



Submitted photo

Pastor Brian Ray celebrated the baptism of three new converts who made decisions during a 12-day revival at First Baptist Church in Robeline. By the end of the revival, Jan. 20-31, 53 people committed their lives to Christ and 44 of the new converts were baptized during the services.

## Soul-winning is the heartbeat at Robeline

By Brian Blackwell  
Message Staff Writer

ROBELINE (LBM) –A flu outbreak in the Ashley Lewis family nearly prevented her from attending a recent revival service held at the First Baptist Church in Robeline, but a miraculous recovery within the household allowed her to experience the miracle of salvation during the final night, Jan. 31. By the end of the 12-day

revival, extended two days past its scheduled conclusion, 53 people, including Lewis, responded to the prompting of the Holy Spirit and committed their lives to Christ -- with 44 of the new converts being baptized during the services. “(Evangelist) Sam Moore was talking about how you’re either a heartbeat away from Heaven or Hell, and I could not leave that night without ensuring that I would never be

separated from my Savior,” said Lewis. “It was a new beginning.”

### OBEDIENT IN BAPTISM

Lewis waited to be baptized on Feb. 9 so family members could attend. “Just the symbolism of likening baptism to resurrection to a new life made me feel

See ROBELINE, page 12

## ACS boosts ABCs with Gospel, adds Iles to leadership



Brian Blackwell photo

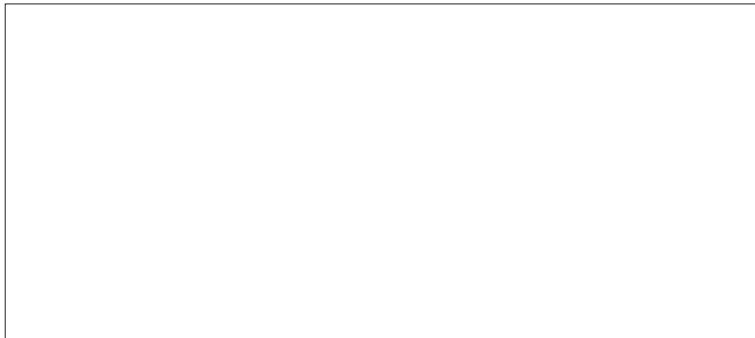
Curt Iles started Jan. 7 as principal of Alpine Christian School, a ministry operated by Alpine First Baptist Church. He hopes his new role will allow him to lock arms with faculty and Pastor John Willie as they shape the next generation of Christian leaders. The school, which boasts an enrollment of 100 students, pre-k through 8th grade, offers general education classes, but also Bible lessons combined with Gospel presentations and dedicated prayer times.

By Brian Blackwell  
Message Staff Writer

TIOGA (LBM) – Veteran author Curt Iles, who has penned 13 books, has begun writing his latest chapter in his book of life as principal of Alpine Christian School. Iles, a Louisiana College graduate who started Jan. 7 at the school operated by Alpine First Baptist Church, hopes his new role will allow him to lock arms with faculty and Pastor John Willie as they shape the next generation of Christian leaders. The school, which boasts an enrollment of 100 students, pre-k through 8th grade, offers general education classes, but also Bible lessons combined with Gospel presentations and dedicated prayer times. “We are preparing kids for life after they leave here,” Iles told the *Baptist Message*. “Our faculty is training them not just to learn important academic skills but also to grow spiritually, socially and mentally. Everything we do starts with the Gospel and we hope by the time they leave here our students will have the rock solid Christian

foundation needed to make a difference in today’s culture.” Iles, who spent 14 years as an educator at East Beauregard High School in DeRidder, another 14 years as director of Dry Creek Baptist Camp in Dry Creek and three years as a missionary alongside his wife, DeeDee, in Uganda with the International Mission Board of the Southern Baptist Convention, believes his prior experience has prepared him for his latest task. “I’m sure that this new season will be full of both opportunities and challenges,” Iles said. “Our vision is to provide the best education possible at Alpine Christian School.” Willie said Iles gives the school a valuable asset. “We are the only private Christian school north of the Red River, what makes ACS unique is that, while we don’t have some of the resources a public school has, we are able to integrate both faith and learning to instruct our children within the framework of Scripture,” Willie said. “Someone

See ILES, page 3



## Students ‘thrive’ at CEC 2020

By Brian Blackwell  
Message Staff Writer

PINEVILLE (LBM) – James Doughty challenged students attending the recent Collegiate Evange-

lism Conference to become fully devoted followers of God. “If you want to thrive in your faith, you must be devoted to the Word,” said Doughty, pastor of First Baptist Church in Monroe. **HEAR GOD** Doughty’s message See CEC, page 2





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## CEC from page one

was part of a two-day conference that included seminars designed to equip students with sharing their faith, worship by the Jason Lovins Band and a late-night time of fellowship. The conference was held Feb. 14-15 at Louisiana College in Pineville, the conference drew students from 15 BCMs.

