

## VAN ZANDT COUNTY TORNADO RELIEF OPPORTUNITIES

**DONATIONS** - As early as Wednesday, the donations may be delivered to Van Zandt County officials for dispersing to those in need.

- Bullard ISD FFA is also taking donations for tornado victims. Contributors are asked to send gift cards to the Bullard FFA or drop them off at the Bullard ISD Administration Office.
- The Palestine Police Department is collecting gift cards. In lieu of gift cards, personal toiletry items, such as hygiene items and diapers and wipes will be accepted as well. Items including clothing and furniture cannot be accepted. Only new and unused items can be included in the donation delivery.
- Donations can be dropped off at the Palestine Police Department, 511 N. John St. Call dispatch at 903-729-2254 to arrange for a drop-off, or bring them to the police department and contact dispatch on site for collection.
- The Frankston Police Department is collaborating with the Palestine Police Department to collect relief items, donations may be dropped off at the Frankston Police Department.
- Van Zandt County Fire Marshal and Emergency Management Office says that water donations are being accepted at the Champion EMS station at 101 Industrial Blvd. in Canton, behind the Canton Fire Department on Highway 19.

For full article see [KLTV.Com](http://KLTV.Com)

or

- Texas Baptist Men are in the Van Zandt area with their Disaster Relief Group (chainsaws, shower units, and feeding units.). To help with that effort

[www.texasbaptistmen.org/givenow](http://www.texasbaptistmen.org/givenow)

# The Connector



*Fulfilling the Great Commission  
by connecting people with people.  
Matthew 28:19-20*

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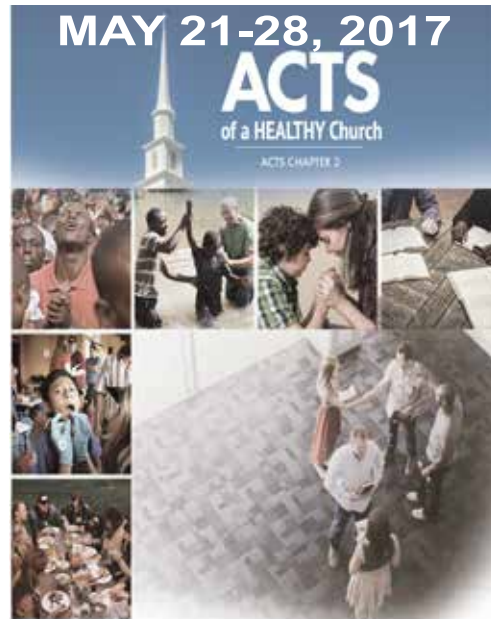
We have just finished hosting a great Ministry Assistants Luncheon. I always like this event since I'm usually the only male present! (Ha!) We appreciate these ladies and a few men who fill this important roll in churches. We rely on them quite a bit to be a liaison between us and the church/staff. It was our honor to host this event for the fourth year in a row. I hope you didn't miss it. But if you did, maybe we can do it again next year. Speaking of Ministry Assistants, as of May 2nd, Paula has been with me six years. She is a great help to all I do here. I appreciate her and wanted to brag on her - even though she is my wife!

Please be in prayer for the upcoming mission trip to the Amazon River June 5-15, 2017. We have nine signed up to share the Gospel with unreached tribes and villages along the river. Pray that all arrangements go well, health remains good, and our preparations are adequate. Satan has already been at work as we have tried to plan this trip!

If you would like to support any of these trips we take as an Association, all you have to do is make your donation to Smith Association and mark it for foreign missions. It will be tax deductible. When we book these trips we budget enough to cover my costs and a few "common" costs like insurance, visas etc.. Other than that participants raise all their own funds usually around \$3000. If you did choose to donate something, it would go toward the costs for the individuals. It would be money invested in the Kingdom!

I appreciate our churches and the way they work together for the Kingdom. We have a great fellowship of churches and ministers. Thank you for your support with finances, friendships, and volunteers. As always, I believe we have the greatest Association in the State. August will be 19 years I have served with you here and it has been a true joy. OUR/YOUR ministry has reached people far and wide. It has affected the lives of individual and churches. It has provided help for churches in need and started new churches who will continue for years to come. Thank you!

