



# THE BAPTIST MESSAGE

August 15, 2019

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John 3:16

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## Georgia Barnette provides vital resources for urgent Gospel need

By John Kyle

Louisiana Baptists  
Communications Director

ALEXANDRIA (LBC) – “Did God really say ...?” Genesis 3:1. “Truth has been under assault since the beginning of creation,” according to Steve Horn, newly elected executive director for

Louisiana Baptists. “When Satan first uttered these words to Eve in the garden, he opened an attack on truth that has only intensified with time.

“In fact, some researchers have labeled this period in history as ‘Post Truth,’” Horn continued. “A Barna survey in 2018 indicated just over one-third of Americans, 35

percent, believe in absolute truth.”

It is against this backdrop that Louisiana Baptists have launched their 2019 Georgia Barnette State Mission Offering emphasis, “Impart. Truth. Today,” taken from Psalms 78:4, 6, “... we will tell the next generation ... even the children not yet born ...” (NLT).

“As we read, listen and scroll

through the news, we’re reminded daily that our world is in need of a Savior,” said Cameron Mullins, a member of First Lafayette and current president of the state WMU Council. “Having served on the State Missions Offering committee for several years, I have personally seen the impact the offering has

See GEORGIA BARNETTE, page 3

## Salvations, not S’mores, highlight LBC camps

By Brian Blackwell

Message Staff Writer

BASTROP (LBM) – A total of 767 salvation decisions have been reported by Louisiana Baptist camps as the 2019 summer season closed.

All the data has not been received, yet, but the Tall Timbers Baptist Conference Center saw salvation decisions jump from 168 in 2018 to 206 this year (a 22.6 percent increase), coinciding with a 22.1 percent increase in attendance, from 2,428 to 2,965 campers.

### CHANGED CAMPERS

Luke Hallman’s repentance for salvation in early July at “Clear Camp” on the campus of the Tall Timbers Baptist Conference Center was a long-awaited answer to prayer for members of the Bonita Road Baptist Church in Bastrop -- who have been

fervent for several years in asking the Holy Spirit to draw Hallman into a relationship with Jesus.

Those prayers proved to be the spiritual soil for a harvest in Hallman’s life that was sown during a conversation at a worship session with Julie Woodrum, ministry assistant to the Louisiana Baptist youth ministry strategist, Brandon Lewis.

“She broke down the questions I had asked very well, such as ‘How will I know I’m saved?’ and ‘How to mean the prayer I prayed?’” Hallman told the *Baptist Message*. “It’s great to know that when I die, I know I will go to Heaven and I don’t have to fear death anymore.”

Hallman was baptized, July 28, with three other teens who asked Jesus’ forgiveness and committed to live for Christ during the same camp for junior high and high school stu-

See SALVATIONS, page 6



(Left and top photo) Children from the First Baptist Church in DeQuincy celebrate their decision to follow Christ at Kids Camp with a joint baptism service.



Submitted photos

(Bottom right photo) Gary Guice Jr., youth pastor of the Bonita Road Baptist Church in Bastrop, baptizes Luke Hallman July 28. The teenager was baptized with three other youth who also accepted Christ during Clear Camp at Tall Timbers Baptist Conference Center.

## Louisiana Tech BCM starts rebuild

By Brian Blackwell  
Message Staff Writer

RUSTON – Three months after a tornado heavily damaged the Louisiana Tech University

Baptist Collegiate Ministry chapel, crews began repairing the facility.

Kevin Inman, director of the Louisiana Tech BCM, said workers from Triad Builders in Ruston

started work July 22 and that he is hopeful they will complete the job before the start of fall classes in early September. Workers

See REBUILD, page 9

# Skills of a church planter: Vision capacity

ALEXANDRIA (LBM) – If you have ever searched Google for “things to do in Turkey,” the first result that typically pops up is the Hagia Sophia Museum. Once a Christian cathedral, the Church of the Holy Wisdom, which is now the museum, was built in A.D. 537 and was the center of Christian-



**JOHN HEBERT**  
Team Leader  
Louisiana Baptist  
Missions & Ministry

ity in that region for 1,000 years. Its existence is a testimony to the success of the Christian faith in Asia Minor – which is most of modern-day Turkey – and directly related to the ministry of the Apostle Paul, although he did not visualize such a physical structure.

But he did believe in the power of the Gospel and he foresaw the tremendous potential for the Gospel to grow in Asia Minor, which is why he invested so much of his personal ministry there.

Indeed, conversations about church planting should begin with the Apostle Paul, not because of his special calling, but because of his exceptional skills – especially his remarkable ability to visualize the success of a ministry in a particular place and his exceptional talent in communicating this vision to others in context of the roles they could undertake.

We call this skill, vision capacity. Paul could see hundreds, even thousands, of fellowships scattered across Asia Minor filled with thousands and even tens of thousands of believers, committed to the Lord.

We know that, because that is exactly what result-



ed from his efforts.

