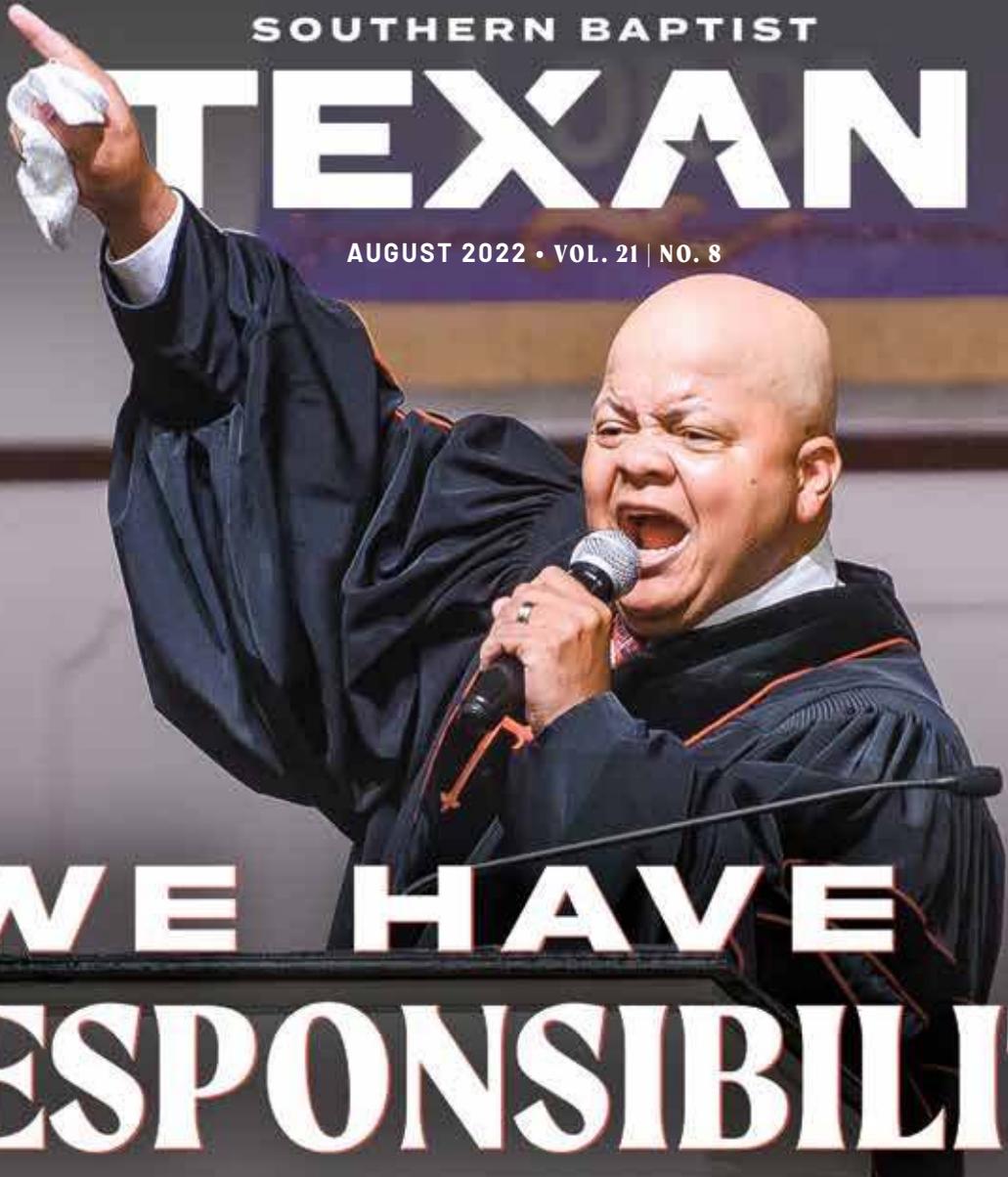


SOUTHERN BAPTIST

TEXAN

AUGUST 2022 • VOL. 21 | NO. 8



WE HAVE A RESPONSIBILITY

+

DALLAS CHURCH IMPACTING THOUSANDS
THROUGH COMMUNITY FOOD OUTREACH

LOUD & CLEAR

Communicating our pro-life
convictions more effectively

BRILLANDO EN SAN ANTONIO

Iglesia lleva la luz de Jesús
a los vecindarios cercanos



Never let your planning become a priority over your praying

Every detail matters! That is the mindset of those who plan well. When I was a pastor, I recall spending a ton of time planning out every single moment of every worship service. I also recall spending hour after hour of laborious advanced planning for every event. I wanted everything we did to make an impact. Gospel advancement was the goal and excellence was always the standard.

Strategic planning is a necessary component to every church and organization. In order to maximize the talents and resources of your people, a clear plan must be properly thought through and implemented. However, as good as strategic planning is, it should never take priority over prayer. As I have grown as a leader, I have learned that spending more time in prayer than planning helps you to be better prepared for what God wants to do in and through you.

Prayer is hard work. It is something in which we must choose to invest our time. It is one of those disciplines that easily finds itself being pushed out of the priorities of our day. However, prayer can be the avenue in which God chooses to move among you in a new way!

Allow me to encourage you to pray for three things as you lead your church or organization forward:

1) Pray for God's favor and blessing. There are a lot of good things that come from being a strategic

planner. However, when God chooses to bless our efforts, greater things happen.

2) Pray for God's guidance and protection. This may sound like a strange way to pray when engaged in planning, but we desperately need God to lead the way and protect us from making the wrong decisions. If we are not careful, we can allow our creativity to lead us to a place where we are more dependent on our abilities than we are on God moving among us.

3) Pray for those you are seeking to impact. While we certainly want to lead and plan with utmost excellence, the ultimate goal is to glorify God and impact people with the life-changing message of the gospel. Therefore, we must pray that God will use us to advance the gospel.

As a leader, it is satisfying to develop a plan and see it come to fruition. It is a joy to see people utilize their talents and resources to further the kingdom of God. Strategic planning is a major part of that. However, we must be diligent to never let our planning become priority over our praying. I love you and am honored to serve you!

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Nathan Lorick'.



Dr. Nathan Lorick
SBTC Executive Director

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Keep the main thing the main thing



Prior to God calling me to my role as editor of the Texan, I was pastoring a church in Central Oregon. Though I'd served on a church staff previously, this was the first time I had ever led an entire church.

Like many men who find themselves called to this position, I had a million thoughts and ideas about the direction I wanted to lead this church. Big picture, I wanted what I think all pastors want—to lovingly shepherd the people to whom God had called me and to guide them toward a more intimate relationship with Jesus that, in turn, would catalyze them to invite others into that same relationship.

But on the micro level, there were literally hundreds of critically important issues that needed to be addressed for us to be able to achieve the macro vision. Our church had a constitution and bylaws that hadn't been updated since they were written in 1970. Though the bylaws called for the pastor to make decisions alongside a deacon body, the church had no deacons because it had never replaced the ones who had died or moved away.

Feeling overwhelmed by tasks I had no idea how to tackle, I decided to focus on other challenges that would be easier to accomplish and, hopefully, get checked off our to-do list faster. So what did I do? I went all in on creating a website for the church and nit-picking the

volunteer leading worship about starting the Sunday morning service on time.

It's not that those latter tasks weren't important. They just weren't the best uses of my time and they certainly weren't the most important things the church needed accomplished to move forward. The church could survive in the short term without an online presence, but not having solid, biblical leadership in place was setting us up for trouble down the line when COVID arrived and put a strain on churches across the nation.

As I think back to those times, I realize I had fallen victim to a trap all of us struggle with at one time or another: I gravitated toward that which was easiest. When we feel overwhelmed, when we are exhausted, when we don't know what to do ... we will naturally try to take the path of least resistance. In my experience, that path rarely leads to a desired destination.

Two significant events are on the horizon: a new school year will begin in August, and many churches also consider September the start of their new "church year" when their next budget cycle begins. With these events come great opportunities for churches to take steps toward achieving the big-picture goal of reaching people, discipling them, and, in time, molding them into community missionaries who reach and disciple others.

As your church is executing a strategy to accomplish these things, the big-picture plan will almost certainly find itself competing with a swarm of pesky urgencies that threaten to siphon time, resources, and focus. Only you, as a pastor or a church leader, can decide which of those urgencies you must address, which you can offload to someone else, and which ones can wait.

But the point is, that swarm is coming. Take time to regularly and prayerfully process priorities alone, then go through that same process with other key leaders. Assess regularly where you're at on the road to achieving your goals this coming year, be flexible where you can, but be firm where you must.

Satan would love nothing more than for your church to have the best website in Texas (so to speak) if that means the main thing—proclaiming the truth about Jesus to a world desperate for hope—gets lost in a dizzying, unwieldy swirl of distraction.

A new school year brings with it great ministry opportunities

I knew I wanted to teach when I was five years old, and the Lord has granted me opportunities through local churches and seminaries for several decades now. At this time of year, my heart still leaps when I see school buses running and hear classroom bells ringing. I know, too, that local schools are great mission fields. Here are five ways your church might take on the task of ministering to schools in your area as a new school year nears:

01

Enlist a separate prayer team to pray for each school within your ministry area

Start here, seeking the Lord's wisdom as you plan your ministry. Many of the folks in the schools don't know Jesus. Some students deal with tough home lives. Public places can also become dangerous places. You will likely need several prayer warriors to cover all the schools in your area, but you can never have too many people praying. Pray ... and then pray some more.



02

Pray over and commission the teachers in your congregation as they start a new year

The teachers in your church have opportunities every day to be light in the darkness, hope for the hopeless, and consistency for kids whose adult relationships are sometimes inconsistent (in fact, I've often thought about spending the last years of my career in the public school system for this very reason). Pray over your teachers—and send them out as an extension of your church's ministry.

03

Talk with the superintendent and school principals to see what needs your church might help meet

Think like a missionary. Don't assume you know what the needs are; instead, investigate and ask. You might be surprised by the ethnic makeup, the languages spoken, the needs unmet in schools within walking distance of your church building. I've seen churches paint halls, clean classrooms, offer tutoring, do landscaping, and provide breakfast for teachers.

04

Provide school supplies for students and classes

Many teachers I know buy supplies with their own funds. Every class likely includes students whose families cannot provide basic supplies for them. Build relationships with local business leaders (which would also be good for your church's witness), and work together to provide some of these supplies. Surprise the teachers and students at the beginning of the year, and the start to a new academic year will be filled with encouragement.

05

Don't forget universities near your church

Their students are different. Their needs are unique. But, ministry opportunities to influence a generation making life decisions abound on university campuses. Connect with Baptist Collegiate Ministry leaders and other evangelical leaders on campus, and help them. Meet with administrators to learn about needs your church might meet. Do something to make a difference among adult learners, too!



Chuck Lawless is dean of doctoral studies and vice president of spiritual formation and ministry centers at Southeastern Seminary in Wake Forest, N.C. For more from Lawless, visit chucklawless.com.

