

WMU NEWS

by Alice Ann White, WMU Director, RRVBA

RELENTLESS: Never Give Up!!

Recently I received a letter from Doug Shelley, who is with Native American Partnership Ministries. He is our contact for getting the dried pinto beans and other items we collect from time to time for the Native Americans in New Mexico and Arizona. I wanted to share some of the information that he wrote. First, he was sending a big "THANK YOU!" for the contributions to the ministry from Red River Valley Baptist Association churches.

They have made several trips this year to distribute food. In April he was contacted by several pastors on the Reservation and they were asking for food immediately. The COVID virus was spreading quickly, and many pastors were sick also. Families were hit so hard they were having trouble going for food because they were all sick. Doug did not have a lot of supplies available, at that time, to carry. After prayer and making contacts, people stepped up and he was able to purchase close to 6,500 pounds of food and staples. His second trip he was able to distribute almost 7,000 pounds.

As people began to hear about the need God blessed with another 9,000 pounds of food. He has been able to make three trips to the Reservations since April. Let me thank those of you who participated in any way in this ministry and need! My prayer is God will bless you for giving. Stay tuned, you will have other opportunities to help with meeting their needs.

Please pray about and give to the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering.

I would like to wish you and yours a Blessed Christmas. I am sure it will be different this year because of COVID but remember: God is still on HIS throne! Read the Christmas story together and praise God for his love!

MERRY CHRISTMAS!!



OCTOBER 2020 Donations: \$6,662.41 Thank you for your continuing support of RRVBA missions & ministry!!

<i>Bagwell</i>	50.00	<i>FBC Annona</i>	50.00	<i>Lamar Point</i>	316.58	<i>Providence</i>	121.83		
<i>Bounds</i>	190.15	<i>FBC Bogata</i>	891.00	<i>Leesville</i>	146.37	<i>Salem</i>	100.00		
<i>Chicota</i>	126.08	<i>FBC Clarksville</i>	100.00	<i>Maxey</i>	150.00	<i>Southside</i>	927.96		
<i>Chisum Trails</i>	100.00	<i>FBC Cooper</i>	138.93	<i>Mt. Olive</i>	258.00				
<i>Direct</i>	384.25	<i>FBC Detroit</i>	26.54	<i>Novice</i>	435.00				
<i>East Delta</i>	420.22	<i>FBC Paris</i>	914.37	<i>Pacio</i>	220.80				
<i>East Paris</i>	208.33	<i>Friendship</i>	86.00	<i>Powderly</i>	300.00				



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

HAPPY BIRTHDAY, JESUS! How wonderful for us all that YOU came into our chaotic world by YOUR choice to SAVE all who would believe in YOU and the Only Son of God. YOU grew up to show us how to live, YOU accepted YOUR FATHER'S Will, died a horrendous death on that Cross so we could have our sins forgiven and become right with God. YOU ROSE from the grave and PROMISED that YOU WILL COME BACK FOR US, YOUR CHURCH/YOUR BRIDE, so we can LIVE I HEAVEN with YOU our KING OF KINGS, and OUR HEAVENLY FATHER, and then we get to live with YOU in the New JERUSALEM on the Earth where we will LIVE WITH YOU FOREVER! HALLELUJAH WHAT A SAVIOR! What a CHRISTMAS GIFT YOUR ARE! THANK YOU with our hearts full of LOVE and GRATITUDE!

2020 has surely been different in more ways than we could imagine! With all the challenges we never dreamed we'd ever experience, we can still count on our beloved Heavenly Father and Big Brother JESUS to STILL BE IN CONTROL of this ever-changing world! Our faith has been shaken more than a few times, but PRAISE GOD, we can still say MY FAITH STILL HOLDS! Let's also remember to give our Lottie Moon Offering as we have been blessed! It's time for us to wake up from our comfortable spiritual slumber because "Only one life 'twill soon be past; only what's done for Christ will last!"

We are expecting 2021 to allow more getting out and about, so Red River Valley Old Fashioned Hymn Singers, EXPECT to get together at Springlake B.C. for some good ol' Singin' 'N' Shoutin' - well, at least Singing together to encourage each other as we Sing to, for and about Jesus as soon as possible! Watch and listen for dates and times. I'll contact our great Team Captains and they'll contact YOU! Senior Adults VBS is still planned for August using 2020 materials we didn't get to use - 16th year! It's gonna be GOOD!

IF anyone feels comfortable about eating a late Lunch at Denny's until the Time Change again with darker later, let me know at 903-737-0650. I miss eating their good food and seeing y'all - in Our Private Dining Room with masks on until we eat. My mouth is watering just thinking about it...

KEEP LOOKING UP FOR JESUS' RETURN, PRAY FOR THE PEACE OF JERUSALEM AND OUR BELOVED AMERICA. (PSALM 122:6)

COMING EVENTS

(All events (except Christmas!) are subject to change/cancellation)

Thursday, December 3: Secretaries/Support Staff Christmas Party, 11:30 am, RRVBA

Thursday, December 9: RRVBA office closes for Christmas holidays at 1:30 pm

Sunday, December 13: Christmas Concert, 6:00 pm, *Direct*

Sunday, December 20: Candlelight Service, 6:00 pm, *Direct*

Friday, December 25: **Merry Christmas!**

Sunday, December 27: McNeal Family in Concert, 6:00 pm, *Direct*

Monday, *January 4, 2021*: RRVBA office reopens at 8:00 am



BSM NEWS...

Season's Greetings from the BSM! As we celebrate Thanksgiving and move toward Christmas, we understand this year has perhaps been one of the most challenging of our lives. I saw this poem (*God Deserves the Credit*) by Greta Zwaan that gives us a good mental "reset," if you will, to stop looking around and to look up and be thankful for our God and His tender mercies towards us.

