



# SBA Weekly News

## November 17, 2014

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Hi Everyone,

Once again the NWBC did a great job with all the events before and during the meeting time. Thank you for your attention to detail.

We had seven of our churches represented with 24 in attendance.

I went to as many of the meetings for the Women's Ministry/WMU that I could. There is a new way a dawning and I encourage you and your church to check out the great resources that they have. Teaching our folks about what our missionaries are up to and what their needs are is an important part of who we are as Southern Baptists, whether you have an official WMU group or not. There are resources to help with that training. WMU.com and LifeWay Women are two resources to encourage and help you get started with mission's info or women's ministry.

The Pastor/Layman's conference was a study on Grace! Four professors of the Northwest campus of Golden Gate Theological Seminary wrote papers about Grace from their view of the field they are experts in. They then presented at the Conference. I don't know for sure but sometimes the info is available after the fact on the NWBC web site.

The actual NWBC Annual Meeting was full of positive messages and encouragement. There were two reports on the Oso mud slide and the effects on that community. Campus Ministry is alive and well. The business time was mainly just the nuts and bolts. Election of officers kept the same as last year on. The budget was passed and years of service to the NWBC were acknowledged.

Great job Paul, for manning the U-Turn Booth at the Missions Celebration at Capital Baptist.

Other than it seemed that there were fewer attendees it was a wonderful meeting.

Coming up on Nov 30<sup>th</sup> is the next 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday Sing and in December is the Senior Appreciation Brunch on the 13th. See below for more info on those events.

The office will be closed next week for Thanksgiving.

Have a wonderful day.

*Nancy*

### November 2014:

November Birthdays and Anniversaries: Please remember to pray for these on their special days.

Emilee Woody, 23<sup>rd</sup>; Josué and Janet Delgado, 26<sup>th</sup>

### November 30<sup>th</sup> - 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday Singspiration at Grace in Rogue River

I believe dinner is at 5 and sing at 6. Bring food, holiday music, poetry, skits to share! If it is different I will let you all know!

## December 2014:

### December Birthdays and Anniversaries: Please remember to pray for these on their special days.

Bruce Pearson, 2<sup>nd</sup>; Barbara Roberts, 2<sup>nd</sup>; Zach Badley, 4<sup>th</sup>; Abigail Woody, 13<sup>th</sup>; Mike and Teri Franell, 22<sup>nd</sup>; Janet Delgado, 27<sup>th</sup>; Dwayne and Tammy Johnson, 28<sup>th</sup>; Karen Barnett (ret), 30<sup>th</sup>; Lenny and Sherry Brewer, 30<sup>th</sup>; Doug and Brook Gates, 31<sup>st</sup>

### December 13<sup>th</sup> Senior Appreciation Brunch

College Heights will host this event. Starts at 10 AM and goes to 11:30 AM. Contact Brandie Woody, 541-787-0792, with your count by December 1<sup>st</sup>.

## 2015

### January Birthdays and Anniversaries: Please remember to pray for these on their special days.

Trish Williams, 5<sup>th</sup>; Ken Goss, 6<sup>th</sup>; Heidi Merritt, 12<sup>th</sup>; Dave Kanton, 15<sup>th</sup>; Cheryl Pearson, 23<sup>rd</sup>; Nita Kanton, 25<sup>th</sup>

### Children's Winter Ice Skate – January 2<sup>nd</sup> – 6:30 – 8:00 PM

No charge. Flyers have been sent out. If you did not get one please let Sherry or I know and we'll send one on.

### Youth Retreat – Gold Beach – Jan 17-19

More information to follow

#### ○ **Prayer Needs and Praises:**

- **Let me know if your church has a prayer concern it will be posted here.**
- **Updates are a great thing.**

- **Pray for Wanda Johnson's daughter, Jenny. She had a stroke and is in Portland. She is in various therapies. Pray for the family and all the needs that come with such a crises event.**
- **Continue to pray for Jimmie Roberts. Healing after foot surgery and patience for both he and Barbara. Doing well.**
- **Continue to pray for Bob Batte and the ministry he is doing in Mexico the next several weeks.**
- **For So. Oregon New Work and Church Renewal that we would be reaching out to our neighbors in a way that gets them to thinking about God and Jesus.**
- **For the planning and execution of plans made here in and through SBA and our churches. That He will be glorified in all that happens and that many would come to know Jesus as Lord and Savior.**
- **SBA teams to be energized with new participants and helpers – Pray about how you can be serving our churches in our association.**
- **Continue to pray for the Baptist Disaster Relief folks. When they are not serving they are training.**
- **For our missionaries who are in difficult countries.**
- **For Christians who are being persecuted**
- **For the USA to turn back to God.**
- **Prospect Baptist as they look for a new pastor.**
- **Waters of Life Baptist as they continue on in the process of being a Legacy Church. Pray for Richard Williams as he takes on other areas while Jimmie recovers.**
- **Pray for SBA Pastor's and Wives:**
  - **NWBC, Region 4 - Bruce and Susan Sloan**
- **Pray for our Pastor's and wives, Region 4 Team, Missionaries (IMB and NAMB) and NWBC staff that they and we would be so renewed by God's Word that no sin will have dominion over them. Ps 119-133**
- **NWBC leadership as they continue to lead and serve Northwest churches.**
- **Health issues:** Pray for, Jimmie Roberts; Jenny (Wanda Johnson's daughter); Nordeca Irvin ( I understand she is with Hospice), Richard Giles (doing better); Rick Horton (continuing on chemo) and several other veteran SBA folks as well.
- **For ministries and outreaches throughout our SBA area that are reaching out to their greater community. (SOS, Lozier; U-Turn, Lampman Rd; River Valley New Hope Church; Truck Stop Ministry and others) Want to join them give them a call!**
- **For Youth Ministries in our churches: College Heights, First Baptist, Grace, Lampman Road, Lozier Lane, New Horizon, Prospect, Sixth Street, Trinity, River Valley New Hope Church**
- **For our churches that are struggling with both much and lack of growth and financial issues.**
- **For our churches that are in the midst of remodels/redecorating.**
- **For the Admin Team, Fellowship Team, Missions Team, Children & Youth Team as we work to accomplish the task that you have assigned us to do, that we would be unified in what God would have us to do.**

