



# 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.

November 2016

Volume 17, Issue 11

## FROM YOUR DIRECTOR



The 157<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of the Waco Regional Baptist Association was very special for many reasons. We celebrated the birth of three new churches and the addition of three other churches to our fellowship.

We were led in worship by the youth praise band of Christ the King Vietnamese Baptist Church. The youth touched all of our hearts as we chose to focus our praise on our Lord.

Jim Heiligman brought us a powerful word from the Lord about the renewal from God that every minister needs regularly.

We concluded with a precious time of prayer.

The folks from FBC Hewitt and Christ the King Vietnamese Church hosted us with beautiful smiles and gracious hospitality.

Many hugs and smiles and conversations passed between brothers and sisters in the Lord who joyfully renewed acquaintances.

We elected Marcy Smith (of Western Heights) as Moderator, and Joe Bailey (of Speegleville Baptist) as Vice-Moderator, and renewed the grateful call to Judy Carson as our Secretary and Bill Northcutt as our Treasurer.

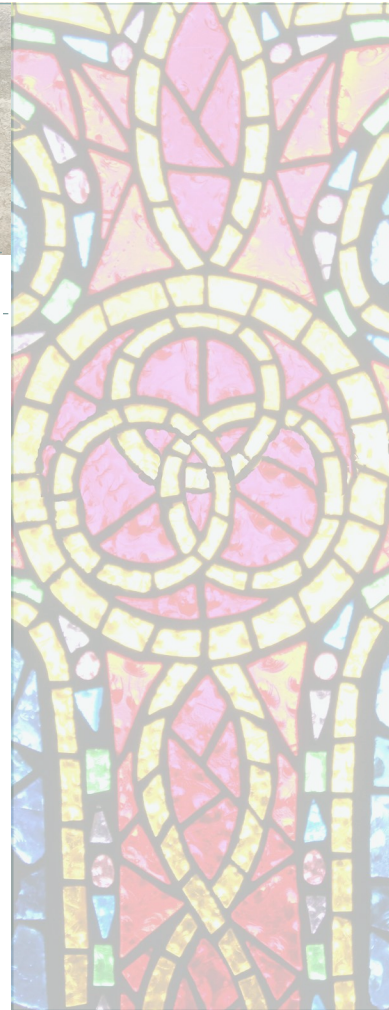
All items of business were passed with a unanimous spirit.

37 WRBA Churches were represented as well as several of our friends from partner institutions.

And finally, I believe the most precious part of the whole evening was the agreement that the Holy Spirit was in that place in an obvious way. We truly were blessed.

Thanks for being a part of this wonderful ministry.

In His Service,  
Tim



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## HUNGER MINISTRY UPDATE

In social work, we talk about approaching our work from a strengths or assets perspective, meaning that the lens through which we look at communities focuses on the many gifts and good things the people who live in them have to offer. In a community, assets are any strengths, talents, skills, abilities, physical spaces, businesses, congregations, cultural values, and other informal and formal resources which are positive and help the community flourish. Every community in the world has assets to be recognized and celebrated. **Asset mapping** is a participatory process in which community members come together to identify and make an inventory of the many existing assets in the community. The assets and strengths of the community then become the foundation for new things to be built, partnerships to be formed, and changes to be made.

This year, I have the great privilege of partnering with the WRBA, Tri-Cities Ministries, several members of Lakeview Baptist Church, and other members of the Lacy Lakeview community in order to create an asset map of the area, which will be used for future work. It

has been a joy for me to get to know the members of our team and to see a convergence of both social work and Christian language in our conversations. As a social work student who is also a Christian, I believe that what asset-based perspectives are really all about is the concept of seeing communities and people as God sees them: for their beauty, potential, strengths and resources. I believe that both the profession of social work and churches who love and seek to serve their communities have so much to give to and learn from one another. I believe that God is inviting all of us to a bigger, brighter version of how to look at our neighborhoods, as chock-full of people who God created, sustains and deeply loves. I look forward to working closely with our team, and am grateful for all that we will learn this year.



Kelsey Miller, Hunger Ministry Intern  
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## ANNUAL CHURCH PROFILE



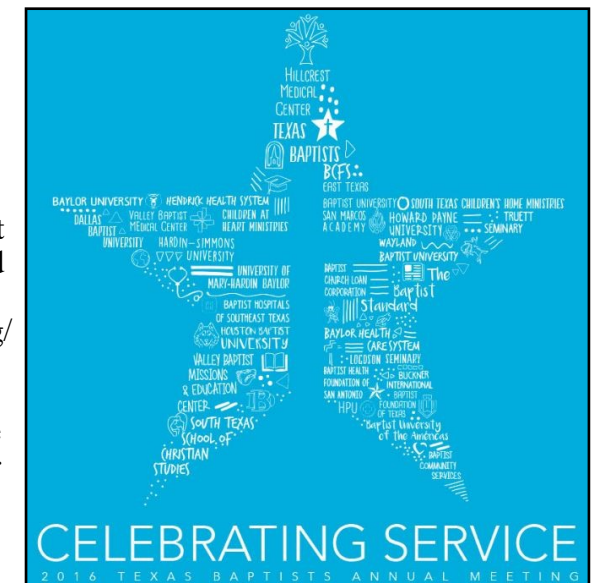
It's not too late to fill out your church's Annual Church Profiles on paper or online! All ACP information helps our churches with pastor research, future planning, historical data and so much more. Along with being one of the three requirements of WRBA membership, it keeps our directory up-to-date so we connect leaders to resources that are relevant to them. If you have questions, call Katelyn at 753-2408.

