

ALUMNI

NEWSLETTER FROM WEST COAST BAPTIST COLLEGE

ISSUE
7



SCROLL RIGHT →



DEBORAH DEMIRJIAN
**Instructor at West Coast
Baptist College**

FACULTY HIGHLIGHT

Deborah Demirjian joined our faculty in 2009. Years of teaching experience have fostered her deep passion for the furtherance of Christian education. Deborah is amazed at God's orchestration in leading her to WCBC and fervently desires to assist the next generation of teachers in impacting lives for eternity. Deborah teaches History of Civilizations, American Documents, Teaching History, and World Geography. She enjoys singing in the choir at Lancaster Baptist Church and partnering with her husband in the discipleship ministry. By God's grace, Deborah will complete her Ed.D. in Educational Leadership this summer.



WCBC Alumni

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SPIRITUAL LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE

EUROPE 2018



WRITTEN BY:

Dr. Paul Chappell

Pastor of Lancaster
Baptist Church



JOEL & LAUREN NORRIS

2012 GRADUATE

Assistant Pastor at Franklin Road Baptist Church

MURFREESBORO, TN

In 2012, my wife, Lauren, and I graduated from West Coast Baptist College and began serving at our home church, Franklin Road Baptist Church, immediately following graduation. I came on staff originally to be my Dad’s pastoral assistant, and my wife began teaching Kindergarten in the Christian school. Over the past six years of marriage and ministry, God has blessed us with new roles, opportunities, and growth. I now have the opportunity to oversee our special event planning, serve as one of the assistant pastors, and lead and teach our CrossPoint College and Young Adults Ministry. This summer, for the first time, our college ministry had over 100 young adults on our “Big Sunday.” Recently, we’ve gotten to see several foreign exchange students from our local university saved, baptized, and beginning discipleship. We are in the

I NOW HAVE THE OPPORTUNITY TO OVERSEE OUR SPECIAL EVENT PLANNING, SERVE AS ONE OF THE ASSISTANT PASTORS, AND LEAD AND TEACH OUR CROSSPOINT COLLEGE AND YOUNG ADULTS MINISTRY.

process of training these students and about 20 others to be the groundwork for our campus ministry to Middle Tennessee State University. My wife now has the privilege to stay at home with our children, Braxton and Baylor, and serve at the church as one of our secretaries part-time. We are blessed and excited about all that God has done in our lives, and we look forward to what He has for the future. 🍷



A few of the foreign exchange students

These students have been saved, baptized, and disciplined.

College and Young Adult Ministry ↓ Sunday Morning Sunday School





DONNY AND DONNA WILSON

2000 GRADUATES

Faithful Service

Pastor Wilson & Mayor Gutierrez honoring Marie Smith for 25 years of faithful service



Pastor of Lighthouse Baptist Church

WIFE
DONNA
KIDS
LILY
IAN
VIOLETTE
CHANDLER

MORENO VALLEY, CA

60th Anniversary

60th Anniversary Luncheon



“Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven” (Matthew 5:16). This has been my husband’s theme verse for his life, as his wife of almost 18 years I have witnessed him live this out daily.

Donny and I met our freshman year at West Coast Baptist College. We married in 2001 and came on staff at Lighthouse Baptist church in Moreno Valley, California. He was fun and hardworking, with an appetite to learn from everyone around him. That spirit has followed him throughout our ministry.

Donny’s childhood pastor from Colorado, Jim Preston, had taken the church a year

prior and needed a youth pastor. He took the position, and we were in our element working with teens.

Our church family has always been so gracious and loving as we have learned and grown in the ministry. That heart from God’s people enveloped us as God led our family through a transitioning ministry. In the Spring of 2016, our pastor retired and Donny took over as lead pastor. We are thankful to serve a tremendous group of people, in a city that has become our home.

Last year, our church’s theme for the year was “Glorify.” It is the desire and purpose of our ministry that all we do will bring

honor and glory to our Saviour. Recently, our church celebrated its 60th anniversary. We had several outreach opportunities and events to share the love of Jesus with our community. The last weekend in October we hosted a neighborhood block party and had record attendance on our Anniversary Sunday. More importantly, through the efforts of God’s servants, 27 souls were saved! Our church continues to have visitors and people saved because of its servant’s heart and burden for its community.

As our church grows, so does the need for space. There are plans in place with the city

for a new children’s ministry building. Lord willing, we will break ground by the end of this year.

Getting to minister alongside my husband with our four children has been a wonderful adventure. We continue trusting in our Saviour who is constant in an ever-changing world and pray that God may get the glory. 🙏



LEVI & CASSY ROLSTON

2014 GRADUATE

Program Director at Hoosier Hills Baptist Camp

DILLSBORO, IN

Without knowing a single person on the campus of West Coast Baptist College, in 2010 I started my four-year college endeavor. After many classes, notes, and making lifelong friends, the Lord gave me a wealth of knowledge and tremendous resources. Little did I know, I would pull from each of those on a regular basis.

