

WMU News

Alice Ann White
RRVBA WMU Director
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RRVBA/BSM Donations February 21-March 22	Year to Date
ATLAS	600.00 600.00
BAGWELL	50.00 150.00
BETHEL	127.68 342.68
BOUNDS	199.04 720.68
BROOKSTON	0 0
CHICOTA	105.46 388.66
CHISUM TRAILS	100.00 200.00
COLLEGE AVE.	0 0
CUNNINGHAM	0 360.00
DIRECT	189.05 616.34
DOUBLE R	0 680.00
EAST DELTA	447.13 1,526.97
EAST PARIS	541.67 1,625.01
EMBERSON	0 160.00
FAITH	870.00 1,016.00
FBC ANNONA	83.95 270.64
FBC BLOSSOM	400.00 600.00
FBC BOGATA	1,113.95 3,217.89
FBC CLARKSVILLE	100.00 300.00
FBC COOPER	225.65 509.83
FBC DEPORT	0 0
FBC DETROIT	75.17 107.67
FBC PARIS	1,062.01 3,624.87
FBC ROXTON	0 0
FRIENDSHIP	146.00 366.00
FULBRIGHT	0 0
GLORY	0 146.56
GRAHAM ST.	0 0
HIS PLACE	0 3,000.00
HOWLAND	82.56 223.40
IMMANUEL/WMU	0 11,315.28
LAKEWAY	0 0
LAMAR POINT	0 320.00
LANE'S CHAPEL	0 0
LEESVILLE	831.00 1,293.00
MAXEY	150.00 300.00
MT. OLIVE	218.00 688.00
NOVICE	460.00 1,448.45
PACIO	148.68 616.68
PATTONVILLE	0 240.00
PETTY	0 0
POWDERLY	300.00 600.00
PROVIDENCE	147.28 489.97
SALEM	300.00 900.00
SOUTHSIDE	476.10 1,248.10
SPRINGLAKE	368.28 800.63
TRINITY	0 0
YOUNG'S CHAPEL	0 0
TOTAL	9,918.66 37,333.31

**RISE & BUILD FUND:
\$101,957.11**

Watchword: "I have become all things to all people so that by all possible means I might save some. I do all this for the sake of the gospel, that I may share in its blessings." 1 Corinthians 9:22b-23 (NIV) We need to help the women in each of our churches to follow Him "by all means".

What a wonderful time the 78 children enjoyed who were privileged to attend CIA Day on Saturday, March 4, 2017, at Southside Baptist Church, Paris. Thanks to all the wonderful adults who helped make this day happen. There was a planning team, cooks and servers in the kitchen, the ones handling the registering and name tags, the wonderful people who helped with or lead a rotation, and very importantly, the ones who were responsible for getting the children there. I pray you received a blessing for your involvement!

The collection of change in the baby bottles for the Paris/Clarksville Pregnancy Centers is going well. I will give a total of money collected in next month's Voice of the Valley. Your participation will be a blessing far beyond imagination.

Don't forget to plan to attend the Mission Study on Norway at Immanuel Baptist Church, Paris, in the Fireside Room, Saturday morning April 22, 2017, at 10. Come expecting to leave with a wealth of information about Norway and our missionaries serving there, Zack and Jennifer Dove. This is a meeting you don't want to miss.

The next Association Leadership Team meeting will be Monday, April 3, 2017, in the Association Office at 6:00 PM. It is my desire to have at least one woman attend from each of our churches. This is the group planning and making decisions for activities sponsored by the WMU in Red River Valley Baptist Association.



JOY ON THE JOURNEY WITH "SEASONED" SAINTS by Gloria Parker, RRVBA Senior Adults Director

APRIL - JESUS IS RISEN INDEED, HALLELUJAH, WHAT A SAVIOR! We are so blessed to sing uplifting Easter music about our Risen Lord Jesus. Because I Know WHO Holds the Future, Life Is Worth the Living Just Because HE Lives!

