented and appreciated; however, the encouragement of a little girl from Louisiana blessing a hurting Texas Baptist congregation is beyond words.

The common thread of this incredible God story is the connection piece, the Texas Baptist Area Representative, who joined together a flood-ravaged congregation with a young follower of Jesus who presented to her Lord her version of fish and loaves of bread. There is a line from an old gospel song that reminds us, "Little becomes much when placed in the Masters hand."

The Area Representatives Team of Texas Baptists desires to be used by the Masters hand in any way possible that brings glory to Him.

Our ministry believes two things. One is every church regardless of size and situation is important to God. Secondly, every church is called to fulfil God's vision for its context and composition. The Bivocational Pastors Ministry is walking along side Bivocational-led and small membership churches to Awaken them to fulfil their God-given vision. This past year we had the opportunity to coordinate pastor and spouse retreats, facilitate training opportunities and assist in establishing a new Bivocational Pastors Fellowship. Out of this, three wonderful things occurred.

From despondent to determined. During one of the pastor and spouse retreats, an East Texas pastoral couple who has served faithfully at their church for over 15 years had not taken a vacation or getaway in over 12 years. They serve a small membership church and run a small local business to support themselves. They often use monies from their business to help the church in lean times. The pastor said, "When we came here on Friday afternoon, we were tired and feeling despondent. But after only the first night of fellowship with other pastoral couples we already feel a boost of energy."

Never too old to walk. Three years ago, thirteen adults enrolled in a Certificate of Ministry program through the South Texas School of Christian Studies. They attended classes at a satellite campus. None them had any formal theological training. Some them had no post high school education. One of them was a 73-year old deacon. They all serve in a small membership church that is led by a Bivocational pastor. This year eleven of them completed the three-year program and walked across the stage to receive their Certificate of Ministry. The now 76-year old deacon proudly walked across the stage with tears in his eyes because he was better equipped to serve his church.

Joy in the Valley. We may never fully understand the effect of coming to hurting people. A new fellowship of Bivocational Pastors was established in the Rio Grande Valley. These pastors often work 10-14 hours a day at jobs that range from day laborers to college professors. They serve congregations with as few as 15 and at most 90 members. The work is intensified when there is a battle against traditionalism and Catholicism. These pastors are often weary and tired but still press forward. They need a place where they can find relief and encouragement. The newly formed fellowship offers these pastors joy in their valley. One pastor stated, "We have always had denominational leaders come to the valley and talk to us but never talk with us."

The Bivocational Pastors Ministry continues to serve Texas Baptists churches in awakening them to the God-given vision to fulfil God's Mission.



**IRA
ANTOINE**
Director

PATTI ADAMS
Ministry
Assistant



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TAMMY TIJERINA
Director

CLARA MORALES
Ministry
Assistant

The Center for Ministerial Excellence aims to increase the financial literacy of pastoral and church leaders, offer direct aid to pastors through grants and educate the denomination on the financial challenges facing pastoral leaders. You may be asking, “Why is this important?” Because pastors are more effective when they aren’t struggling financially. When pastors are well-provided for, they are better shepherds, overseers and leaders. The church will be healthier, better equipped, and the community will be more greatly impacted for the Kingdom of God.

We conducted a study in March 2018 to find out how and why our pastors may be struggling financially.

Here’s what we learned about our Texas Baptists pastors:

- Only 36% receive a retirement plan or pension.
- Only 34% receive health insurance for themselves through the church.
- 38% report having shaky household finances.
- 26% have nothing saved for retirement. The median retirement savings is \$40,000.
- Only 28% of churches have the pastor as a W-2 employee, give annual compensation/benefit reviews, and stick to a formal budget.

What we’re doing: To increase the financial literacy of pastoral and church leaders, we have retreats titled, “Giving Your Money Purpose.” There will be 5 retreats across the state this year. Content includes budgeting, discipling the church in money and finances, and the care and feeding of the pastor.

To help pastors plan for their financial future and get through economic challenges we are recruiting financial planners to help pastors develop budgets and plan long-term financial goals.

To help churches, we have partnered with the Evangelical Council for Financial Accountability to offer Church Excel, an online tool with resources that include webinars, sample forms and podcasts. Pastoral compensation courses will be available to help determine and properly develop pastor compensation packages. **A new partnership is also coming soon with Leadership Network on Church Generosity.**

To help pastors currently struggling, \$60,000 in direct aid was awarded to pastors through the Ministerial Excellence Matching Grant. The grants were used for credit card debt, student loans, medical bills and other unexpected expenses. To receive the award, pastors had to meet with a financial planner, attend the “Giving Your Money Purpose” retreat with a lay leader, and raise matching funds.

Here are some of the sentiments pastors have shared with us after they completed the program:

“Thank you for thinking about pastors and their families.”

“The grant money has helped to relieve some of the anxiety associated with not having enough money and has allowed me to focus more energy on caring for individuals within the church.”

“So thankful to know there are grants available for my family.”

Thank you, Texas Baptists, for supporting this ministry to equip our pastors with financial education, offer them direct aid, and help our churches be more fiscally sound.

Counseling Services receives a variety of calls related to mental health issues and we are honored to assist ministers and their families with counseling resources. Here are a few examples:

A minister's spouse contacted our offices with concerns about her husband's substance use. The minister had been very stressed the last few years with loss of family members and personal medical issues. To cope, the minister had turned to alcohol. Over time, casual alcohol use evolved into addiction. The spouse confronted the minister and decided to separate from him when he would not seek help. Eventually, the minister contacted Counseling Services to see what type of assistance was available to him. We helped connect the minister to a rehab program and financially assisted with the cost of the program.

Another minister contacted Counseling Services with marital concerns. He and his spouse were having struggles with intimacy in their marriage. It was difficult for either of them to talk about and they were unsure of where to turn with their very personal and private struggles. Counseling Services connected this couple with a Christian Sex Therapist to address the intimacy issues within their marriage and offered financial assistance for them to meet with the counselor.

Additional calls range from: a minister needing help for his teenage son struggling with substance abuse issues; another minister seeking counseling for a teenage daughter struggling with gender identity concerns; a pastor searching for marriage counseling resources to help a couple in the congregation on the brink of divorce; a church struggling in the aftermath of their pastor's resignation due to sexual misconduct; a church body hurting after the stress and devastation of Hurricane Harvey; and several attendees of the MinistrySafe sexual abuse prevention workshops that disclosed after the training their own experiences as survivors of sexual abuse.

Regardless of the struggle Texas Baptists find themselves walking through, we are here as a resource to help connect you to the mental health assistance you may need.

Our prayer in Counseling Services is that you do not encounter circumstances in your life that prompt you to need our assistance. However, should you find yourself facing one of life's storms head on, know that we are glad to help you find the mental health resources you need and count it a privilege to come alongside you in a difficult time.



KATIE SWAFFORD
Director of
Counseling
Services
M.A., L.P.C.-S.,
Ph.D. in
Leadership

CLARA MORALES
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**KARL
FICKLING**
Coordinator

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In the Interim Church Services office, we get a lot of messages, like these:

Message #1: *Hi. This is Margaret. We lost Pastor Jim to retirement, after 21 years of leading us. I'm on the search team, and I was told you could help us. We don't know what we're doing. We don't have any resumes, either, so we don't know what churches to visit, starting this Sunday.*

And, oh, the excitement in her voice when I called back! She could hardly believe that help was available or that her church would matter. She invited me to train a search team of seven (it's always seven).

Margaret didn't know that I was equally excited by her response. As soon as we hear about a new pastorless church, we call. We send letters. We knock on doors. Often, there's no one home. If we do make contact, we struggle to get past a "gate-keepers." We hear things like, "Oh, we don't need any help. We know what we're doing. We've done a pastor search every-other-year for the last thirty years. Same chairman every time, too!"

It can be discouraging.

Message #2: *This is Margaret, again. Never mind about training the search team. Our pastor [she didn't say "former pastor," but that's what she meant] said he can do it. In fact, he's decided to just stay on as the interim pastor. He wants to lead us, so we don't call a pastor who will mess up our church.*

As I said, it can get very discouraging.

Message #3: *This is Jim. I just retired, after 21 years of pastoring the same church! I'm helping my church, now, as their interim pastor. So, I already have some experience in interim ministry. I know you can use me to help other interim churches when I'm finished here. So, call me back and tell me what to do to be on your referral list of interim pastors.*

Yes. That was Margaret's retired pastor. Did I mention it can be very discouraging?

But I also live in a world full of ENCOURAGEMENT! Because more and more churches are capturing the vision that the interim period can be used by a church to make a difference in their future. Instead of coasting, treading water, or sitting back until the next pastor is called, churches are using called and equipped interim pastors to help prepare for the next pastor's arrival. This might mean addressing some church issues during the interim period to "do the next pastor a favor." It certainly means making sure the search team understands the Lord's will in what type of pastor the church needs next.

And I'm encourage by the interim pastors we have in our network. They are experienced in pastoring, trained in interim ministry, and called by God to serve pastorless churches. They bless me to partner with them in ministry.

First let me say it is a privilege to serve as the Western Heritage Consultant/Starter for Texas Baptists. I am thankful for the opportunity to connect with, encourage and be a part of helping start cowboy churches as a part of Texas Baptists. Texas Baptists have partnered with local churches to help start over 200 cowboy churches across the state since 2000. There are cowboy churches from Channing to Orange and Texarkana to Alpine and all points in between! Every Sunday I am on the road trying to get out and worship with these churches and connect with them and their pastors. Being there are only 52 Sundays a year, I also try to meet with pastors during the week. Sometimes you feel like you're a country song, "On the Road Again," or "Drivin' My Life Away," but it is a blessing to see what God is doing through cowboy churches as they push back the darkness and help make a Kingdom impact in their towns, communities and counties.

In October of 2017 Texas Baptists Western Heritage Ministry partnered with West Texas Cowboy Churches to have a West Texas Cowboy Church Round-Up. San Angelo Cowboy Church Hosted the event and there were over 200 people representing about 11 cowboy churches at the event. It was a great evening of encouragement and fellowship. In November, in conjunction with the Texas Baptists Annual Meeting, Western Heritage Ministries hosted a Cowboy Church Round-Up. Top Hand Cowboy Church in Valley Mills hosted the event and there were about 120 people at the event representing about 16 cowboy churches. Glen Null, pastor of Stagecoach Cowboy Church in Waxahachie, gave a great message and shared some of his personal God story. It was inspiring!

Thank you, Texas Baptists for your support and partnership!



JASON BRYANT
Western
Heritage
Consultant/
Starter

PATTI ADAMS
Ministry
Assistant



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GUS REYES
Director

MARILYN DAVIS
Congregational
and Commission
Specialist

BIANCA BARAJAS
Ministry
Assistant

The CLC continues to lift up the importance of “Doing Justice, Loving Kindness, and Walking humbly before our God.” (Micah 6:8) The CLC speaks to Baptists on current issues and raises funds through the Texas Baptist Hunger Offering to help with feeding strategies and poverty alleviation. I am thankful to God for the opportunity to serve Him through the ministry of the Christian Life Commission.

Here are a few highlights:

- Dr. Ferrell Foster, Director of the Ethics and Justice Office, developed, “A Wheel for Christian Living.” We celebrate this text and how it helps believers live out their Christian witness in today’s culture.
- The CLC Public Policy Director, Kathryn Freeman, led the CLC team in the planning of the second Micah 6:8 Conference and developed a racial reconciliation workshop held in Grand Prairie. She worked with others to encourage Gov. Abbott to identify April as the month of “Second Chances” for those released from incarceration.
- Ali Corona directs community care and the Texas Baptist Hunger Offering ministries. We are thankful for her guidance to help 28 ministries with community care strategies. Read about the the way Hunger Offering funds are used to bless an entire village. Thanks to all Texas Baptists who give to the Texas Baptist Hunger Offering.
- Thanks to Dr. Lester Meriwether, director of Literacy Connexus for efforts to help thwart poverty by focusing on literacy. The end of 2017 brought a conclusion to the longstanding relationship with Literacy Connexus. Literacy Connexus continues to serve those in Texas and beyond.
- Dr. Jesús Romero serves as ISAAC Director. He gave legal counsel to 168 families and represented 107 individuals before the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services.
- Thanks to Marilyn Davis and Bianca Barajas for excellent ministry and service through administrative support.

CHRISTIAN LIFE COMMISSION MEMBERS FOR 2017-2018

Jacob West, Plainview (Chair)*
Randy Anderson, Salado*
D.K. Bakhshodeh, Plano*
Delcia Chisolm, Kingsville
Daniel (Tiny) Dominguez, Lubbock
Jim Edwards, Azle*
Michael Evans, Mansfield*
Chuck Gartman, Cleburne
Emily Harden, Azle
Les Hollon, San Antonio

Elmo Johnson, Houston
Ben Raimer, Galveston*
Brenda Rincones, San Antonio
Moises Rodriguez, San Antonio
Carol Shattuck, Houston
Dwaina Six, El Paso
Mile Wertz, Abilene
Jorge Zayasbazan, San Antonio*



**FERRELL
FOSTER**
Director

Heads nod. Hands take notes. Questions are asked. Texas Baptists have been positively responding to “A Wheel for Christian Living,” as it has been presented in a variety of venues. People are sensing a new way of connecting their faith in God to their day-to-day lives. Jesus is becoming more relevant to home, community, school, and work relationships.

A Wheel for Christian Living is designed primarily for younger or newer Christians. It is about placing God at the center - the hub — of life and then developing good, biblical “spokes” to connect with the outer wheel — the tire — of daily experience. Several college students responded that the wheel image helped give them a mental picture to hold onto in thinking about the different aspects of Christian.

The Wheel includes eight “spokes,” which can be taught separately or as a whole. The spokes are:

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1. Listening to God —The Bible and the Holy Spirit | 5. Developing Character —Virtues & Vices |
| 2. Continuing Conversion —Not a One-Time Event | 6. Providing Care —Help, Especially for the Least of These |
| 3. Shaping Our Spirit —Spiritual Formation | 7. Pursuing Justice —Fairness, Especially for the Least of These |
| 4. Living in Community —Church, But Not That Local Building | 8. Making Decisions —Big Ones and Small Ones Add Up to a Life |

The director of ethics and justice will present this material in churches, associations, schools, or other groups. Contact him at ferrell.foster@texasbaptists.org.

The Ethics & Justice web site (texasbaptists.org/EthicsJustice) is the primary means of obtaining other resources for ministers and church members who want more information on varied ethical and justice issues from a biblical and informed perspective. The issues are:

Christian Living (basic principles, civility in communication, ethical decision-making)
 Church & State (citizenship, religious liberty)
 Creation Care
 Education
 Family (marriage, parenting, divorce)
 Human Trafficking
 Hunger & Poverty
 Immigration & Refugees
 Justice (criminal justice, death penalty, restorative justice)
 Life, Health & Dying (abortion, aging and dying, health and medicine)
 Minister Ethics
 Money & Work (economics, work, gambling)
 Race Relations
 Sex & Gender Issues (harassment, pornography, same-sex marriage, transgender)
 Terrorism, War & Peace

The web address for these resources is <http://texasbaptists.org/ministries/clc/ethics-justice/resources>. Texas Baptists also are invited to send links to resources they have produced on the above topics for reference on the site.

All of the information is provided as a resource to help Texas Baptists think through issues from a Christian perspective. Texas Baptists are a diverse people and may come to differing positions on contemporary issues. The CLC seeks to explain the issues and to provide relevant Scripture.

The director of ethics and justice also leads workshops on ethical issues at various conferences and churches. He also joins other staff members in writing regular blog posts.



TEXAS BAPTISTS
BAPTIST GENERAL CONVENTION OF TEXAS



**KATHRYN
FREEMAN**
Director

"We are created to be other-centered," Dr. Steve Corbett said as a Micah 6:8 Conference keynote speaker.

The Director of Public Policy gave leadership to the 2nd biannual Micah 6:8 Conference, a diverse gathering of over 300 attendees from across the state committed to learning to "do justice, love kindness, and walk humbly with God" in their communities. Thanks to generous sponsorships we were able to provide scholarships to 40 college students from local BSMs and our higher education institutions, including lodging for those traveling from out of town.

We have been focused on improving resources for churches interested in criminal justice reform and will have a new resource available to churches. We have strengthened our partnership with Prison Fellowship. Through our joint efforts, Gov. Abbott declared April 2018 Second Chances Month to highlight the work of the faith community in helping the formerly incarcerated obtain gainful employment and housing as they reintegrate into society.

In August 2017, the Christian Life Commission hosted a one day event for Texas Baptist church leaders on racial reconciliation. We had over 100 participants who heard from Delvin Atchison, Ferrell Foster, LaTasha Morrison, and other Texas Baptist pastors on the biblical approach to race and reconciliation.

The Christian Life Commission's Hunger & Care Ministries equips and empowers Texas Baptists to practically apply Christian faith to life through community ministries.

Texas Baptist Hunger Offering

Shiva and her community in India have always dreamed of drinking clean water. She and other village residents must walk four kilometers to access unclean drinking water from a small lake. The children were getting sick from the contaminated water. Shiva, a regular church attendee, began praying and fasting for clean water.

Seven Ministries (7MIIT), a Hunger Offering ministry, serves communities in India in need of clean drinking water. The ministry provides, installs, and maintains water treatment systems. 7MIIT also focuses on teaching residents the importance of community health and hygiene. Through building relationships, 7MIIT shares about the "living water" that is found in Christ.

The Hunger Offering helped 7MIIT reach Shiva's community. "I feel so proud that people of other faiths, those who have looked down and laughed at me because of my faith and religion, are taking water from the Bore Well," Shiva said. "I don't find words to express my happiness and thanks to the people who gave me this joy. And I always testify about God's wonderful things in my life."

Shiva is one of tens of thousands of people impacted by the Hunger Offering. In 2018, the offering is funding 134 relief and development ministries in Texas and around the world with a budget of \$650,000.

Community Care

The CLC is using \$78,800 in 2018 Community Care funds to support 28 ministries engaged in restorative justice, community development, deaf and special needs, community health, and hunger ministry across the state.

St. Luke Missionary Baptist Church is in the heart of San Antonio. Pastor Joe Barber leads a medical outreach that provides hygiene supplies, screenings, and wound care to the indigent and low income populations that surround the church. Because of outreach efforts in the community, they have identified pregnant women who were heroin users and have gotten them into treatment and on their way to recovery. One individual reports she is no longer prostituting herself because of the gospel message. She is now volunteering for the Haven for Hope and moving into her own apartment.

Immigration Service and Aid Center/ISAAC Project

Dr. Jesús Romero leads the CLC's Immigration Service and Aid Center, which provides immigration law training and immigration service ministry.

ISAAC represented 107 individuals before the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services. We provided services related to family-based visa petitions, citizenship applications, religious worker visas, DACA, and Violence Against Women visa applications. ISAAC gave legal counsel to 168 families.

ISAAC also serves churches that wish to start immigrant ministries by providing training and assisting in the federal recognition and accreditation process. In 2017, Azle Avenue Baptist Church in Fort Worth provided legal services to 282 individuals and had 8 professions of faith. Iglesia Bautista El Camino in El Paso provided services to 96 individuals and two families became church members.

Finally, ISAAC's sixth Summer Institute on Basic Immigration Law was held June 5-9, 2017, with 36 participants. Thirty-three passed their final test.

Literacy Missions

Encouraging literacy and educational development is an integral approach to ending the cycle of poverty. A number of Texas and International CLC Hunger & Care ministries provided literacy training.

The CLC has worked closely with Literacy ConneXus, led by Lester Meriwether, for a number of years. That official partnership ended at the beginning of 2018 as Literacy ConneXus moved into other partnerships, but we love the work of Literacy ConneXus, and it is still available to assist churches.



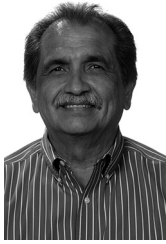
ALI CORONA
Specialists

DR. JESÚS ROMERO
Director,
Immigration
Services

LESTER MERIWETHER
Director,
Literacy
ConneXus



TEXAS BAPTISTS
BAPTIST GENERAL CONVENTION OF TEXAS



**LORENZO
PEÑA**
Director

SONJA EVANS
Administrative
Assistant

Associational Ministry

Texas Baptists continue to collaborate with the 98 associations of churches across our diverse state to do what they cannot do alone. We also partner with director of missions in providing training once a year for them that is relevant to their context. Last year 25 DOM's attended a Revitalize Training at Trinity Pines with the keynote presenter being Mark Clifton, NAMB Director of Replants.

Examples of how we collaborated with associational leadership in providing opportunities for their churches to do ministry are:

Foster Adoption Initiative: This initiative was redesigned for Vulnerable Children highlighting six specific opportunities for church involvement. There is continued consulting and connections with churches to make available resources accessible and available in areas for foster and adoption ministry. The DFW Alliance, which DBA serves with has secured state permission to begin a Second Story program in Dallas.

Ridin' the River Rodeo: An authentic Western Rodeo where the Gospel is presented at the beginning of the event. Local clergy are invited to pray. Banners promoting the BGCT and HCBA are visible. Eight to nine hundred people attended this event. Ridin' the River Cowboy fellowship always gains prospects and baptizes many because of this ministry.

Community Outreach Event - "Party in The Plaza/Back to School Event!": This yearly event allows the communities, businesses, college students, and other organizations to come together. The spirit of unity represented in the community in this project is amazing. They had over 800 in attendance one year and saw more students participate with our Baptist presence at Kilgore College. In fact, that year, they had 12 salvations throughout the remainder of the school year.

The African American Fellowship: A group of African American churches in the El Paso area that hold meetings throughout the year to equip church leaders from all respective congregations. BGCT funding helps their ministry conduct their annual Church Equipper's Conference, in which they provide workshop initiatives such as Youth and Children Doctrine, Mental Health, Church Leadership, All in the Family, Deacons as Servant Leadership, and more....

The City Transformation Ministry: This project includes landscaping, painting, construction, cleaning up the grounds of area schools and buildings, plumbing and electrical repair. EPBA obtained permission/releases from the county city officials in finding homes for these projects in different parts of El Paso. Over 1000 church members participated in this event.

Minister's and Leader's Training: Equipped pastors and church leaders in strengthening their churches. Working with approximately 84 churches, one of the top priorities is to strengthening churches through training, seminars, workshops, and conferences. These pastors get together every month to discuss these issues.

Criminal Justice Ministry: This ministry is offered to male and female prisoners in English and Spanish through 3 worship Bible Study events per month and crisis response. Presently a Chaplin and one volunteer would work in the POSO jails. Christmas Cards are provided to the prisoners to send to love ones. Recreation equipment has been donated for prisoners use as well as required continued education classes.

The Office of African American Ministries has the privilege of relating to more than 900 African American Churches affiliated with Texas Baptists. Many of these churches participate in several of the training and fellowship events sponsored by the Office in cooperation with the African American Fellowship of Texas. Here are a few highlights of how these impacted churches and individuals over the past year.

Seasoned Saints Conference

The conference was held in September 2017 at Bethlehem Baptist Church in Arlington where Dr. Michael A. Evans Sr. serves as Senior Pastor. The venue offered the 200+ participants the opportunity to discover resources for seniors and families that are providing care for the elderly and disabled. Here is an example of one individual's evaluation:

"I was so pleased to attend and participate in a conference where I could receive annual updates on policy changes, insurances, budgets, wellness and et cetera. These were helpful to our ongoing wellbeing and they are accepted with overall enthusiasm and motivation. If it were not for this conference I could not have answers to many of my questions in one location. Thank you for offering the conference. I am a retired high school guidance counselor as well as a senior citizen, but I also provide care for my ninety-year-old mother. Thank you for making available an abundance of resources at your conference. I look forward to another one in the future. God bless you."

African American Leadership Workshop

"Stronger Together Building Relationships" was the theme for the annual African American Leadership Workshop at George W. Truett Theological Seminary. Numbers are not the only important indicators for measuring success, but they are helping in assessing relevance. Of the 420 registrants, many were introduced to the BGCT, with this being their first Texas Baptist event. We received enthusiastic verbal and written accolades. Here are a few comments that blessed us:

- Awesome, I loved the information and the knowledge
- She answered every question and inspired me so much
- The experience was great. Glad to see more people here than last year.
- Great networking opportunity
- Niya is awesome and anointed
- Awesome notes and information
- Encouraging and enhancing
- As a millennial, it helped me articulate the needs of my generation
- Excellent presentations, heartfelt
- Videos helped enhance presentation
- Needed more time to go deeper
- I cannot wait to begin to apply this information
- Best ever! I loved it!
- Extremely helpful, practical and beneficial

Camp Exalted

Of the 390+ campers from 21 churches, there were 44 decisions. We received a heart-warming handwritten letter from a young teenage camper. Here is a part of his letter:

"There are two main reasons why Camp Exalted is the best experience I can have during the year: (1) to get closer to God. As a teenager, I go through many things during the year. God has blessed me and my family and I know that He loves me. I want to learn more about Him so that I can reveal to the world the same love He shares with me. (2) The next reason Camp is a blessing to me is the atmosphere: It gives me a feeling that I don't feel anywhere else. It's great to be around young believers and then to also see others experience the love of God for the first time. Camp is set up to help us keep focus on God's will and purpose for our lives. I love Camp Exalted."



**ROY
COTTON**
Director

**SHARRON
BRADLEY**
Ministry
Assistant



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ROLANDO RODRIGUEZ
Director
www.texasbaptists.org/espanol
MARIO A. ENRIQUEZ
Ministry Assistant

The Hispanic Ministries Department (HMD) exists to encourage, inform, and assist the 1,100+ Hispanic congregations aligned with the BGCT. We do this through a wide array of programs and services.

Ongoing Ministries

Entrena-T - The Entrena-T School of Leadership is designed to train pastors and lay people in leadership skills. This training takes place in local Hispanic churches around the state. Since, 90% of Hispanic pastors are bi-vocational, the Entrena-T school truly meets a real need.

Regional Training Events - Are scheduled during regular meetings of local Hispanic fellowships and are focused on developing leaders in multiple areas of church ministry.

La Visión Magazine - Communicate news/information related to Texas Baptist Hispanic work.

Church Consultations - Provided to Hispanic and non-Hispanic congregations seeking for pastors, looking for ways to reach their communities and facing difficult situations.

Events

Hispanic Leadership Conference - This unique event focuses on expanding the impact of our leadership development efforts. In 2017, our theme was "From Ordinary to Extraordinary", and we saw an great response from our churches, with the highest attendance ever. The conference is offered in English and Spanish, and has a track that focuses on young leaders.

Last fall, we were able to have Leadership Conferences in Midland and in the Gulf Coast area. This was a great opportunity to minister to pastors and churches affected by Hurricane Harvey.

Hispanic Preaching Conference - This year, this conference almost doubled in attendance. A key part was the addition of a pastors' wives track. Pastors were recognized and prayed for on Friday and their wives on Saturday. Plans to continue expanding the preaching conference are now in the works. It meets a unique need in the lives of our Hispanic congregations.

Compañerismo (Hispanic Fellowship) President's Meeting - Every year our department gathers the presidents of the 40+ Hispanic fellowships around the state. Relationships are developed, leadership training is provided, and a lot of information related to Texas Baptist work is shared. In just one meeting, we have the opportunity of literally impacting the entire state.

Hispanic Rally - Prior to the BGCT annual meeting, we hold a Hispanic Rally in the same town. In 2017 we followed the convention's theme, "Compelled" (Obligados). The rally motivates Hispanic Baptists to be more engaged with Texas Baptists and participate in the meeting.

Hispanic Men's Retreats - Every year, we work with Hispanic fellowships (Compañerismos) to support their Hispanic men's retreats held in Glen Rose and Woodlake. Men attending collaborated to donate water bottles, canned food and other articles to churches ministering in communities affected by Hurricane Harvey.

Hispanic Married Couples Retreat - In 2017, 150 married couples participated of this retreat. For 2018, the plan is to reach 200 couples; a good number of these are pastors and their wives. Please pray that it will be a blessed time.