*"I thank my God in all my remembrance of you, always offering prayer with joy in my every prayer for you all."*  
*Philippians 1:3-4*

**2016 Texas Baptists Annual Meeting**  
November 13-15  
Waco Convention Center

For information about schedule, vendors and speakers, go to:  
<http://texasbaptists.org/annual-meeting>

This is a great chance to network with other Baptists from around the state. We hope to see you there!



## COLLEGIATE MINISTRY UPDATE

Early fall is the time for the Annual Student Leadership Conference at TSTC. In addition to student leaders from the Waco campus, including those from WRBA/BSM at TSTC, students from several other TSTC campuses participated. Stan Pearson, II, motivational speaker, comedian and author headlined the event and gave morning and afternoon presentations. One session's topic was, "The Art of Being You: 5 Ways to Remembering You're Good, You're Great, You're Worth It." The session was packed with affirming lessons designed to help students become better leaders.

Each student at the conference is enrolled in one of nearly 50 programs offered at TSTC. Stan recommended that (even before graduation) they pay the nominal fee required to own their own name on the internet. He warned that without a personal



WRBA/TSTC/BSM student leader Bolanle Owomoyela (right) poses with Leadership Conference keynote speaker Stan Pearson, II.

domain they would be *invisible* to potential employers and clients.

In addition to information sessions for the advisors, the student leaders chose from topics including: "Risk Management," "Preparing Yourself for Your Future," "Team Building," and "Our Differences Shouldn't Divide Us."

In the session "Finding Your Rhythm to Success" (SALSA), participants learned leadership skills and dance steps. Stan used the SALSA acronym to teach student leaders and advisors the importance of Supporting, Acting, Learning, Striving and Accepting for successful leaders. With that acronym and using basic salsa steps, he demonstrated the essential elements of successful leadership.

Throughout the conference, Stan encouraged students to tap into their God-given gifts and to strive for spiritual honesty. He cautioned that knowing what's right and not doing it or pretending not to know what's right is to be spiritually dishonest.

Jewel Lockridge, Ph.D.

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## NOVEMBER EVENTS

**November 2, 12:00pm**  
Ministers Roundtable  
Great Hall, Truett Seminary  
Topic: Sexual Assault and the Church Response  
RSVP by October 26

**November 6**  
Daylight Savings Ends  
Clocks "fall" back 1 hour

**November 7**  
Baptist Women's World  
Day of Prayer

**November 11-13**  
Royal Ambassadors  
Campout & Missions Mania  
Latham Springs

**November 13, 6:00pm**  
Hispanic Church Rally  
(from all over Texas)  
Maranatha, 1000 Ashleman

**November 13, 6:30pm**  
African-American Pre-  
Convention Worship Rally  
Tolliver Chapel MBC,  
1402 Elm St.

**November 13-15**  
BGCT Annual Meeting  
Waco Convention Center

**November 15, 4:00pm**  
Board Meeting  
WRBA, 2911 Herring

**November 16, 12:15pm**  
Networking and Missions  
Team Meeting  
Waco FBC, Conference Rm

**November 24-25**  
WRBA Office Closed  
Thanksgiving

**December 4-11**  
International Missions &  
Lottie Moon Christmas  
Offering

## COMMUNITY NEWS

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

Calvary  
Hewitt FBC

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**Congratulations to  
Ecclesia and their new  
pastor, Trent Futral!**

## WRBA ANNUAL MEETING

At WRBA's 157th Annual Meeting, members from 37 churches worshiped together at FBC Hewitt and heard the importance of regular renewal.

Bryan FBC pastor Jim Heiligman spoke from 1 Kings 18-19. God used Elijah to remind the people who the true God was, but then Elijah ran for his life from the king. It was the rise and fall of a "super saint." He was depressed and hopeless, but the Lord watched over him. He fed him. He spoke to him in a whisper. Elijah felt alone, but God told him to go back to the 7,000 people who trusted God. The broken, fragile man was revived and restored. Elijah did a lot and neglected himself. We cannot always run full throttle.

Heiligman quoted Spurgeon, "I fear that I shall find it hard work to do no work."

He gave his testimony of burn out from ministry. The church elders told him to rest for a few weeks, and it saved his ministry.

In a study, Baylor University found that 1 in 4 pastors were depressed. That's higher than the general population.

Elijah was rejuvenated in a cave when he remembered God was in control. The kingdom was not reliant on Elijah, nor is it on any of us. Success doesn't rest on our shoulders. We are human and need regular rest.

Heiligman called each pastor and spouse forward and asked everyone else to pray over them. It was a healing time of unity.

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