

January Birthdays & Anniversaries
of PBA churches staff and their families

Birthdays

Date	Name	Church
1	Melissa Hopkins	Turpin BC Youth Ministers wife
6	Gary Stone	Tyrone BC Pastor
6	David Coffey	BCM Director
6	Linda O'Leary	Guymon, FBC Secretary
8	Ira Townsend	Guymon, FBC Missions Pastors son
13	Garlan Flanagan	Guymon, FBC Secretaries husband
18	Tiffany Vickrey	Forgan, FBC Pastors wife
25	Maribel Avalos	Hooker, FHBC Pastors wife
26	Jeremy Krenzlin	Guymon, FBC Family Pastor
28	Gene Brooks	Guymon, Grace Southern Music Minister

Anniversaries

Date	Name	Church
13	David & Amanda Coffey	BCM Director & wife

(If your birthday or anniversary was not included, or the date is wrong, please let me know. Lula)

CALENDAR EVENTS

December

20-Jan 2 Office Closed, Merry Christmas and A Blessed New Year

January

- 10 Singing ChurchMen of Oklahoma,**
Woodward FBC 7 p.m
- 14 Tri-Annual Executive Board meeting,** 10
a.m.
- 21 Office Closed, MLK Day**
- 21-23 Transitional Training, OKC**
- 28-29 Oklahoma Evangelism Conference,** Del
City, First Southern

February

- 15 VBS Training,** OKC Southern Hills
- 18 Office Closed,** Presidents Day

March

- 3-10 Week of Prayer for Annie Armstrong**
Easter Offering and North American
Missions
- 3 Daylight Saving Time Begins,** set clocks
up 1 hour
- 17-20 Rock Springs BC @ GBC,** work projects

Panhandle Baptist Association

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Lula King, Secretary
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Moises Avalos, Hispanic Liaison

Office Hours: Monday-Thursdays
9am-noon & 1-5pm

One Body, One Spirit, Working Together

Ministries of PBA:
Gibson Baptist Camp
"GBC"
Hardesty OK
Baptist Collegiate Ministries
"BCM"
Goodwell OK
Hispanic Ministries
Disaster Relief Trailer

Panhandle Baptist Association newsletter

January 2019



State Evangelism Conference
January 28-29, 2019
OKC, Southern Hills

I am the new year. I am an unspoiled page in your book of time. I am your next chance at the art of living. I am your opportunity to practice what you have learned about life during the last twelve months. All that you sought and didn't find is hidden in me, waiting for you to search it but with more determination. All the good that you tried for and didn't achieve is mine to grant when you have fewer conflicting desires. All that you dreamed but didn't dare to do, all that you hoped but did not will, all the faith that you claimed but did not have—these slumber lightly, waiting to be awakened by the touch of a strong purpose. I am your opportunity to renew your allegiance to Him who said, "Behold, I make all things new." (from *Bible Illustrator*)

Tom's Thoughts

The other day Lula informed me that I needed to write a newsletter article. My first thought and words were I had already written the article. To which she said, "This for the January newsletter." and I responded, "Oh." So this morning as I began to write this article, I had been enjoying listening to Christmas music, and not really ready for the New Year yet.

Then my thoughts went to why are Christmas day and New Year's Day only a week apart? How did we come to have both so closely together? I used Google, and found it was not always that way. The Julius Caesar's reform of the calendar of 46 B.C. had January 1st as the first of the year. So Jesus would have celebrate on the same day we do. However, a number of generations later, in the Middle Ages, the European countries changed it March 25th. This change was the result of adjusting the calendar for the celebration of Easter. Then in 1752, Britain and the Colonies made the change to what it once was, and what we have now, January 1st.

Again I wondered, 'why?' Knowing that the earth is the Lord's, and He exercises providential oversight, why would the Lord want these two holidays, seemingly unconnected, to be so closely linked. Why is the celebration of the birth of His Son and the celebration of the beginning of the New Year only one week apart? In prayerful thought it caused me to think of my own personal experience of my rebirth. After digesting what had happened, I realized, I had experienced a new beginning. My life was renewed. I suddenly began to see things new and differently. So was this what the Lord had intended? That each year as we celebrate the birth of His Son and our new rebirth as babes in Christ, and then celebrate the New Year which is before us.

So as we complete our celebration of the birth of our Savior and Lord, may we remind ourselves at the beginning of the New Year, it is as if our lives have begun afresh. The New Year will be filled with challenges, struggles, and wonderful opportunities of our serving our Lord and others for His Glory. May the fulfilment of the New Year be as the Angel said that holy night, *Luke 2:10*. **"Do not be afraid; for behold, I bring you good news of great joy which will be for all the people."** The shepherds were to be filled with 'great joy' and when they left the manger, they went forth and told all the people what they had seen. So may our hearts on New Year be filled with our worship of the Lord for our new life in Him, and our privilege to go forth declaring what we have seen as His witnesses.

One final thought, may I also remind us of God's truth concerning the Sanctity of Human life. On Sunday, January 20 we need to celebrate Sanctity of Human Life Sunday. There has been a decline in the taking of the unborn, and we need to continue to be proactive in our support.

in His love,
Tom Freeman

Above & Beyond Offering
For Gibson Baptist Camp
To benefit special needs at camp:
Tractor Repair
HVAC in Manager's House
Annual Steam Cleaning of Kitchen Vents

SAVE THE DATE

Vacation Bible School Clinic
Guymon FBC March 30, 9-12
It's never too early to start working on
VBS 2019- In The Wild
SHARE WITH YOUR FRIENDS

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WISDOM OF HOT CHOCOLATE

A group of graduates, well established in their careers, were talking at a reunion and decided to go visit their old university professor, now retired.

During their visit, the conversation turned to complaints about stress in their work and lives.

Offering his guests hot chocolate, the professor went into the kitchen and returned with a large pot of hot chocolate and an assortment of cups—porcelain, glass, crystal, some plain looking, some expensive, some exquisite—telling them to help themselves to the hot chocolate.

When they all had a cup of hot chocolate in hand, the professor said: 'Notice that all the nice looking expensive cups were taken, leaving behind the plain and cheap ones.'

"While it is normal for you to want only the best for yourselves, that is the source of your problems and stress. The cup that you're drinking from adds nothing to the quality of the hot chocolate. In most cases it is just more expensive and in some cases even hides what we drink. What all of you really wanted was hot chocolate, not the cups: but you consciously went for the best cups.

And then you began eyeing each other's cups.

Now consider this:

Life is the hot chocolate; your job, money and position in society are the cups.

They are just tools to hold and contain life.

The cup you have does not define, nor change the quality of life you have.

Sometimes, by concentrating only on the cup, we fail to enjoy the hot chocolate God has provided us.

God makes the hot chocolate, man chooses the cups.

The happiest people don't have the best of everything.

They just make the best of everything that they have.

Live simply.

Love generously.

Care deeply.

Speak Kindly.

And enjoy your hot chocolate."

--Copied

Dr. Randy Lind, Worship Specialist for BGCO, will be our guest January 14, 2019 at our Executive Board meeting. He will be sharing ideas that bring new opportunities in worship and music that can be utilized in any size church.

The meeting will be held in Hooker FBC Fellowship Hall at 10 a.m., with lunch provided w/ an RSVP by 1-10-19