

# WMU News

Alice Ann White  
RRVBA WMU Director  
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RRVBA/BSM Donations July 21-August 21	Year to Date
ATLAS	0 600.00
BAGWELL	50.00 400.00
BETHEL	91.40 891.04
BOUNDS	196.84 1,623.40
BROOKSTON	0 0
CHICOTA	128.11 1,048.77
CHISUM TRAILS	100.00 700.00
COLLEGE AVE.	0 0
CUNNINGHAM	0 900.00
DIRECT	192.73 1,743.55
DOUBLE R	0 680.00
EAST DELTA	648.96 4,193.10
EAST PARIS	125.00 2,666.68
EMBERSON	0 160.00
FAITH	0 1,681.57
FBC ANNONA	108.20 853.72
FBC BLOSSOM	0 1,000.00
FBC BOGATA	1,382.05 8,962.93
FBC CLARKSVILLE	100.00 800.00
FBC COOPER	0 1,047.83
FBC DEPORT	0 0
FBC DETROIT	0 252.97
FBC PARIS	1,122.39 8,996.65
FBC ROXTON	0 0
FRIENDSHIP	206.00 1,152.00
FULBRIGHT	0 0
GLORY	165.05 439.45
GRAHAM ST.	0 0
HIS PLACE	2,000.00 3,000.00
HOWLAND	111.51 645.03
IMMANUEL/WMU	0 11,465.28
LAKEWAY	0 0
LAMAR POINT	0 1,192.00
LANE'S CHAPEL	0 0
LEESVILLE	0 4,900.00
MAXEY	150.00 1,050.00
MT. OLIVE	264.00 1,882.00
NOVICE	474.00 3,841.91
PACIO	146.44 1,367.89
PATTONVILLE	0 240.00
PETTY	0 1,326.80
POWDERLY	600.00 2,400.00
PROVIDENCE	138.08 1,234.90
SALEM	300.00 2,400.00
SOUTHSIDE	658.61 4,188.79
SPRINGLAKE	583.32 3,107.79
TRINITY	0 0
YOUNG'S CHAPEL	0 0
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>10,042.69 84,356.05</b>

**RISE & BUILD FUND:  
\$105,412.99**

“By All Means” remember you are God’s idea. God doesn’t have any bad ideas!

September 9, 2017, is going to be a wonderful day at Love Civic Center in Paris where the **Ladies’ Retreat** will be taking place starting at 9:30 AM with registration and going throughout the day. Gency Fortenberry is bringing our Bible study, Teresa Harmening will be leading us in worship, and Kristy Falk is sharing about her time on the mission field serving in Africa and India. We have two more wonderful additions: Jana Seaburn, retired missionary, will be giving her testimony, and the final speaker for the day will be Tammy Whitehurst, a Christian comedian. Our mission project for this event is to collect gently used coats and new blankets for Native Americans in New Mexico. If you have yours ready and want to drop them by the Association Office that would be fine, or just bring them with you to the retreat. You will glean a lot on this day from your \$10.00 registration fee which needs to be in the Association office by Thursday, August 31, 2017.

I trust your church is collecting **beans and rice** for Native Americans in New Mexico. By the way, Doug Shelley, Mission Service Corp Volunteer working with the Native American in New Mexico, will be at the retreat and you can meet and ask him questions about his ministry.

Don’t miss God’s blessings He has ready for you when you serve Him!

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

What Serendipities God has given us with more rain and green grass in such HOT August and September weather. But that did not reduce our 13th Year of Senior Adults VBS attendance! July 31 - 108 with "Rappin' Bro. Billy" @ Southside; Aug. 7 - 109 with "Elvis" @ Chicota assisted by Bounds; Aug. 14 - 102 with "Willie" @ Novice; Aug. 21 - 117 with 'Buba' @ Immanuel; and Aug. 28 - 132 @ Paris FBC. Inspiring Music, Bible Studies, Missions Reports and Missions Offering of \$2,313.16 (going to Hodges Ministry and their great work in shipping Christian materials around the world), such FUN with "Surprise Guests," deelyshus snacks and Lunches at every Host Church, plus making new friends from other churches where we've not been because we faithfully attend "our own Church." What could be better than these blessings? We are learning to sing from our hearts "God, Bless America" (HE has and does), "The Longer I Serve Him, the Sweeter He Grows!" (Yes, HE does), and "Jesus Loves Me, the Bible Tells Me So" (Sr. Adults Version) (Oh, YES, HE DOES). We were also reminded of the background and origin of our National Anthem, "The Star-Spangled Banner." Too often we take our everyday blessings for granted!

Each Host Church has received a DVD "In Our Hands - The Battle for Jerusalem." "The reunification of Jerusalem in 1967 is the most significant fulfillment of prophecy in our time. Yet right now the Jewish State is under intense pressure from the United Nations to divide its land and its capital city with those who will not even acknowledge Israel's right to exist." This true story was at Paris movie theater in May. The Host Churches are asked to share it with members and neighbors as a Movie Night. Watch for times, and go view it with them.