But vision capacity is more complicated than just having a dream, it also includes dream building which is a function of creating.

To create, one must know where to start; and, starting is about initiative. Those who possess this skill may be known because they began a successful business, or a school club, or a new Sunday school class, or, perhaps a church ministry.

Importantly, vision capacity also means that someone understands the vision so completely – the biblical term is “with such authority” – that they are able to communicate that vision to others. They are able to explain the future in context of the vision and so are able to mobilize others to be fellow laborers.

Paul also possessed this

element of vision capacity.

He was able to engage the efforts of others, like John Mark, Timothy, and Luke the physician, because of it. Indeed, they were just a few of the numbers of leaders Paul pulled into service with his vision – at the end of each of his epistles he even gives a glimpse of the ever-growing entourage of co-laborers who had joined him.

To some, vision capacity is something of a natural ability – in other words, they were successfully shaped by the circumstances of life to develop these highly valued skills.

To others it's more of a learned skill, in that they did not have the advantage of situational opportunities to grow these capacities. But, they recognize the need to possess them, and so seek the knowledge and experience to fill the skill gaps.

My best advice to anyone who wants to learn vision capacity is: Experience is the best teacher, so start something!

But, others can help you learn where to begin.

Indeed, it has been my experience that walking through the process of starting something new with an experienced builder/starter is worth its weight in gold.

On that note, this summer the Church Planting team of our Convention began holding conferences around the state called “Start Something Roundtables,” where ideas and techniques are shared by

See VISION, page 9

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# Georgia Barnette from page one

made on our state.” Reaching out to the audiences identified by the 2013 President’s 2020 Commission (“every people group” and “the next generation”), continues to be a focus of Louisiana Baptists’ cooperative missions and ministries across the state:

-- Greater New Antioch Baptist Church in Monroe is a replant on the campus of the former College Place Baptist Church. Led by pastor John Russell, the congregation has seen 30 new members join in the first nine months in the new location.

-- Checkerz Williams is lead pastor for Renew Church in Baton Rouge. Currently meeting in the gym of the Florida Boulevard Baptist Church, his vision is to plant a multi-ethnic, multi-generation church by meeting people at their point of need. Renew baptized eight people, including five youth, during the first

five months of 2019.

-- With the peak of the Atlantic hurricane season ahead, Louisiana Baptist disaster relief volunteers have already been deployed five times this year, responding after the tornadoes in Ruston, Hurricane Barry and other incidents inside and outside of Louisiana. More than 300 new volunteers have been trained to date.

-- Louisiana Baptists are grabbing “screen time” across the state via their multi-media evangelism strategy, Here for You. With the goal of getting God’s truth inside every heart and every home almost every day, Louisiana Baptists are

utilizing various communication platforms to accomplish this goal. More than 750,000 people saw the Here for You commercial during the Super Bowl in February and there have been over 1,900 views of the online Gospel presentation at HereforYou.org between April and July. These views have generated in

excess of 370 decisions thus far.

Other missions and ministries supported by gifts to the GBSMO include:

- English as a Second Language (ESL)
- Mission Builders
- Iglesia Lakeshore Espanol
- Grace Point Church in Destrehan

Linda Canady, a mem-

ber of the First Baptist Church in Pineville, realizes the urgency behind this year’s offering. “As a grandmother to nine grandchildren, I am more and more aware of how little time we have to impart truth,” she noted. “They grow up so fast and we have to share our faith now, today, while there is still time.”

packets have been mailed to all 1,600 Louisiana Baptist congregations and the emphasis will run through September. Videos, sermon outlines, promotion ideas and other resources can be found online at GeorgiaBarnette.org.

This year’s goal is \$1,700,000, all of which is designated for Louisiana Baptist missions and ministries. Resource



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# Positive growth, leadership change highlight LBF meeting

By Jerry Love

Louisiana Baptist Foundation

ALEXANDRIA (LBF) – Trustees of the Louisiana Baptist Foundation received positive investment reports and upbeat updates about operations during a regular quarterly business meeting held July 30 in the Louisiana Baptist Building.

They also received news of the pending retirement of Executive Director Wayne Taylor. He told the board that he has not set a specific date to retire, but “it would be no later than next summer.

“I have spoken with board officers prior to the meeting and will be working with them to determine a strategy for hiring a new executive director,” said Taylor, who has led the Foundation since 1995.

## POSITIVE SECOND QUARTER

Every portfolio compo-

ment had earned a positive return for the second quarter, with almost all sectors exceeding their benchmarks.

Lee Morris of Graystone Consulting reported fixed income portfolios continued to perform in line with expectations, adding his observation that this sector is heavily dependent on what the

Federal Reserve will do with interest rates for the rest of the year. Presently rates are expected to be flat or trend slightly down.

The alternative investment allocation of the LBF portfolio (preferred stocks, convertible securities, MLP’s, covered calls and infrastructure) continued to show

sharing the Gospel in Belarus have revealed a new passion for me,” he said, indicating he plans to engage even more in missions and ministry, including a young adult discipleship group he currently leads at his home church.

