

RRVBA/BSM Donations
December 18-January 22

Atlas	\$ 0
Bagwell	\$ 50.00
Bethel	\$ 85.16
Bounds	\$ 665.76
Brookston	\$ 0
Chicota	\$ 0
Chisum Trails	\$ 0
College Ave.	\$ 30.00
Cunningham	\$ 0
Direct	\$ 0
Double R	\$ 334.00
East Delta	\$ 551.77
East Paris	\$ 541.67
Emberson	\$ 80.00
Faith	\$ 251.00
FBC Annona	\$ 79.70
FBC Blossom	\$ 150.00
FBC Bogata	\$ 0
FBC Clarksville	\$ 83.33
FBC Cooper	\$ 665.00
FBC Deport	\$ 0
FBC Detroit	\$ 37.14
FBC Paris	\$ 125.00
FBC Roxton	\$ 292.00
Friendship	\$ 0
Fulbright	\$ 0
Glory	\$ 169.86
Graham St.	\$ 0
Howland	\$ 101.67
Immanuel/WMU	\$ 1514.21
Lakeway	\$ 0
Lamar Point	\$ 67.19
Lanes Chapel	\$ 0
Leesville	\$ 1,172.00
Maxey	\$ 150.00
Mt. Olive	\$ 304.00
Novice	\$ 541.66
Pacio	\$ 174.00
Pattonville	\$ 63.42
Petty	\$ 0
Powderly	\$ 300.00
Providence	\$ 298.42
Salem	\$ 0
Southside	\$ 808.41
Springlake	\$ 244.70
Trinity	\$ 0
Youngs Chapel	\$ 0
TOTAL	\$ 9,931.07

RISE & BUILD FUND: \$62,905.20

Bounds	\$ 5,357.45
Chicota	\$ 1,730.08
Emberson	\$ 125.00
FBC Bogata	\$ 12,689.10
Immanuel	\$ 15.00
Leesville	\$ 2,253.60
Maxey	\$ 1,966.08
Mt. Olive	\$ 191.00
Pacio	\$ 4,105.29
Petty	\$ 10,000.00
Providence	\$ 1,453.14
RRVBA	\$ 12,784.81
Salem	\$ 3,000.00
Springlake	\$ 1,666.63
Individuals	\$ 5,568.02

WMU News

Alice Ann White
RRVBA WMU Director
903.632.5681

"He who cannot reach the mission field on his feet can reach it on his knees." This statement brings to mind, that while we are experiencing this cold winter, many of us are spending more time indoors. This might give us an opportunity to spend more time in prayer for those out on the mission field who are "Telling the Story" of Jesus. Also, we can ask our Heavenly Father to give us more chances to share our "Story".

March 1, 2014, will be a very big day in the lives of the children in Red River Valley Baptist Association who are privileged to attend CIA Day at First Baptist Church in Bogata. If you work with children (ages 4 years old through 6th grade) in your church, please make plans to see that they have the opportunity to attend. They will have to have transportation to be there. We have an educational, fun packed day planned for them. Registration starts at 9 AM with the fun starting at 9:30 AM. Your church will be receiving more important information.

The Leadership Team met on Saturday, January 04, 2014, and made exciting plans for this year. WMU is 125 years old and we need to celebrate!

Please contact me if I can assist you in any way with your missions outreach.

A VBS TRAINING SESSION will be held at Breckenridge Village in Tyler on Saturday, Feb. 1, starting at 9:00 am. To register, go to www.texasbaptists.org/childhood and click on the VBS logo. Please register by **January 27** so they can order enough materials.

JOY ON THE JOURNEY WITH "SEASONED" SAINTS by Gloria Parker

FEBRUARY 2014 - Happy Valentine's Day - 1 Cor. 13: LOVE never fails - the GREAT-EST of these is LOVE! Tell someone every day "I LOVE YOU" and mean it! No telling how much your life and theirs will improve, even our world. Many unhappy people are running away from whatever hurts them. When you see someone without a smile, GIVE them one of yours; it could be the only one they've had in too long. Joy and Serendipities await! Let's brighten the corner where we are by sharing JESUS' light from now until HE comes for us - MARANATHA! Even so, COME, LORD JESUS!

