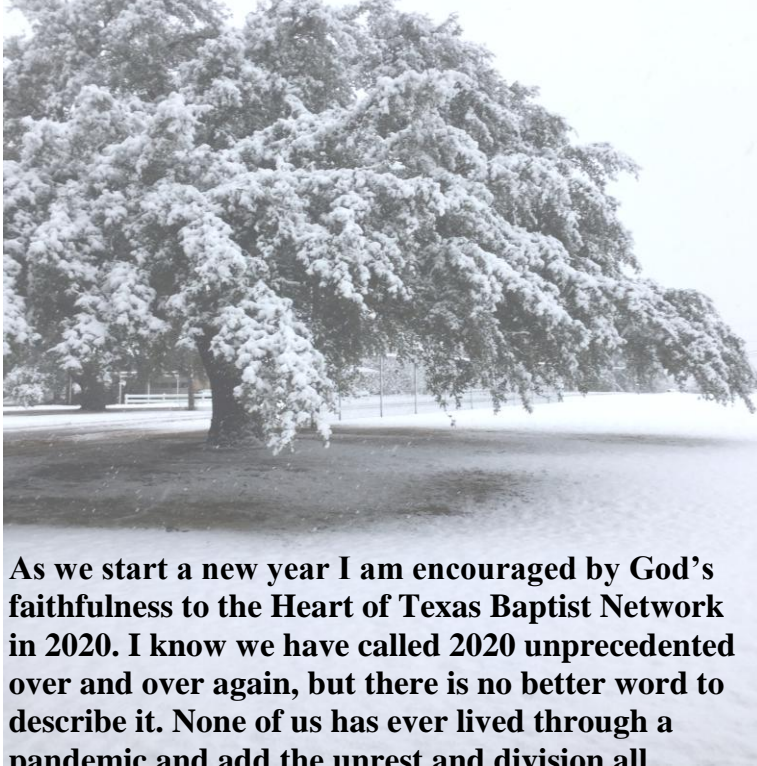


HEARTBEAT

WINTER
2021

HEART OF TEXAS BAPTIST NETWORK

NETWORK MISSIONARY REPORT



As we start a new year I am encouraged by God's faithfulness to the Heart of Texas Baptist Network in 2020. I know we have called 2020 unprecedented over and over again, but there is no better word to describe it. None of us has ever lived through a pandemic and add the unrest and division all around us and the world desperately needs the church unified around the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

That is what we are called to do as the Heart of Texas Baptist Network. We are called to equip, encourage, and inspire the churches in our four counties to unify around the Gospel for the good of our communities and the glory of God. 2020 has looked different in so many ways, but God has been so faithful to us over and over again.

You have continued to be generous with your financial gifts, faithful with your prayers, and encouraging to the work of God in our Network and for this we are extremely thankful. I have enjoyed being in many of your churches and getting to meet so many new friends and brothers and sisters in Christ.

On January 8 and 9 we had our Pastor/Staff retreat out at Heart of Texas Camp and Conference Center. It was an awesome time of fellowship and renewal and God refreshed our souls as we ate meals together, prayed together, and heard helpful and uplifting teaching from Dr. Josh Myers and Dr. Bill Fowler.

I want to say a special thank you to Dr. Cory Hines and Howard Payne University. They covered the complete cost of our retreat. Everyone who attended got to do so completely free. What an amazing gift!

One of the most encouraging developments in 2020 for our Network is the emergence and work of our ministry teams. In this newsletter you will read updates and hear about the work of our Missions Team and our Equipping Team. God is laying the foundation for years of fruitful ministry through these teams. I am excited about all they are doing and planning on doing in 2021.

I am praying we can get back to some kind of normal this year. I am praying that we can get back to gathering together in big groups to celebrate and fellowship without worrying about protocols. I am praying for revival among our churches and communities. If I haven't had the chance to meet you yet I pray we can meet soon. I pray for your churches each and every day and know God is advancing His Kingdom in our Network through your faithful ministry.

2021 is going to be a great year!



