

THE BAPTIST MESSENGER

Informing and Inspiring Oklahoma Baptists Since 1912
DIGITAL EDITION • JULY 26, 2023





OBU receives gift from Tommy Gunn's estate

>> STAFF



Ardmore, Emmanuel celebrates Steven Johnson

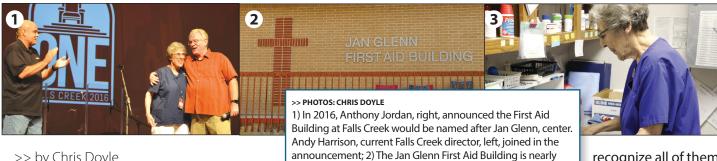
>> CHURCH NEWS



Subscribe to the Messenger Magazine for Free!

BAPTISTMESSENGER.COM/ SUBSCRIPTIONS

'Nurse Jan' concludes impactful career of 41 years serving at Falls Creek



>> by Chris Doyle MANAGING EDITOR

DAVIS—A lengthy chapter is coming to an end at Falls Creek Conference Center. For 41 years, Jan Glenn has been involved with providing medical care for campers, with the last 17 years serving as administrator of the First Aid Station.

"Nurse Jan" will be retiring after the encampment's last two major events of the year—Indian Falls Creek (July 30-Aug. 3) and Collegiate Week (Aug. 6-10).

"The Lord told me it was time," Glenn said. "This was always my way of serving Him."

And serving the Lord she has. Hundreds of thousands of campers have been treated at the First Aid Station. Glenn's experiences with campers have not always involved medical treatment, but she and others on the medical staff have been available to help with spiritual matters too.

"We know there is spiritual warfare," she said. "We have seen patients who were under conviction, though they claimed to have physical pain, but we would ask them, 'Have you asked Jesus in your heart?' or 'Can we pray with you?' That was exactly the treatment they needed."

Glenn was recruited by Tom Cotton, former director of missions in Enon Association, in 1982 to work Associational Children's Camp. From there her services at Falls Creek grew.

three times the size of the previous clinic; 3) For 41 years, 'Nurse

Jan' provided both medical and spiritual care for campers.

"We started out in a little medical clinic," she said. "It was torn down in '98. It was tiny with all of us in there, but we made it work. Now, our building is almost three times the size of that little clinic."

The building she mentioned bears her name, the Jan Glenn First Aid Building. On July 22, 2016, at the final evening service of Week 7 of Falls Creek Youth Camp, Anthony Jordan, former executive director-treasurer of Oklahoma Baptists, announced the building's new name and recognized Glenn, which was followed by loud cheers from the whole camp.

"When somebody has given 40plus years to serve in this way, it's just a small token of appreciation to put her name on the building," said Andy Harrison, Oklahoma Baptists director of conference centers. "Her name is synonymous of the level of care we have provided for all our campers."

Harrison is one of six directors who have served at Falls Creek during Glenn's tenure. She made it a point to recognize all of them, which include Harry Dodd, Gary Fielding Kevin Darland, James Swain, Jason Langley

and Keith Burkhart.

"They've each impacted my life in their own way and have been very supportive of us here at the First Aid Station," she said.

Glenn also appreciates everyone she has served with at the First Aid Station, including doctors Dan Horton, former medical director, and Rick Schmidt, current medical director. The list also includes nurses Oleta Chaffin, Joyce Fielding and Vickie Arocha.

"When anybody thinks of the Falls Creek First Aid, Jan Glenn is what everybody thinks of," Arocha said. "She has touched so many lives."

As a member of Ardmore, First, Glenn will continue serving in ministries of her church, including a clothes closet and in other community ministries. She said she will serve "wherever the Lord leads me."

"Jan has led the First Aid Station with great integrity," Harrison said. "She has served on the front line on all the medical care, and yet at the same time, she's organized all of it. Everybody loves Nurse Jan, and we are going to miss her. But what a fantastic career."



OBU receives gift from Tommy Gunn's estate

>> by Staff

On July 12, 2023, Rusty Gunn, lead pastor of Sand Springs, Church That Matters and director of Send Network Oklahoma, along with his family, presented a check for \$43,193.42 to Oklahoma Baptist University (OBU).

This generous contribution came from the estate of Rusty's father, Tommy Gunn, who unexpectedly passed away in October 2022 at the age of 64. The check represented the fruition of Tommy's estate plan, a thoughtful arrangement he made with WatersEdge Advisors shortly before his passing.

For Rusty, the estate plan that his father had in place was one of the wisest and most loving things Tommy had ever done for him and his sister Brande Richardson.

As a pastor, Rusty has witnessed numerous families struggling with the aftermath of a loved one's passing without a clear plan for their assets, leading to confusion and conflict during the distribution process. Rusty and Brande expressed immense gratitude for their father's foresight and care in preparing the estate plan.

