

# Share food and music at TRBA Christmas fellowship

This year's associational Christmas fellowship will feature a covered dish dinner and music provided by TRBA churches.

Each church is invited to be on the program and everyone is invited to attend the event at 6 p.m., Tuesday, Dec. 12, at First Baptist, Devers.

**At the fellowship, TRBA will honor their retiring administrative assistant of more than 20 years, Theresa Adair. (See page 2.)**

The theme of the program will be "Trinity River Christmas Sampler," featuring Christmas music by several of our churches, Scripture reading and prayer by several pastors, and a special Christmas message brought by David Williams, TRBA director of missions.

The big change this year will be a covered dish dinner instead of a catered meal. First Devers is providing chicken. Families are asked to bring something that goes with chicken. (A special cake will be dessert.)

There will be special prizes for the church

## Church security help coming in January

TRBA is partnering with Tryon Evergreen Baptist Association to offer a conference to help pastors and church leaders prepare for security issues their churches may face.

The Jan. 19-20 event, led by Strategos International, will be at TEBA in Conroe. The cost is \$89 per person for those who register by Dec. 20. **TRBA will reimburse half the fee for a pastor and up to three other church members who register by Dec. 20 and then attend the event.**

"The recent tragedy at First Baptist in Sutherland Springs reminds us that violence can strike any church at any time," said David Williams, TRBA director of missions. "Churches need to make a plan now before something happens."

Information is being emailed to pastors.

with the most present and the church with the highest percentage of their average worship attendance present.

To be on the program, churches need to let TRBA know the name of the Christmas piece the church will do and who will be involved (solo, duet, trio, quartet, ensemble, choir, instrumentalist, etc.). Email David Williams at David@TRBATexas.org.

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.

## 'Together in Faith' offers TR Baptists chance to help local hurricane victims

A group from South Carolina is headed to Liberty to help storm victims. They have the leadership, tools, and funds needed. Now they need some local volunteer manpower.

Volunteer teams will be needed from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. on the first three Saturdays of December (2, 9, and 16) and from 1 to 5 p.m. on the first three Sundays of December (3, 10, and 17).

Churches are asked to let their members know about this hands-on opportunity to help our neighbors. Men's groups, youth groups, or Sunday School classes may want to volunteer to work together.

To sign up, email David@TRBATexas.org your name, email address, phone number, and dates you will volunteer. In the subject line of the email, put "TOGETHER IN FAITH."

"Together in Faith" was formed by Hank Chardos in response to God's call to help people in Texas after Hurricane Harvey.



**Association to association** — Baptist associations across Louisiana collected gift cards for pastors and church staff members affected by Hurricane Harvey, then delivered them to five Texas associations along the Gulf Coast so the local directors of missions could deliver the cards personally. Left to right are Stan Statham, treasurer of Louisiana Directors of Missions Fellowship; David Williams, TRBA director of missions; and Ron Thompson, director of missions for Baptist Associations of Southeast Louisiana. Williams is now in the process of delivering the gift cards to the two pastors and four staff members.

**'Together in Faith'**  
**Sign up to be a volunteer**  
on one or more of the work days  
to help our neighbors. Email  
David@TRBATexas.org your  
name, email, phone, and the  
days you will work.

8 a.m. to 5 p.m.  
on Saturdays, Dec. 2, 9 and 16

1 to 5 p.m.  
on Sundays, Dec. 3, 10 and 17

Chardos knows a few things about home repair. Twenty years ago he started Home Works of America which shares God's love

by fixing houses for the needy in the Carolinas, Georgia, and Louisiana.

Chardos will bring a few volunteers — experienced Home Works team leaders who know how to equip and lead unskilled volunteers to roof a house and do other repairs. They are also bringing all the tools needed. Home Works, TRBA, First Liberty, and other groups are raising the funds to buy building

materials.

Their first priority will be roof repair, but there will be other jobs, too. No skill or experience is necessary. The team leaders will organize and supervise each project.

They will be working in coordination with the First Baptist Church Liberty Recovery Center, being operated by Virginia Baptists' disaster relief ministry.



