

"...it's equally commanded in Scripture that believers give themselves to engaging the lost."

We continue in our 2020-21 thematic year of **Receiving One Another!** I've communicated many times that this theme is from Romans 15:7. To **"Receive One Another"** speaks of reciprocity. It's not just you purposing to be involved in my life, or, me purposing to be involved in your life. It's reciprocal, as well as intentional. The verb is a command and in the middle voice. This means every child of God is to make this a point of obedience, AND take the initiative to reach out to others in the Body of Christ.

As we all practice the command to personally take the initiative of **"Receiving One Another,"** it assures us that there isn't anyone being left behind. This is very much what 1 Corinthians 12:12-26 [please read] tells us.

I want to take advantage of this opportunity through this pastoral column to exhort you [i.e., each Red Bridger] to give yourself to increasing your circle of friendships. Cathie and I regularly fellowship with a variety of God's people. Some are married; some unmarried. Some are young; some not so young. The bottom-line is that we have a kindred spirit with God's people at RBBC based on our identity in Christ.

In addition to intentionally fellowshiping with those of a kindred spirit, it's equally commanded in Scripture that believers give themselves to engaging the lost. Of course, this is primarily for the sake of sharing the Gospel. Cathie and I have gotten much mileage out of walking our neighborhood on a regular basis. We've met many of our neighbors and know some by name. The first step one must take in evangelism is to be in proximity to the lost. We must not hide out in our meetings at church. One of the reasons why gathering together is so crucial is so that we can be equipped to share the Gospel message (Hebrews 10:24-25). Sharing Christ is arguably one of the "good works" of which this passage speaks. So, take a walk in your neighborhood. Meet and befriend those in your own "Jerusalem" (Lk.24:44-48).

Speaking of reaching out to our neighbors, we are doing just that at RBBC. We have just launched a brand-new outreach/discipleship class targeting the Spanish-speaking folks in the RBBC area. This class is led by Cesar & Luz Quiroz, RBBC missionaries to the Spanish-speaking world. This class (for adults) meets each Wednesday evening at 6:30 PM. Be sure to invite your Spanish-speaking friends, neighbors, etc., to attend.

May we all practice **"Receiving One Another"** in these days. It's clear that our culture needs a fresh infusion of the Gospel and biblical theology. May God bless you as you give yourself to serving Him!

Pastor Vic Borden



AroundRBBC

Welcome to RBBC:

Caleb & Willow Meek
Paul & Anna Williamson
James (Tiago) Nichols
Josh & Osiris "Osi" Larson
Frank Larson

Safely Home:

Russell "Russ" Spoor
Judy Campbell

Future Members:

Braelyn Faith,
born to Zach & Jessica Hadley
Edric Ben,
born to Wilfred & Blessing Tamfu

Congratulations to
Todd & Taylor Saylor



Married: March 20, 2021



Haiti Home of Hope

Fundraiser Picnic
Saturday, June 12
Beginning at 11 AM

Information/Registration at:
www.haitihomeofhope.org

Gracia Burnham
Keynote Speaker



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

Some of the
young people at
the Youth Banquet
with their favorite
"cheerleaders"!



The Insight column is currently focusing on RBBC missionaries.

Allen & Hagit Lord serve in Israel with the *International Board of Jewish Missions* (IBJM). Both Allen and his late wife, Elaine, came to know Christ as the result of a gospel tract given to them by a 12-year-old girl. The little "pint-sized" missionary invited them to her church, and three days later, Allen & Elaine visited Landmark Baptist Church in Cape Coral, FL, and were saved.

In March 1980, Allen surrendered to full-time ministry. In a missions conference, while preparing for the ministry at *Tennessee Temple University* (TTU), the Lord used Amos 7:14-15, to call Allen to serve Him in Jewish missions. A few months later, the Lord revealed that He wanted Allen and his family to serve Him among the Jewish population of Paris, France.

Upon graduation from TTU in August 1985, Allen & Elaine began raising prayer and financial support to begin serving in France. Soon after that, they were contacted by former RBBC Pastor Bud Long, and invited to present their ministry to the church in the 1986 RBBC World Missions Conference. Even before the Lords left for France in November 1987, RBBC began supporting their future ministry of Jewish evangelism / church planting in the Paris suburb of Montrouge. For 12 years the Lord gave their church, *l'Eglise Baptiste du Montrouge*, and their Jewish evangelism ministry, numerous opportunities to see people come to Christ, both Jews and Gentiles.

In November 1999, God called Allen to become the Director of Development for IBJM. Brother Lord served in that capacity until August 2016. In March 2010, Allen's wife, Elaine (married 45 years), was diagnosed with stage four colon cancer, and 16 months later, the Lord graduated her to Heaven.

After Elaine's homegoing, the Lord blessed Allen by bringing Hagit, a longtime friend and co-worker at IBJM, into his life as his new wife. Hagit is Israeli, and was born and raised in Holon, Israel. While visiting the US in 1994, with IBJM friends she had met in Israel, Hagit was hired by IBJM to translate tracts from English into Hebrew. It was while translating a tract that focused on Isaiah 53, that God "dropped the scales" from her eyes and Hagit believed on Jesus as her Lord and Messiah!

In August 2016, the Lord called Allen & Hagit to minister in Israel. At present, they are living in Hagit's hometown (Holon), and are directing the ministry of Project Nehemiah. This is a ministry that provides food and essential living items to both recent Jewish immigrants and the needy. In addition to this ministry, Hagit helps care for her mother, as well as their ongoing witness to Hagit's unsaved, extended family members. Allen has recently accepted the pastoral leadership of Grace Baptist Church in Tel Aviv.

Allen stated: "During the past 35 years, RBBC has been a faithful partner of our ministry. Even more than a 'partner,' RBBC is part of our family! I remember meeting with former Pastor Bud Long and the RBBC Missions Committee back in 1986. It was at that time that Pastor Long shared with me his burden for RBBC to have a special relationship with each missionary family the church supports. Concerning our ministry, I can truly say this vision has been fulfilled!"

Over the years, RBBC members have taken part in this evangelistic effort: from witnessing in the streets of Paris, to singing in restaurants/auditoriums (*Heaven Bound* quartet), to helping us pack Project Nehemiah food bags in Israel (Susan Merrell), and deliver them to needy Jewish people; literally, from Dan to Beersheba! In all this time, RBBC has never missed one month of its financial commitment to this ministry!

Allen concluded: "As is often said about couples when they are married, 'This truly is a marriage made in Heaven!' Both Hagit & I can say without hesitation, 'Our relationship with RBBC is, and has always been, a ministry-partnership made in Heaven.' THANK YOU, Red Bridge Baptist Church, for the part you have played in our lives and service for the Lord these past 35 years. We love and miss you, family!"



Allen & Hagit Lord
at the Sea of Galilee