



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.

September 2015



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FROM YOUR DIRECTOR

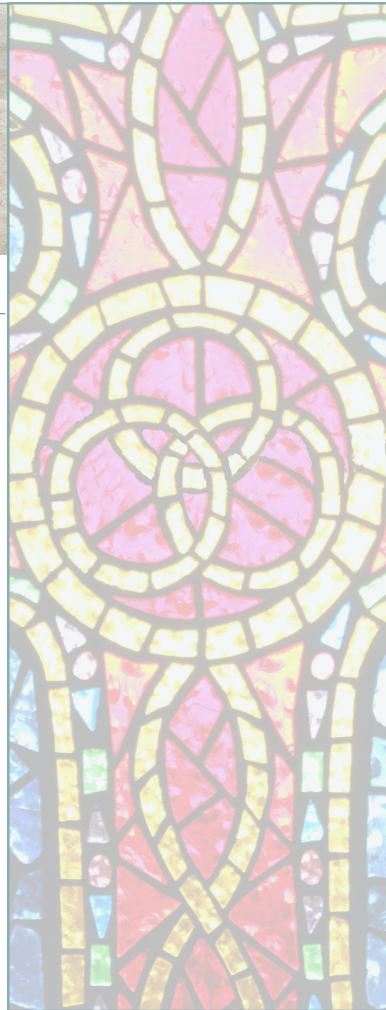
While Jesus walked on this earth in the flesh, he blessed many people with the gift of wholeness. He forgave sins, taught repentance and reconciliation, modeled the abundant life and healed many people relieving them from terrible suffering. His compassion and kindness were not limited to only one aspect of human existence. His good news includes the body, the community and the soul. The church, throughout its 2000 year history, has walked in that same spirit bringing health and compassion as well as discipleship and reconciliation wherever it has preached the Good News. Thousands of research projects have demonstrated the benefit to the physical and mental well-being to those who are active in a faith community.



“Healthy Churches, Healing Communities” is the theme of our Annual Meeting this year. I hope that every WRBA church is represented this year as we gather at Calvary Baptist Church to conduct some essential Association business, fellowship over a delicious meal and worship together. Your church has received instructions about how many messengers to elect, but everyone is welcome to come and enjoy.

As we pray and work together, I am seeing God do some phenomenal things. Healthy Churches indeed are healing communities. No wonder people have always been attracted to Jesus. Jesus asked the disciples, “You do not want to leave too, do you?” Simon Peter answered, “Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life.” (John 6:67-68) No one else brings such good news.

Blessings and Peace,
Tim



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UPCOMING EVENTS



October Ministers Round Table 12:00pm on October 7 at Truett Seminary

Topic: Financial Challenges for Ministers
Speaker: Jan Cason, Truett Seminary

RSVP by **October 1** at admin@wacobaptists.org or 254-753-2408.

Christian Women’s Job Corps

Do you or somebody you know need additional skills to secure employment or to advance in your current job? Do you need to get your GED? Christian Women’s Job Corps (CWJC) helps women grow spiritually, personally and professionally. They are accepting applications for classes which begin in September. For an application or more information, call 254-757-0416 or visit www.cwjcwaco.org.



“For God is not unjust so as to overlook your work and the love that you have shown for His name in serving the saints, as you still do.”
Hebrews 6:10

As of June 30, churches contributed \$122,669. At that same rate, WRBA will end this year with a *deficit* of \$30,890. As of July 31, churches contributed an extra \$19,792. This was lower than previous months and maintains the potential budget deficit. The Administrative Team encourages churches to give on a percentage basis to support the Association, beginning with at least 1% of undesignated gifts and working towards 3%.

OCTOBER EVENTS

October 6, 6:30pm
CWJC Baskets Of Hope Fundraiser
Woodway FBC

October 7, 12:00pm
Ministers Roundtable
Truett Seminary

October 12-14
Conclave, Youth Ministers
Arlington Convention Center

October 13, 6:00pm
WRBA Annual Meeting
RSVP by October 5
Calvary Baptist Church

October 15, 12:00pm
Networking & Missions Team
Waco FBC, Conference Room

Making Marriage Work September 18-19

Calvary Baptist Church (1001 N 18th St.) will host a Marriage Enrichment Retreat led by Drs. Preston and Genie Dyer on Friday, Sept. 18 (6:30-9:00pm) and Saturday, Sept. 19 (9:00am-5:00pm).

Childcare is available (must RSVP). The cost is \$25 per couple. Please reserve a space by emailing marriageretreat@cbcwaco.com.



FROM YOUR ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR

Desperate for God: A Discipleship Journey with Brothers



I recently had an opportunity to meet with Phil Oliver, a member of Woodway FBC and also chair of the Community Ministries Leadership

Council. God has placed on his heart a great concern for men who desire to grow stronger in their Christian walk. He believes men are often quietly praying,

"Dear God, I want to be the father, husband, son, brother, boss, worker, friend, and follower you have called me to be, but I continue to fall short. Things in my life, 'entangling hindrances' (Hebrews 12:1), keep me bogged down so that I feel like I am struggling just to put the next foot in front of the other. I need an alliance of other brothers to encourage, support, challenge and walk with

me, to help me to tap into Your strength to remove the things that hinder me so that I can experience Your Abundant Life more fully. I am desperate for You! Amen!"

