

The Pine Torch

Volume 14 Issue 5
July 2011



Please pray each week for one Pastors/Churches. Following is

Pleasant Grove	Pastor	K
Porter Springs	Pastor	C
Primera Iglesia	Pastor	P
Ratcliff	Pastor	B

NRBA EXECUTIVE BOARD

HIS HEART WOMEN'S MINISTRY

JULY 12, 2011
5:30 PM

Evening Program
7:00 PM

Treasurer.....Arnold Wi...

Administrative Assistant.....Linda Schae

Home phone 936-544-1

Cell phone 936-546-8

OFFICE HOURS

MONDAY - FRIDAY 8:30 A.M. - 12:30 P.M.

Afternoons (Contact Brother Bill by cell)

Closed Friday afternoon

of our Neches River Association
the list for July.

enneth Myers	July 3 - July 9
arl Standley	July 10 - July 16
ablo Palma	July 17 - July 23
ob Lacey	July 24 - July 30

DOM.....	Dr. Bill Jones
Moderator.....	Keeney Dicken
Vice Moderator.....	Carl Stanc
	Home phone 936-544-0555
	Cell phone 936-222-1965
	email: nrbaoffice@valonet.com
	website: nechesriverbaptist.org
	Phone: 936.544.3754
	Fax: : 936.546.9183
	P.O. Box 995 Crockett, TX 75835
	NECHES RIVER BAPTIST ASSOCIATION

DIRECTORS THOUGHTS

TOGETHER WE CAN...

For my article this month I would first like to remind you to make plans to attend the East **Texas Leadership Conference** on **August 27**. This promises to be the best conference ever. Hopefully you have received the email of the breakout conferences. If you need posters, or registration forms, give me a call. The pre-registration cost is \$12 and includes lunch.

Second, I would like to share two additional items: The first item is the 4th point by Dr. Jim Gatliff on church revitalization; The 2nd item is an article by Josh Hunt about small groups:

#4. Revitalizing churches need “multiplications,” not just “additions.” Statistically, by a huge margin, most of the new members joining struggling churches come by transfer of letter from other churches. Although these new members can help fill vacant leadership positions and can also bolster the finances of the church, they actually may be of limited help in revitalizing a church.

For one thing, there's just not enough of these previously churched people around to result in breakout church growth for most churches. The rate at which they join may not even “keep up with the undertaker” in a declining church. A church may only see “replacement growth” in its ranks through member transfers. Furthermore, these previously churched folks may be just as culturally distant from the surrounding un-churched community as everyone else in their new church home. They may not know many lost people, either.

Sometimes these transferees (refugees) have baggage from previous church experiences and personal agendas which may actually be counterproductive to authentic church revitalization. Most important, however, they do not represent true Kingdom growth through conversions. I am not so sure the angels of Heaven rejoice over “one who moveth his letter.”

Indeed, churches can become “addicted” to transfer growth because it enables them to remain stable without making changes or doing outreach; its the crack cocaine of the dying church. Although transferees can be a blessing (as God adds them to the church), revitalizing churches should focus on reaching the lost through multiplication.

One of the best uses of the revitalization pastor's time is training just two or three willing individuals how to bear fruit through sharing their faith and discipling others. Existing leaders must be taught how to reproduce themselves by enlisting, equipping, and empowering new leaders. For church leaders, raising up new leaders must be of a greater priority than simply getting a particular task accomplished. Most declining churches have no plan whatsoever for developing new leaders. Every group and ministry of the church must be challenged to multiply itself in new groups and ministries. A Christian, a leader, or group that is not multiplying is inherently unhealthy!

If a church will continually focus on cultivating disciples who make disciples, leaders who raise up new leaders, and groups who reproduce groups, it will most certainly grow.

Article by Josh Hunt: “The first five minutes of your group time sets the tone for the whole. People tend to make up their mind about how they are going to feel about class in the first five minutes and then spend the rest of the hour trying to defend why that idea is right.

When was the last time you walked into a group as a stranger? Do you remember how it feels? Do you remember how it feels to not know where to sit, what to do, where to go, who is in charge, what is going on?