The Gunn family also commends WatersEdge for offering an easy process and even an incentive for individuals to plan ahead, as Tommy did. WatersEdge reimburses up to \$500 for legal fees in-

curred while completing an estate plan, provided the benefactor includes a tithe (10 percent) gift from their estate to a partnering ministry of their choice. Tommy embraced this opportunity and chose to allocate 10 percent of his estate to Oklahoma Bantici

to Oklahoma Baptist University upon his passing.

Tommy graduated from OBU in 1987 with a Bachelor of Arts degree in religion and played baseball for the Bison until a motorcycle accident cut his athletic career short in 1985. He served in several Oklahoma Baptist churches, and his ministry eventually extended to Texas and New Mexico. His love for OBU remained strong, and he kept up with university news through alumni communications and social media.

Tommy made Rusty and Brande aware of his estate plan and his wishes after completing the process with WatersEdge. The comprehensive and organized format of the estate plan has been a blessing for his children during an undoubtedly challenging time.

Church That Matters, the church Rusty planted and pastors, hosted an estate planning workshop in July 2022, partnering with WatersEdge to encour-

Balson

The Estate of Towning Gunn

The Thomas Baptist University

Forty-there thousand, one hundred ninety-three and 42/100

>> PHOTO: PROVIDED

Rusty Gunn, second from right, and his family present a check to OBU from his father Tommy's estate. This estate gift was facilitated through WatersEdge.

age families and individuals in their church and community to consider crafting clear estate plans. Rusty and his wife, Megan, an insurance agent, are strong advocates for this process, having witnessed firsthand the devastating effects of families torn apart due to the absence of a well-thought-out plan.

For Rusty and his sister Brande, the gift to OBU was a meaningful way to honor their dad and carry out his wishes of contributing to the university that contributed so much to his development as a man and a minister of the Gospel.

"We praise the Lord for the promise of eternity and the assurance that we will see our dad again," Rusty said. "Until that sweet day, knowing that he contributed to the ongoing work of OBU is a heartwarming reminder of his life and legacy, offering us comfort as we continue on."

For more information on estate planning, visit *watersedgeservices.org/estate-planning*.



Learn To Navigate Complex Church Financial And Legal Challenges With Ease

26

SEPTEMBER TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 26

Tulsa Area & VirtualFirst Baptist Church, Owasso

28

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 28

Oklahoma City AreaTrinity Baptist Church, Yukon

\$79 - Early Bird Registration • \$99 - After July 31 • \$69 - Virtual





Coming event



JAN. 31. Sulphur, Calvary is hosting Man Church at 6 p.m. Guest speaker will be Prophet Bailey, who is now serving as men's ministry partner for Oklahoma Baptists.

People in the news



ARDMORE, EMMANUEL CELE-BRATES STEVEN JOHNSON. Steven Johnson announced his retirement, completing 30 years of service as minister of music at Ardmore, Emmanuel. Overall he has served in music ministry for 45 years, previously serving at Wilburton, First and El Reno, Amity. On Sunday, July 23, Emmanuel hosted a celebration fellowship for Johnson and his wife, Gayle who has served the church as accompanist for 30 years. Along with the church hon-

oring Johnson, the Singing Churchmen of Oklahoma recognizing his faithful service in music ministry.

VOLUNTEER MISSIONS OPPORTUNITIES

OKLAHOMA

On-going opportunities for volunteers:

Baptist Village Communities:

Ada—Tracy Scheer—580/332-6004

Broken Arrow—Monty Baggett—918/355-0099

Cleveland—Danna Ellis—918/358-2575

Cordell—Alicia Holt—580/832-5831

Elk City—Cathy Henderson—580/225-5555

Grove (Honey Creek)—Gary Mishler—918/786-2223

Madill (Lake Texoma)—Alandra Needham—580/564-3776

Miami—Shane McGhee—918/542-7124

OKC—Chris Finley—405/721-2466 ext 2115

Okmulgee—Matthew Wood—918/756-5377

Owasso—Steven Walkingstick—918/272-2281 ext 102

Entrusted Hearts (Home Health Care)—Shannon Ryan—

405/942-3000 ext 4685

DISASTER RELIEF

Training:

Sept. 14—Chaplaincy Refresher Course \$10—Baptist Building (for endorsed chaplains only), to register, email *pjones@* oklahomabaptists.org

Sept. 16—Disaster Relief Orientation & Credentialing—8:30 a.m.
12 noon; Weatherford, First, 1510 E. Davis Ave.
Register at: Orientation & Credentialing | Oklahoma Baptist
Disaster Relief (okdisasterhelp.org)

Sept. 23—First Aid/CPR Class—9 a.m.-3 p.m. – \$20, DR Team Center, 7180 NW Expressway, Okarche, to register email Ryan Deatherage *rdeatherage@oklahomabaptists.org*

