

"For our citizenship is in heaven; from which also we eagerly wait for a Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ."

— Philippians 3:20 (NASB)

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November 5, 2015

Prison church in 'historic escape' joins Washington Association

BY MARK H. HUNTER
Regional Reporter

ANGOLA — For the first time in Louisiana Baptist history, and perhaps in all of Southern Baptist history, a local Baptist association has accepted a prison church into its fellowship.

The Washington Baptist Association unanimously voted Oct. 5 to accept Grace Baptist Church of the Main Camp in

Louisiana State Penitentiary at Angola. The Washington Association comprises 38 Louisiana Baptist Convention churches in Washington and St. Tammany Parishes and the annual meeting was held at First Baptist of Franklinton.

Grace Baptist is five years old and is the only Southern Baptist church among the prison's 28 inmate-led churches. Its 65 or so members meet five times a week

in the Main Camp's Education Center and twice a month in the Main Camp's Tudy Chapel.

Grace Baptist is led by inmate Pastor Paul Will, 42, a 2007 graduate of the New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary Extension at Angola. Like most of the men at Angola, he is serving a life sentence.

Andrew Voss is pastor of

See **GRACE BAPTIST** on 8



Grace Baptist
Pastor Paul Will

I am truly humbled at this monumental moment. For God has allowed, through His providence, an incredible history to unfold here at Angola, a history that only God could have orchestrated for no man could have planned all that has transpired.

President Rick Brewer presents framework for Christian education

BY WILL HALL
Message Editor

ALEXANDRIA — Newly inaugurated President Rick Brewer has released a white paper providing the theoretical framework for his vision for growing Louisiana College through greater intentionality in integrating faith with learning in all academic disciplines.

Brewer is the ninth president of the Christian college, having led the institution since his election March

See **BREWER** on 17



Submitted photo

Pastor Ryan Melson gets ready to perform a baptism in front of Miller Wall Elementary School in Marrero. In just over a year's time, the fledgling congregation has grown to nearly 40 and has baptized five.

'MADE NEW' IN CHRIST

West Bank Baptist gaining inroads in community

BY BRIAN BLACKWELL
Message Staff Writer

MARRERO — Made new is a common phrase these days for many at West Bank Baptist Church. Since moving to be nearer the community where the church ministers, the small but growing congregation has seen multiple decisions for Christ and baptisms.

They have grown from just Pastor Ryan Melson and a handful of others meeting in his home in July 2014 to nearly 40 who now gather for worship at a local elementary school.

Some may say it's a strategic vision.

Melson attributes that vision to the hand of God.

"We prayed when we came to Marrero that God show us where to go, where You are moving," said Melson, who moved from north Alabama to plant West Bank Baptist Church. "Now that we have an open door with the school, we do ministry with the school."

"As God opens doors in different parts of the city, we go through them," he continued. "It's been cool to really to see God move."

One key part of the growth has been establishing relationships early on with "persons of peace" — those whom God would use to help Melson make inroads with others in the community. He found one in Ernest Houston, a resident in a neighborhood not far from Miller Wall

See **WEST BANK** on 20

Changing times to be addressed by messengers at Annual Meeting

BY BRIAN BLACKWELL
Message Staff Writer

BOSSIER CITY — The times are challenging and messengers attending the annual meeting of the Louisiana Baptist Convention at First Baptist in Bossier City on Nov. 9-10 will have the opportunity to respond.

Louisiana Baptist Convention President Steve Horn is hopeful messengers will embrace a new pastor-led initiative called The Pledge which aims to boost Cooperative Program giving and provide the necessary resources to meet the challenges presented by an increasingly secular culture.

First announced during the Louisiana Baptist Executive Board meeting May 5, The Pledge was birthed out of the 2020 Commission Report adopted by messengers attending the 2013 meeting of the LBC in Alexandria. The initiative challenges churches giving less than 3 percent through the

See **ANNUAL MEETING** on 9

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Louisiana businessman to hire missionary caught in IMB cutbacks

BY BRIAN BLACKWELL
Message Staff Reporter

BATON ROUGE – The recent news of the International Mission Board offering some of their missionaries voluntary retirement has

prompted a Louisiana Baptist business owner to hire one of them at his company.

Dustin Beebe, owner of ProSys, an engineering firm in Baton Rouge, told the *Baptist Message* that he plans to bring the missionary on board sometime next year, fulfilling a leading from the Holy Spirit to do his part in helping out a former co-worker in a time of need.

“What I would hate to see is these IMB missionaries who have been on the field so long are forgotten and we just leave them to drop,” said Beebe, a member of Woodlawn Baptist Church in Baton Rouge. “They are in a tough situation and someone needs to step out.”

Although giving through the Lottie Moon Christmas

Offering has been up and it has been receiving more from the Cooperative Program, the International Mission Board

overspent revenues by more than \$210 million since 2010.

Despite drawing down reserves and selling global properties, the nearly quarter of a billion dollars in overspending created a financial crisis that IMB leaders plan to

meet by offering early retirement incentives to entice 600-800 experienced missionaries to leave the mission field, while still continuing to hire 300 new missionaries each year for two years.

The IMB reports that, currently, approximately 4,800 personnel serve as missionaries and 450 as staff.

The missionary, whom the *Baptist Message* can not identify

due to security reasons, worked with Beebe at ProSys before leaving for the mission field in 2005. When Beebe heard the news, he talked with his former co-worker about the situation.

“He was very nervous about the future, but he had prayed and felt really confident,” Beebe said. “All their kids had transitioned to US, so they were at the point where they were in this country serving as just he and his wife.”

“Then all of a sudden this happened to them,” he continued. “He reached out to me and said he needed a place to fall. It takes time to make the connections to get a job here in the US and that can be difficult when they need income after their service overseas is complete.”

Beebe then discussed the situation with Lewis Rich-

erson, pastor of Woodlawn Baptist. The two agreed that the currency in the missionary’s country where he served was much less equal to that of the dollar and the skills used there would not marketable in many US companies.

However, because the missionary had a degree and prior experience in architecture, he was brought to Beebe’s mind with the idea of possibly bringing him back on board.

Still, Beebe wrestled with one question – was he causing problems or helping the missionary out?

“As a layperson I always thought this person was committing their lives to missions and they shouldn’t leave where they were serving, so I shouldn’t aid them in leaving that,” he recalled. “My initial thought was to stay over there. But then I approached Lewis and we came to the conclusion that I would be meeting this need for someone who had devoted so many years to serving the Lord.”

Richerson said this is a story of God’s providence and should serve as example to the larger body of Southern Baptist business owners who may be able to do the same.

“This is a situation that is commendable to other brothers and sisters,” Richerson said. “I am reminded in the scripture of Paul encouraging the Macedonian church. We are talking about brothers in Christ. Dustin and (his wife) Diana in this situation are embodying the position of brothers being generous to one another. The body of Christ primary benevolence ministry was to other brothers and sisters in the early church. And that was what drew others to faith in Christ. This should serve as an encouragement to other brothers in Christ and a gospel proclamation to the lost world.”



Dustin Beebe

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4 Louisiana Churches

Pastor suspects arson in fire which destroyed most of Bayou Baptist Slidell

BY STAFF

Baptist Message

SLIDELL – A Louisiana Baptist church is searching for answers after a fire destroyed most of the building in late October.

Pastor Frank Treme received a phone call from a church member around 10:30

pm on Oct. 22 that Bayou Baptist Church in Slidell could be on fire. When he arrived on the scene, about a mile from his home, several firetrucks were already battling the blaze.

The New Orleans Advocate newspaper cautioned that it is too soon to declare arson as the cause however Treme

said he believes the blaze was intentionally set.

"It's hard for everybody in our church," Treme said. "This is devastating. It's not bad enough they violated and burglarized parts of our building but why did they have to put a fire to it?"

Treme said the insurance company has not yet made a determination about the extent of damage, but he believes it will be a total loss. The fire destroyed a part of the building that houses classrooms, a nursery and the kitchen.

The sanctuary did not burn to the ground but the interior sustained enough damage from smoke that Treme is doubtful it can be saved.

Regardless, Treme is certain the church will rebuild. While they look for a location to build, the congregation also will be searching for a temporary place to worship.

Lonnie Wascom, director



Photo courtesy of New Orleans Advocate

Fire caused destroyed most of Bayou Baptist Church in Slidell on Oct. 22. The sanctuary did not burn to the ground but the interior sustained enough damage that it is doubtful it can be saved.

of missions for Northshore Baptist Association which includes Bayou Baptist Church, said this is the first church he knows of in his association that could be the victim of arson.

The day following the

fire, a number of churches in his association had contacted Wascom to offer assistance, and he said he was not surprised at the outpouring of support for Bayou Baptist Church.

"Pray for pastor Frank Treme and the Bayou Baptist church congregation," Wascom told Baptist Message. "Thank God for the cooperation from the local church down through the association and the Louisiana Baptist Convention. Be thankful for a genuine spirit of cooperation. 'You can burn a building,' he said. 'You can't burn a church.'"

This is the second time in 10 years the church is going to rebuild a new sanctuary. After Hurricane Katrina heavily damaged its sanctuary,

See FIRE on 18



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Ford beats out large field, wins LC's "Write or Recite" competition



Norm Miller photo

LC President Rick Brewer presents Avoyelles Public Charter School senior Jada Ford of Marksville with a \$1,000 scholarship to LC and an iPad at Louisiana College's "Write or Recite" competition.