I have been in the following churches of late: (Mission Trip) Istanbul, Turkey, (Preach) FBC Gresham, (Preach) Hill Creek, Whitehouse, (Visit) Calvary Baptist, Tyler, (Falconry program) FBC, Trenton). Blessings, Danny



## Associational Emphasis Week

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**ASSOCIATIONAL EMPHASIS WEEK  
MAY 21-28**

- 1 Evangelism Conference  
Calvary Baptist Church, Tyler (p. 2)
- 4 NATIONAL DAY OF PRAYER
- 8 Administrative Team Meeting  
SBA Office, 1 p.m.
- 14 MOTHER'S DAY
- 15 Advisory Council - 6 p.m.,  
Location TBA
- 29 MEMORIAL DAY - SBA Office Closed

*anniversaries*

- 20 Sedrick Moore  
St. Paul Baptist, Jacksonville  
5-20-2006
- 22 Bruce Rudd  
Mt. Sylvan Baptist, Lindale  
5-22-11
- Steven Nipp  
Antioch Baptist, Tyler  
5-22-13
- 27 Craig Lloyd  
FBC Edom  
5-27-12

*birthdays*

- 3 Anthony L. Williams  
Galilee Baptist, Tyler
- 20 James Hawkins  
Higher Heights, Tyler
- 23 Edward Murrell  
Bethlehem Baptist, Flint
- 24 Ron Herring  
Pleasant Hill Baptist, Tyler

— The 66th Annual National Observance —  
**May 4, 2017**

**FOR YOUR GREAT NAME'S SAKE!**  
HEAR US... FORGIVE US... HEAL US!

O LORD, LISTEN! O LORD, FORGIVE! O LORD, HEAR AND ACT!  
FOR YOUR SAKE, O MY GOD... DANIEL 9:19

**GATHER WITH COMMUNITY MEMBERS TO  
OBSERVE THE NATIONAL DAY OF PRAYER.  
THURSDAY, MAY 4, 2017**

**Green Acres Baptist Church**  
will open their Chapel to anyone who desires to pray on their own from 8:30 a.m.-3:00p.m. There will also be a community prayer service from 12:00-1:00 p.m. if you'd like to join us as we unite the hearts of East Texans in prayer for our great nation.

**Churches seeking Pastors**

*Dean, Tyler; Hebron, Tyler; Ig. Bautista Colonial Hills, Tyler; Liberty, Hawkins; Pruitt, Van*

Please pray for these churches as they seek God's leadership.

**Church Support Staff Vacancies**  
Visit  
<http://smithbaptist.org/staff-vacancies/>

**Evangelism Conference**  
Calvary Baptist Church  
6704 Old Jacksonville Hwy, Tyler, TX 75703  
Dr. Fred Smith, Pastor  
903-903-939-3200



*"According to the power that works in us (Eph 3:20)."*

**April 30 - May 1, 2017**

*A time of  
Renewal and Challenge*

**Sunday**

**\*9:00 a.m. Session 1**  
(Bible Study Hour)

**\*10:15 a.m. Session 2**  
(Worship)

**\*Fellowship Luncheon**  
**\*5:00 - 7:00 p.m.**  
(CWT)

**\*7:00 p.m. Session 3**

**\*Ice Cream Fellowship**

**Monday**

**\*7:00 p.m. Session 4**



Guest Speaker  
**JARED WELLMAN**  
Pastor of  
Mission Dorado  
Baptist Church  
Odessa, Texas

Guest Musician  
**ANDREW PRESSLEY**  
Assoc. Pastor,  
Music  
First Baptist  
Church  
Lindale, Texas







Click [HERE](#) to see what is available!



**SEND Conference  
Dallas, Texas  
May 19-20, 2017**

What's better than attending the 2017 Send Conference in Dallas?  
Attending the 2017 Send Conference in Dallas with your friends!

You'll learn from David Platt and many others, worship with Crowder, connect with other believers in breakout sessions, and so much more. Space is limited, so round up your squad, and register today.

[Register Now](#)



*4th Annual  
Administrative Assistants  
Appreciation Luncheon  
4-26-17*



*Hidden Garden Tea Room  
Bullard, Texas  
50 Ladies in Attendance representing  
24 SBA Churches  
Thank you for all you do!!*

**MORE - - - Goals**

The latest issue of "Facts and Trends" by Lifeway emphasizes how to reach "UNCHURCHED AMERICA". Especially eye-catching to me is Thom S. Rainer's article, "Setting a goal, reaping a harvest".

