

Around the State_11204

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Around the State

Big Spring-Lamesa Area is seeking a Mission Service Corps volunteer couple or single person to fill a vacancy at the Big Spring Hospitality House beginning in March. Joe and Wanda Bernier, the MSC couple currently serving there are resigning as of March 1. Responsibilities of the position include caring for the facility and the grounds and registration of people visiting prison inmates into the house on weekends. While the position is not salaried, an apartment attached to the facility is included. The ability to speak Spanish would be helpful but is not required. For more information, contact **David Kimberly** at (432) 263-1673 or (432) 517-0483.

♦ **Belva Loftin**, administrative assistant to East Texas Baptist University President **Bob Riley**, was honored with a retirement reception Dec. 18 after 25 years of service. She began her career at ETBU in 1978 as the secretary for the alumni association and has been the administrative assistant to the president for the last 13 years. She will continue as pianist for First Church in Marshall.



Jim Leak (right), director of missions for Hill Country Association headquartered in Kerrville, was elected administrator/treasurer at the last meeting of the Southern Baptist Conference of Associational Directors of Missions. He is pictured with Nodell Dennis of Blue River-Kansas City Association, chair of the search committee.

Anniversaries

- ◆ **Curt Grice**, 10th, as youth minister at First Church in Arlington Jan. 11.
- ◆ **David Keith**, 20th, as pastor of Carlton Church in Carlton Jan. 11.
- ◆ First Indian Church in Houston, 20th, Jan. 11. The Native American Indian congregation's first pastor, Tom Anderson, brought the message.
- ◆ Providence Church in Tool, 110th, Jan. 25. Former pastors and members are expected to attend the celebration, which will be highlighted by the dedication of a plaque from the Texas Historical Commission. The program will be from 10 am. until 4 p.m. with a noon meal served. **Ted Eaton** is pastor.
- ◆ **Paul Stanford**, fifth, as minister of music at Eastridge Church in Red Oak.
- ◆ **Harold Sellers**, 20th, as director of missions of Coastal Plains Area.
- ◆ **Johnny Wilson**, 30th, as music minister at Baptist Temple in Victoria.

- ◆ First Church in Sanderson, 100th, Feb. 14 and 15. The centennial celebration will begin at 9 a.m. Saturday and will include a time of fellowship, recalling the church's history, singing, preaching by former pastors and dinner. Sunday likewise will include preaching by former pastors as well as a noon meal. People planning to attend are asked to write the church at Box 560, Sanderson 79848.

Retiring

- ◆ **Jim Lane**, as pastor of Memorial Church in El Campo, Feb. 1. He has been at the church 11 years and in the ministry 42 years. Prior to coming to El Campo, he was an education and music minister, including 11 years at Uvalde Church in Houston. He will be available as an interim pastor or music director at (979) 543-5263.
- ◆ Margaret Parker, after 32 years as a church secretary. The last 23 years have been at First Church in Plainview, 21 of those as the pastor's secretary.

Deaths

- ◆ **Kenneth King**, 75, Dec. 4 in New Braunfels. He was a former director of missions for Bluebonnet Association. He also was pastor of First Church in Canyon Lake and Mineral Springs Church near Lockhart. He was a member of First Church in New Braunfels. He also had served on the board of directors of Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, San Antonio Baptist Children's Home, Howard Payne University, the University of Mary Hardin-Baylor and Highland Lakes Baptist Encampment. He is survived by his wife of 49 years, Sara; son, Randy; daughters, Regina Howell and Valerie Marrou; seven grandchildren; and sister, Nola Moore.
- ◆ **Clyde Griffin**, 98, Dec. 7 in Irving. Griffin was a retired pastor and a

member of First Church in Rockdale. He was preceded in death by his wife, Myrtle, five brothers and four sisters. He is survived by his son, Clyde Griffin Jr.