BY NORM MILLER
LC Communications

PINEVILLE – Inspired by her English teacher at Avoyelles Public Charter School, senior Jada Ford of Marksville won the grand prize at Louisiana College's "Write or Recite" competition, Oct. 15.

Sponsored by LC's Division of Humanities, the contest "provided a venue for young writers to share their creative work with others who share their love of language," said Dr. Cheryl Clark, chair of the division.

"Ultimately, we wanted to provide a space for these students to be publicly honored and rewarded for their efforts because we believe encouraging young writers is an important part of our role as educators," Clark added.

The contest garnered submissions from public, private and home schools in the region.

"We had many nicely

crafted pieces, so the selection process for the finalists was difficult," Clark said.

"The great participation not only speaks to the talent of Louisiana students, but it also speaks to the dedication of our high school teachers. We are really pleased with the outcome of the event and are already making plans for next year's event."

Ford, who won a \$1,000 scholarship to LC and an iPad, said she intends to enroll at LC next year.

The senior was not finished as she stayed for

LC's Preview Day and won another \$1,000 scholarship to the college.

When asked why she chose LC, she said: "I came to Clarinet Day a few months ago and I really liked that. I really liked the campus. Everyone was so nice to me."

LC's Division of Humanities plans to offer the "Write or Recite" competition again, as other divisions at Louisiana College consider how to customize the idea to fit their disciplines for future such contests.

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Submitted photo

James Foster, pastor of Utility Baptist Church in Jonesville, received the Distinguished Service Award at LC's annual Founders Day.

Foster receives DSA at annual Louisiana College Founders' Day ceremonies

BY STAFF

Baptist Message

PINEVILLE – James Foster has a long, very diverse résumé which includes being a graduate of Louisiana College, a public school teacher, an evangelist, a barber, a pastor, and a trustee at Louisiana College.

He can now add being selected as the recipient of the 2015 Distinguished Service Award to his impressive résumé. Foster, a 1969 LC graduate, was awarded the DSA during this year's Founder's Day ceremonies at the college.

In his acceptance message of the award given out each year during Founders Day, Foster, who has served as pastor of Utility Baptist Church in Jonesville since 1996, called the college a "marvelous place" and encouraged the students and others in attendance to serve others.

"The word of God says you are bought with a price," Foster said. "You are no longer your own. You belong to Him. And when you belong to Him, friend, you will serve Him through serving others."

It was Oct. 3, 1906, that Louisiana College was founded as a private, Christian, liberal arts college funded by the Louisiana Baptist Convention.

Each year the founding of the college is marked by a campus-wide celebration and special chapel service. This year LC celebrated its 109th year at its annual Founder's Day chapel service, Oct. 15.

As part of the Founders Day celebration, there was also featured music by the Voices of LC and a message by Carlisle Driggers, pastor of Lake Country Baptist Church in Eatonton, Ga.

Driggers also has served in other roles, including executive

director-treasurer of the South Carolina Baptist Convention for 15 years.

"Measure your steps as you move into the future," Driggers said. "... When we have a Founders Day exercise like today, it's a time to remember the past, and talk about the present and move on into the future."

LC President Rick Brewer said Founders Day is a way to remember the past of the school and why it exists today.

"It's important for us annually to be reminded of our founding, reminded of our purpose, reminded of why God planted a school here in 1906 that continues today to prepare graduates, to transform lives," Brewer said.

"A place where all truth is God's truth," continued Brewer. "A place where we focus on the maturity of intellect coupled, reinforced, strengthened by the maturity of Christian character."

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Karissa Grant photo

LC student Karissa Grant said God is leading her to spend her spring semester in 2016 in Uganda as part of her social work internship.

LC student is called to Uganda

By KARISSA GRANT

First Person

PINEVILLE — For the past three years, I have studied education and social work at Louisiana College and would not trade that for the world.

I have experienced more hands on training for my future than I could have ever imagined.

During this time, I have been to Uganda twice and have fallen in love with the people there. After the first trip, my whole world was shifted. It was impossible for me to continue to live my life normally.

When I changed my major to social work, I began to see so clearly what God wanted me to do with my life.

He is leading me to spend my spring semester in 2016 in Uganda for my senior year social work internship.

I will receive class credit because LC is a member of Council for Christian Colleges and Universities, which is affiliated with the Uganda Best Semester Program.

I believe God is calling me to the mission of using my education to spread the gospel. I feel blessed to have this opportunity to glorify God and show His love.

Art exhibit helps lead two to Christ

By WANGLING CHOU

First Person

PINEVILLE — In September, Louisiana College Art Professor Wangling Chou invited Chinese artist Fang-Ju Shen to hold an exhibit at LC. A letter from Shen to Professor Chou, who translated the account below, describes what happened.

"I am writing this testimony with a heart full of gratitude. I had a great experience

holding an exhibition at Louisiana College. I know that this opportunity was not out of my human effort, but out of God's grace because it offered me a path to embrace life again. The past five years I struggled with depression. Through medical help and especially God's power, my cousin overcame her depression and gained an even better life by becoming a Christian. Because of her, I

See LED TO CHRIST on 23

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Grace Baptist from page one

Hillcrest Baptist in Franklin-ton, where Will was or-dained last year. Voss facilitated the agreement and is also a NOBTS adjunct professor.

"To our knowledge this is the very first, fully recognized Southern Baptist Church anywhere in the world located inside a peni-tentiary," said Voss. "The

vote was unanimous and there was an overwhelming eruption of applause after the vote was taken."

Voss said they started working on it about a year ago, "as a way to further validate what God is doing there, not only through the seminary but through the churches because these inmate pastors are the ones

who are on the front lines touching these guys' lives and their families back in their communities."

Grace Baptist's inmate Pastor Will wrote in a state-ment that it was difficult to express all his feelings and thoughts about the "histori-cally unprecedented" fellow-ship.

"I am truly humbled at this monumental moment," Will wrote. "For God has allowed, through His provi-dence, an incredible history to unfold here at Angola, a history that only God could have orchestrated for no man could have planned all that has transpired."

Will credits Warden Burl Cain for his bringing the New Orleans Baptist Theo-logical Seminary to Angola

20 years ago and creating the prison's innovative re-entry programs.

"The Scripture has proved to be true," Will wrote about Ephesians 3:20-21. "Now to Him who is able to do far more abundantly beyond all that we ask, or imagine, accord-ing to His power that is at work within us, to Him be the glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, forever and ever, amen."

"If I were to sum up my feelings concerning this event I would have to say that I'm overwhelmed and humbled by the fact that God has chosen to love and use the most broken of souls, in the most unlikely of circumstances to do such a marvelous work," Will wrote.

NOBTS President Charles "Chuck" Kelley, Jr., who was featured speaker for the association meeting tweeted, "I'm at Washington Baptist Association that just accepted a church started at Angola prison by our in-mate students as a member. Wow! What a God - Our God is so great!"

In a later phone interview Kelley said, "to my knowl-edge I don't know of any other association that has accepted as a member church a church composed of inmates inside a prison - so - it was a very historic night, very wonderful night!"

Bill Summers, director of

the SBC Historical Library and Archives, was asked about it and was reluctant to declare it as a historical 'first' event. But after he searched the convention's databases he concluded, "as far as we know this has not happened before."

Angola Chaplains Dr. Rick Sharkey and Robert Toney also said they thought this was a unique, historic occurrence.

"I think it's an awesome thing," Sharkey said. "It's the kingdom of God expand-ing beyond the walls of a prison."

"The Louisiana Bap-tists just love the inmates," Toney said. "For that we are forever grateful."

The Washington Baptist Association is one of three groups in the 91-church Baptist Associations of Southeast Louisiana, along with the William Wallace Association, 24 churches, and Two Rivers Association, 29 churches.

Stan Statham, director of missions for the Southeast Association, said Angola prison is actually located in the William Wallace As-sociation, in West Feliciana Parish, but because Voss and other local men who regu-larly visit Angola are in the Washington Association, they were the logical group to accept the prison church.

"We hope that a lot of our churches will journey over there and fellowship with them because they obviously can't come to us," Statham said.

"We're pretty excited about it - we think it's a great step in how the Lord is working. We know that a lot of those men won't ever be released - but we pray that his kingdom will go forward even there. He came to save and we pray those guys will reach other inmates with the gospel," added Statham.

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Annual Meeting from page one

less than 3 percent through the Cooperative Program to move to 5 percent by 2020; churches giving between 3 and 8 percent are encouraged to increase by 2 percent by 2020; and churches giving between 8 and 9.9 percent are asked to move to 10 percent during the same time frame. Churches already giving 10 percent through CP will be thanked and encouraged to consider increasing by 1 percent by 2020 or simply reaffirm their commitment to continue giving at their current level.

"Time will tell if this will ultimately have a positive or negative effect on CP generally and specifically in The Pledge campaign," Horn said. "Yet, we are confident in two things. God will always provide, and God, in His Sovereignty, has chosen to use us to accomplish His plans.

"Because of this, I know that we will be better off for receiving the challenge of The Pledge," he continued. "These are difficult days, but we must do something."

LBC Executive Director Da-

vid Hankins expressed enthusiasm regarding what messengers will hear during the presentation of The Pledge campaign on Monday evening.

"This year's convention has the potential to set the bar of ministry for years to come as we consider The Pledge," Hankins said. "In light of what's happening in our culture, now is the time to pledge the support needed to see them grow in their reach and effectiveness.

