



WACO REGIONAL BAPTIST ASSOCIATION

CONNECT, SUPPORT, TRAIN

March 2019

Volume 20, Issue 3

From Your Director

I am preparing for my Sabbatical mid-May through June, during which I will be making a Christian Pilgrimage across Spain. From my cursory survey of the Bible on this topic, it seems to me that people of faith receive the following benefits from taking one of these pilgrimages:

1. They find **connection with others** who share the same faith from different places. They all converge on one spot, but there is a sense of identity that comes from walking and gathering together at one place where God has revealed Himself in some special way.
2. They **find connection with their past**. We did not invent our faith, and we are not the first ones to embrace it. We all are heirs of generations of others who have believed in God and heeded His Word. Walking old paths to old places where those generations met with God seems to connect us with that rich heritage.
3. They **find connection with themselves**. That sounds odd, doesn't it? But humans have an incredible capacity for self-deception and self-dislocation. We say we are doing one thing, but all our actions and decisions say otherwise. Or we keep doing harmful things over and over until, literally, we maim or kill ourselves. Days of walking and talking with God on a dirt path seem to give us space and opportunity to sort that out and reconnect with who we are and where we are going.
4. They **find connection with those things that really matter** in life. A pilgrim is stripped down to the bare necessities of life. My pack will probably weigh twenty pounds and will contain just enough to get me through 31 days of walking. No luxuries. No distractions. No comforts. Just shoes, clothes, walking sticks, maps, a few toiletries and that is all. Maybe a month of living with a little will help me sort out the things that are unnecessarily weighing me down and free me up to enjoy life with just a little less.

Thank you for allowing me this time to connect in these important ways. And I would like to encourage you to find out about what your church provides for your ministers in the way of Sabbaticals.

In His Service,

Tim Randolph, Director

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MARCH EVENTS

March 3rd-10th
Annie Armstrong Easter
Offering Week;
For more info visit
anniearmstrong.com

March 6th, 12:00PM
Ministers Round Table/
Ministry Guidance
Conference
RSVP by March 1st to
Louine_adams@baylor.edu OR
(254) 710-3739

March 8th-9th
African American Leadership
Workshop
Truett Seminary

March 10th
Daylight Savings Time
Move clocks forward one
hour before bed the night
before

March 15th, 12:00PM
Church Protection Ministry
Team Meeting
WRBA Office

March 17th
Church Planting Emphasis
Sunday

March 19th, 4:00PM
Board Meeting
WRBA Office

March 20th, 12:00PM
Networking & Missions
Ministry Team Meeting
Waco FBC, Conference
Room

March 31st - April 5th
Empower Waco Week

November 17-19, 2019

Waco, TX

2019 TEXAS BAPTISTS
ANNUAL MEETING

Compelled™

NEEDS VOLUNTEERS!

Contact us for more information at (254) 753-2408 or
admin@wacobaptists.org

Ministers Round Table

featuring

Dr. Monique Marsh-Bell,

Assistant AD for Mental Health Services at Baylor University

Wednesday, April 3rd at 12:00PM

Truett Seminary, Great Hall

Topic: Mental Health within the Church

RSVP BY MARCH 27TH @ (254) 753-2408,

admin@wacobaptists.org OR online at

www.wacobaptists.org/ministries/ministers-roundtable/



DON'T FORGET TO

**SPRING
FORWARD**

**ONE HOUR BEFORE BED
ON MARCH 9TH**



Collegiate Ministry Update

God is moving among the students at TSTC! Over the past few weeks, we have been gathering on Tuesday evenings at an apartment complex on campus, and on Thursday mornings in the recreation center on campus to study Scripture and eat together. Students are eager, engaged, and excited to share their lives with us. The things we have discussed in Bible study have empowered the students to be more open, honest, and vulnerable with themselves and their peers. We are praying for a continued formation of community between these students, and with the churches who are dedicated to loving them. At the moment, there are seven representatives from WRBA churches who have committed to invest, lead, and love the students at TSTC. In making relationships with these students, these pastors are demonstrating to these students just how much they are loved and cared for by Christ and by the Church.

Please pray that the students at TSTC experience Christ in community, that they know how deeply they are loved and cared for, and that they continue to grow.

If you would like to get involved with the students at TSTC by leading a Bible study one week, bringing coffee, or food, please let me know! Above all else, please be in prayer for the students and the relationships that are being nurtured. God is active on campus, and God is letting us be a part of His work. We are grateful!

Katelyn Keeling
TSTC Collegiate Ministry Coordinator
tstc@wacobaptists.org

----- 2019 -----

AFRICAN AMERICAN LEADERSHIP WORKSHOP

----- March 8-9 • Truett Theological Seminary • Waco, TX -----

FOR MORE INFO AND/OR TO REGISTER VISIT
<https://texasbaptists.org/events/african-american-leadership-workshop>

CHURCH SPOTLIGHT - CROSSROADS BAPTIST CHURCH OF LORENA

Nestled on the corner of Old Lorena Road and Spring Valley Road, sits Crossroads Baptist Church of Lorena, a loving and friendly congregation. The church came into existence in 1988 when a group of four ladies had a vision to minister. *“Thank the Lord for Baptist women—without whom many Baptist churches would not exist,”* said long-time Pastor Robert Buchanan.

Pastor Buchanan was drawn to Crossroads for he saw a great opportunity for growth. He is seeing many visitors, aiding in its continued growth numerically but also spiritually. *“Many that visit Crossroads tell us that they drive to and from work and pass our church daily.”*

They may currently be small in number compared to some of the larger churches in the area;

however, they are a very active church, from providing coats to elementary children during the Christmas season to supporting mission efforts in Mexico, which includes feeding and teaching small villages about Jesus.

One of Crossroads long-time traditions each year is their Sunrise service. *“We would love for anyone who wants to enjoy this very special day to come and join us at 7:00AM Easter Sunday, April 21st.”*

Also, with Easter around the corner, you can also view the large bluebonnet field next to the church building. A beautiful site, nonetheless!



COMMUNITY NEWS

Please continue to pray for WRBA churches seeking a Pastor:

Downsville BC, Emmanuel BC, Lakeview BC, Old Time BC



RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

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P.O. Box 1848

Waco Regional Baptist Association

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