

From My Laptop to Yours.

Merry Christmas!!!



The staff and volunteers of the Association wish you a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year! We also wanted to send our sincerest thanks for the Christmas gifts we received from you—we love serving you! We hope you have a blessed holiday celebrating the birth and life of our Savior!

The **Austin Baptist Bible Academy** (ABBA) has been a ministry of the Association for many years. Headed by Frank Deutsch, ABBA provides seminary classes through the Seminary Extension through the year. Classes last 7-8 weeks and are usually eligible for transfer to Southern Baptist Seminaries. The next set of classes begin the week of January 5th. If you have any interest in furthering your studies, this would be a great place to start!

On Wednesday, January 21st, **Dr. James Semple** will be in Austin to present and discuss a study he has written for the Baptist Doctrine and Heritage Study entitled *Bible Truths about God*. Dr. David Ritsema from Woodlawn Baptist Church will host a lunch at Marie Callender's (5601 Brodie Ln, 78745) from 11:30 AM—1:00 PM. It will be a great time to visit with Dr. Semple and hear about his study. Please call Dr. Ritsema with questions or more information at (512) 442-7858.

For Christ and His Kingdom,

Mission Churches & Church Plants

- Christian Love Center**
Jesus Sepada, Pastor
- Christian Worship & Family Learning Center**
Rudy Hardin, Pastor
- Cowboy Church of Travis County**
Barry Chinn, Pastor
- Cowboy Church of the Hill Country**
Jeff VanRyswyk, Pastor
- Gateway Hill Country Church**
Jeff Jackson, Pastor
- Grace Fellowship Community Church**
Harold Hendricks, Pastor
- Greater Parkway Baptist Church**
John Ford, Pastor
- Iglesia Bautista de la Gracia**
Mario Alaniz, Pastor
- Iglesia Piedra Viva**
Saul Ramirez, Pastor
- Iglesia Rios de Agua Viva**
Javier Medina, Pastor
- Neighborhood Baptist Church**
Lee Yarbrough, Pastor
- New Life Baptist Church**
Marc Hegedus, Pastor
- North Austin Korean Baptist Church**
Lak Kyan Back, Pastor
- Northwest Chinese Church**
Cheng-Chi "Fish" Yu, Pastor
- Phoenix Church**
Charles Whitmire, Pastor
- Primera Iglesia Bautista Pflugerville**
Jose Vasquez, Pastor
- Restoration Bible Church**
Chris Wallace, Pastor
- Romanian Baptist Church of Austin**
Samuel Clintoc, Pastor
- South Austin Community Church**
Arthur Sneed, Pastor
- Vietnamese United Baptist Church**
David Le, Pastor
- The Well**
Jason Jones, Pastor

Purpose Statement

The Austin Baptist Association is an alliance of participating churches fulfilling the Great Commission.

Vision Statement

The Austin Baptist Association will be a catalyst alongside Great Commission churches to reach all people groups with the Gospel transforming our community and world through the power of God.

Church News

First Baptist Church, Elgin

Is seeking a part-time youth director. Must be a member of a SBC church and exhibit strong Christian character. For applications contact church (512) 285-4161 or Cindy Roberts at rob78621@yahoo.com. www.fbcnelgin.org

Kinney Avenue Christian Fellowship

Has an opening for a receptionist/admin position. For more information, contact the church at www.kacfaustin.org or (512) 442-6719 or Pastor Ken Baldwin at dockenb@austin.rr.com.