I graduated in 2014 with open eyes and a ready heart for the Lord to use me, but God had not yet opened any doors. Out of my graduating class, 98% had already been lined up with a ministry. I was in the 2% that was still waiting on the Lord. On December 31, 2015, I surrendered to the call to preach not knowing where, when, or how - I said yes. I married the love of my life a few weeks later and God's plan began to unfold. In 2015, I received the position to

THE ONLY WAY ANY OF THIS IS POSSIBLE IS BY THE GRACE OF GOD, A SUPPORTIVE WIFE, AND THE WONDERFUL TRAINING I RECEIVED FROM WEST COAST BAPTIST COLLEGE

become the Program Director of Hoosier Hills Baptist Camp in Dillsboro, Indiana. My wife, Cassy, was hired on staff with me. I can see now what I couldn't see when I surrendered. I am preaching in many churches, travelling,

and representing one of the most exciting and dynamic camp ministries in the States. What great opportunities have been placed in my lap such as working under Chris Chavez, being able to sit down with some of the great men of the faith as they



speak at the camp, and even working directly with my family in the ministry. We are making an eternal impact, all while having a blast serving in the ministry.

Though we have faced many struggles and faith-growing obstacles, we count it a privilege to serve King Jesus in such a far-reaching ministry. We are currently in the middle of a few building projects and renovations at the camp as the Lord has blessed our faith with His finances. Each year the camp continues to grow, and we are praying that as we expand, the lives of many young people will be changed for eternity. The motto here at Hoosier Hills is "It is easier to build boys and girls than to repair men and women." The only way any of this is possible

is by the grace of God, a supportive wife, and the wonderful training I received from West Coast Baptist College. We have only begun to serve the Lord. Many exciting years lie ahead filled with faith, and we are more than looking forward to it! 🙌





NEHEMIAH & AVON TORBERSON

2009 GRADUATES

Assistant Pastor at Greater Waco Baptist Church

WACO, TX

“My times are in thy hand...”

This phrase that David prayed in Psalm 31:15 has really become a defining reality and joy for my life and ministry.

When I arrived at WCBC, I had limited God’s call on my life to one thing—pastoring in the Midwest, preferably my beloved home state of South Dakota. By my sophomore year, God had tendered my heart to other possibilities, and one of my mentors at LBC, who is now with the Lord, told me, “You really should pray about going to work with a pastor, and staying with him for a long time.”

In the summer of 2007, God allowed me to intern with Pastor Gerald McKelroy at the Willamette Valley Baptist Church in Aumsville, OR. By the end of that summer, I knew that was where God was leading me, and after graduation, my wife and I joined the staff there. In 2010, God called us to move



Employees of Sheriffs Department

Esteban and Brandy were led to the Lord, discipled, and married by Nehemiah Torberson.

with our pastor to Waco, TX and continue working with him there at the Greater Waco Baptist Church.

During our time here in Waco, God has allowed us to serve in many various and changing capacities on this staff. I joke with people that my staff position is the designated “Hey, you!” but that’s the way I have learned to like it. My favorite two teachers at WCBC never taught in the classroom, but they shaped my ministry mindset more than any who did. Brother EJ Johnson and Brother Earl Husband taught me every day that joy in the ministry isn’t found in what area or position you serve the Lord but in the fact that you get to serve the Lord.

I currently serve as an Assistant Pastor and Chaplain for the McLennan County Sheriff’s Office. My wife serves in the church office as Pastor’s Secretary and is heavily involved in the various music ministries of the church and school. Our two boys, Jake and Caleb, are 4 and 2.





[MUSIC]

PREPARING FOR A CHURCH MUSIC EVENT



John Williams
Music Director at
Lancaster Baptist Church

If you have ever been moved by a powerful church music presentation, you may have sat there thinking, “Wow! This must have taken an incredible amount of planning and rehearsing for everything to ‘come to life!’” As a viewer, we are only seeing the tip of the iceberg of what it takes to put together a successful presentation. One of the keys to having a successful music event is planning and preparing effectively. Here are a few helpful ideas to consider when planning for a church music event.

BEGIN PLANNING WELL IN ADVANCE.

Make sure that the event is put on your church calendar and communicate “early on” with your music planning team, music teams, stage crew, and other support staff and volunteers. Let everyone involved know the purpose of your event and how their helping with the event will benefit them, the rest of the church family, and the community.

PRAYERFULLY CHOOSE APPROPRIATE MUSIC REPERTOIRE.

For many music directors, Christmas starts in the summer months, and our preparation for other music events are in like vein. Begin choosing songs that balance challenge and capacity. Keep in mind the capability of yourself and the musicians you lead (talent, rehearsal time limits, and practicality), and do not be afraid to stretch yourself. Do not choose a song just because it makes you feel good. Pray about it! Get several opinions and do your best

to reflect your pastor's heart. Find out how long your pastor wants the program to be, so that he has adequate time to speak in the service. If there are activities following the service, keep this in mind too.