- **NWBC East Asia Partnership.** Pray that the teams needed for special projects in 2015 will be filled

**Region 4 Church Plants:** Pray for these Pastors, their leadership teams and the many partners helping to start and grow these works. (There were 22 new churches added to the NWBC family at the convention. PTL)

- **River Valley New Hope Church** - Sean & Christina Sullivan
- **The Branch in Corvallis** - Pastor Josh Howeth
- **Freedom Pointe Ministries** - Bobby J. Blake Church Planter, Willamette Valley Baptist Association
- **Two Micronesia Churches** –Kieny & Antonette Aisek, Tigard and Salem. The language group is Chuukese.
- **A church plant for Vietnamese in Salem.**
- **Pray for those who are considering coming to the NW to either plant a new work or to take a pastorate.**

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**Randy Adams, Executive Director/Treasurer NWBC, blog:**

Do you want more first-time church guests coming back a second time? Of course you do! But what are you doing to help guests feel truly welcome so that they will want to return?

If your church is like most, you do three things to welcome guests. First, you greet them inside the entrance to the building, along with all others attending that day. Second, you have a welcome time in the worship service, during which you invite members to welcome guests. Third, you ask guests to complete a registration card. This is the plan most churches have to welcome guests. This three-point plan is formal. It is predictable. And if it's all you do, it is not terribly effective.

Why is the typical three-point welcome plan less effective than we need? Because it is a programmed approach that falls short of communicating true caring. If guests are only greeted by the "official" greeters handing out bulletins in the foyer, or at the "official" greeting time when the pastor tells us to welcome each other, guests rightly conclude that this provides little proof of genuine interest in them. Also, formal welcome times can be quite uncomfortable to the guest who is asked to stand, or stay seated, and sometimes remain overlooked as members greet each other.

Is there a better approach to welcoming Sunday guests? Yes! The better way is to develop a Welcome Team that tackles three primary tasks.

First, some on the Welcome Team serve as greeters at the entrance of the church, which is similar to the three-point plan. But welcome team greeters do not merely stand inside the church entrance area. They open the doors as the people arrive. They venture outside to help women and children who are dropped off at the church entrance. A mom with preschoolers can use a hand getting into the building, just as grandma will appreciate a little extra help. Some churches even station greeters in the parking lot to help with car doors. Welcome Team door greeters welcome all comers with a warm smile, courteous handshake, friendly eye contact, and a cheery word. For a first-time guest, the greeter is their first contact with the church. Well-trained greeters, who enjoy making people feel good about attending church, are essential. When I was a full-time pastor I also served as a greeter. I did so because I enjoy it, but also because I highly value the greeting ministry.

Second, the Welcome Team needs a group who can take people to their Sunday school classes and help guests enroll small children in the preschool area. Do not make your guests depend on signage or other kinds of verbal directions to point them to where they need to go. You must have welcomers who take them and help them. I was blessed to pastor a church whose building was so complicated that it was impossible to depend on maps and signs. Yes, our convoluted building was a blessing because it forced to us to employ welcomers to help every guest.

Third, some on the Welcome Team are assigned to various sections of the worship center. Their job is to serve those who sit in their section, paying particular attention to those who might be guests, or those who are sitting alone or demonstrate some particular need. The worship center Welcome Team serves at two times in particular: before the service begins and after the service ends. As guests and members take their seats, the Welcome Team member greets them in a friendly, casual manner. He might say something like, "I don't think I've met you yet. I'm Randy." If they are guests, you can offer to help with any information they need such as childcare and restrooms. Then, after the service ends, the Welcome Team member will again speak to guests in his or her area, thanking them for attending, inviting them back, etc.

Having Welcome Team members in the worship center is probably a new idea for your church. But it should be a part of your welcome plan. Even Walmart has moved greeters further into the store so that they can offer assistance to shoppers.

Finally, remember that guests are often going through situations that make them more responsive to God. They may be new move-ins, new parents, or recently divorced. A guest may represent years of prayer and effort by someone concerned for their soul. And when a member brings a guest, they depend on the church to partner with them in reaching their friend. Guests are the "low fruit" in accomplishing the Great Commission. They are like the flying fish that jump into your boat before you even cast the net!