



# The ENCOURAGER

*"...encourage one another and build each other up, just as in fact you are doing." 1 Thessalonians 5:11*

Vol. 18, No. 1

Pottawatomie-Lincoln Baptist Association, Shawnee, OK ~ Dr. Russell R. Cook, Director of Missions

January, 2014

PLBA  
Office will be  
Closed

January 20  
Martin Luther  
King Day



**PRO-LIFE Rally  
February 5**

**Oklahoma State  
Capitol  
4th Floor**

Rose Distribution  
9:30 to 11:30 a.m.

Pro-Life Rally-House  
Chamber 11:45 a.m.

**EXECUTIVE  
BOARD**

The next  
regular  
meeting will be  
**February 10, 2014  
10:30 a.m.**

**Association  
Website  
[www.plba.org](http://www.plba.org)**



State Evangelism Conference  
January 27-28

First Baptist Church, Moore  
301 NE 27th Street, Moore, OK

### Speakers

Charlie Blout, Pastor  
First Baptist Church, El Reno



Alex Himaya, Pastor  
Battle Creek & Midtown, Broken Arrow



Alton Fannin, Pastor  
First Baptist Church, Ardmore



KJ Jackson, Pastor  
New Beginnings Church, Tulsa



Nick Garland, Pastor  
First Baptist Church, Broken Arrow



Scott Reed, Pastor  
First Baptist Church, Cache



Blake Gideon, Pastor  
First Baptist Church, Edmond



Rick Sowell, Pastor  
Choctaw Road Baptist Church, Choctaw



Jack Vance, Pastor  
First Baptist Church, Dewer



### Monday

**Afternoon Session 1:30 p.m. 4:30 p.m.**

**Evening General Session 6:30 p.m.-9:00 p.m.**

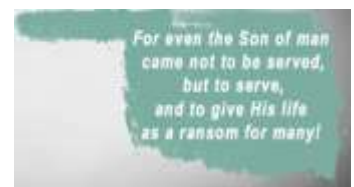
### Tuesday

**Breakout Sessions-Part 1 9:00 a.m.-10:15 a.m.**

**Breakout Sessions-Part 2 10:30 a.m.-11:45 a.m.**

**Afternoon Session-1:30 p.m.-4:30 p.m.**

**Evening Session-6:30 p.m.-8:00 p.m.**



# Church News

Please let us know of any upcoming events or news from your church!

HILLTOP, SHAWNEE has called Adam Nickerson as their Youth Minister. Adam has served as their interim Youth Minister over the past year, and previously served on the Youth Leadership Team and as a volunteer Youth worker with their Youth Ministry. Adam is bi-vocational and works in Facilities Management at OBU.  
(Gary Nickerson, Pastor)

# Staff Needed

Incorrect information... please call the Association office, 405.273.4558.

BLACKBURN CHAPEL is searching for a full-time pastor. Send resumes to Blackburn Chapel 36305 Lake Road, Shawnee, OK 74801 or email to [blackburnchapel@aol.com](mailto:blackburnchapel@aol.com).

DALE is seeking a part-time pianist, blended worship service. They have decided to have a Second Sunday Night Singing Fellowship monthly, and are in need of someone to assist with that monthly service. They hope to have a college student or other church's musicians to help them by coming in occasionally. Contact Douglas Parker Jr., Search Committee, 405.401.9010. (Doug Parker, Pastor)

EARLSBORO INDIAN MISSION is searching for a bi-vocational pastor. Send resumes to Pulpit Committee, PO Box 239, Earlsboro, OK 74840.

FIRST, MCLLOUD is seeking a part-time Choir Director. Send resumes to the church, PO Box 180, McLoud, 74851. Taking applications for a paid nursery worker (must be 18 years or older). Applications can be picked up at the church or call 964-3344. (Matt Halsted, Pastor)

FIRST, SPARKS is receiving resumes for bi-vocational pastor. Send resumes to Earl Hall, [markwellhall@yahoo.com](mailto:markwellhall@yahoo.com) or 349117 E 980 Rd., Sparks, OK 74869.

MACOMB is seeking a bi-vocational pastor. Send resumes to Macomb Baptist Church, Steve Dilbeck, Pulpit Committee Chairman, PO Box 130, Macomb, OK 74852.

TEMPLE, SHAWNEE is receiving resumes for a part-time Music Minister. If interested, please send resumes to Temple Baptist Church, PO Box 3277, Shawnee, Oklahoma, 74802 Attn: Music Minister Search Committee, [tbcshawnee.com](http://tbcshawnee.com) or call 405-275-0937. (Mike Craig, Pastor)



## PLBA VBS Clinic

Saturday, March 8, 2014

New Hope Baptist Church, Tecumseh

10:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m.

