

White River News

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White River Baptist Association

Volume 2, Issue 6
August—September 2007

Message from your Missionary

Dear Friends,

Our Association's On Mission Celebration is eight months away. I hope you have marked April 19-23, 2008 on your calendar! The Associational and Church OMC teams are hard at work preparing for this God honoring event.

Every church participating in the OMC will hear and meet missionaries serving throughout the world with the International Mission Board, North American Mission Board and our Arkansas Baptist State Convention. And just as important, we will hear about the mission work of our association and churches.

Baptists in America have been cooperating together on an associational level since 1707! The reason for that first association to exist and ours is the same: to work in partnership to take the gospel to people who live right around us and all over the world. The churches of our White River Baptist Association are committed to be on mission with God.

Thank you for your prayers as we prepare for this important time in the life of White River Baptist Association. The experience of our upcoming On Mission Celebration will inspire us to greater levels of service to the Lord as we come together to celebrate what He is doing and wants to do with us. God bless you!

Because He lives,
Maurice Hitt
Associational Missionary

(See the last page for a list of the churches in White River Baptist Association that have committed to participate in the 2008 On Mission Celebration.)

Hispanic Ministry Developing

Over the last few months, there have been efforts to reach into the local Hispanic community with the gospel. Bro. Rudy Gutierrez from Arkadelphia has been in our area several times to help survey the area with our associational missionary. In addition, Bro. Rudy brought his family in June to conduct a fiesta and offer some VBS opportunities for Hispanic children.

During these visits 7 adults made professions of faith and a desire has been expressed for us to begin Bible studies in homes and provide opportunities for worship services to be developed. Members from several WRBA churches have begun meeting to prepare guidelines and suggestions for how local churches can enter into a partnership to begin this work. Hopefully by the Executive Board meeting at East Oakland Baptist Church on September 6 there will be sufficient information to bring a recommendation concerning the Hispanic work.

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Quick Notes:

WRBA Executive Board

September 6, 2007
East Oakland Baptist Church
Meal 6:00 PM
Meeting 6:30 PM

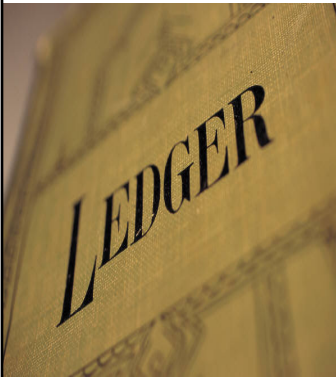
WRBA Annual Meeting

October 22, 2007
FBC Jordan
1st Session — 4:00 PM
Meal — 5:30 PM
2nd Session — 6:45 PM

For Those Praying
for Udmurtia,
see **Info Center** Page
www.whiteriverba.com

White River Baptist Association Treasurer's Report January—July 2007

| | | | | |
|-----------------|-----------|-------------------|-----------------|----------------------------------|
| Antioch | 1,543.45 | Hopewell | 617.26 | July 31, 2007 |
| Arkana | 1,492.99 | Jordan | 391.00 | Church Totals \$91,483.85 |
| Big Flat | 232.45 | Lone Rock | 3,771.22 | Account Rec. 4,000.00 |
| Bruno | 1,586.95 | Midway | 2,096.00 | Bank Interest <u>2,608.96</u> |
| Bull Shoals | 3,951.42 | Mtn. Home Baptist | 1,609.72 | Total Income \$ 98,092.81 |
| Clarkridge | 372.21 | New Hope | 2,432.40 | Disbursements <u>73,126.43</u> |
| Cotter | 406.71 | Norfork | 1,383.00 | Net Income 24,966.38 |
| East Oakland | 262.00 | Pilgrims Rest | 700.00 | |
| East Side | 23,748.52 | Pyatt | 2,288.19 | Balance as of July 31, 2007 |
| First Mtn. Home | 21,350.00 | Rea Valley | 1,600.62 | |
| Flippin | 8,786.34 | Tomahawk | 1,425.28 | TLCB \$ 52,673.90 |
| Gamaliel | 215.11 | Whiteville | 547.83 | Arvest 40,826.08 |
| Gassville | 4,827.29 | Yellville | <u>2,701.61</u> | Church Planting <u>36,407.58</u> |
| Henderson | 944.28 | Church Total | \$91,483.85 | Total \$129,907.56 |
| Hilltop | 200.00 | | | |



White River Baptist Association Upcoming Events

September:

- 3 Labor Day — Office Closed
- 6 WRBA Executive Board meets @ East Oakland Baptist Church. Meal @ 6:00 PM, meeting at 6:30 PM
- 8 Area Senior Adult Conference @ FBC Mountain Home, 10 AM — 4:30 PM
- 12-15 WRBA booth @ Baxter Co. Fair
- 15 Dennis Swanberg @ FBC Mountain Home
- 29 Area Disaster Relief Training @ East Side Baptist Church: 8:30 — 3:30

October:

- 12-13 WRBA booth @ Turkey Trot Festival.
- 15 Hitt speaks @ Trinity Baptist Association Annual Meeting

WRBA Annual Meeting

- October 22 @ Jordan Baptist Church
- Sessions at 4 PM and 6:45 PM
- SEE PAGE 3** for more information.