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‘WE HAVE A RESPONSIBILITY’

Dallas church bringing gospel to thousands through food ministry

For Johnnie Bradley, pastor of Shiloh Missionary Baptist Church for the past 16 years, the struggles of the pandemic meant increased opportunities to share the gospel by expanding the church’s longtime Messiah Ministry outreach.

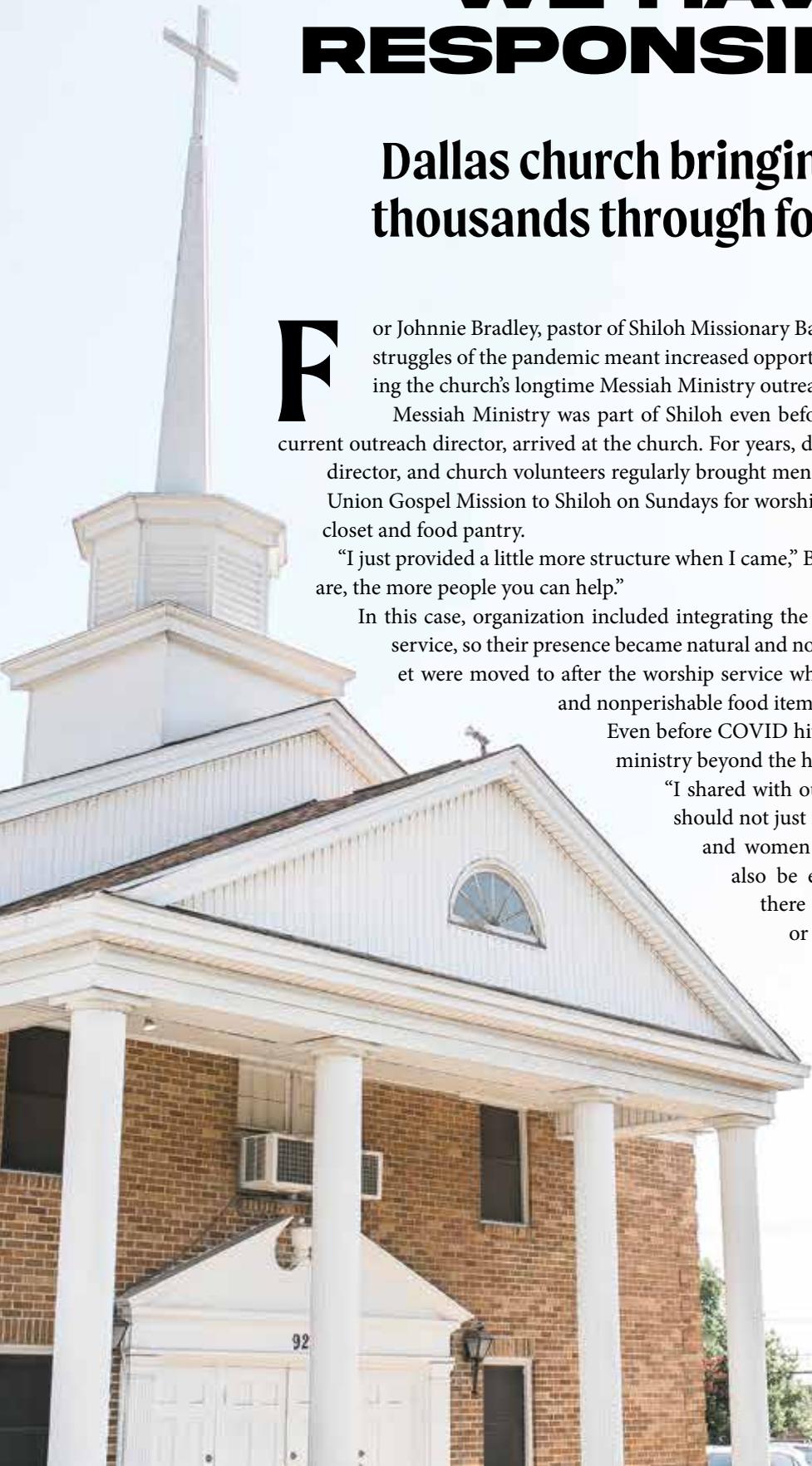
Messiah Ministry was part of Shiloh even before Bradley and deacon James Smith, current outreach director, arrived at the church. For years, deacon John Lemons, former outreach director, and church volunteers regularly brought men from the Dallas Life Foundation and Union Gospel Mission to Shiloh on Sundays for worship, a meal, a visit to the church clothes closet and food pantry.

“I just provided a little more structure when I came,” Bradley said. “The more organized you are, the more people you can help.”

In this case, organization included integrating the men more smoothly into the church service, so their presence became natural and not distracting. Trips to the clothes closet were moved to after the worship service when men might also pick up toiletries and nonperishable food items.

Even before COVID hit, Bradley saw the need to expand the ministry beyond the homeless.

“I shared with our deacons and the members that we should not just focus on sharing the gospel with men and women who were homeless, but we should also be even more focused on the fact that there are men and women that have jobs or are unemployed but not homeless,”





“ We have a responsibility to try to help people, try to serve people, try to share the gospel when we are trying to assist them with their physical needs. We give a hand up, not a hand-out. We meet people where they are. ”

JOHNNIE BRADLEY

he explained. “We needed to broaden our approach in sharing the gospel.”

A partnership with the North Texas Food Bank followed. Then came COVID.

Shiloh started regular food giveaways, which accelerated when the pandemic struck.

“When COVID hit, it just gave us a heavier influx of people who came to our food giveaways,” Bradley said. “We had already restructured our paradigm.”

Food giveaways ongoing

Twice monthly food giveaways continue at the church, even as COVID has waned. Dates vary, as Shiloh follows the schedule given by the food bank, an organization tasked with serving many zip codes.

On giveaway days, which are publicized on social media, by flyers, and via a special flag outside the church in its highly visible location off busy West Illinois Avenue, cars line up well in advance of the opening time.

“It’s not unusual to see 75-100 cars in line before we start,” Bradley said, adding that giveaways run from 8 a.m. to noon. Guests fill out brief registration forms to ensure there are no duplicate recipients and the food is distributed fairly.

In addition to what the food bank provides, the church purchases items for distribution. It’s gone at the end of each giveaway day.

Bradley said the church distributes up to 14,000 pounds of food (roughly 1,500-3,000 boxes) to 800-1,500 families from the community during each giveaway. Included in the food packages are gospel tracts and invitations to the church. Some 20-25 church volunteers assist in each distribution, including counselors who not only help folks with the food but also pray with them.

During the height of the pandemic, the church also received 18-wheelers of food from Bring the Light Ministries to supplement what the NTFB provided, although that partnership has phased out.

A multiethnic ministry

The Shiloh congregation, which has just under 500 members and an average in-person attendance of around 325, is predominantly African American. Even so, the recipients of the food giveaways are mostly Hispanic and Anglo, Bradley said, adding, “There is a major need in our zip code.”

The scriptural basis for helping those in need is clear, the pastor said. “We try to fulfill what the Scripture says: when you have done it unto the least of these, you have done it to me,” he continued, paraphrasing Jesus in Matthew 25:40. The Old Testament emphasizes giving, too, Bradley added, referencing Proverbs 28:17.

“The poor we will have with us always,” he said. “We have a responsibility to try to

**MESSIAH
MINISTRY
OUTREACH**

**20-25
MONTHLY
CHURCH
VOLUNTEERS**

**14,000
LBS OF FOOD**

**800-
1,500
FAMILIES
SERVED EACH
GIVEAWAY**

MISSIONS

help people, try to serve people, try to share the gospel when we are trying to assist them with their physical needs. We give a hand up, not a hand-out. We meet people where they are.”

Testimonials are not uncommon. Men and women on the grounds of the church sometimes weep when they receive food or assistance. It can be a transformational experience.

“Toward the end of the day, we are the hands and feet of Jesus,” Bradley said.

Other churches have gotten on board, the pastor added, noting that volunteers from New Hope Baptist, pastored by Damien Williams, have partnered with Shiloh, assisting when help is needed.

Shiloh invited members of North Garland Baptist Fellowship to assist in running the give-aways, too, Bradley said, so they could learn the system. Shiloh sent boxes of food to North Garland, a suburban church whose demographic varies considerably in terms of income, to do their own giveaway during the worst of the pandemic.

“Even professionals were struggling,” Bradley said. “We did more ministry during COVID than before COVID,” he mused, noting that while July 2022 will feature only one food giveaway because of vacations and schedules, August will include a backpack and school supply initiative.

At the height of COVID, many communities were hemorrhaging, he added. “The Lord made a way for our church, for His church, to make a difference. The church fulfilled the mission of the church.”



Around 25 volunteers gather at each Shiloh distribution to give out not only food, but personal care and prayer.

SUBMITTED PHOTOS



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DEEP IN THE HEART OF TEXAS, A GOSPEL EXPLOSION



China Spring church plant rapidly reaches neighbors, co-workers for Christ

At a year-and-a-half old, Wellspring Church in China Spring has grown to about 250 members, has nearly paid for 36 acres for a future campus, and is self-supporting financially with three full-time staff members.

“We’re seeing families transformed—those that came in that maybe were on the fence or just hadn’t been in church in a long time or maybe were unchurched completely, really beginning to grow in the Lord and love Him deeply,” said Matt Byrd, who pastors Wellspring, located about 13 miles northwest of Waco.

Byrd, a Southwestern Seminary graduate who was called to ministry at a Centrifuge camp at Glorietta years ago, said it’s no longer just the church planting team trying to bring people in.



Lead pastor Matt Byrd (inset) said he has had a front row seat to watching God accomplish the impossible in the planting of Wellspring Church in China Spring.

Wellspring Church launched in February 2021 and has grown to 250 members in a fast-growing suburb of Waco.

SUBMITTED PHOTOS

CrossTraining is a three-day summer event at Wellspring Church in China Spring that teaches children about glorifying God.

SUBMITTED PHOTO



“**God has just moved in our people, and there’s a community in our church that exists, a family that exists, and they’re going out and reaching their neighbors and inviting their co-workers.**”

MATT BRYD

“God has just moved in our people, and there’s a community in our church that exists, a family that exists, and they’re going out and reaching their neighbors and inviting their co-workers,” Byrd said.

One of the factors that has contributed to Wellspring’s rapid growth is that China Spring is one of the fastest-growing suburbs of Waco, fueled in part by the popularity of HGTV’s “Fixer Upper,” based in Waco, Byrd said. Though he finds it unbelievable, people nationwide still use their family vacations to visit the Silos at the now-world-famous Magnolia Market.

Wellspring launched in February 2021 as a plant of RockPointe Church in Flower Mound and First Baptist Church in Cooper, both churches where Byrd had served on staff. From the beginning, discipleship pastor Brent Bolton and worship and student minister Austin Crosby were part of the team.

