

## Leader Spotlight!



Join us for an up-close and personal interview done by Pastoral Overseer, Mike Martin with Benton, AR WOPU Leader, Tina Earnest.

*Mike:* Why did you want the poster of the National Motto in your schools?

*Tina:* I just wanted the children to see something about God while they are at school since we've been trying to take God completely out of the schools for so long. I saw this as an opportunity to plant a seed in these young people. They need to know God and hear about Him in school.



*Mike:* When did you start working on getting these into schools?

*Tina:* We originally started in 2018 trying to get the posters into the Benton Public schools; but the area we are focusing on now is Saline County which includes: 4 schools in Glenn Rose, 4 in Harmony Grove, 4 in Bauxite, 8 in Bryant, and 7 in Benton. The former Superintendent was concerned about atheist groups

threatening a lawsuit, so he took no action.

*Mike:* After trying for three years, what changed in your strategy?

*Tina:* A lady in my church was attending another ladies' meeting that began discussing putting these posters up in the school rooms and they knew Senator Jason Rapert. This led to another lady, Stephanie Duke hiring an attorney to speak to the school board directly to inform them of Arkansas Act 911 of 2017 which requires all classrooms in the state to display the national motto, "In God We Trust."

The school board admitted to never hearing anything about this law. And though a vote wasn't required, the Board wanted to go on record by unanimously voting to put these posters in the public schools immediately. As of October 12, 2021, 1,008 framed posters were delivered to the schools in Bryant, AR.

*Mike:* Tell us about your experience working on this project over the past three years.

*Tina:* It was worth it. It has paid off. I can't say that I didn't get discouraged and frustrated. Sometimes I laid it down for a couple of months when someone would ask me how the project was going, and I'd get right back up and get going again on the project.

*Mike:* What did you learn from this experience?

*Tina:* If I believe in it, and it's the right thing to do – don't give up. Rely on and trust God and keep working on it as He will open the doors. Don't give up. Other schools outside of our county are asking us how to get the posters into their schools. The feeling I have gotten from this accomplishment makes me want to keep working on getting the posters in every school in Arkansas. We have 670 posters and frames if anyone needs them to get into some schools.

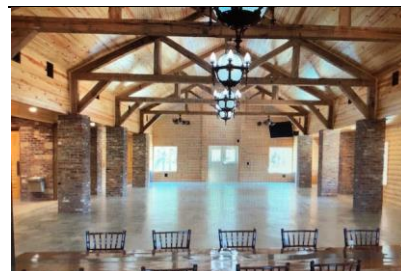
## Grandparenting Summit



The Legacy Coalition sponsored a Grandparenting Summit in Birmingham, AL in October. It was such a privilege to network with national leaders who shared our vision to save the next generation. This event was the first on many levels. It was our first national conference launching the Mr. Spickles children's book series, beyond the Women's Seminars. It was Missie's first commercial introducing the country to WOPU, and it was the first grandparenting event for WOPU. We were *Stepping into God's Glory!*

**SAVE THE DATE!**

*Prayer Celebration 2022*  
*March 4-5, 2022*



*Blakely Town in Arkadelphia, AR*  
*Early Bird registration online will open on December 1<sup>st</sup> and close on January 15, 2022. Go to [www.wopunited.org](http://www.wopunited.org) under EVENTS . Registration is required. See you there!*