



FROM YOUR DIRECTOR

About one-third of the stories in the four gospels speak of healing. Jesus cared for the human body. The early church practiced this care. And we do today... look around at the names on the Hospitals here in Texas. Churches and church people started and funded many of our health Institutions because caring for people's health is part of our mission as followers of Jesus.



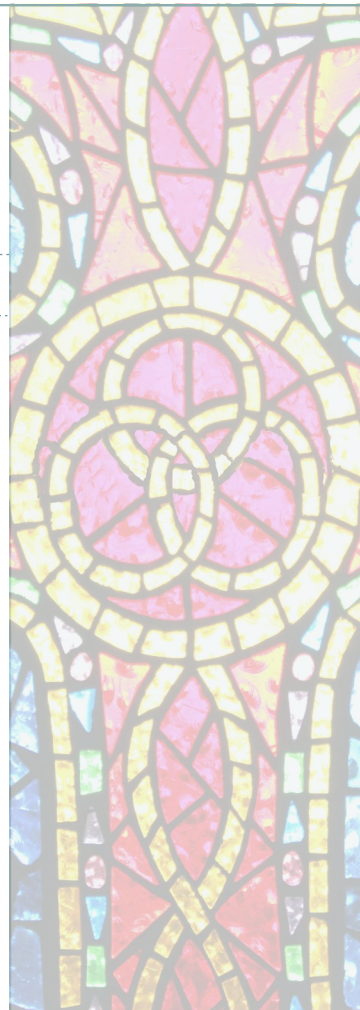
Our association **Church Health Ministry Team** wants to help your church establish a **health ministry**. This can be as simple as providing a volunteer with a blood pressure cuff in the hallway between Sunday School classes and locating automatic defibrillators on the wall in a couple of key locations. Or It can be as extensive as organizing exercise and nutrition classes, support groups, and having an on-staff volunteer "Minister of Health," who plans regular health screenings and education forums.

I have preached my "sermon" from church to church, and have come to realize there are a few simple concepts we need to get our minds around.

1. Prayer for the sick and practicing common-sense health care are complimentary of each other. We don't have to choose.
2. There are many trained professionals in almost every church who simply need an invitation and some recognition to form a really vibrant Health Ministry.
3. There are abundant resources in our communities to support whatever health ministry your church wants to start.
4. A sincere healing ministry ought to include more actual care than merely listing people on the Wednesday night prayer list.
5. We are not nearly as healthy as we think we are or appear to be. Our congregations are filled with folks struggling with every kind of malady. Our churches can make a positive difference in their lives.

In Luke 10, Jesus said, "Heal the sick who are there"... and then he concluded the chapter by telling the story of the Good Samaritan who *"when he saw him, he took pity on him. ³⁴ He went to him and bandaged his wounds, pouring on oil and wine. Then he put the man on his own donkey, brought him to an inn and took care of him. ³⁵ The next day he took out two denarii and gave them to the innkeeper. 'Look after him,' he said, 'and when I return, I will reimburse you for any extra expense you may have.'"* Jesus finished by saying, *"Go and do likewise."*

In His Service,
Tim Randolph



INSIDE THIS ISSUE

Director's Article 1
 Upcoming Events 2
 Jail Ministry Update 3
 Calendar of Events 3
 Churches without Pastors 4
 Church Spotlight 4

UPCOMING EVENTS

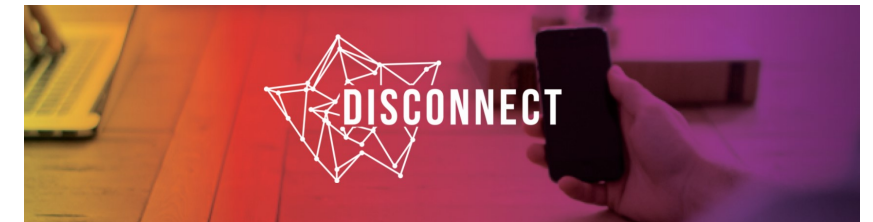
**January Ministers Round Table
12:00pm on January 10 at Truett Seminary**

Topic: Patterns of Church Participation
Speaker: Dr. Gordon Melton, Baylor University
RSVP by **January 3** to admin@wacobaptists.org or 753-2408.

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

Topic: Harnessing the Potential of Baby Boomers
Speaker: Keith Lowry, Texas Baptists
RSVP by **January 31** to admin@wacobaptists.org or 753-2408.

"Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, the new creation has come: The old has gone, the new is here!"
2 Corinthians 5:17



PRESCHOOL AND CHILDREN'S MINISTERS' RETREAT

January 15-16, 2018

Summers Mill Retreat & Conference Center • Salado, TX

Enjoy a comfortable space where you can disconnect from devices and stresses of every day and reconnect with God and friends, both old and new.

Visit texasbaptists.org/childhood for more information.