Texas Baptists, we couldn't do what we do without your prayers and generous support! Your gifts of finances and intercession are bearing fruit for the glory of God!

Iglesia Bautista Azle Avenue in Fort Worth has offered the Raising Highly Capable Kids (RHCK) program for 3 years in a row at their local school, Turner Elementary. They have been the presence of Christ in their community for a while now. The congregation has stepped out of their comfort zone and has gone the extra mile to meet needs in the name of Jesus and introduce their neighbors to Him. Just recently, their Senior Pastor, Rev. Fernando Rojas, came in late to a meeting at the convention office. His reason? Two of the parents going through RHCK accepted Christ that morning! Hallelujah!

The above testimony shows what can happen when a congregation seeks to meet a need, and how, through those efforts, others can know Jesus as their personal Savior. It is our prayer, that as we are able to assist students, families and churches in the area of education, people can experience the love of Christ in a personal way and choose Him.

The Texas Baptists Hispanic Education Initiative exists to provide training, resources and opportunities for Hispanic parents and students to reach their God-given educational potential. We mainly do this through:

- **Raising Highly Capable Kids.** A 13-week parenting program designed to be offered primarily in public schools through local churches. In the last 8-9 months
- **Raising Money for College.** Over 7 years ago our Initiative began raising and awarding money for college scholarships. Over \$120,000 has been raised and awarded to more than 120 students. For many students, this made college a possibility, a dream come true. For others, it was just what they needed to finish paying their bill and graduate.
- **Raising Money for College.** Over 8 years ago our Initiative began raising and awarding money for college scholarships. In that time span, over \$120,000 have been raised and awarded to more than 120 students. For many students, the scholarship made college a possibility, a dream come true. For others, it was just what they needed to finish paying their bill and graduate.
- **Hispanic Education Fairs.** The “Educate Texas Hispanic Education Fair” consists in workshops for parents and students of all ages and the awarding of \$1,000 college scholarships.
- **Hispanic Summer Missionary Program.** Funded primarily by the Mary Hill Davis State Missions Offering, for 6 consecutive years we’ve been able to assign 12-15 Hispanic college students to serve in local congregations 10 weeks during the summer. Their main focus has been to train and equip parents and youth with the tools necessary to finish high school, apply for college and financial aid, and reach the full potential for which God created them.
- **Bilingual GED Online Prep Course.** A great resource available at no-cost to churches that would like to provide this service to their community. The program is available in English and in Spanish.
- **English/Youth Track at Hispanic Leadership Conference.** Recognizing the need for practical leadership development in our Hispanic youth and young adults, a special track has been created for them at this annual statewide event.
- **Providing** educational information at regional/statewide events and conferences

The Texas Baptist Hispanic Education Initiative (HEI) exists to help Hispanic students reach their educational potential. We recognize that God has a plan for every person He creates. He wants each of us to accomplish something significant, to become someone that brings glory to His name during our lifetime and beyond; reaching our educational potential is a critical part of this.

Thank you, Texas Baptists, for your many gifts that empower us to help others reach their God-given educational potential!



REV. GABRIEL CORTES
Director
educatetexas.org



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PATTY LANE
Director

MARK HEAVENER
Intercultural
Specialist

LEONID REGHETA
Project: Start,
Director

CAROL POWELL
Ministry
Assistant

Have you ever had the opportunity to share who Christ is with someone who has never heard the good news? We often think that everyone who lives in the United States has had the chance to hear but the truth is many have not. It is especially true of the new Texans arriving in our state each day from countries around the world. Intercultural Ministries is on a mission to make sure that everyone hears the gospel in their own language and cultural context so we assist congregations and individuals who are reaching out to the unreached people groups of our state.

We connect churches and leaders from all around the world who now find themselves in Texas with the Texas Baptist family and we help the Texas Baptist Family know who some of our newest Texans are. It is exciting and challenging ministry where no two days are alike and the cultures and people we serve are always teaching and sharing with us in a mutual relationship of respect and friendship.

Project: Start is another way in which we as Texas Baptists through Intercultural Ministries are transforming lives. This refugee resource center is connecting local churches with real needs within the refugee communities of Dallas. In this way both the ones coming to serve and the ones served are blessed and the gospel is shared and lived out in tangible ways. Not only can we build the capacity of the local refugee congregations but we are building a network of resources that can be a tool for the entire community.

Ministering to the second and third generation immigrant and refugee is a priority. Through our Leadership Training Institute and Camp Fusion we are training the next generation of leaders. The youth who have been involved in both training opportunities have gone on to serve on church staffs and as leaders in their churches in college and after. We see the strong value in investing in youth in ways that acknowledge their unique life experiences so that their faith journey is authentic and transformational.

One of the backbones of our ministry is our Intercultural Advisory Council. Through this dedicated group of leaders from countries including Lebanon, Iran, Vietnam, Myanmar, Laos, Philippines, Cambodia, Japan, India, Korea, Hong Kong, and Malaysia, we prioritize our ministry and develop mutual communication of needs and goals. This team has grown over the years to be a support network for each other and for Texas Baptists. This year we began a new ministry in partnership with B. H. Carroll Theological Institute to create a multicultural learning cohort around the topic of servant leadership. We are blessed to have Dr. Gene Wilkes, President of B. H. Carroll and the author of many books on servant leadership lead our cohort of pastors from 8 different countries. This initiative has been so successful that we are planning to begin new cohorts on other topics in the coming months.

Through the relationships Intercultural Ministries has developed with the Intercultural churches and leaders we have built a strong multicultural network of support and learning. With over 300 churches and 70 languages God has blessed us with a unique diversity of cultures that makes us a strong family of churches.

Thanks to Texas Baptists, Texas BSM exists to engage the 1.6 million college students in Texas to follow Christ and transform the world. Your BSM Missionaries are on approximately 115 campuses, incarnationally engaging the collegiate culture by making and multiplying disciples of Jesus Christ. What is both exciting and challenging about Texas universities is that over 300 exist, in almost every community with many having multi-site campuses throughout a region of the state.

Hub Campuses: Texas BSM has designated Hub campuses from which the gospel is expanded to the campuses within driving distance. The BSM at Tarleton State is engaging five different campuses: Ranger Stephenville and Erath, Weatherford Granbury, Hill Cleburne, and soon Tarleton Ft. Worth. Each week a BSM staff member goes one or two days, working with local churches in each area, to conduct a luncheon, lead a Bible study, and have personal conversations thus reaching an unreached population of students in Texas. Many Baptist churches in Texas can engage campuses in their area simply by having a weekly presence of service and gospel witness! A few of our Hub campuses are: **UT Austin** with Austin Community Colleges, **Texas A&M** with Blinn College Station and Prairie View A&M, **Navarro College** with Hill College Hillsboro, **UH**, with UH Downtown and UH Sugar Land, **SFA** with Angelina College, and **UTA** with the Tarrant County Colleges and Texas Wesleyan. Churches, would you join with a BSM to reach this generation?

Missions: Over 1400 students have served since December in short term mission projects! 125 students spread out through New York City to interact with multiple cultures, share the gospel, and strengthen the ministry of Metro Baptist Association. Almost 700 students served at Beach Reach South Padre Island working alongside two TBM Disaster Teams and two local churches. They gave 13,897 rides, made 10,100 pancakes, prayed with 8,781 people, and saw 167 decisions to follow Christ and 55 baptized. 75 students served in Houston by sharing Christ with children, the homeless, and those involved in human trafficking. They pushed back the darkness with His light! Here's a story from Rice BSM while serving at Mission Arlington, "my favorite 'God-moment' was when a few of our Nigerian students connected with a Nigerian family at the apartment complex we were serving. When we got close to their apartment, one of my guys looked at me and said 'that's Nigerian food cooking!' The family was Muslim, but we got to bring their 4 kids to our kids camp."

Campus Outreach: Amazing opportunities exist on college campuses across Texas to share the gospel with non-believers as well as Christian students struggling with their faith. Here are a few examples: at **Lamar University** - "10 students became believers at Easter Rez Week". At **Prairie View A&M** - "I met a student at an outreach table who told me, 'earlier this morning I felt the Lord calling me to cease sinful habits and begin reading His Word again.' She confessed some things, and after a few tearful encouragements, we prayed for her." At **Hill College Cleburne** - "Yesterday on campus, I prayed that God would allow me to share the gospel once with any of the individuals I had been spending time pouring into. By the end of the day, I had extensively shared the gospel with three individuals!" At **Texas A&M** - "Candace came to Christ through our dorm ministry team who met her while on campus simply praying for students who had needs."

Luke 10:2 - The Harvest is plentiful but the laborers are few, beseech the Lord of the Harvest to send out laborers into His Harvest!



**BRUCE
MC GOWAN**
State Director

**JOYCE
ASHCRAFT**
Associate State
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MARK JONES
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Consultant

BETH SMITH
Campus
Consultant

**BRENDA
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**GINGER
BOWMAN**
College Church
Specialist

**PEGGY
MOULDEN**
Administrative
Assistant

**BECKY
BARNES**
Ministry Assistant-
Communications/
Data Management

**CINDY
ZOLLER**
Ministry Assistant-
Receptionist/
Finances

**147 BSM
STAFF
MEMBERS**
(employed and
volunteer)



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**DAVID
ADAMS**
Director

**BRITTANY
THOMAS**
Ministry
Assistant

Church Administration

As our world grows increasingly complex, so does the work of leading the church. Assistance provided in 2017-18 by your office of Church Administration reflects this trend.

- In response to the tragic shooting at Sutherland Springs last fall, we developed *Church Security Basics: Preparing for the Unexpected*, a seminar providing first steps for churches in emergency operations planning. In addition to last November's annual meeting, the seminar has been presented across the state and even nationally through our associations, churches, and other organizations.
- Changes to the laws of the land have raised many questions for churches related to staff compensation, tax-exempt contributions, and IRS reporting, among other issues. Thanks to the Cooperative Program we can provide the *Church Financial Guidebook* to churches without a large staff to keep up with these issues. We have also partnered with the nationally recognized ECFA to bring a free library of financial resources to all our churches at ChurchEXCEL.org/TexasBaptists.
- The evening news broadcasts (and calls to our office) remind us regularly that our churches are not exempt from the problems of child sexual abuse and sexual harassment. Thankfully many churches are taking positive steps to adopt more comprehensive policies and practices in these areas. In addition to a sample sexual harassment policy and assistance with finding other helps, our office of Counseling Services provides free Ministry Safe training for your church.
- Challenges to religious freedom have motivated many church leaders to make sure their bylaws are up to date. We have responded with training and sample materials to help. Other churches, including many new church starts, have requested our PowerPoint on establishing and maintaining tax exempt status with the IRS, state, and local taxing authority.

Thank you for providing the office of Church Administration to help church leaders be good stewards of the resources God has provided. Check the resources at texasbaptists.org/churchadmin, and let us know if we can help you.

Leadership Texas Baptists

Three years ago Leadership Texas Baptists began with a goal of helping young leaders better understand who Texas Baptists are and how we work together. It is exciting to watch as these young adults step up to lead our churches, institutions, and organizations with excellence and with a new appreciation for our Texas Baptists family.

This fall we will gather our fourth cohort to begin a nine-month experience that will include dialogue with Baptist leaders, networking with peers from other churches, and a focus on developing healthy Christian leadership skills. If you know (or are) an emerging young leader in your church, check out texasbaptists.org/leadershiptxb. Applications for Cohort 5 will open next spring.

Executive Pastors Retreat

Our very first XP One Day Retreat took place last fall at the Frontiers of Flight Museum near Dallas Love Field. With the theme *From Data to Discipleship*, topics included Disconnecting in Order to Connect, Cultivating Generosity, Metrics that Matter, and Dealing with Difficult People. Make sure your Executive Pastor is on the mailing list for future events and information by submitting a message through the form at texasbaptists.org/churchadmin.

PUTTING GOD'S WORD TO WORK. It's more than just a clever slogan. It comes straight from the New Testament. James 1:22 tells us, "Do not merely listen to the word, do what it says." Texas Baptists have been striving to live out this scripture for more than 132 years. The Cooperative Program provides the fuel to do this "work" both here in Texas and around the world.

2017 CP ANNUAL REPORT. This is our third year to provide this concise yet comprehensive report on how Texas Baptists dollars are used. The report is available in print or online at texasbaptists.org/cpannualreport.

CELEBRATING COOPERATION LUNCHEONS. We are continuing this series of events around the state. The purpose of these luncheons is to express our appreciation to those churches who have demonstrated continued support for the Cooperative Program. So far, we have held three of these, with plans to host an additional seven over the next few years.

REAL-LIFE STORIES. People love to hear stories, especially the kind that tell about lives changed. 52 Sundays is a collection of 52 life-changing stories you can use in a variety of ways. They are ideal for use in a worship service, especially during a time when your offering is being collected. This is a brief way to illustrate a specific ministry to the givers who are supporting it. This missions prayer resource is available at texasbaptists.org/cp/resources. Also on the website is a library of short videos, two to three minutes in length, about people whose spiritual and physical needs have been met through CP giving. They are free to download and use however best helps your church's mission awareness.

PRINTED AND DIGITAL RESOURCES. At that same website, you will find downloadable print resources to use as a worship insert or a handout for meetings, or however else you need. These are designed to help you communicate to your church the reach and scope of mission dollars given through the Cooperative Program. All resources are free to download and print in whatever quantity you need. Whether you need something as simple as a card with CP Fast Facts, or something more detailed such as the 2017 CP Annual Report, you can find it on our web page. We frequently add new pieces to the page, so please check back often.

THANK YOU! I had the joy and privilege of speaking in several dozen of our churches in 2017. Each time, I was excited to share what God is doing as Texas Baptists put His Word to work. Thousands are coming to Christ and experiencing changed lives, all because you generously support mission and ministry through the Cooperative Program.



**CHRIS
LIEBRUM**
Director

**BARBARA
FORBIS**
CP Specialist



TEXAS BAPTISTS®
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Web Content Manager

JILLIAN SANDERS
Web Content Specialist

NIGEL ROBINSON
Marketing Consultant

Before Hurricane Harvey hit the Gulf Coast on August 25, 2017, Texas Baptists were praying and preparing for how to respond. Due to the impact of one of the greatest natural disasters in our state history, more than one-quarter of Texas Baptists' churches were in the path of the storm and received unprecedented flooding and destruction. Texas Baptist Men volunteer units were deployed even before the storm hit and members of the Texas Baptists family have served through efforts like BOUNCE Student Disaster Recovery and Church Building Recovery continuously ever since.

The Communications Department spread the word of the Texas Baptists' response to hurricane recovery efforts through e-newsletters, social media messages, news stories, media coverage, a Church2Church partnerships web page, and a myriad of other communication strategies. Connecting our 5,300 churches and 2.3 million constituents with information and resources in times of disaster and in weekly correspondence are primary functions of our team.

The efforts of the Communications Department support the ministries of the convention, as well as the work of our churches, in showing love and sharing Christ with those in Texas and around the world. In 2017, through visits to texasbaptists.org, subscriptions to Texas Baptists Life Magazine, social media interactions, print pieces, event signage, videos and countless other projects, the Texas Baptists story was shared more than 1 million times.

The depth and breadth of Convention ministries flow from its 132-year-old object to awaken and stimulate among the churches the greatest possible activity in evangelism, missions, Christian education and benevolent work and enterprises.

To subscribe to Texas Baptists Life quarterly magazine or the Texas Baptists Life monthly newsletter, email subscriptions@texasbaptists.org or call 214-828-5232. You may also find us on Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram, and at our home on the web, texasbaptists.org.

Australia, Philippines, Canada, United Kingdom, Nigeria, Mexico, India, Columbia, South Africa, Germany, Netherlands, Spain, Singapore, Peru, Venezuela, Jamaica, Ghana, Argentina, Myanmar, Hong Kong, Guatemala, Qatar, Malaysia, Puerto Rico, El Salvador, Slovakia, Greece, Bahamas, Uganda, Japan, Malta, Bolivia, Dominican Republic, Zambia...

Florida, Hawaii, California, Texas, Arizona, Virginia, South Carolina, Maryland, Michigan, Minnesota, North Carolina, Wisconsin, New Jersey, Alabama, Indiana, Tennessee, Georgia, Ohio, Oregon, South Dakota, Washington, Pennsylvania, New York, Colorado, Missouri, Mississippi, Louisiana, Illinois, Massachusetts, Idaho, Oklahoma, Nebraska, Kentucky, Iowa...

During a **single day**, persons from the above countries and states visited www.baptistdistinctives.org.

They found a **wealth of resources on Baptist beliefs and heritage**, including:

- Twenty-seven colorful full-page articles on Baptist distinctives
- A text only version for each of the twenty-seven articles
- A Spanish translation for each of the twenty-seven articles
- A summary of the history and heritage of Baptist Christians
- A list of organizations, institutions, and websites with information on Baptist belief and heritage with links to each
- An annotated bibliography of books on Baptist distinctives organized by topics, such as bibliography, history, sermons, and doctrine
- A search engine for words, persons, and topics in English and Spanish in the articles, history, and bibliographic material
- A way to order the Baptist Identity Series which includes nineteen colorful leaflets on Baptist distinctives, a booklet containing personal study guides, a booklet containing suggestions for group discussions, and the 120-page book, Baptist Beliefs and Heritage.

The website and the *Baptist Identity Series* are two of the resources prepared by the Texas Baptist Heritage Center. The Center was established by the BGCT along with the related Baptist Distinctives Council to help provide information and inspiration about Bible-based beliefs and practices precious to Baptists.

Upon his retirement as Executive Director of the Baptist General Convention of Texas, the Convention officially named Pinson Executive Director Emeritus and asked that as part of the function of the emeritus office he serve as the volunteer Director of the Center and as the staff liaison with the Baptist Distinctives Council. When Doris Tinker retired as the Executive Associate in the Executive Director's office, she was asked to be part of the Emeritus office and to serve as the volunteer Director of Communications/Organization for the Heritage Center.

The volunteer staff cooperates with many others to provide resources on Baptists, including printed material and the websites www.baptistdistinctives.org and www.distintivosbautistas.org. Churches, universities, chaplains, intentional interim pastors, laypersons, and others are utilizing these resources. We are grateful for the Baptists of Texas utilizing materials on Baptist distinctives to strengthen the Baptist witness for Christ. The staff also participates in conferences, classes, and other meetings to share information on Baptist beliefs and heritage and consults with BGCT staff and others on ways to highlight Baptist identity.

*Our prayer is that these efforts will contribute to
an ever-stronger Baptist family of Christians effectively fulfilling
the Great Commandment and Great Commission of the Lord Jesus Christ.*



WILLIAM M. PINSON, JR.
Director
(Volunteer)

DORIS A. TINKER
Director
Communications/
Organization
(Volunteer)



TEXAS BAPTISTS®
BAPTIST GENERAL CONVENTION OF TEXAS



ALAN J. LEFEVER
Director

NAOMI TAPLIN
Associate
Director

PHIL HASSELL
Manager
Texas Baptist
Historical
Museum

AUTUMN HENDON
Ministry
Assistant

HEATHER MOONEY
Coordinator
of Community
Outreach and
Research

The Texas Baptist Historical Collection marked its 85th year of operation by continuing to collect, preserve, and communicate the history of Texas Baptists. The TBHC is located at 209 N 8th Street and hosted numerous meetings including Truett classes, the Texas WMU, local churches, the 2017 Church Library Conference, as well as committees from the Waco Baptist Association and the Baylor BSM. The conference room is available for use by BGCT churches. Please contact Autumn Hendon for further information (autumn.hendon@texasbaptists.org).

The TBHC museum in Waco added artifacts from J.M. Price and B.H. Carroll. The museum continues to highlight exhibits on Fern Harrington Miles, a missionary held in a Japanese internment camp during World War II, Burleson College, a short-lived but impactful junior-college in Greenville Texas, and translations of Pilgrim's Progress in the holdings of the TBHC. The George Whitfield pulpit, currently on display at the Smithsonian Institute will be returned to the museum in the Fall.

The TBHC has new software platform that allows the collection to consolidate its databases providing staff and researchers faster and more concise access to information contained within the TBHC. The digitizing partnership with Baylor University continues to develop. The annuals of all Texas Baptist state conventions held within the TBHC have now been scanned and it is hoped this material will be online and available to researchers soon.

The Collection assisted numerous on-site researchers, examining such topics as Texas Baptist women, Hispanic work in Texas, and Wayland Baptist University. If you're interested in on-site research, please contact Autumn Hendon (autumn.hendon@texasbaptists.org).

Many rural churches have played an important role in the development of the BGCT. In recent years some of these churches have closed their doors. The TBHC is actively seeking minutes and historical information on these churches so that their ministry and impact will not be lost. If you have any information on any of these type of churches, please contact the TBHC (tbhc@texasbaptists.org).

The church library ministry continues to be a vital component of the Collection's ministry. The annual Church Library Conference will resume in October of 2018. Please contact Naomi Taplin (naomi.taplin@texasbaptists.org) for information.

The Texas Baptists are encouraged to visit the Texas Baptist Historical Museum at Independence. The permanent displays at the TBHM tell the stories of the beginnings of the Baptist denomination, Baptists in America, and Texas Baptists. Important Baptist Distinctives are also highlighted on an interactive wall. To arrange a tour of the museum please contact Phil Hassell (phil.hassell@texasbaptists.org).

The TBHC offers the following services:

- Research Assistance
- Photograph Reproductions
- Preservation
- Consultations
- Baptist History and Heritage Awareness

The Texas Baptist Missions Foundation helps individuals use their financial resources to change the world through present gifts, planned gifts, and estate gifts. From August 2017 through March of 2018, we assisted 3,056 donors who made 9,922 gifts for a total of \$2,601,863 in cash and gifts in kind, with an average gift amount of \$262. Here are some of the ways TBMF connected these donors with ministry needs in Texas:

Bob Pinder – A Heart for Students

Pinder has lived a long, fruitful life dedicated to ministry. After completing seminary, he spent 17 years pastoring various churches before he was led to serve for 8 years with the International Mission Board in Argentina. While home on furlough, he returned to school to work on his PhD.

In 1971 Pinder became a professor of Human Development and Family Studies, teaching various courses over his 23 years at Texas Tech University. His classes were among the most popular at Texas Tech and he had a strong Christian witness in all of them.

Pinder also sponsored five Christian organizations on campus while at Texas Tech, including the Baptist Student Union (now BSM). Pinder led many students to Christ during his time at Texas Tech, and he often hears from former students what an incredible impact his ministry has had on their lives and families.

Pinder retired from Texas Tech in 1996 and moved to Georgetown, Texas. He served on the Texas Baptists Mission Foundation Board of Advisors (now Council) for 11 years, from 1999-2008. He helped the Missions Foundation build several new BSM buildings on different college campuses, and desired to see the same thing happen at Texas Tech. The existing building at Tech was built in the 1950's and badly needed replacing. Pinder stepped up and gave the lead gift that got the planning off and running. Construction will start on the new building in December of 2018 and will be named the Dr. Robert H. Pinder Student Center.

Texas Tech BSM Capital Campaign Update

This new 9500 square foot building will feature a large worship hall with seating for up to 350 students, a commercial kitchen, seating/gaming area for students, training and prayer rooms, and much more. The overall project will cost \$3.3 million. Led by the generous gift from Dr. Bob Pinder, we have raised over \$3 million in pledges and gifts to date. If you would like to help, contact the Missions Foundation at 214-828-5343 or mail your check to Texas Baptist Missions Foundation, 7557 Rambler Road Suite 1200, Dallas, TX 75231.

TBMF Gives \$349,790 in Grants

Thanks to the generosity of donors like you, 29 grants totaling \$349,790 were approved by the Texas Baptist Missions Foundation Council on September 25, 2017. These grants are for use in the 2018 budget year and cover a variety of ministries including disaster recovery, prison ministry, intercultural pastor education, collegiate ministries, and Bible Drill.

One of the grants will help continue work on the Neighborhood Renewal Initiative which addresses housing needs for families in East Texas communities. Under separate strategic partnerships, East Texas Baptist University students, staff, and faculty unite together to provide solutions for families in need of assistance with home renewal or construction. The students pay some of the renovation costs themselves through class tuition for a course on servant leadership, LEAD 4301: Leadership for the Future. TBMF is pleased to partner with them in this ministry project.

If you would like some ideas on how to support missions in Texas or around the world, the Foundation staff will be happy to work with you.



**BILL
ARNOLD**
President

**JERRY
CARLISLE**
Vice President

**STEVE
MASSEY**
Vice President

**LESLIE
SNYDER**
Donor Relations
Coordinator

RITA GRIFFITH
Administrative
Assistant

**BEKA
MULLINS**
Administrative
Assistant



TEXAS BAPTISTS®
BAPTIST GENERAL CONVENTION OF TEXAS



**STEVE
VERNON**
Associate
Executive
Director

**BETHANY
FRISCH**
Executive
Assistant

**LADONNA
RENFRO**
Texas Baptist
Committee
Specialist

One of the keys of any successful organization is the collaboration of those who lead in the work. One of the joys experienced in the office of the Associate Executive Director is to collaborate with so many in the Baptist family including staff, churches, associations, institutions and individuals.

Internally the staff in the office has the opportunity to work with the ministries of the BGCT. This includes the five teams of the BGCT organization, Christian Life Commission, Great Commission Team, The Connections Team, Collegiate Ministries Team, and the Missions Team. Cultural Engagement is a part of each of these ministries. These teams form the heart of ministry to churches across the state.

A Texas Baptist story is the growth of chaplaincy endorsement by the BGCT. There are now over 900 chaplains endorsed by Texas Baptists. There is a new relationship with the Baptist General Association of Virginia for endorsement. Each day chaplains serving in the military, in hospitals, at hospices, in industry, with first responders, in nursing homes, and in countless other ways make a difference in ministry where they serve. Chaplains of the BGCT are truly the presence of Christ across the world.

Educationally Texas Baptists have a relationship with 9 universities, one teaching center, and San Marcos Baptist Academy. Through that ministry Texas Baptists touch the lives of 35,467 undergraduates and 10,691 graduate students. There are 1,563 students who receive ministerial financial assistance scholarships through cooperative program giving.

Ministry is also done through 4 BGCT related hospital systems including Baylor Scott&White Health, Baylor Scott&White Hillcrest, Hendrick Medical Center, and Baptist Hospitals of Southeast Texas.

Work through Buckner International, BCFS, Children at Heart Ministries, and South Texas Children's Home reach many more. It is estimated that over any given year the BGCT touches the lives of 2 million plus people in the state and across the world

The Executive Board of the Convention is supported by the office of the AED. The Executive Board is charged to do the business of the convention when the convention is not in session at the Annual Meeting. The role of the office of the Associate Executive Director includes orientating directors, overseeing the registration process, and arranging for the meetings, working with agendas, and working with the business that the Executive Board will consider. The last two years have been particularly challenging for the board in dealing with churches and the ethical issues of the day.

The Associate Executive Director's office oversees the training and meeting facilitation of the committees of the BGCT. Hundreds of Texas Baptists fill elected positions in the governing bodies of institutions and entities related to the BGCT. The office of the AED facilitates the work of the Committee to Nominate Executive Board Directors, the Committee to Nominate Boards of Affiliated Ministries and the Committee on Committees. Other committees that the office coordinates are the Committee on Convention Business, the Committee on Memorials, the Committee on Credentials, and the Committee on Resolutions.

It is an honor and a privilege to represent Texas Baptists at churches, events, and at other meetings across the state and across the nation. The opportunities to share the Gospel through preaching and speaking in churches on a weekly basis gives the opportunity to know the heartbeat of churches as they seek to reach the state with the hope of the Gospel.



BOB BILLUPS
Publisher

STAN GRANBERRY
BaptistWay
Press, Specialist

NANCY FEASTER
Ministry
Assistant

God's Word Changes Lives! Because this is true, the mission of BaptistWay Press® is to serve churches by helping connect people to God's word. As the publishing arm of the BGCT, BaptistWay Press® produces quality Bible studies and resources for the various ministries of the convention.

