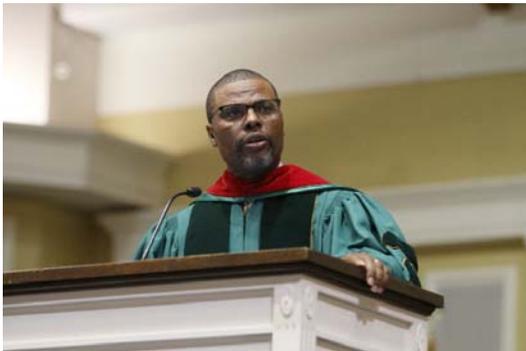


# UPDATES FROM THE HILL **TIGER PRIDE** EAST TEXAS BAPTIST UNIVERSITY



## **ETBU Begins the Academic Year with Convocation**

East Texas Baptist University held its annual 2018 Fall Convocation chapel service on Friday, September 7. Convocation, a tradition among academic institutions across the country, is designed to celebrate the beginning of a new academic year by bringing together students, faculty, staff, and trustees.

“At ETBU, this occasion is a celebration for the University community and a reminder to have our eyes focused on the One upon whom this institution is founded,” ETBU President J. Blair Blackburn said. “God has given us a mission as a Christ-centered institution to prepare students for what God has called them to do. Students, you will be educated, equipped, and empowered to serve in the name of Jesus. Convocation is an opportunity to

celebrate as a University Family all that the Lord has done and will do in our lives and through ETBU.”

Reverend Michael A. Evans provided the keynote address at the ceremony. Dr. Evans has served as the Senior Pastor at Bethlehem Baptist Church in Mansfield, Texas for more than 27 years and is currently the President of Texas Baptists (BGCT). Dr. Evans challenged students to embrace new opportunities with confidence in Christ.

“I hope that you know and feel the blessed pride and privilege of attending this historic institution. ETBU now serves as a place that educates men and women, despite their family origin, color, or creed to reach the heights of education and allow students to discover their calling and purpose,” Dr. Evans charged. “This year ought to be a year packed with promise, challenge, and new opportunities. I am here to encourage you to seize the day. This is your time for self-discovery, internal excavation, and self-examination. Be true to your God-given passions and motivations as you seek. To each of the classes represented, dare to step out of the box but not out of the Bible.”

During the 2018 Fall Convocation service, all campus community members were recognized and encouraged. Students, faculty, staff, and administration each received a Scripture reading, prayer, commitment, and blessing over them as they entered the new academic year.





## Fall Sports in Full Swing

Fall Tiger sports teams are busy representing East Texas Baptist University in football, volleyball, soccer, cross country, tennis, ice hockey, and golf. Football, volleyball, men's and women's cross country, and men's and women's soccer have begun American Southwest Conference play. To keep up with Tiger Athletics, visit [goetbutigers.com](http://goetbutigers.com). View the team schedules online to find an ETBU game in your area or consider attending here on the Hill and cheer our Tigers on to victory. Purchase all of your ETBU Athletics gear online at [www.shopetbu.com](http://www.shopetbu.com). A portion of every transaction supports ETBU.

Make sure to follow ETBU Tiger Athletics on Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram to stay up to date on all the sports action. ETBU Athletics also recently launched an app. Search "ETBU Tigers" in the Apple and Android stores to download. Go Tigers!





## Mark Your Milestone Brick Campaign

The Office of Advancement invites former students to commemorate their time at ETBC or ETBU with a personalized brick. The cost of an engraved brick is \$100. Each personalized brick will be placed outside the Ornelas Student Center in the Quad. As there are only 195 remaining available spaces, don't hesitate to mark your milestone with an engraved brick.

Engraved bricks can also be purchased as a gift to honor graduates, fellow classmates, professors, coaches, or family members.

Your \$100 donation will serve as a lasting reminder of your contribution to support the continued growth of the University. The Mark Your Milestone brick campaign provides an affordable and concrete way for all alumni to extend their ETBU legacy. Click below to order your brick today.

**Mark Your Milestone**

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## Great East Texas Hymn Sing

East Texas Baptist University held its eighth annual Great East Texas Hymn Sing on Friday, September 14. Open to the ETBU campus and local church community, the event included two hours of singing the great hymns of the Christian faith and visiting at a fellowship reception.

