

CHRISTMAS

beginning with Christ

To our San Jacinto Baptist Association Family,



We wish you a blessed &
Merry Christmas!



Something To Think About
Randy Gilchrist, Executive Director

Merry Christmas! It's one of my two favorite times of the year. When I think of the significance of the birth of Christ, I stand amazed at the Love God has for us. Think about it for a few minutes. The Son of God leaving the side of the Father to

come down the back stairs of Heaven to take on the form of a human. To be born, not as a king, but as a child of a young teenage girl, chosen by God, betrothed to a carpenter, in a livestock barn. His birth would be announced to shepherds, and visited by magi. He would live his life just like us only without being disobedient to God's plan, and ultimately giving His life as the sacrificial lamb for the selfish, independent, neglect of God of mankind. Paul when writing to the church of Galatia said, "But when the fullness of time had come, God sent forth his Son, born of woman, born under the law, to redeem those who were under the law, so that we might receive adoption as sons." Galatians 4:4-5

In light of the effects of the Covid-19 Pandemic, the financial situation of San Jacinto Baptist Association is very bleak. Since February of this year Lake Tomahawk has not had any significant camps or retreats. The camps that were scheduled for this past summer canceled, with the exception of three of our four Associational camps. Thanks to the PPP and church giving we were able to provide for all the staff through July 16. Since that time we have been relying upon the gifts from the churches to keep everyone.

Would you prayerfully consider giving a Christmas gift (tax-deductible) to the Association this year? We truly want to provide for our staff and maintain a good reputation with our creditors.

Merry Christmas,
Randy



For the Common Good
Carey D. Froelich, Associate Director
for Church Enrichment

ESV Psalm 139:7 Where shall I go from your Spirit? Or where shall I flee from your presence? 8 If I ascend to heaven, you are there! If I make my bed in Sheol, you are there! 9 If I take

the wings of the morning and dwell in the uttermost parts of the sea, 10 even there your hand shall lead me, and your right hand shall hold me. 11 If I say, "Surely the darkness shall cover me, and the light about me be night," 12 even the darkness is not dark to you; the night is bright as the day, for darkness is as light with you.

The *night* that has been 2020 is coming to a close. We have elected new leaders, heard announcements of effective vaccines for Covid, and prayed that the unbelievable season of hurricanes and wildfires is finally behind us. The dawn of the Advent Season brings hope, love, joy, peace, and light, and the opportunity to celebrate God's Blessings through these wonderful expressions of His Grace lifts our spirits. The hymn, *O Come, O Come Emmanuel* was penned to help the Church prepare for Christ's coming. A new verse offers a poignant comment on all we have been through this year:

*O come Thou Source of holiness and Light.
Unveil the hidden secrets of the night.
Reveal the Truth that hallows each day,
Illumine us and lead us in Thy Way.
Rejoice! Rejoice!
Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.*

David's words remind us that the Ever-present God is our Source of strength to face the *apparent* darkness. Through it we who know Emmanuel can genuinely celebrate the anticipation of His coming again, despite the darkness of this long, difficult year.

May the Peace of Christ fill your heart.

SeniorLife MINISTRY

FREE!

Need to Know Workshop

Healthy Living for Your Brain & Body

February 20, 2021 ~ 9:00 am - Noon
(for anyone 18 years and older)

Speaker: TBA, Alzheimer Association
Location: San Jacinto Baptist Association
1020 Birdsong Dr., Baytown, TX

Join us to learn about research in the areas of diet and nutrition, exercise, cognitive activity and social engagement, and use hands-on tools to help you incorporate these recommendations into a plan for healthy aging.

To register or for more information call 281-422-3604. To register online visit: www.sanjacintobaptist.com

Christmas Wish List
Baytown Boys Shelter

Stocking Stuffers/Small hand held games: *Etch-A-Sketch, Rubik's Cube*, playing cards, deodorant, candy, plastic wrist watches, boxers, Yo-Yo's, socks, dominoes, gels, lotion, body spray (only plastic containers) for ages 5 - 18.

Individual Gifts: Youth/Adult small, medium, & large, Christian Spanish music, Color by Number, Sketch Pads/Charcoal pencils, board games, puzzles, soccer balls, table top foosball, PG Spanish movies, pajama sets, socks with patterns, Soccer jerseys, house slippers, shirts, shorts, soft throw blankets, beanie hats, gloves, jackets, hats, sun glasses

Financial donations accepted by cash or check payable to San Jacinto Baptist Association. The boys will receive the stockings and gifts Christmas morning.

Please bring unwrapped gifts to SJBA by 12/14/20



VBS Directors' Training March 2, 2021 7:00 pm

It's time to start planning for VBS 2021

Check out the new theme!
Destination Dig: Unearthing the Truth About Jesus

Register online at www.sanjacintobaptist.com or call 281-422-3604 for more information or to register via phone.

Location: San Jacinto Baptist Association
1020 Birdsong Dr., Baytown, TX 77520



Prayer Coordinator Dr. B.L. Worsham

"Joy to the world the Lord is come." (Baptist Hymnal)

"In the beginning God created the heaven and the earth." (Genesis 1:1) "God created man in His own image--male and female-- God blessed them; He said--have dominion over every living thing--it was very good." (Genesis 1:27-31)

God who knows all things, saw that man would, by himself, fail! Therefore, God issued the first gospel promise to sustain men in their mortal journey: called, "The Protoevangelium." (Genesis 3:14-15) After long struggle this promise was fulfilled: "When the fullness of the time was come, God sent forth His Son to redeem mankind--that we might receive the adoption of sons--into our hearts, crying, Abba Father--and if a son, then an heir of God through Christ." (Galatians 4:4-7) The Bible continues: "You also trusted, after you heard the word of truth,--you were sealed with the Holy Spirit of promise, which is the earnest of our inheritance of His (Christ) glory." (Ephesians 1:13-14)

Beloved, this is what we celebrate at Christmas! Christ came incarnate from heaven--bringing us the opportunity to be saved, converted, forgiven, and born again! He still offers this greatest of all blessing to whoever will pray and ask Him! Christ will hear your prayer of faith and redeem your eternal soul! Go before Him in prayer right now, and enjoy your happiest, most blessed Christmas! When you pray that prayer, you will surely sing-- "Joy to the world--"

---the Lord is come."