STUDY TO KNOW THE PURPOSE OF THE EVENT.

Set aside a time of planning and brainstorming to capture key ideas for your event. Is the primary purpose of your event outreach, a type of vision-casting event, or seasonal in nature? Ask your pastor what his heart and vision are for the event. Define what success is for your event. Ask other music directors for insight and have an open mind to try something fresh. With these key thoughts in the forefront, put together a plan to present to your pastor and/or pastoral team of everything you would like to accomplish in your music event. You may start by presenting your plan to someone close to you, then a few people with whom you will work closely with for the event, and then your pastor. After receiving feedback, polish your plan and present it to your choir, orchestra, drama members (if applicable), and technical support team. It is usually a great idea to present an overview of the presentation to your musicians on the same day that you pass out music and being rehearsing for the event. Prepare outlines and scripts for video and drama ready to be assigned, giving plenty of prep time to those who are creating videos and memorizing lines. Try to spread around the administrative workload of your areas of presentation so that more people can be involved and so that your event can be more organized and well-prepared.

Communicate with your music groups well in advance about the event and how each person can be a part.

Quality attracts. Schedule weekly rehearsals, sectionals, and some additional rehearsals to ensure that your musicians are well-prepared. Remind your musicians to be faithful to attend rehearsals and to practice on their own. It may help for you to record piano and parts of each choir song for your choir members to rehearse at home or while they commute. Make sure that you order an adequate number of books and anthems for your choir and that each

instrumentalist have his own binder of sheet music that he can take home to practice during the week.

ADVERTISE THE EVENT WITHIN YOUR CONGREGATION AND ALSO IN THE COMMUNITY.

The goal of any church music event should ultimately be to point the viewers and participants to Christ. Personal outreach, door-to-door canvassing, scheduled social media posts, commercials, ads, bulletin ads, church announcements, and your church website are several ways that you can advertise your event. Ask local businesses to hang flyers for your event and invite the owners to attend your event. (For some of our music events, we give invitations to local high school band directors to invite their students to attend. We encourage our choir, orchestra, and drama members to invite co-workers, neighbors, and friends to come hear them perform.) Involve the entire church in inviting people to attend your event! They will appreciate the service more if they bring visitors to church for the presentation.

Work with your tech support team to have the right lighting, sound, screens, and materials for advertising.

Prior to the final big rehearsal, give copies of the script to your support staff (lighting, sound, screens, livestream, etc.) and walk through light cues and songs. If you are able to create presets for sound and lights, this is very helpful to maximize efficiency and consistency for the final rehearsal and the presentation. As you prepare brochures, posters, ads, and commercials for advertising, take the time to meet with team members who are helping you in these areas. Come up with a list of benefits of attending the event, so that you can more effectively advertise to your community.

WALK THROUGH YOUR PRESENTATION SEVERAL TIMES PRIOR TO THE PERFORMANCE.

Make sure that your support staff and all musicians are at your final rehearsals prior to the performance. Usually, we have one big rehearsal on the Saturday morning before our music event if it is a weekend event. Videos are prepared and ready for cue, and musicians and drama members are all present. (At LBC, our final rehearsal is usually a dress

rehearsal. We go over each song with instrumentalists, do final sound checks for soloists and groups, and also rehearse with choir and orchestra together. We walk through the entire program once or twice on the final day and include drama and video as applicable to our presentation.)

PRAY FOR GOD'S BLESSING ON YOUR EVENT AND EXPRESS THANKS TO THE LORD AND EVERYONE INVOLVED.

Pray daily for God to bless your event as you prepare. As you pray, ask God to bring to mind anything that you need to do or change. Be sensitive to the Holy Spirit. Have faith that God will use your event to bless Him, to encourage others, and to see the lost come to Christ for salvation. After your presentation, remember to thank those who have sacrificed time and energy to make the event a success! Give God the glory for everything good that happens! 🙏



NO TURNING BACK

VACATION
BIBLE SCHOOL

NO TURNING BACK

VACATION
BIBLE SCHOOL



Reaching Your Community through an effective VBS

Vacation Bible School is always coming! As we plan a new year of ministry, Vacation Bible School is no doubt one of the largest summer events on the church's calendar. But oftentimes, VBS can develop a dry, "we've-done-this-before" mentality among volunteers, and even the children. The church leadership is responsible each year to provide a fresh, new, exciting event that will ground children in the Word of God and attract new families to the church.

Oftentimes in the summer, parents are looking for a fun, affordable event for their kids to enjoy. Groupon recently polled their parent customers, and 58% of them said they wanted summer break to be over after 13 days of their kids being home! "Parents said they were stressed about keeping their kids busy" in those summer months. VBS is a proven event that can reach new families with the Gospel and equip children with the Word of God.