# Mission Journey

**When I first began my journey as your director of missions, I was excited to know that I would have the support of**

**Theresa who had been TRBA's administrative assistant for nearly 17 years.**

Theresa (Mitschke then, Adair now) has truly been a blessing. She knows this association and the people of the churches better than anybody else.

I was trying to think of a woman from the Bible to whom I might compare Theresa.

Certainly, she is a praying woman like Hannah, a bold woman like Deborah, a loyal woman like Ruth, a helping woman like Phoebe, a brave woman like Priscilla.

Then I thought of those two sisters of Lazarus—Mary and Martha. Luke 10:38-42 shows us how they were as different as night and day: Martha working hard to get things ready for Jesus, Mary sitting at Jesus' feet listening to what He was saying.

That's Theresa. Both of them. Working hard to do whatever needs to be done in service to her Lord, but never taking her eyes or her ears away from her Savior.

In May we celebrated Theresa's 20th anniversary of employment and, not long after that, she began to hint that she was

ready to retire. She wants to spend some more time with her husband Chuck, her mother, and the rest of her family. She wants to be free to travel more. There are some things she wants to do, some places she wants to go.

TRBA won't be the same without Theresa. She will be missed greatly. But we wish her well in this new phase of her life.

I know the Lord will take care of the gap she leaves behind. He always does. People come and go in service to the Kingdom, but the Kingdom is never shaken, finding new strength and possibilities as each chapter ends and a new one begins.

*Excited to see what God does next,*  
**David Williams**

## TRBA receiving disaster relief funds

Since Hurricane Harvey hit, the TRBA disaster relief fund has received \$24,949.19.

So far TRBA has disbursed about \$12,000. Of the remaining funds, \$4,000 is earmarked to provide building materials for "Together in Faith." Among funds disbursed to date:

- \$6,600 storm damage relief for four churches, two pastors and three church staff members.
- \$2,500 to help feed disaster relief volunteers housed at First Liberty.
- \$1,500 to partner financially with the five churches that operated as shelters for victims after Harvey.
- \$600 to provide Walmart gift cards to teachers at Hull-Daisetta Elementary which lost their building and all supplies to the flood. Also about \$100 to provide hygiene/health kits for 40 students.
- \$740 to help Pathways with some initial expenses after their building was destroyed by fire.

Those wishing to contribute can mark their checks "Disaster Relief" and send them to Trinity River Baptist Association, PO Box 1269, Liberty, TX 77575.

### Pray for our pastorless churches

**Gum Grove**, since September 2017

**First Sour Lake**, since August 2017

**First Devers**, since January 2017

Bill Fabriguze, interim

**First Anahuac**, since March 2016

Trey Clark, interim

**Wild Country**, since May 2015

David Smith, interim

**First Hull**, since February 2014

John Guedry, interim

**First Concord**, since January 2014

Richard Stidham, interim

**Oak Island**, since December 2012

Rick Jackson, interim

## BGCT delivers grants to churches hurt by Harvey

Ernest Dagahoy, area representative for the Baptist General Convention of Texas, had a great time on Nov. 9 delivering church building recovery grants to five TRBA churches.

The \$2,000 to \$3,000 grants from BGCT's church architecture department were awarded to Pathways in Dayton, South Dayton, Trinity Dayton, First Liberty, and First Hull.

The department had also sent Pat Ekern to the area in October to meet with pastors of those churches to assess their damage and discuss plans for recovery.

# Theresa Adair announces retirement

Dear Trinity River Baptist Association,

I have enjoyed working in this Association for 20 years. I think it is time for me to pass the baton on to someone else. Bro. Duane Kelley, Bro. Bill Fabriguze and Bro. David Williams have all been great Directors of Missions. They have all taught me many things through the years. I value their friendships. I think each man is a man after God's own heart.

As a young girl, missions was planted in my heart through Sunbeams, G.A.s and Acteens. I always had the desire to work in missions. Little did I know God would allow me to work in the mission field right here in Liberty, Texas.

