

White River News

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White River Baptist Association

Volume 2, Issue 3

April 2007

Message from your Missionary

Associational Missions in "Jerusalem and Judea"

"But you shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be witnesses to Me in Jerusalem, and in all Judea..." Acts 1:8, NKJV

If Jerusalem and Judea are illustrations of our home or local area, the question may be asked, "What does White River Baptist Association do here in our local area?" That question raises another issue - what do associations do?

A minister well acquainted and experienced with diverse associations in Arkansas and surrounding states told me some ten years ago that associations could be categorized into 2 basic groups by their priorities. The majority of associations have church development or strengthening existing churches as their major priority and its primary ministries then would be conducting events to inspire, stimulate, and encourage church growth through training. The second group of associations placed missions development as their top priority and their primary ministries were assistance in starting or sustaining missions and ministries in their area in partnership with local churches. Training was not a lower priority in that second group, but the training offered was in connection with equipping churches or groups in their mission's tasks, while still addressing needs of existing churches.

Where is White River in the above scenario? I think somewhere near the middle of the two types above. We are offering training (to strengthen existing work) and we are seeking churches to partner in starting or sustaining ministries.

Some of White River's current "Jerusalem and Judea" missions-ministry efforts:

1. **Disaster Relief** Team and ministry (responds further than just Jerusalem and Judea)
2. **Construction** Team and ministry (same as above)
3. **Hispanic ministry** assessment in April; Hispanic ministry team scheduled here for summer 2007
4. WRBA W MU has annual **Baptist Women's Day of Prayer** which has attendances of around 100 and offerings of around \$1000 each year.
5. Budget support of **New Work** fund. Current accumulated amount is \$36,000 +.
6. Budget support for **Chaplains** ministry at North Central Correctional Institution at Calico Rock.
7. Budget support for **Pregnancy Resource Center** in Mountain Home.
8. Budget support for **Baptist Collegiate Ministry** at ASU Mountain Home.
9. Budget support for **North Central Christian School** in Mountain Home.

Some White River's current "Jerusalem and Judea" church development and family ministry efforts:

1. **Church Leadership Institutes** in 2005, 2006, and 2007 with attendances of 90, 50, 77. These training events dealt with strengthening Sunday Schools, evangelism, youth, families, worship, dealing with conflict, and other helpful seminars.
2. **Associational Smaller Membership Church Growth Plan:** 7 WRBA churches have committed to a year long process of understanding and implementing a kingdom focused Sunday School. 4 of that 7 have completed the process and 3 are 3 months from finishing the plan.
3. Josh Hunt's "**How to Double your Sunday School in 2 years or less**" conference in 2006 with 145+ in attendance.
4. An **Area Senior Adult Leadership Conference** is scheduled for September 9, 2007. This conference will have been over a year in its making when it occurs. Churches and associations from our region of Arkansas have been working to deal with this important subject. This conference will deal with understanding, reaching, and ministering to Senior Adults, while offering some important models of getting it done. Be on the lookout for promotional material coming your way soon.
5. **Real Encounter** efforts in 2005 resulted in large attendances and many professions of faith among the youth of our community. The team also did character assembly in each of the 6 school districts in WRBA.

Some of the above ministries will be mentioned again as we consider Samaria and the ends of the earth, but they are based locally and are providing opportunities for mission and ministry volunteers, and to grow through training in ministries of the local church.

Because He lives,
Maurice L Hitt



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Quick Notes:

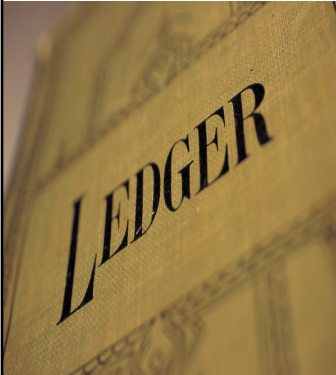
SBC Registration Cards are available at WRBA Office

For Those Praying for Udmurtia, go to Info Center page of www.whiteriverba.com

Be on the look out for Associational Missions Week material.

White River Baptist Association Treasurer's Report March 2007

Antioch	300.00	Jordan		February 2007	
Arkana	181.65	Lone Rock	606.18	Balance	\$115,978.99
Big Flat	30.20	Midway	300.00	Church Total	12,185.30
Bruno	235.41	Mtn. Home Baptist	204.00	Huskey	500.00
Bull Shoals	420.07	New Hope	312.80	Bank interest	<u>335.21</u>
Clarkridge	45.59	Norfork	161.00	Total income	\$ 13,020.51
Cotter	61.13	Pilgrims Rest	100.00	Total to be	
East Oakland		Pyatt	236.74	Accounted for	\$128,998.72
East Side	3,013.04	Rea Valley	205.44	Disbursements	<u>9,136.21</u>
Mtn. Home 1st	3,050.00	Tomahawk	209.56	Balance	\$119,862.51
Flippin	1,082.56	Whiteville	75.00		
Gamaliel	62.66	Yellville	<u>405.12</u>	Bank Balance: March 31, 2007	
Gassville	664.46	Church Total	\$12,185.30	Operating Funds	\$ 84,156.13
Henderson	112.16			Church Planting	<u>35,706.38</u>
Hilltop	25.00			Total	\$119,862.51
Hopewell	85.53				



White River Baptist Association Upcoming Events

April:

6 East Oakland Good Friday Service "The Seven Words Of Christ" 11:00 – 1:30
9-18 Mission Trip to Udmurtia
13-14 State WMU meet at FBCMH (call Alice 425-3582)
15-19 East Side Baptist Church Revival
20 Senior Adult Rally @ Yellville FBC