Lunch will be provided.

For more information call or text  
Shannon Pruitt @ 405-850-9655



# A Word of Encouragement

GOD'S ANSWER TO CULTURAL CHAOS™

In his recently published book, *The Joshua Code*, O.S. Hawkins provides fifty-two scripture verses every believer should know. The twenty-eighth verse he cites is Ephesians 1:7 "In Him we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of sins, according to the riches of His grace." In his introductory commentary on this verse, Hawkins identifies five characteristics of lostness in the last two generations of Americans:

1. A search for a meaningful relationship in life (many have never known one)
2. **The desire for immediate gratification** ("Give it to me now")
3. They want something for nothing (an entitlement mentality)
4. They want guilt-free living (they struggle to live with themselves)
5. They are on a search for prosperity (with little hope of obtaining it)

As Dr. Hawkins answers these characteristics of lostness, he expounds on Ephesians 1:6.

1. **The Lord offers something PERSONAL** ("In Him" you can have a meaningful relationship.)
2. **The Lord offers something PRESENT** ("We have redemption" beginning at the moment we trust Christ.)
3. **The Lord offers something that's PROVIDED** ("Through His blood" is a free gift which cost Him His very life.)
4. **The Lord offers something PROFITABLE** ("The forgiveness of sins" is the only way to live guilt-free.)
5. The Lord offers something PURPOSEFUL (According to the riches of His grace" is a picture of prosperity in Christ.)

The "something" people think they need is really "Someone." His name is Jesus who said... "I came that they may have life and have it abundantly" (John 10:10.)

Encouragingly Yours, Russell R. Cook

## It Might Preach!

"The Church and Its Message"

I Timothy 1: 120

In Chapter one of I Timothy, the apostle Paul (1) warns against false doctrine, (2) testifies concerning God's grace, and (3) charges Timothy to "fight the good fight." From these statements, we can discover a three-fold explanation of the church's message. These describe the church's message for today as well.

- I. **The church's message must be DOCTRINALLY SOUND (v.5)**
  - A. Our message is best conveyed out of a PURE HEART (v. 5a)
  - B. Our message is best conveyed out of a CLEAR CONSCIENCE (5b)
  - C. Our message is best conveyed with a SINCERE FAITH (v.5c)
- II. **The Church's Message must be CHRIST CENTERED (vv.1-17)**
  - A. Christ is our MESSAGE OF HOPE (v.1) Colossians 1:27
  - B. Christ is our MESSAGE OF GRACE, MERCY AND PEACE (v.2)
    - Romans 1:7
  - C. Christ is our MESSAGE OF STRENGTH AND CALLING (v.12)
    - Acts 9:22
  - D. Christ is our MESSAGE OF FAITH AND LOVE (v.14) I Timothy 3:13
  - E. Christ is our MESSAGE OF SALVATION (v15)
    1. The PERSON who came ("Christ Jesus")
    2. The PLACE to which He came ("into the world")
    3. The PURPOSE for which He came ("to save sinners")
- III. **The church's message must be WORTH DEFENDING (vv. 18-20)**
  - A. We are COMMANDED to defend our message (v. 18)
  - B. We are COMMITTED to defend our message (v.19a)
  - C. We are CAUTIONED in defending our message (19b)
    1. HYMENAEUS-Redefined the truth (II Timothy 2:17b-18a)
    2. ALEXANDAR-Rebelledd against the truth. (II Timothy 4:14)
  - D. We are COMPELLED to defend our message (v.20)
    1. I Corinthians 5:3-5 (esp. v.5)
    2. I Corinthians 11:32

The church has the greatest message ever told. It's worth believing, receiving, defending and sharing. It is a message that is (1) DOCTRINALLY SOUND, (2) CHRIST CENTERED and (3) WORTH DEFENDING.

# PLBA WOMEN



Do you make New Year's resolutions? Is one of them becoming healthier? How about becoming a healthier leader? Vitamin E is known for its many benefits—from antioxidant to healing scars. Attend this year's Embrace Retreat and see what it means to include "E" in your ministry! You'll spend a weekend networking with other leaders and leave energized to face the new ministry year head on!

January 17-18, 2014  
Sullivant Retreat Center  
Norman, OK  
www.bgco.org

## Don't wait to sign up because only the first 50 get in!

There is no cost for you to attend this event, but a \$50 deposit will hold your reservation. The deposit will be returned to you at the event to ensure your attendance.

