

REHOBOTH BAPTIST ASSOCIATION

THE RECORD

Volume XXXIII September, 2010 Number 8



Reaching Out

One of the major drivers of change in local church and association ministry is the disturbing trend here in Texas that we are falling further behind each year in reaching the state.

From 1980-2009, the population in Texas increased from 14.2 million to 24.9 million, an increase of 10.7 million.

Our SBC Sunday School attendance for the same 29 years increased from .54 million to .72 million, an increase of only 181,000 people.

While we have many great churches in RBA, the vast majority are actually plateaued or declining. I checked the stats on 10 of our stronger churches and 8 out of the 10 have plateaued or declined in worship and Sunday School attendance between 1998 and 2008. How is your church? Of course, ministry is not just measured in figures, but we do need to keep “growth” and outreach as a focus/priority too.

The answer is most Texas Churches and Associations need to “take their game to a new level”. The keys are church health and church planting.

Let me give you another example nearby. In Dallas, TX, there are now 104,800 fewer evangelical Christians today than there were ten years ago, even though the total population increased by 1,185,000. Other US urban centers have experienced similar results.

Massive immigration is also changing our State. Again, using Dallas as an example, more than 275 people groups have been identified. Of all the people living in Dallas, 43.9% speak some language other than English in their homes.

Unfortunately, SBC Churches are not effectively reaching these people groups, people for whom Jesus died.

Your Church is important in the Kingdom work. And, your Church can be involved directly in the Great Commission right here in Texas, much less beyond. How? By being a healthy church, and being a “church planting” church. No church is too small, and no church cannot move toward health!

Just ask, and we will sure try to help you get connected and on the path that is right for your congregation.

Glad To Serve With You!

Kent Pate
Executive Director

September 2010

6 ~ Labor Day - RBA Office Closed

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

21 ~ Administrative Development Team Mtg.
2 p.m. @ RBA Office

22 ~ RBA Gathering - Meal @ 6 p.m. & Meeting @ 6:45
FBC, Dike

27 ~ Mission Development Team Mtg.
7 p.m. @ RBA Office

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

Annual Church Profiles

It's 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!

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



SBTC Week of Prayer
for Texas Missions

September 19 - 25, 2010



BGCT Week of Prayer
for Texas Missions

September 12 - 19, 2010

September RBA Gathering

Thursday, September 23, 2010
at First Baptist Church, Dike
Meal at 6 p.m.
Meeting will start at 6:45 p.m.



BREAS CONFERENCE

Open to all Staff members
October 4-5, 2010

Travis Avenue Baptist Church, Ft. Worth, TX
Conference Speakers:

Scott McConnell, Lifeway Research Department ~
he will be sharing some of the findings on
the current state of the family.

Larry Osborne, North Coast Church, San Diego, CA ~
he will be speaking on his books Sticky Teams
and Sticky Church and also speaking on
leadership within the local church.

Registration is available online at:
www.breas.org

Lakeview Baptist Assembly Fall Senior Adult Rally

October 7, 2010

Speaker - Randel Trull
DOM, Harmony-Pittsburg Association
Music - On My Way
Blue Grass Band

Registration at 9 a.m.
Program begins at 9:30 a.m.

Cost: \$7.00 each including lunch & snacks
(If Pastors help serve, they eat free!)

Annual Celebration of the Churches of Rehoboth Baptist Association



Guest Speaker: Dr. Ken Hemphill

October 17, 2010
at
First Baptist Church, Sulphur Springs

Workshops

Dr. Hemphill is the
**National Strategist for Empowering
Kingdom Growth.**
Empowering Kingdom Growth is an initiative designed to call individual Southern Baptists to renew their passion for the Lord Jesus and the reign of His Kingdom in their hearts, families, and churches from which God can forge a spiritual movement marked by holy living, sacrificial service, and global witness. Dr. Hemphill was previously the President of Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary in Ft. Worth, TX.

- Authority In a Baptist Church – Who’s Got It and How Did They Get It?
Led by Dr. Ron Herring
- The Soul of a Leader - How to Walk With the Lord and Live Among People.
Led by Dr. Emily Prevost
- Tips for Ministers’ Wives - Lessons Learned at a Continental Breakfast.
Led by Gail Herring

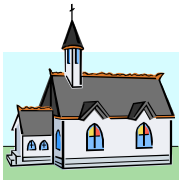
**Special Workshop for Pastors on
“Encouragement in Ministry”
w/ Dr. Hemphill**

Schedule

3:45 - 4 p.m.	Registration
4:00 p.m.	Business Session
5:00 p.m.	Meal
5:45 p.m.	Workshops
7:00 p.m.	Worship Service

Church News

If your church has a special event or information you'd like to share in the newsletter, please email info@rehobothonline.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

**Enloe
FBC, Como
Journey Baptist
Ridgeway Baptist Church**



Block Party Trailer...Ready For Use!

The Block Party Trailer is available for use by the churches of the Rehoboth Association. The trailer includes the following items:

- | | |
|--------------------|--------------------|
| Propane Grill | Ice Chests |
| Small Bounce House | Large Bounce House |
| Tables & Chairs | Popcorn Machine |
| Sno Cone Machine | Carnival Games |
| Sound System | Canopy |

There is a \$100 fee to use the trailer to help cover the costs of maintenance of the trailer.

Contact the RBA office if you would like to reserve the trailer for your next church event!

Thursday, November 11, 2010



Dr. Bill Tolar
will be leading a study on Galatians.
Location: FBC, Sulphur Springs
Time: 9 a.m. – 1 p.m.

Please RSVP ~ RBA Office (903)885-2868

For Pastors/Staff/Bible Study Leaders

Engage 2010

September 11, 2010

6 - 8 p.m. @ County Line Baptist Church, Miller Grove, TX
Speaker - Jimi Heslop; Worship led by The John Morris Band

For more information contact Rob Pleasant @ (903)315-6512

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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