

REHOBOTH BAPTIST ASSOCIATION

THE RECORD

Volume XXXII August, 2009 Number 7



What Is The Church To Do?

As our nation and government continues to spiral in the direction of moral relativism, unbelief, homosexual marriage acceptance, abortion without exception, and other godless values, I have a question, and also a simple answer.

The question is, “What is the Church to do?” Is it to withdraw from political involvement and the public arena completely, and just give up on America? Or, is it to try to maintain “balance” between the secular and the spiritual as best it can? Or, should it continue to aggressively battle for the culture through every means possible, including a strong political presence, as it has since the 1960’s? Here’s what some have to say...

John MacArthur: *God does not call the church to influence the culture by promoting legislation.*

Jim Bakker: *I really believe, with all my heart, that one of the greatest mistakes in the religious world is the involvement in politics.*

Cal Thomas: *There is not biblical mandate for reforming the world through government. The time is right for Christians to spend less time trying to influence Caesar.*

Yet, others have this to say...

James Dobson: *Engaging the culture and sharing the gospel message are not two distinct things, they are intertwined. We as Christians must use our influence to defend righteousness in this democratic system of government.*

Henry Blackaby: *In the Old Testament, God was as active on the battlefield as He was in the worship service. When the Israelites separated spiritual concerns from political and economic issues, their nation was brought to its knees. Scripture indicates that it is a mistake to separate the spiritual world from the secular world.*

John Stott: *There is a great need for more Christian thinkers in contemporary society, who will throw themselves into the public debate, and for more Christian activists who will organize pressure groups to promote the work of persuasion.*

As I have prayed about this, one simple thought has really come to mind and heart. I am not trying to dodge the actual debate of “church and politics”, but I think maybe more than ever our nation needs a strong church if it needs anything!

America needs a church that is the church, and what the church is supposed to be, as much as it has ever been... meaning, a people who are genuinely and obviously growing in the knowledge of God, and growing in their reflection of His authentic grace, mercy, love, hope, righteousness, forgiveness, sacrifice, service, truth, and generosity in everyday life.

The government may “go to Hell” so to speak, but the church is going to Heaven and needs to look more like Heaven on its way!

We don’t need a weakened local church, a sick local church, a dead local church, a proud local church, or a selfish and self righteous local church. We don’t need to just “have” church, or “do” church, or God forbid, “play” church. America needs to see the church as thoroughly “Christian” as it has ever been! That’s my simple answer.

How’s your local church doing?

Kent Pate
Executive Director

Annual Celebration of the Churches of Rehoboth Baptist Association

Sunday, October 18

FBC, Mt. Vernon
Time: 4 p.m. – 8 p.m.



Special Guest: O.S. Hawkins

Workshops:

Principles of Conflict Resolution – Ron Herring, BGCT

Islam and Christianity – Elijah Abraham,
Living Oasis Ministries

Whatever Happened to Evangelism – Jack Harris, SBTC

Deacons: Building up our Pastors and Congregations –
Roy Edgemon

Saturday, November 14

“Miracles of the Kingdom in Matthew”

Dr. Bill Tolar

Location: FBC, Sulphur Springs

Time: 9 a.m. – 2 p.m.

Please RSVP ~ RBA Office (903)885-2868

August

August 12 ~ Church Development Team Mtg.
10 a.m. @ RBA Office

Community Ministry Team Mtg.
11:30 a.m. @ RBA Office

August 13 ~ Church/Denomination Team Mtg.
2 p.m. @ RBA Office

A Look Ahead...

September 1 ~ Spiritual Development Team Mtg.
11:30 a.m. @ RBA Office

September 7 ~ Labor Day - RBA Office Closed

September 15 ~ Administrative Team Mtg.
10 a.m. @ RBA Office

September 17 ~ RBA Gathering
FBC, Yantis - Meal @ 6; Meeting @ 6:45

September 22 ~ Missions Development Team Mtg.
7 p.m. @ RBA Office

September 23 ~ Leadership Development Team Mtg.
11:30 a.m. @ RBA Office

Saturday, September 19
Defining a Win in the 21st Century

“How to Develop a Winning
Strategy Regardless of Size or Location”

Leader: Ron Herring
Four Hour Workshop
For Pastors/Staff/Lay Leaders
(9 a.m. – 1 p.m.)

Location: First Baptist Church,
Sulphur Springs

Please RSVP ~ RBA Office (903)885-2868

Friday – Saturday, September 11-12

Legacy Conference

New Beginnings Fellowship Baptist Church, SS
Friday Night & All Day Saturday
For Parents & Teens

Guest Speaker: Dr. Johnny Derouen,
SWBTS Professor of Youth Ministries



Student Evangelism Conference

Cost: \$20 per person

Pre-registration deadline is July 17, 2009.

After July 17, registration is \$30.

If tickets are still available the price will be \$35 at the door.