“We launched with about 60 adults serving that day, and I think we had 230 or 240 people come to the opening service, which was

incredible,” Byrd said. The serving team grew out of home meetings that had started the previous fall.

“It’s been kind of fast and furious ever since then,” Byrd said. More than 30 people have been baptized, and some men have been through about 10 months of training as elder candidates. Byrd hopes they’ll be installed in August.

When 36 acres of land became available on the main highway, the church sensed God saying, “This is for you,” and they took on nearly half a million dollars of debt as an eight-month-old church plant last fall. They owe \$70,000 nine months later and are on track to pay it off within a year of buying the property.

“God has been overly kind to us, and it has been an amazing journey,” Byrd said. “It has been the hardest thing I’ve ever done in ministry, but it’s also some of the most fun I’ve ever had because you get kind of a front row seat to, ‘If God doesn’t show up, we’re going to die out here.’ He does incredible things that are seemingly impossible, like, “This doesn’t happen without God doing this.”

When Byrd was led to plant in China Spring, he didn’t realize what a tight-knit community it was, but that has contributed to the church’s growth.



The student ministry at Wellspring Church got started sooner than expected as God brought students ready to feed on the Word and serve others.

SUBMITTED PHOTO

“I’ve got three kids under the age of 10, and they go to church with the same kids they go to school with and play sports with on Saturdays,” he said.

The local high school won a state football championship last fall, and some of the coaches attend Wellspring. Baylor, of course, won the Big 12, and some of those coaches also go to Wellspring. “It’s been neat to celebrate what’s going on in those types of ways in the community,” Byrd said.

Most Sundays, Wellspring serves 80-100 children with 25-30 volunteers. “Our student ministry kind of popped up out of nowhere,” he said. “We weren’t quite ready for it, but we had students, so we started it.” They’ve seen more than 10 students give their lives to Christ.

“We probably have 120 adults serving in our church regularly right now,” Byrd said. “Our church wouldn’t happen without our laypeople serving.” Part of that includes setting up and tearing down for Sunday services at China Spring High School.

Church planting is important, Bryd said, because, statistically, church plants reach more lost people in the first couple of years than established churches.

“I think maybe it’s because you’re meeting in a coffee shop or a school cafeteria or a movie theater where the unchurched or lost people maybe feel less intimidated than coming into an established church,” Byrd said.

He believes Scripture commands believers to multiply churches.

“I believe that the missional push of the kingdom of God was supposed to be through the context of the local church,” Byrd said, “so I believe our call to go and make disciples is one of going and planting healthy churches that make those disciples.”

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Bringing clarity to communicating our pro-life convictions

This past month we witnessed the answer to decades of prayer with the Supreme Court’s decision to overturn Roe V. Wade. This is a huge victory for life!

In the days that followed, I watched mixed responses from pro-life Christians. It became obvious to me that the conversation about abortion has become such a polarizing political issue that many Christians are left wondering how to respond.

I believe this is due to how ill-equipped believers are to explain their pro-life position with conviction and compassion. Many pro-life Christians are deeply convicted on this issue but unable to adequately communicate their beliefs. Abortion is a complex issue in our culture. There are so many arguments pertaining to the 100 different “what if” scenarios such as rape, incest, situations where the mother’s life is at risk, a broken foster care and adoption system ... the list goes on. These scenarios have left many believers confused as to how to respond and led some even to compromise. We must admit that the pro-choice secular culture is a lot better at confusing the issue than most Christians are at clarifying it.

Therefore, we have to equip our people to think with what I refer to as “theological logic.” Complex moral issues, such as abortion, require that we are grounded

“
We have an opportunity in front of us to show that followers of Jesus have a deep-rooted love for humanity
 ”

both in the theological reasons of why we are pro-life and the ability to logically apply that theology to the complexity of the issue. Let me illustrate it.

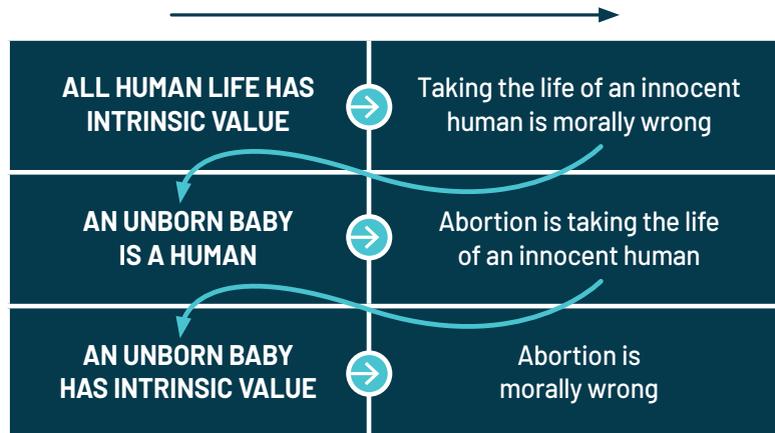
When it comes to theology, the Bible is clear about two fundamental truths regarding life. First, all humanity has intrinsic value and is therefore deserving of equality and dignity

because we are created in the image of God (Genesis 1:26-27). Secondly, all human life begins at conception (Job 31:15; Psalm 51:5; Psalm 139:13-16; Jeremiah 1:4-5). We also must acknowledge that science overwhelmingly agrees with the Scriptures on this.

Now, based on these two theological truths, here is the logic I use to explain my pro-life argument and establish a fundamental premise that helps me work through complex issues.

Using this fundamental premise flow chart I have developed (inset above), I have established a fundamental premise statement: Abortion is morally and biblically wrong because it takes the life of an innocent human, which violates the truth that every person has intrinsic value.

This fundamental premise statement enables me to work through the complexity of all the “what if”



arguments surrounding abortion and to have a theologically logical conversation that explains my pro-life position. Every argument given by the secular culture to justify abortion can be addressed by this statement. Regardless of the reasons a person may give to justify having an abortion, none of them would nullify this statement. Each of the “what if” situations requires attention, as well as unique and intentional care, but this statement helps us to clarify that abortion is off the table as a legitimate solution. It may not tell me what the answer is, but it definitely tells me what the answer is not.

Leaders, I want to encourage you to equip your churches to have pro-life conversations with those who may be opposed. We can with love, compassion, and grace give an explanation for our beliefs. We have an opportunity in front of us to show that followers of Jesus have a deep-rooted love for humanity, and it is that love that calls us to seek justice, serve the poor, stand against racism, care for orphans, adopt babies, and defend the unborn.

Therefore, we must stand and fight for justice for the marginalized and vulnerable in society, and no one in our nation is more vulnerable than the unborn—no one!

For further information about this article, visit nbbctx.org/abortion.



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LIFETIME INVESTMENT



San Antonio pastor raised in projects is now leading his church to minister there

A metal fence divides the east and west sides of the Mirasol Homes public housing complex located just west of downtown San Antonio. It's familiar territory to Edward Beltran, pastor of Genesis Baptist Church, who was raised by his grandmother in public housing nearby.

"I grew up on government cheese, government butter, and powdered milk ... in the epicenter of the projects," Beltran said of his childhood in the Villa Veramendi apartments.

Beltran's story showcases God's provision that led him to plant Genesis, which successfully merged with the historic Hot Wells Baptist Church in 2008.

In December 2021, Genesis partnered with Cibolo's Everyday Christian Fellowship and its children's minister, Jimmy Turner, in an outreach begun by ECF the previous July to evangelize the Mirasol housing complex. Every other Saturday, the group offered lunch,

games, and gospel activities. Residents from the complex's west side attended.

To reach the east side, the Mirasol Block Party was born.

On April 2, 2022, with help from the Southern Baptists of Texas Convention, the party kicked off, featuring Christian illusionist Edgardo Ferrer and artist Rik Moore, who "presented creative and entertaining gospel messages," said Bruno Molina, SBTC language and interfaith evangelism associate. A petting zoo drew kids and a sausage meal attracted folks of all ages.

"It's South Texas," Beltran said. "We had to have kielbasa!" He added his appreciation for the SBTC's offsetting the expenses of food, honorariums, and travel for the event.

Two Criswell College students participated in the block party as part of the F.I.R.E. (Forging Integrated Relationships through Evangelism) initiative promoting the engagement of professors and students in

missional ministries through local churches. Some 60-70 Mirasol residents came, including three families from the east side. Eight—seven children and one adult—professed faith in Christ that day.

Since then, Genesis and ECF have followed up bi-weekly with residents, Beltran said.

Beltran's journey

In English, Mirasol is translated, “see the sun.” At the Mirasol Block Party, residents of a San Antonio barrio were invited instead to “see the Son.” And they did.

Beltran's life journey has been one of seeking the Son, also.

His grandmother raised him after his mother, lost in the netherworld of substance abuse, could no longer care for him.

“By God's grace my grandmother took me in,” Beltran recalled. “She raised me in the housing projects so I would not be in the custody of the state.”

Beltran's mother's story doesn't end in tragedy, thankfully. Through connections with Victory Outreach, a ministry connected to David Wilkerson's Teen Challenge, she was saved in 1980 and became a ministry leader.

She spent 27 years with Victory Outreach in San Antonio, Houston, and Laredo, eventually remarrying. When she led the female side of a rehab house in Houston, Beltran spent summers there, sleeping in the men's section while staying with his grandmother in San Antonio during the school year.

“I spent my summers observing,” he said. “I listened to ex-cons and drug addicts share their testimonies.” Beltran's experiences with street ministry in the impoverished

I spent my summers observing. I listened to ex-cons and drug addicts share their testimonies.

wards of Houston led to his becoming a Christ-follower.

At age 31, in March 2003, he was ordained. He launched a church plant in 2007.

Despite a longtime desire to attend Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, Beltran realized his calling was to the inner city. He started attending seminary-level classes through a SWBTS program at Village Parkway Baptist Church in San Antonio until Steve Branson, Village Parkway pastor, advised him to complete his under-

graduate degree first.

In college, Beltran learned he loved writing, government, politics, even math. Perhaps he could become a teacher, he thought.

“I love it all,” he said. He earned an associate degree in science from Northwest Vista College, a Bachelor of Business Administration from the University of the Incarnate Word, and a Master's of Business Administration from Texas A&M San Antonio, with assistance from his corporate employer. He now works as a trainer with that same multinational food corporation.

A miraculous merger

A short time after Beltran launched Genesis 15 years ago, he was approached by Pastor George Harrivale of the historic Hot Wells Baptist Church.

Beltran gave Harrivale a tour of the Genesis facility, a home con-



verted into a church, which took “about 3 minutes,” he said with a chuckle. Beltran was astonished when Harrivale suggested a merger between Genesis and Hot Wells.

“We were a church plant. They had just celebrated 75 years of being in the community,” Beltran said. Hot Wells was formerly a fashionable area with a historic hotel which once hosted comedian Charlie Chaplain and President Franklin Delano Roosevelt. The church was started on Avondale Street in 1932 before moving to a spacious campus on Hot Wells Boulevard.