## Oklahoma State Evangelism Conference 2014

### Special Women's Session and Luncheon

Tuesday, January 28, 2014  
9:00 a.m.—11:45 a.m.

Speakers:

Robin Marsh, Kelly King, and Andrea & Lorelei Decker

The morning sessions are provided at no cost for the women who attend, but tickets are required for the luncheon. Purchase in advance for \$15 by calling the BGCO Women's Ministry @ 405-942-3000. The deadline for reservations is Tuesday, January 20th.

## A Nugget From My Spiritual Journey

We thoroughly enjoyed watching the December NBC Special of "The Sound of Music LIVE," starring Oklahoma's Carrie Underwood. Yes, it was a momentous undertaking for a young gal with a tremendous singing voice but with limited acting experience. I am one of those who applaud her and the entire cast for one of the most difficult-to-accomplish performances I've ever known about—a "live" performance with no "live" audience to encourage you as you go! Speak of "climbing every mountain!" But, that is only the springboard for my nugget here...

Needless to say, I was stunned by the post-performance reviews, many of which were quite negative and quite critical. No, the cast did not provide a flawless performance. How often does that happen in "live theater?" But their earnest efforts (and Carrie's countenance) far outshone the almost villainous attitudes and sharply critical tongues of those who rushed to express themselves throughout social media and beyond. I made an exception this time and read some "threads" of media conversation and found a determined effort abounded to be critical, and, well, rude. What a sad commentary in itself on human nature.

How is it that our nation, largely based at its birth upon Judeo-Christian principles, is so intent upon examining everyone's life under a microscope, looking for perfection everywhere, and then using little-to-no-restraint in vocalizing strong dissatisfaction in the inability to find that elusive perfection? Regrettably, the kind of post-performance responses received lately is not uncommon. It is becoming more and more the "norm" on endless topics from endless sources, not just a one-time response to a specific performance. How odd that bad attitudes and critical tongues are apparently acceptable, yet someone's honest effort to do their best under challenging circumstances is not!!!

"...the tongue is a fire...no man can tame the tongue. It is a restless evil, full of deadly poison...Out of the same mouth come blessing and cursing...a saltwater spring [cannot] yield fresh water" JAMES 3.

"Why do you look at the speck in your brother's eye but don't notice the log in your own eye?" MATTHEW 7.

"Just as you want others to do for you, do the same for them" LUKE 6.

Apparently Carrie takes God's Word to heart, as all believers should. Her Tweeted response to her critics was that she would pray for them--and then she referenced 1 Peter 2:1-25. (My guess is that verses 11-12 were the focus of her thoughts, although I cannot speak for her.) Her response to her critics has received probably as much notice as her performance! Being "salt and light" in a tasteless and dark world is the part we are all called upon to "play." For real.

