



WACO REGIONAL BAPTIST ASSOCIATION

Connect, Support, Train

June 2017



Volume 18, Issue 6

FROM YOUR DIRECTOR

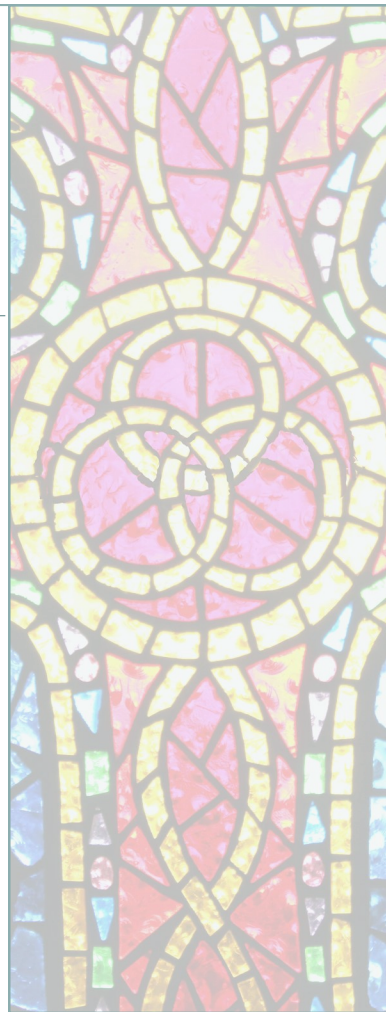


In January of 2016 our Association completed a strategic planning process that called for the creation of four new ministry teams to serve the needs of our WRBA congregations: Church Member Health, Church Technology, Church Evangelism, and Church Protection. Since then, we have been working to put together the new teams and get them up and running. The Lord has been with us and answered our prayers. As of this month, all four teams are now operating and helping our churches in their respective areas of expertise. I wish I had space here to detail how it was God who has put these teams together in a miraculous fashion. In each case, the Lord has led very qualified, passionate brothers and sisters to lead and serve on each team. The last team to get started was the Church Technology Team.

I have been praying about finding the right person to lead the Church Technology Team for months. On February 26, I filled in for Oak Grove Baptist Church Pastor Dennis Larson, speaking on how healing is a part of our modern church's ministry. After the service, several people stayed and visited briefly about what the WRBA does and about the sermon. Three months later, Jason Reynolds called and scheduled a time to visit. He simply said, "The Lord told me to call you. I want my life to make a difference." We visited, and I learned that he is an IT expert who runs his own consulting firm. He has vast experience in marketing, hardware, software, and helping large organizations put the whole technology package together. He agreed to lead our new church technology team. A few days later, a WRBA pastor asked if we knew anyone who could help their church build a new website. "YES!" I responded. Jason connected this church with a capable person within a day.

There are two things I want to prompt you to do today: (1) **Pray about who you know** that could join this Church Technology Team and let me know who that is. And (2) Look over the list of our ministry teams (page 2) and **pray through one day** for them that God would strengthen, encourage and use them to transform our churches and our communities for the Glory of God.

Thanking you, Tim Randolph



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VACATION BIBLE SCHOOLS

Church	Date	Time
Meadowbrook	June 4-8	6:15-8:30pm
Brazos Meadows	June 5-8	6:30-8:45pm
Mart FBC	June 5-9	
Waco FBC	June 5-9	9:00am-noon
Calvary	June 11-16	6:00pm
DaySpring	June 11-15	
Emmanuel	June 11-15	6:00-8:30pm
Lorena FBC	June 11-15	6:00-8:15pm
Highland	June 12-16	
Pleasant Olive	June 12-16	6:00pm
Woodway FBC	June 12-16	9:00am-noon
McGregor FBC	June 18-22	6:00-8:00pm
Crawford FBC	June 19-23	9:00am-noon
Speegleville	June 19-23	6:00-8:00pm

CHURCH CAMPS

Church	Type	Date
Harris Creek	Children	June 5-9
Lorena FBC	Youth	June 5-9
Waco FBC	Children	June 5-Aug 11
West FBC	Youth	June 12-16
Western Heights	Preteen	June 12-16
Church at Tree Lake	Youth	June 16-18
Waco FBC	Youth	June 18-23
Columbus Avenue	Children	June 19-23
Meadowbrook	Children	June 19-23
Meadowbrook	Youth	June 19-23
Top Hand Cowboy	Youth	June 25-29
Woodway FBC	Preteen	June 25-28
Columbus Avenue	Youth	June 26-30
Hewitt FBC	Preteen	June 26-30
Lorena FBC	Preteen	June 26-30
Meadowbrook	Youth	June 26-30
West FBC	Preteen	June 28-July 1

"From the rising of the sun to the place where it sets, the name of the Lord is to be praised."
Psalm 113:3