RRVBA Old Fashioned Hymn Singers are back on 2nd Thursday of each month schedule, Feb. 13 at Southside BC 10 AM. Watch the Paris News Bulletin Board page 2 for reminder. Bring with you others who love the old hymns, not just Baptists. We'd love to have all the nationalities who will sing and worship God with us in Heaven - this is OUR DRESS RE-HEARSAL! We've all been invited to Emberson BC for their 3rd Sunday Singings. Come after your morning Worship service, eat Lunch, Sing at 1:30, and leave whenever you must.

Dr. David Jeremiah of TURNING POINT reminds us: "the Christian life can be like at times - walking toward a destination we cannot see, but one which we have every confidence of finding. The destination may be in this life - a decision about vocation or our children - or it may be eternal (Heb. 11:8-16). Either way, we have a map (Ps. 119:105) and a heavenly Companion (Heb. 13:5) upon whom we depend. We don't know specifically what next week, or eternity, will look like. We are moving toward destinations we cannot see. But that is not a problem since we walk by faith, not by sight (2 Cor. 5:7). Walking by faith means seeing life differently; trusting the God we cannot see (1 Pet. 1:7-8) for that which He has yet to reveal. Walking by faith means taking steps in the direction God has indicated, trusting that He will be faithful to guide and provide. William Gurnall adds: We live by faith, and faith lives by exercise."

There is so much illness this Winter. Be sure to take good care of YOU, and let's pray for each other. Remember, I LOVE YOU; JESUS LOVES YOU MOST!

KEEP LOOKING UP - JESUS IS COMING BACK SOON!

January WMU Mission Project items for *New Hope Center* (paper products/money) due to RRVBA by **Monday, February 3**. **February-March WMU Mission Project** is *Paris/Clarksville Pregnancy Care Centers*. They need all kinds of baby items (except for diapers!) along with financial donations. Bring your items/donations by the RRVBA, and we will get them to PPCC.

Christian Women's Job Corps Paris

We have completed 2 years now (4 sessions) of CWJC Paris. There are now 14 graduates from CWJC Paris. What an adventure it has been, learning how to meet needs and "run" a program such as this! With every adventure there are mistakes & heartaches, successes & joys, and I have experienced all of it! How exciting to see God working in the lives of the CWJC graduates! In another article of this *Voice of the Valley* issue you'll read about a new community gardening project. Several CWJC graduates will be involved in this venture. One of our graduates has gotten her CNA certification from PJC, others have found employment, and still others are continuing their job searches. But one thing stands out for me ... most of our graduates have found an inner strength, a sense of self-worth, that wasn't there before! They all have value in the eyes of God, but most have never known of that value. Now they know ... and only God knows what He will do in and through them from now on!

Thank you to all who have been involved in making CWJC what it is! There are always opportunities for you to be involved, either individually or as a church: On-going financial contributions are always welcome; lunches for the participants are needed; teachers and Journey Partners are also needed. There is also a need for someone else to be trained as a Site Coordinator. Right now I am the only one who has completed the training, and no, I'm not making plans to quit. But what if I get sick or injured and can't be in charge for a time? Right now there is no one else who can take my place. Be in prayer that someone else, with a heart for this ministry, will step forward.

Our next session will begin on February 18. We don't yet know how many participants there will be this time. But God knows, and we will do our best to point them in the right direction!

NEWS FROM THE BSM...

Dear Family,

My favorite time of year is here. We have started training for Beach Reach. I am excited about what God is going to do in the lives of students this semester as we prepare to spend a full week of sharing the Gospel. The great thing about a mission trip is, if you truly desire to serve God, you will be changed for life. What starts out as a week can turn into a lifestyle. What started as a spark in your life can be fanned into full flame and change your idea of life altogether. Once again I expect and look forward to the change God is going to bring to my life, the lives of the students who are participating in Beach Reach, and most importantly the impact God will have on the lost and dying world.

