

# WMU News

Alice Ann White  
RRVBA WMU Director  
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RRVBA/BSM Donations Mar 19—Apr 20	Year to Date	
ATLAS	0	0
BAGWELL	50.00	200.00
BETHEL	115.72	408.68
BOUNDS	304.24	1,183.41
BROOKSTON	0	0
CHICOTA	179.21	617.96
CHISUM TRAIL	100.00	400.00
COLLEGE AVE.	0	0
CUNNINGHAM	360.00	900.00
DIRECT	228.67	915.22
DOUBLE R	200.00	835.00
EAST DELTA	536.30	1,698.64
EAST PARIS	541.67	2,166.68
EMBERSON	80.00	320.00
FAITH	168.00	819.00
FBC ANNONA	0	248.73
FBC BLOSSOM	150.00	600.00
FBC BOGATA	1,328.73	4,583.69
FBC CLARKSVILLE	100.00	400.00
FBC COOPER	413.22	1,568.52
FBC DEPORT	0	0
FBC DETROIT	38.05	146.29
FBC PARIS	1,206.73	4,869.88
FBC ROXTON	170.00	750.00
FRIENDSHIP	0	0
FULBRIGHT	357.80	739.48
GLORY	262.99	937.71
GRAHAM ST.	0	0
HOWLAND	89.10	313.50
IMMANUEL/WMU	25.00	3,762.62
LAKEWAY	0	0
LAMAR POINT	0	72.17
LANE'S CHAPEL	0	0
LEESVILLE	1,584.00	5,617.00
MAXEY	150.00	600.00
MT. OLIVE	220.00	1,009.00
NOVICE	541.66	2,166.64
PACIO	139.88	784.23
PATTONVILLE	0	0
PETTY	153.76	532.47
POWDERLY	300.00	1,500.00
PROVIDENCE	191.59	618.37
SALEM	150.00	600.00
SOUTHSIDE	782.59	2,785.62
SPRINGLAKE	379.20	1,371.82
TRINITY	0	0
YOUNG'S CHAPEL	0	0
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>11,598.11</b>	<b>47,042.33</b>

**RISE & BUILD FUND:**  
**\$81,419.86**

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 Watchword: "Then he called the crowd to him along with his disciples and said: 'Whoever wants to be my disciple must deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me'" (Mark 8:34 NIV). We should all be life-long learners. This command from our Lord is a daily task and it is for a lifetime. We need to daily: Surrender, Sacrifice and Serve so we may in turn follow another one of his commands, The Great Commission!

Thanks for your participation in the collection of the small stuffed animals for the Choctaw Children's Hospital in Oklahoma. Together we collected 227 from 7 churches. Can you just imagine the fun those children will have when they receive one.

For the next two months we will be encouraging churches to participate in collecting NEW shoes and socks and/or money for Buckner's Children's Home in Dallas. These collected items will travel around the world to help boys and girls that need shoes. This is a great opportunity to be a part of missions around the world by just purchasing a pair of shoes or socks. Pray about what you can do in this ministry.

If I can assist your church in any way to bring missions education to your people, please call me.

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

HAPPY MOTHER'S DAY to every one of you Special Ladies! We all owe YOU our thanks and love, knowing that none of us is perfect - WE HONOR YOU! Sing: "M is for the ..., O means ..., T is for ..., H ..., E ..., R... Put them all together, they spell MOTHER, the word that means the world to me!"

All 5 Host Churches are planning for our 11th year of SA-VBS: "Journey Off the Map" Unknown to Us - Known to HIM. FBCs Bogata and Cooper swapped dates, so please note change to: August 3 - FBC Cooper; 10 - FBC Bogata; 17 - Chicota; 24 - East Paris; and 31 - FBC Paris. That's just 3 months away! Invite people from smaller churches who can't host because of small building, and offer to pick them up on your way. Invite non-believers in Jesus; we want everyone who will, to hear God's Word and be saved! Our Offering will go to help build the NEW and much needed larger RRVBA building.

What a difference a week makes! Somehow I had the wrong date. However, we had a great group go to DBU for the FREE 27th Annual Norvell Slater Senior Adult HYMN SING. We had our sox blessed clean off getting to sing with all those hundreds of other Seniors singing the wonderful hymns we grew up on! Some of us just about popped our 'spenders and felt we were close to Glory! Ask someone who went what they thought of it. Plan now to go with us next year; we'll have the correct date; you won't be sorry you made the effort!

May 3-6 in Paris FBC's Fellowship Hall, Noon to 1:00 pm, \$5 Lunch served at 11:30 am. We have the distinct privilege of again studying God's Word at the feet of our beloved Dr. Bill Tolar from Ft. Worth SWBT Seminary. We love him and his precious wife, Mrs. Floy. Come enjoy one of God's BEST Blessings!