Beltran’s mentors counseled caution, since mergers often do not work. Robbie Partain assisted in getting church planting assistance from the Southern Baptists of Texas Convention. Genesis joined the Bluebonnet Baptist Association and the merger proceeded in 2008, when Hot Wells Baptist officially deeded its property to the association that, in turn, made it available to Genesis.

“I was like a kid in a candy store. We suddenly had a sanctuary to sit over 200, an education building with a library, an administration building, a fellowship hall,” Beltran exclaimed.

And unlike some church mergers, this one stuck.

“They were faithful and hung on and preserved the property until the Lord brought us into the area,” said Beltran, likening the generous actions of the people of Hot Wells to “gifting the deed of your house to someone.”

“It was their church, their children’s church, families were married there,” Beltran said.

Today, Genesis Church facilitates short-term missions projects in the inner city, partnering with other churches in San Antonio and across the state. While numbers are not up to pre-COVID levels, attendance runs about 65-75, making it a small church with a big impact.



UNA INVERSIÓN DE POR VIDA

Pastor de San Antonio lleva a su iglesia a ministrar en el mismo complejo de viviendas en el que creció

por Jane Rodgers

SAN ANTONIO

Una cerca de metal divide los lados este y oeste del complejo de viviendas públicas Mirasol Homes ubicado justo al oeste del centro de la ciudad. Es un territorio familiar para Edward Beltrán, pastor de la Iglesia Bautista Génesis, quien fue criado por su abuela en una vivienda pública cercana.

“Crecí con alimentos del gobierno, queso, mantequilla y leche en polvo... en el epicentro de estas viviendas”, dijo Beltrán sobre su infancia en los apartamentos de Villa Veramendi.

La historia de Beltrán muestra la provisión de Dios que lo llevó a plantar Génesis, la cual se fusionó con éxito con la histórica Iglesia Bautista Hot Wells en el 2008.

En diciembre del 2021, Génesis se asoció con la iglesia Everyday Christian Fellowship (ECF) de Cibolo y su ministro de niños, Jimmy Turner, en una campaña iniciada por ECF en julio del año anterior para evangelizar en Mirasol. Cada dos sábados, el grupo ofreció almuerzo, juegos y actividades evangelísticas. Asistieron residentes del lado oeste del complejo.

Para ellos poder llegar al lado este del complejo, nació el “Mirasol Block Party” (Fiesta en la Cuadra de Mirasol).

Pasé mis veranos observando. Escuché a ex convictos y drogadictos compartir sus testimonios.

El 2 de abril de 2022, con la ayuda de la Convención de los Bautistas del Sur de Texas (SBTC), comenzó la fiesta con el ilusionista cristiano Edgardo Ferrer y el artista Rik Moore, quienes “presentaron mensajes del evangelio creativos y entretenidos”, dijo Bruno Molina, quien es el Asociado de evangelismo entre creencias religiosas e idiomas de la SBTC. Un zoológico interactivo atrajo a los niños y una cena con salchichas atrajo a personas de todas las edades.

“Es el sur de Texas”, dijo Beltrán. “¡Debíamos tener salchichas kielbasa!” Agregó su agradecimiento a la SBTC por compensar los gastos de comida, honorarios y viajes para el evento.

Dos estudiantes universitarios de Criswell College participaron en la fiesta de la cuadra como parte de la iniciativa F.I.R.E. por sus siglas en inglés, (Forjando Relaciones Integradas a través del Evangelismo) que promueve la participación de profesores y estudiantes en ministerios enfocados en las misiones a través de iglesias locales. Vinieron unos 60-70 residentes de Mirasol, incluidas tres familias del lado este. Un total de ocho personas, siete niños y un adulto, profesaron su fe en Cristo ese día.

Desde entonces, Genesis y Everyday han hecho un seguimiento cada dos semanas con los residentes, dijo Beltrán.

La jornada de Beltrán

En inglés, Mirasol se traduce como “see the sun”, lo cual puede sonar al pronunciarlo en inglés como “see the son”, que significa “mirar al hijo”. En la Fiesta de la Cuadra de Mirasol, utilizaron ese juego de palabras para invitar a los residentes de un barrio de San Antonio a “mirar al Hijo de Dios”. Y ellos lo hicieron.

La jornada de vida de Beltrán también ha sido una búsqueda del Hijo.

Su abuela lo crió después de que su madre, quien anduvo perdida en el mundo de las drogas, ya no pudiera cuidarlo.

“Por la gracia de Dios, mi abuela me acogió”, recordó Beltrán. “Ella me crió en el complejo de viviendas para que no estuviera bajo la custodia del estado”.

Afortunadamente, la historia de la madre de Beltrán no terminó en tragedia. A través de conexiones con Victory Outreach, un ministerio conectado con Teen Challenge de David Wilkerson, fue salva en el 1980 y se convirtió en líder del ministerio.

Pasó 27 años con Victory Outreach en San Antonio, Houston y Laredo, y finalmente se volvió a casar. Cuando dirigía el lado femenino de una casa de rehabilitación en Houston, Beltrán pasaba los veranos allí, durmiendo en la sección de hombres mientras se quedaba con su abuela en San Antonio durante el año escolar.

“Pasé mis veranos observando”, dijo. “Escuché a ex convictos y drogadictos compartir sus testimonios”. Las experiencias de Beltrán con el ministerio de la calle en los barrios pobres de Houston lo llevaron a convertirse en un seguidor de Cristo.

A los 31 años, en marzo del 2003, fue ordenado como ministro. Lanzó la plantación de una iglesia en el 2007.

A pesar de un deseo de mucho tiempo de asistir al Seminario Teológico Bautista Southwestern (SWBTS), Beltrán se dio cuenta de que su vocación era para el centro de la ciudad. Comenzó a asistir a clases a nivel de seminario a través de un programa de SWBTS en la Iglesia Bautista Village Parkway en San Antonio hasta que Steve Branson, pastor de Village Parkway, le aconsejó que primero completara su título universitario.

En la universidad, Beltrán descubrió que le encantaba escribir, el gobierno, la política e incluso las matemáticas. Tal vez podría convertirse en maestro, pensó.

“Me encanta todo”, dijo. Obtuvo un Grado Asociado en Ciencias de Northwest Vista College, una Licenciatura en Administración de Empresas de University of the Incarnate Word y una Maestría en Administración de Empresas de Texas A&M San Antonio, con la ayuda de su empleador corporativo. Ahora trabaja como entrenador en esa misma corporación multinacional de alimentos.

Una fusión milagrosa

Poco tiempo después de que Beltrán lanzara la iglesia Génesis hace 15 años, el pastor George Harrivale de la histórica Iglesia Bautista Hot Wells se le acercó.

Beltrán le dio a Harrivale un recorrido por las instalaciones de Génesis, una casa convertida en una iglesia, lo que tomó “unos 3 minutos”, dijo con una sonrisa. Beltrán se sorprendió cuando Harrivale sugirió una fusión entre Genesis y Hot Wells.

“Nosotros éramos una plantación de iglesia. Ellos acababan de celebrar 75 años de estar en la comunidad”, dijo Beltrán. Hot Wells fue anteriormente un área de moda con un hotel histórico que una vez albergó al comediante Charlie Chaplain y al presidente Franklin Delano Roosevelt. La iglesia se inició en la calle Avondale en el 1932 antes de mudarse a un campus espacioso en Hot Wells Boulevard.

Los mentores de Beltrán le aconsejaron tener cautela, ya que las fusiones rara vez funcionan. Robbie Partain ayudó a obtener asistencia para la plantación de iglesias de la Convención de los Bautistas del Sur de Texas. Génesis se unió a la Asociación Bautista Bluebonnet y la fusión se llevó a cabo en el 2008, cuando la Bautista de Hot Wells traspasó oficialmente su propiedad a la asociación que, a su vez, la puso a disposición de Génesis.

“Estaba como un niño en una tienda de dulces. De repente tuvimos un santuario para sentar a más de 200 personas, un edificio educativo con una biblioteca, un edificio administrativo, un área para tener compañerismo”, exclamó Beltrán.

Y a diferencia de algunas fusiones de iglesias, esta se mantuvo.

“Ellos fueron fieles, perseveraron y conservaron la propiedad hasta que el Señor nos trajo al área”, dijo Beltrán, comparando las acciones generosas de la gente de Hot Wells como, por ejemplo, “donar la escritura de su casa a alguien”.

“Era la iglesia de todos, la iglesia de sus hijos, las familias se casaban allí”, dijo Beltrán.

Hoy, la Iglesia Génesis facilita proyectos misioneros a corto plazo en el centro de la ciudad, asociándose con otras iglesias en San Antonio y en todo el estado. Si bien los números no están a la altura de los niveles antes de COVID, la asistencia oscila entre 65 y 75, lo que la convierte en una iglesia pequeña con un gran impacto.

WOMEN

AUGUST 26-27 West Conroe Baptist Church, Conroe

Lennon to keynote She Stands Conference

She *Stands*
WOMEN'S CONFERENCE
— 1 Corinthians 15:58 —

“ We have to understand that daily, as believers in Jesus Christ, we have the opportunity to possess a biblical mindset. That is where we filter our life and our experiences and our thoughts through the Word of God. So what we'll talk about at She Stands is how to know, live, and share the truth of God's Word in the context of biblical hope. Hope is more than a feeling. It is not an emotional whim that comes during the good times and leaves during the hard times. Biblical hope is a strong assurance based on God's character rather than our circumstances. ”

ANDREA LENNON,
SHE STANDS WOMEN'S CONFERENCE
KEYNOTE SPEAKER



< View the full
Texan Q&A



Becoming a church for the community

Soon after I started pastoring, I was told our city was in the Guinness Book of Records for the most churches per capita. This bit of faux trivia began to captivate my mind and I could not let it go. I couldn't reconcile the overwhelming number of churches with the unchecked suffering I saw each week.



them accomplish their mission. I called pastors and took them to lunch. Working across denominational, ethnic, racial, and socio-economic lines is good for you and the people of your community. This collaborative work under the banner of King Jesus is the kind of cooperation a skeptical world needs to see.

Around this time, I preached out of Jeremiah and one verse in particular started to shape my vision for my community. It was Jeremiah 29:7: “But seek the welfare of the city where I have sent you into exile, and pray to the Lord on its behalf, for in its welfare you will find your welfare.”

In a time of physical exile, the Israelites were called upon to bless their captors. We are living in cultural exile. What would it look like for us to seek the welfare of the city where God has sent us? I asked myself that question repeatedly. I felt God telling me to share that same message with others, and soon they were convinced, as well. Here are some things to consider as you help your church become a church for the community:

Dream with God

Dreaming with God can feel dangerous. You need to ask yourself what it could look like in your context to display the love of God. What ills need to be addressed? What wrongs need to be undone? What could He have for you and your people? I have found God's dreams to be far loftier and better than my dreams.

