

From My Laptop to Yours.

One of the strategic priorities of the Association is church planting, and one question I am often asked is "Will planting a church effect our congregation?"

A study done by the North American Mission Board (researched and authored by Jeffery C. Farmer) determined church planting definitely impacted a congregation and was predominantly positive. Farmer looked at 15 "people" (membership & attendance) and financial factors. Each of these 15 factors either grew or remained stable in the 10 year time frame Farmer researched. I want to highlight three objections to church planting and what Farmer found in this study:

Objection 1: The church does not have enough money to plant a church.
This study showed the financial areas to be impacted the most, as you would assume. But the impact was positive in each area. Of course, designated gifts increase most likely because of the financial obligation to the church plant. The study also showed a shift in the attitude of missions giving as participation levels for the Annie Armstrong and Lottie Moon Offerings increased in the five years following the church plant.


Objection 2: The church cannot afford to give up members to a church plant
This study showed that worship attendance increased for the five years after the church plant was launched.

Objection 3: The church is concerned with the proximity of the church plant to the current congregation.
This study showed that the proximity of the church plant did not appear to have a significant impact on the sponsor church.

In conclusion, Farmer says:

"It appears as though the sponsoring of church plants creates an interest in mission in the local church. This study showed that members of the sponsor churches increased financial support of missions and more people attended the worship services. [Farmer] believes that a mission focused atmosphere in the church aids the members to be more receptive to the Holy Spirit, which allows the members to see their community from a kingdom perspective rather than a parochial perspective."

What obstacles are in the way of you planting a church in 2009? How can we help you create a "mission focused atmosphere" in your congregation?



*If you would like to see the full report, shoot me an email and I'll send it to you.

- Mission Churches & Church Plants*
- Abundant LIFE Community Baptist Church
 - Austin City Life
 - Austin New Church
 - Capital City Fellowship
 - Christian Love Center
 - Christian Worship & Family Learning Center
 - Cowboy Church of Travis County
 - Cowboy Church of the Hill Country
 - Gateway Hill Country Church
 - Grace Fellowship Community Church
 - Gracepoint Community Church
 - Greater Parkway Baptist Church
 - Iglesia Bautista de la Gracia
 - Iglesia Bautista High Pointe
 - Iglesia Bautista Oak Hill
 - Iglesia Piedra Viva
 - Iglesia Rios de Agua Viva
 - Iranian Baptist Church
 - Manor Fellowship
 - Neighborhood Baptist Church
 - New Life Baptist Church
 - North Austin Korean Baptist Church
 - Northwest Chinese Church
 - Primera Iglesia Bautista Buda
 - Primera Iglesia Bautista Pflugerville
 - Restoration Bible Church
 - Romanian Baptist Church of Austin
 - South Austin Community Church
 - Vietnamese United Baptist Church
 - The Church at Bee Cave
 - The Well

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

Baptist Temple

Is wanting to help a mission in Mexico secure two vans for transportation. If you have knowledge of a van or two in good working condition that might be available for this project, please contact Jesse Garcia at (512) 733-3411

First Baptist Church, Buda

Is seeking a part-time minister of music. For more information, contact Pastor Stephen Warren at stephenwarren@austin.rr.com

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.fbcelgin.org

Great Hills Baptist Church

The music office is spring cleaning! GHBC is giving away octavos, full collections ad full orchestrations. If you are interested in perusing what is available, contact Patty Bailey at pbailey@ghbc.org.

Hays Hills Baptist Church

Is seeking a full-time Children's Minister. Send resumes to pastordavidsweet@gmail.com or call (512) 312-1433 ext. 23.

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 Sandi 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.

Vietnamese Unity Baptist Church

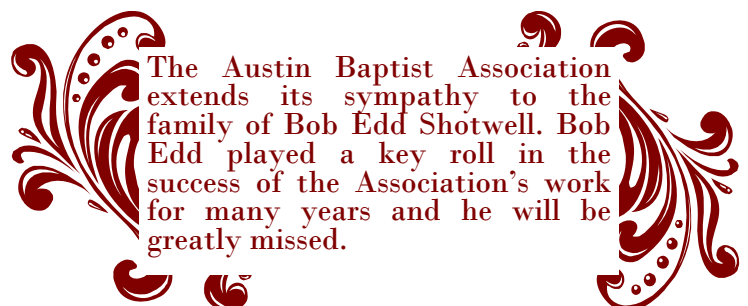
Is wanting to furnish their new church. Donations of a good piano, chairs or small pews, pulpit furniture and a small sound system are appreciated. For more information or to arrange for donation, please contact Pastor David Le at david_nhieu_le@yahoo.com



THE BAPTIST COMMUNITY CENTER MISSION

Serving The Needy of Austin
Sharing the Gospel With East Austin
by Caring for People

www.bccmission.org



You are invited to send some members to...