Our Red River Valley Old Fashioned Hymn Singers will meet April 13th at Springlake BC and go sing at Brentwood, then Paris Healthcare. Come go with us and hundreds of other Seniors to DBU for the FREE 29th Annual Norvell Slater Senior Adult HYMN SING at 2:00 pm on Friday, April 21st; Concert at 1:30 pm by a wonderful choir. Thanks again to Bro. Billy Norris for loaning us their van. We will meet on Southside BC's back parking lot at 9:30 am, and eat lunch at Rockwall Luby's, orrrr - on the way.

We have our SA-VBS materials, and they look great! Host Churches will be getting together to plan another blessed year soon - #13! They are Bogata FBC, Chicota assisted by Bounds, Novice, Immanuel, and Paris FBC.

Graham St. BC Pastor Kelly Collins and Church Family say Thank You to those who contributed items, \$, and bought items at their Yard Sale March 4th. The total amount was \$355.15, which will help toward getting a much-needed new roof, as well as many other needed repairs. They still need a Pianist for Sunday morning 11:00 am Worship Services, and other helpers, too. Pray for them and join them in this real live Home Mission effort for the Lord Jesus.

Dr. Charles "Chuck" Swindoll reminds us Christians that Jesus called us Salt and Light, so we need to get busy: "Shake the Salt and Shine the Light!"

Continue to PRAY for the Peace of Jerusalem, for our beloved USA, our Pastors and each other, our Missionaries, the Persecuted Church, our Military, our President and Leaders to follow God's leadership.

Keep Looking UP, "Seasoned" Saints - JESUS THE PRINCE OF PEACE
IS COMING BACK SOON AND WE MUST BE READY!

CALENDAR OF UPCOMING EVENTS

- Friday, March 24-Sat., March 25: SBTC Bivocational Pastors & Wives FREE Retreat, Tyler
- Saturday, March 25: Annual Women's Retreat @ Mt. Olive, 8:30—1:00, RSVP lunch brenda@mobcparis.com
- Sunday, March 26: Reception for Tim & Deann Reger, 2:00-4:00 pm, Mt. Olive
- Friday, March 31-Saturday, April 1: Texas WMU Annual Meeting, Midland
- Monday, April 3: WMU Leadership Team, 6:00 pm, RRVBA (Pizza will be provided!)
- Thursday, : Secretaries/Support Staff lunch, 11:30 am, RRVBA
- Sunday, April 9: PALM SUNDAY
- Monday, April 10: Ladies' Retreat Committee meeting, 500 pm, RRVBA
- Tuesday, April 11: Finance Committee meeting, 5:30 pm, RRVBA
- Friday, April 14: GOOD FRIDAY
- Sunday, April 16: **EASTER SUNDAY**
- Tuesday, April 18: *Executive Board Meeting, Leesville, Dinner at 6:00 pm, Meeting at 6:45 pm*
- Friday, April 21: Norvell Slater Hymn Sing at DBU (see Senior Adults article for more information)
- Saturday, April 22: Missions Study on Norway, 10:00 am, Immanuel (Fireside Room)
- Thursday, April 27: Associational VBS Training, 6:00 pm, Springlake
- Sunday, April 30: 5th Sunday

NEWS FROM THE BSM. . .

Dear Family,
God is good, all the time! There is a relatively new song that has really spoken to my heart and I want to share with you just the chorus. It's called "Eye of the Storm" by Ryan Stevenson: *In the eye of the storm, You remain in control. In the middle of the war, You guard my soul. You alone are the anchor when my sails are torn. Your love surrounds me, In the eye of the storm.*