Work with people

You can't accomplish your task alone. I called many non-profits in town to ask them what they would think of all of the churches coming together to help

Give your work away

Soon after my dream took flight, I sought to give it away. I didn't want the dream to depend on me. I found a faithful man in my local body whose family has been here for over 100 years and whose name was well-respected. I asked him if he would champion this ministry and worked alongside him to aid in the transition. We also recruited leaders from other churches.

Support without stealing the spotlight

Handing over the ministry meant handing over its direction. Sometimes we crave recognition for what we do. Try and turn that desire into action which recognizes and values the efforts of others. Pastors come and go, but I wanted to be a part of something that would outlast me. Remember the words of Jesus and do not let your right hand know what your left hand is doing.

What started as an idea—a dream—has grown six years later to include the cooperative efforts of 36 churches in my city to be the hands and feet of Jesus. We prayer-walk, share the gospel, pull weeds, paint, build, clean, and whatever we can to show the love of Christ together for the glory of God. We probably won't make it into the Guinness Book of Records, but we are becoming a church for the community.



Matt Beasley is pastor of Ridgecrest Baptist Church in Greenville.

REACHING, TEACHING, LOVING

Arlington couple brings personal approach to six decades of teaching Sunday school



Zack and Donna Prince have a regular routine when they have company over to their home. When it's time for their guests to depart, the Princes make a point to walk them out, stand in their driveway, and wave until the visitors are out of sight.

For the Princes, hospitality is about more than just being polite or making their guests comfortable while inside their home. It's about letting them know they're glad they came, that they personally care for them, that they enjoyed spending time with them.

It's relational.

Throughout their 32 years of marriage, Zack and Donna have brought this same mindset to serving their church, Tate Springs Baptist Church in Arlington—where Zack has been a member since 1975 and Donna since 1976. Zack has taught Sunday school nearly 65 years, ranging from teaching boys, coed youth, junior and senior high students, young marrieds, and now, since the 1990s, a class for senior adults. It's the same class where he and Donna met in their 30s and 40s and where they have aged, grown, and served together.

Zack's life group fosters discussion. He is adamant that it is not lecture-based. He researches commentaries to expand on and discuss in class. He asks lots of questions to create more opportunities for sharing. In other words, it's about more than conveying information.

“

Relationships happen in small groups, and small groups function best when they are relational.

”

DONNA PRINCE

It's relational.

"Relationships happen in small groups," said Donna, who also teaches a weekly women's Bible study, "and small groups function best when they are relational."

Relationships aren't just casual in Zach's Sunday school class; they are a necessity. The class includes about 40 regular attenders and 12 members who are homebound, all of them ranging in age from their early 60s into their 90s. The class has faced a number of challenges over the last several years. COVID was certainly one of them, but there have been other illnesses, as well as deaths. As such, there are more widows and widowers in the class now, with many navigating a difficult new reality.

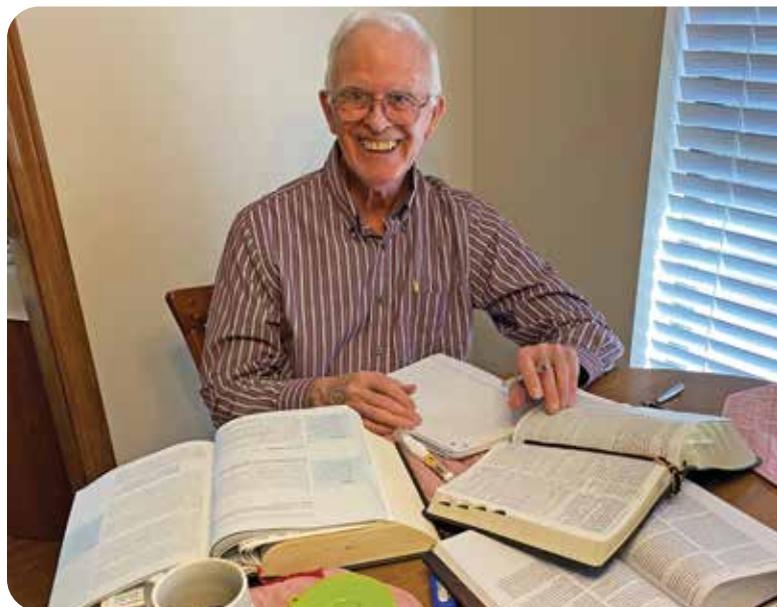
"You can't just go to Sunday school or go to Bible study every Sunday and teach a lesson and expect to have much effect on anyone, especially older people," Zack said. "They need more help."

And help is what Zack and Donna offer. They spend many of their days visiting sick people in the hospital or cooking and delivering food to families in need. The gift of shepherding, Zack says, is so much more than teaching; it's also being available to serve, to do for people the things that they need done when they can't take care of it all themselves. And those that are able in the class are wonderful about serving others, too. Some drive for Meals on Wheels and drive other members to doctor appointments. They cook and serve meals for funerals and often collect needed items for ministries that serve those who are often underserved, such as new mothers and low-income families.

It's a culture of service that is spreading. Richard Hight, who has been a member of the class for five years, considers Zack a mentor and friend. Hight serves in a weekly community outreach that feeds the homeless in Arlington, serves in Meals on Wheels, and often joins Zack in visiting class members who are homebound or in the hospital.

"He has set a wonderful example of what it looks like to shepherd others," Hight said. "He faithfully demonstrates a servant's heart and genuinely cares for those God has placed in his classes."

In turn, Zack says he doesn't think he could have continued to teach the class without Donna's support and partnership in ministering to the class. Said Zack: "She has been a great, great person to shepherd these people."



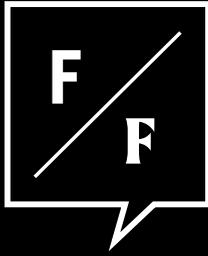
So how long will Zack continue to teach the class? "I want to go out with my boots on," he says, acknowledging that they plan to continue to serve as long as they are able. He believes he has been able to make it this far because of the truths in Matthew 6:33, which lead him to seek the Lord before all else, and Philippians 4:8, which has helped him realize the need for daily, personal, reflective time with God. So until the day comes when his season of teaching is over, he plans to do three things in keeping with 1 Thessalonians 1:3: maintain strong faith, carry out loving deeds for others, and look forward to Jesus Christ's return.

The Lord has blessed the Princes' faithfulness. They reared their children in church, who in turn did the same with their families. Now, on Sundays, four generations of Princes are present at Tate Springs. Donna and Zack can look across the church auditorium and see their oldest daughter, three grandchildren, and two great-grandchildren.

"In money, in time, in love of other people, in helping and serving—you cannot out-give God," Donna said. "I believe that as we serve our class, God blesses us and our family so much."

Zack Prince has taught Sunday school nearly 65 years, ranging from teaching boys, coed youth, junior and senior high students, young marrieds, and, since the 1990s, a class for senior adults.

SUBMITTED PHOTO



FACES OF THE FAITHFUL

A guide to celebrate—and pray—for those standing on the frontlines of the faith



ALISON SHAW

▶ Age: **47** ▶ Spouse/Children: **Les/Alexandria, Leyton & Ayden** ▶ Total Years in Ministry: **10**

▶ Church/Years at Current Church: **Discipleship Associate & Women's Ministry Lead, Calvary Baptist Church, Bastrop (4)**

WHAT IS SOMETHING YOU'VE BEEN ABLE TO CELEBRATE AT YOUR CHURCH RECENTLY?

I've seen some really awesome connections being formed between some of our younger women and women who are more mature in both their faith and years. We can all learn from one another, grow with one another, and encourage one another—even when we are in different places in our faith journeys.

WHAT HAVE BEEN SOME OF THE BIGGEST CHALLENGES IN YOUR MINISTRY LATELY?

Time constraints. I'm currently in seminary, so I'm personally in a position where I have considerably less time than I'd like. However, I see this as a challenge for the women I minister to, as well. I think it's a reflection of our society and it can really hinder relationship-building. However, on a positive note, having less time can make us more considerate of where, when, and how we invest ourselves.

HOW CAN OTHER SBTC CHURCHES BE PRAYING FOR YOU?

I think since COVID has happened, women are looking to build relationships. I'd love to see God open doors for new, deep, lasting relationships in the women's ministry. We have some new opportunities for women's fellowship-based small-groups that I pray He will bless in whatever way He sees fit.



DAVID WILSON

▶ Age: **66** ▶ Spouse: **Laura**

▶ Total Years in Ministry: **48** ▶ Church/Years at Current Church: **Senior Pastor, Southcrest Baptist Church, Lubbock (30)**

WHAT IS SOMETHING YOU'VE BEEN ABLE TO CELEBRATE AT YOUR CHURCH RECENTLY?

Continued numerical growth and baptisms, 300 new members this year, supporting six church plants, and helping many local churches with various construction needs as well as ministry needs.

WHAT'S ONE LESSON YOU'VE LEARNED TO THIS POINT OF YOUR MINISTRY THAT YOU KNOW YOU'LL NEVER FORGET?

Always give the credit and glory to the Lord for what He is doing. God has His hand on Southcrest and we are trying not to mess it up!

HOW CAN OTHER SBTC CHURCHES BE PRAYING FOR YOU?

Pray for wisdom, health of staff, and for more people to be reached for Christ.



JOHN BRANDT

▶ Age: **39** ▶ Spouse/Children: **Amanda/Isaac, Anna & Sarah**

▶ Total Years in Ministry: **14** ▶ Church/Years at Current Church: **Pastor, First Baptist Church of Hempstead (7)**

WHAT IS SOMETHING YOU'VE BEEN ABLE TO CELEBRATE AT YOUR CHURCH RECENTLY?

Our primary growth demographic has been in young families during a time when young families value less and less the need for church. We have been thankful to have the opportunity to meet and minister to new young families each week as they become more connected to our church body.

WHAT HAVE BEEN SOME OF THE BIGGEST CHALLENGES IN YOUR MINISTRY LATELY?

Transitioning from a programmatic, event-based ministry to an intentional discipleship ministry. Our focus has shifted from how many people we can reach on Sunday morning to how many people we can reach Sunday through Saturday. We don't want people to "come and see" the church. We want people to "go and be" the church.

HOW CAN OTHER SBTC CHURCHES BE PRAYING FOR YOU?

Pray for our continued unity.


MARC FARNELL

 ▶ Age: **55** ▶ Spouse/Children: **Kim/Jessica, Macey & Hannah**

 ▶ Total Years in Ministry: **27** ▶ Church/Years at Current Church: **Senior Pastor, CrossRidge Church, Little Elm (19)**
WHAT'S SOMETHING YOU'VE BEEN ABLE TO CELEBRATE AT YOUR CHURCH RECENTLY?

We are celebrating the growth of our Spanish-speaking ministry. God has made our unity stronger, our love deeper, and His gospel clearer by His grace and work in us.

