

# The Pine Torch



Volume 14 Issue 8  
November/December 2011



Daylight Savings  
Ends  
November 6

Please pray each week for one of our Neches River Association Pastors/Churches. Following is the list for November/December.

Cowboy, Ho. Co.	Pastor	Will Yates	Oct 30 - Nov 5
Trinity Pines	Pastor	Mark Gray	Nov 6 - Nov 12
God's Country Cowboy	Pastor	Gene Kellum	Nov 13 - Nov 19
Weldon	Pastor	Jim Brazzil	Nov 20 - Nov 26
West Side	Pastor	Steve Meadows	Nov 27 - Dec 3
Zion Hill	Pastor	Dee Queen	Dec 4 - Dec 10
Iglesia Refugio	Pastor	Oscar Campos	Dec 11 - Dec 17
Calvary, Crockett	Pastor	Pastorless	Dec 18 - Dec 24

## DIRECTORS THOUGHTS

TOGETHER WE CAN...

A lot has happened since our last newsletter. For one thing the heat of summer has moved over and allowed some wonderfully cool days. This morning the temperature was 37 degrees. We continue to ask the Lord to send refreshing rain. Make this a matter of prayer each time you meet for worship. The Word of God is clear: "We have not because we ask not".

We also had our Annual Celebration which was held at Westside Baptist in Crockett. What a great time of reports, singing, and preaching. Mission's ministries and mission trips continue to be the main focus of Neches River Association. I am thankful for the number of mission projects and trips that our churches are involved in. I am so thankful that our churches are so committed to fellowship, encouragement, and great financial support. Your churches contributions continue to be used to start new churches, support disaster relief work, and to assist our churches with many of their ministries.

We were able to purchase a grapple for a tractor that can be used in times of disaster needs. The grapple has already been used for several projects, including the removal of a large oak tree at New Scrub Creek Baptist Church. This saved the church \$500 that was used on much needed renovations.

I could spend a great deal of time sharing how God is multiplying your gifts and using them in Kingdom work. Please know that we are committed to making the wisest use of the money you give through your association.

Don't forget about our next associational meeting which will be held at Apple Springs Baptist Church on November 8.

In conclusion, here is the 6<sup>th</sup> article on church revitalization:

**#6—Revitalizing churches must establish an outwardly-focused culture of evangelism and outreach.**

One characteristic of most declining churches is that they are doing little or no effective evangelistic outreach. In many of these churches, visitation nights and VBS have dwindled and disappeared and revivals have turned into Bible conferences for the benefit of church members.

Some of these churches challenge members to do "relational evangelism" among their friends. In reality, however, long-time church members may have very limited contact with un-churched people. Other churches limit their outreach to follow-up visits for worship service guests, most of whom are already Christians.

In order to turn things around, a stagnant or declining church must inject evangelism into every aspect of the life of the church. Although there are many steps a church can take to do this, here are ten evangelistic things just about any church of any size or condition can do:

**First**, pastors should seek to preach at least one genuinely evangelistic sermon each month and a Sunday morning sermon on witnessing each quarter. With the help of the entire congregation, give lost people the opportunity to pray the "Sinner's Prayer" in every Sunday morning service.

**Second**, do everything you can to make your church more joy-filled, welcoming, un-churched sensitive, and user-friendly. This includes things like good signage (inside and outside), high quality guest services, and genuinely friendly members. Eliminate "barriers" that push people away. Try to keep worship service length one hour or less.

**Third**, do at least one "bridging" event each quarter. The purpose of a bridging event is to provide an opportunity for church people to have conversations with unchurched people in a socially neutral environment. Bridging events can be as big as a fall festival that is attended by hundreds or as small as a get-together for a group in a community or residents of a neighborhood. As a rule, for every person that it takes to do the actual work of a bridging event there should be at least three people whose primary assignment is to mingle and engage people in conversations.

**Fourth**, the pastor (and whoever will help him) ought to do door-to-door survey work in the community on an on-going basis. Even in rural areas, a two-person team can survey 10 to 20 homes in a couple of hours on Saturday.

**Fifth**, build and maintain a good prospect data base from the people identified through bridging events, survey work, guests who visit in services, and the families of the kids who come to VBS or other children's and youth ministry events. Use this information to develop a "bulletproof" follow-up system. Assume that God is working in the life of every new person added to the prospect list. Every prospect should be assigned to a group or Sunday School class.