"As our theme states, we serve a great God who has entrusted us with a great work in Louisiana and beyond," Hankins continued. "I'm praying Louisiana Baptists will come to Bossier City and pledge themselves to a closer walk with our Lord and an increased commitment to give themselves and their resources to meet the challenges before us."

In addition to The Pledge presentation, other highlights on Monday include special music by combined area choirs, a Bible study by Frank Cox, pastor of North Metro Baptist in the Atlanta area, a report by

Louisiana College President Rick Brewer and a prayer delivered by Jonaan Byargeon, the wife of former LBC Executive Board President and Temple Baptist Church in Ruston Pastor Rick Byargeon, who passed away in 2013 after a battle with cancer.

Though motions will be introduced Monday evening, the bulk of the business of the Convention will take place on Tuesday.

One motion up for consideration by messengers involves guidelines for disaffiliation of a Louisiana Baptist Convention cooperating church. The credentials committee informed the LBC Executive Board of the motion during its meeting in September.

Tuesday morning highlights include the election of a new president and officers. At press time, Gevan Spinney, pastor of First Baptist Church in Haughton, was the only presidential candidate whose name will be placed in nomination. Horn is

See **ANNUAL MEETING** on 16



Philip Timothy photo

Steve Horn, pastor of First Baptist Church Lafayette, is serving his final term as president of the Louisiana Baptist Convention and is not eligible for re-election. He is hopeful messengers will embrace a new pastor-led initiative called The Pledge which aims to boost Cooperative Program giving and provide the resources needed to address them.



Read Acts and you'll be reminded that giving churches turn the world upside-down. Join us in Bossier City on November 9 to learn more.

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ThePledgeLA.org

Conference speakers will encourage pastors to remember their pursuit of their calling

BY BRIAN BLACKWELL

Message Staff Writer

BOSSIER CITY – Pastors will be encouraged to remember the pursuit of their calling during this year's Pastors' Conference.

Scheduled for Nov. 8-9 at First Baptist Church Bossier City, the annual gathering's theme is "The Higher Call: Personal Holiness, Preaching, Evangelism," based on Colossians 3:2.

"I want to encourage pastors this year to recognize and reflect on the high call of being a pastor," said Eddie Wren, president of the Pastors Conference and pastor of First Baptist Church Rayville. "I want to encourage everyone to be there. I think it will be a great time of refreshment and refocus and a call back to the essentials of being a pastor."

The conference will begin 6 p.m. Nov. 8 with music by the First Bossier praise band.

Brad Jurkovich, pastor of the host church, will preach the first sermon of the Pastors Conference.

Louisiana Baptist Convention Executive Director David Hankins and LBC President Steve Horn, pastor of First Baptist Church Lafayette, will preach also during the opening session.

The following day, the conference will begin 8:45 a.m. with music by Todd Dubose, minister of music at First Baptist Church Minden. Those preaching during the morning session are Philip Robertson, pastor of Philadelphia Baptist Church in Deville; Clint Pressley, pastor of Hickory



Eddie Wren
President
Pastors' Conference

Grove Baptist Church in Charlotte, NC, and first vice-president of the Southern Baptist Convention, 2014-15; and Jon Reed, founder of Jon Reed Ministries in Dacula, Ga.

The final session will feature Waylon Bailey, pastor of First Baptist Church in Covington, Frank Cox, pastor of North Metro Baptist Church in Lawrenceville, Ga., and H.B. Charles, pastor of Shiloh Metropolitan Baptist Church in Jackson-

ville, Fla.

Music on the second day of the Pastors' Conference will feature Todd Dubose, minister of music at First Baptist Church in Minden and Jacob Cowley, an artist at First Minden.

The second day also will include election of Pastors Conference officers and the presentation of the three winners of the inaugural Louisiana College Pastoral Ministry Award of Excellence.

LC is giving the awards to three winners, in the categories of Sunday

morning worship attendance of up to 100, up to 500 and more than 500.

"Under the leadership of Dr. Rick Brewer, president, Louisiana College is starting a new tradition this year to show support for pastors across the state," said Philip Caples, vice president of integration of faith and learning at LC. "We are presenting the Louisiana College Pastoral Ministry Award of Excellence."

"LC selected a committee comprised of pastors, DOMs, and LBC leaders from across the state and asked them to nominate these pastors based on their ability to reach their communities, support the Cooperative Program, and impact the world with the gospel of Jesus Christ. LC developed these awards based on Sunday morning worship attendance," he said.

Wren said he and his fellow Pastors' Conference officers – Nathan Davis, vice president, and Chad Gilbert, secretary-treasurer – did their best to find a variety of those who would appeal to a wide audience of pastors and others attending the conference. Those scheduled to preach include evangelists and pastors from churches of various sizes, both in Louisiana and outside the state.

"We have a good mix of in and out of state guys who will preach," Wren said. "These are men who are leaders in their churches and states and carry this higher call into the pulpits and their lives."

Pastor's Conference SCHEDULE

November 8

The Higher Call of Personal Holiness



Brad Jurkovich



David Hankins



Steve Horn

6:00 - 6:05 Welcome / Prayer
6:05 - 6:15 Music - FBC Bossier Praise Band
6:15 - 6:45 Brad Jurkovich
6:45 - 6:52 Music
6:52 - 7:22 David Hankins
7:22 - 7:30 Music
7:30 - 8:00 Steve Horn

November 9 - A.M.

The Higher Call of Evangelism



Philip Robertson



Clint Pressley



Jon Reed

8:45 - 9:00 Music - Todd Dubose
9:00 - 9:05 Welcome / Prayer
9:05 - 9:35 Philip Robertson
9:35 - 9:45 LC Preacher Award
9:45 - 10:15 Clint Pressley
10:15 - 10:25 Election of New Officers
10:25 - 10:30 Song

November 9 - P.M.

The Higher Call of Preaching



Waylon Bailey



Frank Cox



H.B. Charles

12:30 - 12:40 Music - Jacob Cowley
12:40 - 1:10 Waylon Bailey
1:10 - 1:15 Music
1:15 - 1:45 Frank Cox
1:45 - 2:00 LOGOS
2:00 - 2:05 Song
2:05 - 2:35 H.B. Charles

Annual Meeting EXHIBITORS

LBC TEAMS

Registration & Credentials, Collegiate, Communications, Convention Office, Evangelism, Missions & Ministry, Missions Mobilization, Pastoral Leadership

INSTITUTIONS & AGENCIES

Baptist Message, Office of Public Affairs, Children's Home, Foundation, Louisiana College

LBC RELATED MINISTRIES

Credit Union, Lifeway Christian Stores, Bookstore, SBC Ministries & Auxiliary, GuideStone, IMB, NAMB

SBC SEMINARIES

NOBTS, Southwestern

BAPTIST ENCAMPMENTS

ABC, Camp Bethany, Clara Springs, Dry Creek, Camp Harris, Judson, Tall Timbers

Resort & Misc Ministries

Lighthouse Resort, Rollings Hills, Toledo Bend, MasterSound, FBC Bossier (CR), Northwest La Baptist Assn

Ways messengers can participate at meeting

IMPORTANT NOTICE TO ALL CHURCHES:

Pre-registration letters were mailed Oct. 5 for the 2015 Louisiana Baptist Convention Annual Meeting.

If you haven't already, please go on-line to www.LAone.org and use the login information provided in your letter you received to pre-register your messengers for this event.

If you have not received your letter or have questions about the process please contact Information Services office by email (Messengers@LBC.org) or phone (318-448-3402 ext. 242 or 210)

BOSSIER CITY – This year's annual meeting of the Louisiana Baptist Convention will be held at First Baptist Church in Bossier City on Nov. 9-10, 2015.

In order for a church to participate in the business of the convention, they will need to elect messenger(s) to represent them.

Messengers elected by their respective church are then able to register and participate in the business of the convention.

The Credentials Committee oversees the registration process for the annual meeting.

Roger Johnson, LBC Credentials Committee Chairman, notes there are five ways that messengers may be certified to participate and vote at this year's annual convention.

The first and simplest way is for messengers to pre-register using the LBC online program, print out their registration card, and bring the card to the annual meeting.

Pre-registration in this way allows messengers to be certified within a matter of minutes, Johnson said.

Second, messengers may bring a letter from their church on official stationary



Messengers elected by their respective church are able to register as messengers and participate in the business of the convention.

stating they are elected messengers. This will allow them to register and be certified to vote.

Third, a church officer can phone in the names of elected messengers.

Fourth, verification by a fellow registered church member.

And finally, when there is no other means by which to validate a person, a meeting of the Credentials Committee may be called.

Johnson reminds pastors that they are not automatically registered as a messenger from their church and that they must follow the same procedure as other messengers in order to participate in the business and voting at the annual meeting.

LBC Annual Meeting SCHEDULE

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH • BOSSIER CITY, LA.

