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December 2017/January 2018 Issue

the connector

a monthly publication of smith baptist association

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



Merry Christmas
from

Danny & Paula Pickens
Sue Sexton
Harold Richardson
Francisco Rodriguez

what's happening

December

3rd - 10th - Lottie Moon Christmas Offering Emphasis

5th - MINS 1113 "The Exile to the Intertestamental Period"

11th - Administrative Team Meeting, 1 p.m., SBA Office

22nd - January 1st - Office closed for Christmas Holidays

Office will re-open Tuesday, January 2, 2018 @ 8:30 a.m.

January

2nd - SBA Office Opens at 8:30 a.m.

6th - RA Basketball

8th - Administrative Team Meeting, 1 p.m. SBA Office
Advisory Council Meeting, 6 p.m., Bruno's Pizza

13th - RA Basketball

16th - MINS 1117 - Introduction to Church Ministry
Registration; 6 p.m., SBA office

19th-20th - Coaching Clinic, SBA Office

20th - RA Basketball

23rd - Introduction to Church Ministry
Registration; 6 p.m., SBA office

27th - RA Basketball

28th - SBA Annual Meeting, FBC Tyler
Meal @ 5 p.m., Meeting @ 6 p.m.

30th - Introduction to Church Ministry

BIRTHDAYS

12-11

Darrell Wise
FBC Gresham

12-24

Mike Morrow
Cross Brand Cowboy Church

1-7

Erik Switzer
Sharon Baptist

1-16

David Dykes
Green Acres Baptist

ANNIVERSARIES

12-2-1990

Ken Goode, East Lake Baptist

12-2-2011

Chris Legg, South Spring Baptist

1-1-1990

Bennie Portwood, Mt. Carmel
Baptist

1-9-2012

Frank Zia, Broadway Baptist

1-10-1999

Mark Price, Southside Baptist

1-15-2009

Steven Young, The Cross Baptist

1-31-1993

Robert Carter, Colonial Hills
Baptist

A Glance at SBA

Pastorless Churches

Dean Baptist Church, Tyler; First Baptist, Mineola;
Holly Brook Baptist, Hawkins; Iglesia Bautista Colonial Hills, Tyler.

Lake Tyler Baptist, Tyler; Liberty Baptist, Hawkins;
and The Woods Baptist, Tyler;

Churches with Interim Pastors

Dean Baptist, Tyler - Rev. Bob Sexton

First Baptist, Mineola - Dr. Lynn Eckeberger

Holly Brook Baptist, Hawkins - Dr. Scott Richardson

Iglesia Bautista Colonial Hills, Tyler - Rev. Francisco Rodriguez

Lake Tyler Baptist, Tyler - Dr. Danny Pickens

Liberty Baptist, Hawkins - Dr. Paul Saylor

The Woods Baptist, Tyler - Dr. Charles Dodson

Please be in prayer for all of the churches in SBA.

For a listing of other Staff Vacancies

<http://smithbaptist.org/staff-vacancies/>

DECEMBER 3-10, 2017



2017 LOTTIE MOON CHRISTMAS OFFERING*

imb

SBA Holiday Schedule
Christmas - Office Closed
Dec. 22 - Jan. 1, 2018



Terrible acts of violence continue to affect our lives and the lives of those we love. These events can happen anywhere at any time. Whether due to terrorism, work place violence, or the act of a mentally unstable person, our society continues to be the target of these attacks. Are you prepared? Sheriff Larry R. Smith and the Smith County Sheriff's Office is presenting this free training to the public.

This training, "Civilian Response to Active Shooter Events", teaches what happens during an event. The human response both physical and psychological, common actions of the actor, law enforcement response *and actions you can take to help you and your loved ones survive the attack.*

The training will be on Tuesday December 5th at 6:30pm at Green Acres Baptist Church, 1607 Troup Hwy, in Tyler.

This subject is graphic and some portions of the training may not be suitable for children. Parents are strongly encouraged to "not" bring children younger than 13 to the training.

To RSVP for this event please send email to rsvpsheriffsmith@gmail.com

If you have any questions regarding the training please contact Sgt. Darrell Coslin at 903-590-2967.

For more information on the Smith County Sheriff's Office visit www.smithcountysheriff.com. The Sheriff's Office also has a FB page and can be followed on Twitter at @SmithCSO.

EAST TEXAS BAPTIST
UNIVERSITY



Certificate in MINISTRY

Whether you are teaching a Bible Study or are personally exploring Scripture, the courses offered within the Certificate in Ministry program will equip students with the resources and knowledge necessary to effectively communicate the gospel of Jesus Christ.

Class: MINS1117: Introduction to Church Ministry

Location: Smith Baptist Association Office
3226 Old Jacksonville Road

Professor: Dr. Danny Pickens
Cost: \$175

Class Begins:

Tuesday, Jan. 16, 2018

All classes accredited through ETBU.

For more information, contact ETBU's School of Christian Studies
903.923.2180 | christianstudies@etbu.edu | ETBU.edu/christianstudies

2018 Spring Class Schedule

Registration begins January 16, 2018

MINS 1117 - Introduction to Church Ministry

Registration begins Feb. 20, 2018

MINS 1119 - The Work of the Minister

Registration begins April 3, 2018

**MINS 1122 - The Preparation of Sermons
and Bible Studies**

Smith Baptist Association 119th Annual Meeting Sunday, January 28, 2018

First Baptist Church Tyler

301 W. Ferguson, Tyler, TX 75702

Meal at 5 p.m. Meeting at 6 p.m.

Messenger Invitations will be mailed in January, 2018.



M.O.R.E. -- GLORY!

Ephesians 3:21 helps us to understand God wants glory in His church in His Son, Jesus Christ.

That was God's focus in sending Jesus to be born as one of us and go to the cross to die for our sinfulness. In Him, we who know Christ, are to be demonstrating to others what God intended for all mankind out of His great love for us. That's how God gets glory "in the church – in Christ Jesus".

As we approach the Christmas season, let's realize that "glory in the church" in Christ Jesus" is really what it is about. Therefore, we in SBA should have the vision and the practice of bringing glory to our Father through his Son in all of our churches. I believe we do that first of all by fulfilling the GREAT COMMISSION very specifically and deliberately.

Glory to God in SBA churches is what M.O.R.E. is all about – and changed lives through faith in Christ gives us all abundant cause for much thanksgiving.

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

Bob Sexton

Are You Doing M.O.R.E.?

(Moving Out Reaching Everyone)

is a strategy for encouraging and assisting churches in fulfilling the Great Commission

GO - BAPTIZE - TEACH!

Let's all be united in seeing **more** people come to Christ each year and being baptized in your respective churches

For additional information about enlisting your church to be a **M.O.R.E.** church, contact

Bob Sexton
903-849-4198



East Texas Communities Foundation is offering scholarships for dependents of Smith County Baptist Ministers. Applications will open for submission by December 1 and will be due February 1, 2018, at 5:00 p.m. We also have 50 additional scholarships that some of the students may be eligible. A summary list of all ETCF scholarships with detailed requirements and links to the applications are found on our website <http://etcf.org/scholarships/available-scholarships/>.

Mission 2018:
Central Asia
March 17-25
PRAYER REQUEST

Plans continue for the 2018 Central Asia Mission Trip. There are five people who have committed to go. As of this printing, diplomatic relations between the United States and Turkey are creating a problem with securing visas. Please pray with us that this problem will soon be resolved.