



WACO REGIONAL BAPTIST ASSOCIATION

Family News

— FROM YOUR DIRECTOR —

Our web site has been growing and changing every week as we continue to add news articles from churches, interviews with leaders, and information about our churches. If you haven't seen it lately, I hope you check it out:
www.wacoregionalbaptistassociation.org.

The electronic newsletter that we send out each week is full of the most recent news and events in the region that are of interest to our churches. Through all of these means of communication, one of our desires is to help you, our readers, to get acquainted with one another. You can sign up for that through our web site also!

Since you are fully engaged in your church, you perhaps don't have time to visit another church across town to see what they are doing, or how they are doing. We hope to continue to develop these media so that you can get acquainted with other churches' mission efforts, innovative ministries, and their staff. We are also experimenting with Facebook and Twitter to keep the communication alive.

Another desire we have for this publication is to inform you of great events and opportunities for ministry that could have a positive effect on your congregation. Here in the Waco region, we are blessed with a variety of entities and partners that are invested in helping you and your church achieve your fullest potential. For these reasons, I hope that you join in the conversation and participate! Since our newsletter does not reach every active member of your congregation, would you mind sharing it with someone who comes to your mind that might be interested in some of the events highlighted inside?

In His Service,
Tim



National Day of Prayer

Thursday, May 5, 2011

Local Christians are gathering at First United Methodist Church, Waco
from 12:00-1:00pm to pray and worship together.

A short meal will follow.

— Transforming Communities —

Restorative Justice and Social Justice are companion terms, but not identical. However, each is expansive in its scope. By embracing restorative justice and social justice as strategic elements in our efforts to transform communities, we acknowledge their complexity even as we recognize their corresponding significance. Below you will find several opportunities for equipping yourself and your church to engage more effectively in issues at



the very heart of what is required to see individuals and whole communities transformed by the love of Jesus Christ. Please contact us for more information on any of these or to schedule myself or someone else to come and share with any group in your church about the role of restorative justice and social justice in seeking community transformation.

In Him,
Dane Fowlkes, Ph.D.
Associate Director
associate@wacoregionalbaptistassociation.org

Symposium on Restorative Justice

May 7, 9:00am-12:00noon

The free registration includes lunch

Mayborn Museum on University Parks (on Baylor University campus)

Child Trafficking

May 13–14 in Austin

With an estimated 300,000 U.S. children are trafficked into the sex industry annually, residential restorative care is paramount. Christians will gather to network and learn how to provide care. Information and registration is available at www.traffickstop.org.



5th Sunday Hunger Offering Emphasis

World Hunger Emphasis Day, May 29, 2011

Take an offering for World Hunger on the 5th Sunday.

Send checks payable to “BGCT Hunger Offering” to

Christian Life Commission, 333 N. Washington, Dallas, TX 75246.

For more information, visit <http://www.bgct.org/texasbaptists/Page.aspx?pid=5585>.

Save the Date

No Need Among You Conference
September 15-17, 2011

No Need Among You
“INCLUDING THE EXCLUDED” CONFERENCE

———— The Body of Believers ————

A glimpse of how God is at work in the Waco area.

After twenty years, Highland Baptist Church will have what Pastor Barry Camp calls a "changing of the guard." He will retire May 1, 2011.

"I think Highland is a very healthy church right now. We're debt-free. We have a new facility that accommodates up to 1,800 people in worship.... I just think that the person that comes in next is going to have a great opportunity. It's a great group of people. I see Highland's best days in the future," he said

Camp was recommend for the position, did not personally apply because he was happy as a pastor in OK. He turned down the first offer, but he felt a peace about the position after prayer.

He said, "I told the Lord, 'If I'm supposed to go to Highland have them call me back and ask me if I'd reconsider....' They called me and said, 'we've dismissed the pastor's search committee, and we still think you're the man for the church. What would it take to get you to reconsider?' I said, 'I already have.'"

Camp became Highland's pastor on Easter Sunday of 1991. Upon joining, he told the congregation he was their "new preacher" but that he'd work "to earn the right to be (their) new pastor."

Having dealt with grief and calmed by Is. 40:31, Camp mentors others.

"There are times in your life when you feel like soaring as eagles, there are times in your life when you feel like running and not being weary, but the majority of our life is just walking and not giving up."

After retiring, Camp will take a month off. He will visit other pastors on Sundays for the first time, but his retirement won't be idle. He already has a few speaking engagements lined up and is making plans to prepare for whatever God leads him to next. He has told many young pastors "you prepare the sermons, you prepare yourself, and then God will provide the opportunity."

He has tried to prepare the church for the transition by giving sermons on what they should look for in a pastor.

Associate Pastor and 27 year member Mark Wible hopes the church will "continue to help people follow Jesus. We want people to worship the Lord, we want people to grow, and we want people to connect ... we want people to share their faith, and we want people to serve in their community."

The church has grown a lot in recent years. The ministry opportunities have multiplied. These include Antioch Ministries International, HOT Field Guide, Hoops for Hope, Generations Adoption, HOPE and a care center.

Wible said, "I'm excited about where we are poised as the Lord has most recently been giving vision and birthing new ministries."

The children's department has also changed. Children's Director Joy Endsley has worked hard during the past 23 years to encourage growth and knowledge. After years of standard studies, she created a new program that led the children to self-discovery. Put out by Precepts Ministries, the children are taught how to study the Bible with lessons that teach them to handle "the word of God instead of going to books about the word of God."

Endsley will retire at the end of May and will continue teaching Precepts.

"Many young parents have expressed with tears in their eyes how they're going to miss this beloved pastor who has made them feel that Highland is their family," Endsley said.

Camp asked for prayer for Highland and himself to wait on God's calling.