Rainer is president and CEO of Lifeway. In his article he lists five benefits of setting goals. First he says setting goals helps churches become intentional about the Great Commission. He goes on to share that setting goals makes a statement about a churches' priorities, is a constant reminder to church members, and helps the church function in unity.

He gave an example of one church with 130 in attendance, plateaued for five years, setting a goal of 1000 contacts in one year. At the end of the year the church had made 1700 contacts, attendance increased to 190 and 24 folks came to know Christ.

Three things that I think we in SBA can take from this is (1) Being intentional about the Great Commission is pleasing to our Lord (2) Having our priority to reach MORE people is certainly our Christ-given task and, (3) Seeing people come to know Christ is a great blessing and provides new vitality to a church.

M.O.R.E. is about setting goals, being intentional, making people coming to know Christ and baptized in our SBA churches the priority, which in turn fulfills the Great Commission.

Set goals and see what happens!!

For Him and M.O.R.E.  
Bob

# AAFC

AFRICAN AMERICAN FELLOWSHIP CONFERENCE  
**JULY 10-13, 2017**

**COLONIAL HILLS BAPTIST CHURCH**  
**7330 S. Broadway Tyler, TX 75703**

This conference is designed to provide more than 900 churches throughout the state of Texas an opportunity to worship, fellowship, and receive training in a variety of classes. There will be a Jim Culp Banquet, worship services, mission opportunities, and a whole lot more.

Registration - [AFRICAN AMERICAN FELLOWSHIP CONFERENCE](http://AFRICAN AMERICAN FELLOWSHIP CONFERENCE)

Sharron Bradley  
 (214) 828-5131

[sharron.bradley@texasbaptists.org](mailto:sharron.bradley@texasbaptists.org)

Roy Cotton  
 (214) 828-5130

[roy.cotton@texasbaptists.org](mailto:roy.cotton@texasbaptists.org)

## 2017 R.A. & Challenger Camp @ Timberline July 31 - August 4, 2017



For more info contact

Nicholas Waggoner 903.738.5529  
 or Jeff Palmer 903.360.2616

### NEW EVENT FOR LEADERS DON'T MISS THIS OPPORTUNITY JULY 8TH 10-Noon

We will be praying for camp and making decisions for camp this year and next. All Directors, Leaders and Pastors are welcome to attend.

\*\*\*

#### Camp Pastor

Bill Homes, Pastor - Clearwater Baptist Church

#### Praise and Worship leader

Dirk Zwiebel and Family

#### Guest Speakers

King's Closet

Danny Pickens, Director of Missions SBA

Guest Missionaries

#### Bible Studies

Bobby Fitzgerald

#### Crafts

Pat Ford, Janie Holmes

#### Nurse

Audrey Butler, RN

#### Special Event

Capture the Counselor - Boys VS Leaders

**2017 G.A. Camp**  
 June 5-9  
 \$185 per person.  
 Completed 3rd-6th grades

JESUS IS MY SUPER HERO  
 G.A. CAMP 2017

[Click for registration paper.](#)



**We are pleased to announce that applications are now being accepted for the SBA 2017 Community Missions Grant.**

A portion of the SBA budget has been designated to be available to cooperating churches for local mission projects. This application must be completed and submitted by email. Any SBA church may apply **once** a year for one specific project to be completed within the Smith Baptist Association for the purpose of evangelism. The Administrative Team will review each application. You will receive notification of the decision regarding your request following the Team meeting. Funds will be available until November 1, 2017, or until the account balance has been depleted, whichever comes first.

Click [HERE](#) for application

**Grants are awarded monthly until funds are depleted.**

**ookin' for a Bible Study?**

click here

**Check out our Video Library**

## CERTIFICATE IN MINISTRY

SMITH BAPTIST ASSOCIATION  
 3226 OLD JACKSONVILLE HWY.  
 TYLER, TEXAS 75701  
 903-581-6139

**\$25 Registration Fee • \$175 Class Fee**

classes offered by  
 East Texas Baptist University  
 Marshall, Texas  
 For more information  
 contact Dr. Danny Pickens  
**903-581-6139** or  
[danny@smithbaptist.org](mailto:danny@smithbaptist.org)