MINISTRY TEAMS

Please pray for these ministry teams as they assist our churches in ministry to our community and world:

- Church Evangelism
- Church Member Health
- Church Protection
- Church Strengthening
- Church Technology
- Collegiate Ministry, MCC
- Collegiate Ministry, TSTC
- Hunger Ministry
- Leadership Development
- Missions Development
- Networking & Missions
- Restorative Justice/Jail Ministry

MISSION TRIPS

Church	Location	Date	Type
DaySpring	Honduras	May 28-June 2	
Woodway FBC	Namibia	June 9-23	Youth
Highland	Hawaii	June 10-18	
Columbus Ave		June 14-18	Youth
Woodway FBC	Steamboat Springs	June 16-23	Family
Calvary		June 18-24	Youth
Woodway FBC	La Grulla, TX	June 18-24	Youth
Western Heights	Hidalgo, TX	June 24-July 1	
Calvary	Lebanon	June 30-July 8	

UPCOMING EVENT

Mission:Dignity assists 1,800 aged pastors and widows each month who served churches which could not provide much in salary and benefits. They now struggle to pay for utilities, food and medicine. Through Mission:Dignity, Southern Baptists provide monthly assistance to these servants. Find more information at www.missiondignity.org.



HUNGER MINISTRY UPDATE

After a year of being in the position of Hunger Ministry Coordinator, either myself or one of our hunger team members has had the opportunity and privilege of making contact with 63 of our member churches to learn about their ministry to the community and whether that might include hunger ministry. Here is a snapshot of what hunger ministry looks like in our member churches:



- **20 Churches Donate:** time, food or money to a local non-profit or community wide effort
- **17 Food Pantries:** eight of these are partnerships with other churches or non-profits
- **16 Meal Programs:** including Wednesday night community meals, summer meals, holiday meals and meals at apartments, hotels, schools and nursing homes
- **13 Food Delivery/Distribution Programs:** meals and food are delivered to homes, distributed in parks, on holidays, to seniors, and through non-profit partnerships
- **5 Backpack Programs:** in three school districts and five schools
- **3 Community Gardens:** multi-church and church/non-profit partnerships, produce available to church members and community residents, canning demonstrations
- **2 SNAP Assistance Sites:** churches trained to assist community members with SNAP (food stamps) applications to make their food budget stretch further
- **1 Advocacy Engagement:** engaging the conversation about hunger at a state and national level
- **84% of churches with hunger ministries are partnering with other churches or local organizations!**



If you would like to learn more about what specific member churches are doing to alleviate hunger check out the Hunger Ministry Map on our website. If you would like more information about how to start or grow a hunger ministry or how the WRBA can assist you please contact Hunger Ministry

Coordinator Megan Byrd at hunger@wacobaptists.org. If you would like to know more about senior hunger specifically and how your congregation can engage and care for seniors in your community please contact Senior Hunger Specialist Bethany Busby at seniorhelp@wacobaptists.org.

Megan Byrd
Hunger Ministry Coordinator
hunger@wacobaptists.org

JUNE EVENTS

June 4, 3:00pm
VBS Training
Western Heights Baptist
RSVP to 254-776-2524

June 11-12
WMU Annual Meeting/
Missions Celebration
Phoenix, AZ

June 13, 4:30pm
Hunger Ministry Team
Meeting
WRBA (2911 Herring)

June 18
Father's Day

June 20, 4:00pm
Board Meeting
WRBA (2911 Herring)

June 21, 12:15pm
Networking and Missions
Team Meeting
Waco FBC, Conference Rm

June 25
Mission: Dignity Sunday

COMMUNITY NEWS

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

Emmanuel
Faith Temple
Hewitt FBC

CHURCH SPOTLIGHT: COLUMBUS AVENUE

Columbus Avenue focuses on connecting with people. It's even what appealed to Pastor Josh Vaughan and his wife before they came to the church.

"Our hearts quickly resonated with theirs. There was a strong sense of like-mindedness."

He said the church members' love for Jesus and others is portrayed during communion, in the care and grace given to staff and each other, and in ministry.

"We want to help people see hope and freedom," he said.

Vaughan is excited about the diverse group of people who come, and that their gym (The Center) activities reflect that.

"We have people who come from all corners of this region. They're finding life and hope together."

The church ministers to anyone

from local youth with basketball to international students. Their influence even spreads across the ocean where they are currently in a five-year partnership with a church in Spain, wanting to help and learn from the sister church.

Vaughan said, "It's easy for us as Americans to go into those cross-cultural context thinking you have all the ideas."

The church has started discipleship classes that cater to people wherever they are spiritually.

"We put together places where people can develop their head, heart and hands."

Vaughan said they were looking at new ways to assist the community with events and ministry.

He asked, "Pray for us to be people of conviction and compassion as we seek to connect people here in the center of the city."

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