If you are finding this to be the prayer of your heart and are desperately seeking God, please join Phil Oliver as he leads this six-week "Discipleship Journey with Brothers," which will start at Woodway FBC on Sunday, Sept. 13, 2015 at 5:30 p.m. All men, ages 18 and up, are welcome! For more information, call Phil Oliver at 254-744-8328 or the church discipleship team at 254-772-9696.

Evelyn Ofong
Associate Director
associate@wacobaptists.org



COLLEGIATE MINISTRY SPOTLIGHT

A new school year has begun. We are glad to announce that about 30 students have already signed up to be part of the MCC college ministry. Bosqueville, Columbus Avenue, Park Lake Drive and Ecclesia are among the churches that have come together in order to reach out to MCC students. We have several events organized, such as "See You at the Pole" on Sept. 23, free lunches every Wednesday and worship night on Thursdays. All of these activities and Bible studies are all led by the member churches of the WRBA. We are

excited to see what the Lord will be doing on campus. Prayers are appreciated.

If you or your church would like to be part of the ministry for MCC students you may contact me at mcc@wacobaptists.org, or for TSTC ministry you can contact Jewel Lockridge at tstc@wacobaptists.org.

Stephen Galarza, MCC
Collegiate Ministry Coordinator



SEPTEMBER EVENTS

September 1-2
Black Preaching Conference
San Antonio

September 2, 11:15am
Executive Board Meeting
Truett Seminary

September 2, 12:00pm
Ministers Roundtable
Truett Seminary

September 7 – Labor Day
Office Closed

September 9-11
Boomer Ministry
Conference
San Antonio

September 11-12
Sisters Who Care Conference
Mansfield

September 12, 10:30am
Fiesta Familiar
Hawaiian Falls, Waco

September 13-20
TX Missions Week of Prayer
Mary Hill Davis Offering

September 15, 11:00am
Bill Gaither Interview
Open to the Public
Truett Seminary

September 15, 4:00pm
Admin Team Meeting
WRBA

September 17, 8:30am
50+ Senior Day
Latham Springs

September 17, 12:00pm
Networking & Missions Team
Waco FBC, Conference Room

September 18-19
Making Marriage Work:
Marriage Enrichment Retreat
Calvary Baptist Church

September 23, 7:00am
See You at the Pole
Meet at School Flag Poles

COMMUNITY NEWS

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

Downsville
Liberty Hill
Lorena FBC
Marlin MBC
Old Time
Primera Iglesia
Robinson FBC
Woodway FBC

New Church Staff:
Congratulations to Lake
Shore and their new pastor,
Kyndall Rothaus!

CHURCH SPOTLIGHT

After a summer of church growth, working with the local food pantry and licensing Army Captain José Wallace to be a chaplain, FBC McGregor is turning their focus to fall events and where God can use them.

The church just had the annual ice cream social and prayer walk for the schools and are planning football season 5th Quarters. Some upcoming plans are community events planned by the ministerial alliance.

Pastor Terry Johnston said, "It has helped me tremendously to connect with folks.... It's good because you get to build relationships and your relationships go beyond your church walls."

The eclectic group ministers just met with three new church

leaders. They're starting to plan the annual McGregor Trunk-or-Treat. A road is shut down so people go to a centralized area.

Johnston said, "We'll have our Food for Families drive and then our community wide Thanksgiving Service.... One church hosts and then leaders from other churches partake in prayer, worship preaching and it's a lot of fun."

Johnston wants to help people focus on how their passions meet God's need, to ask "where is God equipping you and how can you serve where you are?"

He asked for prayer that "God will continue to encourage folks to discover their giftings and discover where they can serve and minister."

Waco Regional Baptist Association

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Annual Church Profiles are due by
September 11 to get the information
in the Book of Reports. Thanks!

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WACO REGIONAL BAPTIST ASSOCIATION ANNUAL MEETING

OCTOBER 13, 2015 AT 6:00PM
CALVARY BAPTIST CHURCH
MIKE FRITSCHER, SPEAKER

HEALTHY CONGREGATIONS



HEALING COMMUNITIES

“HE HIMSELF BORE OUR SINS” IN HIS BODY ON THE CROSS,
SO THAT WE MIGHT DIE TO SINS AND LIVE FOR RIGHTEOUSNESS;
“BY HIS WOUNDS YOU HAVE BEEN HEALED.”
2 PETER 2:24

MAKE A RESERVATION BY OCTOBER 5. DINNER IS \$8.
CONTACT THE WRBA OFFICE AT 254-753-2408
OR AT ADMIN@WACOBAPTISTS.ORG.



The Annual Church Profile has been mailed to each church. We are asking churches to complete this and return it back to our office by **September 11, 2015**. We hope to process the information for our Book of Report and the WRBA Annual Meeting on October 13. It can also be filled out electronically. The instructions are on the packet.

The ACP is important to you and your congregation. This once-a-year report is recorded for the sake of history. If you would like to see a summary of these reports from your church for the past 20 years, we can provide that for you. This kind of data helps for planning purposes as well as giving a good healthy perspective to the direction of your congregation. It also gives us the contact information for your key leaders so that we can connect them to resources that would be relevant to their ministry.

If you have any questions about it, feel free to call us at 753-2408.