



Trinity River

BAPTIST ASSOCIATION

Overflowing with the Living Water of Jesus Christ

2401 Grand Ave., Liberty, Texas 77575 936-336-9232 David Williams, Director of Missions

Trinity River Christmas Sampler

TRBA churches sharing music at fellowship

Each TRBA church is invited to be on the program of the associational Christmas Fellowship, 6 p.m., Tuesday, Dec. 13, at Hardin Baptist.

The theme will be "Trinity River Christmas

Sampler." The program will feature Christmas music by several of our churches, Scripture reading and prayer by several pastors, and a special Christmas message brought by David Williams, director of missions. Every

church is encouraged to be part of the program, Williams said.

Special prizes for high attendance!

The event is for all TRBA Baptists and their guests. There will be special prizes for the church with the most present and the church with the highest percentage of their average worship attendance present.

The \$10 per plate meal will be catered by the Haidusek Family and features grilled chicken, twice-baked potatoes, green beans, salad and roll. Dessert will be provided by Hardin Baptist Church.

Paid reservations due Dec. 7

Reservations are required by Wednesday, Dec. 7. Mail a check to Trinity River Baptist Association, P.O. Box 1269, Liberty, TX 77575. Or bring check or cash by the office at 2401 Grand Ave., Liberty.

Program featuring . . . YOUR CHURCH!

The program will feature TRBA churches presenting a variety of Christmas music.

To get on the program, churches need to contact Theresa Adair and tell her the name of the piece the church will do and who will be involved (solo, duet, trio, quartet, ensemble, choir, instrumentalist, etc.).

To maintain variety in the program, once a particular piece is selected by a church, that same piece cannot be selected by another church, so churches are urged to get on the program as soon as possible.

TRBA Jail ministry needs 1,250 cookies

Each year our jail ministry volunteers make a special December visit to hand each inmate a bag of homemade cookies and lead each unit in singing Christmas carols.

You can have an important part in this by baking cookies (any kind is fine) and bringing them to the TRBA office by Tuesday, Dec. 13. The next day volunteers will put a variety of cookies into 250 individual bags to be delivered by jail ministry volunteers.



Big winners — Top photo, volunteers put up the banner for the Mission Lone Star tent at the Galveston Lone Star Motorcycle Rally on Nov. 3-5. Above, Sheldon King was the Friday night winner in the \$1,000 nightly drawing. But the big winners were people like Thomas, right, who heard someone's three-minute testimony and then prayed to receive Christ. Before his family left for home, Thomas insisted on coming back by the tent to give a long hug to the lady who led him to Christ. "I don't want to let go!" he said. Of the estimated 400,000 who attended the rally, 871 visited the Mission Lone Star tent. Of those, 297 prayed to receive Christ. Trinity River Baptist Association partners with Galveston Baptist Association and Golden Triangle Baptist Network to provide the booth each year. Next year's plans include a motorcycle giveaway and a Sunday morning worship service.





Mission Journey

One of my favorite things about being your director of missions is the opportunity to visit our 42 churches. Each

of our churches is unique and special. God placed each church just where He wants it and He has placed certain people in each church to accomplish His purposes in that congregation (see 1 Cor. 12:18).

So we have larger churches, smaller churches, and medium sized churches.

The congregation may speak English or they may speak Spanish.

Some use the King James Version, some use another version, and some use multiple versions.

We have some churches that use the Baptist Hymnal (either the 2008, 1991, 1975, or 1956 edition), other churches that use the Celebration Hymnal, and still others that prefer the Heavenly Highway songbook.

Some churches project the words of songs onto a wall or a screen rather than using hymnals. Some print the words of songs in their bulletins. Some just expect the people to sing along the best they can.

Some churches have only a piano. Some also have an organ. Some use guitars and drums. Some use CDs and DVDs for musical accompaniment.

Some have a choir or a praise team. Some have one person leading the music alone. Sometimes it's the pastor himself.

Some pastors wear a suit and tie. Others dress casually. One wears a cowboy hat to church and has a saddle for a pulpit.

The building used by one of our churches may be brick, metal or wooden frame. It may be downtown, or on a major highway, or tucked away in a neighborhood. Or the church may meet in rented facilities, such as a livestock auction barn.

If the church owns a building, it may be relatively new, or it may have been designated a historic landmark.

Some churches are able to pay their pastors enough so that the church is their only workplace. Others have bivocational pastors.

Some are between pastors, having an "interim" pastor. One church depends on different men to "supply" preach each week.

