

Coming Up

The new and preferred way to access the RBBC calendar of events is via the Church Center app, or the church website (www.redbridgebaptist.com).



EVERY Red Bridger is asked to download the app. See Jordan or Jessica List if you have questions regarding the RBBC Church Center app.



RBBC Small Groups have started the third year of meetings! The Small Group Task Force will not be aware of your interest in participating in this ministry unless you let it be known. Those interested in being part of a Small Group can express this through the Church Center app.

Weekly Prayer Times:

Men: Tuesdays, 7 AM, Yth. Bldg.
Women: Wednesdays, 10 AM, Conf. Rm.
Churchwide: Wednesdays, 6:30 PM, Aud.

www.redbridgebaptist.com
www.haitihomeofhope.org
www.gotquestions.org

VISION

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VISION

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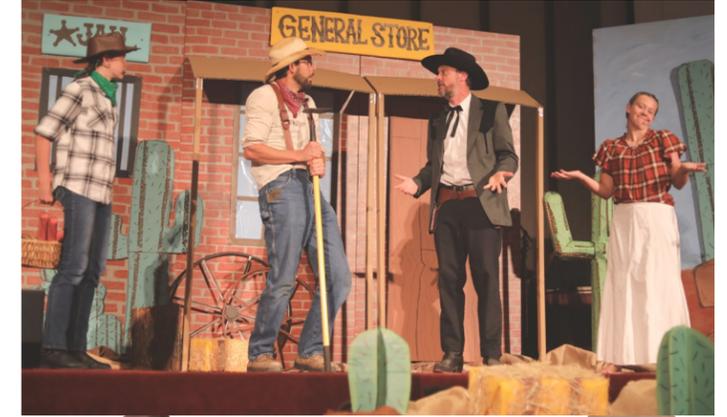
2024-25 RBBC Year of Prioritizing Prayer!

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In This Issue

- VBS Was a Wonderful Success!
- 2025 Missions Conference Up Next!!
- 60th Anniversary Celebration on Oct. 5!!!

VBS WONDER JUNCTION!



DAY 5

Totals

Boys - \$514.77
Girls - \$404.33
Total - \$919.10

3676 Meals

By Pastor Vic Borden

Every believer is called to be a wise and faithful steward of what God has provided. Biblical stewardship can generally fall into three areas: time, talents, and treasure. So, how I use my time, talents, and treasure matters to the Lord.

I can't think of any better use for this trio of commodities than investing each through the local church. To be sure, I can use my time, talents, and treasure in business, or in a worthwhile hobby like music lessons, physical fitness, and even in appropriate leisure. However, any investment outside of the local church might be perfectly fine, but it likely only yields temporal dividends. Time, talents, and treasure invested through one's local church, offered in a spirit of humility and for the glory of God, yields eternal fruit!

It's noteworthy that Scripture doesn't teach that I'm to invest my time, **OR** my talents, **OR** my treasure. It's clear that I'm called to invest my time (Eph.5:16), **AND** my talents (1 Pet. 4:10), **AND** my treasure (2 Cor.9:6-7)! So, it's not that I should just **pray** for missions. I also need to **pay** for missions! I must not attend a worship service motivated to get, but to give. My Small Group should be able to count on me to invest my time. The Committee on which I serve should be able to look to me to share my talents (gifts, abilities, etc.).

The next few months at RBBC look to be busy and filled with opportunities for God's people to invest time, talents, and treasure into that which will yield eternal fruit and rewards. The following are a few of those opportunities.

First, the annual World Missions Conference is just days away (August 10-13). Be sure to participate in all that God will provide as we're reminded that, **"We Pray - God Sends!"**

Next, the fall is just about upon us. Our Small Group ministry will resume very soon. Be sure to ask (you can ask me) about being part of a Small Group in which there are deep and lasting friendships developed.

Our Awana program is also gearing up for our 31st year of ministering to children and teens. Maybe God would have you invest your time, talents, and treasure through Awana.

We just completed (in June) a churchwide series of lessons in Sunday School on sharing the Gospel. Cathie and I rejoice in all those who gave themselves to this training. Now, it's time to practically live out this evangelistic effort. Cathie and I are hosting the *Bridge Course* at our home during September and October. This is a series of lessons designed to introduce unbelievers to the truths of Scripture, with an emphasis on the saving Gospel of Christ. You can speak to Cathie about how to invite those you know who need the Lord.

RBBC's **60th Anniversary Celebration** will be on Sunday, October 5. Be sure to mark your calendar now so that you can be part of all of the celebration.

