



Baylor Round Table

Wishing you peace
in every step and
joy in every day.



*Baylor Round Table
Newsletter*

January 2026

President's message

In the days following Christmas we find ourselves boxing lights and ornaments while moving towards beginning of another new year. January always brings those moments of anticipation where we consider exploring something different than our usual patterns of habit. Perhaps this is the time ~ learn a craft, read a book, or develop a healthy exercise routine. Whatever you decide, envision yourself growing through each adventure as that is the sweetness of living.

A highlight is our Christmas Concert and Luncheon which featured the Baylor Chamber Singers whose songs filled the Foyer of Meditation in Armstrong Browning Library with glad tidings. Janet Green, Chair of the Christmas Concert and Luncheon and her Committee organized a delightful afternoon. We extend our thanks for their planning which even included a beautiful red, green, & gold backdrop and live stream of concert reaching from Texas to Oregon. Christmas Angels were recognized during the program. These are individuals who contributed \$100 or more to the Baylor Round Table Endowed Scholarship prior to the concert. Each donation, for which we are most grateful, makes a significant difference in the lives of our student recipients for their education.

Coming soon will be another revision to our bylaws; advanced notification will be sent so everyone can be informed of those recommended changes. Discussion will occur at beginning of our February program and Voting at beginning of our March program. Interest groups are rolling right along again; be sure to read other portions of our newsletter as well as our website. Come join us and extend the joy!

Many good wishes to each of you as you determine
what will be your new adventures for 2026!

Dana Lee Haines, Ed.D.
President, Baylor Round Table, 2025-2026

Interest Group Highlights

Supper Club

Join a group that loves to eat and fellowship. We will meet monthly during the fall and spring semesters to dine out or enjoy a potluck at a member's home.

Contact Jane Lin if interested, or to join her mailing list

Upcoming Dates:

January 20th 5:45 PM

March 24th 5:45 PM

Brown House Café, Woodway

Dine out, location TBD

February 17th 6:15 PM

April 28th 6:15 PM

Asian Themed Potluck

International Themed Potluck

At Jane's

Location TBA

Coffee & Chat

Join us for coffee on a Saturday around 11:00 AM with conversation at selected coffee shops in Waco.

It's a great time for fellowship with new and old friends.

Meets monthly.

Contact Rose Flores for details.

On - Campus Luncheon

McMullen-Connally Faculty Center

President's Room

11:30am-1:00pm

Max room capacity is 14, first 14 RSVPs and then waiting list or moved to new room if possible.

Contact Dana Lee Haines to RSVP

Upcoming Dates:

January 27, 2026

February 18, 2026

March 18, 2026

April 15, 2026

Off - Campus Lunch Group

Off-Campus Lunch Group meets several times during the fall and spring semesters at various Waco restaurants to enjoy good food and fellowship.

Please email Sara Goode Lefever to make reservation and learn additional about location of gathering.

Upcoming Dates:

January 22nd, 2026 La Madeleine

February 12th, 2026 Luigi's

[Email Jane Lin](#)

[Email Rose Flores](#)

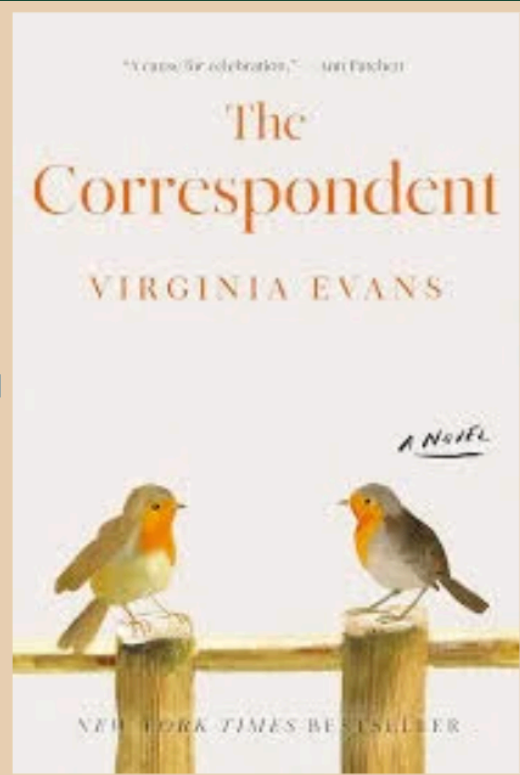
[Email Dana Lee Haines](#)