22-25 Arkana Baptist Church Revival
22 Antioch Baptist Church Dedication @ 11:00 AM
23 Western Kansas Info meeting @ ESBC in the Hensley Building from 7:00– 8:00 PM
26 Missions Ministry Team meeting in the WRBA office @ 10:00 AM
26 Administrative Team meeting in the WRBA office @ 6:30 PM

27 Fellowship Breakfast @ Baxter Inn at 7:30 AM (Dutch Treat)
29—May 2 Tomahawk Baptist Church Revival
30 SMCGP* meet at Norfolk First Baptist Church 6:30
*Smaller Membership Church Growth Plan

May:

14 Senior Adult Task Force meeting at FBCMH @ 11:30 AM
18 –19 Fishers of Men Tournament Dinner FBCMH 6:30—9:00 PM

Prayer Requests

1. Pray for Vision Trip to Udmurtia, Russia this spring and that God puts the team of pastors and laypersons together for the trip (April 9-18, 2007). The purpose of this trip is evangelism, encouragement, and gaining a vision for reaching this people group.
2. Pray for the team planning the On Mission Celebration for April 2008. Pray for churches to agree to be a part of the OMC. Pray for the missionaries who will be speaking in all the participating churches.
3. Pray for the WRBA Churches who will be holding revivals during April and May.
4. Pray for our pastors who serve the churches of WRBA, that they may care, lead, and proclaim as men of God with servant's hearts.


White River Baptist Association
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Dear Friends,

In about a year our association will have an On Mission Celebration. We have much to celebrate! God is working in our churches and using the cooperation of our churches to touch the world with the gospel. Our On Mission Celebration will be more than just an event. You will be introduced to and hear from Southern Baptist International Mission Board missionaries, North American Mission Board missionaries, Arkansas Baptist State Convention missionaries and on-mission Christians in our own association. Everyone will be encouraged to examine their personal "on mission" commitments in a festive and encouraging atmosphere.

Why the effort?

- An OMC emphasizes the Biblical basis of missions.
- An OMC personalizes missions.
- An OMC strengthens the financial support of missions on the church, associational, state, national and international levels.
- An OMC inspires a deeper level of commitment to pray for missions efforts here and around the world.
- An OMC inspires people to make life-changing decisions about being on mission with God.

Please be in prayer as we prepare for the White River Association On Mission Celebration, scheduled for April 19-23, 2008.

God bless!

Maurice Hitt

Associational Missionary

ANNOUNCEMENT!
Pastors and Staff Fellowship at Baxter Inn:
7:30 AM, April 27
Women's Missionary Union

The WRBA WMU would like to extend an invitation to all the ladies of WRBA to attend the WMU State meeting to held at First Baptist Church, Mountain Home April 13 and 14. For additional information call Alice King, 425-3582, Bonnie Margason, 424-3174, Mary Lou Ross, 435-6649, Lana Colley, 499-5197, Leona Kirby, 481-5681, or Evelyn Denton, 430-5334. These ladies are your WRBA WMU Officers.

**INFORMATIONAL MEETING
ON THE
WESTERN KANSAS BAPTIST ASSOCIATION
APRIL 23, 2007 at Hensley Building of
East Side Baptist Church
Time: 7:00 to 8:00 PM**



**White River Baptist
Association**

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Our Mission: Churches Partnering in the
Work of God's Kingdom

Our Vision: To Equip Our Churches to
Make Disciples in Our Communities and the
World by the Power of the Holy Spirit!

We are on the Web:
Visit us at
www.whiteriverba.com



Ministry Opportunity

The Midway Baptist Church is looking for a dedicated Christian couple to start a Children's Ministry at Midway Baptist Church. If interested call the Midway Baptist Church at 870-481-5683, Bro. Bob Moon 870-431-4404 for details or send your resume to Midway Baptist Church at P.O. Box 239, Midway, AR 72651

WRBA Bible Drills

The children are learning the books of the Bible and certain verses from the Bible. They each have a sheet that they are to learn. The State Drill will be held in April. If the students win and go to State, they will be rewarded with a trip to Silver Dollar City this summer. (Of course, this is with parent's approval)

Your Associational Bible Drill Leaders are:

Brenda Meagher 870-404-8709

Sharlene Brewer 870-405-0802

The following dates have been set-aside for the drills:

**Associational Drill--April 19, 2007--7:00 PM at
Bull Shoals Baptist Church**

District Drill--April 20, 2007--7:00 PM

First Baptist Church, Mountain Home

State Drill--April 28, 2007

Sherwood, AR--9:30 AM First Baptist Church

On Mission Celebration 2008 Commitments

1. **Clarkridge Baptist Church**
2. **East Oakland Baptist Church**
3. **East Side Baptist Church, Mountain Home**
4. **First Baptist Church Mountain Home**
5. **First Baptist Church, Yellville**
6. **First Baptist Church, Jordan**
7. **First Baptist Church, Cotter**
8. **First Baptist Church, Flippin**
9. **First Baptist Church, Bull Shoals**
10. **Gassville Baptist Church**
11. **Pilgrims Rest Baptist Church**
12. **Hopewell Baptist Church**
13. **Midway Baptist Church**
14. **Rea Valley Baptist Church**
15. **Whiteville Baptist Church**

And

16. **Baptist Collegiate Ministry, ASU MH**

Please send your commitment form to WRBA, P.O. Box 358, Flippin, AR 72634. We are hoping for 13 more churches to participate.