But how can we hold a successful, fresh VBS in the coming year?

FOCUS ON FAMILIES

Not one template or VBS package fits every church, so what are ways that you and your church can help and encourage families for your VBS event? Consider providing a parenting elective each night while the kids are enjoying the events. Serve refreshments, and promote a specific topic that would help parents, something like "Balancing Media in the Home" or "Preparing Your Child for the Teenager Years."

Every parent in your community should want to come and hear how to become a better parent.

How can you make your registration process more user-friendly and impressive to a first time guest? Perhaps provide an online registration on your promotional items to make the registration process quicker when they arrive. Whatever the specifics are that fit your church and schedule, there are always ways that we can make our first impression better each year.

FOCUS ON FUN

To get the parents excited about coming to VBS, the kids need to be excited! Consider counting down each week in your Sunday school classes with small giveaways to build anticipation for the event. Announce specific prizes for each night of VBS so the kids can look forward to the week. Host a costume contest with the theme, or give a grand prize at the end of the week for those who bring the most friends. Create a fun, exciting environment that no other church in your community has. (As a side note, you may want to consider creating your own theme and curriculum to stand out from the usual packages that are offered down the street.)

FOCUS ON FOLLOW UP

Before the event, we need to consider the question: What is a successful VBS? And tailor our follow up accordingly. Obviously a successful VBS changes eternity with the Gospel and changes your church with fresh new faces in



the Sunday services. How can you reach out to those families who come for a night? How can you encourage the children who just got saved to get baptized? How can you see families added to the church because of this event? Maybe have a special Baptism Sunday for those who were saved or have the kids sing in the service on Sunday. Provide a special gift for parents who attend an adult Sunday school class the next Sunday. Encourage your adult ministry leaders to visit the families who came. Sometimes VBS has a tendency to disappear quickly after the last night since most of the volunteers are completely exhausted, so maybe pass on the follow up to a fresh team that can give the energy that is needed. Instead of seeing VBS disappear into the distance, the proper follow up allows the event to accomplish the eternal rewards that matter most.

Vacation Bible School is one of the best ways to reach families in the summer months, but the effort must be well-planned and filled with God's power. Every church is different, but God's power can fill them all if we keep our focus on eternal rewards and seek to lift Christ up to the next generation.



NATHAN BIRT
Children's Pastor at
Lancaster Baptist Church



REGISTRATION

COLLEGE CLASSES

EPIC GAMES



West Coast Up Close | 2018

It's difficult to experience a semester of college in just three days, but that's exactly what our guests did at West Coast Up Close. Formerly known as College Days, West Coast Up Close is a special event designed to allow high-school juniors, seniors, and recent graduates personally experience what it's like to be a student at West Coast Baptist College. Hundreds of guests stayed in the dorms, attended classes, cheered for your Eagles, participated in activities, and heard from the Word of God. Dr. Goetsch brought a powerful message in the Wednesday evening service, after which the prospective students and their

families watched the annual intercollegiate football championship, the Turkey Bowl. Thursday morning was spent in classes which allowed students to hear from the faculty they were most excited to meet. After classes, Dr. Chappell challenged our student body and those who were visiting to passionately pursue God's calling for their lives. Afterwards, the delegates gathered in The Hangar for a special student-led Q&A over a casual pizza lunch. Thursday afternoon was all about showing our guests the variety of opportunities WCBC provides through activities like laser tag, hiking, and mini golf, to specialty classes in graphics, apologetics, and more! At the end

of the day, college students and visitors wore their brand new Take Flight t-shirts as they filled the Walther Center bleachers to support our basketball team in an intense home-opener. For the first time, each program provided a get-to-know-the-teachers session on Friday morning designed to help students be informed about what the education, music, and Bible departments teach and how that would prepare them for life. These come-and-go sessions were very popular and, no doubt, urged many toward their decision to apply to WCBC later that day. Following a convicting drama written and directed by Dr. Goetsch, Dr. Jim Schettler

preached on our need to take a stand for the truth of God in this generation. Many young people made life-changing decisions to take that stand for God's Word! There is no way to adequately describe our thanks for what God did through West Coast Up Close! We look forward to those who will join us this coming year to experience what God is doing at West Coast Baptist College!



DR. JOHN GOETSCH is the Vice President of West Coast Baptist College.

Ladies Conference 2018

The West Coast Baptist Ladies Conference did not disappoint this year, and we are thankful for all God did in the hearts of the ladies who were able to attend. The theme, Called, emphasized our purpose as women and the fulfillment we find in Christ. A coastal theme permeated the conference décor and details, and the ladies enjoyed delicious snacks, treats, and giveaways in addition to the biblical and practical teaching.