The Bible says, *"All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting, and training in righteousness, so that the servant of God may be thoroughly equipped for every good work."* - 2 Timothy 3:16-17 (NIV)

Thank you for boldly teaching God's Word and sharing that hope of Christ. Our goal is to continue to provide quality resources to assist you as you teach. Please check out our online catalog of both printed and digital resources at www.baptistwaypress.org.

Here are some highlights from August 2017 through March 2018.

Published Quality Ongoing Bible Study Resources...

- *Going Viral: The Birth and Advance of the Church (A Study of Acts)*
- *GSI: Gospel Story Investigator (A Study of Luke)*
- *Character and the Crown (A Study of 1 Samuel)*

Each study in English includes a Study Guide, a Large Print Study Guide, and a Teaching Guide. Commentaries and Teaching Resource Items are also available. Kindle editions of the Study Guide were also produced. You can find these by searching for "BaptistWay" on amazon.

Upcoming Bible studies for adults from BaptistWay include:

- *Rescue and Redemption (Summer 2018)*
- *Correction and Counsel (A Study of 1 and 2 Corinthians) (Fall 2018)*
- *Grace and Truth (a study of the Gospel of John) (Winter 2018)*
- *Triumphs & Troubles (A Study of 2 Samuel)*

The new name for our ongoing **BaptistWay Press®** curriculum line, **Connect 360: All the Bible for All of Life** has become more well known with our churches. Our goal continues to be for people to **Discover, Believe, and Live** the truths of the Bible.

Thanks to the generosity of Texas Baptists through their gifts to the Mary Hill Davis Offering, the **Intercultural Ministry** of BaptistWay continued to add new, free, downloadable Bible studies for language groups.

Moving Toward the Future...BaptistWay Press® will continue to seek to expand its reach in serving churches by connecting people to God through His Word. We will support the ministry teams of the BGCT as their publisher and leverage our new website to serve more churches.

MINISTRY STATISTICS FOR BAPTISTWAY PRESS® (August 2017 - March 2018)

of units sold..... 55,608
Gross Sales\$224,388.65
of orders1790
of customers 800

It is an honor to serve Texas Baptists as the new Publisher of BaptistWay Press®. Please feel free to contact me with your questions, suggestions, and comments. You can email me at bob.billups@texasbaptists.org or call me at 214-887-5487 or 214-828-5263.

May God continue to bless you as you continue to serve Him.



TEXAS BAPTISTS®
BAPTIST GENERAL CONVENTION OF TEXAS



BOBBY SMITH
Director

ERIC WHITMORE
Associate Endorser for Calling and Endorsement

JIM BROWN
Associate Endorser for Chaplain Training

WILL BEARDEN
Associate Endorser for Pastoral Care and Support

DAN FRANKLIN
Associate Endorser for Pastoral Care and Support

DONALD LACY
Associate Endorser for Pastoral Care and Support

The Office of Chaplaincy Relations endorses, supports, and trains Texas Baptist chaplains. These ministers provide pastoral care in a variety of specialized ministry settings. The office provides ecclesiastical endorsement through a process that affirms to an employer that a chaplain or pastoral counselor has met all the basic requirements of the denomination to practice ministry in a specialized setting. Basic requirements include personal, spiritual and professional accountability; educational, moral and ethical standards; ability to work in a pluralistic environment; doctrinal stability; and active membership in a local Baptist congregation.

The Chaplaincy Endorsement Council is elected by the BGCT Executive Board and serves as the endorsement agency on behalf of the BGCT. It reports its work to the Institutional Relations Committee of the Executive Board. The Council establishes guidelines for endorsement requirements. State and federal institutions require chaplains to be endorsed by an officially recognized faith group. The U.S. Armed Forces Chaplains Board on July 24, 2002, approved the BGCT as a recognized endorsement agency. Every major federal, state and civilian institution recognizes Texas Baptist chaplaincy endorsement.

The Office of Chaplaincy Relations continues to grow. Under the Director/Endorser are five Associate Endorsers directing three separate functions. The Associate for Calling and Endorsement coordinates communication with individuals interested in chaplaincy as they pursue their chaplaincy calling. The Associate manages the endorsement process, including new endorsements, updates, and transfers, and directs office staff and budget issues.

Three Associate Endorsers for Pastoral Care and Support maintain relationships with endorsed chaplains and provide timely and quality support to meet their needs. The Associates' primary responsibility is pastoral visitation and counseling support.

The Associate Endorser for Chaplain Training coordinates training to maintain chaplain certification and professional qualification to serve in various institutions. The office also manages contracts for local church volunteer chaplain training.

In early 2017, the Baptist General Association of Virginia voted to ask the BGCT Office of Chaplaincy Relations to serve as the chaplain endorser for the Association. The BGAV consists of 1,400 churches in the Commonwealth and many affiliated churches throughout the world.

The Office of Chaplaincy Relations is committed to training Texas Baptist congregations to become authentic Christian caregivers through pastoral ministry skill training by offering courses such as *Hands on Ministry and Applied Suicide Intervention Skills Training*.

Latest efforts include a Native American Initiative based in Sisseton, South Dakota, to plant churches and train and mentor Christian tribal leaders of the local Lakota Sioux tribes.

Endorsement Totals (2002-2018):

| | |
|---------------------------------|-----|
| Chaplains Endorsed | 913 |
| New Chaplain Endorsements | 716 |



KEITH CROUCH

Team Leader;
Director, Church
Architecture

KAREN YOUNG

Loan & Grants
Manager/Ministry
Assistant to the
Team Leader

RUSSELL MADDOX

Church
Architecture
Specialist

PAT EKERN

Church
Architecture
Specialist

KEN HUNNICUTT

Church
Architecture
Specialist

FRANK PALOS

United We Build
Specialist

Hurricane Harvey - This has been the year of Church Building Recovery following Hurricane Harvey. We continue to work with 109 churches that have contacted us for assistance. We've provided building damage assessments, determined priorities and processes for building recovery, addressed ways to sustain ministries and move forward, as well as connected churches and volunteers. Many churches are making a comeback, thanks to assistance from other Texas Baptist churches and individuals around the state. There has been an openness to Christ as volunteers engage with these churches in their communities.

Calvary BC, Aransas Pass - This small congregation had such heavy damage that I suggested to Pastor Dee Blasingame that they might consider to merge with another church. However, their long-time deacon Dale asked, "Then who will feed our people?" This small congregation provides groceries for about 40 families every Saturday. Therefore, their goal was recovery, and we provided them with a Small Church Building Recovery Grant and matched them up with a volunteer construction manager, Ricky Null, and a team from his church of First Baptist, Terrell. Additional donations and volunteers enabled them to double in attendance and continue their food ministry and outreach to the community. Great progress has been made to repair their buildings.

Church Building Recovery Disaster Response - Since August 2017, Texas Baptists Church Architecture Ministry has issued \$154,000 in Church Building Recovery Grants for 59 churches. We have also issued \$37,900 Pastor Housing Grants to 45 pastors. At the beginning of August, we had no money for these grants. However, after much prayer and challenging work to find funding resources we want to thank the generous donors for church building recovery grants.

Working Together - Church Architecture has worked to serve our churches in collaboration with numerous other Texas Baptists such as African American Ministries, Texas Baptists Area Reps, Hispanic Baptists Ministries, Intercultural Ministries, Baptist Student Ministries, Associational Missions, Discipleship, Church Starting, Ministers Counseling, Western Heritage, Missions Team River Ministry, Texas Baptist Missions Foundation, various Local Baptist Associations Directors of Missions, Women's Missionary Union of Texas, Texas Baptist Men and Baptist Church Loan Corporation.

All Kinds of Churches - We work with all kinds of churches all over Texas. Congregations of all sizes, new churches and long-time churches, traditional, contemporary, language groups, cowboy churches, and vaquero churches are part of our ministry as we help them develop their space for more effective ministries.

| RESOURCE PACKETS ISSUED | CONSULTATIONS | MASTER SITE PLANS | FLOOR PLAN STUDIES | # CHURCHES ASSISTED | TOTAL ACTIVITIES |
|---------------------------------|---------------------------|-------------------------|--|---------------------------|---------------------|
| 40 | 406 | 47 | 47 | 355 | 992 |
| SMALL CHURCH MATCHING GRANTS | SMALL CHURCH LOANS | | CHURCH BUILDING RECOVERY GRANTS & PASTOR HOUSING GRANTS | | |
| 11 GRANTS TOTAL \$52,650 | 2 LOANS TOTAL \$45,000 | | \$154,000 CBR Grants to 59 damaged churches \$37,900 PHG Grants to 45 damaged homes | | |



TEXAS BAPTISTS®
BAPTIST GENERAL CONVENTION OF TEXAS



CLAY PRICE
Director

Since its inception a decade ago the purpose of Decision Support has been to enhance the ability of Texas Baptist leaders to make effective decisions in developing plans and strategies for evangelism, missions, and ministry. This purpose is carried out by providing church and demographic data to help church leaders better understand their context for ministry. On a regular basis churches have requested population profiles of their communities to help them anticipate and plan for the future or to help them find the right person to fill pastoral or other church staff positions.

Associations also use demographic data to get the larger picture of church and ministry needs for their areas. During the fall the Information Analyst for the office made presentations on demographic trends to the executive boards of the Parker and Denton Baptist Associations. Such presentations serve a dual function: not only do leaders get a picture of the trends that impact their “Judea” but they also see the value of examining data for their own churches, their “Jerusalem.”

Decision Support also compiles the Annual Church Profiles (ACP) to provide an understanding of the current state of Texas Baptist churches. Many churches have lost sight of the value of an annual snapshot of their congregation. Basic data on membership, baptisms, attendance, and giving can literally show a church its “vital signs.” Multi-year reports can help a church celebrate its past and develop strategies for the future. And when combined with other churches, the data from ACPs provide insights about resources and outreach needed for local, state, and even national considerations. It is more important than ever that churches find a renewed commitment both in providing and in using basic church data through the ACP process.

As a convention of cooperating churches, the BGCT seeks to provide resources to enable existing churches to grow and it also wants to see new churches started so the good news of Jesus can be effectively shared with the expanding population of the state. Planning and creative thinking will be needed to share this message in the coming years. Survey research shows 18 percent of Texas adults do not have a religious preference (2% are atheists, 3% are agnostic, and 13% are nothing in particular). This percentage is up from 11 percent in a similar study just seven years earlier (American Religious Landscape Studies 2007 and 2014, Pew Research Center). From 2007 to 2014 the number of Texas adults increased 10 percent but the number of Texas adults without a religious preference jumped 80 percent—from 2.0 million in 2007 to 3.5 million in 2014! The harvest is more plentiful than ever and it is the prayer of this office that Texas Baptist churches actively plan for the present and the future through the use of demographic and church data.

The work of the Treasurer's Office includes overseeing endowments, legal coordination, financial matters, human resources, information technology, conference and events, and process improvement. You will see in the following reports how this staff responds to the needs of BGCT staff and to the needs of our churches.

It has been a busy period in the Treasurer's office on the real estate front. An offer to sell our Baptist Student Ministry (BSM) property at University of Texas-Austin has led to a contract to sell the property, buy back space in a condominium style arrangement to house the BSM, and create a quasi-endowment to help support the work of BSM. Additionally, a new lease has been negotiated for the Christian Life Commission offices in Austin. Late in 2017, an extension of the lease for the offices in Dallas was also executed providing space for the Convention staff into 2026.

Process Improvement

Since Process Improvement began in 2016, ministry teams have been introduced to best practices aimed at increasing efficiency and reducing waste. In the past year, the volunteer management project was substantially completed and work was begun on the recommendations for events and conferences. The goal of those recommendations is to centralize what we can and standardize processes that should not be centralized. In addition, process improvement worked on several "rapid response" projects that are brief projects to help a department be more effective or more efficient.

Thank you, Texas Baptists, for allowing us to serve the ministries of BGCT!



**JILL
LARSEN**
Treasurer/CFO

KIM PATTON
Executive
Assistant

**MICHELLE
FERGUS**
Process
Improvement
Manager



TEXAS BAPTISTS®
BAPTIST GENERAL CONVENTION OF TEXAS

THE EXECUTIVE BOARD OF THE BAPTIST GENERAL CONVENTION OF TEXAS

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

Years ended December 31, 2017 and 2016

| | 2017 | 2016 |
|---|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| Assets | | |
| Cash and cash equivalents | \$ 3,280,958 | \$ 4,225,635 |
| Investments | 140,507,123 | 126,069,974 |
| Contribution receivable, net | 928,090 | 658,223 |
| Prepaid expenses and other assets | 1,114,261 | 1,210,815 |
| Loans receivable, net | 1,262,376 | 1,327,794 |
| Notes receivables, net | 3,967,600 | 4,402,467 |
| Other receivables | 1,587,836 | 2,035,109 |
| Beneficial interest in trusts | 15,881,280 | 16,241,784 |
| Property and equipment, net | 10,450,411 | 11,287,987 |
| Total Assets | <u>\$ 178,979,935</u> | <u>\$ 167,459,788</u> |
| Liabilities and Net Assets | | |
| Liabilities | | |
| Accounts payable | \$ 1,730,389 | \$ 1,803,430 |
| Accrued liabilities | 6,939,070 | 6,653,865 |
| Due to WMU | 3,706,335 | 3,667,927 |
| Other liabilities | 3,156,314 | 3,638,570 |
| Notes payable | 1,656,517 | 1,873,583 |
| Accrued postretirement benefit | 8,850,284 | 8,955,251 |
| Total Liabilities | <u>26,038,909</u> | <u>26,592,626</u> |
| Net Assets | | |
| Net Assets Without Donor Restrictions | 41,443,560 | 42,095,713 |
| Net Assets With Donor Restrictions | 111,497,466 | 98,771,449 |
| Total Net Assets | <u>152,941,026</u> | <u>140,867,162</u> |
| Total Liabilities & Net Assets | <u>\$ 178,979,935</u> | <u>\$ 167,459,788</u> |

STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES

Years ended December 31, 2017 and 2016

| | 2017 | 2016 |
|---|----------------|----------------|
| Church Support & Revenue | | |
| Cooperative Program Income | \$ 29,633,383 | \$ 30,417,385 |
| Cooperative Program Expenses | 36,590,777 | 35,965,040 |
| Excess of Program Expenses over Program Revenues | (6,957,394) | (5,547,655) |
| Other Program Support | | |
| Investment Income | 9,251,455 | 6,742,449 |
| Realized and Unrealized Gain (Loss) on Investments (Net) | 11,565,381 | (2,644,476) |
| Other Program Income | 11,442,273 | 11,766,633 |
| Other Program Expenses | (12,612,828) | (9,780,122) |
| Depreciation | (1,067,197) | (1,067,039) |
| Designated Gifts | | |
| Endowment Contributions | 774,000 | 245,544 |
| Worldwide Designated Revenues | 10,897,107 | 11,366,973 |
| Worldwide Designated Expenses | (10,897,107) | (11,366,973) |
| Mary Hill Davis State Missions Offering | 2,070,605 | 2,099,203 |
| Mary Hill Davis State Missions Expenses | (2,392,430) | (2,172,797) |
| Change in Net Assets | 12,073,865 | (358,260) |
| Net Assets, beginning of year | 140,867,161 | 141,225,421 |
| Net Assets, end of year | \$ 152,941,026 | \$ 140,867,161 |





**ROLLIE
RICHMOND**
Director

**RUBY
SANDERS**
HR Benefits
Coordinator

**LATAMRA
SELLS**
HR Generalist

The Human Resources Department is, foremost among our responsibilities, here to serve. In fact, our stated mission is: *To support the mission and ministries of the BGCT by helping leaders attract, train, and retain quality staff members.* We accomplish this through applying strategies and interventions in the areas of recruitment, benefit administration, employee relations, compensation, training and development, organizational design, coaching, and performance management. We have many statistics that help to measure and validate how well we accomplish our mission. If you'd like, please let us know and we'd be happy to share that statistical information with you.

But, we wanted to, instead of just listing statistics, share a few examples of things we've done and are working on this year that we feel better illustrates our commitment to our Human Resources ministry – which is – *to help the collective BGCT ministries happen.*

How Are We doing – an Inward Look

This past year, we experienced some turnover in our HR staff. Anytime you lose a key member of your staff, you are presented with challenges. On the plus side, you are also presented with opportunities. We decided to embrace the opportunity to conduct an internal review of our HR processes and procedures. We evaluated the critical things we do to look for opportunities to improve our performance, and thus, our ability to serve our ministries. Among other outcomes, this effort led to process and performance improvement in key areas like recruiting and benefit administration.

Employee Health Benefits – The Challenge Grows Greater

Everyone knows how challenging it is to provide good health benefits to individuals, families, and organizations in this very volatile health care environment. Two years ago, we went out to bids in an attempt to stabilize our health care costs while maintaining quality health care offerings for our employees and retirees. Since then, the health care environment has become even more unstable and costs continue to rise at an unsustainable rate. As a result, we have embarked on a detailed analysis of health care options in terms of plan design, cost containment interventions, and financing structure. Our goal remains to provide quality health care delivery options for our employees and retirees while being good stewards of the funds entrusted to us. Our analysis continues, and, with the help of some highly qualified health care experts, we are confident that for 2019 and beyond our stated goal will be accomplished.

Work in Progress – Looking to the Future

In HR, we are always looking for ways to improve our employee's experience as they work daily to support Texas Baptists and the Kingdom. Before the year is out we will introduce a number of interventions that we are currently working on that will enhance the performance of HR, our organization and our employees. These new interventions include:

- **Updated Employee Handbook** that will put the answers to employee's questions regarding HR policies and practices at their fingertips.
- **Employee Recognition Program** that will recognize and reward the performance of both management and non-management staff.
- **Recruiting Enhancements** that will simplify the experience for our hiring managers and candidates.

These are but a few of the examples of the ways we have worked every day this year in service to our Texas Baptists staff and ministries. We in HR are blessed and we thank you for the opportunity that you give us to serve in His name. Please feel free to reach out to us with questions or if you need help in the HR arena – we are here to serve.

The Office of Finance & Accounting provides accurate and timely processing of receipts from voluntary contributions, mission gifts, event registration fees and BaptistWay Press product sales. The Office also provides assistance with budgeting and accounting information on the corporate and individual level.

The primary ministry emphases are cash receipts, accounts payable, general ledger and financial reporting. During the past year our ministry team:

- Received and recorded more than 90,000 contributions, mission gifts, product sales transactions and event registration payments.
- Processed over 14,000 cash disbursement checks and electronic payments.
- Recorded information into and prepared reports from more than 60,000 accounts in the general ledger subsidiary ledgers.
- Provided church tax information upon request.
- Continued to provide accurate financial reporting for the yearly audit.
- Coordinated the preparation of the 2018 budget.

The financial statements of Texas Baptists are audited annually by an independent certified public accounting firm. Also, the Controller insures proper internal controls are in place to avoid financial improprieties.

This office is also responsible for risk management. Responsibilities include determining levels of insurance coverage, negotiating rates and coordinating claims.

Upon request we assist churches affiliated with Texas Baptists by providing evidence of their exemption from Federal income tax.

All members of the Finance & Accounting Staff consider our work a ministry to Texas Baptists churches. Thank you for allowing us to serve you.



JIM REED
Controller/
Assistant
Treasurer

JEANNIE MILLER
Administrative
Assistant



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BAPTIST GENERAL CONVENTION OF TEXAS



**DAVE
LYONS**
Director

Information Technology (IT) serves the many ministries of Texas Baptists and WMU through technology and logistics solutions. We are called to minister - just as all other Texas Baptists teams are - and our ministry is enabling and equipping those ministries.

Significant Software Improvement Underway

We selected Salesforce as an easier to use, significantly less expensive, much easier to maintain, fully cloud-based replacement for our Touchpoint/Siebel **Church Relationship Management (CRM) system**. Implementation and migration expected to be complete in 2Q 2018.

IT User Support

Our technology support team continues to provide technology solutions to accomplish the ministry goals of Texas Baptists by keeping our systems current and protected. This included:

- Google G Suite
- Key applications hosted in a stable cloud environment Cloud-based applications - Financial Edge, ShoreTel phone system and TouchPoint (Siebel CRM)
- Microsoft Office 365
- Wireless networking
- Managed printing
- Helpdesk
- Laptops, tablets, and desktops
- Active security testing and education
- Supporting 5 remote locations and dozens of mobile workers

Information Management Team

Information Management Team (IMT) continues to serve Texas Baptists ministry teams to provide the most current and up to date information of churches and their respective staff and leaders. In the latest 12 months, IMT

- created 15,446 activities (or church touches) for Area Reps and ministry teams
- created 130 targeted mail lists
- answered 7,498 incoming calls
- processed 3,159 orders
- downloaded and processed 13,765 online donations.

IMT is committed to partnering with Texas Baptists ministries to support what they do in the local church by performing ministry data entry, evaluation reports and other custom data collection and reporting tools.

Support Services

Our Support Services team provides these services to our staff:

- Facility Safety
- Warehousing
- Shipping and receiving
- Meeting Management
- Kitchen and meeting refreshments
- Repairs, maintenance, and adjustments at our Rambler office and warehouse
- Materials transportation
- Bank deposits

This group serves with a laser-like focus on customer service and doing whatever it can to best serve the varied needs of our Texas Baptist ministry teams.

Information Technology and Support Services focuses on and strives to continually better serve the ministries of Texas Baptists.

Conference & Events has had the opportunity to serve many of the various languages and culture groups of the Convention; from African American, Hispanic, Asian, Youth, Western Heritage, Children and on and on.

This last year, we supported over 95 + meetings and events of the Convention in various ways. We assist, plan and manage large scale conferences like Annual Meeting that have a few thousand attendees with full-scale worship production, large exhibit hall, meals, and workshops all the way to a 10-member committee meeting and everything in between: conferences, training events, camps and even retreats.

We support those events in various ways, from the beginning planning stages of a meeting, all the way through to when the lights are turned out at the end of the meeting. We might create, set up and manage an exhibit hall, schedule meals, be the liaison with bands and speakers, be a stage manager for worship sessions and even design a stage set. For some offices we serve as consultants by doing research and negotiating rates and contracts.

Last year we assisted in securing over 80 locations for various conventions, conferences, trainings, meetings and events. Long term we have encouraged ministry offices to plan current projects as well as events for future years. This allows the ability to negotiate multiple years, and potentially negotiate multiple events as a package benefiting our bargaining power and reducing costs. We walk ministry offices through a site visit of a church, convention center, university campus or hotel to discover the best use of space. We assisted in locating and negotiating rates for hotels and meeting venues. This last year our team assisted in securing over 30,000 sleeping room nights for various events and negotiating courtesy block hotel rates for travelers. Additionally, we have negotiated a national account with LaQuinta for a discounted rate that any of our churches and individuals can utilize.

To reduce overall convention cost related to events, we work with various ministry offices to develop requests for proposals to obtain competitive services related to production, decorators (pipe/drape), catering, transportation, transient hotel rates and event equipment.

Conference & Event team thrives by serving in the background. The Convention focus on the Great Commandment and the Great Commission, fuels our passion is that many will come to know the Savior, to grow deeper in their relationship with Him and to be assured of the Hope that is found only in a relationship with Christ.



COLEEN WALL
Director

REX CAMPBELL
Media
Production
Specialist

WENDY MORRIS
Planning
Coordinator



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**ABRAHAM
JAQUEZ**
President

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San Antonio, TX
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bua.edu

"Because of the Lord's great love we are not consumed, for his compassions never fail. They are new every morning; great is your faithfulness." Lamentations 3:22-23

It has been eight months since beginning my tenure as president of Baptist University of the Americas. During this time, it has been quite frequent that I hear how this beloved school has impacted many lives for the last 71 years. I am honored to have been selected by the Board of Trustees to serve and impact the next generation of cross-cultural Christian leaders.

During this year, the University has experienced both challenges and victories. A constant challenge has been to ensure our financial stability. We are grateful to God for Texas Baptists who provided to us essential help through a loan and a generous gift that was matched by our faithful donors. The loan and gifts helped us stabilize the University as we came out of the presidential transition with a significant cash flow problem. In addition, we had to enforce hard austerity measures that led to reducing our workforce and to make critical decisions regarding spending over these past eight months. The combination of loan, gifts, and austerity measures provided us with an improved financial situation that continues to be carefully monitored as the year progresses.

Another challenge has been a decrease in our enrollment during the current academic year. Although we continue to enroll additional students who have received the call to ministry, our numbers were lower than we had anticipated. However, these numbers have prompted both our faculty and the student services area to focus even more on recruitment and make sure that the BUA story is told among our constituents so that we may bring new students who need to receive the excellent education we provide.

The year also was characterized by a university-wide mobilization in preparation for the ten-year accreditation reaffirmation evaluation visit by the Association for Biblical Higher Education (ABHE). BUA completed a two-and-one-half-year self-study journey that culminated with our submitting the accreditation documentation in January and hosting the ABHE Evaluation Team in March. The entire self-study process together with the ABHE evaluation visit were a very positive, albeit stressful, experience. It was gratifying to see all areas of the University involved in self-assessment and see how that analysis helped us plan for the future as we address our current needs.

We are now in preparation for our annual commencement ceremony. This will be my first graduation as president of BUA. A group of 29 students are completing their degree requirements and preparing to receive the diploma that states that they are looking forward to the next steps in their formation as cross-cultural Christian leaders. Some of them will go immediately to the workforce both in churches and in business and community organizations; some will continue their studies by pursuing graduate programs at universities and seminaries in Texas and around the country. We are grateful to God for these students and pray that they will be a blessing wherever they may go.

It has been a time of learning and adjustments for me, my family, and the University. Throughout it all, the constant has been God's mercy and our awareness that every day is a new day at BUA!

BAPTIST UNIVERSITY OF THE AMERICAS STATISTICAL INFORMATION 2017-2018 SCHOOL YEAR

| | |
|--|-----|
| Enrollment, Fall | 238 |
| Enrollment, Spring | 248 |
| Number of students on full or partial scholarships funded by institution* | 91 |
| Number of students receiving BGCT Ministerial Tuition Grants* | 117 |
| Estimated total number of students preparing for ministry* | 128 |
| Approximate percentage of Baptist students | 69% |

*"Non duplicating" totals for the 2017-18 school year.

SUMMARY FINANCIAL STATEMENT

Operating Revenue

| | |
|--|--------------------|
| Tuition and fees | \$1,433,436 |
| BGCT appropriations..... | \$1,850,000 |
| Auxiliary enterprises | \$346,692 |
| All other sources | \$969,368 |
| Total operational revenue | \$4,599,496 |

Operating Expenses

| | |
|---|--------------------|
| Educational and general, not including scholarships..... | \$2,343,938 |
| Institution funded scholarships & financial aid | \$920,125 |
| Auxiliary enterprises | \$172,122 |
| All other expenses | \$202,150 |
| Total operational expenses..... | \$3,638,335 |
| Excess revenue over expenses after transfers..... | \$961,161 |

Endowment and Net Assets

| | |
|-------------------------------------|-------------|
| Total Endowment (Market Value)..... | \$4,895,384 |
|-------------------------------------|-------------|

Net Assets

| | |
|------------------------------|---------------------|
| Unrestricted | \$6,832,044 |
| Temporarily Restricted..... | \$1,046,912 |
| Permanently Restricted..... | \$4,855,384 |
| Total Net Assets..... | \$12,734,340 |



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LINDA A. LIVINGSTONE
President

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Waco, Texas
76798

www.baylor.edu

Baylor University is a private Baptist university and a nationally ranked research institution. Chartered in 1845 by the Republic of Texas and affiliated with the BGCT, Baylor is the oldest continually operating university in Texas. Baylor's mission is to educate men and women for worldwide leadership and service by integrating academic excellence and Christian commitment within a caring community.

