



CROSS

POINTS

www.graysonbaptist.com



*Merry Christmas
From the GBA
Staff*

Bernie Gallagher

Shirley Vest

Debra Clark

Brad McClenny

Christ the Savior is BORN!



BAPTIST STUDENT MINISTRY

Baptist Student Ministry

As the fall semester draws to a close we would like to express our sincere appreciation to the folks of Grayson Baptist Association for your support of the BSM. We have had a phenomenal semester of ministry and the Lord has given us numerous opportunities to share His love and the Good News on the campuses in our area. Please remember to pray for this ministry as we look forward to what God has in store for us in the coming year.

International Student Ministry

On Wednesday evening, November 26th, we hosted a GCC campus-wide Thanksgiving Dinner for international students, GCC athletes, and others who remained on campus for the Thanksgiving break. We had a good response with approximately ninety in attendance. We want to say thank you to folks from Trinity Baptist, FBC Collinsville, Twin Cities, and FBC Whitesboro – who helped provide food items and/or came to serve.

Blankets Needed

We are anticipating approximately 40-45 new international students enrolling at Grayson College in January. In the past many of you have helped to provide welcome kits for new students. However, this year we would like to provide a blanket for each of these students as a welcome gift. Many of them come from warm climates and do not bring blankets with them. Thus, we are hoping to be able to meet an immediate need and to introduce our ministry to them. If you or your church would like to help - please contact us at 903.465.2207.

**EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING
(business meeting)
Billy Neal, preaching**

**MONDAY, JANUARY 12
GEORGETOWN BAPTIST
CHURCH
10:00 A.M.**

ANNIVERSARIES

7th Roger Marsh, pastor, Tioga FBC, 1/6/02
7th Jim Poole, pastor, Elmont, 1/6/02
2nd Steve Weeks, music, Fairview, 1/1/07
2nd Simon Keizer, youth, Fairview, 1/22/07

GBA Pastorless

ChurchList

ANTIOCH BAPT.

P. O. Box 8
Bells, TX 75414-0008
903.965.7312
Interim: Rodney Stanford

HAGERMAN

4619 Refuge Rd.
Sherman, TX 75092-5810
903.786.2823
Interim: Bryan Hutchinson

CALVARY BAPT.

300 W. Acheson
Denison, TX 75020
903.465.6003
Interim: Jeff Lancaster

TRINITY BAPTIST

2627 Loy Lake Rd.
Sherman, TX 75090-2519
903.892.1568

GUNTER FBC

P. O. Box 312
Gunter, TX 75058-0312
903.433.3335



BETHEL...is seeking a part-time youth minister.

CHERRY MOUND...is seeking a part-time youth minister.

EAST SHERMAN...Barbara Ragan has resigned as youth director.

EMMANUEL...is needing a part-time youth minister.

FOREST AVENUE...is seeking a minister of music.

HAGERMAN...is seeking a part-time minister of music. Send resumes to hagermanbap@msn.com

KENTUCKYTOWN...is searching for a part-time or bivocational music minister.

LUELLA FBC...is now searching for a part-time youth minister.

PARSIDE...is hosting a LifeAction Crusade January 18-28.

SHERWOOD SHORES FBC...is searching for a part-time youth minister.

WHITEWRIGHT FBC...is seeking a worship leader. Email resumes to fbcwvresumes@yahoo.com.

**The DOM Search Team has begun to meet. We are earnestly seeking the Lord's will as we study resumes already received and continue to receive. Thank you so much for your prayers & support. We look forward to what the Lord has in store for our association.
Bobby Fletcher, Chairman**



High Sense of Purpose
Effective Evangelism
Acceptance of Change
Leadership that Empower
Transforming Worship
Help with Life
Yes to God

For the past few months, I've been writing about the vital signs of a HEALTHY church: High sense of purpose, Effective evangelism, Acceptance of change, Leadership that empowers, Transforming worship, Help with life, and Yes to God. I realize that church health is a priority concern for church leaders these days, so this month let's continue this theme with Help with Life.