Some churches are single staff; some are multi-staff. Some have deacons; some have elders. Some approve a budget each year; others simply track their income and expenses.

But there's something that all of our 42 churches have in common. They all proclaim the Good News that Jesus, God the Son, who has existed forever, took on flesh and came to earth to die on the cross for the sins of any who will repent and trust Him as Savior and Lord. And that same Jesus, after He arose from the dead, ascended into heaven where He sits at the right hand of the Father. And that same Jesus is coming back someday to judge the world and to bring redemption.

That is what unites us and enables us to work together to reach our whole area for Jesus. Praise God that our churches are different, but are also the same.

Together on purpose,
David Williams



Give it a try — "Make a game of it," Pastor Ronald Smith tells the congregation at Sweet Home Hankamer during a message on giving Nov. 6. "See if you can outgive God. It's the only game you hope you lose. And you will."



A big day — Margie Alpin (in rear) leads the congregation at First High Island as they sing Happy Birthday to Pastor Steve Collazo (left) and Happy Anniversary to Bucky Faggard during morning worship on Nov. 20.



The best help of all — TRBA Food Pantry volunteers pray with individuals and families. The pantry provides food for an average of 80 families each month.

Food pantry needs volunteer buyers, food donations

TRBA has enough volunteers to work its Food Pantry on the days it is open, but still needs help from people willing to provide the food and people to shop for the food.

A dedicated team comes twice a month to register clients, organize groceries, bag food, distribute bags to clients, and pray with clients if they desire. Twenty-one volunteers work the pantry, which is open the second and fourth Tuesday of each month.

But those volunteers can only give away as much food as there is on the shelves. How do we stock the shelves of TRBA's food pantry that feeds 80 families a month?

First, we depend on churches to sign up to provide food. Many of our churches sign up to provide one month each year. If your church would like to participate in this important ministry, contact Theresa Adair at TRBA.

Second, we depend on volunteers who shop for groceries. The money they spend comes from the TRBA budget and cash donations from churches and individuals. If you are interested in volunteering in this way, contact Theresa Adair at TRBA.

Pray for our pastorless churches

Calvary Liberty, since May 2016
Rick Edwards, interim

First Anahuac, since March 2016
Trey Clark, interim

Wild Country, since May 2015
Robert Wingate, interim

First Hull, since February 2014
John Guedry, interim

First Concord, since January 2014
Richard Stidham, interim

Oak Island, since December 2012

NOMINATION

I see something in this man that makes me think that perhaps the Lord might call him to be a church planter or pastor. I nominate him as a candidate for the Pastor Essentials class. Feel free to tell him the nomination came from me.

Candidate:

Name _____

Church _____

Address _____

Phone _____ Email _____

My name: _____ Phone _____

Pastor Essentials Class

Time for nominations

Each TR Baptist is urged to prayerfully consider nominating one or more men to the Pastor Essentials Class, which begins on Monday, Jan. 16, 2017.

**CLIP AND COMPLETE
THIS FORM TO NOMINATE
A MAN FOR THE PASTOR
ESSENTIALS CLASS.
MAIL IT **TODAY** TO
DAVID WILLIAMS, TRBA,
PO BOX 1269, LIBERTY,
TX 77575.**

The class is for men who believe God is (or may be) calling them to be church planters or pastors. Eight men graduated in the first class in 2015 and 15 men are scheduled to graduate in the second class this December.

"We ask our own people to nominate men they feel give evidence of God's call on their lives," said David Williams, TRBA director of missions. "We are also glad to have men nominate themselves if they are sensing or exploring God's call."

During this year's class, 11 men were allowed to visit one session as a guest. Afterwards each of those 11 men expressed interest in enrolling in the 2017 class.

Invitation letters will be mailed in December. Those who receive the invitation letters will have the opportunity to enroll in the 2017 class.

The class will meet 6-9 p.m. each Monday from Jan. 16 through Dec. 11. The class is designed to prepare men called by God so they will be able to plant a new church or pastor an existing church in TRBA.

The curriculum covers a broad range of topics including Old Testament, New Testament, doctrine, Bible interpretation, preaching, apologetics, church history, spiritual disciplines, disciple-making, church planting, licensing, ordination, weddings, funerals, prayer, the call to ministry, church administration, and spiritual warfare.



How much is this? No, really, it's free — Scores of delighted shoppers walk away with their free items during First Dayton's Nov. 13 Garage Sale Give Away. Church members brought their yard sale items to the event but, instead of selling them to raise funds, the church gave everything away for free. The event was sponsored by the church's A Heart for Missions women's group.