Marsha Cook, Director

# Budget Receipts

Churches listed in red are Pastorless

PASTORS	CHURCH	Nov. '13	YTD
Roger Shaw	Agra FBC	738.26	4,551.13
Mat Riddle	Asher FBC	177.73	2,431.56
Chris Carter	Blackburn Chapel	242.98	2,960.81
Mark Davis	Carney FBC	.00	2,080.23
Rick Blackwell	Chandler, FBC	813.65	8,947.37
Keith Henley	Chandler Southern	108.01	1,319.06
Doug Parker	Dale	25.95	287.97
Mike Mitchell	Davenport FBC	267.37	4,407.43
Mike Haines	Deer Creek	157.22	2,639.84
Mark Streetman	Earlsboro FBC	.00	300.00
	<b>Earlsboro Indian Mission</b>	82.16	1,074.58
Wayne Knight	Fairview	.00	1,500.54
Dan Campbell	Faith	260.40	3,342.07
Jeff Bruton	Forest	.00	431.84
Lee Witt	Hazel Dell	568.92	5,479.87
Tuney Ropp	Hillside	907.28	10,202.18
Gary Nickerson	Hilltop	.00	4,364.11
Bryan Cook	Hopewell	55.20	811.64
<b>Don Jones, Int.</b>	<b>Macomb</b>	75.24	1,404.67
Mike Hazelwood	Mammoth	394.00	3,399.00
Bobby Shatto	Maud FBC	.00	140.88
	<b>Maud Trinity</b>	107.57	2,808.94
James Bond	McLoud Emmanuel	502.09	9,259.68
Jerry Gray	McLoud Emmaus	.00	884.79
Matt Halsted	McLoud FBC	.00	4,806.98
Ron Cherry	McLoud Son Rises	.00	1,162.79
Joe Jones	Meeker FBC	194.44	2,696.69
Jerry Jackson	Morning Star	.00	2,651.47
R.J. Stokes	Mt. Pleasant	87.72	672.32
Mark Patterson	Newalla New Life	693.12	7,457.54
Ed Moore	Newalla Pecan Valley	.00	893.22
Mike Collyer	Pink	264.18	2,747.97
Jim Morningstar	Pioneer	.00	320.82
Nathan Howard	Pleasant Home	134.90	1,442.44
Tim Emmons	Prague FBC	.00	4,800.72
Richard Zimmer	Rock Creek	855.94	9,434.35
Gaspar Reyes	Rock Creek Spanish	21.35	236.91
Tony Black	Romulus	151.54	2,091.73
Monte Dean	Sh-Aydelotte	.00	3,363.24
David Henry	Sh-Calvary	.00	187.50
Ray Miller	Sh-First	278.05	3,976.84
<b>Spencer Davis, Int.</b>	<b>Sh-First Indian</b>	.00	1,295.24
Anthony Rhone	Sh-Galliee	50.00	350.00
Bob Dawson	Sh-Good Shepherd Chapel	80.57	619.55
Jay Sampson	Sh-Heritage	604.78	3,948.55
Todd Fisher	Sh-Immanuel	1,982.01	21,439.39
Rendon Falls	Sh-Karis	.00 .00	
Tom Hall	Sh-New Life	25.00	275.50
John York	Sh-Oakland Chapel	29.50	186.95
Ben Little	Sh-Sallateeska	.00	807.00
Mike Craig	Sh-Temple	853.63	11,452.29
Larry Norris	Sh-Trinity	167.44	2,011.90
Steve Dominy	Sh-University	333.37	4,339.13
Butch Bradley	Sh-Wallace Ave.	173.20	2,381.61
	<b>Sparks FBC</b>	80.51	934.60
Glenn Peck	St. Louis FBC	370.68	3,531.13
<b>Russell Cook, Int.</b>	<b>Stroud FBC</b>	474.06	5,304.41
Don Tiger	Stroud Sac & Fox	34.57	225.95
Tony Peak	Tecumseh FBC	721.61	10,030.84
Will Wilson	Tecumseh New Hope	50.00	500.00
Clint Dawkins	Tecumseh Sharon	.00	9,286.37
Bob Fowler	Tryon FBC	130.33	2,009.90
Britt Lesley	Wanette FBC	.00	1,981.18
Bill Howse	Wanette, Victory Pointe	.00	30.00
Russ Houser	Wellston Cornerstone	.00	367.30
Darrell Sullivan	Wellston FBC	.00	2,906.08
Lane Buckley	Wellston Trinity	110.00	1,210.00
TOTAL		\$14,436.53	\$211,398.59

## TOTAL CHECKING AND SAVINGS TO BE ACCOUNTED FOR

	Beginning Bal. 11-1-13	Income	Expense	Ending Bal. 11-31-13
Budget	\$45,146.76	14,436.53	16,958.09	\$42,625.20
Designated	\$171,456.70			\$170,714.76
<b>Total Monies</b>	<b>\$216,603.46</b>			<b>\$213,339.96</b>

Association Website — [www.plba.org](http://www.plba.org)



# JANUARY

## Birthdays

- 4 Rev. Roger Shaw  
13900 River Ridge Rd  
Perkins, OK 74059  
Pastor, First, Agra
- 6 Mrs. Trena (Mark) Davis  
PO Box 596  
Carney, OK 74832  
Pastor's Wife, First, Carney
- 6 Rev. Tony Peak  
21425 Trailridge  
Tecumseh, OK 74873  
Pastor, First Tecumseh
- 6 Rev. Gaspar Reyes  
1409 Morren Drive  
Norman, OK 73071  
Pastor, Rock Creek Hispanic
- 8 Mrs. Cowena (Jimmy) Anderson  
403 N. Washington  
Shawnee, OK 74801  
Retired Pastor's Wife
- 9 Mrs. Amie (Rendon) Falls  
6 E MacArthur  
Shawnee, OK 74804  
Pastor's Wife, Karis Ministries
- 10 Mrs. Bernice Lowder  
12 Willow Creek Rd  
Shawnee, OK 74801  
Former Pastor's Wife
- 11 Mrs. Jany (Todd) Fisher  
1403 Manchester  
Shawnee, OK 74804  
Pastor's Wife, Immanuel
- 13 Mrs. Carol (Ellis) Rolette  
405 N. Pesotum  
Shawnee, OK 74801  
Retired Pastor's Wife
- 13 Rev. John York  
311 Debbie Lane  
Tecumseh, OK 74873  
Pastor, Oakland Chapel
- 15 Mrs. Lynn (Kent) Kellogg  
2524 Sutton Court  
Shawnee, OK 74804  
Retired Pastor's & DOM's wife
- 15 Rev. Jerry Gray  
17770 Cedar Brake  
Choctaw, 73020  
Pastor, Emmaus