The Red River Valley Old Fashioned Hymn Singers led the congregations all 5 Mondays in Worshiping and singing several wonderful Hymns We Love! Our 2nd Thursday Monthly Rehearsal is Sept. 14th at Springlake - always room for more Singers who love the Lord and want to make a joyful noise!

Pray for the Peace of Jerusalem & Keep Looking UP - JESUS THE PRINCE OF PEACE IS COMING BACK SOON and WE MUST BE READY!

WMU QUARTERLY MISSIONS PROJECT: *Beans & Rice*

Thank you to all the churches who have participated in this missions project (so far!)

*Total Pounds (Rice): 833*  
*Total Pounds (Beans): 940*  
*Total Pounds Collected: 1,773*

**SEE YOU AT THE POLE**  
**FIX OUR EYES**  
WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 27, 2017

**ATTENTION:**  
All youth and youth pastors. Make plans to attend these *See You at the Pole* events!!

***SYATP PRE-RALLY***  
Sunday, September 17 @ 5:00 pm  
RRV Bible Camp  
Guest Speakers: Garrett Wagoner & Josh Proctor  
Music by Jonathan & Jonathan  
Free food!  
Contact for info: David Darby @ 903-449-3292

***SYATP POST-RALLY***  
Wednesday, September 27 @ 6:00 pm  
RRV Bible Camp  
Guest Speaker: Keith Nash  
Music by Eat. Sleep. Breathe.  
Free food! Games! Door Prizes!  
Contact for info: Casey DeLay @ 903-517-1724  
or Kent Kirby @ 903-491-6155

The RRVBA office will be closed on Monday, September 4 for Labor Day.

**SAVE THE DATE!** The 16th Annual Paris Pregnancy Care Center Banquet is scheduled for Thursday, Oct. 19 at Love Civic Center. Special Guest Speaker is Lisa Robertson of Duck Dynasty. Music provided by Dustin May and Ashley Hilliard. For more information call PPCC at 903-784-1555

**MARK YOUR CALENDAR FOR THESE UPCOMING EVENTS!**

September 4: LABOR DAY (RRVBA office will be closed)

September 7: Secretaries/Support Staff lunch, 11:30 am, RRVBA

September 9: 5th Annual Ladies' Retreat, 9:30 am, Love Civic Center

September 10-17: Week of Prayer for Texas Missions and the Mary Hill Davis Offering

September 10-13: Revival at Glory BC with Larry Jordan speaking & music by Laurinda & Aran Yoder

September 12: Finance Committee meeting, 5:30 pm, RRVBA

September 17-24: Reach Texas—SBTC State Missions Offering

September 17: See You At The Pole Pre-Rally, 5:00 pm, RRV Bible Camp

September 19: Executive Board Meeting (Budget), 6:00 pm, Petty (No Meal)

September 27: Saw You At The Pole Post-Rally, 6:00 pm, RRV Bible Camp

October 1: Revival at Emberson BC with Brad Michael speaking and music by the Michael Family

October 5: Secretaries/Support Staff lunch, 11:30 am, RRVBA

October 10: Finance Committee meeting (if needed), 5:30 pm, RRVBA

October 14: WMU Leadership Team meeting, 10:00 am, RRVBA

October 17: 125th RRVBA ANNUAL MEETING, Immanuel BC

October 19: Paris Pregnancy Care Center 16th Annual Banquet with Lisa Robertson (Duck Dynasty), Love Civic Ctr

## 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

#### September Birthdays

1st	Edna Owens, treasurer	Direct
5th	Tim Reger, pastor	Mt. Olive
5th	Bill Janeway, spouse	Leesville
5th	Donnie Edwards, pastor	East Paris
7th	Mavis Miller, spouse	Springlake
11th	Sheri Wharton, secretary	Bounds
14th	Eric Moore, pastor	Immanuel
19th	Johnny Witherspoon, pastor	FBC Cooper
21st	Charles Ralson, music	FBC Blossom
29th	Mallory Holladay, children	Mt. Olive

#### September Wedding Anniversaries

2nd	Mike & Scherlene Shupp, 15 yrs	FBC Blossom
6th	Boyd & Teresa Harmening	Leesville
6th	Robert & Joquetta Weems, 9 yrs	FBC Blossom
7th	Byron & Gayle Robertson, 60 yrs	Bagwell
19th	Jerry & Debbie Hindman, 37 yrs	FBC Roxton
25th	Deanie & Shirlee Lambert, 47 yrs	FBC Annona
29th	Eugene & Jo Ann Adams, 55 yrs	Pacio

#### September Church Anniversaries

1st	Shauna Mercaldo, children, 3 yrs	Immanuel
1st	Casey DeLay, music, 4 yrs	Immanuel
1st	Brenda Fendley, secretary, 10 yrs	Mt. Olive
1st	Teresa Harmening, music, 36 yrs	Leesville
1st	Paula Hutson, treasurer, 11 yrs	FBC Bogata
1st	Debbie Janeway, secretary, 12 yrs	Leesville
3rd	Dennis Pearson, music, 14 yrs	Pacio
7th	Mary Pullins, clerk, 38 yrs	Springlake
19th	Karl Bush, pastor, 10 yrs	Bagwell
20th	James McLeod, pastor, 12 yrs	Chisum Trails
21st	Brent Bolton, education, 14 yrs	FBC Cooper
23rd	Phil Spann, youth, 10 yrs	Southside

### EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING (2018 Budget)

Tuesday, Sept. 19 @ 6:00 pm, Petty BC  
(No meal provided, but Dessert Fellowship follows  
the meeting). *Pastors & Exec. Board Members:*  
There may also be other items that need your  
attention. Please plan to attend!

