



# WACO REGIONAL BAPTIST ASSOCIATION

## Family News



### — FROM FBC WEST —

On Wednesday, April 2, we are gathering for an Executive Board Meeting at 11:15am at the Truett Chapel to discuss some momentous accomplishments as an Association. The Missions Development Team and the Administrative Team are recommending that we give the church property formerly known as **Bellmead First Baptist Church** to the new church start, **La Vega Community Church**. It has



taken four years, many hundreds of volunteers, thousands of mission dollars, prayer, sweat and, in some cases, tears to see this new church through 'till today it is incorporated and constituted as a self-supporting, thriving body of Christ. We thank God for the leaders and workers from Woodway FBC, as well as other sister churches, our missions development team members and the pastors who have contributed to this vision. We give the glory to God for this incarnation of His body in the middle of a vibrant community.

We will also hear a report from Deane Strauss about the progress of the Cornerstone Assistance Network of Central Texas which we launched two years ago. In addition, we will hear an exciting report from our Hunger Ministry Intern, Ashley Reimer, about the work with the food pantries of our churches in the region.

We are doing it! We are living out our mission statement: The Waco Regional Baptist Association is a network of Baptist churches in Central Texas who have chosen to cooperate in order to extend and embody the good news of Jesus Christ.

In His Service,  
Tim

## — THE BODY OF BELIEVERS —

Picture a room full of youth from multiple churches who are excitedly worshipping God together. That's what happened for Chalk Bluff, Elm Mott FBC, Lakeview and Oak Lawn during their joined D-Now on Feb. 7-9.

Elm Mott FBC Youth Minister Pierce Vanderslice said, "I think our Saturday night worship (was my favorite part). To have a room full of teenagers, especially in today's world, worship and really get into it is really magical."

Chalk Bluff, Elm Mott FBC and Oak Lawn already combine efforts for 5th Quarter events at Chalk Bluff. The churches have a similar size and outlook. They also cater to the same school district.

Since a weekend youth retreat requires a little more planning than an evening event, the churches joined together to create something special for the Connally area students.

Vanderslice said, "D-Now is something I really value and wanted the students to experience.... The only way to do that was to team up with another church and pull the resources together."

His fellow Truett friends and youth ministers also needed man-power.

Chalk Bluff Youth Minister Ryan Hodges said, "Personally, I came to Truett very excited about what it was like to work in a church. Working in a small church you realize ... you're really the sole leader of the youth ministry.... I just love working together and working stuff out."

Each church provided their own host homes so students could have a time of reflection in a comfortable setting with people they knew well. Everyone came together for meals, worship and a photo scavenger hunt.

"We wanted all the kids to be together as much as possible," Vanderslice said. "We know that when there are more kids, and the room feels more full, it feels more electric.... There's power in numbers."

Church of the Incarnation Young Adults Minister Ryan Waller, Vanderslice's brother-in-law, came from Dallas to be the main speaker. The Art Wellborn Band, a group from Baylor University, led worship. Baylor students also worked as leaders in each of the small groups.

Vanderslice said, "Our hope was that we would present the Gospel to the kids and provide follow-up conversations."

Leaders were told that the one-on-one conversations would be some of the most important times of the weekend.

Vanderslice said, "Watching (youth) living out or committing their lives to Christ really was wonderful."

Hodges said his youth had apprehensions of combining for D-Now, but they adapted well and had fun.

"I think the kids really enjoyed it. Every D-Now is special."

Vanderslice said, "In our debriefing with our own kids ... they really had a good time. They all go to school together so it's really easy for all of them to merge together."

The weekend went so well that the youth leaders are already discussing doing it again next year. They may even combine the youth groups every few Wednesdays for worship and call it "Union."



## — Upcoming Events —

### **Texas WMU Annual Meeting April 4-5 at Georgetown FBC**

The theme, “Life is full of defining moments,” centers on Joshua 24:15b.  
For more information, visit [www.wmu.texasbaptists.org/annualmtg](http://www.wmu.texasbaptists.org/annualmtg).

### **“Does the Family Matter? The Crisis of Faith in Church and Culture”**

A symposium on the future of the church  
9:00am-12:00pm on April 7  
Truett Seminary Chapel

For more information or to register for the event, contact Julie Covington  
at 254-710-4677 or [julie\\_covington@baylor.edu](mailto:julie_covington@baylor.edu).

### **May Pastors’ Conference**

**12:00pm on May 7 at Truett Seminary**

Meal provided by the Baylor University President’s Office.

**Speaker:** Judge Ken Starr, Baylor University President and Chancellor

**Topic:** Religious Liberty

Please make a reservation by *May 1*.