**Sixth**, challenge Sunday School classes or groups to host a fellowship gathering every month to which they can invite every member and every prospect.

**Seventh**, have at least one special Sunday or harvest event each quarter. Give each Sunday School class a prospect contact list and challenge them to invite every prospect to the event where the Gospel will be presented.

**Eighth**, train every member in some method of evangelism every year. This is best done in the Sunday morning service using simple methods such as the Roman Road, One-Verse Evangelism, or servant evangelism. GROW and FAITH can both be used in churches of any size. Train people how to establish new relationships with unchurched people and how to minister to people in their own neighborhood.

**Ninth**, redefine Wednesday night as Outreach Night. If possible, have an outreach-oriented meal (first time guests eat free), followed by a brief prayer meeting, giving special emphasis for praying for that night's outreach activities. Then, **EVERYBODY** does something outreach-oriented: GROW teams do their thing. Youth have an outreach-oriented gathering. Children do outreach-oriented AWANAS or Team Kid. FAITH teams make evangelistic visits.

**Tenth**, challenge all church leaders to set the evangelistic pace for the congregation. Avoid putting people in visible leadership roles who are not involved in some kind of outreach. A pastor and four or five people truly passionate about evangelism can influence others to establish an evangelistic culture for the church. Receptivity to the Gospel may vary widely, but a church that consistently does evangelism will be blessed by God with many new members.

Awaiting the shout,  
Brother Bill

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DOM.....Dr. Bill Jones  
Home phone 936-544-0555  
Cell phone 936-222-1965

Moderator.....Keeney Dickenson  
Vice Moderator.....Carl Standley  
Treasurer.....Arnold Winkler  
Administrative Assistant.....Linda Schaeffer

Home phone 936-544-1280  
Cell phone 936-546-8005

OFFICE HOURS  
MONDAY - FRIDAY 8:30 A.M. - 12:30 P.M.  
Afternoons (Contact Brother Bill by cell)  
Closed Friday afternoon

### NEXT NRBA MEETING

NOVEMBER 8, 2011

APPLE SPRINGS  
5:30 PM



Week of Prayer and Ingathering  
International Missions  
December 4 - 11

National Goal: \$175 Million

His Heart, His Hands, His Voice

Non-Profit Org.  
US Postage Paid  
Crockett TX  
Permit No. 79

**CALENDAR OF EVENTS**

**November**

- 6 - Daylight Savings Ends
- 8 - NRBA Meeting - Election Day
- 11 - Veterans Day
- 14/15 - SBTC Annual Meeting - Dallas/Ft Worth
- 24/25 - Thanksgiving - Office closed

**December**

- 4 - 11 - Lottie Moon Emphasis & Ingathering
- 7 - Pearl Harbor Day
- 25 - Christmas
- 26 - 2 - Office closed

**Pine Torch Publication**

*The Messengers at our annual meeting voted to change our publication schedule.*

*We will now be publishing our newsletter on a bi-monthly basis to come out the 1st of the month prior to our NRBA meeting.*

*Remember that the newsletter is available on line at [www.nechesriverbaptist.org](http://www.nechesriverbaptist.org).*

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

- Austonio
- Shady Grove
- Calvary, Crockett
- Latexo
- Antioch
- Grapeland Baptist

