



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.

August 2016

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FROM YOUR DIRECTOR

“Remember this: Whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and whoever sows generously will also reap generously.” 2 Cor. 9:6



I have heard a lot of sermons throughout my 40 years of ministry based on the text of 2 Corinthians 9. It has been used in support of tithing to the local church, or in support of a building campaign, or even in the context of raising a love offering for the pastor.

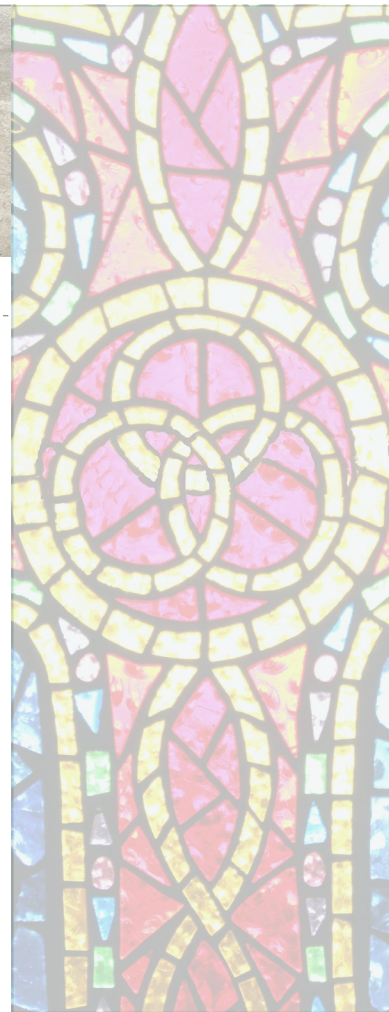
All of these are good things. But the stunning part about this is that in this context Paul is making an appeal to Corinthian church members to **give generously for another church many miles distant that they didn't even know**. The Apostle assures them that their generous gifts will “result in thanksgiving to God.” He was thinking about the believers in Jerusalem who were undergoing severe economic stress and even experiencing hunger. When they received the generous offerings from the churches in Asia Minor, they would surely break out in thanksgiving to God.

As your church contributes monthly to the Waco Regional Baptist Association, your gifts are enriching and blessing people of other churches in the region whom you have never met. Your regular gifts are helping:

- a new cowboy church in West
- a new church start in Carver neighborhood in East Waco
- a new Latino Hip Hop Church in South Waco

Literally hundreds of people are hearing the Good News of Jesus, experiencing salvation, and being filled with hope because of you and your generosity! You may never meet Fonzi, or Mac, or Sheila, but you have blessed them. And one day, perhaps on the other side of eternity, you will meet them and have the opportunity to hear them thanking God for your generosity which makes it possible to have a Bible-preaching church in their neighborhood.

In His service,
Tim



INSIDE THIS ISSUE

Director Of Missions Article....1
 Upcoming Events2
 WRBA is Hiring2
 Senior SNAP Spotlight3
 Calendar of Events.....3
 Annual Church Profile.....3
 Churches without Pastors.....4
 New Church Staff.....4
 Ministry Spotlight.....4

UPCOMING EVENTS



THE GLOBAL LEADERSHIP SUMMIT
August 11-12, 2016 | willowcreek.com/summit

“So in Christ Jesus you are all children of God through faith, for all of you who were baptized into Christ have clothed yourselves with Christ. There is neither Jew nor Gentile, neither slave nor free, nor is there male and female, for you are all one in Christ Jesus.” Galatians 3:26-28

ANNUAL CHURCH PROFILES



Annual Church Profiles will be arriving at your church soon!

The information helps churches with pastor research, future planning, historical data and more. It also keeps WRBA's Directory up-to-date so we connect leaders to resources that are relevant to them. If you have questions, call Katelyn at 753-2408.

ESL Teacher Training

August 12-13, 2016

Columbus Avenue Baptist Church

For New and Experienced ESL Teachers
Learn how to reach out in Christ's love to help those who need and want to learn to speak English

- ➔ Basic Training for New Teachers (for certificate)
6:00-9:00pm on Friday and 8:30am-5:00pm on Saturday
Cost: \$25 for materials and lunch
- ➔ Training for Experienced Teachers
8:30am-12:00pm on Saturday
Cost: \$5 for materials

Reservations are required by August 1. Please contact Katelyn Kasper at 254-753-2408 or admin@wacobaptists.org. Hosted by Columbus Avenue Baptist Church and Waco Regional Baptist Association.



