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December 13, 2018

**Remember In Prayer This Week ...**

...Pastorless Churches and their search committees, for wisdom as they seek God's direction in calling a new pastor:

Northwest Mandarin OKC, Quail Springs Piedmont, First Yukon, Trinity North Pointe	OKC Chinese Newalla, Countryside Bethel Soldier Creek
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**UPCOMING EVENTS :**

**December**

**18** 11:00 a.m.  
*Pastors' Conference*  
Association Office  
Rob Lindley, new Pastor of Northwest

**Dec. 24-Jan. 1**  
*Christmas Holiday - Office Closed*

**January**

**8** 11:00 a.m.  
*Pastors' Conference*  
Association Office

**15** 11:00 a.m.  
*Pastors' Conference*  
Association Office

**17** 1:00 p.m.  
*Missions Team Meeting*  
Association Office

**22** 11:00 a.m.  
*Pastors' Conference*  
Association Office

**28-29**  
*State Evangelism Conference*  
Del City, First Southern



From your CBA Staff:

Harry Black

Keith Jordan      Scott Allen

Lynn Jordan      Julie Irwin

Kay Coone



For more information on events listed here, visit

[www.cbaokc.net](http://www.cbaokc.net) or  
[www.bgco.org](http://www.bgco.org)

## From the desk of Harry Black, Associational Missionary

This is the last CBA newsletter article I will write in the current format. As you probably know by now, we will publish the Capital Baptist Association newsletter independent of the Baptist Messenger starting next month, January 2019. This is also my final newsletter article for 2018 and my Christmas article – so this is important!

At the recent annual meeting of the BGCO several resolutions were passed. Resolution No. 4 captured my attention. It was titled “For Christian Civility amid a Hostile Culture.” Here is the text:

*We, the messengers to the 2018 Baptist General Convention of Oklahoma, meeting at First Baptist Church, Edmond, Oklahoma, November 12-13, 2018, recognize that we live in a world that is inherently hostile and given by nature to sin and despair. We also recognize that obedience to Jesus’ commands calls for a consistent lifestyle of kindness and civility in our interactions with the world around us, both Christians and non-Christians alike. Followers of Jesus are called to be a light in a dark place and a witness to the glorious Gospel. Inasmuch, we call for Oklahoma Baptists to remain kind, cordial, and civil in both their online social media presence and interpersonal interactions. Whereas unkind and ungodly discourse has proven time and again to arise on the lines of social, political, and moral*

*issues, we resolve to remain kind, gracious, seasoned, and God-honoring in both our various online experiences and daily life interactions, especially toward those with whom disagreement exists, and in doing so, the Lord will be honored and more might be won to the Gospel of Jesus Christ. (Matthew 5:13-16; Romans 12:18; Ephesians 4:15-16, 29-32; Colossians 4:6)*

It seems to me that we, proclaimed followers of Jesus Christ, are becoming impatient with the lost world around us. Instead of “turning the other cheek” and demonstrating a “lifestyle of kindness and civility” by faith, we have adopted the world’s pattern of striking hard and striking fast. This resolution is a call for Christians to repent and regroup. It is an invitation to ask again, before we post or engage, “what would Jesus do?” And to remember, during this Christmas season, that the Son of Man came to shine light in our spiritual darkness (John 1:4-5) and to bring peace to earth, good will to men (Luke 2:14).

I wish you a Blessed Christmas and a Prosperous New Year.

Bro. Harry

**Beginning January 1st**, the Baptist Messenger will only be published twice a month, and will no longer include the CBA Newsletter, located inside the “Wrap” (the cover pages on the outside of the Messenger). We will therefore email or mail **our newsletter** once a month free of charge separately to those who sign up to receive it. It will also continue to be available to view on our website at [www.cbaokc.net](http://www.cbaokc.net): click on the “Info Center” tab at the top, then click on “Assoc Newsletters.”

If you would like to receive our newsletter, and you can receive it by email, please sign up by emailing [julie@cbaokc.net](mailto:julie@cbaokc.net); **or to have it mailed to you**, call (405) 942-0244 and leave your name and address.

If you currently receive the Baptist Messenger by mail, you will continue to receive it after January 1st. There is no need to call the Messenger office.