Pregnancy Resource Center 505 South Main Mountain Home

“We are finally open!” is an expression of delight by PRC volunteers and its new director, Marcia Yearwood, as July 5, 2007 marked their opening date. Now their efforts will be directed to sharing hope in the midst of *life decisions*. Hope is their motto, banner, and even their phone number — 870-424-HOPE.

Sept. 16 — Open House
Sept. 17 — Golf Marathon (Fundraiser) at Big Creek.

PRAYER NEWS & REQUESTS

- **Week of Prayer for Arkansas Missions and the Dixie Jackson State Missions Offering** is scheduled for September 16-23. The theme is “**Called to Go**”. The state goal is \$1.4 million. Supporting on-going and new ministries and church starts that reach people are the results this prayer and giving effort is about.
- Pray for the team planning the On Mission Celebration for April 2008. Pray for the churches as they participate in the OMC. Pray for the missionaries who will be speaking in all the participating churches.
- 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.



Senior Adult Ministry News

55+ Leadership Conference

September 8, 2007 — FBC Mountain Home

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.

Area Wide Senior Adult Encouragement Night — September 15, 2007 —
FBC Mountain Home — Featuring Dennis Swanberg

A Disaster Relief Volunteer Testimony

For over thirty years, God let me use my spiritual gifts of giving and helping by working in the nursing profession. After I retired from the medical field, God called me to continue using these gifts by working in Disaster Relief. In the last five years, our association's Disaster Team has worked in seven states, helping people to recover after floods and hurricanes.

I'll never forget a lady named Rita that we helped a couple of years ago in Orange, Texas. She evacuated the area as Hurricane Rita headed that way. When she came home and found her large area of land covered with trees and other storm debris, she cried out, "Lord, it's going to take an army to clean all of this up."

A few days later, twenty of us from Arkansas Disaster Relief came with chain saws and other equipment and started working on Rita's yard. With tears in her eyes, she said, "God has answered my prayer."

Have you been an answer to someone's prayer lately? Disaster Relief is one way of showing God's love to people in crisis situations. Come join our team and let us help train you to go to be a blessing to someone.

Vi Rohren, Disaster Relief Volunteer from East Side Baptist Church, Mountain Home



167th Annual Meeting
White River Baptist Association
October 22, 2007
Hosted by First Baptist Church, Jordan



Annual Message — Dr. David Johnson, Pastor
First Baptist Church, Mountain Home

Doctrinal Message — Dr. Leonard Griffiths, Pastor
East Oakland Baptist Church, Mountain Home

In recognition of 300th Anniversary of Associations in
America, 2 guest speakers will share in the annual meeting:

S. D. Hacker, Associational Missionary, Rocky Bayou Baptist Association and
former Associational Missionary, White River Baptist Association 1964-69

Phill Hall, Church Planting Strategist, Arkansas Baptist State Convention and
former Associational Missionary in Iowa

Scholarship Applications Available

Ouachita Baptist University and Williams Baptist College scholarships for 2008 are available through a WRBA application process. One scholarship to each school will be granted to high school seniors from our association. Please contact the associational office for more details.

Go to **Info Center** on www.whiteriverba.com to find and print a copy of either Scholarship Application, or contact WRBA office: 870-453-2575.



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

**2008 On Mission Celebration Commitments
April 19-23, 2008**

1. Antioch Baptist Church
2. Arkana Baptist Church
3. Bruno Baptist Church
4. Bull Shoals First Baptist Church
5. Cotter First Baptist Church
6. Clarkridge Baptist Church
7. East Oakland Baptist Church
8. East Side Baptist Church, Mountain Home
9. Flippin First Baptist Church
10. First Baptist Church Mountain Home
11. Gamaliel Baptist Church
12. Gassville Baptist Church
13. Hilltop Baptist Church
14. Hopewell Baptist Church
15. Jordan First Baptist Church
16. Lone Rock Baptist Church
17. Midway Baptist Church
18. Mountain Home Baptist Church
19. New Hope Baptist Church
20. Pilgrims Rest Baptist Church
21. Pyatt Baptist Church
22. Rea Valley Baptist Church
23. Tomahawk Baptist Church
24. Whiteville Baptist Church
25. Yellville First Baptist Church



And
26. Baptist Collegiate Ministry, ASU MH

Please send your commitment form to WRBA, P.O. Box 358, Flippin, AR 72634. We are 3 churches from having every WRBA church committed to participate.

Disaster Relief News

1. Basic Disaster Training Opportunity
September 29, 2007 at East Side Baptist Church
8:30 AM to 3:30 PM

This Basic Training is necessary to be recognized as a Disaster Relief volunteer. And we need more volunteers!



2. Disaster Relief Tractor

The Executive Board of White River Baptist Association meeting at Bruno Baptist Church on May 10 authorized the purchase of a tractor to use with our Disaster Relief ministries and therefore authorized the raising of funds toward the purchase. We anticipate the cost to be between \$25, 000 and \$30, 000.

Disaster Relief Notes:

- A. Notice the testimony of Vi Rohren on page 3.
- B. Call WRBA office for more info about Disaster Relief.
- C. Pilgrims Rest Baptist Church has offered a challenge to all WRBA churches: to match their \$1000 contribution toward the purchase of the DR tractor. One church has already responded with a \$1000 contribution.