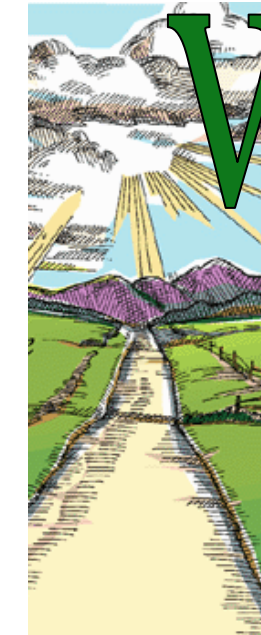
It seems like my family and I have been living in the eye of the storm for the last couple of years. God has done so much to grow our faith through His provision. He has shown us that He is in control, He is our anchor and that His love for us is deeper than we can ever begin to imagine! My family and I have been blessed through our struggles in ways we could never have imagined. We are so grateful for so many of you who have prayed for us, with us, and over us. Many of you have helped in other ways when we have needed and I pray blessings for each of you. We have felt very loved and do feel very loved by you guys. Our house is still a work in progress so we would ask you to continue to pray over the house situation and pray for God's wisdom as we move forward. We are making the most of our RV living arrangements and the kids are doing much better than anticipated.

Beach Reach was a needed break from the norm and as always was a huge blessing. Thanks to all of you who have given to and supported the BSM to make Beach Reach possible. This year was a small team of only four students. They knew coming into Beach Reach it was going to be a lot of work and not much sleep! We slept an average of about 5 hours each night and ran shifts all day every day. Our team had contact with over 2000 Spring Breaker's. We handed out hotline cards, gave people free rides on our vans, and helped them eat a lot of pancakes! A shout out to the Texas Baptist Men for having two feeding units down there this year and serving up all those delicious pancakes. The PJC BSM team this year contacted more than 2000 spring breaker's, gave rides to approximately 600, had spiritual conversations with about 200, prayed with over 250, and were blessed to be a part of leading 5 people to the saving knowledge of Jesus Christ. The spiritual conversations were very good this year. People wanted to stay on the vans and talk about Jesus. So many people we deal with at spring break are much like the people in our communities, they don't know a whole lot about what they believe and they know even less about why they believe it. My prayer is the same this year as it always has been, that the one week of Beach Reach for students who served is a launching pad into the rest of their life, giving them boldness and wisdom in sharing the gospel to anyone who will listen. For the spring breaker's I pray that the seeds planted will be watered, cultivated and grown into a harvest.

"And Jesus went throughout all the cities and villages, teaching in their synagogues and proclaiming the gospel of the kingdom and healing every disease and every affliction. When he saw the crowds, he had compassion for them, because they were harassed and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd. Then he said to his disciples, 'The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few; therefore pray earnestly to the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into his harvest.'" Matthew 9:35-38 ESV

I pray we all see the need to be sent out!

Living God, Loving Life,
Scott Powell 903-246-1364



Voice of the Valley

The monthly publication of the Red River Valley Baptist Association

Volume 13, Issue 4 (APRIL 2017)



There will be **NO** SECRETARIES/SUPPORT STAFF LUNCH in April. See you on May 4th!



International Missions Study: NORWAY
Come and learn what Southern Baptists are doing to share Jesus with the lost in Norway. Refreshments will be provided!
Saturday, April 22 at 10:00 am
Immanuel Baptist Church
in the Fireside Room
EVERYONE is invited to attend!



It's time to get ready for Vacation Bible School!
Come to the Associational VBS
Training to get some great ideas for *Galactic Starveyors*.

Refreshments & Door Prizes, too!

Date: Thursday, April 27

Time: 6:00 pm

Location: Springlake Baptist Church

Call Margaret Melton for more information at 903-784-5185.