"Do all the good you can by all the means you can in all the ways you can in all the places you can at all the times you can to all the people you can as long as ever you can." - Good counsel, John Wesley.

Keep Looking UP, "SEASONED" SAINTS, JESUS IS COMING BACK SOON!

**Paris Pregnancy Care Center 5th Annual Spring Style Show**

May 14, 2015 6:00 pm East Paris Baptist Church Gym

Tickets: \$15 each or \$100 for table of 8 Entertainment! Door Prizes!

For more information, call Janet Sullivan at PPCC 903-784-1555



APRIL, MAY, & JUNE MISSION PROJECT — Due by June 30

*Shoes for Orphan Souls: A Ministry of Buckner*

Let's go shopping for new shoes (and socks!) to share with children here and around the world!




EMBERSON BAPTIST CHURCH is having a GARAGE SALE

on SATURDAY, MAY 9 starting at 9:00 AM.

It will be held at the old McDonald's parking lot in Paris.

Come out and support their ministries!



NEWS FROM THE BSM. . .

Dear Family,

If you were to die today and God asked you, "Why should I let you into heaven?", how would you answer Him? Would it surprise you to know that a very large portion of "Christians" can not answer this question? The answer to this question is the most important answer a Christian should know, and yet to many "Christians", the answer is unknown.

In my years of ministry experience I've learned one thing: never assume someone is a Christian just because they say, "I am a Christian." Never assume someone is a Christian because they grew up in church, or because they come every Sunday and every Wednesday. Never assume someone is a Christian because they sing in a choir or teach Sunday School. Our assumptions could cost them eternity. We must not neglect salvation:

*Therefore we must pay much closer attention to what we have heard, lest we drift away from it. For since the message declared by angels proved to be reliable, and every transgression or disobedience received a just retribution, how shall we escape if we neglect such a great salvation? It was declared at first by the Lord, and it was attested to us by those who heard, while God also bore witness by signs and wonders and various miracles and by gifts of the Holy Spirit distributed according to his will. (Hebrews 2:1-4 ESV)*

One of the main issues I see today, not just with college students but at any age level, is the fact that once a person is saved, we neglect them and they therefore neglect their own salvation. Throughout the New Testament scripture gives things to look for as a test of whether or not someone is a Christian. Romans 12:9-21 gives us a long list of "The marks of a true Christian". When a person says they are a Christian they are saying they are a Christ Follower. Yet if they aren't praying constantly, reading their word daily, and sharing the gospel regularly are they truly a follower of Christ?

I want to see revival in our nation. The only way that is going to happen is if every Christian takes up the gauntlet, puts on the full armor of Christ, daily, prays for one another daily, learns about God through reading scripture daily and not just through a Sunday sermon, and then goes out and shares the "Good News" with someone else. Scripture warns us about neglecting salvation and also encourages us to be sure about our own. We find the truth that many people who grow up in church and do the right things won't enter the Kingdom of Heaven: "Not everyone who says to me, 'Lord, Lord,' will enter the kingdom of heaven, but the one who does the will of my Father who is in heaven. On that day many will say to me, 'Lord, Lord, did we not prophesy in your name, and cast out demons in your name, and do many mighty works in your name?' And then will I declare to them, 'I never knew you; depart from me, you workers of lawlessness.'" (Matthew 7:21-23 ESV)

There is no better time than right now for us to work out our own salvation in fear and trembling, but we also need to share the saving works of Jesus Christ with others. With studies showing more than 50% of the people in evangelical churches being lost, why not start in your church.

Living God, Loving Life,  
 Scott Powell, BSM Director, 903-246-1364 (cell)



## 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

#### May Birthdays

2nd	Denise Harbison, secretary	East Paris
8th	Matt Byrd, worship	FBC Paris
9th	Neali Landers, secretary	FBC Cooper
11th	Velva Dean Aubrey, spouse	Trinity
14th	Denise Vaughan, spouse	East Delta
15th	Shauna Mercaldo, children	Immanuel
15th	Becky Semple, spouse	Howland
17th	Ken Cannon, assoc. pastor	FBC Paris
22nd	Billy Norris, pastor	Southside
27th	Carol VanDeaver, spouse	Bethel

#### May Wedding Anniversaries

9th	Tim & Deann Reger, 34 yrs	Mt. Olive
16th	Casey & Meleaha DeLay, 6 yrs	Immanuel
17th	Jeff & Amy Duvall, 18 yrs	FBC Bogata
19th	Eric & Rene Moore, 8 yrs	Immanuel
21st	Tommy & DeAnne Turner, 32 yrs	FBC Paris
23rd	Jimmy & Chris Ellis, 46 yrs	Leesville
23rd	Neil & Jan Barnes, 35 yrs	Providence
30th	Billy & Melisa Norris, 17 yrs	Southside
30th	Mark & Rachel Young, 17 yrs	East Paris

