



WACO REGIONAL BAPTIST ASSOCIATION

WRBA is a voluntary network of Baptist churches in Central Texas who have chosen to cooperate in order to extend and embody the good news of Jesus Christ.

April 2015



Volume 16, Issue 4

FROM YOUR DIRECTOR

The Leadership Development Team is offering you, the leaders of our WRBA congregations, two exciting growth opportunities. Before I tell you about them, let me ask how long it has been since you have invested in a new set of leadership tools for your work in the church? Chances are it has been years since you tried something totally new or different to help you as you work to win people to Christ and make disciples.



The first opportunity is a series of luncheons for senior pastors and associate pastors. These lunches will be conversations with Dr. Robert Creech about how leading in a church changes as your tenure grows longer. In other words, a pastor (or associate) who has served at a church for 15 years faces significantly different challenges than one who has just been serving there for a year or two. The lunches are designed to help peers who share a similar tenure at their current church to share and learn from each other. Here are the dates (based on how long you have been at your current church): April 14 — 0 to 5 years, April 21 — 5 to 10 years, and April 28 — those who have served more than 10 years at their current church. Contact the WRBA office at 753-2408 for more information.

The second offering of new tools is an “Empower for Ministry Coaching Clinic.” This two-day hands-on clinic gives church leaders a very practical way to help others through coaching tools. Based on the *11 Competencies of Coaching*, as published by the International Coaching Federation, the church leader actually sees visible changes in just a single conversation. The clinic costs \$75, which covers both days of training and materials. The dates of the clinic are May 18-19. Contact the WRBA office at 753-2408 for more details.

In His Service,
Tim



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UPCOMING EVENTS

Administrative & Ministry Assistants Gathering

Thursday, April 16 at 4:00pm

Hillcrest Baptist Medical Center
Garden Room (3000 Herring)

April 16 at 4:00pm at Hillcrest (3000 Herring)
This will be a time of fellowship for WRBA church Administrative and Ministry Assistants with a roundtable discussion, food & gifts.
RSVP by April 13 to 753-2408 or admin@wacobaptists.org.

SOUTH ASIA NOW CONFERENCE

Praying. Training. Partnering. Multiplying.

April 26-28, 2015
Prestonwood Baptist Church, Plano, TX
SouthAsianPeoples.imb.org/NOW

Navigating the Church Job Search Workshop: Understanding the Realities

(Includes sessions for Job Seekers and Church Search Committees)

April 9 at Truett Seminary

Workshop to help job seekers and search committees set appropriate expectations, understand what people are looking for, and prepare for interviews. For more information and registration at <http://baylor.edu/truett/financialwellness>. Contact Theresa Steen at Theresa_Steen@baylor.edu for more information.

“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.” Matt. 28:18-20

GRANT OPTIONS

Just as a reminder, there are people in the WRBA office who can help your church or ministry find and fill out grants. Various grant categories can include:

- Women and Children
- Hunger
- Missions

Call the WRBA Office at 254-753-2408 for more information.



WMU of Texas Annual Meeting and Missions Celebration at Woodway FBC (101 Ritchie Rd.) April 17-18. Register at www.wmu.texasbaptists.org/annualmtg.

May Ministers Round Table
12:00pm on May 6 at Truett Seminary

Speaker: Dr. Todd Still, Truett Seminary

Hosted by Baylor University's Office of the President. To make a reservation by **April 30**, call 753-2408 or email admin@wacobaptists.org.



COLLEGIATE MINISTRY SPOTLIGHT

In our roles as WRBA Collegiate Ministry Coordinators at the TSTC and MCC campuses, we continue to expand opportunities for students to share meaningful and challenging spiritual experiences with each other and with community members. We are targeting WRBA churches to collaborate with us in helping to meet the ministry needs of MCC and TSTC students. Specifically, we are inviting congregations to join us in offering Bible study, outreach, community service and worship events. Over time our goal is to establish, energize and transform student ministry groups by sharing the Good News of Jesus. Watch future newsletters for specific events during the spring and summer months. We are planning teaching, learning, fellowship, serving and just plain fun activities. We are confident that God will continue to open



Left: WRBA TSTC Collegiate Ministry Coordinator Jewel Lockridge.
Right: WRBA MCC Collegiate Ministry Coordinator Stephen Galarza.

doors and present opportunities for Christian students to experience Him and to grow as servant-leaders. We look forward to having member congregations get involved in praying for, planning and implementing these events. Contact one of us if you are interested in getting involved or if you have ideas for ways to enlarge the territory of Collegiate Ministry.

Jewel Lockridge
Collegiate Ministry Coordinator-TSTC
tstc@wacobaptists.org

CHURCH SPOTLIGHT: MART FBC

After five months with a new pastor, FBC Mart has had a 15-20 percent increase in attendance and two professions of faith. They now have about 100 people in attendance.

Pastor Jim Ingram said, "There are a lot of unchurched people here. And we're excited about that."

He and his wife, Kathy, had

prayed for several years about moving to Texas to be closer to their daughters and their families. This move was answer to their prayers.

Ingram said, "I love it here. I really enjoy the small community."

They've found a good spirit in the church and Ingram is...

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APRIL EVENTS

April 1, 11:15am
Executive Board Meeting
Truett Seminary

April 1, 12:00pm
Ministers Roundtable
Truett Seminary
Topic: Creativity in Worship
Reservations: by Mar. 26

April 2-4
Congreso, BGCT
Baylor University

April 3
Good Friday
WRBA Office Closed

April 5
Easter

April 10-11
State Bible Drill
Arlington
www.texasbaptists.org/ministries/church-ministry-resources/bible-drill

April 16, 12:00pm
Networking and Missions Team Meeting
Waco FBC, Conference Rm

April 16, 4:00pm
Administrative/Ministry Assistants Gathering
HBMC, Garden Room

April 17-18
Texas WMU Annual Meeting and Missions Celebration
Woodway FBC
www.wmu.texasbaptists.org/annualmtg

April 21, 4:00pm
Admin Team Meeting
HBMC, Room 502

April 22
Administrative Professional's Day

April 25
RA State Race
Belton, TX

May 6, 12:00pm
Ministers Roundtable
Truett Seminary
Reservations: by Apr. 30

COMMUNITY NEWS

Please continue to pray for WRBA churches seeking a Pastor:

Amistad
Downsville
Hilltop
Lake Shore
Lorena FBC
Marlin MBC
Old Time
Riesel FBC
Robinson FBC
Woodway FBC

Welcome and congrats to:

- Buffalo River Indian Baptist Church and new pastor, George Zamora
- Pleasant Olive MBC and new pastor, E. Shaun Williams

CHURCH SPOTLIGHT: MART FBC CONT.

currently looking to add a part-time youth and music minister.

He said, "It was mainly older folks, but we're multi-general."

The church has 25 children and the youth group is showing promise of growth as well.

"We're the only Southern Baptist church in town, and we're the only ones with a Wednesday ministry," Ingram said. "We've started a church council to help us plan and evaluate what we're doing.... We're targeting the different aspects of ministry."

They're reaching the out "to try to partner with the schools to see what we can do to help."

It's with other denominations. Ingram said, "We're starting

to look at ways to cooperate with each other."

He is thankful for the church.

"The church has been through some rough years, but there's a desire to make changes and move forward," Ingram said.

"We're looking at what opportunities we have ... to be a presence in the community."

They are very active with WMU and the children's group. They are planning a mission trip this summer and a Bible conference in the fall. The church also distributes food with the Methodist church and are involved at the juvenile detention center.

Ingram asked for prayer "that we would be sensitive to God's will and direction."

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Happy Easter!