



# 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.

October 2016

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## FROM YOUR DIRECTOR



\*Waco Regional Baptist Association functions through its **ministry teams**. Current ministry teams are: *Church Evangelism, Church Member Health, Church Strengthening, Community Ministries, Leadership Development, Missions Development (new church starts) and Networking and Missions*. A full description of the team functions can be found on our website ([wacobaptists.org](http://wacobaptists.org)).

Each of these teams enjoy a lot of autonomy. They choose how often they meet (and where) and also what they want to work on within their scope of responsibility. More than 100 church leaders are involved. Each week they are producing thoughtful and helpful plans which move all of us closer to the healthy churches we need to transform our communities through the love of Christ.

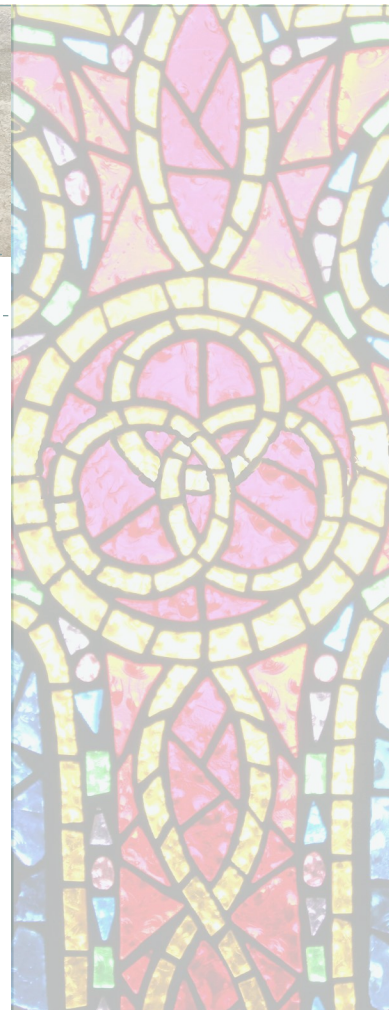
You might also be interested in the new ministry teams we want to form: *Church Technology and Church Protection*.

**Team members** come from WRBA churches. These teams want to include new church leaders in their work. If you are interested in joining one of these teams, please call the WRBA office.

\*Another important aspect of the Association ministry is through **fellowship groups**, such as the monthly *Ministers' Roundtable* meeting at Truett Seminary. All WRBA church ministry leaders are invited to participate in these discussion topics of vital importance to our congregations. This next month, the topic will be the **Pros and Cons of Social Media for Ministry Leaders**. Leading that discussion will be two experts from Celebration Church in Georgetown, which uses social media extensively. The cost of the meal is only \$5 since Truett Seminary graciously hosts us. Please note that reservations need to be made through our office the week prior so that the caterer can prepare appropriately.

Get involved in this wonderful fellowship called the Waco Regional Baptist Association. Get up and jump in! New Friends. New ideas. Encouragement. Cooperative ministries. They are just around the corner for you and your church.

In His Service,  
Tim



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## COLLEGIATE MINISTRY UPDATE

The semester is off to a great start at McLennan Community College. The Baptist Student Ministry has been growing and producing fruit. We started the school year with an outreach in the middle of campus where students were able to tell other students about Christ and connect with each other to form community. We have also started our free lunches every Wednesday. This is a time where local churches provide and serve meals to the students, showing Christ's love to them. So far we've had more than 100 students connect with us this semester and more than 20 that regularly attend events.



MCC students enjoy the first free lunch of the semester, courtesy of WRBA churches and collegiate ministry team.

We are also supported by three new student advisors that make it possible to be an organization on campus. Two of these advisors will be aiding student leaders to start two new Bible studies on campus.



We are blessed with these new advisors since we were greatly affected in the beginning of the semester by the departure of our only advisor, Joshua Reiff. He made it possible for us to have Bible studies and events on campus for the past four years. Joshua is now the pastor at Southside Baptist Church of Monahans. We thank him for all he has done for the ministry in MCC and wish him the best.

If you would like to get involved or have more information you can contact me at [mcc@wacobaptists.org](mailto:mcc@wacobaptists.org).

