

UPDATES FROM THE HILL
TIGER PRIDE
EAST TEXAS BAPTIST UNIVERSITY



ETBU is Coming to a City Near You

Throughout the month of July, alumni, donors, and incoming Fall 2018 Tigers will have the opportunity to meet ETBU President J. Blair Blackburn, Vice President for Advancement Scott Bryant, and other ETBU leaders. Dr. Blackburn will provide a report on University progress and will share the vision for the future of East Texas Baptist. Make reservations to join us for an evening fellowship and complimentary dinner with other members of the ETBU Family.

Monday, July 9 in Tyler at The Grove

Tuesday, July 10 in Shreveport at Posadas (1355 E. Bert Kouns Industrial)

Monday, July 23 in Lufkin at Ralph and Kacoo's

Sunday, July 29 in the DFW Metroplex, location TBD

All of the rallies will be 6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. Please RSVP to Minda Purdie at mpurdie@etbu.edu or call 903.923.2071.



Senior Adults Experience Life on the Hill

Over 200 senior adults experienced life on the Hill last week at Hilltop University. During this annual event, attendees enjoyed worship, breakout sessions, and messages from Texas Baptists (BGCT) Executive Director David Hardage, South Main Baptist Church Pasadena Senior Pastor Ron Lyles, and Bible Lessons International Founder and retired ETBU Professor Bob Utley.

“This is my fourth year to attend the conference, and every year I look forward to being back on campus to visit with old friends and make new memories,” Dale Coates ('65) shared. “Hilltop University is a great three-day retreat, geared specifically for us as senior adults. The most rewarding aspect of the conference, for me, was hearing the Word of God presented by the best Bible teachers.”

From Bible study sessions to coffee breaks and dessert fellowships, the retreat allowed participants to experience the Christ-centered environment and community of ETBU. Worship at each session was led by the Foto Sisters and Benjie Harlan. The Foto Sisters offer a charming and unique blend of sacred, classical, and cinematic music, and hails from Baton Rouge, Louisiana. Benjie Harlan holds advanced degrees in Church Music and Conducting and has spent his career training worship leaders and serving local churches in Texas and Louisiana. The conference featured concerts with The Isaacs, a family group from Tennessee that has won seven Dove Awards and been nominated for several Grammys during their career, and outstanding vocalist Scot Cameron.

To see photos from this year, [click here](#).



Bass Fishing Duo Reaches FLW National Championship

Fishing with the best in the nation, the East Texas Baptist University Bass Fishing Team competed at the Yeti FLW College National Championships. Brandon Barber and Colby Simmons represented ETBU at the championship.

"Colby and Brandon did a great job of representing ETBU on the river," Head Coach Cameron Burger said. "They didn't finish where they wanted, but came away with a great experience. I am looking forward to what this team will do in the future. With our program only being two years old and qualifying both years for the FLW nationals says something about the quality national championship caliber program we are building. We are truly blessed and give God all the glory for what we are doing."

Last year was the first year for the Bass Fishing program at ETBU and Jacob Keith and Brett Clark finished fifth at the FLW College National Championships. Jacob Keith and partner Mason Beatty qualified for the Carhartt Bassmaster College National Championships this week making them the fourth boat to qualify for a national championship in two years.

Congrats again to ETBU Bass Fishing for this incredible accomplishment!

For more on ETBU Bass Fishing, [click here](#).



ETBU Men's Basketball Visits the Holy Land

East Texas Baptist University Men's Basketball Team traveled to Israel from Tuesday, May 15 through Saturday, May 26 as part of the Tiger Athletic Mission Experience (TAME) program. The TAME group of 24 student-athletes, coaches, student athletic trainers, faculty, and staff spent the trip touring the region, studying Scripture and history, volunteering, hosting sports camps, and competing against international basketball teams.

The TAME program exists to give our Tiger athletes the opportunity to use the sport they love to share the Good News of Jesus Christ and grow closer as a team through service and worship. "Tame" not only means to bring something under control, like taming a tiger, but also is defined as "to cultivate the land." Through the TAME program, our student-athletes travel to places unfamiliar to them to cultivate the Word of God and His hope

through Christ.

The trip to Israel was the 6th TAME trip for Tiger Athletics. Over the last three years, Tiger athletes have served in Costa Rica, Nicaragua, the Dominican Republic, Brazil, and Serbia. In August the Women's Basketball team will be traveling to Jamaica to use their love for basketball to minister in the name of Christ. Additional TAME trips planned for the coming year include Ice Hockey to Slovakia, Women's Soccer to Costa Rica, Tennis to France, and Cheer and Pom to Japan.

To help send ETBU student-athletes on future TAME trips, [click here](#).



Help us connect with ETBU or ETBC Tigers!

We are looking for our alumni and need your help. Please look at the link below to see who we are trying to locate. We want to keep all of our alumni informed about the exciting things happening on the Hill! If you see a college friend or former Tiger classmate on the list, encourage them to submit their current contact information. Please help spread the word on social media as well.

[ETBU Alumni: Project Locate.](#)

Support Christ-Centered Higher Education at ETBU

Stay in touch and share your news with your ETBU Family. Send your career accomplishments and family updates to alumni@etbu.edu or click [here](#) to update your information.

For more information please call:

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