THE MISSION TEAM

The Mission Team would like to highlight three items:

1. Momentum: We are promoting and encouraging churches in 2021 to offer the free, 6-week online course Momentum Yes! (<https://www.momentumyes.com/>). For short, we just call it “Momentum”. Ten churches have already signed up! Your church could make it available for individuals but we encourage small groups for generating discussion.

What is Momentum?


- An easy-to-use tool, which teaches, inspires, and equips everyday people to rethink God’s mission.
- Designed to actively engage believers in taking the next steps in God’s mission.
- A video series for small groups, which will enable us maximize our opportunity to make Jesus famous here, near, and far away.

We encourage each church the plans to use the Momentum curriculum to attend the **training on Saturday, February 6 from 9:30- 11:30 AM at the HOTBN office.** The same training may be offered again in the future.

2. Brother Ponce in Mexico: In December, he had a serious case of COVID. Yesterday, he updated me that his doctor has said he is now out of danger. But he asks for continued prayer because he has a bad bedsore, he has lost more than 20 lbs., continues using some oxygen and rehab at home. Thanks to the churches who have prayed for him and have contributed financially!

3. Staci Powers in Zambia: At the annual meeting, we invited churches to adopt Staci Powers for one month. “Adoption” simply means that during your month you do something special for her that lets her know she is loved, remembered, and lifted up. Be creative! These are the churches that have signed up: January (CABC), February (Crossroads), March (FBC Mullin), April (FBC Brownwood), May (Southside), June (Victory), and July (Rocky Creek).

If your church would like to know more about Momentum or sign up for August, September, October, November, or December, please contact Sam Goff (samg@cogginchurch.org or 202-340-4803). Thanks!



CBR Journals are still available at the Resource office for anyone that would like to have one. **They are FREE!**

We are currently reading through the plan together and journaling what God is teaching us. The reading plan teaches the New Testament every year and leads us through the Old Testament every three years.

If you would like to receive e-mail devotionals twice a week please contact the office at 325-643-1348 or email ministryasst.texasmissions@gmail.com to get your copy.

EQUIPPING TEAM

Here we are!!! The New Year has dawned, and we are getting used to writing and saying 2021. We hope that you are blessed, and you are pursuing the opportunities that God has placed in your path.

With all that is happening in our world, thinking about keeping ministry safe is always a important subject. On January 30th, the Heart of Texas Baptist Network is hosting a Keeping Church Safe for Kids Conference. This training is **FREE**. We will begin registration at 8:30 am and the conference will begin promptly at 9 am. Our presenters for the morning will be Marcus Wood, attorney, who has prepared some thought-provoking material to help us think though the legal ramifications of Keeping Our Ministries safe. Also, Joy Mitchell, Children's Director at FBC Bangs will share how to practically keep our children safe. We will conclude the meeting at 12 noon. To preregister, call the office or email ministryasst.texasmissions@gmail.com.

Our team will be meeting in a few weeks to finalize plans for the rest of 2021. If you have ideas or needs for equipping your church, please contact me at rjustice.rcbc@gmail.com.

Rick Justice, Team Leader



EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING

AMONG THE CHURCHES

Executive Board Meetings for 2021 are as follows:

- **Monday, February 8 at 6:30 pm**
Resource Center Office, Early, TX
- **Monday, March 22 at 6:30 pm**
FBC Comanche, Comanche, TX
- **Monday, May 17 at 6:30pm**
Resource Center Office, Early, TX
- **Monday, August 16 at 6:30pm**
Fellowship Goldthwaite

There will be a Zoom link that we will send out a few days prior to the meeting so Executive Board members that would like to join virtually, can do so.



- FBC DeLeon is seeking a Pastor
- FBC May is seeking a Youth Minister

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meeting
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FINANCIAL REPORT

(AS OF DECEMBER 31, 2021)

HOTBN Primary Account Balance	\$ 95,867.11
HOTBN Mission Account	\$ 24,835.50
Year to Date Budgeted	\$ 155,397.48
Year to Date Spent	\$ 129,923.67

Thank you for your investment in this ministry. The Heart of Texas Baptist Network receives the vast majority of its resources from the voluntary gifts of the churches of this Network.

Thank you for your faithfulness and confidence in cooperative Baptist missions beyond the local church.