It has been a joy to meet so many different people in so many different walks of life. I have had the opportunity to help feed those who are hungry, clothe those in need of clothing, keep lights on for someone in need of electricity, work with the jail and prison ministry, provide Bibles for those in need of the Word of God, offer up a prayer for someone who needed hope, help pastors and churches get the information they need, work with women to plan events and Bible studies, pray with pastor's wives, and keep our Associational office running on a daily basis.

Over 20 years we went through several disasters and recovery, built and rebuilt several churches, even built churches in Kenya, had mission trips, vacation Bible schools, and training of all kinds for pastors and lay people. It has been an amazing journey.

Thank you for allowing me to work as an administrative assistant for 20 years. It has been a blessing to me and my family. I treasure each and every one of you in this association. This is my resignation and I will work until December 31, 2017. It is time for me to retire and move on to the next phase of my life. It will be exciting to see what God has in store for me.

Sincerely,  
Theresa Adair



## Osborne headlines TRBA evangelism rally

TR Baptists who gather for their annual evangelism rally in January will hear from a man who has pastored the same church for more than 30 years and seen it grow to a membership of more than 3,000.

The event will take place at 6 p.m., Sunday, Jan. 28, at Old River Baptist Church.

Guest speaker will be Chris Osborne, pastor of Central Baptist Church in College Station, Texas, since 1986.

He has been described as “a gifted and anointed preacher . . . known for his uncompromising presentation of the Word of God.”

Osborne is a past president of the Southern Baptists of Texas Convention and has served on the executive committee of the Southern Baptist Convention.

He and his wife Peggy were married in 1974 and have two grown children and three grandchildren.



### “Dos más . . . two more”

Pastor Alvaro Ramirez, right, stands next to Taurino Contreras, deacon, who helped him baptize the 14 people to the left on Sunday morning, Oct. 22, the first day Primera Iglesia Bautista Nuevo Amanecer in Dayton used their brand new baptistry. At first, 10 candidates were robed for baptism, but as the last one was baptized, Ramirez was told, “Dos más” (“two more”). After the two additional candidates were baptized, the pastor was again told, “Dos más” (“two more”). It was a great day of celebration as 14 new believers were baptized into the fellowship of the church.



**Helping our own** — Left to right, Kenefick Southern Pastor Jeff Day and member Beau Barnard help Music Minister Michael McIlwain make repairs to his house which flooded during Harvey.



**TRBA ANNUAL MEETING**

**With the theme “Jesus Is Greater Than Harvey,”** TRBA held its 73rd annual session, meeting Oct. 24, at North Main Baptist Church in Liberty. Above, messengers honor and thank the 28 disaster relief volunteers in attendance, representing hundreds who came from all over the country to help. Below, left to right, Jerry Cox and the North Main praise team prepare to lead worship; messengers gather for a meal provided by the church; Ken Davis preaches the annual sermon. Bottom photo, Director of Missions David Williams moderates a panel of pastors telling how Jesus showed Himself to be greater than the storm.



### PASTOR ESSENTIALS CLASS NOMINATIONS DUE NOW!

Have you seen something in a man that makes you think that perhaps the Lord might call him to be a church planter or pastor? Then nominate him as a candidate for the Pastor Essentials Class.

Send his name, address, phone, email, and name of the church he attends to [David@TRBATexas.org](mailto:David@TRBATexas.org). Do it today, or at least by the end of November.

### Hardin Baptist seeking youth/children's minister

Hardin Baptist is actively praying and looking for a youth and children's minister.

This is a full time position and salary will depend on experience.

For more information, contact Tony Hines at 936-298-2821.

To submit a resume, email it to Chris Goodwin, chairman of the search committee at [chrisgoodwin49@gmail.com](mailto:chrisgoodwin49@gmail.com).