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## ANNUAL CHURCH PROFILE



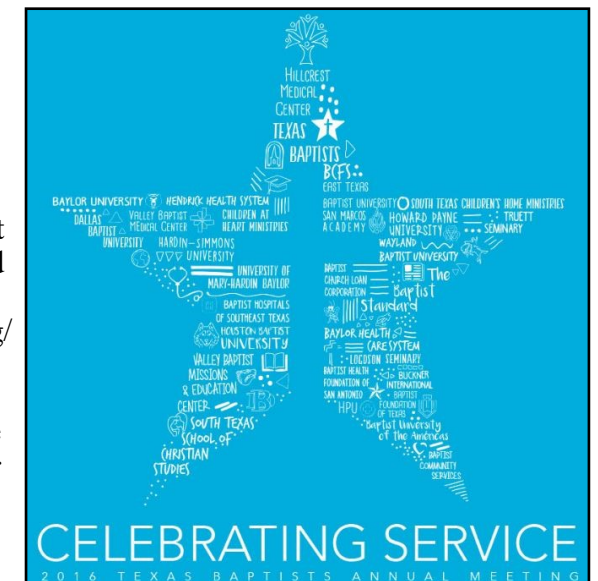
It's not too late to fill out your church's Annual Church Profiles on paper or online! All ACP information helps our churches with pastor research, future planning, historical data and so much more. Along with being one of the three requirements of WRBA membership, it keeps our directory up-to-date so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

*"Now may the Lord of peace himself give you peace at all times and in every way. The Lord be with you."  
2 Thessalonians 3:16*

**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!



## WACO REGIONAL BAPTIST ASSOCIATION ANNUAL MEETING

OCTOBER 11, 2016 AT 6:00PM  
FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH, HEWITT  
FBC BRYAN PASTOR JIM HEILIGMAN, SPEAKER



**November Ministers Round Table**  
**12:00pm on November 2 at Truett Seminary**  
**Topic: Sexual Assault and the Church Response**  
RSVP by **October 26** at [admin@wacobaptists.org](mailto:admin@wacobaptists.org)  
or 254-753-2408.

### OCTOBER EVENTS

**October 4, 6:30pm**  
CWJC's "Baskets of Hope"  
Woodway FBC

**October 5, 12:00pm**  
Ministers Roundtable  
Great Hall, Truett Seminary  
Topic: Social Media—the  
pros and cons for church  
leaders  
Speakers: Nathan Mileur  
and Niki Beck, Celebration  
Church  
RSVP by September 28

**October 9**  
World Hunger Sunday

**October 10-12**  
Youth Ministry Conclave  
Arlington, TX

**October 11, 6:00pm**  
WRBA Annual Meeting  
Hewitt FBC  
RSVP by October 4

**October 19, 12:15pm**  
Networking and Missions  
Team Meeting  
Waco FBC, Conference Rm

**October 21-22**  
BGCT Hispanic Leadership  
Conference  
Dallas, TX

**October 30**  
BGCT Hunger Offering  
5th Sunday

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

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

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

### COMMUNITY NEWS

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

Calvary  
Ecclesia  
Hewitt FBC

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Congrats to Hewitt FBC and  
their new youth minister,  
Tyler Ballard!

### EVANGELISM MINISTRY TEAM

How does your church focus on evangelism?

Dr. Ron Cook, chairman of WRBA's Evangelism Ministry Team said many people have found the old strategies aren't as effective because the world is changing. While the team is new, they've been very active. Their goal is to "establish an effort to try to provide ways to equip our churches and try to collaborate with our churches in sharing the Gospel."

They are surveying churches to figure out what is being done and how the team can help. So far the response has been small. Contact WRBA to give your church's feedback.

"A lot of churches don't have anybody designated to lead

evangelistic strategies and training and equipping people to do evangelism," Cook said.

However, the evangelistic success of church block parties after the team's training and BGCT's grants is exciting.

Cook said, "All the block parties, every single one of them, has opened doors to numerous people in the community of the churches."

This team has experience, resources and drive to help churches reach out. Cook said evangelism supports everything

"There's nothing that drives a ministry like the desire for people to know the love of Christ and to know Christ himself."

They hope to start equipping, collaborating and training soon.

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