Dr. Linda A. Livingstone was officially inaugurated as Baylor University's 15th president on Oct. 26, 2017. A distinguished scholar, academic leader and strong voice for the role of faith-based institutions in American higher education, Dr. Livingstone returned to Baylor after serving as a business faculty member on the Waco campus from 1991 to 2002 and as dean of the business schools at Pepperdine University and George Washington University. She is leading Baylor forward through the University's Academic Strategic Plan – called Illuminate – with the goal to bring light to the world as a preeminent Christian research university.

In fall 2017, Baylor's enrollment of 17,059 students included 3,320 freshmen. Truett Seminary enrolled 349 students and hosted several conferences and lectures, including the Preaching Symposium, E.K. Bailey Memorial Preaching Event, Dobbs Lectureship, Parchman Lectures, T.B. Maston Lecture, Willson-Addis Lecture and Drumwright Colloquium. Truett also announced an extension campus in Houston with classes beginning in fall 2017 at Tallwood Baptist Church.

In fall 2017, 27.6 percent of Baylor students were Baptist. Nearly 2,800 students indicated an interest in vocational Christian ministry, including preaching, missions, music and education.

In 2017-2018, Baylor's department of religion enrolled 7,232 students in religion courses, with approximately 223 undergraduate students majoring or minoring in religion and 55 students in the graduate program. Eight students earned the Ph.D. in religion. Baylor had 251 undergraduates who received the BGCT Ministry Scholarship.

On Oct. 4, 2017, Baylor hosted its annual Missions Fair, during which representatives from 26 international and domestic missions and ministry organizations shared about their work and helped students find ways to use their skills and passions to serve Christ around the world.

For the 10th consecutive year, Baylor and Waco hosted Congreso April 27-29, 2018. The event included worship, missions and small-group training equipping young people for impactful living as disciples of Jesus.

Baylor Missions lived out its purpose in 2017-2018 by focusing on discipline-specific missions in which groups of students integrated their faith with service and learning.

Baylor Missions sent out 45 teams of 787 Baylor students, faculty, staff and alumni to 15 countries – Costa Rica, Dominican Republic, Ghana, Greece, Guatemala, Haiti, India, Italy, Kenya, Malaysia, Mexico, South Africa, Uganda, the United Kingdom and Zambia – and the United States.

Baylor students worked alongside teachers; served impoverished peoples through health, education and nutrition initiatives; set up medical clinics and provided health assessments; empowered pastors and young entrepreneurs; assisted in ongoing Hurricane Harvey relief efforts in Houston and the Gulf Coast; addressed hunger; set built solar energy systems; and embarked on a Civil Rights tour across the southeastern United States.

Baylor Missions again partnered with New Student Programs and Orphan's Heart/One More Child Global to send a team of incoming freshmen, student leaders and Baylor staff to Antigua, Guatemala, for a combined summer mission trip and Baylor Line Camp experience. Incoming freshmen learn about Baylor's core values while growing their faith through international service as new members of the Baylor community.

Baylor had 29 urban missions teams that contributed more than 3,000 hours of local service through children's ministries and recreation, eldercare, special-needs ministries, education and tutorials, and special interest teams.

BAYLOR UNIVERSITY STATISTICAL INFORMATION FOR 2017-2018 SCHOOL YEAR

| | |
|--|--------|
| Enrollment, Fall | 17,059 |
| Enrollment, Spring | 16,186 |
| Number of students on full or partial scholarships funded by institution* | 14,462 |
| Number of students receiving BGCT Ministerial Tuition Grants* | 253 |
| Estimated total number of students preparing for ministry* | 2,284 |
| Approximate percentage of Baptist students | 28% |

*"Non duplicating" totals for the 2017-18 school year.

SUMMARY FINANCIAL STATEMENT* AUDITED DATA AS OF FISCAL YEAR ENDED MAY 31, 2017

Operating Revenue

| | |
|--|----------------------|
| Tuition and fees | \$688,693,000 |
| BGCT appropriations..... | \$1,581,000 |
| Auxiliary enterprises | \$53,584,000 |
| All other sources | \$213,464,000 |
| Total operational revenue | \$957,322,000 |

Operating Expenses

| | |
|---|----------------------|
| Educational and general, not including scholarships..... | \$619,970,000 |
| Institution funded scholarships & financial aid | \$284,044,000 |
| Auxiliary enterprises | \$40,194,000 |
| Total operational expenses..... | \$944,208,000 |
| Excess revenue over expenses after transfers..... | \$13,114,000 |

Endowment and Net Assets

| | |
|--------------------------------------|-----------------|
| Total Endowment (Market Value) | \$1,231,712,000 |
|--------------------------------------|-----------------|

Net Assets

| | |
|------------------------------|------------------------|
| Unrestricted | \$767,846,000 |
| Temporarily Restricted..... | \$303,446,000 |
| Permanently Restricted..... | \$780,182,000 |
| Total Net Assets..... | \$1,851,474,000 |

* Audited financial reports are published annually in September, following the University's May 31 fiscal year-end. The financial information above is presented based on the University's most recently completed audited financial statements as of May 31, 2017.



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**DR. ADAM
WRIGHT**
President

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The mission of Dallas Baptist University is to provide Christ-centered quality higher education in the arts, sciences, and professional studies at both the undergraduate and graduate levels to traditional age and adult students in order to produce servant leaders who have the ability to integrate faith and learning through their respective callings. During 2017-2018, the University was blessed with many important achievements toward this end.

During the Fall 2017 semester, the University was blessed with an enrollment of 5,067 total students, which includes more than 2,000 students living on campus. In addition, some 1,614 students are pursuing master's degrees, and 292 students are enrolled in doctoral classes. DBU's total number of degrees awarded through the December 2017 commencement is 34,737. In addition, DBU ended the fiscal year in the black for the thirtieth consecutive year.

DBU continues to offer a wide range of undergraduate and graduate education programs, with 73 undergraduate majors, 31 master's programs, and 74 dual-degree master's programs. DBU also offers two doctoral programs, the Ph.D. in Leadership Studies, with concentrations in business, ministry, education, and general leadership, and an Ed.D. in Educational Leadership with concentrations in K-12 educational leadership, educational ministry leadership, higher education leadership, and general leadership.

The National Council on Teacher Quality recently ranked DBU's elementary education program as one of the top programs in the nation for teacher preparation, placing it in the 99th percentile, the highest mark given.

In 2017, the University began offering a new undergraduate major in Politics, Philosophy, and Economics, designed to equip students who sense a calling into diplomatic, government, and international business fields. In addition, DBU has launched two new master's degree programs, the Executive Master of Business Administration and the Master of Science in Information Technology and Management.

Also in 2017, DBU was named #1 on the "50 Most Beautiful Christian Colleges and Universities" list by Christian Universities Online. DBU's exquisite landscaping and colonial architecture were two areas that contributed to its first place position. DBU was also recognized by the Colleges of Distinction for the 2017-2018 academic year.

DBU continues to send students on mission and travel study trips to various locations around the nation and the world. This past year, hundreds of DBU students traveled to Houston, Boston, Washington, D.C., England, Germany, Israel, Spain, and Hungary. Past trips have taken students to international locations such as Australia, Bangladesh, China, Guatemala, Italy, Peru, Sierra Leone, South Korea, and Taiwan.

DBU's Institute for Global Engagement began in 2014 as a Christian think tank with a focus on connecting scholars and practitioners in order to become catalysts for moral and spiritual renewal. To date, the IGE Leadership Lecture Series has hosted Eric Metaxas, Dr. Jim Broaddus, Dale Petroskey, Keith and Kristyn Getty, Matthew Dowd, Dr. Peter Dysert, and Michael Gerson.

In the summer of 2017, DBU launched the Transform Campaign, designed to advance the mission of Dallas Baptist University through the construction of Phase 1 of Ford Village and DBU's first Residential College. The University broke ground for the Residential College in September 2017, which will be home to future students seeking an intense exploration of the concept of Christian servant leadership and its impact in a variety of vocational contexts.

We are most grateful to fellow Texas Baptists for their generous support of Dallas Baptist University.

DALLAS BAPTIST UNIVERSITY

STATISTICAL INFORMATION 2017-2018 SCHOOL YEAR

| | |
|--|-------|
| Enrollment, Fall | 5,067 |
| Enrollment, Spring | 4,577 |
| Number of students on full or partial scholarships funded by institution* | 3,715 |
| Number of students receiving BGCT Ministerial Tuition Grants* | 495 |
| Estimated total number of students preparing for ministry* | 1,592 |
| Approximate percentage of Baptist students | 42% |

*"Non duplicating" totals for 2017-2018 school year

SUMMARY FINANCIAL STATEMENT - AS OF AUDITED 05/31/2017

Operating Revenue

| | |
|--|----------------------|
| Tuition and fees | \$98,390,458 |
| BGCT appropriations..... | \$1,403,258 |
| Auxiliary enterprises..... | \$12,250,152 |
| All other sources | \$2,245,012 |
| Total operational revenue | \$114,288,880 |

Operating Expenses

| | |
|---|----------------------|
| Educational and general, not including scholarships..... | \$77,656,066 |
| Institution funded scholarships & financial aid..... | \$22,113,721 |
| Auxiliary enterprises..... | \$7,451,105 |
| All other expenses..... | \$7,056,581 |
| Total operational expenses..... | \$114,277,473 |
| Excess revenue over expenses after transfers..... | \$11,407 |

Endowment and Net Assets

| | |
|-------------------------------------|--------------|
| Total Endowment (Market Value)..... | \$47,235,277 |
|-------------------------------------|--------------|

Net Assets

| | |
|------------------------------|----------------------|
| Unrestricted | \$138,143,091 |
| Temporarily Restricted..... | \$11,619,274 |
| Permanently Restricted..... | \$32,692,421 |
| Total Net Assets..... | \$182,454,786 |



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**J. BLAIR
BLACKBURN**
President

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East Texas Baptist University's legacy, beginning with the establishment of the College of Marshall 106 years ago, remains committed to Christ by meeting students where they are and propelling them to where God has called them to be. With a record Fall 2017 enrollment of 1,533 students, ETBU continues to proclaim God's truths and equip His disciples.

"When students visit campus, my prayer is that God guides and comforts their hearts," Counselor Brashay Gross, alumna, expressed. "It is rewarding to tell students about the University God used to change my life. From the education earned to the friendships developed, your relationship with Christ will be strengthened here."

Embracing Faith

The ETBU student experience is characterized by faith integration. Through ministries, missions, chapel, worship, Bible studies, discipleship, and prayer, students encounter the Lord and discover His plan for their future.

"I want to reflect Christ in all I do," senior Austin Damron said. "While at ETBU, I realized a call to serve as a youth pastor. I believe that I will be able to apply what I have learned at ETBU to teach about the character of Christ, to serve with a higher purpose, build unity, and practice patience and adaptability."

Engaging Minds

Taught by faculty pursuing excellence in Christ, students receive individualized instruction and the resources necessary to succeed. ETBU programs provide an accessible and affordable avenue for students to earn a quality, Christ-centered education.

"The professors significantly impact me," sophomore Caitlyn Crackel said. "The knowledge they have for their field and their care for students encourages me. I am blessed to be a part of ETBU."

ETBU Nursing, ranked eighth in the state, consistently achieves 100% pass rates on the NCLEX and 100% of graduates receive job offers upon graduation.

ETBU now offers 11 graduate and 43 undergraduate programs, recently adding a Bachelor of Clinical Lab Science, Master of Science in Kinesiology, Master of Education in College and University Leadership, Master of Education in School Counseling, Master of Arts in Christian Ministry, and the Tiger Transfer Track Program.

Empowering Leadership

Students receive opportunities to apply course content outside of the classroom: service learning initiatives, student organizations, intramurals, club sports, and athletics.

"I have learned that every individual plays a role in reaching a goal, and that community is important," senior Reid Adams shared. "ETBU has taught me to lead by example rather than by words. Living out my faith through service has enabled me to further God's Kingdom in a real way."

Athletics experienced a record-setting year. Women's Basketball completed one of the most significant program turnarounds in the nation, finishing the season in the Elite Eight. With the addition of Developmental Women's Basketball, Men's and Women's Golf, and Acrobatics and Tumbling, over 550 student-athletes engage in training, fellowship, discipleship, and global missions. Through the Tiger Athletic Mission Experience, student-athletes served in the Dominican Republic, Brazil, Serbia, and Israel.

Enhancing Community

Actively involved in revitalizing the community, ETBU partners with local ministries to promote economic growth in Marshall, address poverty, and show Christ's love. Through the generosity of Texas Baptists Missions Foundation, Texas WMU, and donors, ETBU's Neighborhood Renewal Initiative continues to restore homes and impact the lives of needy families.

"I recognize that Christians are called to serve with love, grace, and the sacrifice of Jesus," senior Harleigh Parrish expressed. "I am changed because of my experiences here, and I believe I can change the world by serving others."

ETBU is grateful for Texas Baptists' support in our shared ministry to reach students, communities, and the world with the Gospel of Christ.

EAST TEXAS BAPTIST UNIVERSITY STATISTICAL INFORMATION 2017-2018 SCHOOL YEAR

| | |
|--|-------|
| Enrollment, Fall | 1,533 |
| Enrollment, Spring | 1,371 |
| Number of students on full or partial scholarships funded by institution* | 1,341 |
| Number of students receiving BGCT Ministerial Tuition Grants* | 42 |
| Estimated total number of students preparing for ministry* | 136 |
| Approximate percentage of Baptist students | 48% |

*"Non duplicating" totals for the 2017-18 school year.

SUMMARY FINANCIAL STATEMENT

Operating Revenue

| | |
|--|---------------------|
| Tuition and fees | \$31,342,627 |
| BGCT appropriations..... | \$663,846 |
| Auxiliary enterprises | \$8,294,995 |
| All other sources | \$4,045,103 |
| Total operational revenue | \$44,346,571 |

Operating Expenses

| | |
|---|---------------------|
| Educational and general, not including scholarships..... | \$23,722,558 |
| Institution funded scholarships & financial aid | \$13,228,793 |
| Auxiliary enterprises | \$7,271,423 |
| All other expenses | - |
| Total operational expenses..... | \$44,222,774 |
| Excess revenue over expenses after transfers | \$123,797 |

Endowment and Net Assets

| | |
|--------------------------------------|--------------|
| Total Endowment (Market Value) | \$74,677,478 |
|--------------------------------------|--------------|

Net Assets

| | |
|------------------------------|----------------------|
| Unrestricted | \$47,571,601 |
| Temporarily Restricted..... | \$32,261,133 |
| Permanently Restricted..... | \$33,185,483 |
| Total Net Assets..... | \$113,018,217 |



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**ERIC
BRUNTMYER**
President

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Hardin-Simmons University continued to offer students a high quality education enlightened by Christian faith and values. Recognized by U.S. News and World Report in the Top Tier of its Best Universities in the Western Region, HSU offers a 12:1 student-to-faculty ratio where students enjoy personal attention in over 85 fields of undergraduate and graduate study.

In 1891, the founders stated the purpose of HSU would be threefold: “To bring young men and women to Christ; to teach them of Christ; and, to train them for Christ.” Hardin-Simmons strives each year to fulfill these dreams of its founders.

Academic Highlights

- Approved new undergraduate interdisciplinary majors in Human and Computer Interaction (offered jointly through the Colleges of Business and Liberal Arts) and Biology and Organismal Illustration, a major offered through the College of Fine Arts and the School of Sciences and Mathematics.
- Pulitzer-prize winning poet Tyehimba Jess presented his poetry and an information session at the annual Lawrence Clayton Poets and Writers Speakers series.
- The Master of Science in Information Science has transitioned to become completely online.
- The new Bachelor of Science in Health Sciences degree was launched.
- The first annual Health Sciences Preview Day was sponsored by Enrollment Services.

Ministry Preparation

- During 2017-2018, HSU's Logsdon Seminary tied an all-time high enrollment, and undergraduate enrollment at the Logsdon School of Theology had a fourth straight year of increase.
- Logsdon Seminary dedicated a new state-of-the-art campus in San Antonio at Trinity Baptist Church. That extension campus saw its eighth straight year of record enrollment.
- The annual George Knight Lectures featured the renowned New Testament scholar Dr. Alan Culpepper from Atlanta, speaking on “Themes from the Gospel of John.”
- The T.B. Maston Lectures in Christian Ethics featured Dr. Daniel Carroll of Wheaton College, speaking on “Migration and the Bible.”
- The Logsdon Forum focused on the world's refugee crisis, with a lecture by Dr. Myles Werntz, Logsdon's T.B. Maston professor of ethics, along with an art exhibit and documentary film by internationally renowned photographers Michael Friberg and Benjamin Rasmussen.
- Logsdon held its annual Texas Baptists/BGCT Day, with Dr. David Hardage, and other Texas Baptist leaders, discussing the ministry of Texas Baptists.
- Logsdon faculty guided students on international mission and travel courses to Israel and to Greece.

Spiritual Formation & Baptist Student Ministries

- Focused the HSU community on the theme of Imago Dei
- Continued to build upon the importance and prioritization of spiritual formation alongside intellectual and relational development
- Along with numerous area pastors and speakers, welcomed BGCT President Dr. Danny Reeves, as chapel preachers during the 2017-18 year.
- HSU's Cornerstone Lecture Series featured Dr. Delvin Atchison, Director of the BGCT's Great Commission Center as the annual preacher.
- HSU Students served in Rockport clean-up efforts following Hurricane Harvey
- Students participated in Texas Loves New York week during spring break alongside other BSMs and Texas Baptist Churches
- Discipled over 135 students through Freshmen Leadership Council and BSM Leadership Team.
- Provided leadership for expansion of the student-led resident hall chaplain program.

Athletics

- Hardin-Simmons won its 15th straight American Southwest Conference title in women's soccer and advanced to the National Semifinals of the NCAA Tournament.
- The football team made its third straight trip to the NCAA playoffs.

- Six HSU players were named Academic All-Americans and 11 players were named All-Americans. Kenne Kessler was named both the NCAA Division III player of the year and won the top scholar-athlete of the year with a 4.00 GPA. She scored a school-record 37 goals on the year.
- The cumulative GPA for HSU student-athletes was over 3.0 for the 31st time in the last 32 semesters. HSU had 131 athletes named academic all-conference, more than any other university in the conference.

HARDIN-SIMMONS UNIVERSITY

2017-18 UNDERGRADUATE MINISTRY STATISTICS

| | |
|--|--------|
| Enrollment, Fall | 2,252 |
| Enrollment, Spring | |
| Number of students on full or partial scholarships funded by institution* | 2,047 |
| Number of students receiving BGCT Ministerial Tuition Grants* | 176 |
| Estimated total number of students preparing for ministry* | 289 |
| Approximate percentage of Baptist students | 44.70% |

*"Non duplicating" totals for the 2017-18 school year.

SUMMARY FINANCIAL STATEMENT

Operating Revenue

| | |
|--|---------------------|
| Tuition and fees | \$45,500,000 |
| BGCT appropriations..... | \$700,000 |
| Auxiliary enterprises | \$6,000,000 |
| All other sources | \$11,800,000 |
| Total operational revenue | \$64,000,000 |

Operating Expenses

| | |
|---|---------------------|
| Educational and general, not including scholarships..... | \$20,500,000 |
| Institution funded scholarships & financial aid | \$21,000,000 |
| Auxiliary enterprises | \$5,700,000 |
| All other expenses | \$19,800,888 |
| Total operational expenses..... | \$67,000,888 |

| | |
|---|---------------|
| Excess revenue over expenses after transfers | (\$3,000,000) |
|---|---------------|

Endowment and Net Assets

| | |
|-------------------------------------|---------------|
| Total Endowment (Market Value)..... | \$165,000,000 |
|-------------------------------------|---------------|

Net Assets

| | |
|------------------------------|----------------------|
| Unrestricted | \$38,000,000 |
| Temporarily Restricted..... | \$52,000,000 |
| Permanently Restricted..... | \$109,000,000 |
| Total Net Assets..... | \$199,000,000 |



TEXAS BAPTISTS®
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ROBERT B. SLOAN
President

7502 Fondren
Houston, Texas
77074-3298

hbu.edu

Houston Baptist University is fulfilling its mission of instilling in students a passion for academic, spiritual and professional excellence as a result of our central confession, “Jesus Christ is Lord,” in ever-increasing ways.

Continuous Growth

During the 2017-2018 school year, HBU reached its highest-ever enrollment. The HBU School of Nursing and Allied Health launched two online Master of Science in Nursing (MSN) degree programs: Family Nurse Practitioner and Pediatric Nurse Practitioner in Primary Care. Additionally, the school began offering a Master of Science in Kinesiology: Sport Management degree. Also at the graduate level, the HBU College of Education and Behavioral Sciences is beginning the second doctoral program, the Doctor of Education in Special Education Leadership. At the undergraduate level, the first two students graduated from the HBU School of Humanities Criminal Justice program in December. In January, the HBU College of Engineering was commissioned. Pending SACSCOC approval, the college will offer three bachelor’s degree tracks: Cyber Engineering, Computer Science and Electrical Engineering.

HBU Supporters

One of the greatest treasures of HBU is its supporters. HBU is bettered by the backing of numerous benefactors who believe in helping students and advancing the Gospel. The University is moving forward in reaching the goal of \$136.5 million as part of the Seize the Moment HBU Capital Campaign to Build a National Christian University. The University was delighted to rename the President’s Home as “Morris House” in honor of founding father, Dr. Stewart Morris, Sr. The Robert Griswold Finance & Analytics Lab was announced, honoring former professor of Business, Dr. Robert Griswold. And, the Lucy McBride Golf Practice Area was dedicated.

Accolades & Sports

We were named to Online Christian Colleges’ ranking of the “Top 30 Conservative Christian Colleges and Universities: 2018.” The school received a 2018 Military Friendly® School Gold Designation. For our picturesque campus, HBU ranked third in the “25 Most Beautiful Christian Colleges and Universities in the West,” and was included in the “50 Most Beautiful Christian Colleges and Universities: 2017” by Christian Universities Online. In 2018, global manufacturer Under Armour® partnered with the Huskies to supply clothing, footwear and equipment for the 17 NCAA Division I athletic programs. HBU athletes posted the highest average GPA in the Southland Conference for the second year in a row.

Mission-Minded

When Hurricane Harvey caused destruction throughout the region, students, athletes, faculty and staff assisted our neighbors and friends via Dawgs Across Houston and Serve Houston. Notably, a group of 136 partnered with Texas Baptist Men. Groups completed work in Houston neighborhoods like Sharpstown and Meyerland, and in communities including Wharton and Katy. Alumni, friends, students, faculty and staff all contributed to the HBU Relief Fund for those affected in the HBU family. On campus, students have received the Gospel and grown in their faith through Baptist Student Ministries, Fellowship of Christian Athletes, Young Life, The Navigators and Campus Outreach. Also, this school year, students have shared the love of God in partnership with 23 domestic and 14 international mission agencies, and on mission trips ranging from South Padre Island to international cities like Dubai.

HBU Spirit of Excellence Gala

Chip Gaines, co-founder of Magnolia, author of “Capital Gaines” and host of HGTV’s “Fixer Upper,” will be the keynote speaker at the HBU Spirit of Excellence Gala on November 1, 2018. The event will honor Sherry and Jim Smith, Sr., Pinky Pampell, Dr. Archie and Linda Dunham, and Colin Montgomerie. Event chairs include Honorary Chair Dr. Stewart Morris, Sr., Becky and Steve Kerns, Linda Davis and Bruce Williams.

Visit HBU.edu or call 281-649-3000.

HOUSTON BAPTIST UNIVERSITY STATISTICAL INFORMATION 2017-2018 SCHOOL YEAR

| | |
|---|--------|
| Enrollment, Fall | 3,325 |
| Enrollment, Spring | 3,121 |
| Number of students on full or partial scholarships funded by institution* | 2,356 |
| Number of students receiving BGCT Ministerial Tuition Grants* | 22 |
| Estimated total number of students preparing for ministry* | 239 |
| Approximate percentage of Baptist students | 22.13% |
| *”Non duplicating” totals for the 2017-18 school year..... | |

SUMMARY FINANCIAL STATEMENT AS OF THE END OF THE 3RD QUARTER OF THE FISCAL YEAR, FEBRUARY 28, 2018

Operating Revenue

| | |
|--|---------------------|
| Tuition and fees | \$58,874,372 |
| BGCT appropriations..... | \$243,673 |
| Auxiliary enterprises | \$7,394,447 |
| All other sources | \$18,345,250 |
| Total operational revenue | \$84,857,742 |

Operating Expenses

| | |
|---|---------------------|
| Educational and general, not including scholarships..... | \$40,711,993 |
| Institution funded scholarships & financial aid | \$32,207,000 |
| Auxiliary enterprises | \$12,997,926 |
| All other expenses | \$1,752,375 |
| Total operational expenses..... | \$87,669,294 |
| Excess revenue over expenses after transfers | \$(2,811,552) |

Endowment and Net Assets

| | |
|--------------------------------------|---------------|
| Total Endowment (Market Value) | \$103,566,980 |
|--------------------------------------|---------------|

Net Assets

| | |
|------------------------------|----------------------|
| Unrestricted | \$74,451,356 |
| Temporarily Restricted..... | \$35,432,456 |
| Permanently Restricted..... | \$58,021,372 |
| Total Net Assets..... | \$167,905,184 |





**DR. WILLIAM
N. ELLIS**
President

1000 Fisk Street
Brownwood,
Texas 76801
hputx.edu

Howard Payne University's mission is to be a Christ-centered academic community dedicated to excellence by developing and equipping the whole person for intellectual inquiry, personal and professional integrity, and service to God and humanity. A low faculty-to-student ratio allows HPU to provide individual attention to every student, ensuring the highest-quality academic experience in a wholesome, Christian atmosphere. HPU is proud of its long-standing relationship with Texas Baptists, who are a perpetual source of support and encouragement.

Institutional Advancement and Fiscal Highlights

Howard Payne continues to work towards increased engagement of its alumni and friends with increased communication through social and other media and a stepped up "Buzz Tour." The university continues to raise funds for the main campus in Brownwood through the *A Call to Send Campaign* but is also engaged in a campaign for its New Braunfels Center, *Extending a Legacy II*. Overall giving exceeded \$3.5 million and the university's Annual Fund increased by 27.5% over the previous year. Praise God.

Academic Highlights

During the 2016-17 academic year, HPU launched its newest graduate program. Taught completely online, the Master of Science in Criminal Justice started in the fall of 2016. Enrollment in this program for fall 2017 has doubled from the initial entering class.

Always the strength of the academic programs, HPU faculty continue to distinguish themselves in the classroom, in scholarly pursuits, and in service to the churches of the BGCT. An article by Dr. Elizabeth Wallace, professor of music and chair of the Department of Music, was published in *Piano Guild Notes*, Summer 2017, 67(1). Dr. Pam Bryant, professor of chemistry and dean of the School of Science and Mathematics, taught Introduction to Chemistry to 32 ministerial students at the Moffat Bible College in Kijabe, Kenya. Dr. Russell Wheelington, associate professor of Christian studies, led conferences for youth leadership at Highland Lakes Conference Center, Camp Impact at LeTourneau University, and Super Summer at HPU and Hardin-Simmons University.

Student Life Highlights

HPU students participated in experiences that supported and enhanced learning in our Christ-centered academic community during the 2016 academic year. Activities that built community included Homecoming, Cupcakes with the President, Res Life Cookout, Daze of Payne, Christmas on the Plaza, HPU Fest, Pancake Suppers, Spring Sing, Karaoke, and S.W.A.R.M. (local service projects). Twenty-five student organizations provided leadership opportunities, service experiences, and campus-wide events including Bowling Night, 9/11 Remembrance, National Night Out, '80s Skate Night, and Football Tailgate. Fifteen students attended the annual Christian Association of Student Leaders (CASL) Conference. Student-athletes participated in 1,500 hours of volunteer service within the Brownwood community. Chapel provided a weekly time of community, worship, and discipleship, and many spiritual commitments were made during Encounter Week including 25 professions of faith!