SENIOR SNAP MINISTRY SPOTLIGHT

Over the last few months I have been encouraged by the response and support of our churches. Since I started in March, Senior SNAP Outreach has made a positive impact in the lives of more than 20 seniors that were struggling with food insecurities, not to mention the 60+ seniors that had already been reached by my predecessor, Rachel Tate. This is due in part to the efforts of our churches in seeking out these seniors and connecting them to our ministry. I am excited to announce that we have two churches with individuals who have joined with us as community partners. These partnering churches are Lorena FBC and Bosqueville Baptist Church. As community partners these lay volunteers will be able to reach those struggling with food insecurities far more efficiently than I could by myself. They have also established themselves as excellent tools for outreach ministry in their churches. I am anxious to see how God will use them for His Kingdom.



If you as an individual or your church would like to learn more about Senior SNAP Outreach and ways you can be involved, you can email me at seniorhelp@wacobaptists.org or call our office at 254-753-2408. I never understood fully until now Christ's words in Luke 10:2, "The harvest is plentiful, but the workers are few." Senior SNAP Outreach is growing, but we cannot accomplish all that we need to do without your help. I hope that each of you will prayerfully consider partnering with us as we seek to serve the poor and the vulnerable in our community.

Bethany Busby
Senior SNAP Outreach Intern
seniorhelp@wacobaptists.org

September Ministers Round Table 12:00pm on September 7 at Truett Seminary

Topic: Being Whole – Mind, Body and Soul
Speaker: Dr. Peter Grandjean, Baylor University

RSVP by **September 1** at admin@wacobaptists.org
or 753-2408.

Topics for 2015-2016 Include:

Social Media in the church: Tips and Cautions
Sexual Assault and the Church Response
Keeping Fit in Mind, Body and Soul: Being Whole
Understanding the Generations
Trends in Discipleship
Understanding our Latino Neighbors

AUGUST EVENTS

August 11-12
Global Leadership Summit
FBC Temple
www.willowcreek.com/summit

August 11, 12:00pm
Networking and Missions
Team Meeting
Waco FBC, Conference Rm

August 12-13
ESL Teacher Training
Columbus Avenue
Make a reservation by
August 1 at 753-2408

August 12-13
Childhood & Family
Ministry Summit
FBC Arlington
[www.texasbaptists.org/
events/childhood](http://www.texasbaptists.org/events/childhood)

August 16, 4:00pm
Board Meeting
HBMC, Room 502

August 23-25
WRBA Office Closed
Moving to new location at
2911 Herring, 2nd Floor
(was postponed from July)

COMMUNITY NEWS

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

Ecclesia
Hewitt FBC

New Church Staff:

Congrats to Primera Iglesia
and their new pastor
Emmanuel Roland!

MINISTRY SPOTLIGHT: BOUNCE

During July 19-22 about 150 students worked on Waco houses as a part of BOUNCE Student Disaster Recovery, a ministry with Texas Baptists.

"We are excited to be mobilizing students for our third year this summer for community rehabilitation and disaster recovery," said David Scott, BOUNCE director. "... It's my hope that our participants might be able to help restore hope in the lives of the people they serve as well as improve their home situation."

The youth who came to Waco painted and roofed homes in addition to mowing the lawns and ministering to the residents with acts of kindness.

Jeremy Bowen, a recent graduate from Plainview, said of their

site's homeowner, "She's very open about the fact that she has a bunch of teenagers camped out in her back yard."

Neighborhoods were affected. Caroline Ditch, a freshman from McKinney, said, "(The neighbors) were just so thankful that we're making their neighborhood look better, and one of the neighbors brought us cookies and lemonade."

Bethany Garner, a sophomore from McKinney, said, "There's been a lot of joy through all this."

Ditch enjoyed the opportunity to do construction work in addition to learning about and worshipping Christ with other youth.

She said, "Working for Christ is probably one of the greatest things that I've done with my life, and I'm so glad I did."

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