



WACO REGIONAL BAPTIST ASSOCIATION

Family News

— FROM YOUR DIRECTOR —

GOOD NEWS! All of our Association staff positions are filled now. With the recent addition of Stephen Galarza (MCC Collegiate Ministry Coordinator), we now have people focused on each of the areas of ministry that were chosen by the association as strategic. This is great news.



Even though the world is full of really awful news, I see the GOSPEL as the GOOD NEWS that our neighbors (local and global) desperately need. I think of the pain in our world, and it becomes very clear to me that the answers to the big questions are not going to be found in political systems or parties. Neither are the answers going to come from the sciences. Jesus spoke of letting our “light shine” on a hill, and if ever there was a time when our world needed the light of Christ, it is today. Our churches as we “do church” are the only hope of redemption.

Your Administrative Team just finished working on the 2015 Budget. They will recommend this budget to the Executive Board on September 3 at 11:15am in the Chapel at Truett Seminary. This budget reflects some progress towards a goal we have set to get all of our part-time staff up to 20 hours per week. But we realize that depends largely upon you. For all of its 155 years of existence, the WRBA has been supported by the member churches. *How much* our Association can do is dictated by how our churches budget.

I am looking forward to 2015 to being a phenomenal year of growth in our churches and in our Association. Thank you for allowing me to be a part of the collective effort to extend and embody the GOOD NEWS of Jesus *together*.

In His Service,
Tim

— Upcoming Events —

SEPTEMBER 4-5, 2014 | FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH | DALLAS
NATIONAL BOOMER MINISTRY CONFERENCE



CATCH THE BOOMER WAVE

More information at www.texasbaptists.org/events/national-boomer-ministry-conference.

Sisters Who Care Ministry Day

9:00am-4:00pm on September 6

Bethany Baptist Church, Houston

There are multiple ministry activities to choose from. Participate in a Bible Club Block Party, work at a Baptist Mission Center or minister to refugee churches. Register at www.wmutx.org or call 888-968-6389.



ISAAC
Immigration Service and Aid Center
Basic Immigration Law Training

September 8-12, 2014

Baptist General Convention of Texas
(333 N. Washington Avenue, Dallas)
\$600 for the training includes lunch.

For more information, visit
www.isaacproject.org/training.htm.



LOVESTRONG

2014 Mary Hill Davis Offering®
week of prayer for texas missions

September 14-21, 2014

I am TEXAS Missions
MARY HILL DAVIS OFFERING

October Ministers Round Table (previously Pastors' Conference)

12:00pm on October 1 at Truett Seminary

Topic: Intergenerational Church

Speaker: Dr. Dennis Wiles

Please make a reservation by **September 25**.

Contact Katelyn at admin@wacobaptists.org or (254) 753-2408.

— Community News —

Continue to pray for WRBA churches seeking a Pastor:

Concord, Hilltop, Lake Shore, Lorena FBC, Mart FBC, Old Time,
Pleasant Olive MBC, Woodway FBC



Annual Church Profile

Each church has been sent an ACP.

You can fill it out on paper or online. If you have any questions, feel free to contact the WRBA office at (254) 753-2408. We would appreciate receiving the finished ACPs by September 12 so the contents can be included in reports given at the Annual Meeting.

WACO REGIONAL BAPTIST ASSOCIATION ANNUAL MEETING

OCTOBER 14, 2014 AT 6:00PM
COLUMBUS AVENUE BAPTIST CHURCH

BECOMING THE DIFFERENCE

*"We loved you so much that we were delighted to share
with you not only the gospel of God but our lives as well,
because you had become so dear to us."*

1 Thessalonians 2:8

— Jail Ministry Spotlight —

I was invited to a preview showing of a new movie that is coming out on September 26, *The Song*. My husband and I are like many of you, we're a bit leery of movies that others tell us are good movies. Why? Because just like you we have friends that ... well let's just say that their idea of a good movie or concept of good, clean fun is just ... well, not ours. We probably wouldn't have spent the money to go see this show based on a short YouTube clip because it was too short and we're cheap. But since it was free and we are always on the lookout for a good cheap date night, we went. Both of us said afterwards, "we're buying the DVD."



One thing that intrigued me about the movie is how much of this story is relatable to people who've gone to jail or prison. Many of them come from homes where they were told the way to live, but didn't follow *The Way*; where they knew the truth, but they didn't know *The Truth*; where they lived a life, but didn't have *The Life*. I'll go on record as recommending this movie as a thought provoking example of what happens when you make small compromises and what happens when you decide to repent. Evil is clearly depicted as evil and good as good. It eerily hit the mark on how easy it is to fall into relationship patterns that set you up for a fall. This movie is wonderfully redemptive (*spoiler alert: meaning it ends happy*), and I probably wouldn't have recommended it if it had left me hanging like the Bible leaves us with Solomon (did he ever get right with God after a life of chasing vanity of vanities). You can find more information about the film at www.cityonahillproductions.com.

I have to tell you that the music was phenomenal. The scenery was amazing. The storyline was compelling. It's the kind of movie that will open lots of doors for conversations about life and love and passion for the right things and *The Only One*.

Audrey Wauson
Jail Ministry Coordinator
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Other September Events

Monday, September 1 — WRBA Office Closed. Labor Day.

Wednesday, September 3, 11:15am — Executive Board Meeting. Truett.

Wednesday, September 3, 12:00pm — Pastors' Conference. Truett.

September 12-13 — Literacy Conference. Hewitt FBC.

September 14-21 — Texas Missions/Mary Hill Davis Week of Prayer.

Tuesday, September 16, 4:00pm — Administrative Team. WRBA.

Thursday, September 18, 8:30am — 50+ Senior Day. Latham Springs.

Saturday, September 20, 8:00am — The Summit. Salado FBC.

Thursday, September 24 — See You At The Pole. www.syatp.com.

Thursday, September 25, 12:00pm — Networking & Missions. Waco FBC.

— Community Ministries Update —

We have been blessed during the last 10 months to build a strong integrated and collaborative Community Ministries Team that is dedicated to helping our churches extend and embody the good news of Jesus Christ to the communities they serve. Each member (Coordinator) brings to the team experience, skills and expertise in their specific areas of ministry.



We are working hand-in-hand with you through our Community Ministry Committees whose members are from our WRBA churches. As Director Tim Randolph often reminds us, we are here because of the churches; without you the WRBA would not exist. Thus, I invite you to reach out to us as we strive to continue to keep you informed of current events and activities in the city and surrounding region, as well as our ministerial work. One of our goals moving forward is to connect and work more closely with you, who are directly involved in these ministries in your individual churches. So do not be surprised if you get a call from us. We are here for you. If at any time you need information or our assistance, please do not hesitate to contact us. We can be reached through the WRBA office at (254) 753-2408 or online at www.wacobaptists.org.

Evelyn Ofong

Associate Director/Director of Community Ministries

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Conway Del Conte
Hunger Ministry
Coordinator



Audrey Wauson
Jail Ministry
Coordinator



Jewel Lockridge
Collegiate Ministry
Coordinator, TSTC



Stephen Galarza
Collegiate Ministry
Coordinator, MCC



John David
Community
Ministries Intern