



The ENCOURAGER

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

Vol. 18, No. 5

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

May, 2014



EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING

May 12
10:30 a.m.

Thomas Jordan
BGCO Church &
Employee Benefits
Services Specialist
Guest Speaker

Lunch following,
RSVP to the
PLBA Office
By May 8

Support Service:
9:00 a.m.
Fellowship Time:
10:00 a.m.
Mission Partnership:
1:00 p.m.

Office
CLOSED
Monday,
May 26
For
Memorial
Day

Association
Website
www.plba.org



Association Missions Emphasis Week May 18-24

Pottawatomie-Lincoln
Baptist Association
is glad to be your Mission Partner!

Secretary/Clerk's Luncheon

Put on your bobby socks and poodle skirts (or come as you are)
and plan to attend our

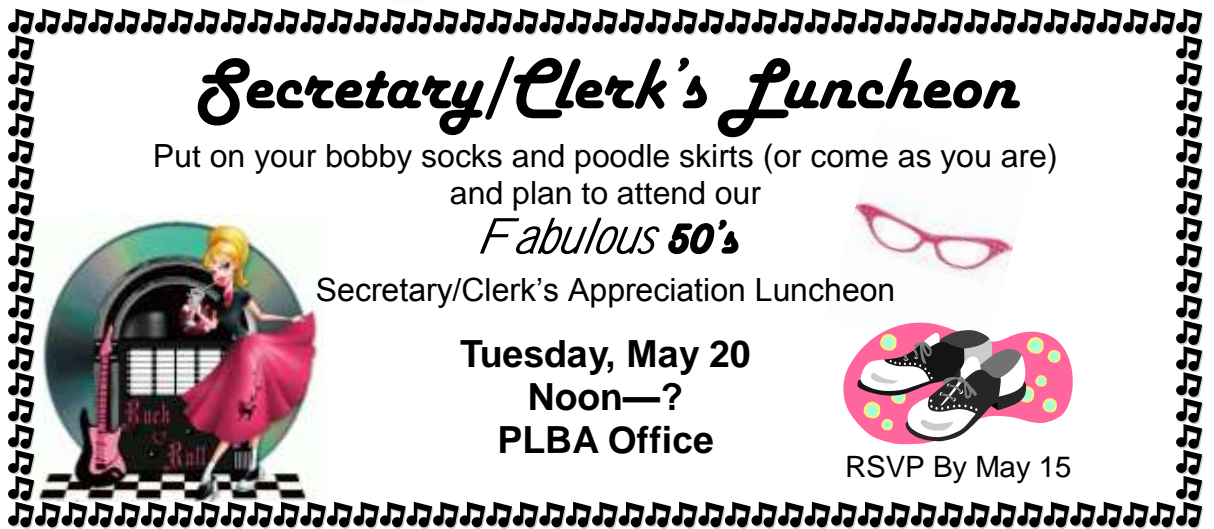
Fabulous 50's

Secretary/Clerk's Appreciation Luncheon

Tuesday, May 20
Noon—?
PLBA Office



RSVP By May 15



PLBA's Association Children's Camp

May 25-28, 2014
(Completed grades 3rd-6th)

PLBA's Cost: \$75

One church check of \$35 per camper made out to PLBA for food. Submit this with camper's registration papers to PLBA by **May 19**.

One church check of \$40 per camper made out to ACC for the gate fee. Submit this check at Falls Creek with camper's health release form when you register.

The gate fee of \$40 applies to all campers, sponsors and cooks.

Forms are online at www.plba.org

ASSOCIATION CHILDREN'S CAMP 2014

Church News

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

FIRST BAPTIST, MCLLOUD held an ordination service for John Utley as a deacon and Ray Nida as a chaplain on April 27. Woman of the Word hosted a Luau with guest speakers, Edna Ross, Leanna Holback, Debbie Beeson and Mary Carlon on April 24. (Matt Halsted, Pastor)

FIRST BAPTIST, TECUMSEH, has called Robbie Bernhardt as Youth and Education Minister. (Tony Peak, Pastor)

FAITH BAPTIST, HARRAH is celebrating their 12th Anniversary and having a Dedication Service for their new Educational wing on April 27th.