CALL TO JOY
Saturday, June 6
Hays Hills Baptist Church
Featuring Billie Hanks

For more information, please visit
www.hayshills.com
or call (512) 312-1433 ext 21 or 23

It is said that Jesus lived and worked among the poor. It is well known that he was a carpenter. He recognized the intrinsic value of work not just for the earnings but also for the soul. Join us along with **House the Homeless, ECHO, and the Texas Homeless Network** for our best practices, living wage, educational, jobs - **Let's Get to Work Forum and Initiative on May 21st**. Join Mayor Will Wynn, County Commissioner Judge Sam Biscoe, former Mayor Frank Cooksey, former Mayor Bruce Todd, Alan Graham of Mobil Loaves and Fishes and many, many others, when we set out to create a "pathway" for homeless adults to leave their homeless state and join the ranks of the employed. This meeting will be led by a representative from the Doe Foundation in New York which has put homeless people to work for years. It was started by a Christian and has a multi million dollar budget. Business people and concerned citizens and church folks should attend this status changing event. **Contact Jennifer Paulson at 482-8270 ext. 5 for details and to register immediately.**

Thank you. May God Bless you.
Philip Sanders

Here are some of the VBS spots in June!



Week of June 1

First Lockhart Baptist Church
Northwest Baptist Church (5th-7th)

Week of June 8

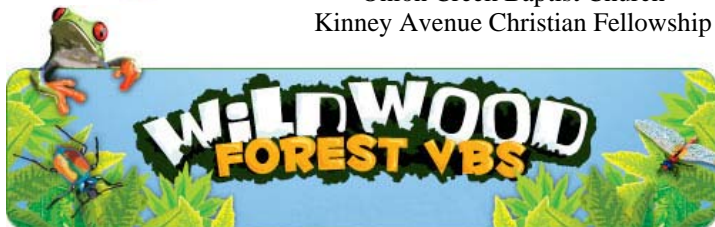
High Point Baptist Church
Gateway Baptist Church
Riverbend Church
Anderson Mill Baptist Church
First Baptist, Dripping Springs
Highland Park Baptist Church

Week of June 15

Westoak Woods Baptist Church
First Baptist, Pflugerville
Sunset Canyon Baptist Church
Travis Oaks Baptist Church
Calvary Baptist Church (Bastrop)

Week of June 22

Teri Road Baptist Church
Bannockburn Baptist Church
Onion Creek Baptist Church
Kinney Avenue Christian Fellowship



Jim Hatley was the Director of Missions from 1981-1989 and oversaw the building of the current office.

The ABA extends sincerest sympathy to the Hatley family.

The below obituary was printed in the *Baptist Standard*

Jim Hatley, 85, April 22 in Grapevine. He was a Baptist minister who served in a variety of positions in churches in Missouri, Texas, Arizona and Tennessee. He also served in many short-term ministries that took him to 40 states and 16 countries. Among his Texas posts, he served as director of missions for Magic Valley Baptist Association in the Rio Grande Valley, Austin Association and later as a Partnership Missions consultant with the Baptist General Convention of Texas. He also was involved with Texas Baptist Men. He served the Southern Baptist Convention as the first national director of world missions conferences.

Among his other roles were director of Hispanic relations for Dallas Baptist University, vice president of the BGCT, senior adult minister at First Church in Grapevine and chairman of the board of trustees for the Valley Baptist Mission/Education Center in Harlingen. He is survived by his wife of 63 years, Imogene; daughters, Tura Cason, Kathy Bassham, Beth Crooms and Mary Geiger; 10 grandchildren and 8 great-grandchildren.



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

THANKS!!!



The Austin Baptist Bible Academy

Class of 2009

*cordially requests your
presence at their*

Graduation Exercises

Friday, June 5, 2009

7 o'clock in the evening

Ridgetop Baptist Church

708 E 51st Street

Austin, Texas 78751-2106

Reception immediately following ceremony



Our nation's economic crisis calls for pastors who can lead their people in strong prayers of faith and hope. Our hearts are

burdened. We need another National Pastors' Prayer Summit.

This Prayer Summit is like no other. It combines the uniqueness of "Spirit-led, worship-fed, corporate-bred prayer" and at the same time, provides training opportunities for reproducing it in your congregation. It is a *Prayer Summit Plus!* Our goal? To equip you as a leader in your local setting.

August 4-6, 2009

Southwest Baptist Theological Seminary

Register today at www.ReachingTheSummit.net