



from the **Yavapai Baptist Association** November 2009

ON TARGET



1969 was an interesting year. It was the year of Woodstock and the year of the first moon landing. How many of you can remember watching Neil Armstrong take the first human steps on the moon? Later that night I went out and saw "2010: A Space Odyssey".

On a more personal note, 1969 was the year I graduated from Alhambra High School in Phoenix. More importantly, however, 1969 was the year I gave my life to the Lord Jesus Christ. More specifically, it was in November 1969 that I gave my life to Christ. So this month I will celebrate 40 years as a believer.

What can I say about those 40 years? I can say that Jesus has never let me down. Things haven't been easy, but the Lord was with me every day of those 40 years. I'm sorry to say that there have been too many times I let Jesus down, but I am so glad his grace was with me during those times.

As you know, I came very close to "buying the farm" this year. But God in his wisdom chose to leave me here a while longer. Why? Well, God doesn't have accidents or make mistakes so I have to assume he left me here because he wants me to continue my service for him.

If I live another 40 years (doubtful), I will never be able to repay my debt to the Lord, but I hope I will be able to express my love for him through obedient service.

God has you here for a reason, too. He hasn't left you on the planet as an oversight or mistake. He has you here for the purpose of bringing him glory through loving, obedient service. What has God called you to do for him? Are you doing your best with God's help to fulfill that mission?

Your Brother,

Rik

LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT TEAM

Dear Pastors,

I love this time of year. A bit cooler, a nice breeze, expectations in the air, and my favorite college football team doing well...it is my favorite time to kick back and relax. Problem is, this is also major ministry time - Christmas shoeboxes, Thanksgiving meals for needy families, Angel trees, special services, community events, and that Lottie Moon lady keeps sending me letters. More people are sick, more visits are required, and more volunteers need "subs" on Sunday because they are away visiting their families. More work, fewer people - it all can lead to a frazzled pastor.

Take a deep breath, relax for just a minute. You likely have all kinds of folks around you who have done these things year after year. Remember that Christ called a whole body to do his work. You don't have to be in charge of every detail. Give your people the room they need to succeed and serve Jesus. Make sure you have the peace and mental clarity you need to be the shepherd God has called you to be.

Take some time to enjoy this season and give thanks. Take your wife to the Pastors & Wives Dinner on December 4th. The point is: take some time. You need it, and your church will benefit from it. Brothers, I'm praying for you; we're all in this together.

--Brian LeStourgeon

CHURCH STRENGTHENING TEAM

The team is doing well and has been able to approve every request brought to them.

One goal of the team is to provide training for the Churches in the Association.

I am still looking for people to serve on our team.

**Your Fellow Servant in Christ,
Hobby Wiles**

ASSOCIATIONAL CALENDAR

NOVEMBER

- 5 Verde Valley Hispanic Missions meeting
- 5-7 AZfuzion in Tucson
- 7-12 Rik will be doing an On Mission Celebration in New Mexico
- 11 Veteran's Day - YBA office open
- 11 ASBC Convention Council Mtg. in Tucson
- 12 Pastors' Fellowship lunch 11:30 AM at Robert Rd. Baptist
- 12 YBA Administrative Council 1:30 PM at Robert Rd. Baptist
- 12 ASCB Leadership Conference in Tucson
- 13 ASBC Annual Meeting Tucson
- 26 THANKSGIVING - YBA office closed

DECEMBER

- 3 Verde Valley Hispanic Missions meeting
- 4 YBA Pastors' & Wives Christmas Party 6:30 PM at FSBC Prescott Valley

CHURCH EVENTS

NOVEMBER

- Knitting class every Tuesday at Willow Hills Baptist Church
- 13 Winter Musical "Christmas Hang-Ups" 11AM and 6 PM at FSBC Cordes Lakes
- 15 Last day to turn in your Operation Christmas Child Shoeboxes
- 21 Blood Drive 10 AM to 3 PM Willow Hills in the Family Life Center Gym
- 22 RRBC Annual Thanksgiving Potluck
- 22 Thanksgiving Dinner at 6 PM Willow Hills BC in the Family Life Center
- 29 Family Movie Night "Nativity" begins at 5 PM at FSBC Cordes Lakes



CHURCH NEWS

From MAYER FSBC

After nearly 13 years of dedicated service to the ministry of our Lord, Charles Owens is retiring! He will retire effective the end of January, 2010. We are grateful to the leadership he has given us, and appreciate the teaching he has shared with us. We wish him, and his lovely wife Nancy, the very best! Fair winds, and following seas brother!

With the impending retirement, the church has moved quickly in filling the pulpit. The church has called John Ott, presently the associate pastor, as their new pastor, effective in February. Please pray for John as he too begins a new chapter of his ministry.

From ROBERT ROAD BC

As of October 4th Hobby Wiles has served as Pastor to Robert Road Baptist Church for 17 years. During Pastors Appreciation month 12 members of RRBC surprised Pastor Hobby and Joyce Wiles by painting their house.

14 members of the J.O.Y. Bunch traveled to Flagstaff through Oak Creek to enjoy the beauty of God's creation and had a wonderful time.

From Cky John Carrigan:

Anyone in the Association is invited to host student preachers from Southwestern Seminary for Spring Break Revival Meetings. The revival dates are March 14-17, 2010 or May 16-19 or May 23-26.

The information about this program and the church application itself is available online at www.swbts.edu/srep. The application deadline of October 30, 2009 is rapidly approaching.

If you have any additional questions you may contact Janet Petersen at jpetersen@swbts.edu or 817-923-1921, ext. 6677.

**Cky John Carrigan, Ph.D.
Director of The Scarborough Center for Baptist Church Planting
Director of the Spring Revival Evangelism Program
Associate Professor of Evangelism and Baptist Church Planting
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STATE-WIDE WOMEN'S RETREAT

RIVER VALLEY BAPTIST ASSOCIATION is excited about organizing a unique opportunity for the women of our state!

- ◆ The location will be the beautiful facilities of Lost Canyon Ranch, which are superb and still pretty centrally located for our state.
- ◆ 3 days of great fellowship, worship, and unique opportunities for inspiration and growth. The price of this retreat \$135 which covers all room accommodations and 4 sit-down meals, served to our ladies by men servers. The men work very hard (they don't get much sympathy, but lots of praise). The women are treated like queens and the food is exceptional!
- ◆ A high caliber and very gifted speaker and worship leader in Shelia Jones and Mary Kaye Wonner who are well known around our state.

Practical and powerful breakouts led by some very gifted leaders as well.

Lost Canyon offers some unique rest and recreation op-



Arizona Woman's Missionary Union
Annual Meeting and
Missions Celebration
November 13, 2009
"Called to Love"

Emmanuel Baptist Church
1825 N Alvernon Way, Tucson
9:15 AM Brunch with Missionaries,
Pastors/Wives, and DOEMs/Wives
10:00 - 12:00 Missions Celebration
Featuring Arizona Missions and
Ministries

Visit our website: www.azwmu.com

For more information about our Association please go to the website yavbaptists.com.

Please forward this email to all of your Christian friends and church members.

Rik Danielsen