He has made multiple mission trips to the former Soviet satellite country that is about 41 percent agnostic and atheistic with only two percent of the population professing Christ as Savior. He leverages his professional expertise to share

See TAYLOR, page 5

## Wayne Taylor to retire from LBF

By Will Hall

Message Executive Editor

ALEXANDRIA (LBM) – Louisiana Baptist Foundation Executive Director Wayne Taylor informed the entity’s trustees July 30 of his intention to retire.

He has been the chief executive of this Louisiana Baptist ministry since July 1995.

Taylor told the Baptist Message he had a peace about the next phase of life he felt that God was ready to unfold for him and his wife Joanna.

“My experiences of ministering and

Both domestic and international equities performed well for the first half of 2019, Morris noted.

He also said Morgan Stanley’s analysts continue to project that international stocks will perform better than domestic equities over the next several years. Each of these components of the LBF portfolio is outperforming its respective benchmark with domestic equities showing more than a 19 percent return for the year.

Analysts expect a softening in the equity markets but are expecting them to finish the year well, according to Morris. Election years typically generate positive returns in the stock markets, he added.

For Q2 2019 the LBF portfolio produced the following returns:

-- Short Term Fund: 2.0 percent current annualized yield as of June 30, 2019;

See FOUNDATION, page 5



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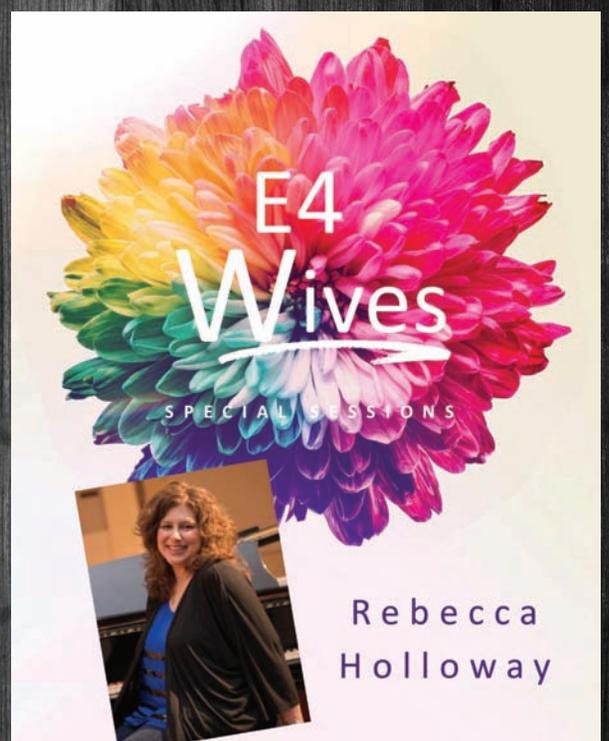
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## Foundation from page 4

-- Group Investment Fund, comprised of various market sectors: 12.28 percent total return;

-- Diversified Income Fund, conservative income-oriented fund: 4.59 percent total return.

In other reporting, Chuck

Murray, LBF controller, reported a net surplus in the operating budget for the second quarter of the year.

The surplus comes from expenses being lower than projected so far this year, he said.

He also said he expects

cost recovery fees will continue to provide stable income through the year end and sees a good finish for the year's budget.

Jerry Love, planned giving director, reported that two of three estate successions that have been in process have been completed. The third is well on its way to completion with only property remaining

to be sold, he said.

Love and Jeremy Waters, LBF regional executive, told trustees two different promotional videos are being filmed which will help people understand the services offered by the Foundation. Trustees received an update about a website design that will offer more information and take advantage of social media to communicate with the public.

Taylor and Murray reported there has been progress on the accounting system upgrade. Current testing and feedback to the contractor of the new software (U.S. Computers of Lafayette) should allow the program to go live by the beginning of 2020.

The updated software will provide additional long-term data security and offer a platform for expanded services to the Foundation's clients in the future.

The board also approved investment parameters stating that "investments with liquidity constraints could not exceed 8 percent of investments" of the LBF portfolio. The approved parameters would allow Taylor and Morris to develop a strategy

for investing with a private equity manager.

Trustees accepted and approved unanimously the annual audit report from Evelyn Renfrow of Payne, Moore and Herrington, LLP.

The next trustee meeting is scheduled for October 29, 2019.

**The Louisiana Baptist Foundation assists individuals with gifts that benefit Louisiana Baptist churches and ministries, and to assist Baptist churches and entities with financial management. To learn more about the work and ministry of the Foundation, to review investment returns for its managed funds, or to see a list of current trustees, go to [www.LBFinfo.org](http://www.LBFinfo.org).**

## Taylor from page 4

Christ with elite groups, using his platform in the financial sector to speak at Belarusian universities and business forums. He also has been active in the distribution there of the Good and Evil Illustrated Bible, a graphic-novel-style presentation, which has a 43 percent return on investment in that more than 4 people repent for salvation for every 10 copies given away.