We have already begun collecting items for the garage sale. Thank you to those who have donated and thank you to those who will. I know you will be blessed! Thank you to those who have already made financial commitments to sponsor students who don't have the financial means to pay their own way. I know you will be blessed! Thank you to everyone who will participate in intensive intercessory prayer for us and the week of spring break. I know you will be blessed!

- If you still want to help change the lives of students here are the remaining opportunities for Beach Reach:
- Pray
 - Pray that God will prepare our hearts for this ministry
 - pray that God would prepare the hearts of the students we will be ministering to
 - Pray for a revival on South Padre Island
 - Provide a scholarship for a student (full or partial)
 - Cost is \$400 per person
 - Attend the Beach Reach luncheon
 - Where: East Paris Baptist Church
 - When: Sunday Feb 2nd from 11:30am-2pm.
 - You will be served a nice meal and will get to hear the testimonies of some of the students.
 - \$10 per adult \$5 per child (12 and under) with a maximum of \$30 per family
 - Provide items for the garage sale.
 - They can be dropped at the BSM or the association building
 - if needed we will come pick up

Now the eleven disciples went to Galilee, to the mountain to which Jesus had directed them. And when they saw him they worshiped him, but some doubted. And Jesus came and said to them, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age." (Matthew 28:16-20 ESV)

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



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

February Birthdays

12th	Ronnie Aubrey, pastor	Trinity
12th	Brad Crosswhite, pastor	Lamar Point
15th	Jimmy Ellis, pastor	Leesville
25th	James McLeod, pastor	Chisum Trails
27th	Charlotte Ertelt, spouse	RRVBA

February Wedding Anniversaries

5th	Ronnie & Dean Aubrey, 46 yrs	Trinity
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February Church Anniversaries

5th	Jack Graham, pastor, 8 yrs	Friendship
9th	Jake Vaughn, pastor, 16 yrs	East Delta
11th	Kay Parsons, secretary, 9 yrs	Immanuel
11th	Billy Norris, pastor, 7 yrs	Southside

MARK YOUR CALENDAR...

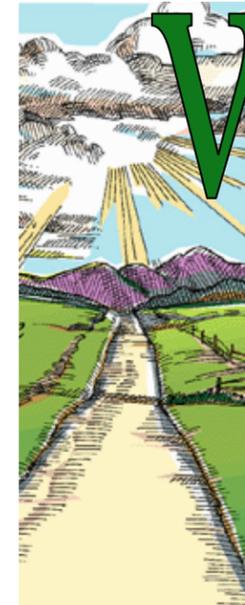
- Feb. 1: VBS Training, Tyler, register by Jan. 27
- Feb. 2: BSM Fundraiser Lunch @ East Paris, 11:30—2:00
- Feb. 3: Deadline to sign up for Tax Seminar
 New Hope Center items to RRVBA office
- Feb. 6: Secretaries/Support Staff Lunch,, 11:30, RRVBA
- Feb. 11: RRVBA Tax Seminar, Springlake, 9:00—4:30

First Baptist Church of Paris seeks full time building superintendent. Salary, health insurance and benefit package to include retirement after 1 year of employment.
 Contact church office for job application.

In Sympathy

Our hearts go out to these who have lost family members in January:

- Rocky & Kay Burrow (Chicota):
 their daughter, Emily Kaylyn Bush
 - Alice Ann White, WMU Director for the RRVBA:
 her daughter, Becky Hurst
 - Former Director of Missions Mike Cosgrove:
 his father, James Cosgrove
- Please keep them all in your prayers.



Voice of the Valley

The monthly publication of the Red River Valley Baptist Association

Volume 10, Issue 2

Only a few weeks into the new-year finds so much in the way of opportunity for ministries and projects. Perhaps never in the history of Associations and the local church has there been more opportunity to become involved in missions and ministry. A quick read of this newsletter helps my point. Out of our diversity comes a multitude of planning ideas for 2014. Need more evidence, look at your church calendar or the Association calendar for the next several months of planning.