They are also sending 13 people on mission to the mountains of Panama to the city of Chi'ca on June 28th. (Dan Campbell, Pastor)

FOREST will host their second blood drive on May 31 from 8:30-11:00am. (Jeff Bruton, Pastor)

MORNING STAR, MEEKER ordained George Clinton Mayes to the Gospel Ministry on March 30. (Jerry Jackson, Pastor)

NEW HOPE, TECUMSEH **would like to give away 15, 15' pews. They are** upholstered in burgundy fabric. Please call the church at 405-609-0458 and ask for Jeff Brock if you are interested. (Will Wilson, Pastor)

Staff Needed

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

BLACKBURN CHAPEL is seeking a full-time pastor. Send resumes to Blackburn Chapel 36305 Lake Road, Shawnee, OK 74801 or email to blackburnchapel@aol.com.

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

EMMANUEL, MCLLOUD is seeking a godly and committed Bi-vocational Youth Minister. Please send resumes to Emmanuel Baptist Church, Search Committee, PO Box 1119, McLoud, OK 74851. (James Bond, Pastor)

FIRST, MCLLOUD is seeking a part-time Choir Director. Send resumes to the church, PO Box 180, McLoud, 74851. Applications can be picked up at the church or call 964-3344. (Matt Halsted, Pastor)

FIRST, MAUD is seeking a part-time Music Minister. If you are interested call Bobby Shatto at 405-632-8348 or email at shattobg@oge.com. (Bobby Shatto, Pastor)

FIRST, STROUD is receiving resumes beginning May 5 for a full-time pastor. Send resumes: Pastor Search Committee, PO Box 600, Stroud, OK 74079. (Russell Cook, Transitional Pastor)

WALLACE AVE. is seeking a full-time pastor. Send resumes: Pastor Search Committee, 601 W. Wallace Ave., Shawnee, OK 74801.

A Word of Encouragement

The book *Heaven Is For Real* by Todd Burpo is "a little boy's astounding story of his trip to heaven and back." Todd is the author and father of Colton, the four year old. The book, published in 2010, has now become a movie in 2014, and is exciting many in and outside the church. We are an intrigued lot when it comes to after life experiences.

I have not read this book nor seen the movie. But I have read THE BOOK (Bible) and several reviews by conservative theologians of *Heaven Is For Real*. Most recently, I have read *The Glory of Heaven, The Truth About Heaven, Angels and Eternal Life* by John MacArthur. MacArthur gives a very clear, biblical perspective on the subject—a perspective that I am much more inclined to believe than that which is portrayed by Colton Burpo's experience.

In all the interest in what heaven will be like, the general public is left with the notion that everyone who is a half-way decent person will go there—even (or especially) a four year old. Little or nothing is said (Continued in next column)

about what it takes to get there, besides physical death. Without judging little Colton's dream, we can quickly turn to scripture and clearly determine two things:

- (1) Heaven is real, not because someone (anyone) has been there and back but because the Bible says heaven is real. (cf. Matthew 6:1; Luke 6:23; John 3:13).
- (2) There is only one way for any person to get there. Jesus! (cf. John 14:1-6)

So, no matter what heaven looks like or is like, it is where God dwells and the place from which Jesus came and to which He has descended. With our personal faith in Him alone, we can join Him there when we die—really die—permanently die. Without trusting Christ alone, we have no assurance at all that we will go to heaven. Rather than focusing our attention on whether or not heaven is real, **let's just take God at His word and prepare to join Him there.**

Encouragingly Yours, Russell R. Cook

It Might Preach!

"Under His Wings"

Ruth 2:12

Ruth provides an excellent biblical example of a woman whose life was uniquely committed to the Lord. Her commitment included (1) a loyalty to her mother-in-law, (2) a willingness to work hard for her welfare as well as the welfare of her family and (3) a flawless character. This commitment resulted in **Ruth experiencing a fruitful and very productive life. She put her life in God's hands. Boaz's words summarize Ruth's story, "May the Lord reward your work, and your wages be full from the Lord, the God of Israel, under whose wings you have come to seek refuge" (Ruth 2:12).**

This is the safest place in all the world—"under His wings."