His message and the focus of the various breakout seminars were centered on the theme, "Thrive."

Citing 2 Timothy 3:14-4:4, Doughty told the students the Bible is God's Word, reveals the Gospel truths, enables them to become more spiritually mature and keeps them from following false teaching. And to truly thrive, he said, they must desire, read and apply God's Word.

"If we want to see people changed by the Gospel, we must be people that preach the whole counsel of Scripture," he said.

Mark Robinson, Louisiana Baptist state BCM director, said he was pleased with the student response to the challenge to thrive



Brian Blackwell photo

Students from across the state enjoyed a time of worship at the annual Collegiate Evangelism Conference. The Jason Lovins Band led the worship sessions, Feb. 14-15 at Louisiana College in Pineville.

on their campuses, communities and beyond.

"You would be amazed if you could see the differences in the cultural variety at each college campus in our state," Robinson told the *Baptist Message*. "It's the same with churches. Each has its own narrative of experiences, jokes, allegiances and even a unique language pattern. However, they are developed around a basic philosophy of reaching students for Christ, strengthening them in their faith, connecting them to a lifelong relationship with the local church and mobilizing them to share the Gospel

worldwide.

"When this variety of students come together in a conference like Louisiana BCM's Collegiate Evangelism Conference built around corporate worship, spiritual training, cross campus dialogue and recreation their walk with Christ gets better through the influences of others," he continued. "When they hear a strong message from a local pastor like James Doughty or local church college pastor Stephen Daigle plus a super bonus appearance of a college president like Dr. Rick Brewer and testimonies from a nationally known worship band like the Jason Lovins Band -- that grew out of a weekly worship team from Morehead State BCM -- students get stronger and catch a vision for who God has created them to be in life. CEC accomplished that well."

### PURSUE GOD

In his message Saturday, Stephen Daigle challenged the students to pursue a calling rather

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# 2020 Commission update: Aid local congregations in disciple making

**By Brian Blackwell**  
Message Staff Writer

ALEXANDRIA (LBM) -- Louisiana Baptists are in the final year of implementing the President's 2020 Commission Report, an initiative undertaken during the leadership of Waylon Bailey, pastor of the First Baptist Church in Covington, and the LBC president in 2012-2013.

The 2020 recommendations were crafted collaboratively by a commission of 400 Louisiana Baptist leaders, staff members and laypeople, working in 20 subcommittees of 20 members each. Ten "key actions in reaching our state" – known as KAIROS – were developed to engage two audiences: the next generation and every people group. These measures for improving the spiritual health and growth of the state subsequently were adopted by messengers at the 2013 Louisiana Baptist Convention Annual Meeting.

This article is the third in a series to be published by the *Baptist Message* to

report what successes have been achieved toward the ambitious goals as well as what work remains to be done.

## KAIROS TWO

*Assist churches with the development of a disciple-making process for the local congregation.*

The best strategy for making disciples is through small groups such as Sunday School, said Sean Keith, Louisiana Baptists Sunday school and discipleship strategist. He said that 94 percent of Louisiana Baptist churches already



have a Sunday school as part of their disciple-making strategy, while others utilize some combination of off-campus and on-campus groups apart from Sunday morning.

"The core of our hope for Louisiana Baptist Churches is that they take the structure they currently have and intentionally focus it on three things,"

Keith said. "First is on reaching and enrolling new people. Status quo is our enemy. We must develop goals and plans to reach and enroll new people.

"We also must teach toward changed lives," he continued. "We teach people. What we teach is the Bible. There is a strong need for community in our groups. But, we also need

quality Bible conversations in our groups.

"Lastly, we need to involve members in ongoing ministry," he continued. "Every believer is gifted by the Holy Spirit for the purpose of accomplishing God's work through the body which is the church."

These three components are the key elements of the Sunday School Challenge, Keith said. This effort is designed as a simple and flexible tool that a pastor and key leaders can accomplish in their church. For more information, go to [//louisianabaptists.org/ssc](http://louisianabaptists.org/ssc).

## Iles from page one

with Curt Iles' experience will help position us even better than before not only to increase our enrollment and also to prepare our students for life beyond Alpine Christian School to be image bearers of Christ."

Not only do they hope to draw in more students, but Iles and Willie would like to raise money to fund scholarships and technology improvements.

Enrollment for Alpine Christian School is open through May. For more information, call 318.640.3804.