Monday Evening – November 9, 2015

President Steve Horn, Presiding

Worship Leader, Eddie Colvin

Great Work for a Great God (Neh. 4:19)

5:15 p.m.	Pre-Convention Music	Combined Choirs
5:35 p.m.	Call to Order	Steve Horn
	Prayer	Jonann Byargeon
5:45 p.m.	Presidential Appointments	
	Tellers Chair, Tellers, Parliamentarian	
	Committee Reports:	
	Credentials	Roger Johnson
	Order of Business	Robert Lawrence
5:50 p.m.	Special Music	
6:00 p.m.	Bible Study	Frank Cox
6:20 p.m.	Introduction of Motions	
6:30 p.m.	Louisiana College Report	Rick Brewer
6:55 p.m.	State Missions Team Report/ Missions and Ministry	John Hebert
7:00 p.m.	The Pledge – Great Work for a Great God	Steve Horn /David Hankins

Tuesday Morning – November 10, 2015

Steve Horn, Presiding

Great Work for a Great God (Neh. 4:19)

8:15 a.m.	Praise and Worship	Steve Horn
8:30 a.m.	Call to Order	
	Prayer	Lane Moore
8:40 a.m.	Bible Study	Frank Cox
9:00 a.m.	Committee on Order of Business Report	Robert Lawrence
9:05 a.m.	Introduction of Motions	
9:10 a.m.	State Missions Report – Evangelism/Church Growth	Wayne Jenkins
9:15 a.m.	Baptist Message	Will Hall
9:25 a.m.	Moral & Social Concerns Committee	David Goza
9:30 a.m.	Election of Convention President	
9:45 a.m.	Miscellaneous Business	
9:55 a.m.	Announcements	
	Offertory Prayer	Marvin Leleux
	Offertory Music	
10:00 a.m.	Executive Board Report	David Cranford
10:15 a.m.	Committee Reports	
	Committee on Nominations	Philip Robertson
	Committee on Committees	Jay Johnston
10:25 a.m.	Election of First Vice President	
10:35 a.m.	La. Baptist Children's Home & Family Ministries Report	Perry Hancock
10:50 a.m.	Convention Worship Service	
	Introduction of Convention Preacher	Robert Daniel
Special Music	Praise Band,	Fellowship, Prairieville
	Convention Sermon	Kirk Jones
	Benediction	Michael Hardaway

Tuesday Afternoon – November 10, 2015

Steve Horn, Presiding

Great Work for a Great God (Neh. 4:19)

1:45 p.m.	Praise and Worship	Steve Horn
1:55 p.m.	Call to Order	Marc Roath
	Prayer	Robert Lawrence
	Committee on Order of Business Report	Frank Cox
2:05 p.m.	Bible Study	
2:25 p.m.	Seminaries Report	Bill Robertson
2:35 p.m.	State Missions Report – Pastoral Leadership	
2:40 p.m.	Election of Second Vice President	
2:50 p.m.	Resolutions Committee Report	Jason Walsworth
3:00 p.m.	Louisiana Baptist Foundation Report	Wayne Taylor
3:10 p.m.	State Missions Report – Partnership Missions	Wayne Sheppard
3:15 p.m.	Miscellaneous Business	
3:25 p.m.	Special Music	
3:35 p.m.	Message	Ronnie Floyd
4:05 p.m.	Introduction of New Ministers and Retirees	David Hankins
4:15 p.m.	Presentation of New Officers	
	Recognition of Outgoing Officers	
4:25 p.m.	Benediction	Ray Swift



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GIVE



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CONVENTION COMMITTEE RESOLUTIONS

Jason Walsworth, Chairman pro tem

RESOLUTION 1: ON EXPRESSION OF APPRECIATION

WHEREAS, Many individuals and groups have had a part in planning, preparing and conducting the 168th annual meeting of our Louisiana Baptist Convention; and **WHEREAS**, The messengers of this convention desire to warmly recognize and express appreciation to the following: **Dr. Brad Jurkovich** and the staff of First Baptist Church, Bossier City, for their assistance with details and for providing the use of the facilities for this annual meeting; and **Dr. Stephen Horn**, Convention President, for his warm, gracious spirit in leading, speaking and listening to Louisiana Baptists during the year, and his gentle firmness in moderating this annual meeting; and **Dr. Benjamin Harlan**, Music Director for this annual meeting, for planning and coordinating the music and the musicians for their dedicated service at the instruments; and **Robert Lawrence** and members of the Order of Business Committee for planning this informative and inspirational annual meeting; now, therefore, be it **RESOLVED**, That we, the messengers of this 168th session of the Louisiana Baptist Convention, meeting in Bossier City, Louisiana, November 9-10, 2015, express to each of the above our deepest heartfelt gratitude.

RESOLUTION 2: ON THE NINETIETH ANNIVERSARY OF THE COOPERATIVE PROGRAM

WHEREAS, The Louisiana Baptist Convention was established to “provide the means through which Louisiana Baptist churches and members can cooperate in bringing persons to God” within the state; and **WHEREAS**, The Louisiana Baptist Convention “recognizes the Southern Baptist Convention as the primary instrument used by Baptists to further the cause of Christ on a worldwide basis”; and **WHEREAS**, The Southern Baptist Convention is celebrating the ninetyeth anniversary of the Cooperative Program, the unified giving system which supports cooperative missions and ministries within each state and around the world; and **WHEREAS**, Louisiana Baptists have a special historical relationship with the Cooperative Program in that Louisiana Baptist pastor M.E. Dodd was instrumental in creating the “Co-Operative Program of Southern Baptists,” making it possible for churches to support the missionary, education, and benevolent work within their respective states while cooperating with churches from other states to reach the world; and **WHEREAS**, the Louisiana Baptist Convention president has initiated “The Pledge” to renew support for giving through the Cooperative Program by Louisiana Baptists (those giving: less than 3 percent to increase to 5 percent; 3-8 percent to grow by 2 percent; 8-9.9 percent to move to 10 percent; 10 percent plus to not decrease, and, to increase “as God leads”); now, therefore, be it **RESOLVED**, That the messengers to the Louisiana Baptist Convention meeting in Bossier City, Louisiana, November 9-10, 2015, express gratitude to God for His providential guidance in the creation of the Cooperative Program and for His multiplied blessings through this missions support enterprise; and be it further **RESOLVED**, That we celebrate each Louisiana Baptist congregation that, in addition to its own congregation's other missions activities, supports the missions and ministries of the Louisiana Baptist Convention and the Southern Baptist Convention by its generous giving through the Cooperative Program; and be it further **RESOLVED**, That on the occasion of the ninetyeth anniversary of the Cooperative Program, we affirm it “as the most effective [financial] means of mobilizing our churches and extending our outreach”; and be it finally **RESOLVED**, That in honor of our unique historical relationship in establishing this remarkable unified giving approach, we ask each Louisiana Baptist church to prayerfully consider increasing their giving through the Cooperative Program, guided by God but with awareness of the challenge percentages proposed in “The Pledge,” to show support for cooperative missions and ministries, and, to set an example to other Southern Baptist churches to do even more in helping push back lostness across our states as well as around the world.

RESOLUTION 3: ON DEFUNDING PLANNED PARENTHOOD

WHEREAS, Biblical revelation clearly and consistently affirms that human life is formed by God in His image and is therefore worthy of honor and dignity (Gen. 1:27; 9:6); and **WHEREAS**, Biblical revelation affirms that ALL life is God-given and begins at conception (Ps. 139:13-16); and **WHEREAS**, Biblical revelation calls for Christians to advocate on behalf of the oppressed and to protect the innocent (Zech. 7:10); and **WHEREAS**, The Baptist Faith & Message (2000) affirms the “children, from the moment of conception, are a blessing and heritage from the Lord” and calls us to “speak on behalf of the unborn and contend for the sanctity of all human life from conception to natural death”; and **WHEREAS**, An estimated 58 million unborn babies have been aborted since the legalization of abortion in 1973 (Roe v. Wade); and **WHEREAS**, Recently released videos show Planned Parenthood's brutality in performing apparent illegal abortions, and, callousness in seeming to sell body parts of these unborn children; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That messengers to the Louisiana Baptist Convention meeting in Bossier City, Louisiana, November 9-10, 2015, affirm the dignity and sanctity of human life at all stages of development, from conception to natural death; and be it further **RESOLVED**, That we continue to oppose the genocide of the unborn and call upon our state and federal authorities to enact laws that defend the lives of the unborn; and be it further **RESOLVED**, That we call upon our state legislature to defund Planned Parenthood and any organization that provides abortion of any and all state monies; and be it further **RESOLVED**, That we call upon our state legislature to invest in programs and facilities that promote and protect the sanctity of life; and be it further **RESOLVED**, That we call upon our churches to offer more support, mercy, and love to those women who are vulnerable to the victimization of the abortion industry and who have been affected by past abortions; and be it further **RESOLVED**, That we call upon Louisiana Baptists to provide greater support to pregnancy care centers, the Louisiana Family Forum and other organizations that seek to protect the lives of the unborn; and be it finally **RESOLVED**, That we call upon Louisiana Baptists to commit to pray for the repeal of unjust laws and inhumane practices that devalue human life.