The conference opened with a main service on Thursday night as Danielle Mordh brought an insightful word from 2 Peter 1, explaining what it means to be called to glory and virtue.

Vicki Mutchler, from Grandview Baptist Church in Oregon, spoke on Friday morning, wisely and humorously teaching on the call to serve. She emphasized our purpose to encourage and bless others as the Lord leads.

After the morning service, the ladies enjoyed three breakout sessions designed to equip women in every stage of life. The massive donut wall was definitely a favorite during the conference and was enjoyed by all during the morning's refreshment break.

That afternoon, the delegates enjoyed

a delicious lunch and more food in the late afternoon as food trucks came to the campus— providing an opportunity for fellowship and delicious local fare before the main service that Friday evening.

Kelly Rasmussen from Faith Baptist Church in Canoga Park, CA began her two-part message, “Called to His Purpose,” that evening. Many decisions were made and memorialized as ladies pinned cards to fishing nets, committing to remember their identity in Christ.

Saturday morning concluded the conference, and the conference host, Terrie Chappell, held a special time of reflection, encouraging ladies to record their commitments by sealing a message in a bottle piece as a reminder of all God did in hearts during this 3-day event.

We are thankful for what God did this year, and are looking forward to the next conference already!



DANIELLE MORDH serves in the ladies ministry of Lancaster Baptist Church.





SPIRITUAL LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE

EUROPE 2018

135

DELEGATES

36

MISSIONARIES &
NATIONAL PASTORS

14

COUNTRIES
REPRESENTED



SLC EUROPE 2018

WE

We had a tremendous conference in eastern Europe this past year. We were blessed to have missionaries come in from many countries and national pastors as well. During the conference, we were able to minister to about 25 missionaries sent from and supported by Lancaster Baptist Church while another several dozen missionaries attended the conference from Moldova, Russia, Ukraine, Romania, Croatia, Germany, Estonia, Budapest, England, Greece, and Japan.

The conference was held at Biserica Baptista Independenta in Timisoara, Romania which is pastored by WCBC alumnus missionary Tim Tyler. It was an

incredible blessing to see the work that God is doing through Brother Tyler's ministry there in Romania.

During our opening sessions, I spoke on the subject "Fruit That Remains" encouraging soulwinning and discipleship. Terrie taught sessions for the ladies on walking with the Lord, joy in the ministry, and being faithful in the ministry. Dave Delaney taught on the family of a full-time worker.

DR. PAUL CHAPPELL
Pastor & Publisher

Any other pursuit apart from Jesus makes no sense and ultimately will perish. He's the Lamb. He affirms you are guiltless. He makes you worthy of what it is He has called you to.

—John Tyler, Chairman of Music Department (WCBC Alumnus, 2011)



We said...

I DO

They said...

HELLO



**VIVIAN SOPHIA
AIKEN**

BORN ON 8.10.18



**LOGAN MICHAEL
JOHNSON**

BORN ON 8.11.18



**MATTHEW
MORENO STARIN**

BORN ON 5.15.18



**KYLE
BERG**

BORN ON 1.30.19

They said...

HELLO

BIRTHS

Alexa born to Sam and Juliana Hutchens	April 7, 2018
Jackson born to Nathan and Jewell Leierer	May 4, 2018
Nora born to Sam and Sarah Hoffman	May 11, 2018
Gwendolyn born to Daniel and Virginia Shedd	May 15th 2018
Carter born to Nathan and Rachel Lipscomb	June 22, 2018
Bethel born to and Sam and Naomi Grosse	June 23, 2018
Kayson born to Tyler and Mindy Cherry	June 5, 2018
Amelia born to John and Pearl Tyler	June 27, 2018
Logan born to Tyler and Ayla Johnson	August 11, 2018
Andrew born to Brett and Dianna Swope	August 2, 2018
Juliana born to Jordin and Dana Thornburg	July 6, 2018
Caleb born to Alan and Katie Berry	August 31, 2018
Elora born to Sean and Elizabeth Kim	August 8, 2018
Vivian born to Anthony and Alaina Aiken	Aug 10, 2018
KatieAnne born to Steven and Rebekah Fine	October 2, 2018
Matthew born to Jake and Regina Starin	May 15, 2018
Tommy born to Jonathan and Sarah Gossett	August 25, 2018
Hadleigh born to Obadiah & Bethel England	December 9, 2018
Kyle to Brandon & Kimberly Berg	January 30, 2019
Levi to Joe & Katie McKelroy	January 18, 2019



