

2017

Minutes

Sixty-fifth Annual Meeting

Tarrant County

Baptist Missionary Association

September 16, 2017

South Park Baptist Church

Fort Worth, Texas

Next Meeting

Saturday, September 15, 2018

9:30 a.m.

Moderator Adam Isch

Vice Moderator.....James Schoenrock

Clerk/TreasurerTimothy Fish

Assistant Clerk/Treasurer Ken Strong

WMA RepresentativeJo Strong

Annual Message Heith Mitchell

Alternate David Pickard

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Constitution

1. This Association shall be known as the Tarrant County Baptist Missionary Association.
2. This Association shall be composed of churches, by means of messengers that are members of, and elected by, the church sending them.
3. The officers of this Association shall consist of moderator, assistant moderator, clerk-treasurer, assistant clerk-treasurer.
4. It shall be the duty of this Association on the first day of each annual meeting to elect her officers for the following year.
5. New churches may be admitted to this fellowship on presentation of petitionary letters at the annual session of messengers sent from their church for such purpose, providing that on examination they be found to be in fellowship, in doctrine, faith, and practice with the churches of this Association. The moderator shall extend the right hand of fellowship to the messengers.
6. Each church shall be allowed five messengers.
7. It shall be the duty of the churches of this Association to provide a fund to defray expenses of the Association, including local missions, correspondence, and clerk hire.
8. It shall be the duty of each church in this Association to send a letter annually by her messengers, naming the messengers, the number of members received since the last Association, and how received, number dismissed and how. Also, the amount of funds sent in and for what purpose.
9. This Association shall have no power to lord over the churches, but shall function as an advisory council.
10. In all cases where there is difference between church or individuals of this Association, the same rule shall be observed as taught in Matthew 18 and other Scriptures corresponding therewith.
11. In the event of heresy in doctrine or unscriptural practice on the part of any church of this Association, having come to the notice of the Association, and after the Association has exhausted every scriptural effort to convert the church of the erroneous ways, it shall be the duty of the other churches of the Association to withdraw fellowship from the offending church.

12. This Association shall correspond with other associations of like faith and order as she may direct.
13. All matters coming before the Association shall be determined by will of the majority of the members present, except that of receiving churches, which shall be by unanimous vote. Associations that we correspond with shall be determined by a two-thirds majority.
14. No query shall be received by this Association until it shall have been taken up and elected upon by the church in which it originated. Then if the church fails to get satisfaction, it may be received.
15. This Association shall be governed by regular decorum.
16. As Baptists we do not hesitate to say that as it respects Missionary Institutions, we will not be bound to contribute to any, but will be left to act as the Word of God may lead us to do.
17. This Constitution may be changed, amended or altered at any regular meeting of the Association, by a two-thirds majority of messengers present.
18. This Association endorses the New Hampshire Confession of Faith as a representative compendium of what Baptist have historically believed through the centuries. We refer particularly to the edition in J. E. Cobb's *Church Manual* (third edition), published by the Baptist Publications Committee of Texarkana, Texas.
19. This Association shall meet annually at 9:30 AM on the third Saturday in September at such place as may be designated by the Association in annual session.
20. Newly elected officers shall not take over until the end of the annual meeting.

Rules of Decorum

1. The Association shall be opened with prayer.
2. All officers shall be chosen on the first day of the annual meeting by the messengers present.
3. The moderator shall be considered the judge of order, but any member shall have the right to rise to a point of order as they deem necessary.
4. Any member not satisfied with the moderator's ruling may appeal to the Association for a change on the same day; not later.
5. Only one person may speak at a time, after rising and addressing the moderator and getting recognition, then only shall he speak.
6. The speaker shall not be interrupted until he has given his light, unless he gets out of order, then shall he be called to order.
7. The speaker shall adhere to the subject and in no wise reflect on the ones who have spoken before, by remarking of his failings or the ones who have spoken before, by remarking of his failings or imperfections, but shall strictly present his idea of the matter at hand.
8. No appellation except that of Brother or Sister shall be used in the Association.
9. The names of the members of the Association shall be enrolled by the clerk and called as often as the Association may require.
10. The moderator may not interrupt any messenger, nor prohibit any member from speaking until he has given his light, except he be breaking the rule of the decorum.
11. The moderator shall be entitled to the same privilege of speech as any other provided the chair is filled, but shall not vote unless the Association is equally divided.
12. If any member shall knowingly and willingly break these rules, he or she shall be removed as the Association may think proper, This is to be done on the same day of the offense.