God Bless You!

Lake Tomahawk News Patrick Flowers, Camp Manager



We wish you Merry Christmas from all the staff at Lake Tomahawk Christian Retreat Center. We are enjoying the cool weather and looking forward to the holiday season. Because of Covid-19, this year we have only had a few retreats and have only two booked for December and none booked in January or February.

A great gift idea to give that someone special or a gift for the person that has everything is to give a donation in honor of them to Lake Tomahawk! We are in need of funds to help with our most basic expenses and would love to help you honor that special person in your life. Remember, we are a non-profit organization and you will receive a contribution statement for your tax deductible donation in January.

You can donate directly to Lake Tomahawk by mailing your check made payable to Lake Tomahawk, P.O. Box 1533, Baytown, Texas 77522-1533.

I want to express that without your monthly donations right now we would not be able to maintain the operation of Lake Tomahawk. You are a blessing to this ministry and we are very blessed to be able to serve such a great ministry of San Jacinto Baptist Association. Please call me 800-522-6720 to learn more about how you can help support Lake Tomahawk.

Merry Christmas and have a happy and blessed New Year!

Pat Flowers

Herbed Oyster Crackers

Patrick Flowers

2 large bags of oyster crackers
1/2 cup vegetable oil
1 (1oz) package Hidden Valley original ranch

1 heaping tablespoon dried dill
1 teaspoon garlic powder
1 teaspoon celery salt

Place the crackers in a large sealable bowl, or Ziploc bag. In a separate bowl, mix together the oil, ranch, dill, garlic powder, and celery salt. Pour this mixture over the crackers, seal, and invert to coat the crackers with seasoning. Refrigerate for at least 24 hours, turning the container every so often to keep the crackers coated. Let the mixture come to room temperature before serving. Store the covered container in the refrigerator.

SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENT:

We need your help.



Due to financial constraints brought on by the Covid-19 crisis, we must limit the number of mailed newsletters beginning with the January 2021 *On the Line*. If you have an email address we will be happy to add you to the regular emailed version of the newsletter. Please call us at 281-422-3604 or email us at sjba@sanjacintobaptist.com to provide your current email address.

However, if you do not have email and would prefer a printed copy, please call us ASAP and let us know to update you to the revised printed mailing list beginning with the January issue.

San Jacinto Baptist Association
Physical Address: 1020 Birdsong, Baytown, TX 77521
Mailing Address: P.O. Box 1533, Baytown, TX 77522-1533

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Executive DirectorDr. Randy Gilchrist
Associate Director Church EnrichmentDr. Carey Froelich
Baptist Student Ministry DirectorDavid Brumbelow
Administrative AssistantSuzi Ronning
Financial Ministry AssistantTara Dodds

Lake Tomahawk (LT) Director Pat Flowers
Lake Tomahawk Operations Supervisor Bryan Dickens
LT Administrative Assistant/Reservations Angie Dickens
LT Food Service Loyce Flowers
LT Assistant Operations..... Nick Wilson

San Jacinto Baptist Association
P.O. Box 1533
Baytown, TX 77522-1533

ELECTRONIC SERVICE REQUESTED

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Folks 'N Facts

~ December Birthdays ~

12/05 Kent Reep, Central Baytown
12/06 Al Smith, Cypress Pt Huffman
12/08 B.L. Worsham, Retired-Second La Porte
12/16 Windell Gill, First La Porte
12/19 Ken Buck, First Huffman
12/21 Noe Izaguirre Sr., Eben-ezer Houston

~ Important Dates in December ~

SJBA Christmas Open House Thursday, December 10
has been canceled due to Covid-19.

Valley Mission Delivery Trip December 4 - 6 we will only
deliver the stockings this year. *Save the date* for next year's
Valley Mission Trip December 3 - 5, 2021.

~ December Church Anniversaries ~


12/31/2001 Noe Izaguirre Sr., Eben-ezer Houston
12/11/2006 Pat Flowers, Lake Tomahawk
12/9/2007 Bill Yowell, First Baytown
12/2/2009 John Torres, Lighthouse
12/10/2012 Jason Havner, Memorial Pasadena

~ Christmas Office Closures ~

The **Mission Center** office will be closed
December 24 - 25 and December 28 - January 1 in
observance of the Christmas and New Year holidays.

The **Lake Tomahawk** office will be closed
December 24 - 25 and December 28 - January 1 in
observance of the Christmas and New Year holidays.

Thank you to all who gave to the Valley Mission Delivery
Trip stocking project or who made the beautiful stockings!

 Tell Lee College students you know
about Thursday lunches at BSM for \$1.
We anticipate restarting the lunches in
Spring 2021. Current schedule is as
follows, but is subject to change due to Covid-19.

01/14 Coady Baptist Baytown
01/21 Second Highlands
01/28 Templo Bautista La Porte

EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING

January 25, 2021

You are impacting the lives of our Lee College students with the Gospel.

12:00 pm (Noon) / lunch at 11:30 am for \$5