

HEARTBEAT

HEART OF TEXAS BAPTIST NETWORK

WINTER
NEWSLETTER 2019

NETWORK MISSIONARY RETIREMENT

Don Fawcett, who was called as Director of Missions to the Heart of Texas Baptist Network in October of 2002, a position now known as Network Missionary, announced his retirement from the position in November of 2019.

Don followed Brother Dan Connally as the Director of Missions in what was the Heart of Texas Baptist Area at that time. Don walked with the Network through 3 major organizational restructurings, including the merger of 3 autonomous Associations (Brown, Mills, and San Saba) into one unity, the Heart of Texas Baptist Network. He continued the missions commitment of the Network, a commitment spanning back many years, and worked to broaden its scope to Europe, Africa, and Asia.

During his tenure the Network modified its long-term agreement with Howard Payne University regarding the lease of the Network building on campus, and moved to Early, Texas to the former Jones Chapel Baptist Church. This decision helped rebuild the financial foundations of the Network when giving had dropped by 50% from participating churches from 2006 to 2016. The building on campus now houses the Howard Payne University School of Nursing.

Don also walked beside 17 Network churches that closed during his tenure, shepherding them through the challenges and complexities of that event. During his tenure four new churches were started throughout the Network and the office staff configuration was reorganized. The Heart of Texas Mission House was also established during this time, which has provided furloughing or transitioning missionaries a place to settle and call home during these transitional or restorative events.

Disaster Relief was also an important part of the work of the Network during Don's tenure. The Network forged working partnerships with the

First Baptist Church of New Orleans (Katrina), worked on Galveston Island, also in Bastrop, Texas after the devastating fires, and on the Texas coast in recent years. The work in Mexico was expanded to Northwestern Mexico, into Chihuahua City and other cities in that state.



Don has reached an agreement with the Administrative Team to continue his work with the Network staff in the office until the next Network Missionary is on the field.

He is currently serving as Interim Pastor of the Grosvenor Baptist Church in northern Brown County after the church requested his assistance. He is also formally launching the global missions organization called Kingdom Kinetics, which is a 501c3 organization with a Board of Directors and global participants (Africa, Asia, eastern Europe, and Philippines). His wife, Bobbie, is a PPCD Teacher at Heartland Co-op in Early, Texas and is working on her Masters in Educational Diagnostics through Lamar University. Trey, their son, is a graduate of the School of Music at Baylor University and is currently a public school teacher (Music) at McCoy Elementary in Georgetown, Texas.

Please pray for this family as they make this transition, and pray for the Network Missionary Search Committee as they enter into this search process.

MISSION TEAM AND MISSION NEWS



Staci Powers, resident of our Missionary House and IMB Missionary to Zambia, still has a few speaking dates open. Please contact Abbie at the Network Office. She will work with Staci to schedule these events.

The Lottie Moon Christmas Offering is an annual collection by the International Mission Board that supports 3,692 IMB missionaries as they carry the gospel to some of the 4,488,180,841 unreached people of the world. Thank you for your gifts to the Lottie Moon Christmas offering. One hundred percent of what is given goes to support IMB missionaries and their work on the field.

The International Mission Board makes available downloadable videos as well as other materials to be used in your churches as you inform them about this opportunity to give so that more people may hear the truth of the gospel and be discipled.

Go to

<https://www.imb.org/lottie-moon-christmas-offering/>
for resources.



RELIEF OFFERING FOR ZAMBIA AND SOUTHERN AFRICA

Many of you may be aware of the very serious drought that is now impacting Zambia and other southern Africa nations. This has triggered food shortages, electrical power generating issues, and other related problems of a serious nature.

A relief offering is being taken with the advisement of Staci Powers, IMB missionary to Zambia, currently living in the Network Mission House. The Network can receive love offerings for this relief effort, and the money will be held in escrow in a line-item in the Mission Fund. It will be used only for relief in Zambia and in surrounding areas, with the specifics decided with Staci's advisement and consent of the Mission Team.

Thank you for caring about our brothers and sisters in Christ in this area of the world. You can mail a check to the Network, and in the memo please write "Relief Offering." Thank you.



CHURCH NEWS

- Don Fawcett has been called as Interim Pastor of Grosvenor Baptist Church
- Jeff Hoskinson has been called as Pastor of Pleasant Grove Baptist Church
- Meetings are currently being held among the Pastors within Comanche County, the BGCT Church Planting leaders, leaders from among the Companerismo (Hispanic Association), and other interested parties concerning the restarting of a Hispanic church in the building that once housed Good Shepherd Baptist Church (302 East Center, Comanche, Texas). These meetings are being hosted by Eastside Baptist Church. Please pray for this effort.



EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING

The Executive Board of the Heart of Texas Baptist Network (the pastor of each participating church plus one at-large member chosen from the church) will convene at the Network Resource Center on Monday, January 27, 2010 at 6:30 p.m. with a Mexican Food meal.

There will be a discussion concerning the profile of the next Network Missionary at this meeting, so this is the time to give your input to the Search Committee.



WEBSITE NEWS

Rebeca has been working hard to update and improve our website and she has done a great job.

Please go to www.heartoftexasmissions.org and see the website.

We hope you find it aesthetically pleasing and more helpful in practical ways.

FINANCIAL REPORT

(through October 2019)

HOTBN Primary Account Balance-	\$87,761.69
HOTBN Mission Account-	\$39,043.59
Year to Date Budgeted-	\$128,247.90
Year to Date Spent-	\$124,530.60

Thank you for your investment in this ministry. The Heart of Texas Baptist Network receives the vast majority of its recourses 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.