**HAYLEE & BLAKE
MUSCOTT**

MARRIED ON 1.4.19



**HANNAH & MARK
RASMUSSEN**

MARRIED ON 9.21.18



**JESSICA & LJ
NINO**

MARRIED ON 11.10.18

WEDDINGS

Jenny Robb and Chad Farley
 Lisa Martin and Wesley Woodard
 Katlin Dorsey and Ryan Ruppel
 Christine Cremeans and Josh Bell
 Shelbi Rader & Evan Rose
 Danielle Lizarde & John Pound
 Jessica Roberson and Calvin Saulog*
 Karen Kennedy and Daniel Cannon
 Kelsie Icatar and Cody Kishimoto*
 Monica Thompson* and Jacob Stafford
 Hannah Loo and Mark Rasmussen
 Arianna Ramirez and Elton Perdomo
 Sarah Cripps and Jadon Pinson
 Hannah Amasula and Alberto Portillo
 Jessica Roe and LJ Nino

May 26, 2018
 June 9, 2018
 July 7, 2018
 July 7, 2018
 July 13, 2018
 July 13, 2018
 August 10, 2018
 August 18, 2018
 July 7, 2018
 Nov 17, 2018
 September 21, 2018
 September 29, 2018
 October 5, 2018
 October 19, 2018
 November 10, 2018

Andrea Carlson and Ben Howell
 Rachel Moses and Jonathan Free
 Haylee Hodges and Blake Muscott*
 Aimee Richards and Luke Chermue*
 Kelsie Icatar & Cody Kishimoto
 Shelbi Rader & Evan Rose
 Sarah Nunes and Daniel Blas

December 15, 2018
 January 5, 2019
 January 4, 2019
 January 11, 2019
 July 8, 2018
 July 13, 2018
 December 12, 2018

Ordination



Jordin & Dana Thornburg

2013 Graduate | Missions
 Seattle Baptist Church
 Edmonds, WA

Striving Together Conferences

**A great opportunity to connect
with other alumni**



Regional Striving Together Conferences, hosted by Dr. R.B. Ouellette and Dr. Paul Chappell, are held throughout the year for the purpose of equipping and training pastors and Christian leaders in the work of the Lord. Leadership training sessions, biblical preaching, and question-and-answer times provide a unique experience for spiritual growth and encouraging fellowship. You don't want to miss these opportunities to strive together with other like-minded men of God! You will leave having been equipped, strengthened, and refreshed for the work of the Lord.

REGISTRATION

For more information, or to register for one of these conferences, simply visit stconferences.com. Registration is free and includes session outlines and additional resources.

Register at stconferences.com or **661.946.4663 x2102**



DR. PAUL CHAPPELL
LANCASTER BAPTIST CHURCH
LANCASTER, CALIFORNIA



DR. R.B. OUELLETTE
FRIST BAPTIST CHURCH
BRIDGEPORT, MICHIGAN

New Resources for **PERSONAL GROWTH AND MINISTRY**

Below is a list of new Striving Together resources. Some are new releases this year, and some are new since the last Spiritual Leadership Conference. Click on the titles of any for more information or to order:

LUKE: JOURNEY WITH JESUS

The newest volume to the Striving Together Study Library, this book is a verse-by-verse journey through the book of Luke. Nearly six hundred pages long, it is the fruit of thousands of hours in preparation and the result of study for a two-year sermon series covering the life of Christ.

REVIVAL TODAY

A one-year, on-this-day devotional by Dr. John Goetsch and Nathan Birt, this book features revivals of the past to encourage us to ask the Lord for revival today. Each devotion includes Scripture and a practical application for living a revived life through the power of the Holy Spirit.

TIME OUT FOR PARENTS

The ninety devotions in this book are written to encourage parents to seek God's wisdom as they raise their children for Him. Each devotion includes a Scripture passage and provides an encouraging or admonishing truth regarding the responsibility of parenting. At the close of each devotion is a single actionable thought given as "Today's Parenting Principle."

ARE WE THERE YET?

Released last fall, it has been a blessing to Terrie and me to hear how the Lord has been using this book, companion guide, and curriculum to help and strengthen marriages!

RIGHTLY DIVIDED

As its subtitle suggests, this small book by Dr. Mike Lester provides a beginner's guide to Bible study. But don't think that it is only for new Christians. It is for anyone who wants to understand basic principles for "rightly dividing the word of truth" (2 Timothy 2:15).

OVERTIME

In these pages, Dr. Don Sisk transparently shares the past five years of his life, including caring for his wife Virginia through her brain tumor and homegoing. This book will encourage any reader to live fully for Christ, and it provides experiential instruction for caregiving and joyful service in your "overtime" years.

JESUS OR BUDDHA?

This booklet by Dr. Mike Lester is written to present the gospel to a Buddhist. It contrasts the lives and messages of Jesus and Buddha and concludes with a compelling invitation to trust Christ.

REVIVE

This booklet lists six characteristics of a revived life. Written specifically for the *Revive* theme of this year's Spiritual Leadership Conference, I pray the Lord uses it to stir a hunger for revival in hearts.

