

# Bivocational News

We're on the web:  
[www.alsbom.org/bivocational](http://www.alsbom.org/bivocational)



## John Thweatt will lead our Bivo Ministers

John Thweatt has been pastor at First Baptist Pelham for sixteen years. He received his Master of Divinity degree from Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary and a Doctor of Ministry from New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary. He is currently serving as Chairman of the Board of Trustees at the Southern Baptist Theological Seminary as well as the president of the Alabama Baptist State Convention. John and his wife Kim have 4 daughters: Hannah, Hope, Hollie, and Kimberly Joy. His vision is leading his congregation to be a glory driven church by integrating church, family and community to connect with God, others and the world. Additionally he seeks to emphasize and promote partnerships with others to take the gospel to our neighbors and the nations.



## Barbara Eubanks to Lead Wives For Bivocational Retreat

**Barbara Eubanks**, widow of Rev. Steve Eubanks, mother of three sons and grand-mother to eight is a Christian humorist, speaker and author. Her life has been un-orthodox in that she married at age fifteen and birthed her three sons by age twenty. When the children were young, she began to further her education and earned three degrees-B.A. from Samford University and an M.A. and Ed.S from the University of Alabama. After teaching high school English for thirty-five years, God led her to a new career. She has written three humorous devotional books and two novels. In addition, she has written magazine articles and has developed and published Sunday School lessons for **Lifeway**. She entertains and inspires with Christian humor in her monthly "Holy Humor" column for **Anniston/Gadsden Christian Family Magazine**.

She now resides near Albertville, AL where she and her husband built their home on farmland homesteaded by her great-grandfather.

## Bivocational Minister & Spouse Retreat Shocco Springs, February 9-10, 2018

**Cost: \$20 per person (double)  
Private room (without spouse) add  
\$20 For reservations call  
800.280.1105 or mail check to 1314  
Shocco Springs Rd. Talladega, AL  
35160-5852.**

### Friday

- 2:30 pm Early Bird Session-Mike Jackson
- 4:00 pm Fellowship and Refreshments
- 5:15 pm Supper
- 6:15 pm Worship-Keith & Amy Hibbs
- 8:00 pm Session 1-John Thweatt
- 8:00 pm Wives Session -Barbara Eubanks
- 9:15 pm Fellowship at Snack Bar

### Saturday

- 7:15 am Breakfast
- 8:15 am Special Music-Keith Hibbs
- 8:45 am Business Meeting
- 8:50 am Announcements & Information
- 9:00 am Session 2-John Thweatt  
Wives Session -Barbara Eubanks
- 10:15am Break
- 10:45am Session 3-John Thweatt  
Wives session -Barbara Eubanks
- 12:00 pm Recap & Testimonies
- 12:30 pm Lunch & Dismiss



## **Troy L. Morrison Award for 2017 Bivocational Pastor**

**John Robles** is our 2107 recipient of the “Troy L. Morrison: Leadership/Church Health Award. This has become a significant recognition since its inception in 1999. During the first three years of its existence, the award was presented in two categories: New Work and Established Work. In 2002 the award was expanded to include a minister from a Bivocational Work (a church where the pastor holds dual employment). Each year the award(s) are made during the State Convention. The award for the year 2017 was presented at the State Convention at Whitesburg Baptist Church in Huntsville. **John Robles** has served as bivocational pastor of Second Baptist Church in Boaz since 2013 and prior to that as the bivocational pastor of New Friendship Baptist Church in Arab. Additionally he has served churches in Texas and Oklahoma as a full time pastor from 1995 to 2010. He holds a Bachelor of Business from Texas A&M and an MDIV from Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary and is currently working toward a Doctorate of Ministry at Southern Baptist Theological Seminary. He and his wife Lori have been married 20 years and have two children, a son Kyle and daughter Katie Beth.



## **Keith and Amy Hibbs Are our Worship Leaders**

Keith and Amy’s story is a story of God’s grace, redemption, and restoration. Their marriage on September 3, 2012, was a celebration of God’s work in each of their lives and His providence in bringing them together. Amy is the daughter of Rev. Rick and Melanie Evans and has traveled with them throughout the Southeast leading revivals and worship.

Keith has served as a state missionary with the Alabama State Board of Missions and is currently the Director of the Office of Worship Leadership/Church Music. They reside in We-