Campus Ministries

HPU's Baptist Student Ministry was led by a team of 45 students who facilitated 12 ministries. In partnership with local churches, the BSM fed 80-140 students per week through a new ministry: Free Lunch. Through this ministry churches came to campus, students were introduced to local church members, and new relationships were established providing opportunities for spiritual conversations with students. HPU BSM took 11 students to South Padre Island for Beach Reach during Spring Break. In May, the BSM partnered with the HPU Cross Cultural Studies class and took nine students to Slovakia and Poland to work with Baptist field personnel who minister to the Roma community. Eighteen students served through Go Now Missions during Christmas break, summer, and fall. HPU students also raised \$13,000 for Go Now Missions!

HOWARD PAYNE UNIVERSITY **STATISTICAL INFORMATION FOR 2016-2017 SCHOOL YEAR**

| | |
|--|--------|
| Enrollment, Fall | 1,098 |
| Enrollment, Spring | 935 |
| Number of students on full or partial scholarships funded by institution* | 964 |
| Number of students receiving BGCT Ministerial Tuition Grants* | 67 |
| Estimated total number of students preparing for ministry* | 111 |
| Approximate percentage of Baptist students | 35.46% |

*"Non duplicating" totals for the 2016-17 school year.

SUMMARY FINANCIAL STATEMENT

Operating Revenue

| | |
|--|---------------------|
| Tuition and fees | \$24,849,387 |
| BGCT appropriations..... | \$760,366 |
| Auxiliary enterprises | \$3,672,206 |
| All other sources | \$5,531,204 |
| Total operational revenue | \$34,813,163 |

Operating Expenses

| | |
|---|---------------------|
| Educational and general, not including scholarships..... | \$18,805,732 |
| Institution funded scholarships & financial aid | \$11,894,780 |
| Auxiliary enterprises | \$1,638,267 |
| All other expenses | \$2,356,736 |
| Total operational expenses..... | \$34,695,515 |
| Excess revenue over expenses after transfers | \$117,648 |

Endowment and Net Assets

| | |
|-------------------------------------|--------------|
| Total Endowment (Market Value)..... | \$56,480,545 |
|-------------------------------------|--------------|

Net Assets

| | |
|------------------------------|---------------------|
| Unrestricted | \$27,756,044 |
| Temporarily Restricted..... | \$22,396,320 |
| Permanently Restricted..... | \$38,443,257 |
| Total Net Assets..... | \$88,595,621 |



TEXAS BAPTISTS®
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**RANDY
O'REAR**
President

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Street
Belton, Texas
76513
umhb.edu

The University of Mary Hardin-Baylor prepares students for lives of leadership, service, and faith-informed discernment in a global society. Academic excellence, personal attention, broad-based scholarship, and a Baptist vision for education distinguish our Christ-centered learning community.

Academics

For the ninth consecutive year, UMHB has been blessed with record fall enrollment. In total, 3,914 students chose to make Mary Hardin-Baylor their home this year. This included 3,333 undergraduate students and 581 students pursuing their master's or doctoral degrees. Despite this continuing growth, the university remains committed to the personal attention that has been a cornerstone of the UMHB experience for more than 170 years.

The university offers bachelor's degrees in 47 undergraduate majors, seven master's degree programs, and three doctoral degrees (Doctor of Education, Doctor of Nursing Practice and Doctor of Physical Therapy). This year, more than 900 students graduated from UMHB, including the first three graduates of MyWay at UMHB, the university's competency-based education program for adult degree completers. This year the MyWay program expanded to include an online RN-to-BSN degree program. In May, the program saw its first graduates receive their diplomas, two in Organization Leadership and one a Bachelor of Nursing Science degree.

Campus Improvements

In October, the university dedicated its new Sue & Frank Mayborn Performing Arts Center. The centerpiece of the center is the Baugh Performance Hall, a 524-seat theater with a proscenium stage. The facility's design allows it to be used as a teaching facility as well as a venue for performances. Through the support of generous alumni and friends of the university, the \$20 million building was completed debt-free.

The performing arts center was the final project of the Campus Master Plan adopted in February 2011, so this fall the university is also celebrating the success of Momentum: The Campaign for Mary Hardin-Baylor. The campaign exceeded its \$60 million goal by raising more than \$82 million for scholarships and Campus Master Plan projects. Since 2011 the university has completed eight new facilities, including the Bawcom Student Union, Baugh Center for the Visual Arts, Crusader Stadium, and Isabelle Rutherford Meyer Nursing Education Center.

Student Life

UMHB students take active roles in spreading the good news of Jesus Christ across the world. Last year nearly 300 students, faculty, and staff members took part in mission activities in 33 countries. In addition, more than 500 students were regularly involved in missions and service projects in Central Texas.

In March, UMHB held its 79th Annual Easter Pageant. The student-led production depicts the crucifixion and resurrection of Jesus Christ. The pageant performances drew more than 6,000 spectators. Performances were also streamed online, where they were watched by more than 11,000 people around the globe.

Many Thanks

The University of Mary Hardin-Baylor is able to fulfill its mission and continue to strive toward its vision of being the university of choice for Christian higher education in the Southwest through the support of the BGCT and others who share the university's commitment to helping students prepare for lives of Christian leadership. Together we are making a difference in our world!

UNIVERSITY OF MARY HARDIN-BAYLOR STATISTICAL INFORMATION 2017-2018 SCHOOL YEAR

| | |
|--|-------|
| Enrollment, Fall | 3,914 |
| Enrollment, Spring | 3,459 |
| Number of students on full or partial scholarships funded by institution* | 3,392 |
| Number of students receiving BGCT Ministerial Tuition Grants* | 28 |
| Estimated total number of students preparing for ministry* | 70 |
| Approximate percentage of Baptist students | 40 |

*"Non duplicating" totals for the 2017-18 school year.

SUMMARY FINANCIAL STATEMENT - PROJECTED 2017-2018

Operating Revenue

| | |
|--|----------------------|
| Tuition and fees | \$92,000,000 |
| BGCT appropriations..... | \$700,000 |
| Auxiliary enterprises..... | \$14,450,000 |
| All other sources | \$2,000,000 |
| Total operational revenue | \$109,150,000 |

Operating Expenses

| | |
|---|----------------------|
| Educational and general, not including scholarships..... | \$61,913,362 |
| Institution funded scholarships & financial aid..... | \$26,500,000 |
| Auxiliary enterprises..... | \$4,900,000 |
| All other expenses..... | \$15,756,638 |
| Total operational expenses..... | \$109,070,000 |

| | |
|---|----------|
| Excess revenue over expenses after transfers | \$80,000 |
|---|----------|

Endowment and Net Assets

| | |
|-------------------------------------|--------------|
| Total Endowment (Market Value)..... | \$88,000,000 |
|-------------------------------------|--------------|

Net Assets

| | |
|------------------------------|----------------------|
| Unrestricted | \$156,000,000 |
| Temporarily Restricted..... | \$44,000,000 |
| Permanently Restricted..... | \$50,000,000 |
| Total Net Assets..... | \$250,000,000 |



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BOBBY L. HALL
President

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In 2017-2018, Wayland Baptist University is preparing for its Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges review. Various offices and program throughout the university have been collecting data for presentation to the review committee in the late spring. As part of the accreditation process, WBU has developed a Quality Enhancement Plan focusing on student retention. The plan calls for the development of a required student orientation course entitled Best Achievement Strategies for College (BASC). The course curriculum is designed to encourage persistence to degree completion by addressing key areas of importance and concern for students:

- Help students develop a mindset that will define their goal of degree completion
- Identify and connect students with potential majors that are consistent with career goals
- Help eliminate potential anxiety that can hinder collegiate success
- Help students develop a strong sense of servant leadership

The curriculum has been designed to address issues for both traditional and non-traditional students.

The past year also saw the addition of two individuals to address key roles within the university. Dr. Kevin Ludlum joined the administration as the Vice President of Institutional Advancement. His first hire was to name Gary Vaughn as Executive Director of Marketing. Advancement and marketing are focal areas for Wayland as the university looks to grow enrollment as well as its endowment. Ludlum and Vaughn are working with their team to develop a more accurate and efficient alumni and donor database, as well as create a comprehensive marketing plan. They will also unveil the public portion of the Impact 2020 capital campaign this summer.

Wayland has enjoyed unprecedented athletic success with three national championship teams and one individual national champion. Brittany Marshall became the second women's wrestling national champion in school history. The men's and women's indoor track and field teams won the NAIA championships in early March. It was the third time in school history that both the men's and women's teams won national titles in the same sport. The men's soccer team won the national title in the fall semester. The men's basketball team made an appearance in the NAIA Championship Tournament round of eight before its season came to an end.

In women's basketball, the Wayland Flying Queens reached the semifinals of the national tournament, and the program was named a finalist for induction into the Naismith Basketball Hall of Fame. The Queens program has defined women's basketball, offering a school sanctioned competitive program well before Title IX. The Queens have more than 1,600 wins in program history and 10 AAU national championships. The Queens also hold the record for the most consecutive wins with 131 from 1953-58.

Other university highlights include:

- 2018 marks the 110th year Wayland has been in existence
- WBU President Dr. Bobby Hall presented a year-long challenge for students to #BeTheSolution to society's problems
- Wayland has sent several missions teams to Houston to help with recovery from Hurricane Harvey
- WBU teams also participated in Spring Break mission trips to New York and South Padre Island
- The Sierra Vista campus celebrated its 20-year anniversary
- The School of Music hosted the inaugural Clay R. Warren Memorial Symposium in memory of a young man who was killed in an auto accident. The Symposium was set up by the family to honor Clay's memory and love of music. Dr. Craig Jessop was the guest conductor for a two-day choir clinic and concert event

WAYLAND BAPTIST UNIVERSITY STATISTICAL INFORMATION 2017-2018 SCHOOL YEAR

| | |
|--|--------|
| Enrollment, Fall | 4,827 |
| Enrollment, Spring | 4,679 |
| Number of students on full or partial scholarships funded by institution* | 1,194 |
| Number of students receiving BGCT Ministerial Tuition Grants* | 37 |
| Estimated total number of students preparing for ministry* | 321 |
| Approximate percentage of Baptist students | 21.93% |

*"Non duplicating" totals for the 2017-18 school year.

SUMMARY FINANCIAL INFORMATION

Operating Revenue

| | |
|--|---------------------|
| Tuition and fees | \$40,866,987 |
| BGCT appropriations..... | \$511,312 |
| Auxiliary enterprises | \$5,683,121 |
| All other sources | \$3,149,478 |
| Total operational revenue | \$50,210,898 |

Operating Expenses

| | |
|---|---------------------|
| Educational and general, not including scholarships..... | \$37,925,857 |
| Institution funded scholarships & financial aid | \$5,877,892 |
| Auxiliary enterprises | \$2,859,486 |
| All other expenses | \$2,729,689 |
| Total operational expenses..... | \$49,392,924 |
| Excess revenue over expenses after transfers | \$817,974 |

Endowment and Net Assets

| | |
|-------------------------------------|--------------|
| Total Endowment (Market Value)..... | \$83,865,210 |
|-------------------------------------|--------------|

Net Assets

| | |
|------------------------------|----------------------|
| Unrestricted | \$91,652,077 |
| Temporarily Restricted..... | \$16,988,658 |
| Permanently Restricted..... | \$24,499,108 |
| Total Net Assets..... | \$133,139,843 |



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JIMMIE W. SCOTT
President

2801 Ranch
Road 12
San Marcos,
Texas 78666

smabears.org

San Marcos Baptist Academy has provided excellence in Christian education for boarding and day students since 1907. As the only secondary school affiliated with Texas Baptists, we take seriously our mission “to educate young men and women in a nurturing community based upon Christian values.”

Following the successful debut of an elementary (fourth and fifth grade) program in the Fall of 2017, San Marcos Baptist Academy will add four additional grades next year to become a K-12 school in the Fall of 2018. While elementary instruction is not new to the Academy, it has been more than three decades since students in K-5 have roamed the campus. Restoring an elementary component to the academic program is a major undertaking, but the excitement has been growing with each new step in the process. Our K-12 day program will enable us to better meet the needs of families in San Marcos and Hays County, the fastest growing large county (50,000+) in the nation for the past two years.

While the Lower School will be open to day students only, SMBA will continue to enroll both day and boarding students in grades 6-12. In 2017-18, we welcomed 124 boarding students from across Texas and around the world, creating a global community of learners. As we minister to our students from other countries and cultures, we seek every opportunity to share with them the love of Christ and bring them into the family of faith. Leadership and service continue to be a hallmark of an Academy education. This year marked the centennial of our Junior ROTC unit, which is designated as an honor unit with distinction. Cadets in our voluntary corps took part in two successful adventure/leadership camps during the year, performed well in several team competitions and held a formal Military Ball and Dining Out on campus in February.

Our Student Council engaged the entire campus in a service-leadership opportunity in March as they partnered with the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society in their Pennies for Patients campaign. When the last contribution was counted, the Academy had collected more than \$12,000, ranking them among the top three fundraising schools in South Central Texas. Earlier in the year, the Academy Ambassadors exceeded their campus “Pink Out” fundraising goal as well, bringing in close to \$2400 for local breast cancer prevention programs.

Students performed countless other hours of community service as well, sending a group to Rockport, Texas, for disaster relief; participating in mission projects with local churches; packing food sacks for School Fuel; and sending a large team to support the Walk to End Alzheimer’s. SMBA also provides students to serve as pages for the annual meetings of Texas Baptists.

The Academy’s Fine Arts Department achieved distinction during the school year in music, visual art and theatre. Band and choir musicians earned 58 gold medals and nine “All State” selections at the TAPPS Championship Solo & Small Ensemble competition. Artists in the clay class qualified for their state competition and supported the local Food Bank with their Empty Bowls project. More than 50 students combined their talents for a three-night performance of Disney’s “The Little Mermaid,” breaking campus attendance records and garnering rave reviews.

President Jimmie Scott announced to the Board of Trustees in January his plans to retire from the Academy in December of 2018. A search committee has been at work since that time to select his successor. Mr. Scott will continue to serve the Academy in our institutional advancement efforts as we seek to increase our endowment and secure the future for generations of students to come.

SAN MARCOS BAPTIST ACADEMY STATISTICAL INFORMATION 2017-2018 SCHOOL YEAR

| | |
|--|-----|
| Enrollment, Fall | 260 |
| Enrollment, Spring | 260 |
| Number of students on full or partial scholarships funded by institution* | 115 |
| Approximate percentage of Baptist students | 10% |

*"Non duplicating" totals for the 2017-18 school year.

SUMMARY FINANCIAL STATEMENT

Operating Revenue

| | |
|--|--------------------|
| Tuition and fees | \$6,138,225 |
| BGCT appropriations..... | \$180,125 |
| Auxiliary enterprises..... | \$403,600 |
| All other sources | \$1,244,040 |
| Total operational revenue | \$7,965,990 |

Operating Expenses

| | |
|---|--------------------|
| Educational and general, not including scholarships..... | \$2,610,946 |
| Institution funded scholarships & financial aid | \$511,000 |
| Auxiliary enterprises | \$1,778,074 |
| All other expenses | \$3,065,902 |
| Total operational expenses..... | \$7,965,922 |
| Excess revenue over expenses after transfers..... | \$68 |

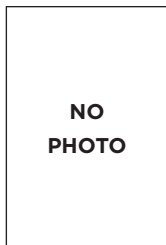
Endowment and Net Assets

| | |
|-------------------------------------|-------------|
| Total Endowment (Market Value)..... | \$7,873,280 |
|-------------------------------------|-------------|

Net Assets

| | |
|------------------------------|---------------------|
| Unrestricted | \$12,850,197 |
| Temporarily Restricted..... | \$2,059,052 |
| Permanently Restricted..... | \$6,374,095 |
| Total Net Assets..... | \$21,283,344 |

*Financial Statement Operating Revenue and Expenses Based on 2017-2018 Budget



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Harlingen, Texas
78550
vbmec.org

NO REPORT AVAILABLE

The Center, located in deep South Texas, in an area just west of the coastal waters of the Gulf of Mexico bordered by the Nueces River to the north and the rolling Rio Grande to the south. This area has become one of the great crossroads of the world uniquely centered between two literal halves of the Western Hemisphere.

The Center is poised to serve the Christian community with our missions training and housing facilities. The Center has been a part of Baptist missions training since 1947. Educating and inspiring hundreds of young men and women for service was the original mission of this institution and that message is the same today.



**KEVIN
DINNIN**
President

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Crossing
San Antonio,
Texas 78232
bcfs.net

BCFS System programs continue to grow with a deep commitment to meet the needs of humanity wherever there is a void. In 2017 BCFS Education Services expanded early childhood education and family support services to multiple locations in five additional Texas counties. In California, Massachusetts and North Carolina, BCFS Health and Human Services' Residential Services Division opened new locations to serve children and families. In Moldova, our international humanitarian services arm, Children's Emergency Relief International (CERI), expanded desperately needed humanitarian aid by distributing warm boots to more than 10,000 vulnerable children and orphans to help them survive brutal cold. Soon, Breckenridge Village of Tyler (BVT) will grow by three new residences, an expansion that will allow a significant increase in BVT's capacity to serve adults with mental disabilities.

BCFS System's programs and services are making daily, life-changing influence on those we serve, including: providing life-saving trainings and aid to cope with emergencies such as floods, fires, hurricanes, and other natural disasters; securing caring homes for youth in foster care and offering critical transitional services for youth aging out of the foster care system with nowhere to go; providing adoption services that build forever families; and protecting children from the scourge of human trafficking and its consequences that include a life characterized by abuse, low self-esteem, and depression, and in extreme cases, institutionalization or homelessness. Often, the BCFS System has been the only resource that would, or could, meet or respond to these urgent and emergent needs of those we serve.

We are fully committed to our "stakeholders," the children, adults and families who need us most. While some come from unstable home environments, others are young mothers and fathers wanting to become better parents for their own children. Others are grandparents who, after thinking their roles as caregivers were complete, find themselves raising their grandchildren and are in need of special guidance and support. Overseas, orphan children in Sri Lanka and India struggle to find a safe place to lay their heads at night, trying to avoid the lure of criminals who promise money and exploit a child's vulnerability, instability, and abject poverty. All of these deserving souls are our priority. For the least of these, the programs and services of the BCFS System strive to be there in their hour of need.

The BCFS System is committed to reflecting Christ's presence in the world through service. Doing the right thing is the foundation upon which we are built. Our roots are strong, they run deep, and like the tree in the BCFS System logo, our programs and services extend their branches far and wide to give shelter and provide comfort, stability, kindness and opportunity for those most in need.

BCFS SYSTEM**STATISTICAL INFORMATION 2017-2018**

| | |
|--|------------------|
| Provided on-campus or residential care | 9,583 |
| Served in own homes and off-campus care | 56,178 |
| Provided financial aid only | 5,061 |
| Provided college education or special training | 17,672 |
| Served through other ministries | 4,323,835 |
| Total number of served through ministries (non duplicate) | 4,392,527 |
| Professions of Faith | 2,310 |

Number of employees:

| | |
|-----------------|-------|
| Full-Time | 1,769 |
| Part-Time | 2,665 |

SUMMARY FINANCIAL STATEMENT

| | |
|---|----------------------|
| BGCT appropriations | \$226,550 |
| Contributions from churches | \$56,567 |
| Residential support | \$94,224,240 |
| Other Income | \$58,848,471 |
| Total income | \$153,355,828 |
| Total expenses | \$143,691,404 |
| Funds available for continuing ministry | \$9,664,424 |
| Total Net Assets | \$85,429,906 |



TEXAS BAPTISTS®
BAPTIST GENERAL CONVENTION OF TEXAS

NO
PHOTO

**STEVE
DALRYMPLE**
President/CEO &
General Counsel

701 Park Place
Amarillo, Texas
79101

baptist
community
services.com

Baptist Community Services (“BCS”) is a multi-organizational system that operates and provides a variety of facilities and services to the Texas Panhandle region of Texas. BCS’ primary focus is on the provision of quality, spiritual-based services to senior adults.

Park Central Community

The Park Central campus near Downtown Amarillo is comprised currently of seven facilities which provide independent living services, assisted living services, and long term care services to senior adults. Apartment facilities and services are provided at Park Place Towers, The Continental, The Talmage Apartments, and the Plemons Court Apartments. Park Place Towers and The Continental facilities provide a full array of services to their respective residents, including a Nurse Navigator program (health care access services), a chaplaincy program, dining services, housekeeping, and transportation services. The Talmage Apartments and the Plemons Court Apartments provide affordable housing facilities for lower income senior adults, with access to the services of the Park Central campus. A complete range of assisted living services are provided at The Harrington and the Winfred and Elizabeth Moore Assisted Living Center. The Ware Living Center provides comprehensive long term care services, including Alzheimer/Dementia and a Namaste program which provides compassionate end of life care for residents.

As new additions to the Park Central campus, BCS is constructing a 32,000 square foot assisted living facility which will provide specialized memory care/dementia services for up to 52 residents. This facility is scheduled to open in the first quarter of 2018. It is also constructing a 65,000 square foot long term care facility for up to 120 residents. It is scheduled to be finished by the end of 2018.

Roving Chaplaincy Program

This chaplaincy ministry consists of seven chaplains provided by BCS, who provide spiritual care for residents and families, as well as the staff/employees of 19 senior living facilities (i.e. nursing homes, assisted living centers, etc.) in the Amarillo area.

The Arbors

The Arbors is a skilled nursing facility located near the Harrington Regional Medical Center in Amarillo, Texas. This facility is Medicare certified, and provides a comprehensive level of skilled nursing/rehabilitation services in coordination with local acute health care facilities at the adjacent medical center.

BAPTIST COMMUNITY SERVICES STATISTICAL INFORMATION FOR 2016-2017

| | |
|--|-------|
| Provided on-campus or residential care | 644 |
| Served in own homes and off-campus care | - |
| Provided financial aid only | - |
| Provided college education or special training | - |
| Served through other ministries | 7,986 |

**Total number of served
through ministries (non duplicate)..... 7,986**

Professions of Faith..... 4

Number of employees:

Full-Time

409

Part-Time

32

SUMMARY FINANCIAL STATEMENT

BGCT appropriations.....\$37,682

Contributions from churches

Residential support

\$24,400,543

Other Income.....\$35,873,823

Total income.....\$60,312,048

Total expenses

\$46,000,648

Funds available for continuing ministry

\$14,311,400

Total Net Assets.....\$520,894,791



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buckner.org

Can you see it?

Marissa Breland has struggled often in her life. She's bipolar and suffers from depression, conditions that created issues at home. By her own account, she struggled with anger and alcohol. She dropped out of school at 15. Scars inflicted by her own hand still run up and down her left forearm.

As a young adult, she found herself and her daughter, 4, living in a recreational vehicle in a trailer park. They shared a bed. The small water heater wasn't adequate, forcing Breland to boil water for her daughter to have a warm bath. "No one wants to raise their daughter in an RV," Marissa said.

As she worked at the cash register of a gas station in her native Longview, she fantasized about a vision for a different life. "I always dreamed of going to school and getting my [driver's] license. But I didn't see it happening any time soon."

Then she found out about the Buckner Project HOPES parenting education program, enrolled, and saw her family of two begin to change as she learned healthy behavior and began to bond with her daughter. Then came family coaching and Bible study through the Buckner Family Hope Center of Longview. Her vision for a future career expanded when she took part in the Hope Center's Jobs for Life classes.

Buckner staff members also had a vision for helping her achieve her dreams. They saw she could benefit from the ministry of Buckner Family Pathways, which would give her and her daughter access to a safe place to live while earning her higher education.

"When we moved into our apartment here, it was so big and so beautiful," she said. "It's a lot to have a 4-year-old and going to work and going to school. Without Buckner, I don't see me doing this."

Marissa now sees where she can go with the help of our ministries, designed to strengthen families and give them the skills to succeed. It's not very different from the vision our founder, Robert Cooke Buckner, had when he began this ministry in 1879.

"Father" Buckner, a Texas Baptist circuit preacher, newspaper editor and social ministry advocate, denominational leader, church planter, and evangelist, had a vision to provide a place of hope for orphaned children, a home where they were fed, clothed, cared for and, most importantly, loved.

Father Buckner saw the needs of his day, rallied Baptist people in the pew, as well as people from other denominations and faiths, and responded in faith. Today, Buckner International continues his tradition of meeting needs with hope and practical solutions. It's what's made us one of the most unique and diverse private social care agencies of our kind.

What do we see? We see children who need protection. We see families who need strength and help. We see senior adults who need enriching communities surrounding them.

I want to challenge Texas Baptists to continue to see the needs and work with us to respond to them. Can you see the vision like Father Buckner saw it in his day and how we continue to see it every day? Whether providing love and nurture for neglected children, bringing hope to distressed families or offering comfort for those facing the complexities of the aging process, our mission is to help people make the difficult journey of life. And we want you to partner with us on that Kingdom mission.

BUCKNER INTERNATIONAL - STATISTICAL INFORMATION ALL MINISTRIES 2017

| | |
|---|----------------|
| Buckner Children and Family Services International Ministries | 290,395 |
| Domestic Ministries | 46,700 |
| Foster Care and Adoption Services | 250 |
| Buckner Retirement Services and Baptist Memorials Ministries | 2,418 |
| Total Lives Served through Buckner | 339,763 |

SUMMARY FINANCIAL STATEMENTS BY MINISTRY (as of 12/17 unaudited)

Buckner Children and Family Services, Inc.

| | |
|--|---------------------|
| BGCT appropriations | \$293,000 |
| Contributions from churches | \$540,000 |
| Client support | \$15,528,000 |
| Other Income | \$23,113,000 |
| Total income | \$39,474,000 |
| Total expenses | \$43,102,000 |
| Funds available for continuing ministry .. | \$(3,628,000) |
| Total Net Assets | \$44,536,000 |

* Operating deficits are covered by available reserves.

Buckner Adoption and Maternity Services, Inc.

| | |
|---|--------------------|
| BGCT appropriations | \$16,000 |
| Client support | \$2,000 |
| Other Income | \$584,000 |
| Total income | \$602,000 |
| Total expenses | \$586,000 |
| Funds available for continuing ministry | \$16,000 |
| Total Net Assets | \$(326,000) |

Buckner Memorials Ministries, Inc.

| | |
|---|---------------------|
| BGCT Appropriation | \$167,000 |
| Client Support | \$14,058,000 |
| Other Income | \$2,291,000 |
| Total Income | \$16,516,000 |
| Total Expense | \$17,399,000 |
| Funds available for continuing ministry | \$(883,000) |
| Total Net Assets | \$37,021,000 |

Buckner Retirement Services, Inc.

| | |
|---|----------------------|
| BGCT Appropriation | \$8,000 |
| Contributions from Churches | \$23,000 |
| Client Support | \$47,944,000 |
| Other Income | \$600,000 |
| Total Income | \$48,575,000 |
| Total Expense | \$48,871,000 |
| Funds available for continuing ministry | \$(296,000) |
| Total Net Assets* | \$(6,525,000) |

* In 2016 and 2017, Buckner Retirement Services, Inc. issued tax exempt bonds totaling \$141,745,000. As part of the issuances, the Series 2007 tax exempt bond issuance was refinanced, resulting in a special charge for refunding of (\$2,828,701).



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**TODD
ROBERSON**
President & CEO

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Round Rock,
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www.CAHM.org

Serving Children. Strengthening Families.

Every single day, we see the love of God impacting those who are served at Children At Heart Ministries. Thanks to the generosity of Texas Baptists, we are able to witness the stories of children and families being rewritten by a mighty and powerful God! Each person who comes to Gracewood, Miracle Farm, STARRY or Texas Baptist Children's Home (TBCH) is arriving from a hard place or situation. For most of them, life has come unraveled in some way. They don't have anyone to turn to for help or any place to seek refuge. Thankfully, Children At Heart Ministries is able to step in to fill those gaps, offering healing and restoration when it's needed most.

We are grateful that God has blessed us with so many opportunities to work alongside Texas Baptists to serve where the need is greatest. All across Texas, we count on the prayerful support of churches and church members to help us make a difference.

