

Harvest Newsletter

Young Adult Department of Woman's Baptist Home & Foreign Missionary Convention of NC

APRIL 2016

Enjoy the Stillness!

Rev. S.L. Raines

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Life is full of hustles and bustles and goals and objectives and deadlines and details and all of the other standards that come with being proactive, productive and purposeful. One thing that I'm learning in this stage of my life is that amidst all that we say and do, no matter how good or great, find the time to be still! Make time to be contemplative. It enables us to reflect on what our real purpose is, how good God is and has been and it can help us with the essential self-examination that we have been called to as Christians. Don't always do the talking, after you pray, be silent and wait patiently. When you've read the Scriptures, stop--be still! Meditate! I was blessed to spend a few hours doing something that I've haven't done in years...I went fishing. I stood on the pier, surrounded by others, but I was in my own little world and most of all...I was still. No last minute errands, no cell phone ringing, no problem solving, no shouting at the children...stillness. A lady close by me whispered a prayer each time she got ready to extend her line, "Master of the sea, my Father.." She happened to catch many fish...maybe her prayer helped! In the many ways that we are intentional, let's be reminded to take a moment to be Hebrew. You don't have to know the plan, you don't have to strategize, you don't have to be in control...just listen for the voice of God. Follow. You owe yourself some down time, even if it's just for a moment. I'm learning to look for it, that promised rest. Young Adults, whatever your lot and current situation, do make time to be still.

"What Does Christian Education Look Like in 2016?"

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Long, long, long ago, when Missionary Departments first began, the Christian Education model consisted mostly of Sunday School and B.T.U. (C.T.U). As the years progressed, Institute Classes became another tool for the Missionary Department to educate itself on God's Word and Reaching the Masses.

Now it's 2016 and we as Young Adults may slide in to Sunday School a few Sundays, B.T.U. is non-existent in our churches, and we rarely attend institute classes as a whole. So what does Christian Education look like for Young Adult Missionaries?

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lol) but I hope you take the time to make your relationship with God a top priority. I am learning how to pray and trust God through every phase of life. I'm in the beginning stages of young adulthood and it has been stressful at times but I can say that 2016 will be my Sweet '16.

Here are some ideas that I have gathered from Young Adults around the state:

1. Discussion Groups at a coffee shop or restaurant with topics relevant to young adults. The purpose is to grow those in your group and to minister to others who may over hear your conversation. You can welcome them to join in.
2. Gathering at someone's home for a light snack/meal and discussing the Bible and Study Book (Small Groups)
3. Starting a Christian Blog that allows everyone in your group to share encouraging words throughout the week. Invite others outside the group to read at their leisure.
4. Interactive workshops and study classes that focus on what God's word says about current issues both national and international.

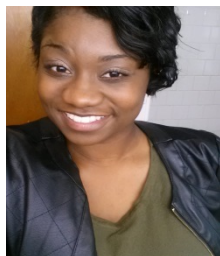
No matter the method, it is important that we are educated Biblically so that we grow in Christ daily.

As we grow, we are able to reach others and help them grow. That should be our top two priorities as a Missionary.

My Sweet '16!

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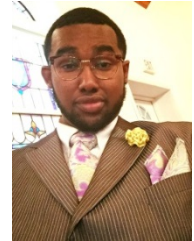
Greetings my fellow Young Adults!

I am excited to begin my tenure as your Young Adult Secretary and thank God for the opportunity. I wanted to encourage each of you to claim this year as your "Sweet '16". I heard this phrase at a New Year's Eve service and prayed that I would truly have a "sweet" year. So far it has been! I know we all are busy with our careers, children, families, social lives (if we have them

You are His Priority!

Mr. Taurian Parham

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"With my hands lifted up and my mouth filled praise, with a heart of Thanksgiving, I will bless Thee oh Lord."

Greetings in the name of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ and Happy New Year to you all. I know around this time we all like to do these New Year's resolutions that we rarely complete to the end, but this year I want to pose a challenge for you. I challenge you this year to seek the face of God daily. Since the convention this past year, my family and I have been studying the book, "gods at war," by Kyle Idleman which basically exposes the gods we struggle with on a daily basis that take the place of the one true God in our lives. Personally, this book has really opened my eyes to see that I haven't been focusing on God like I should. Small things that I thought were just daily routines actually ended up being things I idolized. I was spending so much of my time on these things to the point where God was being placed on the backburner. As a Christian that's the last we want to happen. Having been enlightened by in December I decided to rededicate my life to Christ. To be fully committed to Him and acknowledge Him in everything that I do. I challenge you, child of God, seek his face, acknowledge Him as your Lord and allow Him to order your steps. I want to encourage someone who's reading this article as reassurance that God has not forgotten you, as a matter of fact, **You are His Priority!** We are excited as the Young Adult Dept. of the WBH&FMC of North Carolina

about what God is going to do in 2016. We acknowledge his presence, anticipate His coming, and live for His glory. May the one and only true and living God continue to bless and keep you and your family as we strive together to make Christ seen in 2016!

It's Our Time / It's Our Vote

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Convention and auxiliaries lead in historic voting rights effort

Throughout our history, the WBH-FMC of NC has led in the struggle for equality in our communities across the state, country and world through Missionary efforts. This year the General Baptist Stated Convention joins the "It's Our Time, It's Our Vote Souls to the Polls Campaign" committing to engage congregations, in the convention, to continue the fight for voting rights.