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# LBC pastor creates network to stop SBC's leftward drift

By Will Hall  
Message Executive Editor

BOSSIER CITY (LBM)—Brad Jurkovich, pastor of the First Baptist Church in Bossier City, announced on Valentine's Day the launching of the Conservative Baptist Network, a grass-roots movement of Southern Baptists "concerned

about the current direction and perceived future of the Convention."

In just three days, more than 3,200 churches and individuals had signed onto the initiative to restore conservative Southern Baptist views of Scripture, Jurkovich told the *Baptist Message*.

## CONSERVATIVES

Jurkovich is joined in leadership of the movement by a number of pastors and laymen, but two of the most prominent supporters are: Rod Martin, described as a "tech guru" by Fox Business News and noted especially for his work as a member of the startup team that developed and launched PayPal, and who serves as a member of the Southern Baptist Convention Executive Committee; and, Chuck Kelley, a longtime Southern Baptist leader who recently retired after serving 24 years as president of the New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary.

## BATTLING RADICAL IDEAS

During a radio broadcast about the announcement Jurkovich told Todd Starnes, a conservative Southern Baptist, formerly with *Fox News*, but who now has launched his own media network from the campus of Liberty University, that the issues of concern are "the apparent emphases on social justice, Critical Race Theory, Intersectionality, and the redefining of biblical gender roles" that is evident on SBC seminary campuses and creeping into SBC policies.

Critical Race Theory and

## CULTURALNEWS

Intersectionality are radical concepts from leftist academics and they perpetuate the ideas that the majority of Whites are racists and that institutions such as our legal system promote White supremacy.

Both Critical Race Theory and intersectionality were lauded as useful analytical tools in the controversial Resolution 9 passed by messengers at the 2019 SBC Annual Meeting.

## CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

In apparent criticism of the formation of the Conservative Baptist Network, Al Mohler, president of the Southern Baptist Theological Seminary and an announced candidate for SBC president, tweeted out that "The real network of Southern Baptists is called the Southern Baptist Convention. It's going to meet June 9-10 in Orlando. I look forward to joining you there."

However, Mohler is a supporter of his own networks within Southern Baptist Life, including The Gospel Coalition, a denomination-like network that describes itself as exclu-

sively Calvinist; Baptist 21, a Calvinist-only network of then-mostly seminarians that started on the SBTS campus; and, Together for the Gospel, a biennial conference credited with helping to sustain the modern Calvinist movement in the United States.

Mohler also employs Curtis Woods, the chair of the Resolutions Committee that crafted the highly criticized Resolution 9, as a faculty member.

J.D. Greear, pastor of The Summit, in Durham, North Carolina, and two-term SBC president, also took issue with the formation of this new group.

In a Feb. 18 tweet, he took to social media with this statement: "Don't launch a network that says it's about the recovery of conservative theology or the mission when it's really not ... I've seen where this kind of separation leads, and it's not where most Southern Baptists want to go."

However, Greear is known for promoting his preferred networks like The Gospel Coalition, and Acts 29, a church planting network that is exclusively Calvinistic.

## BIBLICAL SUFFICIENCY

Jurkovich said that besides the new-Marxist nature of Critical Race Theory and intersectionality, there also is the troubling implication that the Bible somehow is not sufficient to address the human condition, whether about racial discrimination or misogyny.

He told the *Baptist Message* that the Bible "speaks to every issue."

"When you believe and preach the Bible you won't have to apologize for what you said and you're going to be able to address these issues."

## Pastors Conference rejects SBC EC request for lineup changes

NASHVILLE, Tenn. (LBM)—The Southern Baptist Convention Pastors'

See CULTURAL, page 9



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**Leslie Norris Townsend**

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# U.S. Senate Chaplain to headline Governor's Prayer Breakfast

**By Brian Blackwell**  
Message Staff Writer

BATON ROUGE (LBM) – U.S. Senate Chaplain Barry Black will headline next month's Louisiana Governor's Prayer Breakfast, March 10 at the Crowe Plaza Executive Center, 4728 Constitution Ave. in Baton Rouge.

Black opens the Senate in prayer each day and provides counsel and spiritual care for senators, their families, and staff – a combined constituency of more than 7,000, according to a news release from the Louisiana Governor's Prayer Breakfast office.

He assumed his position on July 7, 2003, after serving in the U.S. Navy for 27 years, including as the chief of Navy chaplains, according to his website. During his tenure, Black earned the Navy Distinguished Service Medal, the Legion of Merit Medal, Defense Meritorious Service Medal (two awards), Meritorious Service Medals (two

awards), Navy and Marine Corps Commendation Medals (two awards), and numerous unit awards, campaign, and service medals.

Additionally, Black received the 1995 National Association for the Advancement of Color People Renowned Service Award for his contribution to equal opportunity and civil rights. He also was given the 2002 Benjamin Elijah Mays Distinguished Leadership Award from The Morehouse School of Religion and in 2004 was bestowed the Old Dominion University chapter of the NAACP Image Award for "Reaffirming the Dream -- Realizing the Vision" for military excellence.

