

WHBC  
MINISTERIAL  
& SUPPORT STAFF

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January 2020

Budget Receipts	Month to Date	28,800
Budget Expenses	Month to Date	24,250
Designated Receipts	Month to Date	3,493
Budget Goal	Year to Date	33,032
Budget Receipts	Year to Date	28,800
Budget Expenses	Year to Date	24,250
Designated Receipts	Year to Date	3,493

Annie Armstrong will  
start March 1,2020

Goal	
To Date	

**FAMILY FELLOWSHIP  
MEALS**

Meals are currently suspended  
until further notice.  
We will update you on any  
changes.



**OFFICE HOURS**

Monday through Thursday

8:00 am-12:00 noon

1:00 pm-4:30 pm

The offices are closed

and telephones are not answered  
between 12:00 noon and 1:00 pm, and  
after 4:30 pm.

**AFTER HOURS EMERGENCY  
02/01/2020 thru 02/29/2020**

Bruce Worley	254-716-0748
Ken Orr	366-7274
Scott Day	717-9036
Mike Ogas	315-4648
Don Deatherage	752-4847

Return Service Requested  
6301 Bosque Blvd. Waco, Texas 76710 - 4199

WESTERN HEIGHTS  
BAPTIST CHURCH



**THE VISION**

Exalting Christ . . . Equipping the Church . . . Engaging the Community

VOLUME MMXX ISSUE NO. 02

FEBRUARY 05, 2020

First, I would like to thank everyone for your prayers the last few weeks for my family and my dad. Though we knew it was a matter of time before the Lord called him home, we were not totally prepared for this timing. However, God was gracious in allowing us time to love him and send him on his way to his eternal home. Though he will be missed we know we will see him again. But thank you for the kindness you have shown my family during this time. Now on to my article for this month.

I have been talking for years about changes we need to make in the church. Some have been embraced, while others have been delayed or rejected. Perhaps I have not been clear enough in what needs to be done, so let me spell some things out that will give us some good talking points.

What are some of the key changes we must make? Allow me to give you a fair warning - none of these are easy. In fact they will be impossible without God's power. Here are nine of them.

**We must stop complaining about the death of cultural Christianity.** The culture around us is changing. I'm sorry that not everyone thinks or acts the way we did in years past. Cultural shifts are not a new norm. But lamenting these changes does us no good. Easy growth is simply not a reality for many churches. People no longer come to a church because they believe they must do so to be culturally accepted. Christianity guided by the Great Commission is two-fold, "go and tell" and "come and see". We must be about both methods.

**We must cease seeing the church as a place of comfort and stability in the midst of rapid change.** Certainly, God's truth is unchanging! So we can and do find comfort and stability in that reality. But don't look to your church *NOT* to change methods, approaches, and human-made traditions. Those forms of stability are not one the church was created to offer. In fact, we must learn to be uncomfortable in the world if we are to make a difference. I call it living within the tension. We must learn how we can become all things to all people so that we will win some to Christ while at the same time holding true to our values. The phrase "We've never done it that way before," is a death declaration.

**We must abandon the entitlement mentality.** The church is not a country club where you pay dues to get your perks and privileges. It is a Gospel outpost where you are to put yourself last. Seeking to satisfy personal preferences at the cost of reaching the lost with the Gospel is contrary to Christ's calling on our lives. Here is a simple guideline: ***Be willing to die for the sake of the gospel.*** That's the opposite of the entitlement mentality.

**We must start doing.** Most of us like the idea of evangelism more than we like doing evangelism. Try a simple prayer and ask God to give you Gospel opportunities; you may be surprised how He will use you. Several weeks ago an encouragement to pray for one person for one minute at 1:00 was given. Have you been faithful in praying for that person?

**We must stop using biblical words in unbiblical ways.** "Discipleship" does not mean caretaking. "Fellowship" does not mean entertainment.

**We must stop focusing on the minutiae .** Satan must delight when he can trap a church in debates and arguments over changes that do not have eternal value. That is time spent in neglect of Gospel sharing.

**We must stop shooting our own.** This tragedy is related to the entitlement mentality. If we don't get our way, we will go after the pastor, the staff member, or the church member who has a different perspective than our own. We will even go after their families. Don't let bullies and perpetual critics control the church. Don't shoot our own. It's not friendly fire.

**We must stop wasting time in unproductive meetings, committees, and business sessions.** Wouldn't it be interesting if every church member was permitted input in a meeting equivalent to their sharing of his or her faith the past week. Would we hear crickets??

**We must become houses of prayer.** Stated simply, we are doing too much in our own power. We are really busy, but we are not doing the business of God. I encourage you; I invite you; I implore you to gather with us on Wednesdays evenings as we pray for our church, our community and our country.