For the whole community — More than 300 persons from TRBA and other area churches gather at the Dayton Community Center for a Nov. 13 Thanksgiving service sponsored by the Dayton Ministerial Alliance.



Women praying — Eighteen women gather for soup, sandwiches and prayer Nov. 7 at North Main Baptist Church. "Arise Shine" was the theme of the annual Baptist Women's World Day of Prayer event.

Family Visitors' Center Schedule

Dec 3 (Sat)	Dec 17 (Sat)
AM Mendoza & Simmons	AM Goff & Davis
PM Kinney & Nichols	PM _____, _____
Dec 4 (Sun)	Dec 18 (Sun)
AM Hinch & Gault	AM Smarts
PM Thomas & Catching	PM Baldridges
Dec 10 (Sat)	Dec 24 (Sat)
AM Garvins	AM _____, _____
PM Hortmans	PM _____, _____
Dec 11 (Sun)	Dec 25 (Sun)
AM Presnulls	AM Shaws
PM McGuires	PM Clark & Cain
	Dec 31 (Sat)
	AM Herring & Vsetecka
	PM Adairs



Pastors praying — From left, Mike Chadwick, Ken Davis, Tim Gruver, and Jeff Day spend some time in fellowship and prayer at the weekly Senior Pastor Lunch. All senior pastors are invited to the meetings at noon each Thursday at a restaurant, a church, or the TRBA office. Watch emails for each week's location.

Receipts October, 2016

	Oct 2016	Jan-Oct 16
Batson Prairie	50.00	400.00
Berean Tabernacle	100.00	1,200.00
Calvary, Dayton	500.00	5,500.00
Calvary, Liberty	291.00	2,691.00
Center, Thicket	0.00	561.00
Central Daisetta	0.00	0.00
Central, Liberty	102.16	948.74
Covenant	0.00	0.00
Eminence	0.00	0.00
First Anahuac	833.33	8,333.30
First Batson	0.00	600.00
First Concord	0.00	829.00
First Daisetta	0.00	4,240.50
First Dayton	678.89	7,714.48
First Devers	296.45	3,851.04
First High Island	0.00	1,158.00
First Hull	0.00	0.00
First Liberty	0.00	11,452.41
First Saratoga	344.19	4,043.86
First Sour Lake	841.08	10,166.46
Grace Community	1,382.80	6,951.30
Grayburg	0.00	686.99
Gum Grove	0.00	300.81
Hardin Baptist	976.11	11,386.34
Heights	355.05	8,646.62
House of Living Waters	0.00	0.00
Kenefick Southern	823.57	8,273.99
Line Camp Cowboy	100.00	600.00
Mt Calvary	471.74	5,248.40
North Main	802.30	9,975.49
Nuevo Amanecer	0.00	0.00
Oak Island	0.00	361.31
Old River	1,166.67	11,666.70
Pathways	59.00	928.00
Primera Dayton	100.00	775.00
Smith Point	50.37	714.94
South Dayton	50.00	500.00
Sweet Home	0.00	0.00
Trinity	100.00	1,000.00
West End	0.00	4,366.00
Whispering Meadows	0.00	2,877.83
Wild Country Mission	143.00	464.00
Interest	2.50	73.74
TOTAL	10,620.21	139,487.25

***Trinity River Baptist Association
P.O. Box 1269
Liberty, TX 77575
Address Service Requested***

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Trinity River Baptist Association

December 2016

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fr	Sat
				1 10:30 am Pastor Essentials Evaluation/Planning Mtg. 12 pm Senior Pastor Lunch 7 pm First Responders Breakfast Evaluation/Planning Mtg.	2	3
4	5 6-9 pm Pastor Essentials	6 6:30 pm Gideons	7	8 12 pm Senior Pastor Lunch	9	10
Week of Prayer for International Missions/Lottie Moon Christmas Offering						
11	12 6-9 pm Pastor Essentials Graduation Banquet <i>First Dayton</i>	13 JAIL MINISTRY COOKIES DUE 9 am-noon, 1-4 pm Food Pantry 6 pm TRBA Christmas Fellowship <i>Hardin Baptist</i>	14 Cookies delivered by Jail Ministry volunteers	15 12 pm Senior Pastor Lunch	16	17
18	19	20	21	22 <div>TRBA Office Closed</div>	23	24 Christmas Eve
25 Christmas Day	26	27	28	29	30	31 New Year's Eve
TRBA Office Closed for Christmas Holidays						