

WMU of Texas

## **TEXAS BAPTISTS SPECIAL FRIENDS MINISTRY**

In 2019, the Texas Baptists Special Friends Ministry provided two retreats for 480 Special Friend campers, parents and church leaders.



Mentally challenged adults, their parents, and teachers have found a unique opportunity for camping, Bible study, activities, and developing new friendships through attending the **Texas Baptists Special Friends Retreats**. Designed to meet the unique needs of these friends, the retreat offers experiences and learning activities geared to their particular level of understanding.

The retreat not only provides an experience that campers look forward to, but also provides a much-needed time of relaxing for parents. Parents have the opportunity to bond with others who understand their unique journey, learn from each other, and receive encouragement. Teachers who want to experience how to have a Bible study for special needs adults, see and experience how this is done. Campers see friends they have met throughout the years. They engage with teachers who are prepared to help them know more about God's love. Campers are engaged in worship that is designed just for them. The simple Gospel is not only presented, but also experienced so they may know God. This is a weekend in which leaders, teachers, and sponsors are entering the Special Friends world so all the campers can move closer to God.

## Week of Prayer: September 13-20, 2020 State Goal: \$3,600,000

For Texas Baptists to continue the work in our state, we ask that you prayerfully consider giving to the Mary Hill Davis Offering for Texas Missions®. This offering will distribute funds to 80 ministries from the 2020 offering. <u>iamtexasmissions.org</u>

## PRAY

Pray for volunteers to help during the retreats. Volunteers are needed to help lead Bible studies, assist in crafts, and be an encourager to individual campers.

Pray for the Special Friends attending the retreats.

## GIVE

**\$50** pays for a scholarship for a Special Friend.

\$125 pays for Bible study supplies to be used during the retreats.

**\$3,000** pays for curriculum to be edited, ensuring the learning methods are appropriate for the campers.

Then Jesus came to them and said, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age." Matthew 28:18-20 (NIV)