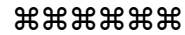
If it has been a long time, or maybe you cannot remember, I recommend you visit another church. If you want to be really brave, visit a church that is not part of your denomination, a church that is very different from yours. Walk in and get in touch with what it feels like to be a stranger.

You might think this issue is not important enough to warrant going to all this fuss about, but issues

SAN PEDRO BAPTIST CHURCH

CONGRATULATIONS!

**Forrest & Janice Wiggins
60th Wedding Anniversary
Former DOM**



**Dr. & Mrs. Charles Lowrey
50th Wedding Anniversary**

EAST TEXAS LEADERS CONFERENCE

**SATURDAY, AUGUST 27, 2011
DENMAN AVENUE BAPTIST CHURCH
LUFKIN, TEXAS**

**REGISTRATION 8:30 AM
CONFERENCE 9:00 AM - 3:00 PM
Watch for details**

You might think this issue is not important enough to warrant going to all this fuss about, but Jesus counted the issue of strangers and how they are treated as very important. It is one of the things that separate the sheep from the goats. Circle the word "**stranger**" every time it occurs in this passage:

"Then the King will say to those on his right, 'Come, you who are blessed by my Father; take your inheritance, the kingdom prepared for you since the creation of the world. For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you invited me in, I needed clothes and you clothed me, I was sick and you looked after me, I was in prison and you came to visit me.'

"Then the righteous will answer him, 'Lord, when did we see you hungry and feed you, or thirsty and give you something to drink? When did we see you a stranger and invite you in, or needing clothes and clothe you? When did we see you sick or in prison and go to visit you?'

"The King will reply, 'I tell you truly, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers of mine, you did for me.'

"Then he will say to those on his left, 'Depart from me, you who are cursed, into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels. For I was hungry and you gave me nothing to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me nothing to drink, I was a stranger and you did not invite me in, I needed clothes and you did not clothe me, I was sick and in prison and you did not look after me.'

"They also will answer, 'Lord, when did we see you hungry or thirsty or a stranger or needing clothes or sick or in prison, and did not help you?'

*"He will reply, 'I tell you the truth, whatever you did not do for one of the least of these, you did not do for me.' "Then they will go away to eternal punishment, but the righteous to eternal life." **Matt. 25:34-46** [NIV].*

Imagine if Jesus visited your group. How would you treat Him? Jesus taught us to treat every visitor that way, because how we treat them is how we are treating Him.

The writer of Hebrews taught us that by being careful of the way we treat strangers, we are, at times, entertaining angels:

Do not forget to entertain strangers, for by so doing some people have entertained angels without knowing it.

Hebrews 13:2

How we greet one another is elevated in the Bible to the position of a command. **Four times** in the New Testament we are commanded to greet one another properly:

*Greet one another with a holy kiss. All the churches of Christ send greetings. **Romans 16:16** [NIV] All the brothers here send you greetings. Greet one another with a holy kiss. **1 Cor. 16:20** [NIV] Greet one another with a holy kiss. **2 Cor. 13:12** [NIV] Greet one another with a kiss of love. Peace to all of you who are in Christ. **1 Peter 5:14** [NIV]*

(Continued inside)

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CALENDAR OF EVENTS JULY 2011

- 4 Independence Day - Office Closed
- 12 NRBA Monthly Meeting
Executive Board
His Heart Women's Ministry

ATTENTION!!

LADIES CONFERENCE

“Drinking From His Fountain of Grace.”

Porter Springs Baptist Church

SATURDAY, JULY 16, 2011

9:30 - 3:00

Casual Dress

RSVP to Porter Springs at 936-624-9961

Pineywoods Baptist Encampment
2011 SUMMER CAMPS

July 11 – July 15 Pineywoods PowerPlus Youth IV
Director – Kelly Johnson 409-246-2750
kjohnson@crestwoodbc.com