WHAT'S ONE THING YOU WANT TO SEE GOD DO SPECIFICALLY IN YOUR CHURCH THIS YEAR?

I want to see God make disciples in our church family who make disciples. I want to see God's sanctifying work in us overflow in love, generosity, grace, service, and ministry to one another and all those God places around us.

HOW CAN OTHER SBTC CHURCHES BE PRAYING FOR YOU?

Pray for God to continue opening doors for us to share His truth and show His love to the community around us. Pray for God to be glorified in our lives, marriages, families, and ministries.


MATTHEW HARDING

 ▶ Age: **48** ▶ Spouse/Children: **Jennifer/Sarai Smith (24) & Jon (23)** ▶ Total Years in Ministry: **29**

 ▶ Church/Years at Current Church: **Lead Pastor for Teaching and Vision Casting, The Well Church, Argyle (7)**
WHAT IS SOMETHING YOU'VE BEEN ABLE TO CELEBRATE AT YOUR CHURCH RECENTLY?

Our church will be turning seven in August. We have just completed our first church building on May 1. We could not be more grateful and excited for this new season of ministry and growth.

WHAT'S ONE THING YOU WANT TO SEE GOD DO SPECIFICALLY IN YOUR CHURCH THIS YEAR?

Our prayer and strategic goals for The Well this year are that we would learn to be a praying church, doing all of life and ministry through prayer. As we become a praying church, we believe we will be better at evangelism, discipleship, and soul care.

WHAT'S ONE LESSON YOU'VE LEARNED TO THIS POINT IN YOUR MINISTRY THAT YOU KNOW YOU'LL NEVER FORGET?

We have baptized 150 new believers in the last six years and we are prayerful to see many more people accept Christ as Savior and Lord. Please pray God would continue to glorify Himself through changing lives for eternity at The Well and that we would be faithful to disciple these beautiful souls into disciple-making and missional disciples ready to be usable in the Lord's hands to reach others.


SHELLY TAYLOR

 ▶ Age: **51** ▶ Spouse/Children: **Tye/Bayley, Bryne & Thaddeus** ▶ Total Years in Ministry: **25**

 ▶ Church/Years at Current Church: **Director of Preschool & Children, First Baptist Church of Dallas (18)**
WHAT IS SOMETHING YOU'VE BEEN ABLE TO CELEBRATE AT YOUR CHURCH RECENTLY?

We have been so thankful to the Lord for the opportunity to expand our reach to preschoolers and children across the nation and even the world with the launch of our First Dallas i-Campus Kids and our virtual AWANA program.

WHAT'S ONE LESSON YOU'VE LEARNED TO THIS POINT OF YOUR MINISTRY THAT YOU KNOW YOU'LL NEVER FORGET?

The greatest lesson in ministry that I pray I never forget is the fact that regardless of how extensive my formal education and great my years of experience, I am never qualified to sit in my seat of leadership over preschoolers and children. It is only the Lord Jesus Christ working in and through me for His purposes—for His glory and honor alone.

WHAT'S ONE THING YOU WANT TO SEE GOD DO SPECIFICALLY IN YOUR CHURCH THIS YEAR?

It is my prayer the Lord will bring His people back 100% with a renewed sense of spiritual fitness and passion, to see many come to know Him as personal Savior, and to impact our culture and world for Jesus Christ.


TONY RICHMOND

 ▶ Age: **39** ▶ Spouse/Children: **Kristen/Caleb (12), Levi (10) & Nora (8)** ▶ Total Years in Ministry: **16**

 ▶ Church/Years at Current Church: **Associate Pastor—Family Ministry, First Baptist Church of Keller (16)**
WHAT IS SOMETHING YOU'VE BEEN ABLE TO CELEBRATE AT YOUR CHURCH RECENTLY?

We have recently begun a series of in-depth studies called Pillar of Truth Training Courses. It has been a joy to see members who are 90 years of age studying alongside members who are 20 years of age.

HOW CAN OTHER SBTC CHURCHES BE PRAYING FOR YOU?

We would ask for prayers for wisdom as we bring the Word to bear in counseling situations. We also need wisdom as we have a number of open staff positions that we are praying the Lord would fill according to His will.

WHAT'S ONE LESSON YOU'VE LEARNED TO THIS POINT IN YOUR MINISTRY THAT YOU KNOW YOU'LL NEVER FORGET?

Success in ministry should be defined in terms of faithfulness. It can be a challenge to avoid basing success in ministry upon worldly standards, but we must base success in ministry in terms of our faithfulness. I have come to understand that this kind of faithfulness is evidenced by obedience to God's Word and possessing a strong work ethic in ministry.

TRUSTING GOD WHEN THE WORLD IS TURNED UPSIDE DOWN—LITERALLY

It was a typical March day in Granger. Living in Central Texas, we were used to changes in the weather. Although some was severe, none had impacted us up to this time. We seemed always to be between the severe weather issues and just out of reach of tragedy.

Until March 21. That day was stormy, but nothing we hadn't seen before. There were forecasts of severe weather in the area, but I wasn't worried. My mom and I were watching TV together at her house, which is located about 50 yards in front of my house. Mom was in hospice care, and being close allowed us to see her every day.

That day we got a call from my brother warning us of a tornado heading our way. He urged me to get out of my chair and look. Now, my brother has always been a weather alarmist and had called me many times in the previous 20 years about disasters that never happened. So I meandered out the back door and looked. What I saw was about to change my life.

I ran inside to get my wife to look. She came outside and we looked at it together: a tornado, headed straight

for us. We ran back into the house, and about the time we reached Mom in the living room, it hit.

At first, it was just a lot of wind shaking the house. But when the windows blew out, I knew we were in trouble. Glass and debris were blown all over my wife, Mom, and me. My wife and I got on the floor to find some cover, but Mom was helpless on the bed in the middle of the living room.

Mom's bed was lifted into the air, then the house was lifted and began to move. My wife called my name and we looked into each other's eyes. I saw no fear in her eyes and I felt no fear in my heart. I simply remember thinking, "We are about to meet Jesus face-to-face." But then, as quickly as it blew in the house, it was over. It lasted maybe 15 seconds.

We suffered not one scratch from the glass and debris. But when I looked out the back door, I beheld a horrifying sight: my grandchildren were at home and in the debris field I saw. My house was totally gone except for a small room in the middle of the house.



“
**Some things in life
 are insurmountable
 in the flesh, but with
 God all things are
 possible.**”

”
RICK HERTLESS



I told my wife to take care of Mom; I had to get to my grandchildren. As I ran, I yelled, “Is everyone OK?” Hearing no answer, my heart was stilled. I called out again, still no answer. Standing next to the wreckage I called again, “IS EVERYONE OK?” I heard the sweet sound of my baby’s voice, “Grandpa, everyone is OK! We are all OK!” At this point I nearly broke, but it was a time for action.

I told my grandchildren, “The only thing standing is the room you’re in. The rest is gone, and I don’t know how stable the walls are. Stay put and we will get you. Do not try to climb out!” They remained where they were and, for once in their lives, they listened to Grandpa.

Shortly after that, my son-in-law Danny arrived. There was a wall blocking the rescue, but we used a Bobcat to move the wall. Danny pulled away the debris blocking his way into the room where the grandchildren were trapped. He lifted three of the four who were in the room through the roof and the fourth was carried out by a rescue worker who had arrived on the scene.

**what's
 your
 story?**

Want to share a story of what God is doing in your life or your church?
 Scan the QR code or e-mail rlarson@sbtxas.com to tell us your story.



Everyone was safe. Mom was taken to a hospital and later to my sister’s house. She died a few weeks later of natural causes. My grandson suffered a concussion but is all right now. The eldest granddaughter saved the life of my great-granddaughter by throwing herself on top of her to save her from debris.

The community of Granger came together to help in amazing ways and my church, First Baptist Church of Leander, was miraculous in its support. My wife and I stayed with my pastor, Tim Moore, and his wife. The rest of the family stayed with friends. We are now waiting to rebuild.

I have not always been faithful, but since 2004, the Lord restored me and I have been a faithful servant. I have always tried to trust God first before doctors or anyone else. I have always trusted God for protection and have never doubted that He would protect me.

So why did our family get hit with a tornado and lose practically everything? I don’t know. It never occurred to me to ask God why. The most important time to trust is when we don’t understand. The true test comes when adversity comes. When your faith is tested, that is the time you know of your walk with God.

I still have problems breathing from my bout with COVID; this only serves as a reminder that I must trust God to breathe. My place still looks like a debris field, and I have to be careful where I step so as to not get hurt, but that only serves as a reminder that I must trust God. If you call yourself a believer, you must trust God and allow Him to guide your next step, and then your next, and then your next. If you try to guide your own steps, you will fail.

So what’s my story? Some things in life are insurmountable in the flesh, but with God all things are possible.

Church Positions

For the latest listings, visit texan.digital/church-positions

PASTOR

Open Door Baptist Church Queen City is seeking a FT or bi-vocational pastor. We are a small, loving congregation with a vision to be a light in our community. Email resume to opendoorbcqc@yahoo.com.

Colorado River Cowboy Church in Smithville is searching for a FT pastor. We are affiliated with AFCC and the Gonzales Association of SCBA. Visit our website at www.coloradorivercowboychurch.org. Email resume to office: crcc@gmail.com.

Cedar Valley Baptist Church in Elgin is seeking a FT pastor. Email resume to cvbcpsearch@outlook.com.

First Baptist Church of Garland is seeking a FT Spanish language pastor who has at least 5 years experience and must speak both English and Spanish. For more information contact grega@fbcgarland.org.

Second Baptist Church of Angleton is seeking the Lord's direction as we search for a senior pastor. For inquiries or to submit a resume, please email the pastor search team at pastorsearch@yoursecondfamily.org. A job description can be found at https://www.csmedia1.com/yoursecondfamily.org/sbc-senior-pastor-job-description_web.pdf.

Westway BC in Huntsville is seeking PT pastor as we work to revitalize our local church. Email resume to westwaybaptistchurchhuntsville@gmail.com.

FBC Anton is prayerfully looking for a FT or bi-vocational pastor. Anton is a small town of 1,200 people in West Texas, 25 miles NW of Lubbock. Active congregation of 40-45 and median age is 50. If the Holy Spirit is leading you, please send a resume to antonfbc196@gmail.com.

Indian Creek Baptist Church in Mineral Wells is an elder-led, congregationally governed church in friendly cooperation with the Southern Baptist Convention looking for a FT energetic, relational pastor who can partner with parents and church leaders to evangelize and disciple the next generation of our community. Email resume to ICBCYouthandChildrenPastor@gmail.com.

Avenue D Baptist Church in Snyder is seeking a FT senior pastor. Send resume to Doug Scott at dougscott8441@gmail.com.