Pleasant Hill Baptist Church

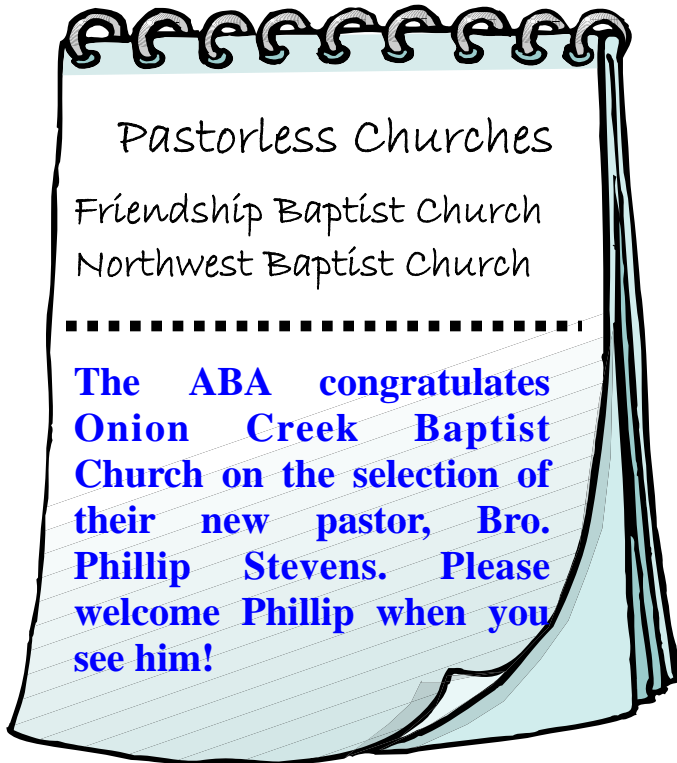
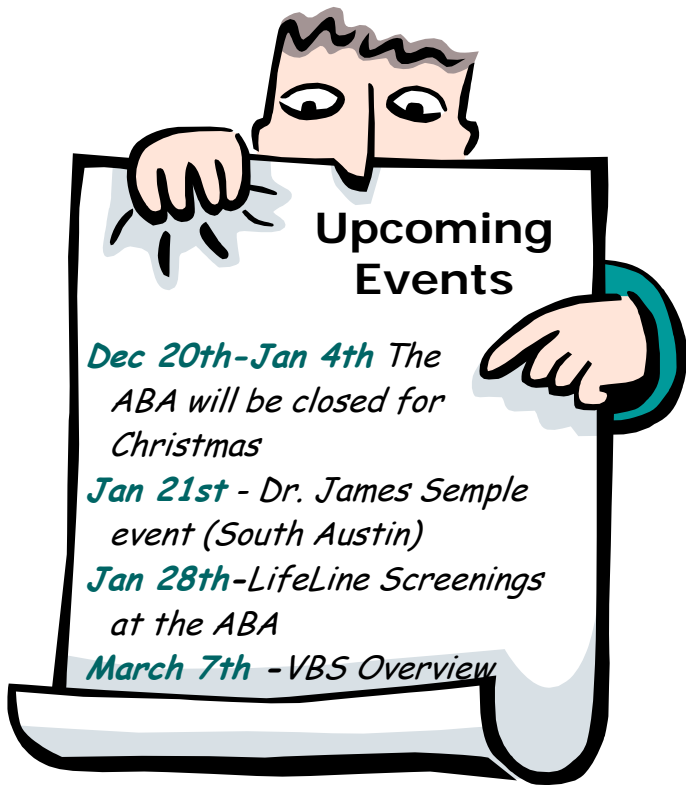
Needs a pianist for Sunday mornings & evenings, Sunday evening choir practice. If interested, please call Sandi Mercer at (512) 444-2139, (512) 499-3617, or email at sandi624@yahoo.com.

Rosedale Baptist Church

Is seeking a part-time Minister of Music. For information or referrals, please contact Jarred Parnell at the church office at (512) 453-1325.

Wyldwood Baptist Church

Is looking for part-time youth minister; bi-vocational is also acceptable. Contact Mike Schwartz at (512) 303-3443



Tax Seminar in February!

Gene R. Hill will be at the ABA for the tax updates for 2008 returns on **February 13, 2009.**

10 AM—12 PM

Update for Ministers

1:30—4 PM

Update for Churches

If you handle the tax returns for either of these groups—please make plans to attend. If you have any questions, please call Charlotte at the ABA office.

THE BAPTIST COMMUNITY CENTER MISSION

Serving The Needy of Austin
Sharing the Gospel With East Austin
by Caring for People
Visit Our website at: www.bccmission.org
2000 East 2nd Street
Austin, TX 78702

* **VBS Directors: The date of the VBS overview was misprinted in the November newsletter. The event will indeed take place on Saturday, March 7th at Woodlawn Baptist Church. Please contact Jerry Beth Johnson at Woodlawn (442-7858) for more information.** *



Do well. Do right.™

This fall, many Southern Baptist churches and ministries became eligible to access property and casualty insurance and risk management services from GuideStone Agency Services. The GuideStone Property &

Casualty (P&C) Program will gradually roll out regionally over the next year.

The program offers churches property, general liability, workers compensation and auto insurance. Specialty coverages such as abuse and molestation, directors and officers liability, and pastoral counseling are also available. Insured churches have access to risk management services which include educational seminars and programs on risk evaluation, tools to help reduce risk and preferred pricing from a vendor that provides volunteer background checks.