Association Officers

- Moderator Adam Isch
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- WMA Representative..... Jo Strong
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At the recommendation of the Tarrant County Women's Missionary Auxiliary, the association elected a WMA Representative to represent the association at state and national meetings of the WMA. This is due to the Tarrant County WMA voting to discontinue its formal organization.

Proceedings of the 65th Annual Meeting

September 16, 2017

Phil Berry led the congregation in singing “Send the Light.”

Jalil Ordoobadi led in prayer.

James Schoenrock was elected to serve as Moderator pro tempore.

John Harris gave a devotional using text from Psalm 19 and Acts 17.

Phil Berry sang “He Looked Beyond my Fault and Saw my Need.”

Phil Berry gave a report on the Bethel Baptist Church rebuild due to flood damage.

Timothy Fish, clerk, read the church letters.

Motion to seat messengers approved.

The election of officers was as follows:

Moderator – Adam Isch

Vice-Moderator – James Schoenrock

Clerk/Treasurer – Timothy Fish

Assistant Clerk/Treasurer – Ken Strong

WMA Representative – Jo Strong

Annual Message – Heith Mitchell

Annual Message Alternate – David Pickard

Dan Oliver sang solo “It Will Be Worth It All When We Get Home.”

Dan Oliver preached the annual message from Philippians 2.

John Harris reported on the work in Benbrook.

Mike Smith of Jacksonville College spoke concerning the BMA of Texas work.

Dewey Davidson spoke concerning events for Jacksonville College

David Pickard read the obituary report.

Timothy Fish read the financial report.

Motion carried to continue the same report as the previous year (\$3,600 Benbrook work, \$500 for Jacksonville College, \$500 for BMA Theological Seminary).

Motion carried to print 50 minute books and set clerk hire at \$350.

Meeting adjourned.

Reports

Funds Received and Messengers at Annual Meeting

Church	Messengers	Funds Received
Calvary	2	100.00
Centro de Vida	—	—
Living Waters	—	—
Lonesome Dove	—	—
New Beginnings	—	—
Northridge	1	25.00
Oasis	—	—
Sheppard Drive	5	100.00
South Park	5	—
Total	13	225.00

Obituary Report

The following church members have gone on to be with the Lord:

Calvary	Sue Tucker
Shephard Drive	John Hassel
	John Irving
South Park.....	Dorothy Shepherd
	Gene Green
	Roy Brooks
	Jerry Snyder
	Dale Dickerson
	Kenneth Sleper
	Shirley Earl
	Roy Thames

Financial Report

September 16, 2017

Mission Fund Brought Forward	3,078.30
General Fund Brought Forward	7,694.42
Balance Brought Forward in Checking Account	10,772.72

Income:

Interest in Checking Account:	0.00
Regular Offerings from Churches:	
Calvary	767.00
Northridge	25.00
Oasis	350.00
Living Waters	100.00
Lonesome Dove	575.00
Sheppard Drive	319.00
South Park	1,720.00
Total Regular Offerings from Churches.....	3,856.00
Income from Other Sources	0.00
Total Monies Received from All Sources	3,856.00
Grand Total All Working Funds	14,628.72

Expenses:

BMAA Theological Seminary	500.00
Jacksonville College	500.00
John Harris	3,600.00
Minute Books	143.16
Clerk Hire	350.00
Other	0.00
Total Monies Expended	5,093.16
Balance Carried Forward (Check Book Balance)	9,535.56

State Missions

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A OF TEXAS MISSIONS MOVEMENT CONTINUES TO BE BLESSED

God continues to bless and provide for your BMA of Texas Missions Movement. I am pleased with the progress we have made, now, two years into a plan, to see an aggressive movement of church planting partnerships in English and Spanish. Our goal is: **16 new Texas missions underway at a time and a Hispanic work alongside every BMA church that has a desire to reach the Hispanic speaking people in their community.**

Our vision is not just to plant churches but to plant them the right way within our network. Our vision statement is: **Equipping missionaries who follow Christ in building missional churches with the support and intimate involvement of local BMA churches.** Let me update you on where we are.