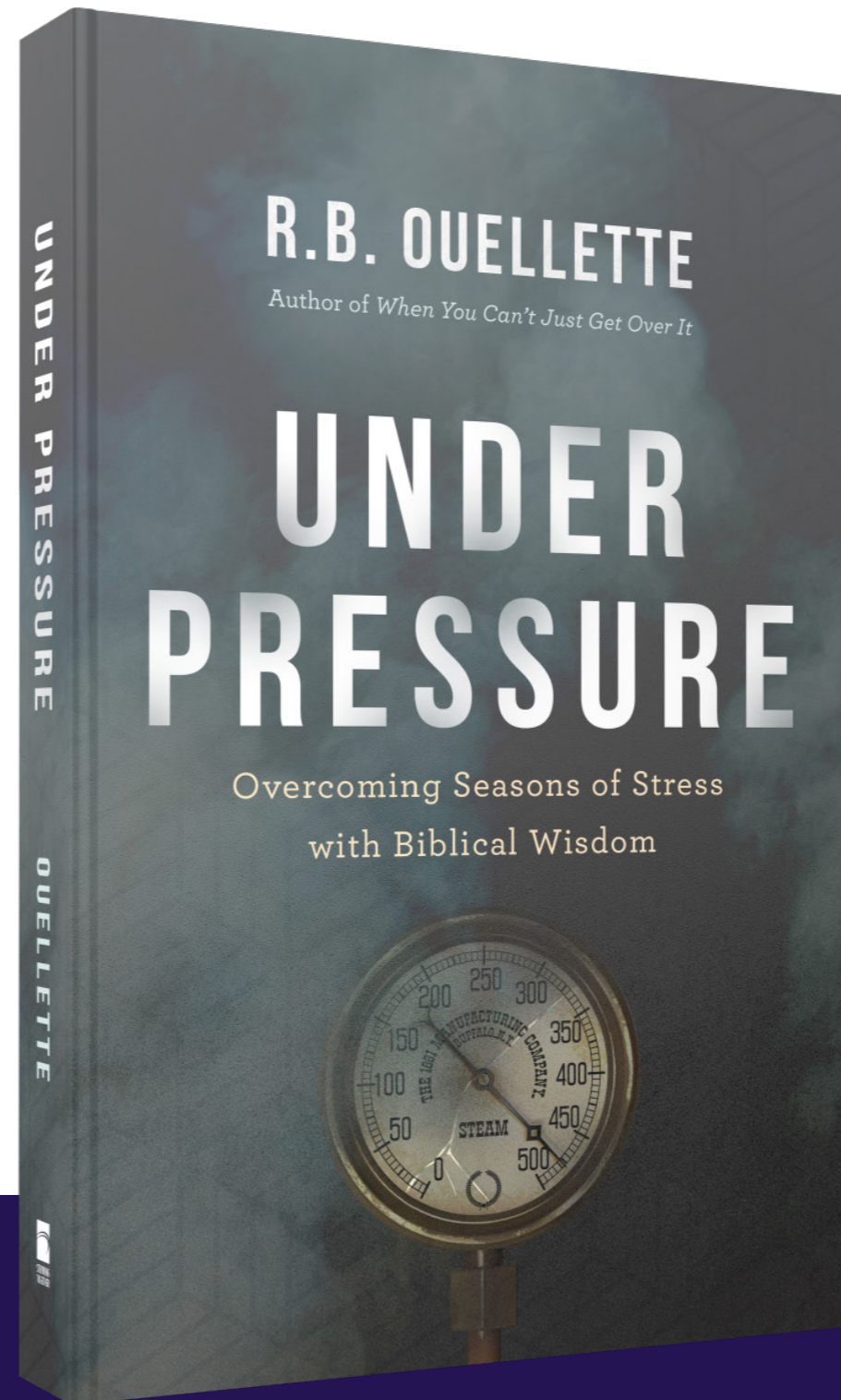
WHEN YOU CAN'T JUST GET OVER

IT CURRICULUM

Based on his book by the same title, each of these ten lessons by R. B. Ouellette provide biblical insights from Bible characters who faced the same struggles and hurdles we face. These lessons help students not “just get over it,” but discover victory through it!

PORTRAITS OF GRACE CURRICULUM

God’s grace is a dynamic change agent that works in our lives to transform us to the image of Christ. Each of the ten lessons in this series feature what God’s grace looked like in the individual lives of various Bible characters in their most challenging moments and extreme difficulties. But more than seeing how God worked in miraculous ways in their circumstances, we see how He changed the lives of the people themselves who experienced His grace.



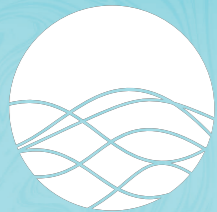
UNDER PRESSURE

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UNTO SIN, BUT ALIVE UNTO GOD
THROUGH JESUS CHRIST OUR LORD.
– ROMANS 6:11



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Trusting God with Our Children

MAKING YOUR HOME A
PEACEFUL PLACE

BY TERRIE CHAPPELL

I have always loved the story of Moses and his family. I love how God used this family to protect their son and save a nation! I am greatly encouraged by the fact that we serve the same God today—a God who still possesses the power and provides the wisdom we need to raise godly children in the ministry. We do not have to lose our children while we attempt to save the world!