In 2017, our four direct care ministries were able to offer hope and healing to over 24,000 individuals and families!

The children and single mothers who were served by **Gracewood** in Houston came from various walks of life and a range of backgrounds. At Gracewood, single mothers were able to move one step closer to achieving their dreams by pursuing the education, skills, emotional stamina, and resources they needed in order to sustain their families or effectively improve their circumstances.

In Brenham, **Miracle Farm** provided an environment for teenage boys to experience healing, where they were firmly connected to a sense of security, acceptance, and significance that comes from an identity in Christ. Not only were the boys able to concentrate on building healthy relationships and moving toward independence, but Miracle Farm was able to begin offering training weekends for parents to learn how to establish trusting, nurturing relationships with their sons.

This year, **STARRY** was able to offer hope in life's darkest hours to more children and families across the state of Texas than ever before. By nurturing children, strengthening families, and restoring hope, STARRY helped bring healing to some of the communities that needed it most. Through counseling, foster care, and adoption services ensure that every child across Texas has a healthy, forever family!

In Round Rock, **Texas Baptist Children's Home** embraced children and single mothers who were lost, hurting, and hopeless, without a place to turn for help in their time of greatest need. This year, TBCH was able to meet their basic needs and provide a loving, stable family environment, which gave them the opportunity to learn, grow, and ultimately experience a happy, healthy future!

It is such a blessing to know that Children At Heart Ministries and Texas Baptists are one family under God's leadership. We are inspired every day by churches that partner with us in service and who refer many children and families to our care.

With your help, we will continue to pursue our mission to honor God and build a better world by serving children and strengthening families.

Thank you for the difference you make in the lives of so many!

CHILDREN AT HEART MINISTRIES - STATISTICS ALL MINISTRIES - 2017

| | |
|--|---------------|
| Children served through foster care..... | 151 |
| Adoptions | 17 |
| Counseling and other ministries..... | 21,030 |
| Provided on-campus or residential care | 364 |
| Served through community ministry and off-campus care..... | 2,841 |
| Assisted with college education or special training..... | 13 |
| Total number of individuals served through ministries (non duplicate) | 24,403 |
| Total known spiritual decisions..... | 20 |
| Number of employees: | |
| Full-Time | 124 |
| Part-Time | 22 |

SUMMARY FINANCIAL STATEMENTS BY MINISTRY - 2017**GRACEWOOD**

| | |
|---|--------------------|
| BGCT appropriations..... | \$138,389 |
| Contributions from churches..... | \$93,524 |
| Residential support | \$6,380 |
| Other Income..... | \$1,135,754 |
| Total income | \$1,374,047 |
| Total expenses..... | \$1,149,982 |
| Funds available for continuing ministry | \$224,065 |
| Total Net Assets | \$2,254,023 |

MIRACLE FARM

| | |
|---|--------------------|
| BGCT appropriations..... | \$138,389 |
| Contributions from churches..... | \$54,528 |
| Residential support | \$56 |
| Other Income..... | \$1,887,865 |
| Total income | \$2,080,838 |
| Total expenses..... | \$2,240,815 |
| Funds available for continuing ministry | \$(159,977) |
| Total Net Assets | \$1,073,823 |

STARRY

| | |
|---|--------------------|
| BGCT appropriations..... | \$138,389 |
| Contributions from churches..... | \$19,103 |
| Residential support | \$- |
| Other Income..... | \$5,850,386 |
| Total income | \$6,007,878 |
| Total expenses..... | \$5,890,653 |
| Funds available for continuing ministry | \$117,225 |
| Total Net Assets | \$2,840,422 |

TEXAS BAPTIST CHILDREN'S HOME

| | |
|---|--------------------|
| BGCT appropriations..... | \$138,389 |
| Contributions from churches..... | \$145,830 |
| Residential support | \$33,212 |
| Other Income..... | \$4,854,986 |
| Total income | \$5,172,417 |
| Total expenses..... | \$4,663,407 |
| Funds available for continuing ministry | \$509,010 |
| Total Net Assets | \$3,856,430 |



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**ERON
GREEN**
President

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A SEASON OF REFINEMENT

STCH Ministries has been caring for children and families since 1952. We provide homes, support, counseling, and life-skills training to those in need, and also reach beyond our borders through international missions. For several years, we have experienced a season of dramatic growth, adding programs and staff to reach an ever increasing number of people with God's love and truth.

We are grateful for the new ministry opportunities that growth brings, but at the same time we feel a great burden to see our ministries grow deeper and not merely wider. We have no desire to be a tree with many branches and no fruit! Growth will happen naturally, but it takes an intentional effort to maintain and improve the quality of ministry work.

We believe this year will be a season of refinement at STCH Ministries in which we will cultivate, adhere to, and immerse ourselves in our core values:

Excellence • Integrity • Accountability • Vision • Glory to God

These core values define how we do what we do, just as our mission statement defines what and why. Drawn from the pages of Scripture, they are character traits that produce fruit, and the kinds of fruit we seek are transformed lives, restored relationships, and souls redeemed in Jesus' name.

STCH Ministries is privileged to be a partner ministry of Texas Baptists as we continue to build healthy families together.

OUR MINISTRIES

Homes for Children – A campus that provides a loving, family environment for children in need.

Homes for Families – A safe haven for mothers and their children whose families are in crisis.

Family Counseling – Professional counseling that is both clinically excellent and distinctively Christian.

International Ministry – Family-friendly mission trips where Americans can work side by side with local believers in churches, orphanages, and Christian schools to meet needs and advance the Gospel.

Jobs for Life – Equipping men and women with the job skills and confidence to become self-sufficient.

Faith & Finances – A twelve-week class that teaches biblical principles of money management.

Pastor Care – Ministering to ministers through confidential counseling and pulpit supply.

Family Support – Connecting people in need with resources and guidance.

Ministry Consulting – Sharing expertise and resources with other like-minded ministries.

STCH MINISTRIES STATISTICAL INFORMATION**Directly Served in Ministries**

| | |
|---|--------|
| Homes for Children | 245 |
| <i>Children served in residential care, college, transitional, and after care</i> | |
| Homes for Families..... | 59 |
| <i>Mothers and children served in residential care</i> | |
| Family Counseling | 3,790 |
| <i>Counseling clients served and workshop participants</i> | |
| International Ministry..... | 11,335 |
| <i>Individuals served in churches, children's homes, schools, and medical clinics</i> | |
| Jobs for Life | 182 |
| <i>Participants in classes for job-training</i> | |
| Faith & Finances | 374 |
| <i>Participants in classes for biblical money management</i> | |
| Family Support | 240 |
| <i>Individuals who received assistance or referrals</i> | |
| Pastor Care..... | 75 |
| <i>Ministers served through counseling or other assistance</i> | |

TOTAL DIRECTLY SERVED IN MINISTRIES..... 16,300

TOTAL PROFESSIONS OF FAITH..... 278

Other Individuals Impacted (volunteers, referrals, etc.)..... 5,639

Community Outreach (events, presentations, etc.)..... 10,701

Number of Employees

| | |
|--------------------------------------|----|
| Full-Time | 91 |
| Part-Time | 11 |
| Dominican Contract Individuals | 5 |

SUMMARY FINANCIAL STATEMENT:**JULY 1, 2016 – JUNE 30, 2017**

| | |
|---|--------------------|
| Texas Baptists Appropriations through the BGCT | \$571,146 |
| Appropriations from Supporting Corporations..... | \$6,414,239 |
| <i>(South Texas Children's Home and STCH Land Management)</i> | |
| Other Income..... | \$747,044 |
| TOTAL INCOME | \$7,732,429 |
| TOTAL EXPENSES | \$7,709,956 |
| Funds available for continuing ministry | \$22,473 |
| TOTAL NET ASSETS | \$1,626,772 |



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God is our refuge and strength, an ever-present help in trouble (Psalm 46:1)

Our communities are hurting...physically, mentally, emotionally, and spiritually. Because the Baptist Health Foundation of San Antonio exists to meet the health needs of our community, the Foundation reaffirmed its commitment in 2017 to improve the health of the greater San Antonio community by fostering and funding clinical, educational, spiritual and scientific initiatives while honoring God and its Baptist heritage. The Foundation strives to be one of the Lord's conduits to provide spiritual and healthcare services to His people and be a reflection of His presence in the community.

With a firm resolve to the above mission and vision, the Lord greatly blessed the Foundation in 2017 through positive investment returns which enabled 92 organizations to be undergirded with \$6,711,941 in health-related grants. The 2017 grants boosted total grants awarded since inception to 974 grants totaling \$67,884,993.

A Foundation highlight for the year was the continued partnership with Trinity Baptist Church and the YMCA of Greater San Antonio to sponsor the National Day of Prayer Breakfast which was held in May. This well-attended community gathering unites the community around a morning of prayer, friendship, and celebration of God's blessings. For their innovative work in helping San Antonio residents get mental health help, the San Antonio Police Department's Mental Health Detail received the Baptist Health Foundation's coveted Spirit of Health Award for 2017.

Each year the Foundation recognizes someone who makes an outstanding contribution to improving community health. The award was given to S.A.P.D. at the Annual Grants Ceremony which was held in December at First Baptist Church of San Antonio and was attended by more than 400 nonprofit and community leaders. In addition to the uplifting musical piece, "Keep the River Flowing," written and performed by Dr. Bryan Richardson, inspirational testimonies were heard from several grant recipients.

More than 100,000 people have been diverted away from jail or emergency rooms thanks to the work of the S.A.P.D.'s Mental Health Detail and its Crisis Intervention Training Program. The program has reduced the need to use force and instead has helped to connect people with the mental health services they need. In the last year alone, the specially trained team has grown from 6 members to 10 and along with the police department's 40 hours of crisis management training program are now models garnering national attention.

The Board of Trustees granted the following dollars: Disaster Relief - \$108,500; Responsive Grants - \$3,698,591; Strategic Initiatives Grants - \$1,628,850; Scholarship Grants - \$1,098,350; and Community Impact Grants - \$177,650.

In 2017, BHFSa awarded 6 Baptist-related grants. Grant recipients were: First Baptist Church of Bandera - \$7,500; New Braunfels Christian Ministries - \$100,000; Texas Baptist Men - \$54,250; University Park Baptist Church - \$7,500; Wayland Baptist University - \$12,660; and Woodlake Baptist Church - \$5,000.

The Foundation's Board of Trustees Officers for 2018 are Bill Wilson (Chair), Earl Cutler (Vice Chair), Bill Lee (Treasurer), and Dr. Dawn Stockton (Secretary).

Associate Trustees elected to serve for one year include: Bobby Contreras, Rob Finney, Connie Jones, Marla Rushing, Dr. Frank Scott, Scott Senter, Toby Summers, and Jorge Zayasbazan.

To God Be the Glory for all things that He has accomplished in 2017 through the Baptist Health Foundation. Thanks to the nonprofit community and their good work, the Foundation remains focused on Christ, and Christ alone, as grants are awarded that improve the health of the City.



CODY S. KNOWLTON
President

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(Reflects 2017 Calendar Year)

In 2018, Baptist Health System (BHS) marks 115 years of service to San Antonio and South Texas. The Physician's and Surgeon's Hospital of San Antonio, along with an affiliated nursing school, was founded in 1903. This hospital later merged with the Medical and Surgical Memorial Hospital and in 1948 ownership was transferred to the Southern Baptist Convention. Renamed Baptist Memorial Hospital, affiliation with the Baptist General Convention of Texas began in 1952.

Today, Baptist Health System is a fully integrated healthcare organization consisting of 6 acute care hospitals, Baptist Physician's Network, Baptist Emergency Hospitals, Baptist M & S Imaging, HealthLink Physical Rehabilitation Centers, and a myriad of other entities. Though no longer directly affiliated with Texas Baptists, BHS remains highly committed to its faith based heritage as a part of Tenet Healthcare.

The nursing school which graduated 6 students in 1905 has transformed into the Baptist School of Health Professions, serving over 1,000 students each year. The school offers several levels of nursing programs including a newly accredited Master's degree. In addition, there are programs in several other healthcare related fields such as sonography, x-ray technician, surgical technician, and healthcare administration. Dr. William Drees was named Dean of this school in the fall of 2017, coming to San Antonio from Lone Star College in the Houston area.

In the fall of 2017, a significant organizational restructure of BHS occurred to enable a more quick and effective response to the healthcare needs and opportunities of the San Antonio area. In October, Matt Stone was named CEO of Baptist Health System and President of Baptist Medical Center. He has been with BHS for over 15 years and as a San Antonio native is very familiar with the community and its healthcare needs.

The Neonatal Abstinence Syndrome (NAS) program at Baptist Medical Center is a unique effort that has received national attention. One tragic consequence of the opioid epidemic facing our nation is babies being born who have been exposed to these drugs in the womb. The program at BHS specializes in treatment of these babies but also takes a healing and holistic approach with the mothers as well, providing education and support for them to overcome their addiction and be successful in the nurturing of their children.

At BHS, a team of board certified chaplains provides spiritual care and support not only to patients and their families but to staff and physicians as well. Code Safety Net has been developed to provide a quick response to support staff in situations that are especially traumatic or emotional. The Medical Executive Board has established a Physician Wellness Committee and BHS Chaplains will be working with this group to enhance emotional and spiritual wellness as a meaningful part of this emphasis.

Two other efforts have begun in recent months in support of the faith-based mission of BHS. "Monday Morning Manna" is a brief devotional thought that is distributed by email each week to all BHS associates and physicians. Also, employees are now able to submit confidential prayer requests that are shared with a small prayer team of chaplains who genuinely lift these needs in prayer.

For 70 years of its 115-year existence, Baptist Health System has been providing quality healthcare for the people of San Antonio and South Texas with a distinctively Baptist faith-based commitment. That commitment will prayerfully and intentionally guide this ministry into the future. Thank you, Texas Baptists, for your prayerful interest and support!

BAPTIST HEALTH SYSTEM STATISTICAL INFORMATION FOR 2017

| | |
|---|--------------|
| Licensed Beds | 1,815 |
| Patients Admitted..... | 63,600 |
| Outpatients Treated | 274,881 |
| Charity Patients Admitted..... | 624 |
| Charity Outpatients Treated | 621 |
| Estimated Value of Total Charity Care..... | \$40,531,145 |
| Enrollment in Professional Educational Programs | 1,055 |
| Number of Employees (FTE)..... | 5,005 |

Number of Chaplains:

| | |
|---------------------------------------|-----------|
| Full-Time | 17 |
| Part-Time | 6 |
| CPE Residents | 6 |
| Volunteer | 9 |
| Total Number of chaplains..... | 38 |

| | |
|-----------------------------------|--------|
| Professions of Faith..... | 21 |
| Rededications/Recommitments | 45 |
| Patient Visits by Chaplains..... | 84,182 |

SUMMARY FINANCIAL STATEMENT

| | |
|---|----------------------|
| Income from patients | \$993,024,636 |
| BGCT appropriation..... | - |
| Other income..... | - |
| Total income..... | \$993,024,636 |
| Total expenses | \$869,894,923 |
| Funds available for continuing ministry | \$123,129,713 |
| Total Net Assets..... | \$463,179,528 |



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**DAVID
PARMER**
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The mission of Baptist Hospitals of Southeast Texas has been and always will be dedicated to providing quality health care and Sacred Work in a Christian environment to those that have entrusted their lives to us. Our Partners in Caring – our physicians, our nurses and our staff, practice a philosophy that inspires an environment of teamwork, respect, encouragement, opportunity and trust. Our efforts continue each day as we strive to offer newer and better programs, services, and technologies for the members of our community.

For Baptist Hospitals of Southeast Texas, 2017 was an extremely difficult yet highly rewarding year. With hurricanes plaguing the Gulf Coast, there were more than 200 hospitals in disaster areas. These hospitals represented a conservative number of 75,000 employees working in affected hospitals. Many of them putting aside their own security and comfort aside to care for hospitalized Texans. At Baptist Hospitals of Southeast Texas we found ourselves grappling with the devastation of Hurricane Harvey that made landfall on August 25th. This natural disaster defined a community and a faith-based hospital system-uniting and allowing this organization to overcome unparalleled obstacles.

During the past year, a strong focus has been to offer newer and better programs, advances in technology, clinical certification and a highly educated clinical team. Establishing the Baptist Hospitals of Southeast Texas Heart & Vascular Clinic, provides general cardiac care, nuclear studies, cardiac diagnostics and a CHF clinic. For those suffering from lung disease, Baptist Hospitals of Southeast Texas successfully performed the first Endobronchial Ultrasound (EBUS) Procedure in the Southeast Texas/West Louisiana Area. An Endobronchial Ultrasound (EBUS) is a minimally invasive and state of the art procedure that is used to diagnose lung cancer and other diseases in the chest.

Taking pride in the services they provide, many ancillary service-lines pursued national certifications. The College of American Pathologist has certified that the laboratory has met all applicable standards for accreditation and is hereby recognized as an accredited facility. Baptist Hospital School of Radiologic Technology was evaluated based upon the accreditation standards of the Accrediting Bureau of Health Education Schools (ABHES) and reviewed by evaluators specializing in the health education fields offered and is recognized as an ABHES Institutional School. Further accreditations include The American College of Radiology has accredited PET Services at Baptist Beaumont Hospital by the Committee on Nuclear Medicine Accreditation of the Commission on Quality and Safety.

The Texas Department of State Health Services designated Baptist Hospital of Southeast Texas as a Primary Level II Stroke Facility in Trauma Services. This recognition is designated to commend hospitals for their commitment to ensure quality care is available for stroke patients. Our smallest patients will benefit from the NICU receiving the Hospital Level of Care Designation which designates the facility as having a family centered philosophy allowing parents access to their infants at all times.

Our Partners In Caring continue to encourage, inspire and support the patients, families and employees of our faith-based healthcare organization. Their efforts were recognized with an Excellence through Insight Award for Overall Employee Satisfaction and Engagement. One of the greatest gifts we can provide to our patients is high quality healthcare partnered with our specialized pastoral care. Our chaplains along with our staff practice selfless giving of their time and talents to create and enhance our culture of Sacred Work.

BAPTIST HOSPITALS OF SOUTHEAST TEXAS STATISTICAL INFORMATION AUGUST 2017 - MARCH 2018

| | |
|---|------------|
| Licensed Beds | 483 |
| Patients Admitted..... | 10,424 |
| Outpatients Treated | 55,434 |
| Charity Patients Admitted..... | 1,017 |
| Charity Outpatients Treated..... | 2,901 |
| Estimated Value of Total Charity Care..... | 46,078,933 |
| Enrollment in Professional Educational Programs | - |
| Number of Employees (FTE)..... | 1,480 |

Amount of Discounts Allowed:

| | |
|----------------|-------------|
| Medicare | 454,857,139 |
| Other | 367,600,987 |

Number of Chaplains:

| | |
|---------------------------------------|----------|
| Full-Time | 4 |
| Part-Time | - |
| Volunteer | - |
| Total Number of chaplains..... | 4 |

| | |
|-----------------------------------|-------|
| Professions of Faith..... | - |
| Rededications/Recommitments | 15 |
| Patient Visits by Chaplains..... | 9,554 |
| Worship Services Conducted..... | 122 |

SUMMARY FINANCIAL STATEMENT

| | |
|---|----------------------|
| Income from patients | \$157,991,574 |
| BGCT appropriation..... | \$113,826 |
| Other income..... | \$5,747,413 |
| Total income..... | \$163,852,813 |
| Total expenses | \$167,050,439 |
| Funds available for continuing ministry | \$(3,197,626) |
| Total Net Assets..... | \$193,846,212 |





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com

Baylor Scott & White Health is a faith-based healthcare system that includes 50 hospitals, more than 1,000 patient care sites, more than 7,800 active physicians and 48,000 employees. It also includes the Scott & White Health Plan, the Baylor Scott & White Research Institute and the Baylor Scott & White Quality Alliance — a network of clinical providers and facilities focused on improving quality, managing the health of patient populations and reducing the cost of care. Founded as a Christian ministry of healing, Baylor Scott & White promotes the well-being of all individuals, families and communities. The state's largest not-for-profit health system aims to be the trusted leader, educator and innovator in value-based care delivery, customer experience and affordability.

National transplant milestone

Two mothers who received uterus transplants as part of a clinical trial at Baylor University Medical Center at Dallas delivered healthy babies. The first, in December 2017, was the first live birth to a uterus transplant recipient in the U.S. The second birth was in March. Baylor University Medical Center is among the first in the U.S. to explore uterus transplantation, which is being studied as a new infertility treatment option for women with absolute uterine factor infertility, meaning their uterus is nonfunctioning or nonexistent.

National recognition for patient satisfaction

Baylor Scott & White has earned national recognition from Press Ganey®, the leading provider of patient experience measurement, for outstanding performance in patient experience at 11 hospitals. Each hospital earned the company's Guardian of Excellence Award, which recognizes top-performing healthcare facilities that have consistently rated in the 95th percentile or above for patient experience based on one year of data. Three other hospitals earned the Pinnacle of Excellence Award for consistent excellence in patient experience based on three years of data.

Office of Mission & Ministry

Through the generous funds provided by the Human Welfare Coordinating Agency, Texas Baptists directly support Baylor Scott & White's Office of Mission & Ministry (OMM) as it ministers to a service area that includes roughly nine million Texans.

OMM includes three divisions -- **Pastoral Care, Pastoral Education** and **Faith in Action Initiatives** -- to build relationships and foster partnerships that minister Christ's healing love to people whose lives have been disrupted by illness or injury, and to enhance the quality of health in communities through partnerships with local congregations throughout North and Central Texas.

Through eight months, Baylor Scott & White **chaplains** recorded 207,838 pastoral encounters. Faith in Action Initiatives provided 68 Fred Roach Scholarships to employees and provided \$3,911,347 in medical supplies through **Second Life Resources**. Clergy, seminarians and qualified laypersons earned 79 student units of clinical pastoral education during this same time period.

OMM continues to engage congregations to improve access, provide needed patient and family education and enhance the health of congregations through its rapidly growing **Faith Community Health (FCH)** program in collaboration with Baylor Scott & White's Office of Equitable Care; and it has seen FCH covenants established with 200 congregations system-wide. Collaboration between OMM, Serve West Dallas, Baylor University Medical Center, the Dallas County Community College District, Pinkston High School and others, resulted in the initiation of a program to help at-risk high school and young adults find careers in health care through its **Mid-Level Career Pathways Program**.

A documentary and series of brief videos were created to highlight the work of the OMM, all are designed to share more information around the spiritual care offered to patients and families facing a number of medical challenges. They can be found here:

<https://www.bswhealth.com/about/spiritual-care/Pages/default.aspx#>

**BAYLOR SCOTT & WHITE HEALTH
STATISTICAL INFORMATION
FY18 - THROUGH MARCH 2018**

| | |
|---|-------------------------------|
| Licensed Beds | 5,091 |
| Patients Admitted..... | 178,626 |
| Outpatients Treated | 8,726,015 |
| Number of Charity Patients Admitted | 14,797 |
| Number of Charity Outpatients Treated | 179,933 |
| Estimated Value of Total Charity Care (\$000s)..... | \$688,191,000 |
| Enrollment in Professional Educational Programs #/# Hours..... | 497 Enrollees / 430,130 Hours |
| Number of Employees (FTE)..... | 45,252 |

Amount of Discounts Allowed:

| | |
|----------------|-----------------|
| Medicare | \$6,883,016,081 |
| Other | \$7,868,570,259 |

Number of Chaplains:

| | |
|---------------------------------------|------------|
| Full-Time | 49 |
| Part-Time | 68 |
| Volunteer | 118 |
| Total Number of chaplains..... | 235 |

| | |
|-----------------------------------|---------|
| Professions of Faith..... | 389 |
| Rededications/Recommitments | 1,518 |
| Patient Visits by Chaplains | 207,838 |
| Worship Services Conducted..... | 2,451 |

SUMMARY FINANCIAL STATEMENT

| | |
|---|------------------------|
| Income from patients | \$6,120,475,000 |
| BGCT appropriation..... | \$262,011 |
| Other income..... | \$994,243,989 |
| Total income..... | \$7,114,981,000 |
| Total expenses..... | \$6,621,432,000 |
| Funds available for continuing ministry | \$493,549,000 |
| Total Net Assets..... | \$6,141,818,000 |



TEXAS BAPTISTS®
BAPTIST GENERAL CONVENTION OF TEXAS



TIM LANCASTER
President/CEO

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org

Hendrick Health System continues the tradition of delivering high quality healthcare services to residents of Abilene and the Big Country that emphasizes excellence and Christian compassion. This goal, expressed in our mission, has remained constant since our founding in 1924. While meeting the challenges of twenty-first century healthcare we maintain a timeless commitment to high quality service within the framework of financial stability. Our Baptist identity is a vital aspect of our profile and we value our relationship with Texas Baptists.

Our services range from a Level III Trauma Center to state-of-the-art surgical procedures to inpatient and outpatient rehabilitation. Hendrick has been recognized as an Accredited Chest Pain Center and Certified Primary Stroke Center by the Joint Commission. In addition to advanced neuro, cardiac and cancer care, and birthing services, Hendrick operates a freestanding rehabilitation hospital, a pediatric intensive care unit, skilled nursing and extended care facilities, and a health club. Auxiliary services are provided by Hendrick Hospice Care, Palliative Care, Hendrick Sleep Disorder Center, and The BirthPlace® at Hendrick; and we partner with ContinuCare to provide long term acute care for patients requiring longer-than-average stays.

In January 2018, President Tim Lancaster was awarded the Texas Hospital Association's Earl M. Collier Award for Distinguished Health Care Administration. Hendrick has the distinction of having every one of our present and past CEO's received the Collier Award, at some time in his career.

Highlights for 2017-18 include: groundbreaking on a new Hendrick Medical Plaza in Brownwood, to open in spring 2019, which will complement the recently opened Brownwood Hendrick Surgery Center; opening a new state-of-the-art Neonatology unit; and a new designated Orthopedic unit in the hospital.

We participate with other institutions in training healthcare personnel: Texas Tech University operates Schools of Pharmacy, Nursing, and Public Health adjacent to our campus; Patty Hanks Shelton School of Nursing, Angelo State University, Cisco College, and Texas State Technical College offer nursing education; respiratory therapists train through Cisco College; and radiology techs through our School of Radiography.

Employee longevity testifies to our effectiveness in making Hendrick a safe and productive workplace. Over 850 of our 2,946 employees have worked for ten or more years. Additionally, for the eleventh consecutive year Hendrick received the Gallup Great Workplace Award. We are one of only three organizations to have won all eleven years, and one of only two healthcare institutions to have won seven consecutive years.

Hendrick personnel volunteer their talents and abilities to many civic and religious organizations. Employees are eligible to receive additional Paid Time Off for participating in approved mission projects. Last year, employees traveled on such trips to: Argentina, Cambodia, Guatemala, Guyana, Haiti, Israel, Kenya, Mexico, and several homeland mission points.

Expressions of our Christian mission include spiritual care services. A healthcare ministry educational program is offered to students of the three Abilene universities. Chaplains conduct weekly chapel services and deliver daily inspirational messages through hospital media. Bible verses placed in the hallways remind us and our customers of our spiritual mooring.

A statue, located in our main entrance, represents the matrix of ministry and medicine that describes our heritage. It depicts a mother holding her child, who is being examined by a physician, while a minister with an open Bible compassionately observes. Hendrick strives to meet the physical, spiritual, and emotional needs of our patients and improve the health of people in West Central Texas, with a sense of Christian compassion and care. To that end, we are grateful for the gracious and prayerful support of Texas Baptists.

