



from the **Yavapai Baptist Association**

February 2010

ON TARGET



I've heard two pastors share things that have really spoken to me about how pastors (and missionaries) can do a better job in the ministry. Late last year I was worshipping with the wonderful folks at Willow Hills Baptist Church and really enjoyed Pastor Jesse Lile's message. In it, he shared about the day that Moses' father-in-law told him about the importance of delegation. I don't know if Moses appreciated the advice at first, but we do know that ultimately he took the advice and was blessed because of it.

This reminded me of the importance of delegation in the ministry. If the pastor has to do everything or be present when every event or meeting takes place he will be worn out in no time and he will limit the scope of the church's ministry to how much he can do. If a church is going to reach its full potential for the Lord, the pastor and other leaders must learn to delegate authority and responsibility to others.

Some object and say that when they delegate to others jobs just don't get done or they don't get done properly. This leads to another thought on delegation. I heard Pastor Herb Stoneman say something in a meeting that was very helpful. He said that church planters need to be mentored and monitored. In other words they need someone who will monitor their work and progress and come alongside of them to encourage and help them with their tasks. I think those two words (monitor and mentor) really apply to the task of delegation, too. Many of the people in our churches are willing to help, but haven't been trained to do the tasks we would delegate to them. When we delegate to them, we must make sure they will get the training they need and the encouragement along the way. So we need to know their skill level and check on them on a regular basis. If the person is fairly inexperienced, you will want to check on them more often than a person who is very experienced. When you check on them you check on their progress and find out if they need help. Again, someone is going to object and say that if they have to do all of that, they could do the job themselves. That may be true, but you miss the fact that you are developing people and the investment you make in them early on will pay great dividends later.

If we delegate authority and responsibility well, we will see people blossom in their faith and in their ability to serve. Pastors, do you remember that thing Paul said about "equipping the saints"? This is part of what he was talking about.

Your brother,

Rik

LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT TEAM

Pastors - Remember our Preaching Workshop on March 27th. If you have not yet completed the preaching survey, please do so and return to Brian LeSturgeon (Pastor@CampVerdeBaptist.com). See you at the Pastors' Fellowship Lunch on February 11!

Brian LeSturgeon

ASSOCIATIONAL CALENDAR

February 2010

- 6 ASBC State VBS Clinic in Phoenix. Call Eddy Pearson or Corrin Conway**
- 11 Pastors' Fellowship Lunch 11:30 at Robert Rd. Baptist**
- 11 Administrative Council Meeting 1:30 at Robert Rd. Baptist**
- 13 ASBC Hispanic Marriage Conf. in Phoenix call Alma Cruz or Fernando Amaro**
- 15 ASBC Convention Council Orientation in Scottsdale.**
- 16 ASBC Convention Council quarterly meeting at ASBC Office.**
- 18-19 ASBC State Mission Team quarterly meeting in Phoenix**

CHURCH EVENTS

February 2010

Knitting Class, every Tuesday, at 2:30 PM. All welcome...beginners who need lessons to those who can teach lessons. The class has many projects...booties, newborn baby caps, etc.

- 1 VBS planning and training at Robert Rd. BC at 6PM. All are welcome.**
- 6 Harvest Ministry work day at 8AM. We need several people to help hang the plastic on the greenhouses. Call Ed Albus at 928 636-6841 for more information.**
- 13 Harvest Ministry will start planting in the first greenhouse. Call Ed Albus at 928-636-6841 for more information.**
- 27 Annual Spaghetti Dinner and Pie auction at Chino Valley FSBC, starting at 5PM**
- 28 Concert at Mountain View BC in Dewey Call for details**

CHURCH NEWS

From Robert Road Baptist Church

In December 2009, Robert Road Baptist Church was able to pay off their mortgage and enter 2010 debt free. We will be celebrating with a Potluck and "Note Burning" following the morning service on February 7th! All are invited and welcome!

The RRBC Youth will Host a Valentines' Luncheon fundraiser on Sunday Feb. 14th.

The first Monday of every month thru June at 6 p.m. is set aside to meet, plan, and train for VBS. If you want additional training or just curious about VBS, please feel free to join us!

The RRBC Youth will be attending Dare2Share on March 5-6 in Phoenix. Please be in prayer as we prepare for this event. It is always a life changing opportunity!

From Chino Valley FSBC

The Xperience Youth Group in Chino Valley started True Love Waits on January 6 and have had over 30 teenagers willing and wanting to learn more about God's plan for them. On Sunday, February 14, at our 10:45 service we will have a ring ceremony with the youth and their parents. On February 12 many of our wonderful, saintly, women are going to prepare a fancy dinner, (on real plates, no paper) for the youth as they dress up and our young men will serve the young women. Should be AWESOME.

Saturday, February 27 at 5:00 p.m., the youth group will also hold their annual camp fund raiser. This will be a spaghetti dinner and pie action, with some of the best pies you have ever tasted. This will be held in our new building so there is lots of room. This will be 50's theme complete with a band, a few "Rebels with Causes" and laughs galore. Please join us, it's going to be a blast!

