

*“Set your affections on things above,
Not on things on the earth.”*
Colossians 3:2

March 2026
**Nacogdoches &
Livingston**

GODTEL Report



Personally Speaking ... (Please Forgive Me)

The first two months of 2026, just like every year, have been a flurry of activity for me in the office. Just yesterday, I completed the calculations and the filling out of the 1040 Tax Forms for most of GODTEL's employees. (None of us make a lot of money, so, since I have the ability, this is a service I can do to help them out.)

My 83-year-old brain and body are glad to settle down to the day-to-day routine, more or less.

Our three homeless shelters continue to house, clothe, and feed the poor, hungry, and homeless individuals that God sends our way, thanks, in no small way, to those who make the choice to pray for and financially support this work.

Of course, the most important thing we have to offer is the new life available in Jesus Christ. We are very thankful for the dedicated men who faithfully come to teach our twice-a-day Bible studies. I think one of the favorite Bible study teachers is the man who tosses a lifesaver to anyone who answers his questions correctly. (I am reminded of the song from "Mary Poppins," "Just a Spoonful of Sugar Helps the Medicine Go Down.")

Speaking of medicine reminds me of the Scripture that tells us that laughter is like medicine (Proverbs 17:22). Here is a photo of my oldest son, Michael, as he was about to have a cancerous kidney

removed surgically. (I think part of the reason he was looking so cheerful here is that his sister, Greta, had just presented him with a can of Kidney beans — "to help him grow a new kidney").



Michael's surgery lasted longer than predicted and left him in more pain than originally anticipated, but God was faithful throughout. The kidney was successfully removed, the cancer was still contained, and he will not need any further treatment. After a week, where his loving wife Janie stayed home from her work to care for him, he took himself off of the prescribed pain medication and found the pain bearable. He will be off work until mid-March and plans to do some writing and preaching at GODTEL-

Livingston's Mission On The Hill.

We are so very grateful for the wonderful host of Christian friends who diligently prayed for Michael before, during, and after the procedure.

As his mom, my heart was greatly blessed by his firm faith in God. He shared with our church how he knew he belonged to God and since our Heavenly Father was allowing this in his life, he looked forward to opportunities to use this experience for God's glory.

Meanwhile, my two daughters have had lip surgery. The oldest, Greta, had several cancers on her lips that did not go away with less invasive treatment. She does not look nearly as bad as she thinks. The youngest, Joann, groggily got up in her dark bedroom, searched for her slippers and, when she found them with her foot, rapidly bent over to pick them up. She almost knocked herself out as her face slammed into her dresser. Blood came pouring out of her lower lip. She dressed for work and stopped by the emergency room on her way. The doctor there first thought the lip would only require one stitch, but realized she needed three as her lower teeth had cut all the way through her lower lip. As she recounted her ordeal to me, she expressed thanks to God that she had not lost consciousness when she hit her face on the dresser or

GODTEL Ministries, Inc.

Sharing Practical Christianity Since 1975

Nacogdoches Stats — January, 2026

January Residents:	100
Nights' Lodging Provided:	1,932
Meals Served:	5,839
Christian Help Ctr. Clients:	552

Livingston Stats — January, 2026

January Residents:	14
Nights' Lodging Provided:	282
Meals Served:	911
Christian Help Ctr. Clients:	307

Lufkin Stats — January, 2026

January Residents:	60
Nights' Lodging Provided:	939
Meals Served:	2,980



Martin Baker
Executive Director

Martin was a founder of and, since 1975 has been affiliated with, God's Open Door To Eternal Life d.b.a. GODTEL Ministries, a 501 (c)(3) organization.

Following the death of

Bro. June Gentry in September of 2021, GODTEL's Board of Directors unanimously voted to promote Martin from Vice President to President of the Board of Trustees and Executive Director of GODTEL.

GODTEL is incorporated under the laws of the State of Texas but we do not seek nor accept government funding of any kind. GODTEL operates three homeless shelters in East TX, located in Nacogdoches, Lufkin, and Livingston where the Gospel of Jesus Christ is presented daily in word (twice daily Bible classes & Christian counseling) and deed (shelter, food, clothing, and other necessities).

In Nacogdoches and Livingston GODTEL operates "Christian Help Centers" which freely provide clothing, furniture, and household items to the poor.

**"The poor have the Gospel preached to them."
Matthew 11:5**

On the Web: www.godtel.org

E-mail: godtel@minister.com

Facebook: @GODTEL.Ministries

knocked out any teeth. She was also thankful that she only missed her first class of the day (she teaches fifth grade) and that the rest of the day, her students were able to read the necessary passages for her.

In other family news, my son, Josiah (our music director at Mission On The Hill), has been without a vehicle of his own for nearly a year. He was blessed to be able to borrow one, but on his way to work on February 17th, the water pump went out and the serpentine belt snapped on the car he was driving. He got it to the repair shop a mile from where that happened and called his work to let them know. They sent a driver to pick him up and for the next two days they picked him up in

the morning where he lives in Tomball and drove him all the way across town to where he works as a security officer in a large mall across from the Astrodome and NRG stadium. His dear wife would pick him up from work at 10:00 p.m. to take him home. He continued to praise God for all the provision. He asked a dear friend if he might borrow one of his extra vehicles. The friend and his brother gifted Josiah with enough money to purchase a used vehicle, which he enjoys driving and is very grateful for. It is a Hyundai Veloster, but I call it a velociraptor because it rather roars as he accelerates. To God be the glory.

God is faithful to take care of my family as well as the three homeless shelters GODTEL oper-

ates. He is worthy of praise in the easy/good times as well as the difficult/bad times. Our times are in His loving hands and we must remember that this life is not about us individually, but about the Kingdom of God.

After all, those of us who are true Christians are soldiers in God's army and we are sometimes expendable. God's grace is sufficient for everything we go through and, if we die, we go to Heaven, never to suffer again. "Be thankful in all things." 1 Thessalonians 5:18

— Nancy Gentry

Donate Your Scrap Metal

GODTEL accepts scrap metal donations, including old cars, lawn mowers, and appliances at each of our three locations.

(We will pick up vehicles when possible.)

1902 Douglass Road
Nacogdoches, TX 75964-3817
(936) 569-7914
FAX: (936) 564-2976



323 Moody Street
Lufkin, TX 75901-0445
(936) 637-2520
FAX: (936) 637-2289

1607 South Washington Avenue
Livingston, TX 77351-4047
(936) 327-8863
FAX: (936) 327-2287