



WACO REGIONAL BAPTIST ASSOCIATION

Connect, Support, Train

April 2018



Volume 19, Issue 4

FROM YOUR DIRECTOR



During our February meeting, the Board of the Association granted membership to the Greater Zion Missionary Baptist Church, and to Iglesia Dios de Paz. We are very excited to have these two congregations join in our cooperative effort to “extend and embody the Good News of Jesus” here in Central Texas. This month, two more congregations have voted to request membership in the Association: The Greater Bosqueville Baptist Church led by Pastor Ronald English, and The First Baptist Church of Golinda led by Pastor Morgan Woodard. We will be discussing these at the Board meeting on April 17. If you would like to send any words of encouragement or ask any questions, the Chair of our Board, Roy Marshall, or myself would be happy to visit with you about these significant milestones.

Our ministry teams have been busy. The Church Protection Team is working on completing numerous Church Safety Audits that have been requested. The Church Technology Team is working this month on a type of Mission Trip for Technology and Design professionals to help four of our WRBA Congregations take big steps in their communications and technologies. It is called the Empower Waco Project. Stay tuned to see their work at Brazos Meadows Baptist Church, First Baptist Church Riesel, First Baptist Church of West, and Speegleville Baptist Church.

Various representatives of the Church Member Health Ministry Team will be traveling this month to two conferences to learn more of how churches and health systems are transforming the wellbeing of entire communities.

And the Networking and Missions Team is currently accepting applications for small scholarships for pastors and staff to go on mission trips with the intention of beginning long-term mission partnerships outside of the McLennan County Area.

All of that, and here in the WRBA office, we are welcoming our new Office and Communications Administrator, Kelly Poehls. Come by and say “hi” to Kelly sometime this week.

In His Service,
Tim Randolph



INSIDE THIS ISSUE

- Director's Article.....1
- Upcoming Events2
- Church Health Update.....3
- Calendar of Events.....3
- Churches without Pastors.....4
- Church Spotlight.....4

UPCOMING EVENTS

May Ministers Round Table
12:00pm on May 2 at Truett Seminary

Speaker: Charles Ramsey, Baylor BSM

This month is hosted by the
Baylor University Office of the President.
RSVP by **April 25** to admin@wacobaptists.org
or 753-2408. FREE

Living My Legacy

Friday, April 13, 2018
6:30-8:30 PM
The Venue | 110 Ritchie Rd.
Woodway, TX

Women across Waco,
join us and discover the power of
His legacy in your life. Be inspired by
Esther Burroughs and Cindy Janecka.

More info visit www.firstwoodway.org/women
or email livingmylegacywaco@aol.com

Mark your Calendars !!!

Texas Hunger Summit 2018

November 7-9
Baylor University Campus

This year there will be a Churches/Congregations Track within the 3 day schedule of the Texas Hunger Summit. Speakers, workshops and panels are being put together to help churches and congregations start, develop and grow their Hunger Ministries.

If you have any ideas for speakers and/or workshops please contact Jennifer Martinsen, Community Wellness Coordinator at wellness@wacobaptists.org.



Spring 50+ Senior Day
8:30am on April 5 at Latham Springs
Contact 254-694-3689 for more information.

“I am the resurrection and the life. The one who believes in me will live, even though they die; and whoever lives by believing in me will never die.” John 11:25-26

*Christ
is
Risen!*

*He
is Risen
Indeed!*

2

Hymn Sing

Western Heights Baptist Church
April 15th; 5:30 pm

Western Heights Baptist Church welcomes you to join them on Sunday, April 15th at 5:30pm for “Hymn Sing.” Worship our Lord with great hymns of the faith, reflection and prayer, with an ice cream fellowship to follow.

For info, contact Josh Miller at 225.362.4744 or josh@whbcwaco.org



Mission Partnerships
ACTS 16:9
Partnering with Someone Missional Somewhere

Contact Your Local Baptist Association For More Information

Associational Missions Emphasis May 20-27, 2018
Partnering with Someone Missional Somewhere—Local. State. Nation. World.

CHURCH HEALTH MINISTRY UPDATE

Again Jesus said, "Simon son of John, do you love me?" He answered, "Yes, Lord, you know that I love you." Jesus said, "Take care of my sheep."