From Mountain View BC

We have a Women's Bible Study every Thursday and 1 PM led by Wanda Cody, subject is "Women of the Bible". They meet every Thursday except the third Thursday of the month when they have a ladies luncheon at locations to be announced.

We continue to have our concert series on the Last Sunday of each month. Future schedule is :Feb TBA, Mar, Whistle Stop, Apr: Extra Touch, and May Brush Arbor Revival.

From Camp Verde BC

Camp Verde Baptist Church is hosting a Valentines' Fellowship and Talent Show on Saturday the 13th and a Disciples' Day with Brad Melton on Sunday the 21st.

Servanthood Evangelism :

Practical help to the elderly living independently.

I may have identified a project that churches in Yavapai County could be of practical help to some elderly people living independently. Is this a project that the churches of the YBA could handle? The front page of the Prescott Daily Courier of Saturday, November 14, 2009 said, "State Budget Crisis –Young and Old will suffer most from cuts." The article explained how some of the elderly living independently will no longer have the help from NACOG for housekeeping services. I made several calls to find out how it might be possible for local churches to help. Carleen Blum of NACOG wrote to say that "I have confirmed with the case managers, that our client's greatest need is floor care – pushing a vacuum. There are number of our current clients, at NACOG Area Agency on Aging, who will be losing their housekeeping services, through NACOG, by January 31st, 2010 and we have been unable to find other resources for them. The numbers are as follows: 4 elders in Prescott, 12 in Prescott Valley, 4 in Chino Valley, 1 in Humboldt, 1 in Mayer, 1 in Spring Valley and possibly 1 in Black Canyon City." At this writing she did not have the information from the Cottonwood case managers.

How would we organize this? If we choose to pursue helping these elderly people with housekeeping services then each local church would decide if they will participate and who their contact person will be. The contact person's responsibility would be to match client with volunteer. We would give NACOG the names of those churches willing to help. NACOG would then give the information to the elderly so that they could contact the contact person designated for each local church that is participating.

You may ask, "Are there any obstacles to keeping us from doing this?" There are questions that have not been answered such as "Does the volunteer bring their own vacuum cleaner or does the elderly person have one?" A simple call to the elderly person could answer that question. You may ask, "What about liability?" One opinion from an insurance person said that "This is a gray area and a lot depends on your insurer's definition of church sponsored." He thought that if the church serves only as a clearing-house to match client with volunteer, the local church should be out of the picture. But if this is a regular church sponsored activity you would need to discuss with the insurance company handling the church's policy.

Why should we do this? James 1:27 says, "Religion that is pure and undefiled before God, the Father, is this: to visit orphans and widows in their affliction, and to keep oneself unstained from the world." If God cares for those who are marginalized (widows and orphans) then certainly His people should. I feel that this is a great opportunity to provide some practical ministry. I suspect that we would be providing some caring relationships to these people. I think this is something that we as YBA churches should do. Do you?

If your church wants to participate then tell me so that I will let Carleen Blum know of your interest.

Arizona Baptist Children's Services has opened a New Life Counseling center in the Verde Valley.

New Life Counseling provides a variety of Christian counseling options on a sliding-fee scale to make services affordable to families. We have pastoral counselors and Christian counselors that integrate more traditional counseling methods with godly principles. We specialize in ministering to those struggling with many life challenges, including:

- **Anger Management**
- **Child and Spousal Abuse**
- **Depression and Spiritual Despair**
- **Eating Disorders**
- **Grief and Loss**
- **Healthy Communication and Conflict Resolution**
- **Parenting/Single Parenting**
- **Self-Injurious Behavior**

The Verde Valley center will begin at First Southern Baptist Church of Cornville. NLC hopes to have a permanent home for this new center in the future. NLC would also like to set aside one day a week (in the beginning) in the Prescott area if there would be a church willing to partner with this ministry.

The Verde Valley NLC center will feature Trennis Killian as the Pastoral Counselor:

Trennis Killian provides distinctly Christian counseling to teenagers and adults, individuals, couples and families. He specializes in addictions, identity development, crisis management, and relationship problems. He received his undergraduate degree from Arizona State University and earned his Master's in Counseling and his Doctorate in Ministry from The Pillsbury Institute. He is certified in The Identification and Treatment of Pathological Gambling and One-on-One Critical Incident Stress Management. He served for nine years as a riverboat casino chaplain in the St. Louis area and published the book, *Victory over Gambling: Leading Compulsive Gamblers to Freedom in Christ*.

For more information, please go to the ABCS webpage at www.abcs.org and hit "Counseling" then "Verde Valley."

Yavapai Baptist Association

7594 E. Palo Verde St., Suite A, Prescott Valley, AZ 86314

Phone: 928-759-2246 Fax: 928-772-1866

ybassoc@cableone.net