Winter 50+ Senior Adult Day

Thursday, January 11, 2018

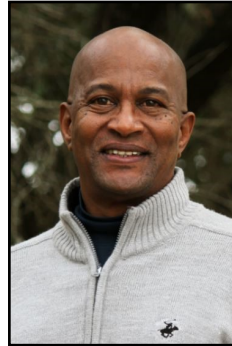
8:30am — 3:00pm

\$8 for lunch • call (254) 694-3689 to RSVP



RESTORATIVE JUSTICE/JAIL MINISTRY UPDATE

The last couple of months have been very intense, as you can probably imagine. During the holiday seasons, Thanksgiving and Christmas, the feeling of hopelessness spreads like wildfire at the McLennan County Jail. It is our effort to carry out our mission statement, "To demonstrate God's love so that others can find true freedom in Jesus Christ," as well as be extenders of God's grace. Although this charge can be quite challenging, I'm pleased to report that by the grace of God the RJJM team is up to the challenge. In the past year we have redirected our approach as it relates to our method of ministering. We have, as a group, followed the lead of the Apostle Paul in 1 Corinthians 2:1-2, when he writes, "For I determined not to know anything among you, save Jesus Christ, and him crucified." We have made a conscious effort to minister to the inmate and not down, as if we don't need Jesus in our lives as well. In our effort to battle hopelessness in the inmate and the team, we continue to teach and preach that our hope is in Jesus Christ. The RJJM also has adopted a "one-shot" mentality, understanding that we may not get another opportunity to minister to the same group, so let us lift Jesus always. It is our desire to lead the inmate into true conversion, to seek Jesus for themselves.



We are encouraged to not get "weary in well doing" when confirmation is given through the inmate. Two weeks ago, an inmate who chooses to remain anonymous, as he described it himself, was in a dark place. He asked if I would come and visit him. He stated that he had heard the word of God preached by myself and other volunteers, and he just wanted to know what must he do to be saved. I want to follow Jesus. This story is one among many that we hear as it relates to the effectiveness of the RJJM in "demonstrating God's love so that others can find true freedom in Jesus Christ." God says in his word in John 8:36, "If the Son therefore shall make you free, ye shall be free indeed."

Rev. Larry Turner
Restorative Justice Jail Ministry Coordinator
rjm@wacobaptists.org



Some of our Jail Ministry volunteers in 2017

JANUARY EVENTS

- January 1**
New Year's Day
WRBA Office Closed
- January 9, 11:30am**
Church Technology Ministry
Team Meeting
WRBA
- January 10, 12:00pm**
Ministers Roundtable
Truett Seminary
Topic: Patterns of Church
Participation
Speaker: Dr. Gordon Melton
RSVP by January 3
- January 11, 8:30am**
50+ Senior Day
Latham Springs
- January 15**
Martin Luther King Jr. Day
WRBA Office Closed
- January 15-16**
Preschool and Children's
Ministers' Retreat
Salado, TX
- January 16, 4:00pm**
Board Meeting
WRBA
- January 17, 12:00pm**
Networking and Missions
Team Meeting
Waco FBC, Conference Rm
- January 18, 3:30pm**
Church Evangelism Ministry
Team Meeting
WRBA
- January 19, 8:30am**
Church Member Health
Ministry Team Meeting
- January 19, 1:00pm**
Church Protection Ministry
Team Meeting
WRBA

February 7, 12:00pm
Ministers Roundtable
Truett Seminary
Topic: Harnessing the
Potential of Baby Boomers

COMMUNITY NEWS

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

Chalk Bluff
Emmanuel
Faith Temple
Lakeview

Non-Profit Org.
U.S. Postage Paid
Permit No. 235
Waco, TX

CHURCH SPOTLIGHT: KOREAN CHURCH

What started as a small Korean immigrant Bible study 23 years ago, is now an active Korean church trying to reach beyond cultural and language barriers.

Pastor Jangho Jo started working with the church as a college pastor seven years ago. At that time, most members were first generation immigrants. Now the church includes many ethnically Korean Baylor students from the States so the ministry has shifted from Korean worship to English worship with a blend of languages in ministry.

Jo said, "It's been shifting from a Korean church to a more diverse church."

He described the church as "family-like." They don't worry about generational problems.

"Every generation gathers together in one place, we worship

together, we pray together . . . we know one another, we work with one another."

The members even eat lunch together every Sunday. While the Korean culture is a part of the church, their goal is to be inclusive of others.

Jo said, "We are really looking forward to reaching out beyond the cultural and language barrier so we can serve not just the Korean congregation but other groups in the community."

The members serve Mission Waco each month with various needs, cleaning to construction.

"It's a very small thing, but we like to be involved as a church in this community," Jo said.

The church also has a heart to invest in and equip students for long-term ministry.

January 2018



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