Red River Valley Baptist Association

Regular Office Hours:
Monday—Thursday, 8 am to 2 pm

E-Mail Address:
redrivervalleybaptist@gmail.com

Web Address:
www.redriverbaptist.com

Birthdays and Anniversaries

April Birthdays

2nd	Gary Reed, pastor	Emberson
3rd	Melinda Oats, spouse	Bethel
5th	Joseph Ash, youth	FBC Blossom
10th	Fred Fangio, music	Springlake
11th	Shane Oats, assoc pastor	Bethel
18th	Brenda Fendley, secretary	Mt. Olive
20th	Rocky Burrow, pastor	Chicot
21st	Dean Houchins, spouse	East Delta
29th	Amy Duvall, music	FBC Bogata
30th	Teresa Harmening, music	Leesville

April Wedding Anniversaries

2nd	Ross & Bonnie Eason	Leesville
21st	Richard & Shauna Mercaldo, 16 yrs	Immanuel
26th	Donnie & Amanda Edwards, 20 yrs	East Paris
28th	George & Mary Pullins	Springlake
29th	Guille & Jo Ann Seigler, 24 yrs	Springlake

April Church Anniversaries

1st	L.C. Stout, pastor, 24 yrs	Faith
1st	Jeremy Glossup, media, 13 yrs	East Delta
6th	Mike Clark, pastor, 3 yrs	Maxey
12th	Michael Julian, admin, 19 yrs	East Paris
12th	Jim Semple, music, 25 yrs	Howland
14th	Danny White, music, 4 yrs	Mt. Olive
17th	Carol Kelly, treasurer, 1 yr	Springlake
21st	Justin King, youth, 2 yrs	East Paris
27th	Brena Burgan, children, 3 yrs	Leesville

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EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING
 Tuesday, April 18
 Leesville Baptist Church
 Meal at 6:00 pm
 Meeting at 6:45 pm
 Make plans to attend and hear
 what is going on in YOUR
 Association!
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SPRINGLAKE BAPTIST CHURCH is looking for a Nursery Worker. For more information, call the church at 903-785-1859.

RRVBA Mission Statement:

Help each other become healthy "Great Commission" churches.

RRVBA Vision Statement:

We are a family of churches who are committed to sharing ourselves, resources, and expertise with one another for the purpose of fulfilling the "Great Commission."

Director of Missions

Mike Fortenberry
mikefortenberry@hotmail.com

Baptist Student Ministry Director
Scott Powell
pjcbasm@gmail.com

Admin. Assistant
Nancy Redus
redrivervalleybaptist@gmail.com

Red River Valley Baptist Association
2320 Clarksville St.
Paris, TX 75460
903-785-2890

THE MESSAGE OF THE CROSS AND RESURRECTION!

"For Christ's love compels us, because we are convinced that one died for all, and therefore all died. And He died for all, that those who live should no longer live for themselves but for Him who died for them and was raised again." II Corinthians 5:14-15

Easter is that wonderful time of year when our churches can demonstrate the hope of the resurrection for believers and the way of salvation for those who need to be saved. Paul encourages Christians and Christ's Church to "Redeem our time for the days are evil." I pray the churches of the Red River Valley Baptist Association are maximizing every opportunity to be salt and light pointing those around us to the Savior. This Easter Season may we remember the Body that was broken and the Blood that was shed for the remission of our sins! May we also be busy in the fields that are white unto harvest!

I pray each of our members gives to the Annie Armstrong North American Missions Offering so every church surpasses their missions offering goal!

A very special word of appreciation to Alice Ann White and all of the volunteers who made the annual CIA Day such a successful event. Thank you to Pastor Billy Norris and the wonderful people of Southside Baptist Church for hosting this event. I also want to thank all the volunteers and those who donated to the BSM Yard Sale. Scott Powell and crew did a marvelous job raising almost \$2,000 for the Beach Reach Mission Trip held during Spring Break.

It is with a sad and somber heart I write this last paragraph. As you should know, the Association finished 2016 with a budget income shortfall of \$37,000. After several months of prayer, research, and deliberation, the joint committees of BSM, Finance, and Personnel will make a motion to return the BSM Director position to part-time. The motion will be presented at the April Executive Board meeting on April 18th at Leesville Baptist Church. For more information you can call the Chairmen of the three committees: Eric Moore (Immanuel), Nelda Beville (Novice), Billy Norris (Southside), or you can call the Association office at 903-785-2890.

May we CELEBRATE this Easter Season because He Is Alive!!

Bro. Mike