- 18 Mrs. Sherry (Al) Farrow  
1 Dennis Blvd.  
Shawnee, OK 74804  
Retired Pastor's Wife
- 22 Rev. Nathan Howard  
222 N. Pottenger Ave.  
Shawnee, OK 74804  
Pastor, Pleasant Home
- 25 Mrs. Shannon (Wayne) Knight  
48504 Hwy 3 E  
Earlsboro, OK 74840  
Pastor's Wife, Fairview
- 25 Rev. Wayne Knight  
48504 Hwy 3 E  
Earlsboro, OK 74840  
Pastor, Fairview
- 31 Mrs. April (Clint) Dawkins  
2326 Faith Blvd.  
Shawnee, OK 74804  
Pastor's Wife, Sharon
- 31 Rev. Toney Ropp  
33892 E 1040 Rd  
McLoud, OK 74851  
Pastor, Hillside

## Anniversaries

- 8 Rev. & Mrs. Gaspar Reyes  
1409 Morren Drive  
Norman, OK 73071  
Pastor, Rock Creek Hispanic
- 13 Rev. & Mrs. Jeff Bruton  
970726 S. 3430 Rd  
Chandler, OK 74834  
Pastor, Forest
- 20 Rev. & Mrs. Ben Little  
128 N High Ave.  
Shawnee, OK 74804  
Pastor, Sallateeska
- 23 Rev. & Mrs. Jim Reynolds  
2 Lancet Circle  
Shawnee, OK 74804  
Retired Pastor
- 24 Rev. & Mrs. Glenn Peck  
18 Comanche Circle  
Shawnee, OK 74801  
Pastor, First, St. Louis
- 28 Rev. & Mrs. Tony Black  
40255 State Hwy 59B  
Macomb, OK 74852  
Pastor, Romulus



**Girls Only Weekend**  
Youth Age

Hazel Dell Baptist  
Church  
February 7-8

**i am fearfully &  
wonderfully made;**  
Psalm 139:14

Admission is \$10-Lunch is provided Saturday

For more information contact:  
Hazel Dell Baptist Church (405) 964-2042  
or email Jennifer at squids4God@yahoo.com

# January 2014

- 1 Happy New Year
- 6 Association Office reopens
- 9 Singing Churchwomen West Concert,  
FBC Lexington
- 12 Oklahoma Baptist Symphony Concert,  
Wilmont Place, OKC
- 16 Singing Churchwomen East Concert, Pryor High  
School, Pryor, OK
- 17-18 Embrace Retreat, Norman, OK
- 18 Area Keyboard Festival #1- Immanuel, Shawnee;  
FBC, Ada; Chisholm Heights, Mustang
- 19 Sanctity Of Life Sunday
- 20 Martin Luther King Day-*Assn. Office CLOSED*
- 23 Singing Churchmen Concert, FBC, Inola, OK
- 26 Return to Me, Prayer Solemn Assembly,  
FBC, Moore, 6:00 p.m., for all Oklahoma Baptist, no  
reservations needed, just come.
- 27-28 State Evangelism Conference, Moore, OK



*"...enabling each church to fulfill its unique mission for  
Christ and providing channels for cooperative ministry."*

**The ENCOURAGER** (USPS 043260) is published monthly at the POTAWATOMIE-LINCOLN BAPTIST ASSOCIATION Office. *Postmaster:* Send address changes to **The ENCOURAGER, 3800 N. Market, Shawnee, OK 74804. Phone: 405.273.4558 / Fax: 405.273.8478. Email: plba@sbcglobal.net Editors: Dr. Russell Cook, Director of Missions; Janice Maynard and Tanya Bruton.**

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Worship Director..... Jason Henson, 405.273.2105  
Missions Director..... Kirk Holloway, 405.258.0175  
Support Director..... Dr. Russell Cook, 405.273.4558  
Youth Minister..... Josh Norton, 580.668.0214  
Licensed Counselor..... Bret Ellard, 405.275.2222  
Licensed Counselor..... Larry Roberts, 405.275.2222  
Licensed Counselor..... Heather Annis, 405.275.2222  
Licensed Counselor..... LeAnna Davenport, 405.275.2222

PERIODICAL POSTAGE  
**PAID**  
SHAWNEE, OK 74804