- I. Under His wings is a place of FAMILY LOYALTY (1:14-17).
 - A. It is an INTENSE loyalty (1:14)
 - B. It is a DIVINE loyalty (1:16b)
 - C. It is a LIFE-LONG loyalty (1:17)
- II. Under His wings is a place of FAITHFUL LABOR (2:2-7, 17-23).
 - A. A labor that is VOLUNTARY (2:2)
 - B. A labor that is HARD (2:3)
 - C. A labor that is DILIGENT (2:7b, 17a, 23)
 - D. A labor that is UNSELFISH (2:18)
- III. Under His wings is a place of FLAWLESS CHARACTER.
 - A. Ruth had an EXCELLENT REPUTATION (3:10-11)
 - B. Ruth had an EXPECTANT ATTITUDE (2:2-3; 3:9)
 - C. Ruth had an EXTRAORDINARY HUMILITY (2:10)
- IV. Under His wings is a place of FRUITFUL LIVING.
 - A. This is a life with the PROTECTIVE CARE of the Lord (2:9; 4:9-10)
 - B. This is a life with a PRODUCTIVE OUTCOME for the Lord (4:13-17)

When we come to the true and living God with a heart of unreserved allegiance and obedience to Him, we place ourselves "under His wings." He is our refuge and Lord. He will provide for us a fruitful and productive life. For Ruth, this meant that she would be in a generational line of Jesus, the Messiah:

Matthew 1:5-6 "...to Salmon was born Boaz by Rahab and to Boaz was born Obed by Ruth; and to Obed, Jesse; and to Jesse was born David the king."

God may want to use you to bless future generations—don't miss the opportunity!

PLBA WOMEN

BGCO Women 2014 Upcoming Events

www.bgcowomen.org

- ☼ **The Exchange (Formerly Sweet Saturday)**
Regional: August 21, 26, September 4, 9, 11
- ☼ **Ministry Wives Weekend**
Henderson Hills, Edmond: October 3 & 4
- ☼ **Mission Celebration**
Quail Springs, OKC: November 10

Blanket others with God's love.



For more information and to get the pattern go to www.plba.org

A Nugget From My Spiritual Journey

For the last three months I have been “down” more than “up”—physically, that is! Due to a painful knee injury/condition I have spent a lot of time in my recliner, on a cane or walker, in a brace or wrap, at doctor and physical therapy appointments, and dealing with my health insurance company! Since I planned to write all of my columns this year about LOVE, let me just share what God has been showing me about LOVE through all of this so far.

One...my husband continues to sacrificially LOVE me through yet another physical challenge. He has had lots of experience at this by now in our marriage! He has been my driver and my shopping assistant (which is NOT his normal choice) and has helped more at home than usual, despite a very full ministry schedule. His actions have spoken LOVE loudly and clearly!

Two...I don't even know how many people have LOVED me through their prayers. Many let me know on Facebook; others by phone calls, prayer chains and cards in the mail. One surprising phone message let me know my young grandchildren and their little friends at a church in Tulsa have prayed weekly on Wednesday nights for “Nana's knee!”

Three...friends and family have LOVED me through taking me to ER; understanding when I had to bow out of responsibilities or family plans; sitting hours on end with me when I could hardly move from the pain; giving me rides to church; buying or bringing meals. I even formed new friendships through the experiences of this time, which was unexpected, but not surprising when God is at work!

Four...God has reassured me of His unending, personal, caring LOVE in the midst of the questions and discomfort and pain. “Lord, I just was returning to ‘normal’ after the challenges of recent years. Why now? Lord, I don't understand how people who don't even know me can sit in their insurance office cubicles and make decisions that affect my life so much and that seem to make no sense medically. Why? Lord, I am writing a book on finding Your joy in all things. Again?” Knowing He LOVES me infinitely has made it possible to trust Him more than ever as I have walked (no...hobbled) through this one. LOVE from Him and TRUST from me have become more closely entwined than ever.

In Hebrews 11, the great FAITH chapter of the Bible, we see that by FAITH (trust) people we call giants of the faith attained that reputation because by their faith they took action. By faith, each one did this and that. This and that's which were often strange and usually difficult in their everyday lives, but which had eternal significance. How? Because they trusted the God whom they knew LOVED them...and was worthy of their trust! How should we trust God? By placing our very lives, *no matter the circumstances*, in the hands of the God who LOVES us! Then, even when we are “down,” we can also be “up”—spiritually, that is!

