

UPDATES FROM THE HILL **TIGER PRIDE** EAST TEXAS BAPTIST UNIVERSITY



ETBU Students Travel to the Holy Land

East Texas Baptist University Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs Thomas Sanders led a group of students and faculty on a Global Study & Serve trip to Israel. Students had the opportunity to take courses offered by ETBU's School of Christian Studies faculty while exploring many of the important places in the Biblical narrative including the Sea of Galilee, the Mount of Olives, and the Via Dolorosa.

This trip to Israel is one of many Global Study & Serve trips that allow students to earn class credit and serve others in a global context. This May, ETBU faculty and students are learning and serving in China, Nicaragua, Germany, and the Philippines. Students received financial assistance from the ETBU Great Commission Center Scholarship Fund

that supports students as they serve. Thank you to the many individuals and congregations that support the Great Commission Center Scholarship Fund. If you would like to make a contribution to support ETBU students as they engage in global missions, click [here](#). Thank you for providing students a once in a lifetime opportunity to study and serve globally!



ETBU Athletes Serve East Texas Elementary Children

Serving the elementary children of Marshall Independent School District, the East Texas Baptist University Tiger Athletic Department partnered with Samaritan's Feet to provide shoes to children at four local elementary schools. During NCAA Division III Week, over 50 ETBU student athletes provided 67 children with new shoes and socks. The student athletes washed and wiped the feet of the children, put on new socks, and helped them lace up their new shoes.

“Just to see their faces when they came in and hurried up to sit down and take off their old shoes and socks and put their feet in the water was a really cool thing” commented senior track and field student Shelby Sparks.

Raising over \$1,800 for the shoes, the ETBU student athletes hosted a Samaritan's Feet weekend in Ornelas Gym against rivals LeTourneau University and University of Texas-Tyler during the spring semester. The ETBU, LeTourneau, and UT-Tyler coaches coached barefooted in the games to raise awareness for Samaritan's Feet.



The Traveling Tigers will take two trips in 2017. ETBU President J. Blair Blackburn & First Lady Michelle Blackburn will host a trip to Colonial Williamsburg and The Homestead Resort in Hot Springs, Virginia, October 4-8. The trip includes visits to Thomas Jefferson's Monticello, the home of James and Dolly Madison, and the University of Virginia.

Then from November 29-December 3, First Lady Michelle Blackburn will lead a trip to New York City. This trip includes lodging at the Marriott Marquis in Times Square, a Broadway production, and the Radio City Christmas Spectacular starring the Rockettes. For more information about the Traveling Tigers trips, contact the Office of Advancement, 903.923.2071 or email travelingtigers@etbu.edu. Space is limited, so don't delay!



ETBU Theatre Performs *Bus Stop*

East Texas Baptist University's Theatre Department, led by student director, junior Laramie Smith, told the story of strangers stranded at a small roadside diner outside of Kansas City, Missouri during a winter blizzard with their production of *Bus Stop*, a play by William Inge. The ensemble performed for four sold-out audiences April 20-23.

With the play set in 1955, the cast and crew faced the challenge of representing the perspectives of the time, while simultaneously appealing to the values of a modern

audience. "It's very important to us as a department to explore plays by award-winning authors whose character journeys transcend time," ETBU Theatre Arts Chair Traci Ledford said. "It exposes our students to universal themes, historic research, and strong literature. As a result, they become better directors, designers, performers, and technicians."

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.

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