Due to the confusion in this year's electoral process due to new laws impacting citizen's congregations across North Carolina are asked to focus on several areas:

Voter Registration: Hold registration drives within your congregation to ensure that all of your members are registered at their current address and encourage your members to volunteer with local efforts to register voters in the community.

Voter Education: Distribute non-partisan voter education materials and educate your members about the new rules of voting and about events that inform voters about the importance of voting.

Voter Turnout: Promote voter participation by participating in the statewide Souls to the Polls day during Early Voting, providing information about

Early Voting locations, and by offering rides of information for rides to the polls.

The Souls to the Polls requires each congregation to have one volunteer "Faith Ambassador" who will complete the Souls to the Polls Agreement Form and attend training on their role in helping provide information and assistance for voters in their congregation. Recently the Young Adult Department of the Women's Baptist Home and Foreign Missionary Convention expressed the desire to engage Young Adults in social justice, civic engagement and community issues. It is important to know that there are important rules regarding how congregations can become involved and knowing that process is critical. All are encouraged to become a faith ambassador and help provide this important information to their congregation.

If you have any questions please contact the Harvest Newsletter team.

Is it a Lifestyle or a Quota?

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"You, my brothers, were called to be free. But do not use your freedom to indulge the sinful nature; rather, serve one another in love." (Galatians 5:13)

When many of us look at the signs that sit in front of are churches, we see the word "Missionary" as a part of our church name that would suggest that we are a body of "mission-minded" believers. Ask yourself is your life "mission-minded"? The reality is that many of us attend churches that adorn this word in their name, but do the bare minimum requirement to say that they are committed to missions. We often treat missions as if we were in school have to make a "D" just to pass, so we do enough just to say we passed. So we make our yearly quota by sending out baskets to the elderly on Christmas or collecting socks for the homeless and think that is enough. But if we are honest we often

put 110% in things that are not the ways of God or things that glorify ourselves. As a believer we are all to take hold to the Great Mission (Matthew 28:16-20) and personally commit to it on a daily basis and not as a special event. As Young Adults, we all do not and cannot go overseas to do foreign missions, but we all can serve others locally in our own community and associations. A great way to kick start a lifestyle devoted to missions is by committing to “**30 days of Random Acts of Kindness**”, where it can be as simple as making a little extra dinner and make a plate to give to someone or send an encouraging email or text to a friend or even someone who might not like you. We must strive to be about our father’s business by spreading the gospel thru the service that we offer to one another in love.

10 Practical ways you can serve today:

1. Help your family. ([Romans 12:10](#))
2. Volunteer at church. ([Peter 4:10-11](#))
3. Donate items to a homeless shelter. ([Matthew 25:46](#))
4. Send someone an encouraging note. ([1 Thessalonians 5:11](#))
5. Deliver a meal. ([Acts 20:35](#))
6. Watch someone’s kids. ([Hebrews 13:16](#))
7. Help other people shine. ([Philippians 2:3](#))
8. Listen. ([James 1:19](#))
9. Pay it forward. ([Proverbs 11:24-25](#))
10. Anticipate serving. ([Galatians 6:9](#))

YOUNG ADULT HAPPENINGS

Check out the awesome things young adults are doing around the state!

Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Day of Service

On MLK Jr. Day this year, the Young Adult officers met at the state headquarters to give our service to the Woman’s Baptist Home and Foreign Missionary Convention. We spent most of the day going thru boxes of old files and clearing out rooms in the basement, counting books, throwing away trash, filing old documents, and transporting the office files to storage. We took to this challenge to help make the transition out of the state headquarters building smoother. So much was accomplished that day and we had a fun time fellowshiping all at the same time. One may say that is not helping others or that is what you are supposed to do as an officer. We

say it as a way to give back to the convention that has played a big part in our spiritual development. So next Martin Luther King Jr. Day, we challenge you to get out and do something for somebody and in all you do make sure you do it with a loving heart as God commanded.



Union Missionary Baptist Association

The Young Adults of the Woman’s Auxiliary of the Union Missionary Baptist Association went bowling in Fayetteville for their first Semi-Annual Fellowship gathering. Young Adults, along with their families, came together for fun and fellowship. Everyone left eager for the next occasion.



Forsyth County Young Adults

Our Forsyth county young adults missionary Of Winston Salem have been collecting lightly used pocketbooks and cosmetic bags in order to stuff them with personal care items for the women at the homeless shelters. We will be packing them on the fourth Sunday in May and passing them out June 4 th. Also, we have been helping our college students in our different churches with their favorite snacks and college supplies.

Submitted by LaTosha Malloy
 President of Young Adults
 Providence Baptist Church

Highlights from One Day Session



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All Things WBH-FMC
 Check Us Out on the Web

Need more information about the Woman’s Baptist Home and Foreign Missionary Convention of NC? Check us out on the web at WBH-FMC.org or on Facebook at www.facebook.com/wbhfmcc.

Share with Us

Young adults across our great state are doing wonderful things. Please take a moment to share with other young adults how your young adult department is reaching the masses. We want to know. Feel free to submit an article with pictures to bmh1919@gmail.com to be featured in the next newsletter!