*I have a goodly heritage, the blessings flow my way;
Great beauty, peace and majesty are granted me each day.
There's peace of mind and peace of heart and freedom in my land,
Not brought through what I have achieved, not by the will of man.*

*These are the gifts passed on from God, not something I have earned,
But grace and mercy touched God's heart, which man cannot discern.*

*Why should my God, a holy God, pay mind to lowly me?
While others are afflicted and longing to be free?*

*This land of grace, America, that shines from coast to coast,
United Nations claims it's first! And, oh how we do boast!
Should not the credit go to God who made all things from dust?
Who gently holds the universe, whose power we can trust?*

*Yet man-made laws have ruined so much, directing his own way,
Not heeding laws that God assigned, but setting things array.
Oh, God, have mercy, turn us back, that we might seek Your face,
Forgive us for our wayward life, extend once more Your grace.*

*Create in us awareness of what You'd have us do,
Help us to recognize the fact that we owe all to You.*

May you all have a blessed Christmas season, and may we remember that God is in control of everything!

Pray up! Preach out! Plug in!
Mike Clark 903-905-1336 mikeclark42@yahoo.com

Red River Valley Baptist Association

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Birthdays and Anniversaries

December Birthdays

2	Michael Julian, administrator	East Paris
3	Neil Barnes, music	Providence
9	Peggy Stewart, secretary	FBC Annona
12	Robert Mayfield, spouse	FBC Cooper
13	Eugene Adams, pastor	Pacio
13	Tommy Turner, pastor	FBC Paris
21	Karl Bush, pastor	Bagwell
22	Lori Russell, secretary	Immanuel
23	Billie Pickerill, financial admin	East Paris
25	Mike Segleski, spouse	Bounds
28	Jami Thompson, spouse	His Place
28	Jo Ann Seigler, DOM's wife	RRVBA
30	Kristy Falk, pastor's wife	Novice
31	Donna Houchins, clerk	East Delta
31	Tena Segleski, treasurer	Bounds

December Wedding Anniversaries

3	Charles & Darlene Shouse, 42 yrs	Mt. Olive
12	David & Denise Harbison, 32 yrs	East Paris
13	Kevin & Brena Borgan, 11 yrs	Leesville
22	Gary & Jan Monroe, 40 yrs	Bounds
24	Johnny & Kathy Witherspoon, 42 yrs	FBC Cooper
29	Justin & Tami Thompson, 12 yrs	His Place
29	Zach & Emily Barton, 7 yrs	Southside
31	Karl & Kathy Bush, 36 yrs	Bagwell

December Church Anniversaries

1	Ronnie Aubrey, pastor, 17 yrs	Trinity
1	Brandon Bell, pastor, 9 yrs	Fulbright
2	Denise Harbison, admin asst, 18 yrs	East Paris
30	Tim Parker, pastor, 33 yrs	Howland



Voice of the Valley

The Mission is the Message

The monthly publication of the Red River Valley Baptist Association Volume 16, Issue 12 (December 2020)



Merry Christmas

To: *All of you!* From: *Guille, Mike & Nancy*



Making a Difference at Christmas

It's beginning to look a lot like Christmas with all the decorations out on the lawns and lights bedecking the houses and Christmas trees lit up with multi-colored lights and ornaments in the living room. Merchants are vying for our attention and money with commercials on TV and ads in the mail. If you are blessed with a job or income it could be a merry Christmas.

Christmas may not be as merry for some as others. Many are looking through the grim lenses of loss. Families have lost jobs and their homes due to no income. Others are dependent on food pantries and give away programs to feed their families. Some have lost loved ones to Covid or other illnesses and are in sorrow. For many this will not be a joyous holiday.

This season is a perfect time to show our faith and love for Jesus Christ by helping those in need. So many ways are available to help. We have the ability to contribute our time and/or money to food banks; we can help with feeding those less fortunate. Take a name from one of the many Angel Trees in our stores and make some child's holiday brighter. The list can go on endlessly. The important thing is that you let God show you an avenue to channel blessings to others.

This Christmas season should be about giving of ourselves to be the hands, feet and voice of Jesus and not so much about getting. Consider this for a moment: God, our Father, gave the greatest Gift of all, His



son, Jesus. God is faithful to bless those who obey His leading. Will you let Him lead you to be a blessing to someone this Christmas? I remind you that this is the season for Lottie Moon Christmas offering, all of which goes to our missionaries serving outside North America. Please pray and let the Holy Spirit lead your giving for this mission offering.

Jo Ann and I pray you all have a blessed Merry Christmas and prosperous Happy New Year in 2021.

Blessings to you all - *Bro. Guille*

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."*

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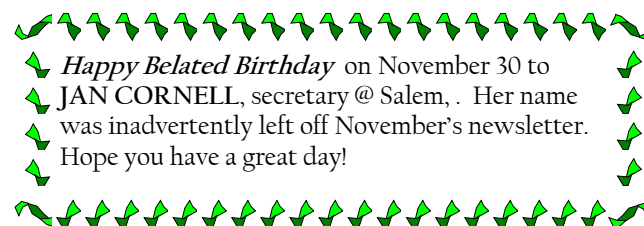
Thank You...

to all the churches and individuals who donated time and money, and to Home Depot for donating 5 gallons of paint to Graham Street Baptist Church so they could finish the trim work on their

New Roof!!!



God is So Good!



Happy Belated Birthday on November 30 to
JAN CORNELL, secretary @ Salem, . Her name
was inadvertently left off November's newsletter.
Hope you have a great day!