RESOLUTION 4: ON PROTECTING CHILDREN FROM PORNOGRAPHY

WHEREAS, Louisiana Baptists, according to God's Holy Word, believe we have a duty and a responsibility to protect the innocent and the vulnerable, especially the children, from being deformed by sin's influence and from the distorted view of sexuality that has permeated our society (Psalm 127:3; Matthew 18:6; Romans 15:1-2); and **WHEREAS**, According to a recent study, the average age of first exposure to pornography has dropped from 14.8 years old in 2008 to between 11 and 12 years old in 2014; and **WHEREAS**, Exposure to pornography at such early ages is especially detrimental, causing addictions to instant gratification; and **WHEREAS**, Pornography teaches that sex is casual, recreational, adversarial, non-intimate and not restricted to marriage, thereby degrading the construct of sexual intimacy within the marriage relationship; and **WHEREAS**, Internet pornography presents deviant images that depict rape, bondage, abuse of women, and other aberrant behaviors as normal; and **WHEREAS**, The Bible instructs that lusting after other people in our minds is offensive to God (Matthew 5:28), a stumbling block to salvation (1 Corinthians 6:9; 1 John 2:16), as well as a corrosive influence on lives (Proverbs 6:28); and **WHEREAS**, Increased consumption of pornography has been identified as a primary catalyst for causing heterosexual males to view same-sex marriage favorably, with perhaps the greatest impact on Millennials who have grown up with the explosion of the Internet and the widespread availability of pornography through electronic devices; and **WHEREAS**, Although seductive, pornography is not an insurmountable addiction (1 Corinthians 10:13; James 1:13-15), and, the best action is to avoid it (Proverbs 4:14-15; Matthew 5:29), resisting temptation by relying on God's strength (1 Corinthians 6:12, 18; James 4:7-10) and His Word (Psalm 119:9-10; Matthew 4:1-11; Romans 12:2; Ephesians 6:17; Colossians 3:2); now, therefore, be it **RESOLVED**, That the messengers to the Louisiana Baptist Convention meeting in Bossier City, Louisiana, November 9-10, 2015, urge all Louisiana Baptist congregations to develop ongoing programs to teach children, youth and parents about the dangers of pornography and inform parents about widespread use of pornography by those under 18 years of age; and, help parents develop strategies and practical plans of actions to protect children from accidental exposure or intentional access to online pornography; and be it further **RESOLVED**, That we encourage Louisiana Baptist parents to take active measures to limit access to online devices, including the delay of purchasing smartphones for adolescents and youth, monitoring computers at home, and, requiring schools to comply with the U.S. law regarding the use of child protection filters; and be it further **RESOLVED**, That we ask our Louisiana Baptist Convention leaders to work with the Louisiana and U. S. Governments to enact laws that require Internet Service Providers to provide service with a “family friendly” default, for new and existing customers; mandate filters apply to all devices linked to the affected home Wi-Fi network and across the public Wi-Fi network wherever children have access; and, demand search engines introduce measures to block illegal content; and be it further **RESOLVED**, That our Louisiana Baptist Convention leaders request the Louisiana and U. S. Governments to require the adult entertainment industry to fund the development of an age verification infrastructure, and, push the technology sector to put every resource into developing software to protect those 17 years of age and younger from accessing pornography either accidentally or intentionally; and be it finally **RESOLVED**, That Louisiana Baptists should come together and pray in the most humble fashion that we as children of God should strive to live holy lives, setting a godly example, and doing everything in our power whereby children can live life as God intended: protected, pure and innocent.

RESOLUTION 5: ON PROTECTING RELIGIOUS LIBERTY

WHEREAS, Scripture and our U.S. Constitution teach that government has a legitimate purpose to protect, punish and promote the general welfare of the people (Acts 27:27-37; Romans 13:3-4; 1 Peter 2:13-14; 1 Timothy 2:2); and **WHEREAS**, Since the passage of the Bill of Rights, all citizens-public and private alike have been free to express and exercise their religion, and our Constitution guarantees freedom of speech and religion without distinction between public and private employment; and **WHEREAS**, Christian believers desire to live quiet and peaceable lives and have freedom of conscience with respect to the government and are called to pray for this purpose (1 Timothy 2:12); and **WHEREAS**, In 2015 the U.S. Supreme Court overturned Louisiana's voter-approved marriage protection laws that defined marriage as between one man and one woman; and **WHEREAS**, The Supreme Court decision conceded that those who adhere to religious doctrines “may continue to advocate . . . divine precepts” as well as “teach the principles” of their faith but made no allowance for individuals or groups to “exercise” their faith; and **WHEREAS**, When faced with a conflict between human government and our obedience to God, we are to exercise our faith, even in the face of persecution (Daniel 3:1-30; 6:1-28; Acts 4:5; Acts 4:12-21), understanding that our religious consciences are inviolable (1 Corinthians 4:3-5; 10:29); and **WHEREAS**, President Obama has issued an executive order limiting service and product providers to the federal government to only those that hire homosexuals, effectively barring faith-based groups from participating in federal programs that help the poor, and excluding Christian-run businesses from bidding for contracts; and **WHEREAS**, Under present circumstances, the free speech and religious rights of all Christians-including, but not limited to, teachers, police officers, clerks of court, firemen, legislators, school board members, parish officials, students, photographers, bakers, and florists-are threatened; and **WHEREAS**, Christians are called on in Scripture to love homosexuals and treat them with dignity and equality, while reserving the right to not support homosexual marriage; and **WHEREAS**, The “First Amendment Defense Act” has been introduced to committees in the U.S. Congress to prevent discriminatory action against anyone who “believes and acts in accordance with a religious belief or moral conviction” that marriage is the “union of one man and one woman” or that sexual intimacy is “properly reserved to such a marriage”; and **WHEREAS**, Louisiana Governor Bobby Jindal issued Executive Order BJ 15-8, “Marriage and Conscience Order,” which largely put into effect protections for citizens from adverse actions by the state government because of the exercise of religious freedoms, specifically with regard to the belief that marriage is the union of one man and one woman; and **WHEREAS**, The Louisiana State Legislature effectively killed a proposed bill in 2015 that would have codified the same issues that Governor Jindal's order covers into law; now, therefore, be it **RESOLVED**, That the messengers to the Louisiana Baptist Convention meeting in Bossier City, Louisiana, November 9-10, 2015, urge Louisiana Baptists to commit to pray for our leaders, that we may lead peaceable and quiet lives whether we be public servants or private citizens; and be it further **RESOLVED**, That we encourage all Louisiana Baptists to exercise their closely-held religious beliefs whether in ministry, business, academics or public life, refusing to compromise the Word of God; refusing to limit the exercise of their religious beliefs through speech and action, while continuing to treat all persons with dignity; and refusing cultural, business or government pressure to succumb on the belief that marriage is the union of one man and one woman, or the belief that sexual intimacy is reserved for such a marriage; and be it further **RESOLVED**, That we ask our Louisiana Baptist Convention leaders to call on all legislators to affirm the religious freedoms set forth in our Constitution, that freedom of speech and religion are not trumped by another person's sexual choices, and for legislators to make provisions for citizens to avoid violating their consciences in a public or private setting; and be it further **RESOLVED**, That we urge all Louisiana Baptists to call on their state legislators, asking them to codify into law the religious liberty protections put in to force through Executive Order BJ 15-8; and be it finally **RESOLVED**, That we urge all Louisiana Baptists to likewise call on their respective U.S. legislators, requesting them to write into law protections for individuals to exercise their religious beliefs with regard to marriage in all areas of life, not just their houses of worship.

RESOLUTION 6: ON REVIVAL AND SPIRITUAL AWAKENING

WHEREAS, , God is a God of life, having given birth to all life throughout the universe in Creation, and having breathed the breath of life into the first man, Adam (Genesis 2:7); and **WHEREAS**, Jesus Christ, the Son of God, is referred to as the Son of God who “was in the beginning with God, [and] all things came into being through Him, and apart from Him nothing came into being that has

See **RESOLUTIONS** on 16

THANK YOU LOUISIANA BAPTISTS

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GUIDELINES FOR THE MAKING OF MOTIONS AT ANNUAL MEETING

It is important to remember that motions may only deal with one topic at a time. When making a motion, you should be as brief as possible and always begin with the phrase "I move that..." If you are making a subsidiary motion (one that deals with a motion already on the floor), it must be relevant to the motion currently under consideration and not be a motion that is the same or substantially similar to one already dealt with by this convention. If your motion is a privileged motion, it must not be dilatory (unnecessary or made only to delay the conduct of business). If your motion seeks to amend the Louisiana Baptist Convention Articles of Incorporation or Louisiana Baptist Convention Bylaws, please review these documents in advance for special rules regarding the process of amendment prior to offering your motion. A copy of the LBC Articles of Incorporation and LBC Bylaws are found in your Book of Reports.

Important Steps in wording your motion:

- A motion should direct that the Convention take some sort of action or refrain from taking some action. Include only the action you want to see taken in your motion.
- Do not include supporting reasons for adopting your motion in the motion itself. This is done during debate and as the maker of the motion, you will have first opportunity to speak to your motion.
- Do not make a motion that the Convention not adopt some other main motion or attempt to amend a main motion in such a way that it becomes the opposite of its original intent. If you are against a certain motion, simply vote no.
- If you wish to amend a motion, you may move to strike out words from that motion and replace them with other words or you may move to simply add or take away words from the motion. It is not proper to make a "substitute motion" which seeks to completely change the words of a motion so that it is no longer what was originally offered.
- If you offer a motion during the report of a convention entity or the Executive Board, do not address the person making the report; only address the chair and state your motion directly to him.

The following may be used when making motions on the floor of the Louisiana Baptist Convention. Please provide a copy to the President or Secretary before making your motion.

Proposed Motion to the Louisiana Baptist Convention

Name of Messenger: _____
Name of Church: _____

The wording of any motion should easily fit on the lines below. When making your motion, please state your name and the church from which you are a messenger. Then address the chair as follows:

Mr. President:

I move that:

Bylaw Amendment Change

That the Louisiana Baptist Convention meeting at First Baptist Church, Bossier City, November 9-10, 2015 amend the Louisiana Baptist Convention Bylaws, Article III, Section 5, as follows:

The Committee on Credentials shall be composed of seven (7) members. It shall supervise the registration and accreditation of messengers to the Convention, and shall manage the application process for congregations desiring to become a cooperating church with the Louisiana Baptist Convention and qualified to send messengers for the first time. It shall recommend to the Convention, when necessary, the disaffiliation of any Louisiana Baptist Convention church that no longer complies with the Convention's definition of a cooperating church. It shall recommend action to the Convention concerning disputes as to status of persons as messengers.