### SECRETARIES/SUPPORT STAFF LUNCH

Thursday, September 7, 11:30 am  
Bring your lunch & we'll provide drinks and a  
devotional. This is for ALL secretaries and support  
staff, paid or volunteer!

### FALL REVIVALS

**Glory Baptist Church:** Revival services begin  
Sunday, September 10 at 11:00 am and continue  
Sunday night at 6:00 pm. Monday-Wednesday  
services will be at 7:00 pm. Revival Speaker is  
Larry Jordan with music provided by Lorinda &  
Aran Yoder.

**Emberson Baptist Church:** Brad Michael will be  
the Revival Speaker and music will be provided by  
the Michael Family. Services begin on Sunday,  
October 1 at 6:00 pm and continue Monday thru  
Wednesday (Oct. 2-4) at 7:00 pm.

### HELP WANTED!

**Hwy 82 Baptist Church** needs a Piano Player. Call  
Jerry Clements at 903-249-0037.  
**SPRINGLAKE BAPTIST CHURCH** is looking for a  
Nursery Worker. Call the church at 903-785-1859.  
**IMMANUEL BAPTIST CHURCH** needs Nursery  
Workers. Call Shauna Mercaldo at 713-377-2889.



### Direct Baptist Church

presents a

### Bible Art Retreat

With Vicky Murphy & Christina Addison

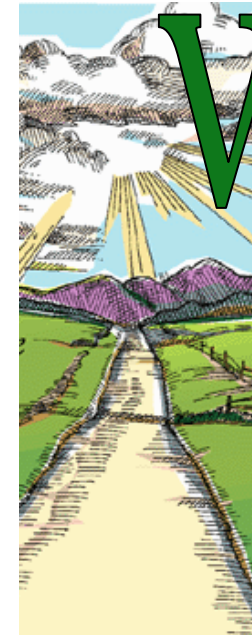
Friday, September 8 at 6:00 pm

Join them for an evening of fun with  
**Bible Art & Journaling** as they kick off their new  
2017-2018 Ladies Bible Study adventure.

Cost is \$25 which covers all supplies.

Refreshments will be provided.

Call Melanie London at 903-491-6181  
to sign up!



# Voice of the Valley

The monthly publication of the Red River Valley Baptist Association

Volume 13, Issue 9 (SEPTEMBER 2017)

### Created To Do Good Works!

Ephesians 2:8 -9 are pivotable to our teaching on eternal security by grace alone and not by works. I sometimes think we may have taken the position "if works don't save us, then we don't have to do them." It is interesting that the Apostle Paul seems to read our minds when he writes verse 10 under the inspiration of the Holy Spirit! "For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand that we should walk in them." The dream of every pastor and church should be to have every member involved in ministry. Not every Christian is called or qualified to be a pastor, but every Christian is called and capable to be a minister.

I am afraid many churches and clergy are frustrated by how few are involved with the work in the church while failing to train and cast vision for our people to serve in the church! I believe God calls leaders to lead. I also believe the Holy Spirit uses these leaders to develop the potential of each member, especially those we may think unqualified or uninterested. 2 Timothy 2:2 is Paul's manual for training disciples and disciple makers when it says we are to take what we've learned find faithful men and teach them so they can find other faithful and teach them as well! Ephesians 4: 12 names the officers in the church and tells us they have been placed there " for the equipping of the saints for the work of the ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ." I have yet to find an " opt out " clause for believers and their involvement in ministry and the doing of good works!

In his book *Life Together* Dietrich Bonhoffer, a German Lutheran pastor martyred by Adolf Hitler, writes these compelling words ... " In each Christian community everything depends on each member being an indispensable part of the church chain." ... It will be well, therefore, if every member receives a definite task to perform for the community, ( the church) that he may know in hours of doubt that he, too, is not useless and unusable. Every Christian church must realize that not only do the weak need the strong, but the strong can not exist without the weak. " Church is about family and the more involved the individuals the stronger the family and the family ties! Paul sums it up when he says " Redeem your time well for the days are evil!"

As we begin another school year I encourage every church and minister to commit to pray over each child and educator for divine protection and wisdom! Please continue to pray for the associational leadership involved in the New Building/ Renovation of Existing Buildings discussions and the BSM Director Search.

God's Best,

Mike Fortenberry, DOM  
Red River Valley Baptist Association

### 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

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