John 21:16



Just as Jesus told Simon, Jesus has called us to take care of His sheep. What does that look like in His church? One way to do this is through a Church Health Ministry. We want to equip our churches and our members/communities with the tools and knowledge to be the hands and feet of Jesus in "taking care" of His sheep in all areas of health. We want to help His sheep be well, but also help them in time of illness and disease.

The Church Health Ministry Team is working hard to move forward with a structure and foundation for Church Health in the Waco Community. As I mentioned in my last update we have several partners, including churches and health care providers, that are seeking to assemble a framework for faith and health to work along side of each other to prevent and manage disease as well as address all dimensions of wellness. Our team has three active workgroups:

- **Congregational Health Assessment**—developing an assessment tool to be used by churches to survey their congregation/membership on health-related topics/services
- **Health Care & Church Integration**—communication and systems for sharing information
- **Church Health Resources**—development of a list/database of health resources and contact information for churches to access in helping their members

Once our foundation is laid, we will be looking for churches in the Waco and surrounding communities to partner with us in our "Phase 1" launch. If you are interested in attending our Church Health "Phase 1" launch and hearing more about the building of a Church Health Network in Waco, please contact me as soon as possible. I can't wait to hear from you!

"Take care of my sheep."

In Faith & Health,
Jen Martinsen
Community Wellness Coordinator
wellness@wacobaptists.org
254-717-2997

APRIL EVENTS

April 1
Easter

April 4, 12:00pm
Ministers Roundtable
Truett Seminary
Topic: Changes in Evangelism
Speaker: Ross Chandler
RSVP by March 28
to 254-753-2408

April 5, 8:30am
Spring 50+ Senior Day
Latham Springs

April 6-7
State Bible Drill
Allen FBC

April 8-12
Empower Waco Project

April 10, 11:30
Congregational Care Practices
Lunch & Discussion
WRBA

April 13-14
Texas WMU Annual Meeting/
Missions Celebration
Georgetown FBC

April 17, 4:00pm
Board Meeting
WRBA

April 18, 12:00pm
Networking and Missions
Team Meeting
WRBA Conference Room

April 27-29
Congresso
Baylor University

April 28
RA State Race
Belton, TX

April 29
BGCT Hunger Offering
5th Sunday

May 2, 12:00pm
Ministers Roundtable
Truett Seminary

COMMUNITY NEWS

**Please continue to pray
for WRBA churches
seeking a Pastor:**

Chalk Bluff
Faith Temple
Greater Zion MBC
Lakeview

CHURCH SPOTLIGHT: PLEASANT OLIVE MBC

When Pastor E. Shaun Williams considers what excites him about Pleasant Olive Missionary Baptist Church, he likes to look at it in pieces.

He looks back at the rich history of the church. As they celebrate 133 years as a congregation, it is clear the favor of God has been in and around the place. Reflecting on the events that brought him to the church just over 3 years ago he says, "My wife and I often marvel at the hand of God working behind the scenes." God orchestrated every aspect of shaping Williams for ministry and bringing him to pastor the people of Pleasant Olive.

As Williams looks around, he sees generations of families gathering in a place where the atmosphere of warmth and the presence of God welcome all. In the past year a new ministry has emerged to meet the needs of Millennials. The YAMs (Young Adult Ministry) meet for Bible study and dialog in a relaxed environment where they can be themselves. Williams' desire is for YAMs to connect and to feel they are part of the church - growing and moving with it.

Looking toward the future, Williams believes the church has great potential to be a major influence in the community through the work of God and His Word. To that end, plans are developing for SWAT Teams (Soul Winning Action Teams) to begin this summer. The intent is to move church members and leaders outside the walls and into the community with open air preaching, prayer, interaction, and food. Referencing Matthew 28:19, Williams says, "Jesus' last command should be the church's first concern." His prayer is for more committed and faithful servants in order to reach their mission goals - to go and make disciples.

Pastor Williams sums up everything in three words, "God did it!"

Waco Regional Baptist Association
P.O. Box 1848
Waco, TX 76703
Phone: 254-753-2408
E-mail: admin@wacobaptists.org

Non-Profit Org.
U.S. Postage Paid
Permit No. 235
Waco, TX