We continue to equip each missionary alongside our national and international missionaries. They receive structured training, monthly coaching and networking and equipping every 60 days.

Our burden is to start church planting movements, not just churches. Many of our current missions have a burden to start multiple churches and to support and participate in our mission network. We celebrate salvations and baptisms together and encourage one another to proclaim Jesus. We hold one another accountable to make disciples and train on it often.

Our missionaries thrive in your support, encouragement and prayers. Your involvement has made a real difference. We are walking a plan to better build long term BMA connections with our mission points. They are receiving our publications, taking part in our activities. interacting with our churches, and giving back

to the BMA. Each of them publicize their involvement with the BMA on their websites.

TEXAS HISPANIC MISSIONS: Bro. Arnulfo Maldonado continues to run the tires off his car to make progress in Hispanic Missions. The Hispanic Bible Institute is about to turn out its first graduates. Training, network fellowships and coaching is happening continu-

ally. We are currently working with missions in Splendora, Cleveland, Spring, Nacogdoches, Fallbrook, Mesquite and Jacksonville. We have a new Hispanic church kicking off in Lubbock that we hope is the start of a network there. We have opportunities for new works across the state alongside BMA churches. Please pray for more missionaries.

TEXAS MISSIONS: There are a lot of exciting things happening around the state.

THE CHURCH AT VALLEY RANCH MISSION—

NEW CANEY (GARY SOUTHARD)

This mission has been under support since January of 2013. They are preparing to assume self-support status this January. They are seeing souls saved and a growing attendance. Pray for C@VR mission at this critical time.

LIFE CHANGE MISSION—LINDALE (RICK SYDNOR)

This mission has been under support since January of 2015. This year, we ended monthly funding for this mission because they weren't making progress towards full time status. They continue to meet in a home and we continue to provide training and networking. Continue to pray for Life Change.

Loan Association

Jerry Burnaman, Business Manager

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It's a great joy for the Baptist Missionary Loan Association to assist our churches with financial needs to build buildings, remodel or add on to existing buildings, and purchase property. The assets for the BMLA continue to be growing and strong. Presently our total assets are \$13.34 million, an increase of \$1.44 million over last year.

There are 267 investors with the BMLA including individuals, churches, local associations, and auxiliaries. We appreciate our investors and their faith and trust in the BMLA.

We now provide loans for 24 projects and have money available to help other churches with their growing ministries. If your church plans to build, remodel, or buy property, it would be a joy to talk with you about a loan.

Our trustees come from various business backgrounds and pastors. They faithfully give of their time and support to insure the BMLA has an effective ministry assisting our churches and missions. They are a great help to me and I appreciate their leadership.

There are three ways to support the Loan Association:

- A contribution from an individual or church
- An interest free loan
- Interest loans that compound quarterly. Currently we are paying 2% on share accounts and 2.5% on Investment Certificates. These rates may change during the year depending on the financial climate.

Your financial support and prayers are essential for the BMLA to have part in assisting the BMA of Texas to plant churches and provide funds for growing churches.

Historical

Church	Pastors Salary	Local Missions	State Missions	Interstate & Foreign Missions	Jacksonville College	Texas Baptist Home
Calvary	30,137	663	1,978	2,305	1,347	1,407
Lonesome Dove	65,000	100		300		
Sheppard Drive	47,168	243	2,255	6,455	2,453	2,327
South Park	85,377	1,720	1,930	17,070	4,020	3,709
Total	227,682	2,726	6,163	26,130	7,820	7,443

Church	Additions				Losses			
	Baptism	Letter	Statement	Total	Letter	Death	Exclusion	Total
Calvary	3	2	—	5	—	1	—	1
Lonesome Dove	12	—	—	12	—	—	—	—
Sheppard Drive	0	6	0	6	1	2	0	3
South Park	2	7	2	11	14	8	28	50
Total	17	15	2	34	15	11	28	54