Taylor came to the Foundation after serving 12 years in finance, most immediately as an investment broker with First Commerce Investment Services (formerly the Rapides Bank) in Alexandria. Since arriving at the Foundation he has made an emphasis on educating Louisiana Baptists about how they can use assets accumulated in a lifetime to continue to expand the Gospel through trusts and bequests to the missions and ministries they have always loved and sup-

ported.

When Taylor was elected executive director in 1995, he told the Baptist Message he felt called to the Foundation in order "to help people and further the work of the Lord through Louisiana Baptists."

During his tenure, assets under management have soared by \$100 million, and another \$94 million has been distributed to Baptist causes, according to Baptist Message reports and LBF records.

The Foundation provides crucial resource management for the cooperative missions and ministries supported through the various departments within the Louisiana Baptist Convention, as well as for the ongoing work of LBC entities (Louisiana College, Children's Home and Family Ministries, Baptist Message) and many churches.

Gray Kitchens, a Minden attorney and the president of the LBF trustees said his

time with the LBF "has been a great experience," noting in particular that "Getting to know Wayne Taylor and working with him has been both a learning opportunity and a special time.

Describing Taylor as "extremely knowledgeable," Kitchens said, "We will miss him in all respects."

Taylor and his wife have been married 38 years and have two adult children, Katherine and Will, living in California and Lafayette, Louisiana, respectively.

Wayne and Joanna are active members of Calvary Baptist Church in Alexandria.



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# Salvations from page one

dents. Another youth who turned to Jesus at the camp was baptized the following Sunday.

**SEE CHRIST CLEARLY**

“We are blessed to have such quality camps put together by our Convention,” said Casey Johnson, pastor of Bonita Road Baptist church and also camp pastor for that particular camp. “The partnership between

the LBC and ‘Clear Camp’ is absolutely perfect. Our kids were so impressed with the energy, biblical integrity and the intimacy of these camps. God visited our teenagers while they were there and this pastor is so grateful for that.”

Although “Clear Camp” was designed to engage participants the whole time, the camp experience was crafted to eliminate distractions that keep youth from connecting

with God, organizers said.

“Camp is a unique opportunity in today’s world,” said David Anderson, children’s ministry strategist for Louisiana Baptists. “Camp allows young people to get away from all the every-day distractions and spend focused time. That time is often spent re-connecting with friends as they partake in activities together, but, more than anything they are engaged to connect or re-connect with Jesus. During camp we have the opportunity to share the hope of Jesus in a very strategic way. This always results in young people being faced with their relationship with Jesus. It is why we do camp and it is why so many of our campers go back home with a new relationship with Christ, or a renewed commitment to their relationship with Him.”

Lewis, who just completed his first summer of camps as LBC youth strategist, was overwhelmed because of God’s gracious answer to prayers that waves of students would come to saving knowledge of Jesus.

“When God blesses us, as He did this summer,

with the opportunity to see that happen at each week of camp it is very exciting,” Lewis said. “More than once this year, adult leaders from a church would tell us that they were praying for a specific student in their group to be saved. I can’t tell you how much fun it was to meet back up with those leaders after that prayer had been answered. For many decades, God has uniquely used camps all over the country as a place where He captures the attention and the heart of teenagers and changes them forever.

“Camps are strategically designed to plant Gospel seeds into the lives of the students who attend,” he continued. “Long before camp begins, we are praying for the students that need to be saved and for the students that need to grow in their faith. By God’s grace, we have the opportunity to celebrate each of these happening at each camp we host. We understand, though, that camp is a unique setting. We are removed from our daily routines, the schedule is designed for several hours of Bible study and discussion, students are trained to

share their faith in clear and simple ways and the service for cell phones and Wi-Fi is poor. These are all good things that created space for students to hear God’s voice more clearly.”

**FOLLOW UP**

Throughout the summer, churches have baptized and connected the new student converts with discipleship classes to help them grow in their walk with Christ. Anderson said this is important as they begin another school year, when they will have the opportunity to win their classmates to Christ.

“When they leave camp, they go back into the world,” Anderson said. “This is when the local church and the family unit steps up. This gives our churches and our families the opportunity to follow up by leading any new believers to follow through with baptism. It also gives families the chance and the challenge to help these young people stay strong in their new commitments.”

Lewis said once camp

See SALVATIONS, page 12

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# Botched Baton Rouge abortion results in emergency surgery

By Will Hall  
Message Executive Editor

BATON ROUGE, La. (LBM) – Louisiana Right to Life has reported that a botched abortion by a Baton Rouge facility resulted in complications leading to an emergency hysterectomy for the woman.

The baby did not survive.

LRTL obtained the information about the incident at the Delta Clinic via a report from the Louisiana Department of Health in response to an Open Records Request.

According to the report, the patient began bleeding profusely as a result of the abortion procedure and “the facility did not have adequate emergency supplies, such as IV fluid, on hand to stabilize her” despite a Louisiana law that requires outpatient abortion centers to

maintain an inventory of basic medical materials to sustain patients until emergency medical services arrive.