Register online at www.planetstudents.org

Friday, August 7

2 p.m. Registration/Check In Begins

5:45 p.m. Doors Open

6 p.m. Session 1

10 p.m. Session Closes

11 p.m. After Party Closes

Saturday, August 8

8:30 a.m. Doors Open

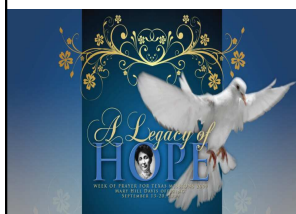
9 a.m. Session 2

12 Noon Conference Closes



SBTC Week of Prayer
for Texas Missions

September 20 - 27, 2009



BGCT Week of Prayer
for Texas Missions

September 13 - 20, 2009

TEX (Teaching English with Excellence)
Basic ESL Training for New Teachers
of Adult Students

August 28 & 29, 2009

Friday, 6 p.m. - 9 p.m. and Saturday, 9 a.m. - 4 p.m.
Arrive **before** 6 p.m. to check in & receive your materials.

Held at First Baptist Church

411 North St.

Nacogdoches, TX

(936)564-7379

Cost \$20

Reservations required by Tuesday, August 25

For reservations contact: Robin Feistel

RobinESL@sbcglobal.net

(936)564-6017

Payment made August 28 (1st day of workshop)
by check to First Baptist Church
or with exact amount of cash.

September 11 & 12, 2009

Friday, 6:30 - 9:30 p.m. and Saturday, 9 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.
Arrive **before** 6:30 p.m. to register & receive your materials

Held at Crossing Baptist Church

1060 Clay Mathis Rd.

Mesquite, TX

(972)222-7070

For directions: www.crossingbaptist.org

Cost \$35

(Includes lunch & notebook manual)

Reservations required by Tuesday, September 8

For reservations contact: Robin Feistel

robinesl@sbcglobal.net

(936)564-6017

Payment made September 11 (1st day of workshop)
By check to Crossing Baptist Church
Or with exact amount of cash.

Literacy ConneXus ESL training certificate given

Questions concerning content of the training?

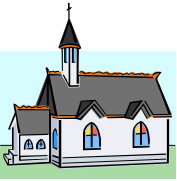
Contact TEX Trainer: Robin Feistel

Literacy ConneXus Teacher Trainer & Ministry Consultant

Because the majority of Texas ESL adult students in church ministries are beginners, the emphasis is on teaching that level. Due to time allotted for this training, references to higher levels will be limited but many of the same techniques used for beginners are also appropriate for the higher levels. Higher level teachers who have never attended a basic workshop will benefit from this training.

Church News

If your church has a special event or information you'd like to share in the newsletter, please email info@rebothonline.org or call the office, 903-885-2868. The Newsletter deadline is the 15th of each month.



Please be in prayer for our:
Pastorless Churches

Cornerstone
Crimson River Cowboy Church
Cross Country Cowboy Church
Enloe
FBC, Como
FBC, Sulphur Springs
Grace Baptist Fellowship
Macon
Ridgeway Baptist Church
Saltillo Baptist Church
Union Baptist Church



Bill Whitaker
New Pastor at
New Beginning Church
Mt. Pleasant

ANNUAL CHURCH PROFILES

It's almost that time of year again for the Annual Church Profiles. Church clerks/secretaries should begin gathering info on your church officers for the coming year with their current mailing addresses, phone numbers, etc.

You should be receiving your church profiles in the mail soon!

Please complete the ACP's as soon as possible so that we can prepare information for the Annual Meeting.

The main information needed for the Annual Meeting is:

Baptisms
Avg. Sunday School Attendance
Total Membership

VBS Reports

New Life, Cooper - 30 Professions of Faith

Grace Baptist Fellowship - 34 in attendance

****Correction from Last Month's Newsletter****

Pine Street Baptist Church - 334 Enrolled, 2 Professions of Faith

First Baptist Church, Mt. Vernon - 18 Professions of Faith

The Record IS PUBLISHED MONTHLY BY
REHOBOTH BAPTIST ASSOCIATION
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EMAIL: info@rebothonline.org
WEB ADDRESS: www.rebothonline.org

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

Mission Statement

The mission of Rehoboth Baptist Association is to offer leading edge assistance in creating healthy New Testament churches that honor Jesus Christ by their very existence.



Changed lives through Christ-centered churches

Non-Profit Organization
U.S. POSTAGE PAID
Permit No. 160
Sulphur Springs, TX

KENT PATE, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
ELOY GONZALEZ, DIRECTOR OF HISPANIC MINISTRIES
SHELLY HUFF, ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

OFFICE HOURS: Monday - Thursday 8:30AM - 4:30PM
Friday 8:30AM - 2:30PM

Nursery Worker Needed

Grace Baptist Fellowship
is looking for a Nursery Worker.

If interested, please contact
Melissa Jordan @ 903-439-5124