For specific information, please call 1-888-98-GUIDE.

...Looking to Improve Your Health and Fitness?

St. James Baptist Church is sponsoring its 2nd Annual Missions 5K and 1K Run/Walk on Saturday, March 28th at 8:00a.m. You don't want to miss the fun at this community event where you can run or walk this **challenging course** in East Austin. Chip timing will be available! A portion of the proceeds will be donated to the Alzheimer's Foundation and further efforts to serve our community by supporting outreach, educational, financial, physical, and spiritual needs provided by St. James Missions.

ON YOUR MARK! GET SET!! RUN/WALK!!!

Race Location: St. James Baptist Church
3417 Martin Luther King Blvd.
Austin, TX 78721
Dr. B.W. McClendon, Sr., Pastor
Office: (512) 928-2753

Online Registration: www.runtex.com

Additional Information:
www.stjamescmhc.org

Bodily exercise profits...I Timothy 4:8 NKJV

Dear Pastor:

First Baptist Church, New Braunfels, will host a conference on Monday, January 19, 2009, 9 am to noon (concluding with lunch), led by Dr. Jeff Iorg, President of Golden Gate Baptist Theological Seminary, on the call to ministry. Since this is a holiday (MLK), we hope that pastors/staff can invite their spouses to participate in the conference. As usual, we hope that it is too good a deal to pass up -- it will only cost you your time and travel.

Let me describe why I believe this is a VERY important issue demanding our consideration. The Church Revitalization Council (CRC) has come to understand that the potential effectiveness of any revitalization process is dependent upon **the pastor's sense of "call."** **Both in church planting and in church revitalization, the factor that continually surfaces as the key to effectiveness is how the pastor's "call" motivates and empowers him in his leadership of the church.**

When we are first "called," we are willing to make every other consideration in our lives subject to the implication of God's call to ministry. We leave established careers; leave home and "familiar territory;" go to Bible college/seminary; and accept ministry positions in unfamiliar, even foreign (not necessarily overseas) places. However, once we are settled into the pastorate, we often become more professionally focused than missionally focused. We tend to become increasingly concerned about salaries, threats to the financial survival of our families, lifestyle, "success in ministry," status in the community and among our peers, and keeping the church machinery humming. These concerns tend to cause us to resist actions that might threaten our position. *The threat of being fired often quenches the "fire in the belly" that was kindled by God's initial call upon our lives.* We are constantly faced with the fact that we have children to raise and put through college - and that old age/retirement is quickly creeping upon us.

To address this tendency to lose the fervency of our call, which is fairly common to us all, our CRC has asked Dr. Iorg to come and lead us all in revisiting our call experience. Dr. Iorg's most recent book, Is God Calling Me?, is the best source for dealing with the issue of call that I have ever read. Our hope and purpose is that the Lord will use Dr. Iorg to lead our pastors/staff/spouses in reconsidering and recommitting to God's call upon our lives.

By the way, you will need to RSVP so that we know how much food to prepare for lunch. I have also ordered another batch of Dr. Iorg's book to give to participants which I will obligate based upon your RSVP. Please RSVP to Carol at bbasn@bluebonnetbaptist.org or by calling her at 830.629.7674.

Looking forward to seeing you there!

Dr. J. K. Minton, Director of Missions
Bluebonnet Baptist Association



PREVENT A STROKE WITH PAINLESS AND ACCURATE SCREENINGS

Life Line Screening will offer preventive health screenings

**Austin Baptist Association
Wednesday, January 28, 2009**

The screenings offered include a state-of-the-art ultrasound screening of the carotid arteries in the neck, an ultrasound screening used to detect abdominal aortic aneurysms, a screening for plaque build-up in the arteries of the legs and an atrial fibrillation test.

“Why not just go to my doctor for these tests?” you may ask. The answer, although surprising, is that your insurance companies typically will not pay for these screenings without clear evidence of symptoms.

These painless, non-invasive tests are offered in the convenience of your neighborhood for \$139. **YOU MUST PRE-REGISTER by January 26th** by calling:

**1-800-324-1851
Source Code: 6416**

How do
YOU
see the
world?



Perspectives on the World Christian Movement

www.PerspectivesAustin.org

Beginning January 12, 2009



Help us be good Stewards!

If your address has changed, please notify the ABA office as soon as you can so that we may correct our database.

If you are interested in receiving this newsletter via e-mail, please let us know by email at charlotte@austinbaptist.org