Marsha Cook, Director

Budget Receipts

Churches listed in red are Pastorless

PASTORS	CHURCH	March '14	YTD
Roger Shaw	Agra FBC	499.73	1,233.89
Mat Riddle	Asher FBC	428.76	849.87
Larry Sparks, Int.	Blackburn Chapel	304.40	638.25
Mark Davis	Carney FBC	286.50	1,086.38
Rick Blackwell	Chandler, FBC	1,030.30	2,984.04
Keith Henley	Chandler Southern	217.29	91.78
Doug Parker	Dale	29.56	79.48
Mike Mitchell	Davenport FBC	430.48	1,497.44
Mike Haines	Deer Creek	188.92	692.72
Mark Streetman	Earlsboro FBC	.00	300.00
	Earlsboro Indian Mission	158.36	158.36
Wayne Knight	Fairview	121.67	412.37
Dan Campbell	Faith	286.39	1,061.29
Jeff Bruton	Forest	.00	.00
Lee Witt	Hazel Dell	453.20	1,408.47
Tuney Ropp	Hillside	1,104.69	4,042.39
Gary Nickerson	Hilltop	599.58	1,895.54
Bryan Cook	Hopewell	57.50	197.61
Billy Benson	Macomb	111.65	442.70
Mike Hazelwood	Mammoth	.00	734.00
Bobby Shatto	Maud FBC	.00	87.19
Butch Bradley	Maud Trinity	112.06	731.68
James Bond	McLoud Emmanuel	881.81	1,869.32
Jerry Gray	McLoud Emmaus	87.24	248.49
Matt Halsted	McLoud FBC	450.76	1,454.82
Ron Cherry	McLoud Son Rises	.00	.00
Joe Jones	Meecker FBC	208.16	893.05
Jerry Jackson	Morning Star	.00	.00
R.J. Stokes	Mt. Pleasant	201.84	201.84
Mark Patterson	Newalla New Life	1,267.50	2,995.17
Ed Moore	Newalla Pecan Valley	.00	317.16
Mike Collyer	Pink	301.00	1,052.80
Jim Morningstar	Pioneer	.00	.00
Nathan Howard	Pleasant Home	114.03	500.59
Tim Emmons	Prague FBC	407.50	1,701.78
Richard Zimmer	Rock Creek	906.24	2,595.60
Gaspar Reyes	Rock Creek Spanish	14.12	72.16
Tony Black	Romulus	162.64	586.21
Monte Dean	Sh-Aydelotte	407.22	1,508.26
David Henry	Sh-Calvary	.00	60.00
Ray Miller	Sh-First	255.08	1,299.99
Spencer Davis, Int.	Sh-First Indian	.00	.00
Anthony Rhone	Sh-Galliee	50.00	150.00
Bob Dawson	Sh-Good Shepherd Chapel	78.98	270.21
Jay Sampson	Sh-Heritage	537.03	1,653.34
Todd Fisher	Sh-Immanuel	1,536.86	6,869.26
Rendon Falls	Sh-Karis	.00	.00
Tom Hall	Sh-New Life	25.00	75.00
John York	Sh-Oakland Chapel	24.00	24.00
	Sh-Sallateeska	.00	.00
Mike Craig	Sh-Temple	1,322.97	4,217.27
Larry Norris	Sh-Trinity	164.58	539.36
Steve Dominy	Sh-University	373.37	1,302.63
	Sh-Wallace Ave.	.00	351.18
	Sparks FBC	83.46	231.33
Glenn Peck	St. Louis FBC	249.90	1,170.82
Russell Cook, Int.	Stroud FBC	539.30	1,779.41
Don Tiger	Stroud Sac & Fox	9.30	42.89
Tony Peak	Tecumseh FBC	740.99	2,765.65
Will Wilson	Tecumseh New Hope	50.00	150.00
Clint Dawkins	Tecumseh Sharon	616.95	2,278.74
Bob Fowler	Tryon FBC	161.97	462.25
Britt Lesley	Wanette FBC	.00	757.08
Bill Howse	Wanette, Victory Pointe	.00	.00
Russ Houser	Wellston Cornerstone	.00	.00
Darrell Sullivan	Wellston FBC	328.59	1,594.03
Lane Buckley	Wellston Trinity	110.00	330.00
TOTAL		\$19,089.43	\$65,497.14