Email Sara Goode Lefever

Remote Book Club The Correspondent by Virginia Evans

February 3rd, 7 PM CST
5:00 p.m. PST, 6 p.m. MST, and 8 p.m. EST.
Please RSVP to Christine Wilkins to attend

When letters from someone in Sybil's past force her to examine one of the most painful periods of her life, she realizes that the letter she has been writing over the years needs to be read and that she cannot move forward until she finds it in her heart to offer forgiveness."



Email Christine Wilkins

Remote Interest Group Online Social

Thursday, January 22nd, 7 PM CST
5:00 p.m. PST, 6 p.m. MST, 7 p.m. CST, and 8 p.m. EST
Meet members of the Baylor family from Texas and across the country! Join us to renew long-standing friendships and to make new ones!
Please email Christine Wilkins to RSVP if you plan to attend.

Email Christine Wilkins

What other interest groups are available?

Thank you to all who have participated in our recent Interest Group events!

December 10th On-Campus Luncheon Group
McMullen-Connally Faculty Center



December 11th
Off-Campus Lunch Group
Rudy's BBQ



December 17th
Prayer Group



FROM THE HISTORIAN

Amy Swanson

CHRISTMAS ANGELS

The annual Baylor Round Table Christmas Concert and Luncheon was held on December 4th at the Armstrong Browning Library. Members and their guests enjoyed good food and fellowship, as well as being treated to a beautiful performance of Christmas songs by the Baylor Chamber Singers. After the concert our Round Table Angels were recognized for their generous support of the scholarship fund and received a special pin. Many thanks to the Christmas Concert and Luncheon Committee who worked tirelessly to make this event a resounding success!

- Jenny Branson
- Julie Covington
- Andrea Dixon
- Dana Lee Haines - In Honor of Kathy Hillman
- Maxine Hart
- Kathy Hillman - In Memory of Edna Wood, Past BRT President and Jean Furr Tolbert
- Jocelyn McGee
- Liz Palacios
- Denyse Rodgers
- Martha Lou Scott - In Honor of Kathy Hillman
- Stacey Voigt
- Kay Wellbaum



Christa's Chaplain's Corner

New Year, New Beginnings!

How are things going? Is 2026 off to a good start? Or maybe not?

In Isaiah, the Lord conveyed that “Behold, I am doing a new thing, now I it springs forth, do you not perceive it?” (Isaiah 43:19) How many of us had great plans for the new year and things did not quite go according to plan? Never fear! God also said, “The steadfast love of the Lord never ceases, His mercies never come to an end. They are new every morning; great is your faithfulness!” (Lamentations 3:22 -23)

It’s admirable to set our intentions for improvement in the new year. However, if we fall short, we can always remind ourselves of this beautiful promise that God is doing new things all the time, and His forgiveness is always available.

Instead of focusing on what we are or are not doing, try meditating on His promises and thinking about “Whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence, if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things.” (Philippians 4:8). When we take every thought captive, and think on His promises and His wonder, we allow His Spirit to move through our hearts, souls, and minds and with renewed perspective and strength we can continue our improvement plans, allowing God to shape us into the best version of ourselves. He is not done with any of us!

Please let me know if you could use some prayer or support. We have a whole team of friends who would love to come alongside you and surround you with the Father’s love.

Happy 2026 – Let’s fill our thoughts with His wonderful promises and be renewed daily by Him!

Christa Oudshoorn
Chaplain, Baylor Round Table, 2025—2026

[Renew Membership HERE](#)

Prepared by Kate Rendon, Public Relations Chairperson, Baylor Round Table, 2025-2026

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