I Tables

Baptist Progress	BMATS	DiscipleGuide	Lifeword	MRS	Moral Action	Other	Total Associational Expenses
548	1,187	598	1,187	190	398	3,955	15,762
					300	200	900
897	1,846	238	2,399	100	100	1500	20,013
105	2,400	957	4,995	180	180	25,079	62,345
1,550	5,433	1,793	8,581	470	978	30,734	99,020

Current Membership	Sunday School		WMA		Brotherhood		Youth Programs	
	Enrollment	Average	Enrollment	Average	Enrollment	Average	Enrollment	Average
310	24	20	5	4	12	10	2	2
100	—	35	—	—	—	—	—	35
236	45	32	—	—	—	—	—	—
1027	170	117	30	15	30	15	88	51
1670	239	204	35	19	42	25	90	88

Jacksonville College

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TELL THE PEOPLE

TRUST GOD

For years I have espoused to the adage of "tell the people; trust God." The principle behind this quote is that if you will be open and honest with people, they will be happier and more supportive. If you will admit your weakness and trust God, He will provide.

TELL THE PEOPLE

Jacksonville College is alive. Ever since I arrived at Jacksonville College, I have heard the naysayers comment, "Jacksonville College will close." After cross-town college Lon Morris closed, many around town said, "Jacksonville College, you're next. If the Methodists can't make it, surely the poor Baptists won't make it."

Yes, we have challenges and numerous needs, but we are still here. Let me tell you, the people, that Jacksonville College is open for business.

REPORT

Enrollment is growing.

GIFTS: James Schafer led Gulf Coast churches to give a large sum to Jacksonville College when the churches closed. Thank you to individuals, churches, BMA of Texas and SBTC for giving.

EVANGELISM: Last year many were saved. At the second Chapel service of the semester, 9 were saved.

WMA: The Texas Women's Missionary Auxiliary raised over \$25,000 and purchased a new Kubota tractor for Jacksonville College.

ALUMNI: Alumni have supported the College with their time and money. JC alumnus Danny Holifield partnered with Edward Jones in Colleyville to purchase a trailer to carry the equipment for the choir and golf teams.

TRUSTEES: Trustees not only govern, but also give. Carol Lybrand purchased a new convection oven and fryer for the cafeteria. Paul Burkhart has given generously and assisted in other fundraising events.

THE MASTER'S BUILDERS: In the summer of 2017, The Master's Builders

worked on several projects across campus, including enclosing structures and creating more rooms and bathrooms for student housing.

STAFF: God has provided a new VP of Executive Affairs, Blanton Feaster; math teacher, Ryan Melton; history teacher, Brett Eckels, and assistant coaches.

STUDENTS: Our students continue to learn and serve. A large number of students participated in Disaster Relief Training on campus to be able to serve as volunteers in the Houston area and to be prepared for future disasters.

REQUEST

PRAY: Jacksonville College needs the prayers of God's people.

PROMOTE: Word of mouth is still the best recruitment tool we have. Please visit with those considering college and encourage them to attend Jacksonville College. Call us and give us their names, and we will contact them.

PROVIDE SCHOLARSHIPS: Jacksonville College discounted or gave over \$1,000,000 in scholarships last year. We were recognized by the Department of Education as the 4th least expensive college in the nation. While that is good, we need individuals, churches, and associations to give in support of those student scholarships. In addition, we still need to give extra in order to retire debt.

Yes, I believe that we should "tell the people."

TRUST GOD

"Lord, Jacksonville College cannot exist on its own but only by Your Grace. God, we thank You for the provisions of the past. We also ask You to provide for today's needs."

He will provide.

Jehovah Jireh.

Genesis 22

Texas Baptist Home for Children

Jason Curry, President

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NEW TIMES AT TEXAS BAPTIST HOME

Texas Baptist Home has seen some major changes this past year. I was hired as the new president this past August. As I start my time here, I am humbled and already so appreciative of my time meeting church associations, staff, foster and adoptive parents and of course the children here at TBH. As an adoptive parent, I know firsthand the blessing of foster care and adoption. My wife and I adopted 2 boys through TBH in 2013. We were so excited to be a part of this ministry then and continue to be so today.