Stonebridge Fellowship in Plainview is seeking a PT bi-vocational pastor. We are a small Baptist church committed to gospel-centered, Bible-believing teaching and service in our community. Email: ryan.oglesby87@gmail.com.

Lost Pines Cowboy Church in Elgin is seeking a PT interim pastor to shepherd the church for approximately 6 to 12 months and support the congregation, teams, and church staff in performing their tasks. The interim pastor will not be considered for the permanent position of senior pastor. Email: personnel.lpcc@gmail.com.

South Euless Baptist Church 1000 Simmons Dr, Euless 76040, is in search of a FT pastor. Mail resume to church by visiting southeulessbaptist.com/contact.

Iglesia Bautista Nueva Vida Freeport is seeking a bi-vocational and bilingual (Spanish, English) pastor to lead a congregation of about 60 members. Email resume to Reynaldo Cantu at rcantu1954@yahoo.com.

First Baptist Church of Splendora is seeking a bi-vocational pastor. Church is located just outside of Houston in a rural area with great potential for growth. Send resume to wecare@fbcsplendora.org.

First Baptist North Zulch is seeking a FT pastor. Email resume to: fbnzpastorsearch@gmail.com.

First Baptist Church of Dean is seeking a FT pastor. Rural church looking for a shepherd to lead our

members. We are in desperate need of revival! Must be ordained. Schooling is preferred. Experience is a must! Email: dpmurphy1980@yahoo.com.

Security First Baptist Church in Cleveland is prayerfully searching for a FT/bi-vocational pastor in a growing community. Submit resume to sfbcsecretary@yahoo.com.

Lost Prairie Baptist of Groesbeck is seeking a bi-vocational pastor. If you have questions, call Kay Thornal at 254-855-9667. Send resume and references to michaelmedlen@yahoo.com.

Second Baptist Church of Jacinto City in Houston seeks a bilingual (English/Spanish) bi-vocational pastor to shepherd our church to its next chapter of God's plan. Please respond by submitting resume at SecondBaptistJC@outlook.com.

MUSIC

FBC Fairfield seeks FT associate pastor of worship. Send letter of interest and resume to worshipsearch@fbcfairfield.org.

FBC Merkel is looking for a PT worship pastor leading a blended/contemporary worship service each Sunday and other special occasions. For more information, please contact the church office at 325-928-5351. Resume may be submitted to office@fbcmerkel.com

The Heights Church, San Angelo is seeking a PT worship minister and media/technology administrator to plan and lead varied, creative, enthusiastic worship services, develop praise team, plan music for special events, administration of live stream, and all media and technology for the church. Send resume to loukduncan@yahoo.com.

Trinity Baptist Church, Kerrville is seeking a FT minister of worship for thriving, multigenerational Baptist church. See tbck.org for complete job description. Email resume to sowens@tbck.org.

Westside BC in Corsicana is accepting resumes for a PT music minister for Sunday morning and evening. Email resume to westside.church@sbcglobal.net or mail to Westside Baptist Church, 1522 N 24th St, Corsicana, TX 75110.

The Well Baptist Church in Greenville is seeking a PT worship leader. The Well is a vibrant church with a casual atmosphere, a contemporary style, and a family feel. Our mission is to help generations experience the goodness of following Jesus. Please send inquiries to worship@thewellbaptistchurch.org.

Calvary Baptist Church in Bastrop is seeking a PT classic worship leader whose responsibilities include leading worship, selecting appropriate music and leading the choir. To CBC, "Classic" style means an energetic, vibrant, choir-led worship service that worships God using traditional hymns and choruses. Email office@cbcfamily.net.

Audubon Park BC in Garland is seeking a PT music leader. Blended service, small congregation. Email resume to apbcstaff@att.net or APBC PO Box 495277 Garland, TX 75049-5277. Is God sending you our way?

FBC Palestine is seeking a PT associate pastor of worship to lead two Sunday morning worship services - one traditional and one contemporary. We have a great team of musicians and singers in place. Send questions or submit a resume & cover letter to Tony Watson, senior pastor, at tony@firstpalestine.org.

FBC Merkel is looking for a PT worship pastor leading a blended/contemporary worship service each Sunday and other special occasions. For more information,

please contact the church office at 325-928-5351. Resume may be submitted to office@fbcmerkel.com.

STUDENTS

Northeast Houston Baptist Church in Humble is looking for a FT student ministry girls associate. Send resume to msscott@nehbc.com.

First Baptist Church of Farwell is prayerfully searching for a FT student pastor to join our ministry team. Send resume to studentministersearch@fbcfarwell.org.

First Baptist Church Lovelady is seeking a FT minister to lead its youth and worship ministries. Please send your resume with references, a link of you leading worship (if possible) and teaching youth (if possible) to: fbclovelady@gmail.com Attn: Worship & Youth Search Committee

The Heights, San Angelo is seeking a FT youth pastor to lead youth to Christ, to grow them in faith, to develop their gifts to serve the body of Christ, and to share their faith to lead others to Christ. Email resumes to loukduncan@yahoo.com.

Central Baptist Church, Livingston is seeking a FT student pastor who loves reaching and discipling students, equipping parents, and calling out and developing leaders. Email resume to students@centrallivingston.com.

FBC La Grange is seeking a PT youth minister (middle and high school students). Responsibilities include leading the youth ministry through intentional relationships and discipleship and to recruit, train, and mentor volunteers to help fulfill the duties of the youth ministry. Email: personnel@fbclagrangenet.net.

West University Baptist Church in Houston is looking for a FT youth pastor to run our student ministry for our Crosspoint Campus. This is one of our three CityRise campuses and requires a team player who is self-initiated and understands relational ministry. Email: Robby.dobbs@cityrise.org.

First Baptist Church Whitehouse is seeking PT youth director. Email Alicia Coats: alicia@firstw.org.

The Servant House in Lewisville is seeking a PT youth pastor requiring 5-10 hours a week. Please send your resume to theservanthouse@aol.com.

Grace Life Baptist in Houston is seeking a paid PT student minister (20 hrs/weekly). Grace Life is a growing multi-ethnic ministry that averages 250 on Sundays. Includes seminary reimbursement. For more info contact jmosier@gracelifebaptist.org.

Lebanon BC in Frisco is seeking a PT associate pastor of youth who should meet the qualifications of an elder (1 Timothy 3:1-7, Titus 1:5-9), must express a calling to ministry, agree with the BFM 2000, and the statement of faith for Lebanon BC. Email resume to info@lbcfrisco.com.

Inglewood BC in Grand Prairie is seeking a PT student minister with a heart for discipling youth. The youth minister coordinates Sunday school and Wednesday night bible study, oversees regular youth events, and builds relationships with youth and their families. Submit resume to jobs@inglewoodbaptist.com.

CHILDREN

Parkway Hills Baptist Church in Plano is looking for a FT preschool minister to shepherd birth-kindergarten families and lead our preschool team. Email Josh Conner at jconner@parkwayhills.org.

Andice Baptist Church in Florence is looking for a FT children's ministry director. Email resume to Derrick Norris at derrick@andicebc.org.

FBC Rowlett is looking for a FT children's minister to join our team. We are looking for a gospel-driven, talented person who loves Jesus and connects naturally with children and their families. Email resume to Cole Hedgecock at cole@fbcrowlett.org.

FBC Pittsburg is seeking a FT children's minister. Salary range is \$45,000 - \$50,000 annually. Website: <http://fbcpittsburg.org/>. Email resume to BB Banda at bb.fbcpittsburg@gmail.com.

FBC Castroville is seeking a FT children's minister. Send resume to Rodney@fbcastroville.com

Central Church in College Station is seeking a FT director of kids ministry who will be responsible for leading a comprehensive ministry grades K-5 within a growing community, a large and thriving kid's ministry, and a state of the art facility. Applicants may submit their resume to dpatterson@centralbcs.org.

First Baptist Church Orange is seeking a FT children's minister to partner with parents in equipping and empowering their children to know and follow Christ. FBCO is a growing church with a highly active children's ministry. Email Josh Fults at josh@fbc.org.

First Baptist Church, DeKalb is searching for a FT children's minister. Email resume: dekalbfbcc323@gmail.com. Contact: James Sparks, 903-809-3932 for any questions.

First Baptist Church of Port Neches is seeking a FT children's minister who is a creative self-starter who loves the Lord and feels called to children's ministry. Contact Rob Jones at rjones@fbcnpn.org.

Gateway Church of Spring is seeking a FT children's pastor/minister with a dynamic personality for preschool through sixth grade children. Responsibilities include overseeing, directing, educating, counseling, and fellowshiping within each unique age group. Email resume to jannie@discovergateway.com.

Inglewood BC in Grand Prairie is looking for a PT children's minister with a passion for growing a children's program. The children's minister arranges curriculum, schedules and trains teachers, organizes annual events, and maintains relationships with the children's families. Submit resume to jobs@inglewoodbaptist.com.

COMBINATION

Highland Terrace BC, Greenville is seeking a FT pastor of senior adults, congregational care, and education. Send resume to AustinAnderson@austin@highlandterrace.org

FBC Crane is seeking a FT worship & student minister. This is a growing rural church making a difference in the community. Email resume to Chris Farrell at chris@fbccrane.com.

City Church Del Rio is searching for a FT associate pastor of discipleship and worship. For more info, or to apply, visit citychurchdelrio.com or send interest letter and resume to ccdprastor@gmail.com.

FBC Wortham is praying through hiring a FT associate pastor of youth/education. For more information or to send a resume, contact Justin Colquette at justincolquette@fbcwortham.com.

Sherwood Baptist Church in Odessa is seeking a FT minister of music and youth to lead Christ-centered worship, introduce young people to Christ, teaching them to become spiritually mature followers of

Christ, and equipping them to become disciple-makers. Send resume to: personnel@sherwood.church.

Main Street BC in Grand Saline is seeking a FT associate pastor of family & worship with focus on youth first and worship ministry second. Experience preferred. Will need to be a people-oriented team player willing to be involved in the local schools and community. Email Tina Smilie at tsmilie@dts.edu.

Pathway BC in Odessa is prayerfully seeking a FT associate pastor of family/worship. After prayerful consideration, please submit a resume, with a cover letter and references in PDF form to charles@pathwayodessa.org. Be sure to include a link to any preaching, teaching, and/or worship videos.

Bellevue Baptist DBA Pipeline Church, Hurst is seeking a PT music minister and a PT youth minister (this could be a combined FT position) Please contact Candace Alexander-Healy. Email: chealy@aimprostaff.com.

OTHER

TurningPoint Fellowship Church is seeking a church planter to revitalize church in the Austin Area. Contact Wes Porter at wes@turningpointfc.org.

Mobberly Baptist Church Longview is seeking a FT director of video production. Excellent benefits. Contact: scott@mobberly.org.

The Servant House in Lewisville is seeking a PT life group coach to build into the life of life group (small group) leaders, to help connect and grow members in Christ, to grow a healthy church for KOG. Send resume to: theservanthouse@aol.com.