So, as God's child, He has given you a certain amount of time, talents, and treasure. The Lord owns all of these commodities, but has entrusted a portion to each of us. He has commanded that we not keep these blessings to ourselves, but to share them with one another, and in a saving way, with the world. Invest in God's work through His church. Remember, 1 Corinthians 15:58 promises that **"...your labor is NOT in vain, in the Lord."** God bless you!

"...invest time, talents, and treasure into that which will yield eternal fruit and rewards."



AroundRBBC

Future Member:

Boaz Gustav,
born to Jeremiah & Roberta Nichols
Anastasia Lynnette,
born to Terry & April Adams

Welcome to RBBC:

Garrett Bledsoe
Natalie Teel



**2025 RBBC
World Missions
Conference
August 10 - 13**

**RBBC
60th Anniversary
Celebration!!!
Sunday, October 5**



Just for Fun!
Just for Fun! is a feature in the Vision for the purpose of...well, **Just for Fun!**

Levi invited the Pastor over for dinner, and they ended up being dressed the same, all the way down to their striped socks!!!



The InSight column is currently focusing on RBBC missionaries.

Guardrails for Christian Missions*

By Scott Hudgins

This year's *InSight* articles have put a spotlight on the *Guardrails for Christian Missions*. This article is the third in the series, as we have already looked at the first two guardrails—1) A Warning Against Embracing Ecumenicism; and, 2) A Warning Against Encouraging Contextual Theologies. In this edition, we will consider Guardrail #3: A Warning Against Overemphasizing Social Responsibility.

In the book, *Mission Shift*, renowned missiologist, Ralph Winter, explores the future of evangelical missions, emphasizing a call to holistic Evangelicalism, which bears notable similarities to liberation theology, particularly in its concern for social justice. Winter begins by referencing Luke 4:18-19 and Isaiah 61 (this is typical of liberation theologians). He then introduces the concept of "empowered evangelism," suggesting that evangelism becomes effective when coupled with good works—a view that aligns closely with Latin American theologian René Padilla who declared that "both word and deed are inextricably united in the mission of Jesus and His apostles, and we must continue to hold together in the mission of the church, in which Jesus' mission is prolonged until the end of time" (from Lausanne I to Lausanne III, *Journal of Latin American Theology*). Padilla, influenced by his upbringing and Marxist critiques of Christianity, argued that Evangelicals must integrate social responsibility with Gospel proclamation. His experiences led him to challenge the dichotomy between Gospel ministry and social justice, famously stating at the 1974 Lausanne Congress that "there is no evangelism without the social dimension, and no Christian social action without an evangelistic dimension." This holistic approach gained traction among Latin American, Asian, and African theologians, forming one of two major streams within modern Evangelical missiology: one advocating equal emphasis on evangelism and social action, and the other prioritizing evangelism. This shift parallels trends in ecumenical missiology. David Tai-Woong Lee warns that if Evangelicals fail to return to Scripture as their foundation, they risk allowing the world to dictate the mission agenda. This highlights the need for theological "guardrails" within Christian missions.

The guardrail of "prioritism theology" affirms the importance of addressing social needs, but insists that spiritual transformation and evangelism remain the church's primary mission. While acknowledging that good works can support Gospel witness (Matthew 5:16), this author stresses that true evangelistic power comes from the Holy Spirit (Acts 1:8), not human efforts or social programs. Biblical empowered evangelism is Spirit-driven and centered on Christ's mission "to seek and to save the lost" (Luke 19:10). Through the Holy Spirit's empowerment, the believer is able to be the witness he should be in an unbelieving and hurting world. This is **biblical** empowered evangelism. When churches and missionaries devote themselves to this purpose, a correct perspective on social responsibility can be preserved. It is the church that carries the Gospel to a lost and dying world. "All other motives and purposes may, according to circumstances, be of greater and less secondary importance and value, but if they take the place of this primary motive and purpose, mission must in the long run die from its lack of valid foundation" (H. Kraemer. *The Christian Message in a Non-Christian World* (New York: Harper & Brothers, 1947, p. 293).

* This article has been adapted from a paper that Scott Hudgins wrote in 2021 for a course at Midwestern Baptist Theological Seminary entitled: *Guardrails and Hazards of the Two-Thirds World Missionary Movement*. If you would like to read the full paper, you may request a copy by emailing Scott at: s.hudgins@mannaworldwide.com.



Scott & Kristi Hudgins