



**FROM YOUR DIRECTOR**

Twelve hundred. Yes, that's 1200 churches in Texas damaged by Hurricane Harvey. The heart-breaking images are not flooding our media screens any longer, but the recovery is just beginning.

I am calling on every WRBA church to be involved in some way to **help long-term** with these sister congregations that have been devastated.



While we see the damage to the buildings, we may not think about what impact this is having on the churches. Congregations cannot gather. Members are scattered. Offerings and income are drastically cut. Yet bills, salaries and ministries continue.

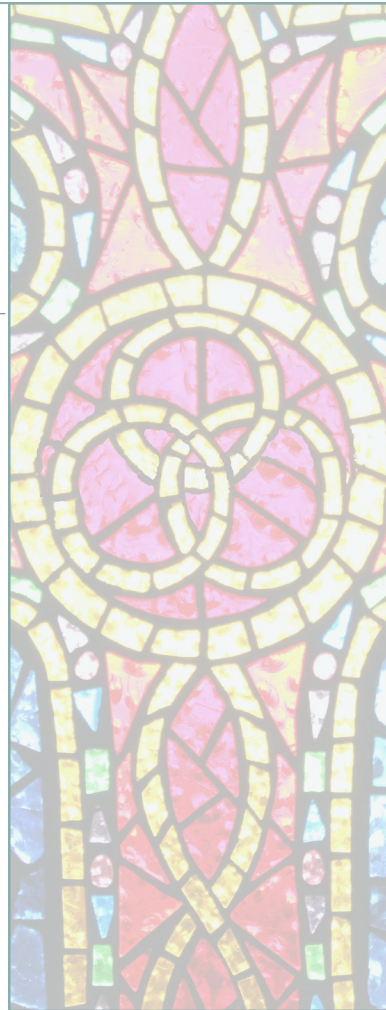
This is the opportunity for **the church** to shine in their community with the Love of God. And specifically at this time, these Gulf Coast churches are struggling without resources to carry on important ministries.

I am specifically seeking to set up **long-term church-to-church partnerships** where your church can come alongside another church and walk with them for up to two years. The kinds of help will vary, but all churches can help.

As I visited with the folks from Blanco Association, they told me that 35 of their 61 churches were damaged. Some of them have no place to meet at all. Many of these are small churches with a bivocational pastor. It is going to take months to re-establish a new kind of normalcy for these churches.

Dr. Todd Still said, "Doing everything is not an option. But doing nothing is also not an option." I agree. If your church is not yet committed to a **long-term partnership** with a Gulf Coast Church, let's talk.

In His Service,  
Tim  
Director



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**UPCOMING EVENTS**

**WRBA ANNUAL MEETING**  
**OCTOBER 10, 2017 AT 6:00PM**  
**FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH, WOODWAY (THE VENUE)**  
**110 RITCHIE ROAD, WACO 76712**



**Surrounded by Witnesses: Running the Race**  
**DINNER IS \$5. PLEASE MAKE A RESERVATION BY OCTOBER 3**  
**AT 254-753-2408 OR ADMIN@WACOBAPTISTS.ORG.**

**ANNUAL CHURCH PROFILE**

It's time to file your church's Annual Church Profiles (ACP). This information is vital to updating WRBA's church directory and keeping record of historical data. It becomes very useful in the long-run while churches are hiring church staff, applying for ministry grants, looking at growth options and more.

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**November Ministers Round Table**  
**12:00pm on November 1 at Truett Seminary**  
 "Leadership in the 21st Century" by Doris King & Rene Maciel  
 RSVP by **October 25** to admin@wacobaptists.org or 753-2408.

**LIFESTYLE EVANGELISM TRAINING**  
**OCTOBER 10, 3:30-5:30PM**  
**WOODWAY FBC, 3RD FLOOR OF EDUCATION BUILDING**



Participants will receive training and the book "Surprise the World."

Make a reservation by October 6  
 at 753-2408 or admin@wacobaptists.org.