Beach Reach planning is well under way with fund raising opportunities to aid in financing this year's trip. The annual BSM garage sale is gearing up. In light of the ice storm last December, Scott Powell has arranged for a BSM crew to help with cleanup, tree limb pruning, removal and general tidying up, all for a donation to Beach Reach. What a neat way to help these students get out of town for Spring Break and Beach Reach and in turn get your yard back into shape.

A new ministry has begun in the city of Paris named "Seeds of Hope." What began in a ladies Sunday school class and with graduates from CWJC has expanded into a citywide ministry with the city of Paris providing vacant city lots for garden plots. Details are found elsewhere in the Voice. The idea is that the local church becomes a resource to the community, to get out of the building and into the community, providing value and at the same time touching the "under churchd" and "unchurchd" in our cities for the Kingdom.

Projects like this affirm Baptists are involved in missions from the local to the international and this is as it should be. We are a people trained for evangelism, have abundant resources, possess appropriate technology, are mobile, and have a commission to be "On Mission."

The Annual Tax seminar is scheduled for February 11th at Springlake, Paris, 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 noon for pastors and 1:30 p.m. – 4:00 p.m. for treasurers and others.

Make note of other RRVBA events in the Voice.

I have been blessed in recent weeks to visit several of RRVBA churches. It is my goal as interim DOM to visit each congregation in the coming weeks and months as time permits. If there are special meetings, events or missions activities that I may be of service let this office know so a visit might be scheduled.

Blessings, *Milton Ertelt*, Interim DOM

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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 Milton Ertelt
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Baptist Student Ministry Director
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Admin. Assistant
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Red River Valley Baptist Association
 2320 Clarksville St.
 Paris, TX 75460
 903-785-2890

BEACH REACH IS COMING!
 Here's how you can help. . .

- *Pray for Scott and the students
- *Give scholarships
- *Donate items for BSM Yard Sale
- *Attend the BSM Fundraiser Lunch
- *Call the BSM Clean Up Crew

Call Scott Powell for more information!

RRVBA Secretaries & Support Staff Luncheon
 Thursday, February 6 at 11:30 am
 RRVBA Office
 Bring your lunch—drinks are provided

ATTENTION:
Pastors & Financial Administrators

Sign up now for the 2014 TAX SEMINAR!

Presenter: Dan Whitehurst

Date: Tuesday, **FEBRUARY 11**

Place: Springlake Baptist Church

Times: 9:00 am—Noon (Pastors)

1:30—4:30 pm (Administrators)

Please register by February 3, 2014. Call the RRVBA office at 903-785-2890.



Seeds of Hope



God uses the most unlikely people in the most amazing ways. He has taken a floundering new Christian, a joyous Missionary, and a salt-of-the-earth naturalist, and formed a much needed organization for the city of Paris. "Seeds of Hope" is a community garden initiative for the entire city. The purpose of the program is to get out into the community and fill a basic need: fresh, home-grown food. But this will not just be physical food; spiritual "food" will be grown as well.

This project began to take shape last year through the efforts of Edna Clegg, a Spring 2013 CWJC graduate. She created a small garden that helped feed five families. This year, that garden, and many others throughout Paris, will provide homegrown vegetables for many more people! First Baptist Church of Paris has donated a lot for a garden that will be tended by Spring 2014 CWJC participants and surrounding neighbors. The Paris City Council and the City Manager have given the go-ahead to use abandoned lots throughout Paris for other gardens. And Edna, Kristy Foster (Fall 2013 CWJC graduate), and Charlotte Ertelt are getting the word out to local businesses who can lend a hand and donate seeds and tools for this project.

Perhaps your church would like to either sponsor a garden or tend a garden in your neighborhood. This can be a great evangelistic tool for reaching people who are reluctant to attend your church. Maybe you or your church would like to help finance this venture! Monetary donations, or donations of gardening gloves and tools, would be very welcome!

If you want to know more or find out how you can get involved, contact Edna Clegg at 903-401-7157.