Annual Meeting from page 9

serving his final term and is not eligible for re-election.

Ronnie Floyd, current SBC President and pastor of Cross Church in Springdale Ark., will deliver a message during the closing session on Tuesday afternoon.

“Let me strongly encourage everyone to make plans to stay throughout the day on Tuesday,” Horn said. “The Convention will close with a message from Dr. Ronnie Floyd. We are blessed to be able to have the president of the SBC join us for

our state convention.”

Floyd has prepared a video voicing his support of The Pledge and inviting Louisiana Baptists to attend the annual meeting. The video can be viewed at LouisianaBaptists.org.

In addition to other reports, motions and convention business, the Tuesday morning session will feature the convention worship service with Kirk Jones, pastor of Fellowship Church in Prairieville, delivering the convention sermon.



Last year, a nice crowd attended the Hispanic Fellowship Conference at First Lafayette. This year the meeting will take place at First Bossier with Germin Whitaker being the main speaker.

Resolutions from page 14

come into being, [and] in Him was life, and the life was the Light of men” (John 1:2–4); and **WHEREAS**, Regarding the Holy Spirit, the Apostle John quotes Jesus as saying, “It is the Spirit who gives life” (John 6:63); and the Apostle Paul affirms that “The mind set on the flesh is death, but the mind set on the Spirit is life and peace” (Romans 8:6); and that the Old Covenant ends in death, but under the New Covenant the Spirit gives life to those who are born again (2 Corinthians 3:6); and

WHEREAS, The people of God in the Old Testament from time to time experienced periods of rebellion against God and His divine will for them, prompting Him to discipline them, sometimes severely, which often led to them turning to Him in repentance, prayer, and renewed obedience, at which time His glory would once again fill the house of God and His people would be endued and infused with fresh life from heaven; and

WHEREAS, The Church itself was birthed on the Day of Pentecost (Acts 2) with the baptism of the Holy Spirit that filled the disciples with supernatural power, prompting their desire to share the Gospel boldly and three thousand new believers were ushered into God’s Kingdom by being born again on that great day; and

WHEREAS, God has manifested Himself among His people in days gone by in seasons of refreshing, revival, and spiritual awakening, such as the days of The Evangelical Awakening in Britain (1735–1791), The First Great Awakening in America (1726–1770), The Second Great Awakening in America (1787–1843), The Layman’s Prayer Revival (1857–1859), The Global Awakening (1901–1910), and The Jesus Movement in America (late 1960s to early 1970s); and

WHEREAS, Though some parts of the body of Christ have experienced “waves” of spiritual awakening since the mid-1970s, the overall “tide of revival” in America has been “out” for four decades, while the Church and our culture have been drifting further and further into a moral and spiritual state of rebellion and corruption; and

WHEREAS, Our Southern Baptist Convention has been in a state of steady decline in baptisms for the past fifteen years (since 2000); and

WHEREAS, Our current Southern Baptist President Ronnie Floyd has made a comprehensive and clarion call “PLEADING WITH SOUTHERN BAPTISTS To Humbly Come Together Before God in Clear Agreement, Visible Union, and in Extraordinary Prayer for the Next Great Awakening and for the World to Be Reached for Christ”; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the messengers to the Louisiana Baptist Convention meeting in Bossier City, Louisiana, November 9–10, 2015, do commit to dedicate and consecrate ourselves afresh to seek the Lord God with our whole hearts, through repentance of our own sins, and also crying out to God regarding the sins of our nation; and be it further

RESOLVED, That we engage in faithful and fervent prayer for the spiritual healing of our churches, our Convention, and our nation; and be it finally

RESOLVED, That we faithfully and fervently plead with our great God to open the windows of heaven and come down among His people with a fresh filling of His Spirit that His Name will be glorified throughout our nation and the nations, and that His people will be refreshed with an outpouring of His love and holiness, resulting in renewed zeal to share the Gospel of Jesus with lost people for the purpose of winning them to faith in Christ and disciplining them in such a way that they will in turn win others to Christ.

PASTORS CONFERENCE

The Pastors’ Conference is scheduled Nov. 8–9 at First Bossier.

The theme of this year’s conference is “The Higher Call: Personal Holiness, Preaching, Evangelism,” based on Colossians 3:2.

A full preview story can be found on page 10.

HISPANIC GATHERING

A Hispanic version of the annual meeting will take place simultaneously in the Faith Chapel at First Baptist Bossier from 9:30 a.m. – 3:30 p.m. with lunch included.

Fermin Whitaker, executive director of the Southern Baptist Convention of California since 1995, will be the main speaker and worship team of Iglesia Bautista Ebenezer in Shreveport will provide the music for the annual Hispanic Fellowship Conference.

Carlos Schmidt, Hispanic catalytic church planter strategist for Louisiana Baptists, said “it is a great opportunity for our Hispanic leaders to come together to be ministered to.”

FELLOWSHIP GATHERINGS

Gathering for Nov. 9 include:

- New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary Alumni lunch, noon, Fellowship Hall of First Bossier. Cost is \$10 per person (fried fish) and everyone is asked to RSVP by Nov. 6 to Michael Hawley, president of the Louisiana Chapter at hawleymm@hotmail.com. Speaking will be NOBTS’ Jerry Barlow, professor of preaching and pastoral work.

- Louisiana Baptist Christian Education Association,

11:30–2:30 p.m., Ralph and Kacoo’s, Bossier City.

- African-American Fellowship Dinner, 4:30–6:30 p.m., First Bossier.

- Asian Fellowship Dinner, 4:45–6:15 p.m., First Bossier.

Gatherings for Nov. 10:

- Discover Church Planting Breakfast, 7 a.m., IHOP, Boardwalk in Bossier.

- Church Planting and Missions Network Lunch, noon, First Bossier.

- Retirees and Bi-Vocational/smaller church pastor luncheon, noon, First Bossier.

- Vision Haiti breakfast, 7 am, First Bossier.

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Visit Our Exhibit at the LBC Annual Meeting

Brewer from page one

5, and celebrated his installation with an official ceremony Sept. 18.

His essay, delivered to

Baptist Message

Oct. 22 outlines key ideas that will undergird his approach to leading the institution to embody an academic culture that challenges students to “think critically, learn continuously and serve creatively,” three Cs he said would position Louisiana College graduates “to convert the knowledge they acquire into value” to their lives and work.

“Education at a Christian college involves more than the delivery of content in the classroom in an effective way,” he wrote. “It also involves helping students learn to see the world through the

lens of a Christian worldview.”

He offered that the college must continue to provide “competencies in one’s chosen field of study,” but also “shape character for life and vocation.”

“Thus, Louisiana College will challenge its faculty, staff, and students to think Christianly: distinctively Christian thinking, the kind of tough-minded thinking that re-

sults in distinctively different action,” he said.

And he emphasized that the motivation for imbuing Christian distinctives must not be “dependent on the acceptance of the culture” but rather about gaining “the approval of Jesus Christ.”

“Our goal is to love God with our minds regardless of

culture’s response.”

He clarified that becoming “a truly Great Commandment institution” will not mean the blurring of academic discipline boundaries. Instead, he explained, Louisiana College will teach each subject rigorously within the scientific bounds of its respective field, but with a perspective that acknowledges “the Lordship of the Creator God, revealer of all truth.”

Brewer’s comments come amid social upheaval in the United States, represented in large part by the landmark decision by the U.S. Supreme Court earlier this year that eviscerated the cultural understanding of marriage within the biblical notion of one man and one woman united under God and substituted a governmental definition that stressed “dignity” and social acceptance.

Moreover, growing secularization among Americans is at least partially due to higher education, according to a 2014 study published by Allen Downey, a professor at the Olin College of Engineering.

His findings comport with Gary Railsback’s 1989 landmark study which revealed that the choice of college greatly impacted the faith of self-identified “born-again.”

Railsback found that “born-again” dropped out of that category in substantial numbers at private secular universities (33-45 percent of the “faithful” stopped their religious affiliations), public four-year colleges (24-32 percent) and Catholic higher education institutions (51-59 percent).

Pushing against the notion that robust scientific inquiry and deeply held faith are mutually exclusive spheres, Brewer argued that the Great Commandment model provides a “framework for spiritual, intellectual and personal growth in the Christian higher education context” – a congruency that avoids pitting intellectual development against spiritual growth.

Importantly, he insisted there is “no room for anti-intellectualism in Christian higher education.”

“We are to have the mind of Christ, and this certainly re-

quires us to think and wrestle with the challenging ideas of history and the issues of our day,” he said.

The combination of an academically trained mind with a Christian worldview is needed to confront an ever-changing culture, Brewer laid out in his monograph.

“We must encourage and support serious Christian thinking, affirming the Christian intellectual tradition that recognizes that all scholarship, all invention, all discoveries, and all exploration that is truth is God’s truth.

Ultimately, he said, “Our hope and prayer should be that Christian young people will choose careers and professions that will place them in the culture-shaping venues of our world.

“We must not seek to prepare graduates and transform the lives of emerging leaders for Christ and His Kingdom so they will retreat from the world; rather, we must provide the fertile soil of a Christian worldview in which students, faculty, and alumni take root to become fully engaged in God’s world.”



