



April 2024

We are grateful for the prayers and support of those who love preacher's training programs. We are blessed to have begun our Spring Quarter during the last week of March. This is the last quarter for Kodi Martin, who will then graduate and move to Concord, New Hampshire, to labor with the brethren there. Also, this is the last quarter for Cash Orren of Arkansas, who will finish our MTSM program (Moving Toward Spiritual Maturity). And DaNisha Stitts of Indiana, is finishing her studies, after spending a year taking and auditing classes, besides her father, Norfleet, who is in the two-year program. The MTSM program is a one-year program for those out of High School or College who want to take a year and study God's word. The program is not geared to make those who attend preachers, but it will give them a spiritual foundation to help them for the rest of their lives.

I taught *Restoration History* this quarter and have already finished. Due to surgeries and mission work planned by other instructors, I was frontloaded this quarter and got all my hours in the first three weeks of school. The students and I had to look at each other daily for hours in this one course, but I know they are grateful to finish this and now focus on the different courses they are taking.



Matthew Cash Orren

Graduate Updates

Drew Robinson

I have been blessed to know Brother Robinson for several years now. He graduated from Brown Trail in 1998. The first time I heard about him was from a young convert named Jesus Mosquera. Originally from Columbia, he came to America on a basketball scholarship, and Drew converted him and his wife to Christ.

I met Drew in 2018 when he was preaching for the Graham Street congregation in Paris, Texas. Having heard of his evangelism accomplishments and his desire to teach evangelism classes, I asked him to take over the Evangelism class here, and he did an excellent job.

When Drew graduated, he knew he wanted to spend his life strengthening small fledgling congregations. After graduation, he worked with the Royce City congregation outside Dallas. From there, he worked as a circuit preacher, helping five small congregations, three outside Wichita Falls, Texas, the Highland Hills congregation in Fort Worth, and the Carrolton congregation north of Dallas. He then started preaching full-time for the Graham Street congregation in Paris and eventually moved into full-time pulpit work with the Northside congregation in Waxahachie.

While in Waxahachie, he attended an event where an elderly preacher from the Northeast presented opportunities for the church in the Atlantic Northeast. The older brother called that part of the country one of the largest mission fields in the world and spoke of some existing congregations in that area that are struggling and dying off. After contemplation, Drew and his wife made a life-changing decision to leave their home in Texas and move up north to try to help a struggling congregation. They visited the Dutchess County congregation in Poughkeepsie, New York. After a Gospel Meeting and discussion, Drew and his wife moved there to help the struggling congregation of about twenty members. The numbers have almost doubled in the short time they have been there. They have not only baptized six from the community, but a few Christian families have heard of what the church there is trying to do and left other congregations in surrounding counties to come and help.

Please keep Drew and his family in your prayers. He has fallen in love with that part of the world. If he has his way, the congregation there will grow large enough to stand on its own. Then, he hopes to find another to strengthen. He is ambitious, and we hope the Lord provides the increase.



Drew and Sandy Robinson

Mickey Hukill

Brother Mickey graduated from Brown Trail in 2000. After graduating, he and his wife labored with the Windmill congregation in Weatherford, Texas. Like so many preachers, he burned out a bit, left pulpit work, and continued worshipping with the brethren at Windmill.

Over the years, I have spent much time working with many of our graduates who suffered from "burnout" and encouraging them to rekindle their love for preaching. The Lord has blessed this effort; several are back in pulpits today. About five years ago, I convinced Mickey to do some fill-in work on Sundays, and from there, his confidence was rebuilt, and he started working full-time with a struggling congregation near Mineral Wells, Texas, where he helped them out for over a year. He has recently moved and is now helping a small congregation in Bells, Texas. Due to health reasons, they lost their preacher last year, and immediately, Mickey started helping them out, driving about two hours each Sunday to fill their pulpit. As far as his plans, he and his wife will be retiring soon, and when they do, they plan to find a struggling congregation in a small community that will hire them and move there to work full-time.



Rayanne and Mickey Hukill

Conclusion

Reading about Brothers Drew and Mickey shows that not all preachers fit into the same mold. We are blessed to have graduated many who love pulpit work, and they have labored with vital congregations their entire careers. Yet, we have

graduated many with a mission approach to ministry, willing to move to portions of the United States where Christians are few while striving daily to rebuild congregations in communities whose glory days were decades ago. We are grateful for men like Drew and Mickey, who may not fit the typical mold but have the ability and desire to help strengthen and rebuild. We also want to pray for Kodi, as he is about to graduate and leave all he has ever known in Texas to labor with the Lord's church in New Hampshire. These three good men have taken on great responsibility; we should be proud of them!

Brotherly,
heath w stapleton