Because of the medical negligence during the abortion, a Baton Rouge hospital had to perform a total abdominal hysterectomy and a bilateral salpingectomy (the removal of both fallopian tubes).

Although only recently reported, the tragic circumstances took place on March 15, just a month and a week after the U.S. Supreme Court stopped, at least temporarily, a 2014 Louisiana Law from going into effect that requires abortionists to obtain admitting privileges in a local hospital.

It is not clear if this law would have prevented or mitigated the harm done to the patient.

Regardless, LRTL reported that the Delta

## CULTURAL NEWS

Clinic and its owner, Leroy T. Brinkley, have a history of violations including the hiring of a physician on probation, lacking proper nursing staff, pharmaceutical offenses and withholding mandatory information from patients.

### Former Gospel Coalition leader, dating author, ditches Christianity, separates from wife

Joshua Harris who popularized “courting” with his 1997 book, “I Kissed Dating Goodbye,” and collaborated on projects about dating with such figures as Albert Mohler, president of the Southern Baptist Theological Semi-

nary, has declared by Instagram, “I am not a Christian” and separated from his wife of 20 years.

He also has backtracked from previous biblical positions regarding sexuality -- retracting his former view that homosexuality is a sin and, recently, participating in a gay pride parade.

Three years ago Harris pulled back from his ideas on dating, saying now that he disagrees with his former view “that dating should be avoided.”

Last year he stopped the distribution of his books and other materials on the topic.

Harris was pastor of the embattled Gaithersburg, Maryland, congregation, Covenant Life Church, after being hand-



Joshua Harris

picked and mentored by its controversial founder C.J. Mahaney as his successor there.

In 2014, Harris withdrew from The Gospel Coalition, a neo-Calvinist network with which he

was a prominent leader, after the conviction of a CLC youth pastor for sexual abuse of children. The next year he stepped aside as CLC pastor to begin formal training beyond his homeschool educational experience.

The Gospel Coalition still archives a number of Harris’ written and broadcast resources, including a two-part chapel series completed with Mohler, “Tolerating Jezebel: the Letter to the Church at

See CULTURAL NEWS, page 8

**GO**

August 24th  
LOUISIANA COLLEGE • 9:00 AM - 3:30 PM

**PRE-TEEN INVASION**

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**PTI '19**

**SPEAKER:**  
**KEITH BADGETT**  
Children's Pastor,  
FBC Jenks, Oklahoma

**WORSHIP:**  
**THE CROWE BROTHERS**

Cultural News from page 7

Thyratira and the Crisis of Our Age.” Additionally, the seminary started by Mahaney and once led by Harris enjoyed a special status with SBTS until 2014, although it was not accredited and neither Mahaney nor Harris had college degrees or seminary training.

A number of Southern Baptist leaders have spoken out about Harris’s fall

from his Christian faith.

For his part, Mohler wrote on albertmohler.com that Harris’s rejection of Christianity was “heart-breaking” and that the situation should remind us “that we can place our trust in no sinful human being, but in Christ alone, the one alone who is worthy of our trust.”

Meanwhile Heath Lambert, a former SBTS profes-

sor and current pastor of the First Baptist Church in Jacksonville, Florida, has removed Harris’s endorsement from his book, “Finally Free,” in which Lambert deals with Christians who struggle with pornography.

Lambert wrote on his blog that he was “so shocked and so saddened” by Harris’s about-face on traditional Christianity and human sexuality. “If this can happen to Joshua Harris, how much more do I need to heed the warning of Hebrews, and take care to avoid an evil, unbelieving heart? How much more care do you need to take?”

Acts 29 lead church sued \$1M for child sexual abuse

Former members of the Village Church in Flower Mound, Texas, are suing the high-profile Southern Baptist congregation for \$1 million, accusing a former minister, Matthew David



Baptist Press photo

The Village Church in Flower Mound, Texas, is being sued by former members of the congregation for \$1 million, accusing a former youth pastor of sexually abusing their 11-year-old daughter while at a youth camp.

Tonne, of sexually abusing their daughter at a church camp.

The incident took place in 2012 when the girl was just 11 years old, according to the lawsuit.

The Village Church is the lead congregation for the Acts 29 church planting network, a group of 400 or so Reformed churches. Pastor Matt Chandler, also president of Acts 29, is a top-selling author for Lifeway and a popular speaker among young Southern Baptist Calvinists.

A number of SBC churches have ties to the Acts 29 network.

According to the lawsuit, the parents approached church leaders Feb. 17, 2018, after the girl, who had struggled for six years with depression and suicidal thoughts, finally shared about the rape the day before.

The parents claim that multiple TVC leaders failed to reach out to them despite being assured specific individuals would contact them.

Moreover, the family alleges that TVC failed, from February 2018 through January 2019, to inform the congregation that a sexual predator had had access to TVC chil-

dren for 11 years.