LC President Rick Brewer

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Trustees approve 5-year strategic plan; learn of record enrollment

BY GARY D. MEYERS

NOBTS Communications

NEW ORLEANS — New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary trustees approved a five-year strategic plan for the seminary and voted to establish a new extension center in Columbus, Ga., during their fall meeting. Seminary President Chuck Kelley also shared news of the record enrollment of 3,952 students.

In his report to trustees, Kelley recounted the ways in which God provided for the seminary following Hurricane Katrina.

In the 10 years after the storm NOBTS has witnessed the restoration of the campus and the launch of numerous new programs and scholarship initiatives, he said. For Kelley, the most exciting post-Katrina news came at the end of this summer when he learned of the record-setting enrollment of students during the 2014-2015 school year.

Kelley said the Katrina experience helped the seminary learn to be a more resilient institution.

Defining resilience as “the ability to continue when normal dramatically changes,” Kelley listed four keys to NOBTS resiliency: a compre-

Fire from page 4 —

volunteers from throughout the US came to help in the effort.

But just like before, Treme said his congregation of 50 will come together and rise to the occasion.

“We’re not giving up because of some burglars or others who want to do harm to us,” Treme said. “If you do that, they win and we lose. Several people from the neighborhood have dropped by and said it’s such a loss. It’s a comfort knowing that we touch so many people in this area.”



File photo

New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary President Chuck Kelley makes a point during a meeting of the NOBTS Trustees. Kelley shared news of the record enrollment at the seminary during the fall meeting.

hensive curriculum (featuring both traditional and distinctive programs); multiple delivery systems (main campus, extension, online, mentoring, travel courses); enhanced fundraising efforts; and a faculty focused on innovation (developing new skills and new ways to teach).

“This is the new normal of our life at NOBTS and the key features of the way we do seminary today,” Kelley told trustees Oct. 14.

Moving into the business session, Kelley presented the seminary’s five-year strategic plan for trustee approval. The strategic plan, Kelley said, is designed to help leadership focus on important initiatives and provides a mechanism for assessment.

The five-year plan covers

five keys areas — accreditation, promotion, enrollment, mentoring and income.

The first goal involves completing the re-accreditation process with the South-

ern Association of Colleges and Schools (SACS) and the Association of Theological Schools in the United States and Canada (ATS), Kelley said. The seminary is currently in the midst of the 10-year accreditation review with both agencies.

The other goals include increased marketing efforts designed to enhance the seminary’s profile; enrollment stabilization designed to increase the main campus headcount; and implementation of the school’s new church-based mentoring program. Kelley emphasized the importance of the final strategic plan goal — developing new income streams. The goal calls for increasing fundraising for student scholarships and the Providence Fund — the

seminary’s annual giving fund. The fundraising efforts are designed to offset declining Cooperative Program funding, Kelley said.

The trustees voted to expand the seminary’s accessibility efforts by approving a new extension center in Columbus, Ga., offering both undergraduate and graduate study. The new center, which is scheduled to launch in August 2016 pending accreditation approval, will meet at Wynnbrook Baptist Church in Columbus.

In other business, trustees approved:

■ a \$5 per course increase for Florida-based certificate programs and a \$5 per credit hour increase for undergraduate courses at the South Florida

See NOBTS on 23

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FBC Minden blesses NOBTS students, families with gift cards

BY MARILYN STEWART
NOBTS Communications

NEW ORLEANS – Coinciding with its “every member a missionary” focus and Cooperative Program emphasis this month, First Baptist Church Minden, donated gift cards totaling nearly \$5,400 to international women students and to the home-school community at New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary.

Leland Crawford, pastor, and wife Rose Crawford delivered the cards along with canvas school bags filled with school supplies for each of the 93 homeschooled children while visiting the seminary campus for the Oct. 14 fall trustee meeting. Leland Crawford, an NOBTS alumnus, currently serves as a trustee.

Eleven countries – South Korea, Egypt, Romania, India, Colombia, El Salvador, Brazil, Taiwan, Argentina, Burkina Faso and Haiti – were represented at a reception for trustee wives and international students and interna-

tional student wives hosted by Rhonda Kelley, president’s wife.

“My international friends and I were super excited and thankful for the gift cards. They were such a blessing and came at the right time,” Tone said. “We praise God for always providing.”

The 218 “Cards of Blessing” marked the third year First Minden has provided gifts to students. The gift cards were valued at \$15, \$20 or \$25.

Leland Crawford said that the month-long mission emphasis focused each week on the different “touches” the church’s CP giving is making by highlighting the work of the International Mission Board, North American Mission Board, Louisiana Baptist Convention, and local association and ministries.

Leland Crawford said he reminded his congregation at the start of the Cards of Blessing campaign that even a small gift would be appreciated by students.

“This is not a big sacrifice for you,



Boyd Guy photo

Rose Crawford, left, gives a gift card to New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary student wife Dorcus Tiendrebeogo and her son, Dimvi. Tiendrebeogo and her husband, Jean, are from Burkina Faso.

but this is a big deal for the people who get it,” Crawford said he told his congregation. “It’s more than a gift

card. It tells them God knows their name, he knows their need, he knows

See **GIFT CARDS** on 20

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Whatsoever ye do, do all to
the glory of God. (1 Cor 10:31)

Gift Cards from page 19

where they are.”

Rose Crawford personally distributed the cards to the international students. “They were very excited, very sweet,” Rose Crawford said of students’ responses.

NOBTS homeschool coordinator Laura Riley accepted the gift cards and cash totaling \$840 for field trips and supplies on behalf of the NOBTS homeschool community.

Helga Parvu and Maria Tone, sisters from Romania, provided the music for the reception. Nardene Malatee from Egypt, shared her testimony and told of her calling to serve when she returns home.

For some in the First Minden congregation, participat-

ing in Cards of Blessings did require sacrifice. Rose Crawford told of a senior adult member with many needs of her own who donated a \$15 card.

Each year a specific group of students has been the focus of the church’s giving. In 2013, the Crawford brought 60 home-cooked casseroles for seminary families. Last year, gift cards were provided for single students.

Kelley said that when the church approached the seminary this year for direction, the homeschool group or international students were suggested. “We thought we were giving them an ‘either, or’ option,” Kelley said. “But they accepted the ‘both, and.’”

Credit for the idea of gifts

for students belongs to his wife Rose, Leland Crawford said.

Memories from seminary days when her husband served on church staff and worked to support their three daughters prompted the idea, Rose Crawford said. Leland graduated in 1996.

“We struggled financially. Maybe that’s why my heart goes out to the students because I remember our days of struggling,” Rose Crawford said.

Looking back, Rose Crawford remembers God’s providence, as well.

“The Lord always supplied all our needs,” Rose Crawford said. “We didn’t have extra, we didn’t have excess, but we had what we needed.”



Boyd Guy photo

Rose Crawford, left, gives a gift card to New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary students Helga Parvu and Marie Tone. Parvu and Tone are originally from Romania.

West Bank from page one

Elementary School, where the church worships Sundays.

He first met Houston after learning from Crossroads NOLA, a ministry of First Baptist Church in New Orleans, that his family needed “adopting” for Christmas.

Melson and his family delivered presents and Christmas gifts to Houston and his three sons.

The more the Melsons visited with Houston, the more they discovered that he truly had a heart for reaching his neighborhood and city for Christ.

The Melsons transported Houston and his sons to church every Sunday, and he continued to grow deeper in his walk with Christ. He developed a yearning to share the gospel with whomever he came in contact.

Melson eventually built a relationship with the manager of Houston’s apartment complex, and the man granted them permission to hold block parties and other events.

Even though Houston was a Christian, he had not taken that step of believer’s baptism – that is until Melson announced a special baptism service would take place Sept. 20.

A few hours later, on the way back to his apartment, Houston declared it was time to get baptized.

“When he came out of the water, the reaction was unbelievable,” Melson said. “Ernest jumped out of the baptism like it’s a new man coming up. There was so

much laughter that day.”

Houston said taking that important step was something he wanted to do for his sons, one of whom became a Christian Oct. 18.

“I wanted to set a good example for my boys,” Houston said. “I don’t want them out in the world doing worldly things. I want them to understand they have a spiritual life to live and baptism showed them that it was an important part of the Christian life.”

Three others were baptized Sept. 20 and another followed a month later, Oct. 25.

Melson said the newly baptized members has translated their excitement into zeal for sharing the gospel with others.

He also said they are eagerly being discipled one-on-one by other church members.

“We tell a person who just came to Christ to pray for one person who doesn’t know Christ, invite them to church and share with them what Christ has done for them,” Melson said. “We’re teaching them baby steps how to evangelize. We give them one card to reach one person.”

“We also tell them to start reading through the gospel of John and assign a team member to disciple them,” he said. “We’re trying to build in that discipleship lifestyle where they’re knowing and growing.”

Melson said he’s thankful for believers like Houston who have helped West Bank Baptist Church – which is one of the many churches planted

through the Send North America: New Orleans initiative – reach Marrero for Christ.

“God used Ernest as a catalyst for us,” Melson said. “We had no idea he would be a ‘person of peace.’ Back when we first moved we looked for any way to reach into the community, being outsiders.

“Ernest said since that day we delivered food and presents to him in the apartment, he took that as a divine appointment that ‘God, you’ve got me and now it’s time to step out,’” Melson said. “He has been the most faithful evangelist and has been going to parts of the city we haven’t gotten to. Please continue to pray that we’ll reach many more for Christ.”