HENDRICK MEDICAL CENTER STATISTICAL INFORMATION 2017-2018

| | |
|--|--------------|
| Licensed Beds | 564 |
| Patients Admitted..... | 24,666 |
| Outpatients Treated | 301,074 |
| Charity Patients Admitted..... | 1,414 |
| Charity Outpatients Treated | 13,400 |
| Estimated Value of Total Charity Care..... | \$81,010,330 |
| Number of Employees (FTE)..... | 2,946 |

Amount of Discounts Allowed:.....

| | |
|----------------|-----------------|
| Medicare | \$1,124,802,255 |
| Other | \$922,351,601 |

Number of Chaplains:

| | |
|---------------------------------------|-----------|
| Full-Time | 3 |
| Part-Time | 12 |
| Volunteer | 11 |
| Total Number of chaplains..... | 26 |

| | |
|-----------------------------------|-------|
| Professions of Faith..... | 3 |
| Rededications/Recommitments | 28 |
| Patient Visits by Chaplains | 8,415 |
| Worship Services Conducted..... | 387 |

SUMMARY FINANCIAL STATEMENT 2017-2018

| | |
|---|----------------------|
| Income from patients | \$431,608,197 |
| BGCT appropriation..... | \$168,874 |
| Other income..... | \$39,614,788 |
| Total income..... | \$471,391,859 |
| Total expenses | \$448,239,307 |
| Funds available for continuing ministry | \$23,152,552 |
| Total Net Assets..... | \$550,873,943 |



TEXAS BAPTISTS®
BAPTIST GENERAL CONVENTION OF TEXAS



GERALD R. JAMES, JR.
President/CEO

baptist
churchloan.org

Dear Friends,

Thank you for the opportunity to give the following Baptist Church Loan (“BCLC”) ministry update:

What is our real ministry?

In Proverbs 16:16, it talks about how much better it is to give wisdom than gold. Just as God has gifted individuals with spiritual gifts, we believe that God has also gifted the BCLC with two spiritual gifts. These are knowledge and wisdom.

We use these spiritual gifts to help churches with borrowing capacity, project feasibility, and ministry decisions. Our real ministry is not to make loans, but to help churches make good financial decisions.

What God has done with our ministry?

Over the past sixty-six years, God has blessed the BCLC by allowing us to serve Texas Baptist churches. Although we have always been grateful for that blessing, we also have known for several years that we had the capacity to serve more Baptist churches. In 2014, God began to answer our prayers in regards to the expansion of our ministry.

Through loan acquisitions, referrals, and more importantly God’s presence, the BCLC loan ministry has grown dramatically over the past four years. During that time period, the number of states that have churches that receive financing through our ministry has increased from two to thirty four.

We are grateful for the many men and women who through the years have volunteered their time and expertise to serve on the BCLC Board of Directors. Listed below is a brief summary of statistical financial information:

BAPTIST CHURCH LOAN CORPORATION STATISTICAL INFORMATION NINE MONTHS INTERIM 3/31/18

| | |
|-------------------------------------|---------------|
| Existing BCLC Church Loans | 578 |
| States with BCLC Church Loans | 34 |
| Average Yield on Church Loans | 3.99% |
| Total Assets | \$175,032,291 |
| Assets per Employees | \$19,448,032 |
| Equity Capital to Assets | 60% |

HighGround Advisors, founded in 1930 as Baptist Foundation of Texas, was created to offset the crippling economic disaster the nation faced that threatened the existence of Texas Baptist universities, schools, children's homes and hospitals. The founders knew that by providing endowment management and charitable trust services, HighGround could provide invaluable support to its client institutions, and thus enhance each institution's ability to perform its charitable work. For the past 88 years, HighGround Advisors has consistently and successfully carried out this mission. Net assets have grown to \$2 billion with more than 1,000 trusts and annuities and 6,500 institutional accounts currently under administration.

ANSWERING YOUR CALL

In 2017, HighGround took additional steps to further align our brand to reflect the evolution of our clients' needs. As an organization we defined our core values, moved into our new offices, took an introspective view of our investment platform and made significant changes resulting in increased flexibility and transparency. Additionally, we welcomed David Slover, Senior Vice President and Chief Strategy Officer and Jim Nadalini, Chief Technology and Compliance Officer.

CORE VALUES

Our core values are the heart of HighGround. They embrace our Baptist heritage and guide us as we work with those who are transforming lives. We put the Client First. We are Servant Hearted. We act with Integrity. We promote Innovation. We are Visionary. We lead with Professional Excellence.

2017 GIVING TRENDS

HighGround offers several giving options to serve the donors of our nonprofit clients. These gift arrangements totaled \$28.3 million in 2017. One of the fastest-growing and most flexible giving options offered by HighGround Advisors is the donor-advised fund. According to the National Philanthropic Trust, donor-advised funds are trending as the dominant giving strategy with contributions totaling \$23.27 billion in 2016. This is an excellent choice for donors who have a broad number of charities they want to benefit, but who are not yet ready to commit to one specific charity at the point of contribution.

As our nonprofit clients receive more and more requests to consider donor-advised funds, we offer our services, educating and providing donor support every step of the way.

INVESTMENT PERFORMANCE

HighGround Endowment Fund's (HGEF) investment performance in 2017 returned 17.0% with global fixed income, international equity, U.S. fixed income, domestic equity and private equity being the largest contributors. Compared to HighGround's nonprofit peers, HGEF's performance ranks in the top performance quartiles over all time periods for the last five years.

FLEXIBLE SERVICE MODEL

In today's market, having a one-stop solution may not meet all the ever-changing needs of our clients. In response, our flexible service model adapts to the governance needs of the clients we serve. Our service levels include fully outsourced, turnkey multi-asset class investment offerings, customized investment solutions to meet client's unique needs, objectives or preferences, as well as direct investments in HighGround's 17 proprietary asset class funds. These funds include passive index options, actively managed funds and alternative investments (private equity, real estate, energy and marketable alternatives). Additionally, HighGround has the capability of incorporating client designated or legacy third-party mutual funds into client specific strategies.

PROTECT. STRENGTHEN. GROW.

Our vision is to Protect, Strengthen and Grow our nonprofit clients. We believe there is no pursuit more important than this; because we believe the work we do will not only shape our lives, but will empower the many organizations that truly transform lives. This vision forms an authentic pathway to our mission—to be an innovative and vigilant caretaker of the funds and assets entrusted to us by the nonprofits and generous individuals we serve through effective asset management, planned giving strategies and account administration.



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As an independent, nonprofit media organization that provides content and resources focused on Baptists and global Christians, the Baptist Standard Publishing Company informs and equips people to live for Christ in their cultural context today, as it has done in Texas for 130 years.

Through a significant self-examination resulting in a rebranding of The Standard, the following key factors were identified as describing who we are and what we are to do:

- Vision — We exist to inform, inspire and challenge people to live like Jesus.
- Position — The Baptist Standard is the independent forum for Baptist voices speaking to the challenges of today's world.
- Personality — Our readers say we're: Trusted. Engaging. Bold. Compassionate. Christian.
- Affiliation — We attract, support and collaborate with forward-looking people committed to historic Baptist ideals and the spectrum of Baptist voices.

With approximately 13,000 subscribers to Common Call (a quarterly print magazine), 5,000 digital edition subscribers, 400,000 website users, and 1 million webpage views, the Standard is well situated to broadcast the story of Texas Baptists around the world. The recent addition of Texas Baptist Voices brings writers from many perspectives to join our collaborative conversation. The feature Deep in the Heart of Texans introduces influential leaders in our congregations, ministries, and institutions. With the generous support of the Christ is Our Salvation Foundation, Isa Torres joined the writing team this year as our Hispanic Beat Reporter. All three additions are informing, inspiring, and challenging people to live like Jesus.

What the Standard produces is lauded among its peers in Church Journalism. We are very proud of our staff, whose work places them at the top of their field, as affirmed by prestigious awards from Associated Church Press received by Standard staff in 2018. Former editor Marv Knox received the William B. Lipphard Award for Distinguished Service to Religious Journalism. Marketing Manager Julie Sorrels earned the Award of Excellence – Best in Class: Social Media Presence. Additionally, the Standard received Awards of Excellence for writing, website, reporting, and marketing. Notably, the coverage of Hurricane Harvey's effect and relief efforts garnered accolades for in-depth reporting and writing by Ken Camp, managing editor.

In addition to peer recognition of Standard staff, the Board also expressed their deep gratitude for Kayla Peltoma's work as director of Finance and Administration during the executive director search process.

During the May meeting of the Standard board, Eric Black was selected as the new executive director and publisher of the Baptist Standard Publishing Company. Though the Standard has already introduced Eric through the digital edition, website, and Facebook page, we are excited for you to meet him during this year's Texas Baptists Family Gathering.

We are able to inform, inspire, and challenge people to live like Jesus through print and digital media because of faithful supporters and subscribers like you, who are part of providing the funds necessary to accomplish such a high calling.

Remember, The Baptist Standard specializes in news, features and opinion for you, Texas Baptists, through our partnership with churches, institutions and individuals associated with the Baptist General Convention of Texas. Please visit us at our booth in the exhibit hall or online at www.baptiststandard.com for the most reliable and timely information affecting Texas Baptists.

The Denison Forum was established in 2009 by Jim Denison and Jeff Byrd to help Christians engage their culture by resourcing them to experience and advance God's Kingdom. Almost 120,000 subscribers in more than 200 countries receive Dr. Denison's Daily Article with "news discerned differently." Christian Parenting, First15 and JanetDenison.org are spiritual formation resources affiliated with Denison Ministries.

Cultural Engagement and other resources –
denisonforum.org

Christian parenting resources and spiritual formation –
Christianparenting.org
JanetDenison.org
First15.org

Highlights for 2017-2018

- Denisonforum.org hosts Dr. Denison's Daily Article (go to www.denisonforum.org to subscribe). The "tag line" for the Denison Forum has recently been updated to "News discerned differently." Subscriptions increased by nearly 10,000 readers in 2017
 - In early 2017 Dr. Denison launched a weekly email for preaching pastors called Cultural Preaching. Over 2,000 pastors on all parts of the globe receive the sermon Dr. Denison is preaching that week, pastoral tips and stories, and a personal word of encouragement. Preachers can subscribe at www.denisonforum.org.
 - In the fall of 2017 the Jim Denison Resource Library was launched, where all of Dr. Denison's writings, including hundreds of sermons, Bible studies and white papers, are catalogued and searchable for use by the public at no cost. It can be accessed at www.jimdenisonlibrary.org.
- More than 544,000 unique visitors viewed the Denison Forum website, www.denisonforum.org.
- In response to Hurricane Harvey ravaging the Texas coast in September 2017, Denison Forum challenged its Daily Article readers to match a \$25,000 matching gift to Texas Baptist Men to be used for disaster relief. Daily Article readers more than met the challenge. Over \$325,000 was given through Denison Forum to Texas Baptist Men.
- First15 is helping more than 60,000 believers across the world experience God in a fresh way every day. With a daily email and free mobile app, believers are engaging in daily worship, reading, and prayer. Go to first15.org to subscribe for free, or search First15 in your app store to check out our free, experience-based devotional.
- **Christianparenting.org** has recently completed its content gathering phase and is currently planning ways to engage parents of children of all ages with practical help. Social media and periodic "conversations" will address topics and needs identified by readers. Podcasts will be available in 2018.
- **JanetDenison.org** contains Janet's blog focusing on biblical wisdom and Bible studies written by Janet, applying God's word to everyday life. Nearly 12,000 subscribers receive Janet's blog.

We give God the glory for all he has accomplished through Denison Forum. We know that none of this possible without his blessing of providing readers and donors whose support makes speaking biblical truth into cultural issues through "news discerned differently" a reality. We thank God for his sufficiency and the encouragement and platform provided through Texas Baptists.



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GuideStone.org

"The Year of New Beginnings" was the theme that guided GuideStone's work during 2018. Founded in 1918 as the Board of Ministerial Relief and Annuities, GuideStone was birthed in the heart of Dr. Lunsford, a Nashville pastor who was burdened by the plight of "old soldiers of the cross." Now, a century later GuideStone's Mission:Dignity ministry continues to enhance the financial security of retired SBC ministers, workers, and their widows through much-needed grant assistance and is funded primarily through the gifts of individuals, groups, and churches. 2017 was another record year with overall gifts being up \$170,000, as Mission:Dignity welcomed 2,074 new donors. Christmas gift checks of \$250, a tradition since 1945, were mailed to more than 1,700 eligible recipients. At year-end, Mission:Dignity was assisting 1,738 recipients and payments totaled \$7.4 million. Qualifying individuals receive \$225 per month; couples are eligible for \$300. The neediest individuals with at least 25 years of Southern Baptist ministerial service may qualify for double those amounts.

Each of the three major U.S. stock indexes ended 2017 the same way they began the year — marching upward. The S&P 500® was up 21.83%, the Dow Jones was up 28.11% and NASDAQ was up 29.64%. All three indexes hit record highs more than 60 times each during the year — with the Dow Jones and NASDAQ both closing at all-time highs over 70 times — accounting for approximately 25% of all trading days.

In the last quarter of 2017 GuideStone negotiated a lease on five floors at Pinnacle Tower, a 24-story office tower about 10 miles north of its current location. This relocation was driven by GuideStone's vision to aggressively manage costs.

After the tragic church shooting in Sutherland Springs, Texas, last November, GuideStone Property and Casualty hosted two Church Safety & Security Conferences, in partnership with Brotherhood Mutual. These events in Lubbock and Austin, Texas, reached just over 200 individuals.

Hurricane Harvey impacted more than 50 Texas church and ministry clients. GuideStone Property and Casualty worked with them to file claims and provided support and follow-up during the process. We partnered with the Alabama Baptist State Board of Missions to host a MinistrySafe child sexual abuse prevention conference. Additionally, GuideStone Property and Casualty and Brotherhood Mutual led two Church Safety and Security Conferences in Texas in November to provide information and resources to improve security.

Insurance areas worked diligently throughout the year on cost containment efforts for our participants. While medical inflation, claims experience and the uncertainty in the health care industry continue to impact rates, we worked to control health insurance rates — average rate increases for Personal Plans were 8.8% and for Group Plans were 7.5% — with more than half of all groups seeing rate increases of 2% or less. GuideStone is increasing access to individual plans and group products. Those solutions include GuideStone's Personal Plans, Micro Groups and Group Plans for larger and medium-sized churches and ministries.

New security features continue to be deployed to further safeguard participant information. Participants logging into MyGuideStone or interacting with customer-facing GuideStone personnel will soon notice these updated measures.

2017 was a key year for the Code series of books authored by O.S. Hawkins. All royalties from the books benefit Mission:Dignity. The Christmas Code, a devotional for the Advent season, and The Believer's Code, a devotional for the entire year, hit store shelves in 2017. The Christmas Code was used by scores of churches in outreach efforts. 2018 will see the launch of The Nehemiah Code: It's Never Too Late for a New Beginning.

GuideStone is making plans to mark its 100th anniversary during trustee meetings and at the annual Southern Baptist Convention meeting in Dallas.

STATISTICAL INFORMATION

Number of active churches in
Church Retirement plan1,645

% of churches active in
Church Retirement plan43%

Number of persons receiving
retirement benefits5,590

Number helped by Mission Dignity ministry226

The whole of TBM's work has one purpose: share the love of Christ. From Disaster Relief to Restorative Justice, all are designed to point people to Christ through our work of loving people in times of need.

Disaster Relief had a remarkable year responding to Hurricane Harvey which was one of 21 total responses – three were out of state. Through these responses, TBM provided:

- 33,379 volunteer days,
- 360,248 volunteer hours,
- 1,605,515 meals,
- 30,032 showers,
- 16,345 loads of laundry,
- 51,549 boxes for packing recovered items,
- 2,941 Rebuild projects, and
- 1,116 chainsaw jobs.

All of this resulted in 15,294 ministry contacts, 1,495 Gospel presentations, 265 professions of faith, 5,592 Bibles distributed, and 1,400 new Yellow Cap Volunteers trained.

Rebuild, TBM's long-term recovery, began work in 2017 and it was God's timing for us to be so impactful to those effected by Hurricane Harvey. Work in South Texas began as the first responders pulled out. We had Rebuild projects in Katy, Clear Lake, Friendswood, Webster, Dickinson, Houston, Orange, Port Arthur, and Vidor working on more than 50 homes installing insulation, sheetrock, and other similar construction projects. This work was done with volunteer teams from all over the US and Canada with over 10 college teams over Thanksgiving break and Winter break. We see this work continuing well into 2018 – come and join the gospel in motion.

Water Ministry meets the clean water and hygiene needs of individuals and communities around the globe. In 2017 we: trained a team in Peru how to drill water wells to ensure their access to clean water and shared the Gospel for their access to the Living Water, provided numerous wells in Peru, Ghana, Honduras, repaired 12 wells in Ghana servicing 12,000 people, provided water purification systems to communities in Ghana, Kenya, Philippines, Honduras, the Navajo Nation, and provided 50 pounds of soap to clinics in Ghana and 8,000 bars to Hurricane Harvey victims.

Men's Ministry and Church Renewal held an Experiencing God weekend in at Farmington Brazilian Church in Framingham, MA, with over 40 participants and a closing church-wide worship service with 200 attendees. A new FAITH Riders Chapter was established at FBC Forney and a No Man Left Behind was held at FBC Friendswood with 42 participants.

Restorative Justice Ministry provided four Chaplain/Spouse retreats to support and encourage state chaplains in their efforts. Funding from the Mary Hill Davis Offering provides valuable support to more than 35 chaplains and spouses. In March, RJM conducted a Volunteer Training Seminar with the Department of Criminal Justice and is a requirement for prison and jail ministry in Texas. We continue to place books, Bibles, and Christian curriculum in the chapel programs across Texas.

Royal Ambassadors & Challengers trained 99 camp directors, hosted 100 at a Preschool and Children's Ministers' Retreat, led a state Basketball tournament of 21 teams where 20 young men made public decisions for Christ, hosted 308 participants at the State Race, and led camping excursion with almost 3,000 in attendance.



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TEXAS BAPTISTS
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TAMIKO JONES

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wmutx.org

God has empowered us for ministry across the street and around the world.

1 Chronicles 16:24 tells us to “Declare his glory among the nations, his marvelous deeds among all peoples.” WMU of Texas is a conduit by which to reach all people.

Over the last year, God has shown us the work, the opportunities and the potential partnerships. After Hurricane Harvey, WMU of TX joined hands with others to minister to those affected by the storm. Not only were Texans engaged, but people in the larger WMU family from New Mexico, North Carolina and Virginia WMU provided financial assistance and gift cards. Associational staff members and Texas Baptist staff personally presented these gifts to those in need. Over \$12,700 was given and 252 gift cards shared. The funds were used to assist BSM programs in Beaumont, Houston, Corpus Christi, and Beeville. In addition, the WMU Foundation HEART fund grant helped First Cambodian Church of Aldine in Houston begin repairs on their flooded building.

In October 2017, two teams from WMU of Texas arrived in Penitas, Texas to assist Luis and Norma Medina-Camara as they built their new home. The family qualified for their home through their involvement with the Buckner Family Hope Center in Penitas. This was the seventh house WMU of Texas has built since 2011. The next Women's Build will occur in October 2018. Thanks to generous gifts to the Mary Hill Davis Offering, funds were available to purchase the building materials.

In the forefront of our minds is **THRIVE 2:7**, the teen expression of Christian Women's Job Corp. This program is thriving at several sites across Texas as we seek to invest in young people's lives through a holistic Christ-centered life and job skills education and mentoring program. THRIVE 2:7 is for teen girls, ages 16 to 19. At The Village Church in Dallas, the THRIVE 2:7 program has served not only teen girls but also teen boys. Located in the area of the recent gas leaks and associated tragedies, the program site has continued to provide an outlet and center of hope for those in need. In addition, our mobile laundry unit, **Suds of Love** or “Bubbles”, has also been activated in the parking lot of the Village Church to serve families in the area of the church. This ministry was initially seen as an opportunity to provide relief for families during disasters. Now, we also see this ministry as a prime example of God at work in the community through WMU of TX and interested volunteers.

As we consider the assignments God has given each of our ministries to fulfill for our state this year, I am reminded of the awesome responsibility we have as believers to share the Gospel with those who have yet to know of our Lord. With this responsibility in mind, **Speak Out!** (1 Peter 2:9-10, MSG) is the theme for the 2018 Mary Hill Davis Offering and Week of Prayer for Texas Missions, September 9-16, 2018. Please join us in this work.

Abilene Callahan Baptist Association

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Article I – Name and Nature

Section 1. The name of this corporate body shall be The Baptist General Convention of Texas, hereafter Convention.

Section 2. This Convention is and always shall remain, only and solely a medium through which Baptist churches may work harmoniously in cooperation with each other, promoting the work and objects set forth in this constitution. It has not, to any degree, and shall never have any ecclesiastical authority. It shall not have and shall never attempt to exercise a single attribute of power or authority over any church, or over the messengers of the churches in such wise as to limit the sovereignty of the churches, but shall recognize the sovereignty of the churches under the one Sovereign, Jesus Christ our Lord.

Article II – Object

The object of this Convention shall be to awaken and stimulate among the churches the greatest possible activity in evangelism, missions, Christian education and benevolent work and enterprises; to cultivate a closer cooperation among the churches and promote harmony of feeling and concert of action in advancing all the interests of the Redeemer's Kingdom.

Article III – Membership

Section 1. This Convention in session in all its meetings shall be composed of messengers elected by Baptist churches that shall voluntarily cooperate with the Convention. All messengers must be members of the church by which they are elected. A messenger must be enrolled at the Convention in session to be qualified to vote. The messengers have no right to act except for annual or special meetings constituting the Convention in session for which they have been elected by their cooperating churches.

Section 2. Each church cooperating with this Convention shall be entitled to:

- A Two messengers for the first one hundred (100) members or fractional part thereof. Two additional messengers for the first two hundred fifty dollars (\$250) given during the previous fiscal year to the Texas budget as adopted by The Baptist General Convention of Texas in annual session, and
- B. One additional messenger for each additional hundred members and each additional one thousand dollars (\$1,000) given during the previous fiscal year to the Texas budget as adopted by The Baptist General Convention of Texas in annual session, and
- C. If, as calculated under B above, a church's giving surpasses its membership, then one additional messenger for each two thousand dollars (\$2000) given during the previous fiscal year to the Texas budget as adopted by The Baptist General Convention of Texas in annual session, not to exceed six additional messengers, provided, however, that
- D. No church shall be entitled to more than twenty-five messengers.
- E. A mission church shall be considered a church under the Constitution solely for the limited purpose of electing messengers to the Annual Meeting if it is identified as a body of believers separate from its sponsoring church; it contributes to the BGCT in an identifiable way either directly or through the sponsoring church from its own resources; it exists to address some specific mission need, such as language, culture or location, it regularly practices baptism and the Lord's Supper separate from its sponsoring church; and it identifies itself with, aligns itself with, and endorses, generally, the purposes and work of the Convention. The total number of messengers a mission may qualify for is four (4) as specified in Article III, Section 2.A.



Article IV – Meetings

Section 1. The Convention shall meet annually at such a time and place, based on Convention site guidelines, as determined by the messengers at least two years prior to the annual meeting.

In case of emergency, the Executive Board is empowered to change the time and place of the meeting. The minutes of the annual meeting of The Baptist General Convention of Texas are to be approved by the Executive Board of the Convention at the first meeting of the Executive Board following the Convention.

Section 2. No notice of annual or regular meetings of The Baptist General Convention of Texas shall be required. Notice of a special meeting shall be given at least 10 days prior to such meeting by publication in any newspaper of general circulation in the community in which the principal office is located.

Section 3. The right to vote is limited to the duly elected and enrolled messengers who are actually present in the session at the time the vote is taken. There will be no proxy or absentee voting.

Section 4. The quorum for conducting business during any session of the annual meeting of The Baptist General Convention of Texas shall be a minimum of 25% of the enrolled messengers.

Section 5. Special meetings of the Convention may be called by the Executive Board by a two-thirds vote of the votes entitled to be cast by directors of the Board. The call for a special meeting shall state the purpose of the meeting and the date, time and place for the meeting. The special meeting shall be limited to the purpose stated.

Article V – Officers

Section 1. The officers of this Convention shall be a president, a first vice president, a second vice president, a secretary of the Corporation, a recording secretary and a registration secretary. With the exception of the recording secretary who serves by virtue of serving as Treasurer, these shall be elected annually by ballot not later than the second day of the annual meeting. By unanimous consent any officer of this Convention may be elected by acclamation. Officers shall hold their offices until the end of the last session of the Convention meeting at which their successors are elected. In case of the death, resignation, or disability of the president, or if the president is no longer a member of a cooperating church, the vice presidents shall automatically succeed to the office of president in the order of their election.

Section 2. In any election for office, the nominee who receives the vote of a majority of the enrolled messengers present in the session shall be elected. If on the first ballot no nominee is elected, there shall be a run-off election between the two nominees who received the greatest number of votes on the first ballot.

Section 3. No one shall be eligible for the office of president or eligible for the same vice president's office for more than two successive years.

Article VI – Committees

Section 1. The committees of the Convention shall be: (1) Committee on the Annual Meeting, (2) Committee on Credentials, (3) Committee on Committees, (4) Committee on Resolutions, (5) Committee on Memorials, (6) Committee to Nominate Executive Board Directors, (7) Committee on Nominations for Boards of Affiliated Ministries. The duties of the committees are included in the Convention Bylaws.

Section 2. Special committees may be established by action of the Convention to serve for specified periods of time to perform specific duties that in the judgment of the Convention cannot be effectively performed by one of the regular committees of the Convention or by the Executive Board.

The Convention shall specify the number of members to be appointed to each special committee and the method to be followed in selecting members. In the absence of other provisions, the president and the two vice presidents shall jointly appoint the members.

Article VII – Executive Board**Section 1. Functions**

The Executive Board speaks for the interest of the Convention and has authority and accountability over the work of the Convention in the interim between annual meetings, except for that which is reserved for the Convention in session as noted in the Articles of Incorporation, the Constitution and the Bylaws.

- A. The Executive Board shall have charge and control, except when otherwise directed by the Convention, of all of the work of the Convention, including missions, education, and beneficence, in the interim between its sessions.
- B. The Executive Board has authority to elect and employ, to evaluate performance and set compensation for the Executive Director who shall serve as chief executive officer of The Baptist General Convention of Texas and its Executive Board.
- C. The Executive Board also has authority to elect an Associate Executive Director and a Treasurer/Chief Financial Officer, both of whom shall serve under the direct supervision of the Executive Director. The Executive Director is authorized to employ other staff as provided by the plan of work and the financial plan of the Convention. The Board shall approve a compensation plan for Convention employees.
- D. The Executive Board shall hold in trust and shall administer all the properties, annuities, trusts, and invested funds of this body except as otherwise provided for by the Convention, and the Board shall report annually to the Convention the state of all funds which the Board administers.
- E. The Executive Board provides the Convention annually with a report of its work and with a complete financial accounting of all funds received and disbursed, including properties, trusts, and invested funds which the Board administers.
- F. The Executive Board determines the organization, functions, responsibilities and working relationships of the Executive Board committees.
- G. The Executive Board maintains an official organization manual setting forth the plan and organization of the Convention and its programs. It shall also maintain a policy manual (including business, financial and personnel) for those policies adopted by the Convention in session and by the Executive Board.

Section 2. Membership

- A. The authorized number of elected directors shall be 90 directors from 30 sectors in the Convention. The sectors are based on resident church membership in counties, and such sector criteria will be included in the Bylaws upon recommendation of the Executive Board.

A minimum of three directors will be elected from each sector. The number of elected directors of the Executive Board will exceed ninety (90) until expiration of the terms of directors elected prior to the effective date of adoption of this amended Constitution.

- B. One-third of the number of directors is elected each year to serve a three-year term. Directors are eligible for election to a second three-year term but are not eligible to serve more than six consecutive years.
- C. Voting directors of the Executive Board shall be the elected directors, the convention president, and the two convention vice presidents, and the presidents of the Convention-recognized fellowships, provided that these presidents are members of churches supportive of the BGCT. Non-voting directors of the Executive Board shall be the executive director, recording secretary, and the presidents of Woman's Missionary Union of Texas, Texas Baptist Men and Baptist Student Ministry.