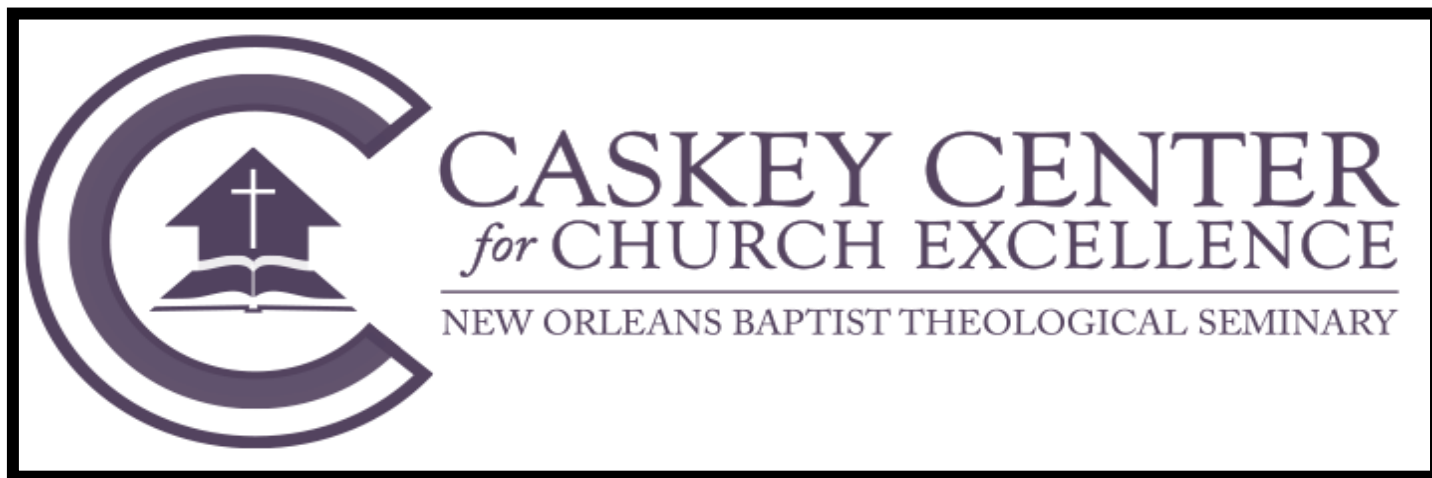
### **A Word From Your President.....**

The annual Bi-Vocational Ministers and Wives Retreat at Shocco Springs is quickly approaching, February 9 and 10, 2018. My prayer is that you are planning to attend and will invite another bi-vocational minister and wife to attend with you. These retreats are truly that...a retreat. We are able to come together at Shocco to get away with our wives and spend time with other ministering couples from across the state. I know I have left the retreat each year feeling refreshed and having a renewed sense of purpose for God's calling in my life. My prayer is that this year you have the same experience.

I am still surprised when I hear bi-vocational ministers say they do not know this retreat is available for them. So, I would like to challenge each of you today: first, register you and your wife, today, for the retreat. You will be blessed, I promise! Second, in the spirit of the Great Commission, invite another couple to attend with you. Maybe even offer to pay the small registration fee for them. Offer to ride together and enjoy the fellowship and company of another brother and sister in Christ. Do whatever you can to engage another bi-vo minister in *our* retreat. Our retreat is only as good as we make it...let's make it GREAT! Third, begin praying now that God will pour His Spirit out upon us while at this retreat and that we will all leave Shocco closer to God, and each other, than we ever have been before. Finally, I want to take a moment to say thank you. I was not able to attend our retreat this past February because my youngest son, Denver, was still in a coma from a near-fatal car accident on January 21. You have been praying for Denver and God has heard your prayers! Denver's healing has been nothing short of miraculous...his doctors even say as much. While he still has some things he is working through, he is so much farther along than the doctors said he ever could be with the amount of damage he sustained to his brain. We are so blessed to have you as our faithful prayer partners! We are truly grateful for your persistent prayers and thankful to God for His healing touch.

I look forward to seeing each of you in just a few weeks! Don't forget, bring another couple with you!

In Christ,  
Orlando Buck



### **What Caskey Scholarships Offer**

- ◆ Full tuition scholarships (up to \$6,000 annually) for LBC, MBCB, and ABSC in bivocational and smaller membership church ministers for certificate, undergraduate or master's study in any NOBTS delivery system in Louisiana, Mississippi, or Alabama (main campus, hybrid, extension, workshop, online).
- ◆ Scholarship recipients also receive the Logos Silver Bible software package.
- ◆ Annual "No Restraints" Conference \*\*
- ◆ New Study Options
- ◆ Personalized Coaching and Mentoring

### **Eligibility Requirements**

#### **Alabama**

- ◆ Serve as paid staff (bivocational or full-time/part-time minister) in a MBCB church with 150 or fewer in worship.
- ◆ Affirm the Baptist Faith and Message 2000 ([www.sbc.net/bfm/bfm2000.asp](http://www.sbc.net/bfm/bfm2000.asp)) and the Danvers Statement on Biblical Manhood and Womanhood ([www.cbmw.org/core-beliefs](http://www.cbmw.org/core-beliefs)).
- ◆ Engage in personal evangelism and submit reports on evangelistic activity.
- ◆ Be interviewed by Dr. Mark Tolbert, Director of the Caskey Center.

### **Contact the Caskey Center**

For additional information about the Caskey Center for Church Excellence, contact Dr. Mark Tolbert at

[caskeycenter@nobts.edu](mailto:caskeycenter@nobts.edu). Or 504.282.4455, Ext. 8227.

\*\* For more information on this conference go to <http://nobts.edu/caskeycenter/conference.html>