**GIFTS FROM CHURCHES**

CHURCHES	PASTORS	Aug/Sept	Yr to Date
1001 - Antioch	Pastorless	314.53	1,065.69
1002 - Apple Springs	J. Lindsey Nimmons	871.10	1,829.85
1003 - Austonio	Harold Shirley	377.47	1,614.45
1004 - Bible Believers	Tracy Henderson IP	0.00	400.00
1005 - Calvary Nogalus	James Whittlesey	476.92	3,164.93
1006 - Calvary Trinity	Dr. Randy Lowe	0.00	3,588.72
1007 - Carlisle	Dwain Pollard	390.22	1,768.62
1008 - Central	John Goss	744.37	3,672.78
1009 - Dorcas Will Memorial	Jared Burt	752.12	3,369.78
1010 - Faith	Kyle Coston	150.00	700.00
1011 - Family of God	Slim Evans	154.00	342.00
1012 - FBC Crockett	Keeney Dickenson	4,401.77	17,592.15
1013 - FBC Friday	Albert Harris	0.00	0.00
1014 - FBC Glendale	Roye Blackmon	100.00	575.00
1015 - FBC Grapeland	Todd Nivens	1,439.82	6,552.96
1016 - FBC Groveton	Lewis Jones	1,481.83	6,643.70
1017 - FBC Kennard	Jim Durham	200.00	900.00
1018 - FBC Lovelady	Mitchell Kleckley	577.74	2,875.20
1019 - Georgia Camp	Rex Harrell	50.00	250.00
1020 - Lake	Bill Martin	59.58	265.37
1021 - Lakeway, Carlisle	Marvin Martin	151.02	368.19
1022 - Latexo	Pastorless	308.00	2,560.44
1023 - Mt. Vernon	Jerry Young	26.58	362.90
1024 - Oak Grove	Dennis Morgan	167.51	884.58
1025 - Oaklawn	Lester McAdams	600.00	3,000.00
1026 - Open Door Mission	Davis Thornton	232.09	596.13
1027 - Pearson Chapel	James Gunnels	59.58	297.12
1028 - Pleasant Grove	Kenneth Myers	420.90	1,481.90
1029 - Porter Springs	Carl Standley	474.14	2,641.54
1030 - Primera Iglesia Bautista	Pablo Palma	35.00	350.00
1031 - Ratcliff	Dr. Bob Lacey	221.02	1,307.34
1032 - St. Lukes	Larry Mouton	125.00	400.00
1033 - San Pedro	Tommy Hutto	769.44	2,420.53
1034 - New Scrub Creek	Dudley Austin	70.00	525.00
1035 - Shady Grove	Terry Gibson IP	175.23	706.01
1036 - Shady Grove 1st	Dr. Charles Lowery	87.96	446.82
1037 - Trinity Pines	Mark Gray	399.99	1,282.84
1038 - Weldon	Jim Brazzil	62.00	835.00
1039 - West Side	Steve Meadows	312.69	1,945.31
1040 - Zion Hill	Dee Queen	202.75	1,093.25
1041 - Groveton Hispanic Mission	Oscar Campos	30.66	138.73
1042 - New Pleasant Grove	Winston Spencer	100.00	700.00
1043 - Iglesia Bautista Jesucristo	Oscar Campos	0.00	0.00
1044 - Truly God's Country Cowboy	Gene Kellum	100.00	300.00
1045 - Ho. County Cowboy Church	Will Yates	255.87	881.51
1046 - Grapeland Baptist	Charles Pyle	204.60	652.19
1047 - 21 Fellowship	Dr. Simon Goncharenko	0.00	336.00
1048 - Calvary, Crockett	Pastorless	35.69	217.23
1099 - Association Meeting Offering		0.00	0.00
		18,169.19	83,901.76

\* Church numbers are for bookkeeping purposes only !

Pulpit Supply	Phone #	Pulpit Supply	Phone #
Dee Black	936-594-9574	Don Burkhalter	936-594-7515
Jim Turner	903-729-1529	Fred Lintelman	936-687-4177
Leroy Brown	936-594-6469	Thomas Potter	903-729-2387
Don Mize	936-544-8298/544-9832	Charles Goodson	281-252-0347
Paul Knight	936-222-5250	Willie Reagan	903-764-5986
Archie Smith	936-707-1148	Jeffrey Conner	936-215-1187
John Valenta	936-594-6934	Charles Pyle	936-222-2240
Music Supply	Phone #	Music Supply	Phone #
Jeff & Carolyn Cuellar	936-594-2463	Delbert Salisbury	936-687-2163
Randy & Betty Welborn	936-436-0046	Tom Dixon	936-642-2186
Billy & Judy Seamans	936-594-6539/594-7331		

November Birthdays	December Birthdays
5 Terri Meadows	2 Karen Standley
19 Lester McAdams	7 Kathy Durham
20 Randy Lowe	13 Jackie Nimmons
21 Oscar Campos	14 Karen Jones
30 Jared Burt	19 Lee Ann Kellum
	27 John Goss
Anniversaries	Anniversaries
17 Bill & Karen Jones	19 Charles & Nita Lowrey

**REMINDER !!!**  
**MARK YOUR CALENDAR**  
 EVANGELISM CONFERENCE  
 JANUARY 10, 2012  
 FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH GROVETON

**CONGRATULATIONS!**  
 Joshua, Jess, and big sister, Beckett welcome home baby brother, Caulder Samuel Jones.  
 Born October 25, 2011  
 Weighing in at 9 pounds 2 ounces and measuring 21" in length.  
 Proud grandparents are Bill and Karen Jones