Contact Katelyn at [admin@wacobaptists.org](mailto:admin@wacobaptists.org) or 753-2408.



## — Jail Ministry Spotlight —

There’s an advertising sign on Highway 6 that says:

“Going to Jail? There’s only one thing to do. Call...”

Actually, most people who get arrested and are on their way to jail don’t know what the one thing is that they are supposed to do. But I do, and perhaps you do too. In fact, that one thing isn’t just restricted to going to jail. It’s something that you need to do whenever your world is falling apart. Even better, it’s something you can do anytime, anywhere and for any reason. What is it? Call on Jesus!

The McLennan County Jail currently houses about 1,000 inmates. The jail offers Jail Ministry Volunteers the opportunity to come and share the good news of Jesus Christ every Sunday from 2:30–3:30pm. There are 13 cells for women and 12 cells for men. This year we’ve added 4 new volunteers which makes a total of 21 active volunteers. However, not all of our volunteers are able to come every Sunday which means that there are still openings for more volunteers.

The gospel message is as fresh today as it was 2,000 years ago. And it’s still free. The door is still open, and it’s still today. So here’s my question: Are you thinking about Jail? Then there’s only one thing to do. Share the gospel with others and tell them how they can call on Jesus!

If you would like more information regarding volunteering at the McLennan County Jail, contact Audrey Wauson at [rjm@wacobatists.org](mailto:rjm@wacobatists.org) or you can go to the Waco Regional Baptist Association – Community Ministries – Restorative Justice page at [www.wacobaptists.org](http://www.wacobaptists.org).



-Audrey Wauson, Jail Ministry Coordinator

## Other April Events

**Tuesday, April 1, 4:00pm — Retirement Reception Honoring Edna Wood.** HBMC, Garden Room.

**Wednesday, April 2, 11:00am — Executive Board Meeting.** Truett.

**Wednesday, April 2, 12:00pm — Pastors' Conference.** Truett.

**April 4-5 — Texas WMU Annual Meeting.** Georgetown.

**Thursday, April 10, 8:30am — 50+ Senior Day.** Latham Springs.

**April 11-12 — State Bible Drill.** Dallas.

**Tuesday, April 15, 4:00pm — Admin Team Meeting.** HBMC, Garden Room.

**Thursday, April 17, 12:00pm — Retired Ministers and Missionaries Luncheon.** FBC Waco.

**Thursday, April 17, 2:00pm — Leadership Development Meeting.** WRBA.

**April 17-19 — Congreso.** Baylor. [www.youth.texasbaptists.org/congreso](http://www.youth.texasbaptists.org/congreso).

**Friday, April 18 — WRBA Office Closed.** Good Friday.

**Sunday, April 20 — Easter Sunday.**

**Wednesday, April 23 — Administrative Professional's Day.**

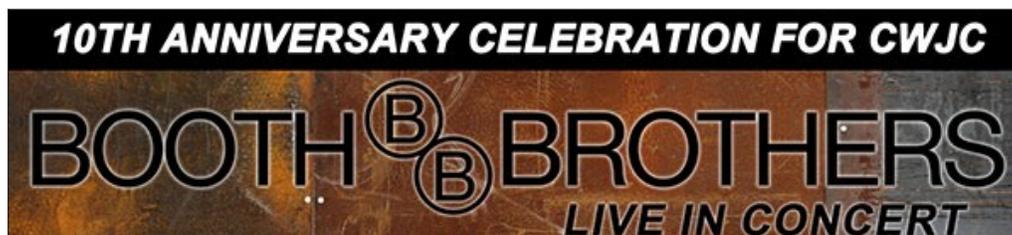
**Thursday, April 24, 12:00pm — Networking & Missions Team.** FBC Waco.

**April 25-26 — State Bible Drill.** Arlington and Austin.

**Thursday, May 1 — CWJC 10th Anniversary Concert/Fundraiser.** FBC Woodway.

**May 5-10 — BGCT Bike Out Hunger.** [www.outhunger.org](http://www.outhunger.org).

**Wednesday, May 7, 12:00pm — Pastors' Conference.** Truett.



**CWJC 10th Anniversary Concert/Fundraiser**

**6:00pm on May 1, 2014**

**Woodway FBC**

Tickets: \$15—General Admission, \$25—VIP, \$10—Groups of 10 or more

Tickets are on sale at [www.cwjcwaco.org](http://www.cwjcwaco.org) or at 254-757-0416.

All proceeds benefit CWJC.

## — Community News —

**Continue to pray for WRBA churches seeking a Pastor:**

Bosqueville, Concord, Lakeview, Lorena FBC, Mart FBC, Old Time, Pleasant Olive MBC, Woodway FBC