PowerPlus Youth Camp Executive Director – Steve Boyd 936-642-1723

GIFTS FROM

CHURCHES

- 1001 · Antioch
- 1002 · Apple Springs
- 1003 · Austonio
- 1004 · Bible Believers
- 1005 · Calvary Nogalus
- 1006 · Calvary Trinity
- 1007 · Carlisle
- 1008 · Central
- 1009 · Dorcas Will Memorial
- 1010 · Faith
- 1011 · Family of God
- 1012 · FBC Crockett
- 1013 · FBC Friday
- 1014 · FBC Glendale
- 1015 · FBC Grapeland
- 1016 · FBC Groveton
- 1017 · FBC Kennard
- 1018 · FBC Lovelady
- 1019 · Georgia Camp
- 1020 · Lake
- 1021 · Lakeway, Carlisle
- 1022 · Latexo
- 1023 · Mt. Vernon
- 1024 · Oak Grove
- 1025 · Oaklawn
- 1026 · Open Door Mission
- 1027 · Pearson Chapel
- 1028 · Pleasant Grove
- 1029 · Porter Springs
- 1030 · Primera Iglesia Bautista
- 1031 · Ratcliff
- 1032 · St. Lukes
- 1033 · San Pedro

PASTORS

- Jared
- J. Lin
- Harol
- Tracy
- Jame
- Dr. R
- Dwai
- John
- Pasto
- Kyle
- Slim
- Keen
- Alber
- Roye
- Pasto
- Lewis
- Jim D
- Pasto
- Rex H
- Bill M
- Marv
- Dr. J
- Pasto
- Denn
- Leste
- Davis
- Jame
- Kenn
- Carl S
- Pablo
- Dr. B
- Larry
- Tom

M CHURCHES

TORS

	May-11	Yr to Date
Burt	102.53	660.40
Lindsey Nimmons	133.56	850.42
Shirley PT	0.00	792.89
Henderson IP	0.00	300.00
Whittlesey	0.00	2,477.74
Andy Lowe	430.00	2,772.05
n Pollard	205.23	1,010.99
Goss	0.00	2,258.44
orless	0.00	1,969.31
Coston	150.00	375.00
Evans	101.00	188.00
ey Dickenson	1,338.61	8,683.09
t Harris	0.00	0.00
Blackmon	50.00	375.00
orless	0.00	3,855.31
s Jones	619.96	3,104.83
Durham	100.00	600.00
orless	288.87	1,733.22
Harrell	25.00	150.00
artin	26.53	159.58
in Martin	0.00	88.77
eff Taylor	345.60	1,337.13
orless	0.00	125.00
is Morgan	80.62	558.31
er McAdams	300.00	1,800.00
s Thornton	63.72	290.90
s Gunnels	32.10	187.80
eth Myers	140.40	920.15
Standley	144.19	1,685.71
o Palma	0.00	210.00
ob Lacey	110.27	846.50
Mouton	25.00	125.00
my Hutto	0.00	1,414.11

JULY Birthdays
22 Lindsey Nimmons

JULY Anniversaries
3 Tommy & Doris Hutto
10 John & Darla Goss
16 Jim & Kathy Durham



**Saint Luke Missionary
Baptist Church**
315 South Second Street
Crockett, TX 75835
Conference and Workshops
August 5—7, 2011
www.slukeerk.org

Many thanks to all of you who helped San Pedro Baptist Church in the "Alabama Relief" ministry. The trailer was loaded on Thursday, May 19th with relief supplies costing

July 17– July 20 Tryon-Evergreen/Neches River Preteen Camp I
July 20– July 23 Tryon-Evergreen/Neches River Preteen Camp II
For Information – Barbara Lambert 936-856-2001
blambert@teba.org

July 24– July 27 Pineywoods PowerPlus Preteen Camp
Director – Barry Phillips 281-572-1000
barry@fellowshipporter.org

July 28 – August 1 Over the Edge Preteen Camp I
August 2 – August 6 Over the Edge Preteen Camp II
Director – Dave Benefield 903-677-3185
davebenefield@yahoo.com

August 7 – August 12 Lufkin High School Band

August 8– August 12 AIM Boys Camp
Director – Chad Bixler
Pineywoods 936-642-1723
eric@pineywoodscamp.com

P.O. Box 133 / 6272 East US Hwy. 287 Woodlake TX 75865
Voice: 936-642-1723 Fax: 936-642-2608
E-mail: pwcamp@consolidated.net
Web: www.pineywoodscamp.com