- ◆ **Clay Burns**, 75, Dec. 14 in San Antonio. A retired pastor ordained in 1945, he served Heights Church in Temple, First Church in Florence, Walnut Creek Church in Austin, First Church in Clifton and First Church in Christine. In 1970, he became the first chaplain of Southeast Baptist Hospital in San Antonio, where he served 25 years. He was a member of First Church in San Antonio. He also was a member of the Human Welfare Coordinating Board of the Baptist General Convention of Texas and was a field representative of Texas Baptists Committed. He is survived by his wife, Margaret; daughters, Brenda Groves and Bridget Burns; and three grandchildren.
- ◆ **Gordon Wood**, 89, Dec. 17 in Abilene. Wood, an alumnus of Hardin-Simmons University, was the second-winningest high school football coach in the nation. Wood, recipient of HSU's distinguished alumni award in 1978, won nine state championships, coached at eight schools and compiled a record of 396-91-15. While at Brownwood, his teams won seven state titles over a 26-year coaching stint. He was inducted into both the Texas High School Hall of Fame and the National High School Hall of Fame. He was National High School Football Coach of the Year in 1979. He is survived by his wife of 59 years, Katherine; son, Jim; and daughter, Pat Wood.
- ◆ **C.E. Colton**, 89, Dec. 22 in Dallas. He was Texas pastor for almost 70 years, and held various positions in Dallas Association, the Baptist General Convention of Texas and the Southern Baptist Convention. He also served as a trustee for the Annuity Board, the Baptist Standard and Dallas Baptist University. He recently was the recipient of the BGCT's distinguished service award. He was the head of the Bible department of Wayland

College as well. He was pastor of Royal Haven Church in Dallas 29 years. He was preceded in death by his wife of 57 years, Lois. He is survived by his sons, Bob and Ron; six grandchildren; and 10 great-grandchildren.

- ♦ **Bob Meadows**, 79, Dec. 29 in Corpus Christi. A retired pastor, he served Pinewood Park Church in Longview, Calvary Church in Kingsville and Gardendale Church in Corpus Christi. He is survived by his wife, Mona; daughters, Jannette Slough and Ruby Meadows; sons, James and Roy David; sister, Lenora Howard; six grandchildren; and two great-grandchildren.
- ♦ **Wayne Beasley**, 73, Jan. 3 in Temple. Beasley was injured in last year's Feb. 14 bus crash of senior adults from Memorial Church in Temple. He still was attempting to recover from injuries sustained in the crash when he contracted pneumonia in December. While in the hospital, he suffered a heart attack and died. He is survived by his wife, Patsy.
- ♦ **Worth Thompson**, 85, Jan. 3 in Kerrville. Thompson, in addition to being a former associational missionary of Medina River Association, was a pastor for many years. He served Big Foot Community Church in Big Foot, Calvary Church in Devine, Oak Park Church in Kerrville and Motley Hills Church in Kerrville, where he served for more than 20 years. After his retirement in 1993, he was a member of Hunt Church in Kerrville. He also served the Kerrville Police Department for more than 30 years as chaplain and was an assistant chaplain at the VA Medical Center there. He was preceded in death by three brothers and three sisters. He is survived by his wife of 58 years, Virgie; daughters, Patricia Thompson and Michaelyn Atkinson; sisters, Edna Davis, Charlcy Petty and Gracie Wied; three grandchildren; and three great-grandsons.

Events

- ◆ The Heights Church in Richardson dedicated its new 34,000-square-foot children's building Jan. 7. The building opened Jan. 11. **Gary Singleton** is pastor.
- ◆ Windsor Park Church in DeSoto will host Team Impact in a crusade Jan. 21-25. The team of athletes will use feats of strength to communicate the gospel. The rallies will begin each evening at 7 p.m. For more information, call (972) 230-3000. **Chris Seidlitz** is pastor.
- ◆ First Church in Van Horn will host a celebration of its history Feb. 1. Former members planning to attend are asked to call (432) 283-2010. **Richard Smith** is interim pastor.

Revival

- ◆ **First Church, Breckenridge**; Jan. 25-28; evangelist, David Burk; music; Sherman and Tammy Aten; pastor, Cecil Harper.

News of religion, faith, missions, Bible study and Christian ministry among Texas Baptist churches, in the BGCT, the Southern Baptist Convention (SBC) and around the world.