



November 2024

We are very grateful for those who unite with us in training men to preach. Preaching is a noble task, and we hope all who desire to spread God's word will receive the love, support, and mentorship needed to accomplish the task.

We are now starting our finals week for the fall quarter. After completing their finals, the students will be off for a week to visit family, supporters, and friends before they start the winter quarter in December.

This past Sunday, my wife and I were blessed to travel to Pecos, Texas (the home of the first rodeo), with two Spanish students and their families, visiting the congregations and supporters there. We traveled with Daniel Martinez, from Baja, California, and his wife and three sons, and Ulises Franco, from Panama, along with his wife and two daughters. The Spanish students spoke at the Spanish congregation while I delivered the lessons at the English congregation. After worship, the two groups united for a fellowship meal, then bilingual worship, with Brother Franco delivering the lesson with a translator's help.



Student Update

Robert Orren

We want to congratulate second-year student Robert Orren, who has just accepted the pulpit position at the Highway congregation in Benton, Arkansas. This congregation in Benton is a growing congregation whose meeting house is westbound on I-30 through Benton/Little Rock. Robert will join a staff of two other preachers, one being Stephen Woods, who serves as a youth minister and graduated from Brown Trail in 2021.

Robert and his family are really excited about this position. He and his family are from the Hope, Arkansas area and have worked with the churches at Hope and Camden. They are grateful to go back close to home and work with the church in Benton.



Graduate Updates

Clarence Walker

Brother Clarence Walker and his wife Nicole started attending BTSOP in 2005, and he graduated the preacher's program and his wife the women's program in 2006. They were originally from Fort Worth and were worshipping with the Forest Hill congregation. After graduation, he started working for the Heritage congregation in Denton, Texas. He also labored with the church meeting at MLK in Gainesville for a couple of years, and he has recently taken the pulpit position for the church in Bells, Texas. Please be mindful of him and his wife in your prayers as they are starting this new phase of their lives.

John Ratliff

John is originally from Emory, Texas, and was raised in the church there. He met his wife, Ashley, from Parable, Arkansas, and they married in 2005. They have two children, Isaiah and Haniah, who are in the 8th and 9th grades.

John started attending Brown Trail in 2010 and graduated in 2011. From there, he and his family worked with the church in Alba, Texas, for two years before moving to Prescott, Arkansas, where he served for almost ten years. John has also made a mission trip to

Tanzania, East Africa, and teaches at the Lamb's Academy of Biblical Studies. We want to congratulate John and his family for taking the open position in Edgewood, Texas, just a short distance from John's hometown of Emory. I am confident he and his family will do great things alongside the church at Edgewood.



School Pantry

We are always grateful for the variety of ways congregations help support the school. One of those ways is for local congregations to donate groceries or money for the pantry. At least twice a year, my wife and I search the local grocery stores for bargains to fill the pantry. These pictures were taken a day after we filled the pantry, and within a few days, most of the shelves will be bare again. With many of our students living on shoestring budgets, the pantry comes in handy in feeding their families, and often, during breaks at school, students will raid the pantry for a snack. This year, we had enough money coming in that we were able to purchase each student family a ham or turkey for Thanksgiving. We appreciate those who help!





Conclusion

I hope everyone has a great and safe holiday season. Please keep the school in your prayers as we labor to mentor men for tomorrow.

Brotherly,
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