



# The Connection

“Networking together.....to fulfill the Great Commission”

August 2018

Creath-Brazos Baptist Association

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## Creath-Brazos Baptist Association Annual Meeting

**The Association's 91<sup>st</sup> Annual Meeting will be on Tuesday, October 16<sup>th</sup> at First Baptist Church, Madisonville, TX. The Fellowship Meal will begin at 6:00pm, followed by the Business Session and Worship at 7:00pm.**

# Knit Together

Lately my mind has been thinking a good bit about several of the Apostle Paul's exhortations to the church of Colossae. At the most recent Quarterly Meeting, held at Waller Baptist Church, I highlighting five evidences from Paul's Epistle to the Colossians that he expected different churches to associate and cooperate together. I argued that this was part of the "struggle" that he wrote about in **Colossians 2:1-3**

***(1) For I want you to know how great a struggle I have for you and for those at Laodicea and for all who have not seen me face to face, (2) that their hearts may be encouraged, being knit together in love, to reach all the riches of full assurance of understanding and the knowledge of God's mystery, which is Christ, (3) in whom are hidden all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge.***

Knit together! *Symbibazō!* It's an interesting Greek verb. The two root words that make up this verb are *syn* which means to bring together, and *basis* which is the origin for our English word base, meaning foundation. So the knitting together is the coalescing of the hearts of the people in the churches to form something foundational, something strong, something unbreakable. So don't read "knit together," and think of threads loosely connected and easily broken. Instead, think of threads expertly woven and tightly together to create a strong fabric that cannot be unraveled or torn apart.

Paul's burden in this text is not just for the Laodocians to be knit together within their own church body, but for all the believers from across the churches to be knit together. In fact, the reason he is telling the Colossians about the Laodocians is that he wants to stir up the Colossians love for the Laodocians. Later in the epistle (4:16) he tells the Colossian church to read the letter he wrote to the Laodocians and for Laodocians to read the Colossian letter. A very cursory overview of Paul's epistles reveals that he wanted to see strong relational crossover from one church to another. He wanted the generosity of the Macedonians to forever knit them to the impoverished saints of Jerusalem. He wanted the established Roman church to be knit to a potential church in Spain. He wanted the Colossian church praying for the Laodocians and vice-versa. On and on in Paul's letters we see his struggle, his burden.

I have asked God to give me this burden for Creath-Brazos. But I have also asked Him to give all of you that burden as well. I want to see 60 churches of our association knit together in love. I want us rejoice together, weep together, celebrate together, seek and serve God together. But our togetherness cannot be generic. It must be gospel-rooted. In **v. 2b-3** we see that the gospel of Jesus Christ drove Paul's burden. He wanted to see a deeper grasp of the gospel overtake the churches he served and he knew that such a thing would happen if the hearts of the people were knit together. Gospel-growth comes in community! Paul also knew that churches knit together in love, will also look outside there own walls to reach others with the gospel. In other words, churches knit together are missional.

If I may rob a title from a well-known conference, I have a burden for our churches to be "together for the gospel," because in all reality, we are better together. But it's a togetherness not born out of pragmatism, but our of genuine gospel love for one another. So I encourage those in our association to be praying for the *other* churches of the association, to be celebrating what God is doing in the *other* churches, to have a genuine desire for God to bring revival and revitalization to the *all* churches of our association. May we all share the burden that Paul had, namely, to see our hearts knit together in love so that we may grow in the gospel!

**Steve Doyle, Director of Missions**



# . . . Around the Association



**Country Fellowship** will have a **Special Launch Service** Sunday, August 26, at 5:30pm. Country Fellowship is meeting at **Brethren Church** located at **2650 Earl Rudder Freeway, College Station**. Please join them for this special service.

## Please Remember to Pray for:

### Pastorless Churches

Christ's Way BC  
Fellowship at Field Store  
Northview BC  
Pleasant Grove BC

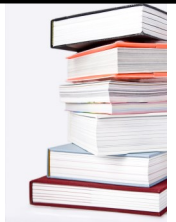
### Minister Needs

Christ's Way BC ~ Music Minister and Pianist  
Cottonwood BC ~ P/T Music Minister  
First BC North Zulch ~ P/T Music  
Living Hope Bryan ~ P/T Youth Pastor  
Madisonville Christian Fellowship ~ Children's Minister  
Reliance BC ~ Children's Church Minister

## Aggie Baptist Student Ministry



Joel Bratcher, Director • [joel@aggiebsm.org](mailto:joel@aggiebsm.org) • 979.846.7722



The Annual Give Away for International Students is **August 15**. We will accept items that are helpful for someone setting up housekeeping, such as small kitchen appliances and kitchen items, towels, linens, and some furniture items. There is only one pick up day for furniture in the B/CS area on **August 13**. Please call the BSM office if you have any questions or need a pick up for furniture at 979.846.7722.

Items **not accepted** are clothes, computers or large televisions. Thank you for being a part of this ministry and outreach to new international students.

Please pray that we will have opportunities to share Christ on the day of the give away and as we help them get the items to their homes.



10-11 ~ **Hispanic Pastors Fellowship Conference**, “En Sus Pasos”, Iglesia Bautista Navasota,  
Viernes, 7:00pm service; 8:30pm cena; Sabado, 2:00pm comida; 3-5:00pm talleres; 5:00pm servicio  
10-11 ~ **Childhood and Family Ministry Summit**, First BC, Garland, [texasbaptists.org/summit](http://texasbaptists.org/summit)  
11 ~ **SBTC Sent Conference**, “Show God’s Love”, North Richland BC  
17-18 ~ **HLCC “Under Construction Unbreakable Men’s Conference**, [www.hlccc.org/events/mens-conference](http://www.hlccc.org/events/mens-conference)

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### Upcoming . . .

September 27-28 ~ **BGCT Church Library Conference**, First BC, Waco. Register at [texasbaptists.org/library2018](http://texasbaptists.org/library2018)

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### *Happy Birthday!*



1 **Howard Tipton**, Living Hope CS  
10 **Thomas Baber**, Emmanuel BC  
10 **Jeremy Lewis**, Central BC  
15 **Jerry Allen Cole**, Bedias BC  
18 **Jim Jackson**, First BC Bryan  
21 **Steve Doyle**, CBBA DOM

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### *Happy Anniversary!*



... to **Kyle Childress** celebrating 10 years at Anderson BC  
... to **Jason Horine** celebrating 9 years at Wellborn BC  
... to **Chris Osborne** celebrating 32 years at Central BC  
... to **David Gusewelle** celebrating 15 years at First BC Bryan

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**First Baptist in College Station** is sponsoring a **blood drive through Gulf Coast Regional Blood Center** on September 29, 8:00-12:30. Call Barbara Raines at 979-255-1815 for more info.

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