Our Christian school hosts a fine arts competition each year. When our oldest daughter, Danielle, was in the eleventh grade, she entered the Bible teaching portion of the competition. Being that she was in other areas of competition that were scheduled around the same time, she was quite frazzled and in a big hurry when she got up to teach. She was teaching on Jochebed in the first person. She started, “Hello, boys and girls, my name is Ichabod.”

Danielle realized by the way my daughter

SCROLL RIGHT TO CONTINUE READING →

Kristine and I were laughing that she must have said something wrong. So, a little flustered, she started over, “Hello, boys and girls, my name is Ichabod!” More laughter.

She started over three times before Kristine and I could control our laughter enough to whisper to her that she was saying “Ichabod” instead of “Jochebed.” Suffice it to say, the glory had departed!

We (including Danielle) have laughed over that episode many times. But in all seriousness, I don’t want “Ichabod” written over the door of my home!

If Jochebed kept a journal or a diary, I wonder if it would read something like this: Journal: My heart is overwhelmed. Today Pharaoh ruled that all male Hebrew babies will be placed in the Nile. I wonder if this baby will be a boy. The Lord knows what is ahead, and I will have to trust in Him.

Jochebed trusted God, and though Proverbs 3:5 was not yet written, she obeyed its command: “Trust in the Lord with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding.” When it comes to parenting, we must trust God and not ourselves.

TRUST GOD WITH CIRCUMSTANCES

The events surrounding Moses’ birth were not an easy pill to swallow for this family. When Moses was born, Jochebed did not throw her arms in the air and say, “Oh well, I trusted God and look

what happened.” She simply chose to respond differently!

If we can’t change the circumstances, then we should change the way we respond to them, just as Jochebed did. Too often, we trust God to only change the circumstance instead of trusting Him to change us in the circumstance. If you are currently in a situation over which you have no control, trust God! Thank Him for the opportunity to prove Him and grow closer to Him.

TRUST GOD WITH YOUR CHILD

Don’t ever forget that, first and foremost, our children belong to the Lord. When we recognize this truth of ownership, it is much easier to trust God with our offspring.

We often think that it is so hard to leave our children in God’s hands, yet I am thankful that I’ve never had to leave my baby in a basket in a crocodile-infested river! We can learn a lot about trust from the example God gives us in Jochebed.

As your children grow, learn to trust the God-given authority in their lives. God knows who your children’s teachers, youth pastors, and principals will be. Even when an authority figure disappoints you or makes a decision differently than you would have preferred, God is still all-knowing. He can work all things together for good, including things related to your children! Support those who have authority over your children, and work

with them in bringing up your children for God.

There will come a time as your children continue to grow when you must “cut the apron strings” and begin to let them go. I can imagine how very difficult it must have been for Jochebed to take her hands off of that basket and to leave Miriam there to watch Moses.

TRUST GOD FOR WISDOM

I pray my life’s verse back to God nearly every day— Jeremiah 33:3, “Call unto me, and I will answer thee, and shew thee great and mighty things, which thou knowest not.” Frequently, I find myself asking God to show me something great and mighty that I don’t know in regards to parenting. I need His wisdom.

Clearly, each child is unique. I have four children, and they are all completely different. Most of the time, I feel like I need four different parenting strategies! So, I regularly ask the Lord to give me the discernment to know how to deal with each one individually. I need wisdom to know when to be quiet, when to keep talking, when to discipline, and when to show grace!

TRUST GOD FOR THE OUTCOME

Jochebed did everything she could do, but ultimately she put Moses in the river and trusted God for the outcome. We know how the story turned out, but Jochebed had to trust God by faith.

We have to learn to “let go and let God.”

I love the illustration of the little boy whose hand was stuck in a very valuable vase. His parents tried everything they could to get his hand out, and nothing worked. After several hours of working to get his hand free, the vase had to be broken. As the vase broke into pieces, freeing his tiny hand, his parents saw for the first time that his fist was tightly clenched. As his little hand opened, everyone saw that he was clinging to a piece of candy! If only he would have let go of the candy, he could have easily taken his hand out of the vase. Perhaps you need to release your grip on the little things in life before God breaks your vase!

How did it turn out for Jochebed? God gave Moses back to her and paid her to nurse and nurture him. God is so awesome! This type of outcome is the product of parental trust. Jochebed had to realize that God was in control, and she had to learn to trust Him, not knowing what the future would hold.



Terrie Chappell oversees the ladies ministry of Lancaster Baptist Church and teaches the fourth grade girls Sunday school class.

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