Nolan River Road Baptist Church of Cleburne is praying for an experienced associate pastor to lead our next-gen ministries. This person will serve as the primary support person for the senior pastor and as the primary overseer of the youth and family ministry of NRRBC. Email resume to office@nrrbc.org.

Haltom Road BC in Haltom City is seeking a PT associate pastor of youth and music. Email resume to Andrew@holtomroadbaptist.org.

FBC Bridgeport is seeking a FT business administrator/operations manager. Bridgeport is located about 45 minutes NW of Fort Worth. Email resume to cerb@fbccbridgeport.com.

The Heights Church San Angelo is looking for a FT education minister (preschool, children, youth, college, adult). Email resume to loukduncan@yahoo.com.

FBC Vidor is seeking a full-time director for women's recovery and discipleship ministries to operate a Christ-centered Women's Care Center. We are seeking a mature Christian who adheres to the BFM 2000. She should have leadership and administrative skills. Send resume to cara@fbccvidor.org.

Sylvania Church in Tyler is seeking a FT pastor of families. If interested, visit <https://www.sylvaniachurch.com/apply>.

New Beginnings Baptist Church in Longview is looking for a FT video specialist to join our production team! Email resume to Josh Moore at jmoore@nbbctx.org.

Inglewood BC in Grand Prairie is looking for a FT financial secretary who will handle financial responsibilities such as payroll, budget, maintaining church financial records, and also general secretarial duties. Previous financial experience needed. If interested, submit resume to jobs@inglewoodbaptist.com.

Paid Classifieds

For questions or pricing on classifieds
emailjduas@sbtexas.com

PASTOR

Nall Avenue BC in Prairie Village, Kansas (greater Kansas City area) is seeking a FT senior pastor for our multigenerational Southern Baptist congregation that is focused on making disciples for Jesus Christ. For more information and to apply, go to www.nallave.org/pastor.

CHILDREN

First Baptist Church, Natchitoches, La. is seeking FT preschool/children's minister. Email resume to Mike McGrath at mmcgrath@fbcnatchitoches.com

Mountain View Baptist Church Hickory, N.C., is seeking a FT minister of children. Email resume to jobs@mvbchickory.com.

OTHER

DO YOU NEED A CHURCH PIANIST?

Try piano accompaniment CDs and hymn DVDs from Worship Service Resources. Each song has an introduction and is easy to follow. Hymns, choruses, lyrics, etc. Hundreds of songs. Get a free demo CD and try before you buy! www.wsrpianocds.com or call 1-877-977-6800.

First Baptist Church, Ruston, La. is seeking a FT women's minister. Email resume to Brenda Martin at brenda@fbcruston.org.

FALL PREVIEW DAY AT SOUTHWESTERN SEMINARY & TEXAS BAPTIST COLLEGE

October 21, 2022

At Southwestern Seminary, we combine the highest standards of research and scholarship with vigorous training for real-world ministry. Whatever theological foundation you need, we'll help you build it. Whatever ministry experience it takes, we'll help you find it. Whether you're just beginning your journey, or have decades of experience, we're committed to help you live your calling.

Likewise, Texas Baptist College exists to glorify God by providing trustworthy Christian higher education for more faithful Kingdom service.

We are a Christ-centered, Scripture-driven, and student-focused institution, with curriculum informed by the Word of God and faculty committed to seeing their students grow both spiritually and academically. Whether a student is called to ministry, to the marketplace, or anywhere in between, we will do whatever it takes to help them live their calling.

And Preview Day is your opportunity to see firsthand all that SWBTS and TBC have to offer. During your visit, you will see the campus, meet your faculty, hear from President Adam W. Greenway, eat great food, chat with current students, and experience the great campus community on Seminary Hill.

Learn more at swbts.edu/preview and texasbaptistcollege.com/preview.

SOUTHERN BAPTISTS IN TEXAS PROCLAIM 'MAJOR VICTORY' AFTER ROE V. WADE RULING

WASHINGTON, D.C. In a 5-4 opinion released on June 24, the U.S. Supreme Court overruled the 1973 Roe v. Wade decision that struck down all state abortion bans and legalized the procedure nationwide. The Court's opinion opens the door for states to once again have the authority to decide the legality of abortion rather than the federal government.

"The SBTC is unashamedly pro-life and we see this as a major victory in the fight for the unborn," SBTC Executive Director Nathan Lorick said. "I implore you to join us in praying that we continue to see progress after this monumental decision!"

By legalizing abortion for nearly any reason and at nearly every stage of development, as it has been interpreted in the courts since 1973, Roe has given federal support for the deaths of more than an estimated 60 million unborn children.



SCAN QR CODE FOR FULL ARTICLE

"As we stated just days ago in a resolution at our 2022 Annual Meeting, in a post-Roe United States, 'We commit to stand with and pray for abortion-vulnerable women, to eliminate any perceived need for the horror of abortion, and to oppose Planned Parenthood and other predatory organizations or institutions who exploit vulnerable women for profit,'" SBC President Bart Barber said. "State-by-state, mother-by-mother, heart-by-heart," he added, "we will continue our sacred work toward this goal."



AUTHOR WITT TO SERVE AS KEYNOTE SPEAKER AT EQUIP

FORT WORTH Author and ministry leader Lance Witt will be the keynote speaker at the SBTC Equip Conference on August 13 at Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary.

Equip is designed specifically to train leaders in the local church. This year's conference will include over 25 areas of ministry specific breakouts and more than 70 speakers.

Witt is the founder of REPLENISH ministries, which is dedicated to helping people in ministry live and lead from a healthy soul, and the author of "Your ONE Life: Own it, Live it, Love it," "Replenish" and "High Impact Teams."

For more information and to register, visit sbtexas.com/equip. Cost to attend is only \$10 until August 8, when the registration price will increase to \$15.

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SOUTHERN BAPTIST

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55+ ADULTS MINISTRY TRAININGS SET FOR CONROE, CORPUS, ODESSA

GRAPEVINE Three 55+ Adults Ministry Training sessions are scheduled in September. The trainings are for all church staff and lay leadership who work with 55+ aged adults.

The trainings are scheduled for September 1 at West Conroe Baptist Church in Conroe; September 8 at Yorktown Baptist Church in Corpus Christi; and September 15 at First Baptist Church of Odessa. Seniors and boomers are one of the fastest-growing segments in our society, and your community is full of unreached seniors. The trainings are meant to offer solutions to help churches prepare for the growing tide of retiring Boomers.

Cost of each training is \$15. For more information and to register, visit sbtexas.com/55+.

SBTC'S MOLINA TO SERVE AS SBC HISPANIC COUNCIL PRESIDENT

ANAHEIM, Calif. Bruno Molina, language and interfaith evangelism associate for the Southern Baptists of Texas Convention, was elected president of the Southern Baptist Convention's Hispanic Council during the SBC Annual Meeting in June.

The council exists to provide unity and facilitate communication among Southern Baptist Hispanics. At the June meeting in Anaheim, the council appointed two new committees to develop a criteria list for those who wish to be members of the council and to investigate becoming a legal entity.

With the SBTC, Molina—who has served as a pastor and church planter—partners with churches by encouraging, equipping, and resourcing them to evangelize the people of over 300 language groups and many faiths in Texas. He earned his bachelor's degree from New York University in international relations and Spanish, and both his Master of Arts in Theology and Ph.D. in world Christian studies from Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary.



TRIO OF DISCIPLE-MAKING FORUMS TO BE HELD IN SEPTEMBER

Three Disciple-Making Forums are scheduled for September in three different regions of Texas: September 19 at Living Water Christian Fellowship in Canyon; September 20 at Immanuel Baptist Church in Odessa; and September 22 at First Baptist Church of Brownsville. Each forum will be held from 9:30 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Glenn Underhill from discipleFIRST Ministries will share Jesus' proven strategy to make and multiply disciples that will help launch sustainable discipleship in your church. Our Great Commission mandate is to make disciples of Jesus of all nations. While the mandate is easily understood, it is often difficult to know where to start.

Registration is \$10 and includes lunch and all training materials. For more information and to register, visit sbtexas.com/discipleship.

Saturday **AUGUST 13, 2022** 8:45 AM–3:00 PM

EQUIP

conference



Equipping Church Leaders for a New Season

FORT WORTH
Southwestern Baptist
Theological Seminary

COST: \$10

Price increases to
\$15 on August 8



SBTEXAS.COM/EQUIP

Fall Preview Day

// OCTOBER 21, 2022

Whether you're just beginning your journey, or have decades of experience, we will do whatever it takes to help you live your calling. And Preview Day is your chance to explore everything Southwestern Seminary and Texas Baptist College have to offer in both theological training and undergraduate education.

- ▶ Tour the Campus
- ▶ Meet Your Professors
- ▶ Talk to Current Students
- ▶ Explore Degrees

[SWBTS.EDU/PREVIEW](https://swbts.edu/preview)



SINCE 1908



WHAT'S UP NEXT?

2022 CALENDAR

FOR MORE ABOUT SBTC EVENTS OR TO VIEW A MORE DETAILED CALENDAR, VISIT [SBTEXAS.COM/EVENTS](https://www.sbtcx.com/events)



EQUIP CONFERENCE

AUGUST 13 SWBTS, FORT WORTH

[sbtcx.com/equip](https://www.sbtcx.com/equip)



REACH TEXAS STATE MISSIONS OFFERING

SEPT. 18-25 WEEK OF PRAYER

[sbtcx.com/reachtexas](https://www.sbtcx.com/reachtexas)



EN ESPAÑOL MEN'S CONFERENCE

SEPT. 30-OCT. 1 RIVERBEND RETREAT CENTER, GLEN ROSE

[sbtcx.com/hombres](https://www.sbtcx.com/hombres)

August

4	Young Pastors Network Regional Gathering, Marshall
12	Interim Pastor Equipping, Fort Worth
27	She Stands Women's Conference, Conroe

September

1, 8, 15	55+ Adult Ministry Training, Conroe, Corpus Christi, Odessa
19, 20, 22	Disciple-Making Forum, Canyon, Odessa, Brownsville
8	Young Pastors Network Regional Gathering, Cleburne/Burleson
16	She Stands Women's Conference, Longview
16-17	Florece Women's Retreat, Glen Rose
20	Strengthening Racial Harmony Panel, Grapevine
27	Children & Family Ministry Luncheon, SWBTS

October

2	Cooperative Program Sunday
4	Pastors Masters Golf Tournament, Flower Mound
7	She Stands Women's Conference, Lubbock
11	Send Summit, Fielder Church-South Oaks, Arlington



FOR MORE SBTC EVENTS
SCAN THIS QR CODE



ANNUAL  MEETING

PURSUING
Presence

Jeremiah 29:12-14

NOVEMBER 14-15

CORPUS CHRISTI
AMERICAN BANK CENTER

Registration Coming Soon.

To see a schedule and make your hotel reservations visit

sbtexas.com/am22