## COLLEGIATE MINISTRY—VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

This fall, Collegiate Ministries (CM) are off to a great start on both the MCC and the TSTC campuses. Member churches, please welcome students who may be new to your congregation and who may also be away from home and family for the first time. If you have contact information for them, it is also an excellent idea to make connections with those students who have left your congregation as they transition from high school to college in another city or state. You might suggest the names of churches in their new community they could visit.

We have begun weekly Bible studies and other ministry activities. We need volunteers from WRBA member-churches who are willing to support the Bible studies and other ministry activities throughout the school year.

The challenge that we face on both campuses is recruiting volunteers from WRBA member-churches to serve as Collegiate Ministry Team (CMT) members. Team members are asked to meet with us (Collegiate Ministry Coordinators) quarterly to guide and assist in developing plans for the ministries. Both of us need your ideas as well as your support in sustaining and expanding the campus ministries. Specifically, the CMT is charged with praying for, planning and promoting ministry activities. We also need the CMT to make us aware of other ministry opportunities to explore; to provide networking assistance between and within member churches; and to raise awareness of CM within the community. Finally, we need CMT members who are willing to use their particular gifts and talents to enhance opportunities for MCC and TSTC students to develop and deepen a personal relationship with Jesus. Please make it a priority to contact us to learn more about serving as a member of either the MCC or the TSTC Collegiate Ministry Team.

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Jewel Lockridge



Holly Winfrey

*“...Let us throw off everything that hinders and the sin that so easily entangles. And let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us, fixing our eyes on Jesus...”*  
*Hebrews 12:1-2*

## OCTOBER EVENTS

### October 4, 12:00pm

Ministers Roundtable  
Truett Seminary  
Topic: Women in the Church's Ministry  
Speaker: Dr. Todd Still  
RSVP by September 27

### October 10, 3:30pm

Lifestyle Evangelism Training  
Woodway FBC, 3rd Floor  
RSVP by October 6

### October 10, 6:00pm

WRBA Annual Meeting  
Woodway FBC, The Venue  
Speaker: Dr. Don Fawcett  
RSVP by October 3

### October 16-18

Youth Ministry Conclave  
Arlington, TX

### October 18, 12:00pm

Networking and Missions  
Team Meeting  
Waco FBC, Conference Rm

### October 20-21

Hispanic Leadership Conf.  
Dallas, TX

### October 29

BGCT Hunger Offering  
5th Sunday

### November 1, 12:00pm

Ministers Roundtable  
Truett Seminary  
Topic: Leadership in the 21st Century—Building Volunteers for Ministry  
Speaker: Doris King & Rene Maciel  
RSVP by October 25

## COMMUNITY NEWS

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

Chalk Bluff  
Elm Mott  
Emmanuel  
Faith Temple  
Lakeview  
Westwood

## MINISTRY SPOTLIGHT: PRIMERA IGLESIA BAUTISTA

God can bring separate prayers together with one answer. That's how Emmanuel Roldan became pastor at Primera Iglesia Bautista de Waco. The church prayerfully sought a pastor, Roldan was in prayer about a relationship and about a position in a specific type of church. God answered each prayer at the same time.

Roldan said, “It's truly incredible that I get marry the woman of my dreams and serve a lovely congregation.”

Roldan loves the member's hospitality and dedication to this body of believers. Members have found how they can best serve and do so for years.

“They teach me a lot about God's goodness over the long-term,” Roldan said.

The church history is rich, being the oldest Hispanic organi-

zation in Waco, and each church story shows God's faithfulness.

The church now has a bilingual worship service and more diverse demographics with hopes to model what it looks like when different cultures come together to worship God and pursue His plan.

Roldan said, “I believe Primera, along with other churches, has the exciting opportunity to announce to the world that ‘the waters of baptism run deeper than the blood of tribalism.’”

The church ministers to a nearby middle school and apartment complex with Bible studies, meals and more. They are planning short-term mission trips and to host weekly digital proficiency classes.

Pray that Primera will “continue to preach the Good News in word and deed” and their efforts would be focused on God's plan.

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