The timeline the family outlined indicates Chandler made his congregation aware one month prior to a *Houston Chronicle* exposé about sexual abuse in the Southern Baptist Convention. This series of articles prompted SBC President J.D. Greear to name 10 congregations, six in Texas, that he said should be investigated by the SBC Executive Committee for alleged cover-up behavior.

TVC was not named in the *Houston Chronicle* or by Greear.

According to the Baptist Press, Chandler spoke to the issue in June at the 2019 SBC Annual Meeting in Birmingham, Alabama.

During an ancillary panel discussion meeting, he said TVC handled the situation “the best [it] knew how.”

“We are an imperfect church with imperfect people,” he shared. “We make mistakes.”

“I am painfully aware of my limitations,” he added. “They are numerous. But when it comes to reporting as soon as we heard, taking our cues from the detective and family, I’m not sure how we could have done it differently.”

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# Rebuild from page one

will replace water-logged walls and carpet, rebuild a porch and restore the roof.

Insurance money will fund the repairs.

“We are very excited and hopeful that a whole lot is going to be done in the next month to get us where we can use the building when the students get back Labor Day weekend -- when we will have up to 1,500 students

attending some of our Welcome Week events,” Inman said. “The first week of school is the best time to reach a student, but also the easiest time to lose a student.

“Pray that the crews are able to finish this work by Labor Day weekend,” he continued. “And pray that things will be repaired correctly. A number of things can be

improved upon to make our building and ministry more effective.”

He also asked Louisiana Baptists to pray that staff and student leaders will be ready to reach students come September.

An EF-3 tornado touched down in Ruston April 25 and destroyed homes and businesses in its path.

The 135-165 mph winds knocked over three oak trees that fell on the roof of the BCM building. No students were injured at the time of the incident.

Other areas of the BCM complex were not impacted, and students were able to use the lobby to meet for worship, lunch meetings and other outreach activities that normally would be held in the chapel.

Just hours after the storm passed through Ruston, BCM students helped remove the trees and clear other debris from the building.

Inman was excited to see students respond so quickly to help the BCM



in the time of need.

“We have had unbelievable support from churches, alumni and others across the state and nation,” Inman said. “Our students worked non-stop for three to four days helping others on campus and in the community.”

Moreover, he was impressed with their focus on Christ during the cleanup: “They were able to share with others that we aren’t guaranteed another day and that Jesus is their hope.”

# Vision from page 2

those who have successfully started ministries, bible studies and even churches. So, plan to join us at one of the roundtables from now through February 2020 (visit [www.LouisianaBaptist.org/compassion](http://www.LouisianaBaptist.org/compassion) for the schedule).

You will learn that you don’t start out attempting to build the Hagia Sofia. Instead, you should start with something simple, and make it successful. Then the next steps for growth will fall into place.

After you master your vision, you will be able to speak about it with authority to others, helping them to see the same vision that captured you. This enables you and your team to deal with obstacles and successfully confront any negatives that must be overcome. You will see that mobilizing financial resources and

coping with vision busters (sometimes people) is as easy as staying focused on the vision and clearly communicating it to others. It’s the small parts that make up the whole.

Those who start something successful are not just lucky, they have vision capacity; and, they are diligent to see their vision become a reality by bringing others along in pursuit of that vision.

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Contact us about speaking to your group



**EDITOR'S NOTE:** Do you have a Revival, Homecoming, a new pastor, a community outreach or a concert? The Baptist Message would love to share your church news with the rest of the state. It is very easy to do, just send in your information (who, what, where and when) to [philip@baptistmessage.com](mailto:philip@baptistmessage.com) or call 318.449.4345. To get your event in the paper, please submit your information three weeks prior to the event.

### ON THE MOVE

- **Corey Fontan** is the new pastor at Mandeville First Baptist Church.
- **Robert "Bodie" Spicer** is the new pastor at Clark Springs Baptist Church, Eros.
- **Danny Hawthorne** is the new pastor at Greenacres Baptist Church, Bastrop.
- **John McDonald** retiring as pastor at Westlake Baptist Church, Shreveport.
- **Stephen (wife, Crystal) Craver** is the new Director for Shreveport Metro Baptist Collegiate Ministry.
- **Scott (wife Naikia) Ridenour** is the new associate pastor of discipleship at Brookwood Baptist Church, Shreveport.
- **Roger Harris** is the new pastor at Countryside Baptist Church, Mooringsport.
- **Joey (wife Rachel) Anwar** is the new Youth/College pastor at First Baptist Church, Haughton. He comes from First Baptist Church, Calhoun.
- **Jahill (wife Ka) Richards** is the new pastor at Springs of Grace Baptist Church, Shreveport.
- **David Martin** has retired from Hopewell Baptist Church, Spearsville.
- **Dana Trahan** is the new pastor at One Life Church, Walker.