This year, I know TBH was able to support 280+ foster children, complete 32 adoptions, and be a part of 21 salvations. Seeing lives changed for eternity for the Lord through this ministry is going to be one of the best experiences for me as the new president. I will be sharing these stories with you more and more as I continue my time here at TBH.

As the President, I hope to see the lives of kids changed and the staff invigorated and energized to accomplish this great work of foster care and adoption. I am excited to see foster and adoptive parents get the resources and encouragement they desperately need to do the day-in and day-out work of caring for children.

I am looking forward to visiting your churches and associations. I will be bringing stories of hope about the lives that are being changed and blessed through your churches support. Stories like Taylor, who has aged out of care at TBH but is living at the apartments on campus and is a part of our independent living program. She is working, going to college, and really learning what it's like being an adult but she knows she still has the support of TBH. I will be excited to share many other stories like Taylor's with you throughout the year.

Texas Baptist Home is known, in the foster and adoption community, for being a supportive agency to our families and children. We are so thankful for the Baptist Missionary Association of Texas' support that allows TBH to continue the work of the Lord. We ap-

preciate your thoughts and prayers as we seek to provide for the children and families who are at Texas Baptist Home.

Baptist Progress

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MAKING PROGRESS

The purpose of *Baptist Progress* is to promote interest in missions, evangelism, benevolence and Christian education among the churches of the Baptist Missionary Association of Texas.

Baptist Progress will celebrate 105 years of ministry in November. We appreciate churches of the Baptist Missionary Association of Texas for their continued partnership in ministry.

Baptist Progress experienced yet another change during the last associational year. Due to increased printing and mailing costs, we began printing one issue per month. We appreciate those of you who have been understanding of the change we made, and we thank you for continuing to receive *Baptist Progress* each month.

We are pleased to offer the following services to the churches of the BMA of Texas:

News. In addition to publishing an issue each month, *Baptist Progress* provides email subscribers with e-News Updates containing news and information on most weeks the paper is not published. News alerts, death announcements, important reminders and more are also emailed on a regular basis. Those who subscribe to

Baptist Progress by mail are encouraged to switch to an email subscription. The advantages of having an email subscription include receiving news faster, getting more news and receiving the news alerts.

Every Sunday Bulletin Service. Visit www.bmatexas.org and click *Baptist Progress*, then "Bulletins" to order. We have a large selection of sizes, styles and quantities. Bulletins are delivered to your door each quarter—enough bulletins for each Sunday of the quarter.

Books, Bibles, gifts and supplies. Whenever you need Christian books, Bibles, gifts, music, supplies, postcards and more, visit www.bma-texas.org, click the flashing Christianbook Distributors link on the right side of the homepage and place your order. Christianbook Distributors shares a percentage of their profit with *Baptist Progress*. The only way we will be credited is if your order through our website.

The Church Plan. All BMA churches are encouraged to join the *Baptist*

Progress Church Plan. For only \$1.75 per month (\$21 per year), per mail subscription, or \$1.25 per month (\$15 per year) per email subscription, churches can provide each of its member households with 12 issues of *Baptist Progress* for one year. The Church Plan cost is a discounted rate plan. The standard rate for mail subscriptions is \$24 per year and for email subscriptions, \$18 per year.

Let us know how we can be of service to your church. May God bless you in the new associational year!

Church Information

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Website

<http://www.tarrantbma.org>

Order of Business

1. Open with a singing, prayer and Scripture reading
2. Call for Church Letters and Read (Article 8)
3. Seating of Messengers
4. Petitionary Letters
5. Election of Offices (take office at the end of the annual meeting)
6. Annual Message
7. Reports
 - A. BMA of Tarrant County
 - County Missions
 - Auxiliary Reports
 - B. BMA of Texas
 - C. BMA of America
 - D. Obituary Reports
 - E. Financial Report
8. Other Items of business:
 - Hosts for Rallies and Amounts to be given each
 - Number of Minute Books to Print
 - Amount to Pay Clerk
 - Miscellaneous Business
9. Announcements and Benediction