I read recently that around 200 churches will close this week, maybe more. I pray that we will not become one of those statistics. Perhaps it will not be this week, next month, or even next year - but if we are not careful one day it will be said of us. The need for change is urgent - we have a responsibility to our community to be Gospel focused.

As always my door is open!

In HIS Service, Bruce

## CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

Hello All!

Kid's Night Out is February 21st - 5:30 to 9! This is for children ages 6 weeks—6th grade. There is no cost, we will provide a pizza dinner, and the evening will be full of games, fellowship, Bible Stories, and fun! Feel free to share information about this event with your friends. The deadline to register is February 18th, and can be done online or by calling the office.



Rachel Ellison

### DATES TO NOTE:

- **Bible Drill Fun Night—March 6th, 6 to 9**
- **Church/Associational Drill—March 22nd @ 5:30**
- **Spring Breakaway—March 11th**

We are beginning our preparations for our annual Easter Block Party - April 11th! We are beginning to collect donations for Easter Baskets and other materials needed for this event. If you would like to donate, mark your envelope Easter Block Party. Be on the lookout for information of additional ways you can be involved. Thank you for your involvement in this ministry to our community!

### SPRING SCHEDULE:

#### SUNDAY

8:45-9:30 - Traditional Service

9:45-10:45 -Bible Study

11:00-12:15 - Contemporary Worship

5:30-7:00 - Bible Drill / Bible Buddies / Mission Preschool

#### WEDNESDAY

6:00-6:45 - Raise the Roof /

Mission Preschool

6:45-7:30 - TeamKID /

Mission Preschool

## YOUTH MINISTRY

Thank you to everyone who came and enjoyed some yummy chili while supporting us! We appreciate you so much. We were able to raise \$1200 through this event!

Remember Sunday morning Bible Study each Sunday at 9:45-10:45!

Come for a great time of studying God's Word together.

Marilyn and Robert Borchardt - 7th and 8th Grade

Ainsley and Philip Moore - 9th thru 12th Grade

### Dates to Note:

#### D-NOW Weekend 2020 - February 14 - 16, 2020

Please pray for our students and sponsors as they attend this weekend of Bible Study and Worship!

Students plan to meet at the church Feb. 14th @ 4 p.m.

#### Spring Break - March 9th - 13th

Our students will be participating in a mission project at the church to clean up the garden area.

Students, be watching for more information.

#### Rummage Sale - March 14-15

We are currently collecting Items in Rm. #503 across from the Sanctuary

Contact Cynthia at 254-644-2441 or Rachel at 254-776-2524 for drop off or pick up needs.

#### Youth Camp - July 6-10

## MUSIC MINISTRY AND SENIOR ADULTS



Kip Osborne

Harrison Senior Center Ministry Opportunity – One of our local ministries that we as a church are trying to impact with the gospel of Jesus Christ is this senior center in our own part of town. It is directly across from Lion's Park and beside the Waco Lion's Den building. Approximately 125 seniors are served by the varied programming offered at this location. Western Heights not only has several church members who are actively involved there, but we do ministry there as often as possible.

We have been asked to do Valentine's Day Music on Wednesday, February 12<sup>th</sup> at their 11 AM program time. This is a great opportunity to be a witness for Jesus Christ for we know that He is the author of love. While romantic love is humanly special, God's love is divinely holy and life-changing to those who accept it. Therefore, much of the love music will be spiritual by design and will sing of His love. You are invited to come and join us on this day and to bring a lunch to stay and enjoy with the regular attendees. Let's show the world the love of Christ as He has shown us! Pray that we will be a witness God uses!

THE EASTER CANTATA – “WHERE LOVE AND MERCY MEET” is being rehearsed in our Wednesday evening Choir Practice at 7:30 PM in the Choir Room. Come and join your voices with others in singing out the salvation given through Jesus Christ, the Lord!

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### Care Net Baby Bottle Campaign

Bottles are still available in baby gift bags around the church. Pick one up, fill it with money (checks should be made out to Care Net) and drop it in the baby bed in the sanctuary or turn it into the office.

**ALL Bottles due Sunday, Feb. 23rd.** Thanks so much!!

### Jeffrey Place Ministry

This year an effort is being made to celebrate the birthdays of the residents of Jeffrey's Place.

We are collecting items such as lotions, shampoos, and coffee to give them as a little gift. In the month of February we have six residents celebrating a birthday. If you are interested in getting involved in this ministry, please contact Maria Belflower.

### Paper Drive for Compassion Ministries

Thank you for participating in this mission project. Jill McCall, the director, was overjoyed when she saw the donations. She wanted to extend her personal thanks to each of you who donated!

### WHBC Business Meeting February 19th, 2020

Committee on Committees moves to recommend the following for the listed committee:

Nominating Committee

2022 Elaine Sawyers

2022 LaVelle Topaloff