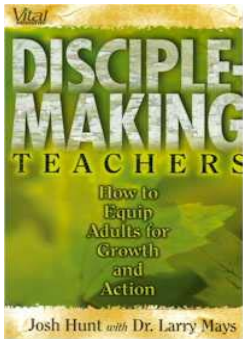
Help with Life—*A healthy sense of community is built through healthy, caring relationships. Church leaders must be consumed with leading people to live out Jesus' Great Commandment to "love one another."*

There's a certain colorful challenge to being a follower of Christ. At a base level, we understand that no one can follow Christ unless he or she acknowledges personal sin and takes the jump of faith trusting in Jesus as Lord and Savior. But then an incredible thing happens! We realize that though the gospel is something to be received at a moment of divine conversion, the gospel is also something to be lived

out in day-to-day life. If we really believe in the riches of heaven, then wouldn't it just be better for the pastor to baptize us and keep us under? But, alas, I'm sure that solution wouldn't get the needed votes at the quarterly meeting. So, we are left with this enormous task of living out the truths of the gospel in a world that is still engulfed in darkness.

This is where the colorful challenge of living out the gospel can splatter against a canvas of self-reliant perfection. The result: we paint a picture of our lives that is false. In our perfect painting our 2.5 children awake to birds in the window singing Amazing Grace, we never get upset with our spouse, we are always good stewards of God's resources, we pray without ceasing, share Christ 3 times a day, and read the Bible "cover to cover and the cover too" once a month. The problem with painting the images of self-reliance and perfection is that they rub against the very basic beginning point of the faith, which is acknowledging that you are not God, acknowledging that you need His forgiveness, and that you are dependent upon Him. Self-reliant perfection rubs against the very heart of grace.

HEALTHY churches realize that a congregation is made up of unhealthy people whose only hope for meaning, hope and love is the grace of God. The reality is that every church is full of people who have been broken, people who have done things that defame the name of God, people who still wrestle with pride, judgmental spirits, unguarded tongues; I could continue, but if I haven't hit your sin yet, then it's likely pride. But here's my point, until God changes the rules and starts taking us to heaven the moment we are saved, then we desperately need each other's help. It is no accident that the tapestry of Sovereignty has brought together the characters of your church; you need each other. HEALTHY churches realize this and they embrace the call of Christ to help one another and love one another along this divine path we call life. We would do well to remember that the last thing Jesus prayed for his followers before the unfolding of the passion events was that we would be one. Perhaps, this was because Jesus knew that his followers were going to need each other's help every step of the way. By: Lash Banks



You Can Turn Your Adult Class Into a Group of Growing, Serving Disciples

January 17, 2009
 At FBC Whitesboro
 8:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.
 \$10 per registration

Sponsored by Grayson Baptist Association with First Baptist Church, Whitesboro

Join us as we welcome Josh Hunt. Josh loves Sunday School and small groups. He is passionate about helping groups to grow. He will be sharing with us his conference, "Disciple Making Teachers." For more information, please contact Lori Glenn, 903-564-3546 or email, lori.glenn@fbcwhitesboro.org.

For more information, see his web page at www.joshhunt.com.

TAX SEMINAR

JANUARY 13 @ THE GBA OFFICE

2:00-4:00 p.m. Ministers Seminar

6:00-9:00 p.m. Financial Secretaries, Church Treasurers, etc.

Led by Gene Hill, CPA



A PUBLICATION OF

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NEW HOURS

Beginning in January, the GBA office
will be open Monday-Thursday,
8:30-4:30 (closed Fridays)

JANUARY 2009

- 1 New Year's Day
- 1-2 GBA Closed
- 12 Executive Board Meeting
(business), Georgetown, 10:00
a.m.
- 13 Tax Seminar with Gene Hill, GBA,
2:00-4:00 p.m.(ministers), 6:00-
9:00 p.m.(church treasurers, fi-
nancial secretaries, etc.)
- 17 Josh Hunt S.S. Training, Whites-
boro FBC, 8:30 a.m.

FEBRUARY 2009

- 10 Monthly Meeting (Continuing Edu-
cation), Camino Real, 10:00 a.m.

GRAYSON BAPTIST ASSOCIATION

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BSM Phone: 903.465.2207
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DOM

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- Int'l. Student Minister.....Brad McClenny
E-mail: bjmcclenny@hotmail.com
- Moderator.....Mike Lawson
- Vice-Moderator.....Leon Veazey
- Treasurer.....Danny Wood
- Ministry Assistant.....Shirley Vest
E-mail: svestgba@verizon.net
- Ministry Assistant.....Debra Clark
E-mail: d_s_clark@hotmail.com

LOY LAKE RD. OFFICE HOURS

MONDAY-THURSDAY.....8:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m.
FRIDAY.....Closed