- D. All Executive Board directors, including the ex officio directors, must be members of churches that are supportive of The Baptist General Convention of Texas.
- E. No one who is an employee of the Convention or member of the immediate family of an employee, except an ex officio director of the Board, shall be eligible for membership on the Executive Board.
- F. The membership of the Executive Board shall be generally representative of the Baptist membership in the Convention and shall include men and women, Anglo and non-Anglo persons, persons who are members of larger membership churches and smaller membership churches, and those who have abilities and experience needed by the Board. There shall be a minimum of forty percent (40%) of the persons elected each year who are church/denominational employees and a minimum of forty (40%) who are non-church/denominational employees.

Section 3. Officers

- A. Officers shall be chairperson, vice chairperson, recording secretary and other such officers as the Executive Board may determine needed from time to time.
- B. Term of service for elected officers is one year. A person is limited to a maximum service of two consecutive years in the same office. The exception to these provisions is the recording secretary who serves by virtue of serving as Treasurer.
- C. Nominations for election of officers are from the floor. A person must be elected by majority vote.

If on the first ballot no nominee is elected, there shall be a run-off election between the two nominees who received the greatest number of votes on the first ballot.

Section 4. Committees

The Executive Board has the authority to establish and dissolve committees as required to carry out their responsibilities. Duties of the committees will be included in the Executive Board Policy Manual.

- A. The Executive Committee plans, coordinates and monitors the general progress of the Executive Board, including the budget and financial affairs. The Executive Committee will be composed of the chairperson and vice chairperson of the Executive Board, the president and vice presidents of the Convention, and the chairperson of each Executive Board committee. The chairperson of the Executive Board will serve as chairperson of the Executive Committee. The executive director and the recording secretary will serve as ex officio members, without vote.
- B. The Audit Committee is to oversee the financial audit function.
- C. The Institutional Relations Committee is to give broad oversight of the institutions related to the Convention, recognizing that the institutions are managed by a separate board of trustees according to their articles of incorporation and bylaws.
- D. The Church Ministries Committee shall set the direction for the operation of core ministries of the Convention.
- E. The Administration Support Committee shall set direction and recommend general policies for the administrative functions of the Convention. The committee shall include a finance subcommittee for budget development and general financial oversight.

Article VIII – Affiliated and Related Ministries

Section 1. General Provisions

- A. Institutions or agencies which associate with this Convention in compliance with this Article are affiliated. Institutions or agencies which associate with this Convention pursuant to an adopted Special Agreement are related.
- B. A new agency or institution may be established or a change in relationship with an agency or institution may be approved by a majority vote of the votes entitled to be cast by the messengers when the vote is taken without regard to the total enrollment at any meeting of the Convention upon the recommendation of the Executive Board, and must be considered by the Executive Board not later than a September meeting of the Board preceding the annual meeting of the Convention. In the case of a new agency or institution, the recommendation must include a comprehensive plan of development, a set of proposed articles and bylaws, and a proposed annual budget.
- C. An affiliation or relationship with an agency or institution may be discontinued by the Convention upon recommendation by the Executive Board and by majority vote of the votes entitled to be cast by the messengers present when the vote is taken without regard to the total enrollment at any meeting of the Convention.

Section 2. Affiliated Ministries

- A. Trustee Membership of Boards
 - 1. Each institution affiliated with this Convention shall have a board consisting of thirteen (13) or more trustees of which at least a simple majority shall be elected by this Convention in its annual meetings. When the charter of such institution provides for a specific number of trustees, the number so provided for shall be elected. Those persons elected by the Convention to serve as members of these boards shall be active members of cooperating churches of The Baptist General Convention of Texas.
 - 2. No person shall be eligible for concurrent membership on more than one affiliated board or board of related institutions or agencies.
 - 3. Each institution affiliated with this Convention shall be eligible to elect those members of its trustee board not elected by the Convention in accordance with criteria adopted by its board. All trustees so elected shall be active members of a Baptist church and shall meet other criteria established by the Executive Board.
 - 4. Trustees of affiliated institutions shall be elected in classes so that the terms of one class only shall expire with each Convention year. The term of office of each member of the boards of affiliated institutions shall be three years. A member who has served three full successive terms shall not be eligible for re-election until he or she shall have been out of office for one Convention year.
 - 5. The board of trustees and the administrator of an institution may request that a trustee, whose continued service is considered imperative to meet an emergency or a special need, be elected for an additional year. Such an exception must be approved by the Committee on Nominations for Boards of Affiliated Ministries. No more than two exceptions may be made for any given term for any one institution. In the event of such an exception, the position filled by that trustee shall revert to its previous class at the completion of the extra year.
 - 6. No Trustee shall be allowed to name his or her successor by resigning in favor of another person.

7. No elected trustee of the board of an affiliated institution who resigns from that board before the expiration of his or her current term shall be eligible for nomination to another board of the Convention until one year after such resignation is filed. A trustee elected by the Convention who no longer meets the qualifications for service set forth by the Convention as determined by the Executive Board, shall cease to be a trustee and that place shall be deemed vacant, or the Executive Board upon a 75 percent vote of those present may recommend to the Convention the removal of a trustee.

A vote of 75 percent of the votes entitled to be cast by the messengers when the vote is taken without regard to the total enrollment at any annual meeting of the Convention is necessary for removal. The Articles of Incorporation and bylaws of affiliated institutions shall not contain provision inconsistent with this Section 2 (A)(7).

8. The Recording Secretary of the Convention shall be notified immediately of vacancies that occur on an institutional board for any cause. Should a trustee position elected by the Convention become vacant for any cause, the Convention shall name a replacement trustee for that position through its adopted processes
- B. The board of each institution affiliated with this Convention shall submit any and all changes or amendments to the institution's charter to the Executive Board for approval. Any changes that significantly alter the mission of the institution or the institution's relationship to The Baptist General Convention of Texas shall be referred to the Convention for approval.

Section 3. Related Ministries

- A. The institution's Articles of Incorporation and Special Agreements with the Convention shall guide the election and terms of trustees.
- B. No person shall be eligible to concurrently serve on more than one related ministry board or affiliated ministry board.
- C. The board of an institution may request, with a 75 percent vote of its board, that the institution relate to the Convention through a contractual Special Agreement rather than as an affiliated institution. Such agreements must be approved by the Convention at its annual meeting and may be considered only after favorable action by the Executive Board. Special Agreements must be negotiated in accordance with policies established by the Executive Board.

Section 4. Reports and Reviews to the Convention

- A. The board of each agency or institution affiliated with or related by Special Agreement to this Convention shall submit to the Convention at each annual meeting such written reports as will keep the Convention fully informed concerning the activities, plans, resources, financial condition, and legal status of the institution.
- B. The board of each agency or institution, except general acute care hospitals and health care systems, affiliated with this Convention shall submit for review and approval to this Convention, or to a committee designated by this Convention, each and every project or policy that involves a level of indebtedness of the institution beyond the policies of The Baptist General Convention of Texas.

Article IX – Contributions and Funds

Section 1. The Cooperative Program shall be the chief means through which this Convention shall support its missionary endeavors. The mission causes shall be reviewed and the Cooperative Program Budget through which they are supported shall be adopted annually.

Annual adoption of the budget shall be voted at the Annual Meeting held in the fall. The Executive Board will be responsible for budget adoption at its fall meeting in years when a summer Annual Meeting is held.

Section 2. All funds of this Convention shall be raised by voluntary contributions provided this does not prevent acquiring funds, or property, by bequest or use of any income on property that may be bequeathed to or purchased by the institutions or agencies hereof.

Section 3. All designated offerings or special gifts shall be strictly applied according to the expressed will and direction of the contributor.

Article X – Offices

The Convention shall maintain a principal office within the State of Texas and shall continuously maintain in the State of Texas a registered office which is identical with the principal office and a registered agent who is the recording secretary of the Convention as required by the Texas Non-Profit Corporation Act. The Executive Board shall, from time to time, amend the Articles of Incorporation of the Convention as necessary to reflect the then current address of the registered office and the registered agent.

Article XI – Amendments

Any alterations may be made in these Articles by two-thirds of the votes entitled to be cast by the messengers present when the vote is taken without regard to total enrollment at any annual meeting of the Convention, provided (1) no amendment may be considered after the second day of the Convention and (2) that an amendment shall be so approved by two successive Conventions.

Article I – General Provisions

Section 1. For purposes of usage in the Constitution and these Bylaws, a church is deemed to be affiliated with the Convention if such church (1) identifies itself with, aligns itself with, and endorses, generally, the purposes and work of the Convention, and (2) is otherwise eligible to send messengers to the annual meeting of the Convention. For purposes of usage in the Constitution and the Bylaws, “supportive” and “cooperating” shall have the same meaning as “affiliated” has in these Bylaws.

Section 2. All Convention officers, members of Convention committees, all Executive Board directors, and all non-director members of any special committee, subcommittee, group, team, council or other entity created under or permitted to be created under these Bylaws shall be members of affiliated churches. An exception will be made for members of groups, teams, councils or other entities who are Baptists and live outside the state of Texas.

Section 3. If a person named in Section 2 is no longer a member of a church affiliated with the Convention, or otherwise vacates the position, the position will be deemed vacant and the vacancy will be filled according to the provisions of these Bylaws.

Determination of vacancies and the date of such vacancy will be made by the Executive Board or a committee of the Board so authorized by the Executive Board.

Article II – Messengers

Section 1. Each messenger shall register with the Registration Secretary by presentation of proper credentials prior to being seated as a messenger to the Convention.

Section 2. The credentials of a registered messenger may be reviewed by the Credentials Committee as deemed necessary.

Section 3. Any challenges to the seating of the messengers of a church will be presented in writing to the Credentials Committee during the Annual Meeting.

Section 4. Any challenges to the ability of a church to have the opportunity to send messengers to the Annual Meeting will be presented in writing to the Executive Board.

Article III – Meetings

Section 1. The annual meeting of the Convention shall be a gathering for the purpose of worship, fellowship, mobilizing, encouraging, informing and uniting Texas Baptists to accomplish the Great Commission, as well as to elect officers; receiving recommendations and reports of officers, committees and boards; and for any other business that may arise or be scheduled.

Section 2. The Convention shall determine its order of business at the first session of the annual meeting.

Section 3. Special meetings may be called according to the provisions of the Constitution.

Section 4. In all questions covering the proceedings of the Convention in both annual and special meetings, Robert’s Rules of Order (latest revised edition) shall be the authority used by the presiding officers and by the Convention, unless the Constitution or the Bylaws have special rules of order that apply.

Article IV – Duties of Convention Officers

Section 1. It shall be the duty of the president to preside over the deliberations of the Convention and to discharge such other duties as are usually incumbent on the presiding officer of a deliberative body.

If the president is no longer a member of a church cooperating with the Convention, a vice president shall succeed to the office according to provisions of the Constitution, and this fact shall be so recognized by a resolution of the Executive Board.

Section 2. The vice presidents shall discharge such duties as requested by the president. In the absence of the president from a Convention session, a vice president in the order in which he or she was elected shall preside.

Section 3. It shall be the duty of the recording secretary to keep an accurate record of the proceedings of the Convention, and to file and keep all papers in order deemed important to be preserved.

Section 4. The registration secretary shall be responsible for registration of all messengers of the Convention.

The registration secretary shall report to the chairperson of the Committee on Credentials the number of messengers registered as of the hour the Convention convenes and periodically thereafter as prescribed by the chairperson of the Committee on Credentials.

Following the Convention the registration secretary shall provide the recording secretary the number of messengers registered, arranged by associations.

Section 5. The duties of the secretary of the Corporation shall be to attest legal papers of the Convention.

Article V – Convention Committees

Those committees that use sector criteria for membership shall use the same sectors as used for the Executive Board membership in the Bylaws, Article VI, Section 1, A.

Section 1. The Committee on Annual Meeting shall be responsible for recommending the time and place of future annual meetings of the Convention, for selecting the worship leaders and for formulating the agenda for the annual meeting and submitting the agenda to the messengers for approval at the opening session.

The committee shall have eighteen members appointed for three year terms with six appointed each year by the president and the vice presidents acting jointly.

The president and vice presidents may appoint replacements to fill vacancies.

- A. This committee shall provide periods of time during the early sessions of the Convention annual meeting for the introduction of all matters requiring a vote not scheduled on the agenda and when introduced shall fix times for consideration for the same, unless the Convention gives its unanimous consent for its immediate consideration.
- B. This committee shall be responsible for formulating and recommending the Standing Rules of the Convention to the Convention for adoption. The Standing Rules of the Convention may be amended without notice by majority vote.

It also shall be responsible for recommending the disposition of motions made during consideration of miscellaneous business but not finally disposed.

Section 2. The Committee on Credentials shall be responsible for verifying credentials of prospective messengers, enrolling messengers, for investigating any contention arising out of the enrollment of messengers, and for reporting its findings to the Convention. Any challenges to the seating of messengers of church that are based upon the assertion that a church is no longer in harmonious cooperation with Texas Baptists will be referred to the Executive Board and not reported on until the next Annual Meeting. At the time scheduled by the Committee on Annual Meeting, the chairperson of the Committee on Credentials shall report the number of messengers registered as of the opening of the annual meeting or special meeting and periodically thereafter.

The committee when established shall have ten (10) members appointed for two years with five (5) appointed each year by the president and the vice presidents acting jointly. The president and vice presidents may appoint replacements to fill vacancies.



Section 3. The Committee on Committees shall be responsible for nominating persons for election by the Convention to serve on the Committee to Nominate Executive Board Directors and the Committee on Nominations for Boards of Affiliated Ministries, and for such special committees as the Convention shall designate. The committee shall have fifteen (15) members appointed for three-year terms with five (5) appointed each year by the president and the vice presidents acting jointly. The president and vice presidents may appoint replacements to fill vacancies.

Section 4. The Committee on Resolutions shall be responsible for receiving all resolutions proposed by messengers and for reporting its findings to the Convention.

The committee shall have ten (10) members appointed for two-year terms with five (5) appointed each year by the president and the vice presidents acting jointly. The president and vice presidents may appoint replacements to fill vacancies.

All resolutions shall be automatically referred to the Committee on Resolutions without public reading or discussion.

This committee is directed to report back to the Convention such resolutions as it deems proper, whether submitted to or prepared by the committee.

Section 5. The Committee on Memorials shall be responsible for preparing and presenting to the Convention suitable memorial statements in remembrance of active Baptists whose death occurred during the year preceding the Convention session.

The committee shall have five (5) members appointed for one-year terms by the president and the vice presidents acting jointly. The president and vice presidents may appoint replacements to fill vacancies.

Section 6. The Committee to Nominate Executive Board Directors shall be responsible for nominating persons for election by the Convention to serve on the Executive Board.

- A. The committee shall have fifteen (15) members, five (5) of whom shall be elected each year to serve for three-year terms. Members of this committee shall be elected by the Convention on the nomination of the Committee on Committees.

A member may serve one three-year term and is not eligible for re-election until one year has elapsed. No two members of this committee shall be from churches in the same sector.

The committee shall publish its list of nominees at least two full days prior to the day on which directors of the Executive Board are to be elected by the Convention

- B. All members should be persons with experience in Convention affairs. In the election of the fifteen (15) members, a minimum of six (6) shall be church/denominational employees and a minimum of six (6) non-church/denominational employees. Spouses of church/denominational employees shall be considered in that category. Retired persons and their spouses who served as church/denominational employees shall be considered in that category.
- C. If a member moves from a church in one sector to a church in another sector that is already represented on the committee, the member shall continue to serve until the succeeding Convention at which time the position will be deemed vacant and the Committee on Committees shall make a nomination to the Convention to fill the unexpired term.

If a member resigns or is no longer a member of a church affiliated with the Convention, the position will be deemed vacant and the Committee on Committees may nominate to the Executive Board at its next meeting a person who shall be elected on a temporary basis to serve until the succeeding Convention at which time the membership shall be terminated.

Thereafter, the persons or committee charged with nominating the members of such committee shall make a nomination to the Convention to fill the unexpired term.

- D. The committee shall conduct its work in accordance with a policy adopted by the Executive Board. The policy adopted shall provide for the committee to seek information and suggestions from persons in all sectors.

Section 7. The Committee on Nominations for Boards of Affiliated Ministries shall be responsible for nominating persons for election by the Convention to serve on the boards of trustees and boards of directors of all Convention institutions, agencies, and affiliates.

- A. The committee shall have fifteen (15) members, five (5) of whom shall be elected each year to serve for three-year terms.

Members shall be elected by the Convention on the nomination of the Committee on Committees. A member may serve one three-year term and is not eligible for re-election until one year has elapsed. No two members of this committee shall be from churches in the same sector.

- B. All members should be persons with experience in Convention affairs. In the election of the fifteen (15) members, a minimum of six (6) shall be church/denominational employees and a minimum of six (6) non-church/denominational employees.

Spouses of church/denominational employees shall be considered in that category. Retired persons and their spouses who served as church/denominational employees shall be considered in that category.

- C. If a member moves from a church in one sector to a church in another sector that is already represented on the committee, the member shall continue to serve until the succeeding Convention at which time the position will be deemed vacant and the Committee on Committees shall make a nomination to the Convention to fill the unexpired term.

If a member resigns or is no longer a member of a church affiliated with the Convention, the position will be deemed vacant and the Committee on Committees may nominate to the Executive Board at its next meeting a person who shall be elected on a temporary basis to serve until the succeeding Convention, at which time the membership shall be terminated.

Thereafter, the persons or committee charged with nominating the members of such committee shall make a nomination to the Convention to fill the unexpired term.

- D. The committee shall conduct its work in accordance with a policy adopted by the Executive Board. The policy adopted shall provide for the committee to seek information and suggestions from persons in all sectors. The policy adopted also shall provide for the committee to establish one nominating subcommittee for each institutional board, agency, and affiliate to assist the committee by suggesting names of persons who shall be considered for nomination for election to boards. The committee shall determine the composition of each subcommittee and select the members of each subcommittee.
- E. The subcommittee shall develop the lists of suggested nominees in accordance with criteria established by the Executive Board. The committee shall develop its list of nominees on the basis of the list of suggested nominees presented by the subcommittee, screening those lists to eliminate duplications and to assure compliance with established criteria.

The committee shall publish its list of nominees at least two full days prior to the day on which members of institution boards, agencies, and affiliates are to be elected by the Convention.



Article VI – Executive Board

Section 1. Membership

- A. The elected membership of the Executive Board shall be ninety (90) directors from thirty (30) sectors in the Convention. At least three directors will be elected from each sector. The composition of the Executive Board shall be that as defined in the Constitution. Additionally, at least thirty percent (30%) of the membership shall be non-Anglo persons.

The sectors are based on resident church membership in counties with additional consideration given to the number of churches and Cooperative Program giving for Texas causes. The drawing of sector boundaries is based on the following weighted criteria by county: resident church membership, fifty percent (50%); number of churches, twenty-five percent (25%); and Cooperative Program giving for Texas causes, twenty-five percent (25%).

Large population counties may contain multiple sectors, and smaller population adjacent counties may be grouped into one sector. Counties containing more than one sector will not be subdivided.

Sector boundaries will be evaluated every five years by the Executive Committee of the Board and any changes recommended to the Board for approval.

- B. The Executive Board shall have ex-officio directors in addition to the ninety (90) elected directors. The ex-officio directors shall be divided into these two classes.

Class 1. The president and vice presidents of the Convention and presidents of the recognized fellowships, provided that these presidents are members of churches supportive of the Convention. These persons shall by virtue of office serve with all rights, privileges, and duties of, and shall in all matters be treated as elected directors.

Class 2. The non-voting directors named in the Constitution, Article VII, Section 2, C. These persons shall by virtue of office serve with all rights, privileges, and duties of, and shall in all matters be treated as elected directors, except these persons shall not have the right to vote in regard to actions of the Executive Board or in regard to actions of any committee of the Executive Board, and shall not be counted for purposes of ascertaining a quorum of the Executive Board or of any of its committees nor in the number needed for adoption of certain actions.

- C. If a director of the Executive Board moves from a church in one sector to a church in another sector, the director shall continue to serve until the succeeding Convention at which time the membership shall be terminated and the Committee to Nominate Executive Board Directors shall make a nomination to fill the unexpired term.

In order to achieve the purposes and structure dictated by the Constitution, as each incumbent director completes the term to which he or she was elected prior to the adoption of these Bylaws, or in the event any director, prior to the expiration of his or her term, dies, resigns, is no longer a member of a church affiliated with the Convention, is removed by the Convention, or otherwise vacates the office of director, such director's position on the Executive Board determined by the previous provisions shall be deemed eliminated and no vacancy shall be deemed to exist, except as follows: if a sector has less than three directors on the Executive Board or after the time the number of directors positions has been reduced to ninety (90) elected directors, then when a vacancy occurs for any reason outlined in the foregoing sentence, the Committee to Nominate Executive Board Directors shall nominate to the Executive Board at its next meeting a person who shall be elected on a temporary basis to serve until the succeeding Convention at which time the membership shall be terminated and the Committee to Nominate Executive Board Directors shall make a nomination to fill the unexpired term.

Should an ex-officio director resign, be unable to continue to serve, or no longer be a member of a church affiliated with the Convention, the position will be deemed vacant.

The Executive Board shall give the entity responsible for the election of such person written notice that such person's position as a director has been deemed vacant and that such director position shall remain vacant until it is filled by such entity's presentation to the Executive Board of another person qualified to serve as such entity's ex-officio director under the Constitution and these Bylaws.

- D. The Constitution and Bylaw provisions in regard to the composition of the Executive Board directors pertain to directors elected under these Bylaws and not to previously elected directors continuing during the transition period.

Section 2. Elected Officers

The Board shall elect a chairperson and a vice chairperson annually. The treasurer/chief financial officer of the Convention shall serve as recording secretary. The officers shall have the following duties:

A. Chairperson

1. Presides at all meetings of the Board.
2. Chairs the Executive Committee.
3. Assists the executive director as the director provides leadership in the planning and implementation of Convention operations and ministries.
4. Consults with the executive director and secretary prior to each meeting to set the agenda.
5. Appoints special committees as authorized by the Board.
6. Represents the Board in meetings of Convention agencies as invited to do so.
7. Serves the Board by carrying out responsibilities assigned to the chair.

B. Vice Chairperson

1. Assists the chairperson throughout the term as may be requested.
2. Presides at meetings of the Board and Executive Committee in the absence of the chairperson or at the request of the chairperson

C. Recording Secretary

The recording secretary is to keep an accurate record of the proceedings of the Executive Board and to file and keep in order all papers deemed important to be preserved.

Section 3. Election of Officers

A. Nominations

Nominations shall be made from the floor at the last regular meeting of the year. Nominations shall be made in this order: chairperson and vice chairperson.

B. Voting

The election of officers shall be the first order of business on the agenda at the last regular meeting of the year.



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Election shall be by show of hands unless the chairperson with the appointed parliamentarian shall agree that the vote be by ballot. A majority of votes cast shall determine the person chosen.

C. Terms

Officers of the Board shall serve one-year terms and be eligible for one additional term. Terms begin immediately following the close of the last session of the annual meeting of the Convention. Should for any reason the office of chairperson be vacated prior to completion of the term, the vice chairperson shall become chairperson for the remainder of the term.

In such case, the vacancy of the vice chairperson would be filled at the next regularly scheduled meeting of the Board.

Section 4. Meetings

A. Authority

The Board shall meet at times and on a schedule that it adopts. The meeting date of the Convention should be a strongly influencing factor in the determination of when the Board meets.

The meetings should be calendared so as to supplement and facilitate the total work of the Convention in support of all Convention-adopted programs.

The meeting schedule of the Board shall be recommended to the Board by the Executive Director.

B. Meeting Times

The Board shall determine three-to-five years in advance the three times during each calendar year it meets.

C. Annual Meeting

The annual meeting of the Board shall be the one conducted prior to but not necessarily in conjunction with the annual Convention meeting. At this meeting, the Board will elect officers, may appoint committees, and consider other business as may come before the meeting.

D. Place of Meeting

The Board may designate any place within the State of Texas as the place of meeting.

E. Notice of Meetings

Written notice stating the place, day, and hour of any meeting of directors shall be delivered either personally, by mail, or by electronic means to each director, not less than 10 days or more than 60 days before the date of such meeting by or at the direction of the chairperson.

F. Special Meetings

Special meetings may be called by the executive director and/or the chairperson with the consent of two of the following: the vice chairperson of the Board and the president and vice presidents of the Convention; or may be called by not less than twenty percent (20%) of the directors.

The call for a special meeting shall state the purpose of the meeting, and the time, date, and place for the meeting. The special meeting shall be limited to the purpose stated.

G. There will be no proxy voting.

Section 5. Committees

Descriptions of the committees and duties of the Executive Board Committees will be described in the policy of the Executive Board as adopted by the Executive Board.

Section 6. Voting by Mail or Electronic Means

Any action required by law to be taken at a meeting of directors or any action which may be taken at a meeting of directors may be taken without a meeting if consented to and signed by a requisite number of directors of the Executive Board who are entitled to vote, either in writing, by mail ballot, by electronic means, or by some combination of both, with respect to the subject matter thereof.

The requisite number is the number that would be necessary to take that action at a meeting at which the directors were present and voted. Where a specific business item may need action prior to a regular meeting, the chairperson, or the vice chairperson in his absence, may conduct the voting by mail or by electronic means, or by some combination of both.

No vote shall be taken by electronic means or by telephone unless notice of such proposed vote to be taken has been communicated by electronic means, in person, by mail, by telephone, or by any of these means, to all members of the Executive Board or to the committee or subcommittee proposing to take a vote at least three (3) business days prior to the first day on which votes will be accepted. Notice by mail shall be deemed properly given if deposited in the U.S. Mail at least five (5) business days prior to such first day.

Voting by fax, email, dedicated website, any similar technology, or any combination of such means shall constitute “electronic means” for purposes of this and the following section.

“Signing” of a ballot or other confirmation of a vote by way of electronic means shall be broadly construed to permit effective utilization of such means.

In addition, committees and subcommittees of the Executive Board, together with any group authorized under Section F. of this article, but not the Executive Board as a whole, may take votes telephonically as a part of a committee or subcommittee meeting via conference telephone call or any other electronic conferencing media (and without necessity of a signed ballot). Written memoranda or minutes shall be made of all meetings and votes undertaken by electronic means or telephonically or by mail, and shall be entered into the records of the Executive Board or the appropriate committee or subcommittee as of the next meeting in which the members assemble in person.

There will be no proxy voting and therefore voting by mail or by electronic means shall not be considered to be voting by proxy.

Section 7. Quorum

The directors holding one-half (50%) of the total votes which may be cast at any meeting shall constitute a quorum.

Section 8. Compensation

Directors shall not receive any salaries for their services but may receive reimbursement for appropriate travel expenses.



Article VII – Convention Employees

Section 1. Executive Director/Chief Executive Officer Recruitment

The Executive Board is to establish a search committee composed of seven (7) members of the Executive Board appointed by the chairperson and vice chairperson of the Executive Board and eight (8) members of the Convention-at-large appointed by the president and vice presidents of the Convention.

The chairperson and vice chairperson of the Executive Board and president and vice presidents of the Convention will nominate a chairperson of the Search Committee from among the fifteen (15) members. The Executive Board is to approve the Search Committee and the chairperson.

Section 2. Associate Executive Director/Chief Operating Officer and Treasurer/Chief Financial Officer Recruitment

The executive director with the chairperson and vice chairperson of the Executive Board and the president of the Convention shall compose the search committee for the associate executive director/chief operating officer and the treasurer /chief financial officer as needed.

Section 3. Other Employees of the Convention

The executive director is authorized to employ other staff as needed in the plan of work and as provided by the financial plan of the Convention.

Article VIII – Amendments

These Bylaws may be changed or amended at any regular session of the Convention's annual meeting, except the last session of the meeting, provided said change or amendment is offered at the first session of the annual meeting, and carries over to some subsequent session during the same meeting, and then receives a two-third's majority of messengers present and voting in the session.

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