#### May Church Anniversaries

1st	Heather Law, children, 1 yr	FBC Paris
2nd	Mavis Miller, secretary	Springlake
3rd	Debbie Davis, children, 6 yrs	Mt. Olive
7th	Ryan Clark, music, 3 yrs	East Paris
7th	Jacob Vaughan, youth, 1 yr	East Delta
15th	Mike Jones, pastor, 4 yrs	Powderly
20th	Steve Gunter, youth, 13 yrs	Immanuel
20th	Travis Jackson, media/pr, 13 yrs	FBC Paris
21st	Jocquetta Weems, secretary, 26 yr	FBC Blossom

#### Capital Campaign Lunch at FBC Clarksville

Sunday, May 3 starting at 12:00 Noon  
 MENU: Fried Fish with all the trimmings!  
 \$7.00/plate      Family of 4 or more: \$20.00  
 Age 6-12: \$3.00      Under age 6: FREE!



In observance of Memorial Day  
 the RRVBA office will be  
 closed  
 on Monday, May 25.



# Voice of the Valley

The monthly publication of the Red River Valley Baptist Association

Volume 11, Issue 5

### TIME FOR REVIVAL!

May 17-20: *Ed Ethridge* @ Direct  
 Call 903-785-5005 or 903-739-2999  
 for more information

### SECRETARIES/SUPPORT STAFF LUNCH

Thursday, May 7, 11:30 am, RRVBA Office  
 Bring your lunch; tea/coffee are provided.

### MARK YOUR MAY CALENDAR:

- Sunday, May 3: Senior Adult Sunday
- Sunday, May 3: Fried Fish Lunch  
 @ FBC Clarksville, 12:00
- Thursday, May 7: Secretaries/Support Staff  
 Lunch, 11:30
- Thursday, May 7: National Day of Prayer
- Saturday, May 9: Emberson BC Garage Sale
- Sunday, May 10: Mother's Day
- Tuesday, May 12: WMU Ladies' Retreat meeting,  
 5:30 pm
- Thursday, May 14: Paris Pregnancy Care Center  
 5th Annual Spring Style Show
- Sunday, May 17-Wednesday, May 20: Revival at  
 Direct Baptist Church with Ed Ethridge
- Sunday, May 17-Saturday, May 23:  
 Baptist Association Week
- Monday, May 25: Memorial Day (RRVBA closed)
- Sunday, May 31: 5th Sunday

### "Being Baptist"

When I think of 'being Baptist' I reflect on our early founding fathers and the tremendous price they paid to practice their faith of water baptism by immersion alone. How they suffered for rejecting infant baptism and for declaring salvation is by grace alone, nothing more and nothing less. Today, there are hundreds of different types of Baptists around the world, many doing wonderful things. Although I admit to being prejudiced, none are having the world-wide impact in missions, evangelism and ministry like our beloved Southern Baptist Convention.

I was raised and educated by some wonderful godly people in the Independent Baptist circle; however, God used two important things to draw me and plant me in SBC life.

First, the way we do missions together so our missionaries are well taken care of and do not have to worry if the 'checks are in the mail'

Secondly, I am blessed by the way we do missions, evangelism, and ministry together. As Southern Baptists, we join our hearts and our hands, believing we can accomplish more for Christ by doing it together than we can by being an island unto ourselves.

As your Director, I want to challenge every church that is a member of the RRVBA to make a fresh commitment to doing God's work together. Today is a new day, we are one day closer to the return of the Lord Jesus Christ and I am reminded of what Jesus said in John 4:34-35. His purpose for being on earth was to do the will of His Father. So is ours. Verse 35 reveals the urgency Jesus felt for doing God's work, God's way and for doing it now. ... "Do you not say, 'There are still four months and then comes the harvest?' Behold, I say to you, lift up your eyes and look at the fields, for they are already white for harvest."

It is my prayer for our churches to invest our mutual time, talent, and treasure into eternal things which make a difference and which bring honor and glory to the Lord!

I am thrilled to announce we have associational VBS Teams who are looking to help any of our churches put on a Vacation Bible School this summer. The association also has Revival Teams who will provide the music, the preacher, counselor training, workers and materials to our local churches to help them host revival services.

For more information about these or other things we are doing as a group of churches, call me at the Association office (903-785-2890) or e-mail me at [mikefortenberry@hotmail.com](mailto:mikefortenberry@hotmail.com).

He is coming!

Bro. Mike Fortenberry  
 Director of Missions

### 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  
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