Grapeland Baptist is looking for someone to lead their music ministry. Please contact Pastor Charles Pyle at 936-687-5279

New Pastors

Dwain Pollard - Carlisle Baptist
 Roye Blackmon - FBC Glendale
 Rex Harrell - Georgia Camp

- 1034 · New Scrub Creek Dudle
- 1035 · Shady Grove Terry
- 1036 · Shady Grove 1st Dr. C
- 1037 · Trinity Pines Mark
- 1038 · Weldon Pasto
- 1039 · West Side Steve
- 1040 · Zion Hill Dee
- 1041 · Groveton Hispanic Mission Ospa
- 1042 · New Pleasant Grove Winsi
- 1043 · Iglesia Bautista Jesucristo Ospa
- 1044 · Truly God's Country Cowboy Gene
- 1045 · Ho. County Cowboy Church Will Y
- 1046 · Grapeland Baptist Charl
- 1047 · 21 Fellowship Dr. S
- 1048 · Calvary, Crockett Pastro
- 1099 · Association Meeting Offering

* Church numbers are for bookkeeping pu

Pulpit Supply	Phone #
Dee Black	936-594-9574
Jim Turner	903-729-1529
Leroy Brown	936-594-6469
Don Mize	936-544-8298/544-
Paul Knight	936-222-5250
Archie Smith	936-707-1148
John Valenta	936-594-6934

Music Supply	Phone #
Jeff & Carolyn Cuellar	936-594-2463
Randy & Betty Welborn	936-436-0046
Billy & Judy Seamans	936-594-6539/594-

ey Austin	0.00	230.00
Gibson IP	82.81	401.96
Charles Lowery	25.59	223.44
Gray	0.00	721.37
orless	172.00	716.00
e Meadows	334.20	1,053.90
Queen	77.35	594.75
r Campos	5.31	51.77
ton Spencer	100.00	600.00
r Campos	0.00	0.00
Kellum	25.00	125.00
'ates	0.00	200.00
es Pyle	77.44	263.12
imon Goncharenko	75.00	261.00
orless	10.59	171.03
	0.00	0.00
Total	5,798.48	47,518.99

urposes only !

Pulpit Supply Phone #

Don Burkhalter	936-594-7515
Fred Lintelman	936-687-4177
Thomas Potter	903-729-2387
9832 Charles Goodson	281-252-0347
Willie Reagan	903-764-5986
Jeffrey Conner	936-215-1187

Music Supply Phone #

Delbert Salisbury	936-687-2163
Tom Dixon	936-642-2186

7331

approximately \$13,000.00. Thanks to Jerry & Darlene Morton for furnishing their truck and making the delivery to Alabama.

**PRAY FOR OUR CHURCHES
WITHOUT A PASTOR:**

Austonio
Mt Vernon
Weldon
Shady Grove
FBC Lovelady
FBC Grapeland
Calvary, Crockett
Dorcas Wills Memorial

**Thank You Neches River
Association for helping us
celebrate our 60th Wedding
Anniversary. We appreciate
your thoughts and the
gift card.**

**With Christian love,
Forrest & Janis Wiggins**

(Directors Thoughts Continued)

It is easy to miss the import of these commands because we get hung up on the cultural style of what is appropriate. Our mind gets distracted by the visual imagery of kissing each other at the door and the political correctness of that in a world like ours and what would happen if, and. . . we miss the whole point. The point is that God counted it so important that we greet each other appropriately that he elevated it to the level of a command and repeated it four times.

"They said you didn't say 'Hi!' to them when you walked down the hall. You didn't greet them. You just ignored them. They knew you would never do this to one of your friends, but to them, you didn't say a word. It made them feel small. It made them feel like they were not important to you."

The Bible commands that we take seriously how we greet one another. Back in the day, that meant a warm kiss. Maybe it means something else in our day. Whatever else it means—it means that the greeting in the first minute when people show up is very important.

The way we treat strangers is important to God and it is important to people. How we treat strangers-visitors to our group-may have more to do with whether or not they come back and the growth of the group than anything else. It may be more important than the quality of the teaching or how hard you work at your outreach program.

Awaiting the Shout, Brother Bill