### HOMECOMING

- Mount Vernon Baptist Church, West Monroe: **182nd Homecoming**, August 18, 10:15 a.m. Speaker: **Steve Horn, new executive director of Louisiana Baptist Convention**. Special Music: **Trinitas**. Pastor: Randy Burdeaux.

- First Spanish American Baptist Church, New Orleans: **75th Anniversary Celebration**, August 23, 7 p.m. with a dinner gala at Celebration Church's Banquet Hall. The church, located at 1820 Sophie Wright Place, had to postpone its celebration in July because of weather which caused heavy flooding. Located in the lower Garden District, corner of Camp & Felicity, the church was founded in July 1944. Pastor: David Lema.
- Red River Baptist Church, Benton: **170th Homecoming Celebration**, August 25, 10:45 a.m. There will be a potluck meal in the Family Life Center immediately after worship service. Special Guest: **Mike David, former pastor**. Special Music: **The Chapmans**. All current and former members, friends, and guests are welcome. Pastor: Brent Shoalmire.
- Bethel Baptist Church, Colfax: **148th annual Homecoming Sunday Celebration**, August 25, 9:45 a.m. (Sunday School); 10:45 a.m. (Worship service). A covered dish lunch will be held in the Family Life Center following the Worship service. Speaker: **Joe Reynolds**. Special Music: Bethel Choir. Pastor: Carl Gulde.

### REVIVAL

- Holloway Baptist Church, Deville: **Four Sunday Nights in August Revival**, August 18 & 25, 6 p.m. nightly. August 18 – Family Night. Speaker: **Herb Dickerson**; August 18 – Senior Citizen's Night. Speaker: **Richard Hebert**. Special Music Leader: **Richard Hebert**. For more information, call Jack West at 318.451.3691 or visit our website [www.hollowaybaptistchurch.com](http://www.hollowaybaptistchurch.com). Pastor: Jack West.
- Gulf Coast Baptist Association, Morgan City: **Unity Revival**, August 18, 6 p.m. at Bayou Vista Baptist Church, Morgan City. Speaker: **Darrell Guy, pastor of Unity One Church**; August 25, 6 p.m. at Little Pass Baptist Church, Charenton. Speaker: **Steven Kelly**, pastor of Bayou Vista Baptist Church. Both meetings will be followed by food and fellowship. Director of Missions: Steven Kelly.
- First Baptist Church, Dubach: **Family Crusade**, August 18-21, Sunday 10:30 a.m.

- and 5 p.m., Monday-Wednesday, 7 p.m. Evangelist: **2TALK42 Ministries**. Pastor: Cory Bruce.
- First Baptist Church, Robeline: **'Rekindle' – Summer Revival**, August 18-21, Sunday 10:30 a.m. and 6 p.m. Monday-Wednesday, 6:30 p.m. There will be dinner on the grounds on Sunday and meal each evening starting at 5:30 with services starting at 6:30. Evangelist: **Sam Moore**. Worship: **Mackey Willis Family**. Pastor: Brian Ray.
- Elwood Baptist Church, Forest Hill: **Revival**, August 18-21. Sunday at 10:30 a.m. and 6 p.m. Speaker: **Ken Schroeder and Steve Speer**. Music: **Brad Mount**. Monday-Wednesday 7 p.m. Speaker: **Casey Johnson, Brett Faulk**. Music: **The Harrigills, Voices of Louisiana College, Casey and Heather Boone**. Pastor: Michael Evans.
- Jerusalem Baptist Church, Calhoun: **Revival**, August 19-21, 7 p.m. nightly. Evangelist: **Reginal Warren Johnson**. Music: **Jerusalem choir and guest churches**. Pastor: Don White.
- Foster Road Baptist Church, Baton Rouge: Foster Road and Providence Baptist Church will host **Revival**, August 25-28, Sunday, 10:30 a.m. (Sanctuary) and 6 p.m. (Gym); Monday, 6 p.m.; Tuesday, 10:30 a.m. (Gym); Wednesday 6 p.m. (Gym). There will be a fellowship meal with the service following. Evangelist: **Ed Lacey**. Foster Road Pastor: Mike Morris. Minister of Music: Danny Miller. Providence Baptist Pastor: Philip Guay.
- Old Saline Baptist Church, Castor: **Family Crusade**, August 25-28. Evangelist: **2TALK42 Ministries**. Pastor: Michael Reed.
- First Baptist Church, Olla: **Revival**, August 25-28, Sunday 11 a.m. and 6 p.m.

- Monday-Wednesday, 7 p.m. Evangelist: **Bill Britt**. Pastor: Greg Dunn.
- Beulah Baptist Church, Many: **Revival**, August 25-28. Evangelist: **Scotty McDowell, chalk artist**. Pastor: Kenneth Leach.
- New Covenant Baptist Church, Denham Springs: **Revival**, August 25-28, Evangelists: **Malcolm Ellis**. Pastor: Keith Zachary.