TOTAL CHECKING AND SAVINGS TO BE ACCOUNTED FOR

	Beginning Bal. 3-1-14	Income	Expense	Ending Bal. 3-31-14
Budget	\$53,445.55	19,089.43	16,842.85	\$55,692.13
Designated	\$190,162.96			\$187,447.53
Total Monies	\$243,608.51			\$243,139.66

Association Website — www.plba.org

May 2014

- 1 National Day Of Prayer
- 3 State Bible Drill-Southern Hills, OKC
- 11 **Mother's Day**
- 12 **Executive Board Meeting-PLBA Office**
- 14-17 Campers on Mission-Shawnee Expo Center
- 15 Singing Churchmen Concert-Graceway OKC
- 16 OBU Graduation
- 18 Oklahoma Baptist Symphony Concert-FBC Yukon
- 26 **Memorial Day-Assn Office Closed**
- 25-28 **PLBA Association Children's Camp**



Thank you Thank you Thank you!

I was truly blessed by all the cards, emails, plaque and gifts from the wonderful people of Pottawatomie-Lincoln Baptist Association for my 20th work anniversary. It has been a pleasure to serve the Lord here in the best association in Oklahoma! You all made me feel very loved and appreciated and I thank you for that!



For Him, Janice Maynard

May Birthdays

- 1 Rev. Keith Henley
136 Meadow Lane
Chandler, OK 74834
Pastor, Chandler Southern
- 2 Rev. Dale Rogers
920068 S. 3450 Road
Chandler, OK 74834
Retired Pastor
- 8 Rev. Anthony Rhone
816 NW 138th St.
Edmond, OK 73013
Pastor, Galilee
- 8 Rev. Mark Streetman
830 Denison Dr.
Norman, OK 73069
Pastor, First, Earlsboro
- 9 Mrs. Judy (Jim) Morningstar
609 S. Dewey Ave.
Chandler, OK 74834
Pastor's Wife, Pioneer
- 13 Mrs. LaShai (Anthony) Rhone
816 NW 138th St.
Edmond, OK 73013
Pastor's Wife, Galilee
- 14 Mrs. Danielle Collyer
PO Box 213
Harrah, OK 73045
Pastor's Wife, Pink
- 15 Dr. Paul Calmes
2000 N. Broadway
Shawnee, OK 74804
Retired Pastor
- 17 Rev. Mike Collyer
PO Box 213
Harrah, OK 73045
Pastor, Pink
- 22 Mrs. Gayle (Dan) Campbell
20385 Elm St.
Harrah, OK 73045
Pastor's Wife, Faith, Harrah
- 27 Mrs. Renee (Lane) Buckley
PO Box 122
Wellston, OK 74881
Pastor's Wife, Trinity, Wellston
- 28 Rev. Mike Hazelwood
PO Box 891
Meeker, OK 74855
Pastor, Mammoth
- 31 Rev. Bobby Burnett
2612 Ella Lane
Shawnee, OK 74804
Retired Pastor

Anniversaries

- 6 Rev. & Mrs. Lee Witt
39208 Moccasin Trail
Shawnee, OK 74804
Pastor, Hazel Dell
- 9 Rev. & Mrs. Al Farrow
1 Dennis Blvd.
Shawnee, OK 74804
Retired Pastor
- 22 Rev. & Mrs. Doug Parker
37505 Old Hwy 270
Shawnee, OK 74804
Pastor, Dale
- 27 Rev. & Mrs. Bill Howse, III
38714 Okay Rd
Wanette, OK 74878
Pastor, Victory Pointe
- 29 Rev. & Mrs. Dale Rogers
920068 S. 3450 Road
Chandler, OK 74834
Retired Pastor



New Men's Bible Studies

Several new men's Bible studies have been donated to the PLBA Media Center



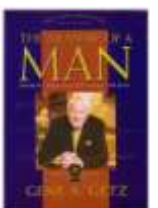
The Man Code
by Dennis Swanberg

Fight by Kenny Luck



Taking Down Goliath
by Johnny Hunt

The Measure of a Man
Part 1 & 2
by Gene Getz



Don't Forget!

Pastors and Wives

"Cookout at the Cooks"

Russell & Marsha Cook invite all PLBA Pastors and wives to a cookout at their home
1313 Castle Creek Street, Shawnee
Friday, May 2, 6:30 p.m.