## Family Visitors' Center Schedule

Dec 2 (Sat)	Dec 17 (Sun)
AM Barefield & Simmons	AM Smarts
PM Kinney & Nichols	PM Baldridges
Dec 3 (Sun)	Dec 23 (Sat)
AM Garvins	AM C. & G. Theis
PM Thomas & Catching	PM Vsetecka
Dec 9 (Sat)	Dec 24 (Sun)
AM Cain & Clark	AM Shaws
PM Hortmans	PM _____
Dec 10 (Sun)	Dec 30 (Sat)
AM Presnulls	AM Goff & Davis
PM McGuires	PM Herring & _____
Dec 16 (Sat)	Dec 31 (Sun)
AM Cain & Hinch	AM Shaws
PM Herring & Morales	PM Adairs

# Trinity River

## BAPTIST ASSOCIATION

Overflowing with the Living Water of Jesus Christ

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

Nonprofit Org.  
U.S. Postage  
**PAID**  
Liberty TX  
Permit No. 38

## Receipts September/October 2017

	Sep 2017	Oct 2017	Jan-Oct '17
Batson Prairie	50.00	0.00	400.00
Berean Tabernacle	100.00	100.00	1,000.00
Calvary, Dayton	1,000.00	500.00	5,000.00
Calvary, Liberty	186.00	241.00	2,465.00
Center, Thicket	60.00	109.00	548.00
Central Daisetta	0.00	0.00	0.00
Central, Liberty	74.87	96.71	960.59
Covenant	0.00	0.00	0.00
Eminence	0.00	0.00	0.00
First Anahuac	416.67	416.67	4,166.70
First Batson	50.00	50.00	450.00
First Concord	0.00	168.89	889.13
First Daisetta	237.00	469.00	3,335.10
First Dayton	373.97	680.58	7,239.17
First Devers	219.68	323.72	2,888.23
First High Island	129.00	217.00	2,365.54
First Hull	0.00	0.00	0.00
First Liberty	682.87	933.46	10,933.61
First Saratoga	293.24	458.47	4,274.93
First Sour Lake	520.70	707.56	7,960.91
Grace Community	592.50	766.00	10,185.50
Grayburg	562.32	0.00	562.32
Gum Grove	21.36	25.40	364.38
Hardin Baptist	520.45	971.72	12,337.13
Heights	484.70	757.16	10,690.94
House of Living Waters	0.00	0.00	0.00
Kenefick Southern	333.33	333.33	3,664.21
Line Camp Cowboy	199.93	219.58	3,048.04
Mt Calvary	0.00	1,084.54	5,252.76
North Main	364.08	564.09	5,457.48
Nuevo Amanacer	0.00	0.00	0.00
Oak Island	64.36	0.00	672.91
Old River	1,375.00	1,375.00	13,750.00
Pathways	264.00	151.00	916.00
Primera Dayton	75.00	75.00	750.00
Smith Point	18.68	20.79	421.61
South Dayton	0.00	0.00	250.00
Sweet Home	0.00	0.00	0.00
Trinity	100.00	100.00	1,000.00
West End	749.00	0.00	3,853.00
Whispering Meadows	0.00	827.59	1,652.60
Wild Country Mission	0.00	67.40	356.05
Interest	11.38	3.96	57.42
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>10,130.09</b>	<b>12,814.62</b>	<b>130,119.26</b>

## Trinity River Baptist Association Nov/Dec 2017

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<b>Nov. 26</b>	27 6-9 pm Pastor Essentials	28 9 am-noon Food Pantry	29	30	<b>Dec. 1</b>	2 8 am-5 pm Together in Faith Work Crews
3 1-5 pm Together in Faith Work Crews	4 6-9 pm Pastor Essentials	5 12 pm Pastor Fellowship  6:30 p.m. Gideons	6	7	8	9 8 am-5 pm Together in Faith Work Crew
Week of Prayer and Lottie Moon Christmas Offering for International Missions, Dec. 3-10						
10 1-5 pm Together in Faith Work Crews	11 6-9 pm Pastor Essentials Graduation	12 9 am-noon, 1-4 pm Food Pantry  6 pm TRBA Christmas Fellowship <i>First Devers</i>	13	14	15	16 8 am-5 pm Together in Faith Work Crews
17 1-5 pm Together in Faith Work Crews	18	19 12 pm Pastor Fellowship	20	21	22	23
					TRBA Office Closed Dec. 22-Jan. 2	