### LAGNIAPPE

- Amite Baptist Church, Denham Springs: **The Forge**, August 16-17, Speaker: **Eddie Briery**. This associational youth event is for students sixth through 12th grade. Pastor: Michael Luce.
- First Baptist Church, Dubach: **Standup Comedy**, August 17, Group: **2TALK42 Ministries**. Pastor: Cory Bruce.
- Trinity Baptist Church, West Monroe: **Back to School Bash**, August 17, 4-7 p.m. Food, music, water slide, games, and fun. Come bring your family to the church, located at 214 Reagan St., West Monroe 71291. Pastor: Morgan McAllister.
- Bayou Baptist Association, Gray: **Back to School Bash**, August 17, 3-7 p.m. This is for sixth to 12 grade and everyone is encouraged to bring a friend. Youth leaders are encouraged to RSVP by calling Lizzy at 859.537.2288. There will be a message, worship, pizza, water and color war games. Participants are encouraged to bring a towel and extra clothes. Director of Missions: Joe Arnold.
- Watson Baptist Church, West Monroe will honor **Pastor Bob and Evelyn Holloway on their 25th year of ministry at the church with a reception** August 18 from 2-4 p.m.

- Martin Baptist Church, Coushatta: **Made By Mercy in concert**, August 18, 11 a.m. Pastor: Richard Kaufman.
- Alto Baptist Church, Alto: **Back to School Sunday**, August 18, 10:30 a.m. All educators and students will be honored during this service. Guest Speaker: **Mark Fenn, First West**. Church family fish fry will be held at 5 p.m. at the Richland Baptist Encampment. Pastor: Alan Miller.
- First Baptist Church, Covington: **Adult 55+ Summer Celebration**, August 20, 9 a.m. in Central Hall. Music: **Ben Waites and John Yates**, Ventriloquist/ Musician. Doors open at 8:30 AM. Cost is \$10 which includes lunch, payable at the door on August 20. Register online at [FbcCov.org/events](http://FbcCov.org/events) or by calling 985.892.2149. Pastor: Waylon Bailey.
- Woodland Park Baptist Church, Hammond: **DivorceCare Support Group Series**, August 21, 6 p.m. The sessions are every Wednesday. The church is located at 1909 J.W. Davis Drive, Hammond. For more information or to register, please call Woodland Park's church office at 985.345.4012; email [divorcecaregrp@gmail.com](mailto:divorcecaregrp@gmail.com) or online at [www.divorcecare.org](http://www.divorcecare.org). Pastor: Tim Moffett.
- Social Springs Baptist Church, Ringgold: **Paul's Journey in concert**, August 23, 7 p.m. A love offering will be taken. Pastor: James Hester.
- Mt. Patrick Baptist Church, Bernice: **The Chordsmen, Southern Gospel Singers**, August 24, 6 p.m. Everyone is invited to attend. The church is located at 1232 Patrick Church Road, Bernice.
- Calvary Baptist Church, Shreveport: **The Erwin Family in concert**, August 25, 5 p.m. Pastor: John Lary.

## Scripture Crypto

The Scripture Crypto is a Bible verse in which one letter has been substituted for another, thus encoding the verse. To find out what the verse is, you must determine what each letter is a substitute for. An "a," for example, may stand for a "t" in this week's issue of the ScriptureCrypto. Next week, "a" could stand for a "d." Each week, each letter is different. Solve by trial and error. The answer will be given next week. Note: All numerals, such as those in the scripture reference after the verse, are spelled out.

jdt pml fjwl bxmd mjt mzf ojzwdp xa kjwlc'f mjzo,

jdt j cljplmod uzotcl jsxyp mzf cxzdf; jdt mzf wljp qjf

cxkyfj jdt qzct mxdlr.

wjppmlq pmoll:axyo

Clues:  
C = L; L = E

Answer to August 1 Scripture Crypto:  
First Chronicles nine: twenty-eight

A Missionary Kid raises her hand in praise during a time of worship at the MK Re-entry retreat at Tall Timbers Baptist Conference Center in Woodworth. The event, attended by 77 graduating high school seniors who are children of Southern Baptist missionaries, was a partnership between the state Baptist Woman's Missionary Union directors and the International Mission Board and featured times of worship, inspiring messages and breakout sessions.

Brian Blackwell photo



# Salvations

from page 6

ends, students must then face the everyday struggles of life. It is then that campers are encouraged to apply what they learned in daily spiritual battles.

“As each week closes, students are encouraged to choose what they will do with all that God has taught them once they get back home, back into daily routines, back into a schedule that can make Bible study and discussion more difficult, and with wonderful cell service,” he said. “Our hope is to hear that students all across Louisiana are sharing Christ in their homes, friend groups, schools and teams.”

## RESULTS

By the numbers, a salvation count: 206, Tall Timbers Baptist Conference Center; 120, Acadian Baptist Center; 112, Clara Springs Baptist Encampment; 101, Camp Bethany; 85, Dry Creek Baptist Camp; 62, Harris Baptist Assembly; 35, Camp Living Waters; 26, Judson Baptist Retreat Center; 767 TOTAL.

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