Upcoming Events

Learn How Jail Ministry Includes Much More

May 7, 9:00am at the Mayborn Museum

There is no entrance fee.

Registration is preferred and includes a free boxed lunch.

Register online at <http://www.isreligion.org/events/symposium-on-restorative-justice/> or call the office at 254-753-2408.



Download a free QR reader (we suggest “Bakodo” or “i-nigma”) on your smart phone and scan the picture on the left to register right now.

Symposium on
RESTORATIVE JUSTICE

Body Recall

May 22-27, Waco FBC

An adult exercise ministry, focusing on balance, strength and agility.

Contact Randall at 752-3000 or rperry@fbcwaco.org for information.

Pillars Conference

May 24-26

Truett Seminary

Call Angela Bailey at 254-710-6080 or go to <http://texasbaptists.org/age-culture/senior-adult-ministry/> to learn more or to register.

World Changers in Waco July 18-23

Local churches can help with prayer, feeding lunch to the crews, acting as runner or construction supervisor, providing refreshments for students, or following up on decisions of faith.

In preparation for the summer work, a prayer guide is also available.

Contact Brian Miller at 417-631-8717 or mchrste91@gmail.com.



Kidz Kamp

July 21-25

For preteens who have completed grades 3, 4, 5 and 6.

For additional information, contact David Cozart at 254-662-2728, visit the website www.kidzkamptexas.com or view the Facebook page “Kidz Kamp Preteen Camp (CorWac)”.

GuideStone’s Mission:Dignity

This ministry provides critical financial assistance to thousands of retired Southern Baptist ministers, workers or their widows. More information about this ministry is available at 1-888-984-8433 or www.MissionDignitySBC.org.

Other May Events

Wednesday, May 4, 12:00noon — May Pastors' Conference. The speaker is Baylor University Vice President Jerry Haag. Truett Seminary.

Thursday, May 5 — National Day of Prayer.

Sunday, May 8 — Mother's Day.

May 15-22 — NAMB Associational Emphasis Week.

Thursday, May 19, 8:00am — Spring Senior Day. Latham Springs. Registration deadline is May 5.

Saturday, May 28, 12:00noon — "Tenth Annual City-Wide Unity Day" Celebration. House of the Lord People Church (712 Dallas Street).

Monday, May 30 — WRBA Office Closed for Memorial Day.

Community News

Continue to pray for WRBA churches seeking a Pastor:

Seventh and James, Emmanuel, FBC McGregor, Highland

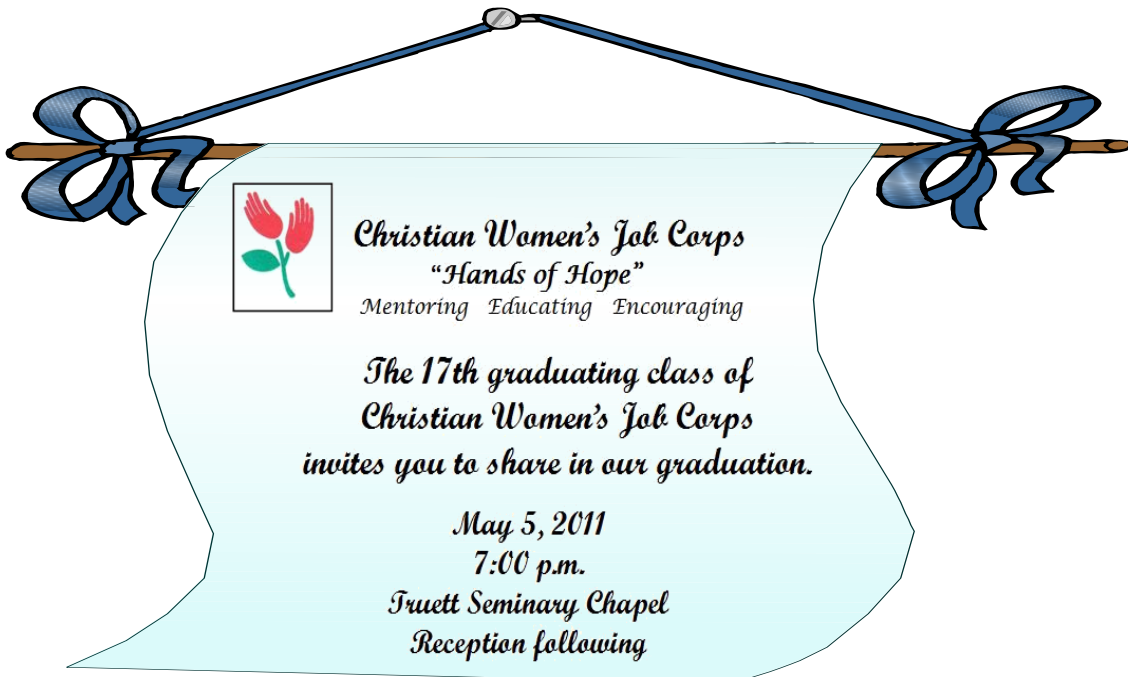
Congratulations to New Hope Baptist Church Waco and their new pastor,
Rev. Dr. Richard L. Blanton!


Congratulations to FBC West and their new music minister, Jeremy McCaig!

Online Community

To receive this newsletter by e-mail contact Katelyn at 753-2408 or
admin@wacoregionalbaptistassociation.org.

WRBA is on Twitter (WRBACHurches) and Facebook.





*Christian Women's Job Corps
"Hands of Hope"
Mentoring Educating Encouraging*

*The 17th graduating class of
Christian Women's Job Corps
invites you to share in our graduation.*

*May 5, 2011
7:00 p.m.
Truett Seminary Chapel
Reception following*