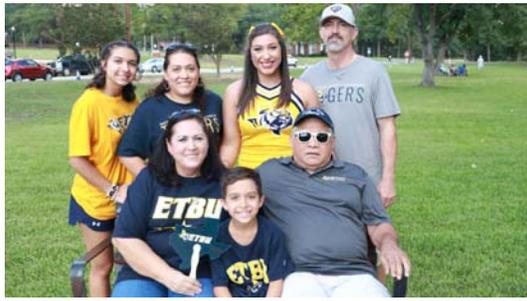
“Hymns are my favorite to sing, because I grew up with them,” Marilyn Posey from Beach Street Baptist Church in Texarkana, Arkansas said. “I had a great time of worship. We have been coming for the last several years and don’t want to miss it!”

Almost 300 community members attended the service to worship the Lord, celebrate traditions of the faith, and fellowship with other Christian believers. ETBU students preparing for a career in worship leadership led the event.

“The Great East Texas Hymn Sing is always a wonderful event,” ETBU Vice President for Advancement Scott Bryant said. “We are thrilled each year to host alumni and members of the community as we lift our voices in praise together. Church groups, from Marshall, and as far away as Ruston, Louisiana participated this year. We already look forward to hosting the Hymn Sing again next year.”

To view photos from this year’s Hymn Sing, [click here](#).

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## ETBU Hosts Family Weekend

East Texas Baptist University students welcomed their families to campus for the University's annual Family Weekend on Friday, September 14 and Saturday, September 15. Nearly 500 family members visited to experience the joy of community at ETBU with their students.

Designed to connect families with every aspect of the University, Family Weekend included activities such as Tigers Serve, Faculty and Family Connection, root beer floats provided by the ETBU Alumni Association, and a Tiger Football game.

Tigers Serve, a community service event, allowed over 60 students and family members to minister at various locations throughout Marshall, including Heritage House Nursing Home, Boys and Girls Club, Soda Lake Baptist Association, Dayspring Ranch, and My Friend's House. The Faculty and Family connection provided the opportunity for family members to meet their student's instructors. The weekend concluded at Ornelas Stadium as the Tiger Football team enjoyed a resounding 51-21 victory over Southwestern University.

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## Get to Know Joshua Zamora ('10)

Growing up in a low income, single parent household, Joshua Zamora never thought he would be where he is today. Even though no one in his family had graduated from college, Joshua knew a college education was the best way for him to enhance his personal situation.

"Through God, I believe attending ETBU positively changed the trajectory of my life," Joshua said. "I grew up in a family that didn't prioritize academics, but I always knew college was a clear objective for me. I am very proud that I am the first person in my family to graduate with not only one, but two degrees."

After graduating from ETBU, he went on to receive an M.B.A from the University of Houston-Downtown and now serves as a senior negotiator for an Italian multinational oil and gas company in Italy. Joshua works in Eni Spa's Internal Negotiations department in Milan, Italy. He focuses on exploration and production of oil and gas assets located in countries such as Indonesia, Australia, China, Myanmar, and Vietnam.

Joshua considers ETBU one of the primary contributors to his success.

"ETBU's welcoming campus enabled me to build a strong academic and spiritual foundation," Joshua said. "All the professors and University staff displayed unique ways of engaging students in order to make us better versions of ourselves in order to prepare for life after undergrad. I truly believe God allowed me to cross paths with people at ETBU to help me achieve my goals over the years in various ways."

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## Purchase Your ETBU Alumni T-shirt



New ETBU Alumni t-shirts are now available online! Shirts are available for \$20. The cost of the shirt is \$10, and the balance will be a tax-deductible gift to support the ETBU Blue and Gold Fund. Blue and Gold funds are used to provide support throughout the University, such as financial assistance for students, lab and classroom equipment, and campus improvements. Click the link below to purchase your Tiger Alumni t-shirt.

**Buy Now**

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## Tigers Forever | Register for Homecoming 2018

Reunions, fireworks, Late Night Breakfast, tailgating, and Tiger Football can only mean one thing: Homecoming 2018! Join us October 26-27 here on the Hill and reconnect with your fellow Tiger Alumni. Registration is open, and we are looking forward to seeing you and your family this October.

[Register Now](#)



### Help Us Connect with ETBU or ETBC Tigers

We are looking for our Tiger 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.

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## Support Christ-Centered Higher Education at ETBU

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

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