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ON THE MOVE

■ **Jonathan, wife Drew, Bost** is the new pastor at First Baptist Church, Many.

HOMECOMING

■ Chase Baptist Church, Chase: **Homecoming Service**, Nov. 8, 10:30 am. Dinner on the grounds will follow the service. Speaker: **Alan Miller**. Pastor: Dale Goodman.

■ Watson Baptist Church, Watson: **Church Homecoming**, Nov. 15, 10:15 a.m. Speaker: **Dennis Phelps**. There will be dinner on the grounds following the morning service in the fellowship hall. Pastor: John Pemberton.

REVIVAL

■ Victory Baptist Church, Hammond: **Tent Crusade**, Nov. 8-12. Speaker: **David Ford** of Rome, Ga. Music: **Gerald Simmons**, Charlotte, N.C. Other churches are welcome to join. For more information, call 601.577.2577. Pastor: Jim Hill.

■ Don Avenue Baptist Church, Denham Springs: **Revival**, Nov. 8-11; Sunday 10:30 a.m. & 6:00 p.m.; Monday - Wednesday 6:30 p.m. Evangelist: **Gary Dennis**. Music: **Randy Ray and family**. Pastor: Tom Higginbotham

LAGNIAPPE

■ **CORRECTION:** In the Oct. 22nd issue of the *Baptist Message* on page 11 under Lagniappe in Louisiana Notables the pastor of First Baptist Church, DeQuincy was incorrect. Pastor Gil Arthur is the pastor. The Message regrets the error.

■ North Monroe Baptist Church, Monroe: **St. Jude Night of Hope Gospel Praise Benefit**, Nov. 7, 6:30-9:30 p.m. Cost: artist reserved seating, \$28.50; standard reserved seating, \$25; balcony reserved seating, \$20. Artists: **The Talley's, David Ring, The Erwins, 11th Hour and the Freeman's**. For more information, call 318.303.3830. Pastor: Bill Dye.

■ First Baptist Church, Head of Island: **Jumping for Jesus**, Nov. 7, 10 a.m. – 2 p.m. This event is for kids of all ages. There will be games, music, food and door prizes. First Baptist will also hold a **community-wide celebration honoring all veteran**, Nov. 7, 4 p.m. – until. Registration opens at 2 p.m. There will be special music, jambalaya and door prizes. All veteran are invited and encouraged to come be a part of this celebration. Pastor: Rocky Brown.

■ First Baptist Church, Pollock: **Pulse – Grant Parish Pro Life Immersion Night**, Nov. 7, 6:30-8:30 p.m. Join us for music, food and fellowship as the youth of Grant Parish united to stand for life. For more information go to www.prolifelouisiana.org/GrantParish, call 318.489.3106 or email jdaltanadger@yahoo.com. Pastor: Brian Gunter.

■ New Zion Baptist Church, Covington: **Christmas Crafts in the Country Craft Fair**, Nov. 7, 9 a.m.-3 p.m. This event will raise funds for mission and summer camps. Vendors should call the church office at 985.892.4711. Pastor: Clark Stewart.

■ First Baptist Church, Ruston: **Former major league baseball standout Darryl Strawberry speaks**, Nov. 8, 8:45 and 11 a.m. Strawberry, whose major league baseball career was legendary, struggled with drug and alcohol addiction. Today, his purpose and passion is serving the Lord Jesus Christ by speaking a message of hope and helping others transform their lives through the power of the gospel. Pastor: Chris Craig.

■ Pine Grove Baptist Church, Pineville: **Harmony Road in Concert**, Nov. 8, 6:30 p.m. Pastor: Ken Gilmore.

■ First Baptist Church, Bogalusa: **The Louisiana Baptist Singing Women in concert**, Nov. 12, 6:30 p.m. Pastor: Greg Whaley.

■ New Hope Baptist Church, Independence: **Marriage conference**, Nov. 14, 9 a.m. – 4 p.m. Cost: \$30 per couple. This conference is for all ages and stages of your marriage. For more information, contact Pastor Steven Campbell at 985.662.1150 or Krista at Krista.Campbell1129@yahoo.com. Pastor: Steven Campbell.

■ Gateway Baptist Church, Ball: **Fall Festival**, Nov. 14, 9 a.m. – 4 p.m. Events, which will take place at the church (7074 Monroe Hwy,

Ball) include shopping vendors, food vendors (fried Oreos, cotton candy, sno-cones), children's activities and games, horseback riding, jumpers and a photo booth. For more information call Kathy Cifelli at 318.419.1620. Pastor: Herb Dickerson.

■ New Elizabeth Missionary Baptist Church, Shreveport: **Thanksgiving Fellowship Luncheon**, Nov. 14, 11:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m. All of Queensborough Neighborhood is invited to this luncheon as we thank God for what He is doing in His church. Pastor: Danny R. Mitchell, Jr.

■ New Prospect Baptist Church, Dry Prong: **The Southern Plainsmen Quartet in concert**, Nov. 14, 6 p.m. A love offering will be taken. For more information contact the church at 318.640.9712. Pastor: Trey Lewis.

■ First Baptist Church, Ruston: **Depot Dash**, Nov. 14, 8-11 a.m. The Depot coffee shop and the college ministry of FBC Ruston are hosting a 1 mile fun run at 8 a.m. and 5k run at 8:30 a.m. to raise money and awareness for The Hub Urban Ministry which is located in Shreveport. The Hub focuses on walking those in poverty through a process that gives them hope, friendship, and skills needed to become self-sufficient. They are also focused on freeing women and children being exploited in the sex industry. Cost: \$25. Register at <http://the-depot.ticketleap.com/depot-dash/>. or check out our link on Facebook. Pastor: Chris Craig.

■ First Baptist Church, Tioga: **An evening of praise**, Nov. 15, 6 p.m. Pastor: Tim Hisaw.

■ Cook Baptist Church, Ruston: **Fall at the Farm for Families**, Nov. 11-14, 4-7 p.m. This is an event sponsored by our Children's Ministry. Kids are

invited to bring their families and enjoy fun, games, smores, hot dogs, and even a hayride. **Community-wide Thanksgiving service**, Nov. 15, 6 p.m.

■ The Bayou Church, Lafayette: **Annual Chili/Gumbo cook-off**, Nov. 15, 3:30-5:30 p.m. The cook-off 'Spicy For a Cause' is to bring awareness to Operation Christmas Child. Besides sampling the best gumbo and chili around, families will enjoy music by **Johnny Chauvin**, fun jumps, and a chance to pack a shoebox of gifts for Operation Christmas Child. No cost to attend, but all are encouraged to bring small toys. Pastor: Mike Walker.

Scripture Crypto

Due to technical difficulties in the electronic delivery of Scripture Crypto, the puzzle will not be in this issue of the Baptist Message. We are working with our source to solve the problem.

Answer to October 22, Scripture Crypto:
Haggai two:seventeen


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Led To Christ from page 7

I paid attention to Christians around me. My Christian friends are confident and peaceful even though they also struggle with many difficulties. I wondered why they could have such a smile on their face. I admired that joy. I made an assumption that there must be a real God that lives in their

lives."

(NOTE: While in Louisiana, Fang-Ju Shen and her husband attended a Chinese-language Bible study at the invitation of Professor Chou. While at that Bible study the Shens committed their lives to Christ.)

"The exhibition at LC is the highlight of the assump-

tion I made. My husband and I strongly felt God's grace. Without any doubt, we accepted him as our Lord together with overwhelming joy in Louisiana. I thank God for never forsaking us; but instead, he forgave our ignorance, self-righteousness and sins that we weren't even aware of. He is a patient father, waiting for his rebellious children to come home to be crowned with enormous love. Now we are believers. The first thing I felt was the peace for which we had been seeking and longing for years. From now on, I will give all my difficulty

and glory to the Lord. We are newborn thanks to be Lord. Amen."

Professor Chou said the Shens now attend church and a new believers Bible study group in Taiwan.

NOBTS from page 18

Center. The increases will take effect in January 2016 to offset funding changes related to the Florida Baptist Convention's recent reorganization.

■ the quality enhancement plan (QEP), a SACS requirement designed to improve master's-level writing at NOBTS. Norris Grubbs, associate provost at NOBTS is leading the QEP planning and implementation team. A key feature of the QEP is a new writing center which will provide writing resources and writing help for NOBTS graduate students.

■ a new undergraduate certificate training site in Huntsville, Ala., and a new church leadership certificate training site in Yulee, Fla. The Huntsville site will meet at Legacy Christian University. The Yulee site will meet at the Northeast Florida Baptist Association office.

■ sabbatical proposals for Angie Bauman, associate professor of Christian educa-

tion, and Darryl Ferrington, professor of music education.

■ initial plan to remodel and modernize the president's home. The renovation work will better equip the home for its dual role as a residence and a venue for official seminary gatherings.

The project will be funded entirely by private designated giving; no Cooperative Program funds will be used. Final approval for the project requires an additional vote of the full board during the April 2016 meeting.

Bi-Vocational PASTOR

First Baptist Church in Jeanerette, LA is seeking a bi-vocational pastor.

Please email résumés to brucewatsonjr@icloud.com.



AVAILABLE

Don Johnson is available as an interim or supply pastor in Southwest Louisiana.

To contact him, please call:

337.478.4553

DON JOHNSON

Bi-Vocational PASTOR

Harmony Baptist Church in Glenmora is seeking a bi-vocational pastor.

Please send résumés to:
Harmony Baptist Church,
Pastor Search Committee,
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or email to richardh61143@gmail.com



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