Also featured on the program will be Christian recording artist Charles Billingsley, a Grammy and Dove award winner who launched his career with the group Newsong. Billingsley has led worship at several Louisiana Baptist Evangelism Conferences.

Louisiana Gov. John Bel Edwards will address elected officials and others in attendance at the breakfast, which is open to the public. The event includes a buffet style meal of eggs, bacon, sausage, grits, fruits, pastries, juices and coffee.

"We are thrilled to host the 56th annual Louisiana Governor's Prayer Breakfast, an event that has upheld its purpose of facilitating prayer for our great state's elected officials," Governor's Prayer Breakfast Chairman Tom Harrison, executive pastor at Broadmoor Baptist Church in Shreveport, told the *Baptist Message*. "It is our honor to have Dr. Barry Black, United States Senate Chaplain as our keynote speaker this year, as well as remarks from Governor John Bel Edwards. We'll also enjoy special music from Charles Billingsley, a nationally known vocalist and worship leader."

The doors open at 6:30 a.m., with the program beginning at 7:30 a.m. and ending

at 9 a.m. The event will be livestreamed at [lagpb.org](http://lagpb.org).

Table sponsorships range from \$750 to \$5,000 and include a reserved table for 10 guests and name recognition in the program. Individual tickets also are available for \$50. Table sponsorships

and individual tickets can be purchased online at the Louisiana Governor's Prayer Breakfast website or by check using an order form from the website. Seating is limited and early registration is recommended.

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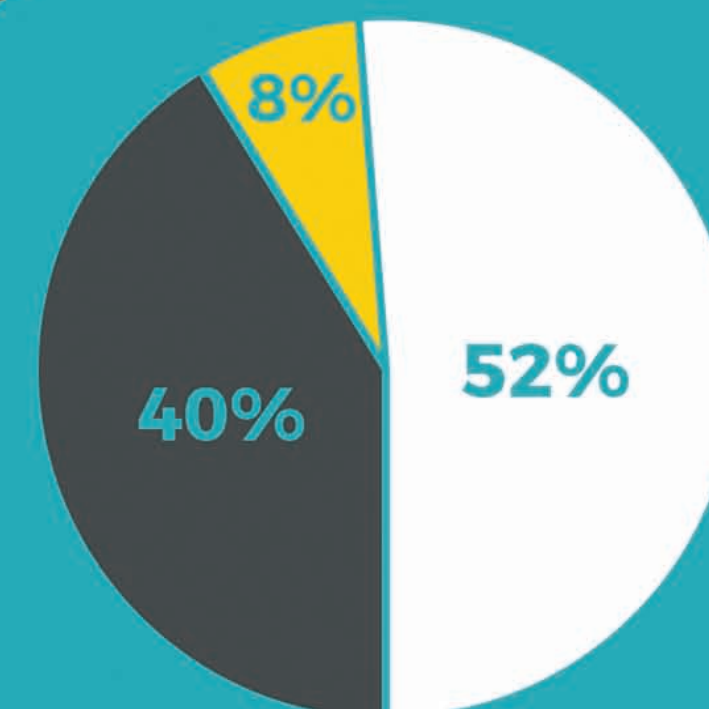
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## CEC from page 2

than a career.

"God's got a greater story for your life than the degree that you're getting," said Daigle, associate pastor at Celebration Church in Metairie. "Look what God can do with your life if you will just sell out to Him. He wants to do more with your life than you could ever ask or imagine."

"Your calling is greater than your career," he continued. "You can expect a life of meaning and purpose. Life is short. You are making all these plans for your life. You don't know what is going to happen tomorrow. Why waste any moment of your life that isn't Jesus. You can leverage your life in such a way that your legacy is going to impact the next generation."

Daigle shared how he secured the perfect job in the financial industry after his 2010 graduation from Tulane, but that an encounter with the Holy Spirit while on an overseas trip led him to pursue ministry.

He encouraged the

students to read their Bible daily, have a consistent prayer life and seek guidance from the Holy Spirit so they, too, do not miss God's calling on their lives.

"You could waste your life following the American Dream," he said. "Because God's dream for you is bigger."

LC President Rick Brewer closed the conference by urging the students not to compromise their faith.

Citing Genesis 40, Brewer said Joseph served as an example of someone who refused to give into temptation and in the end was promoted the second in command of Egypt.

"As you are going through a season of frustration, God is using it as a source of preparation," Brewer said. Are we living in such a way that our lives don't make sense to those who don't know Jesus? Are we salt and light? Are we countercultural?"

## FOLLOW GOD

Patricia Reed, a senior at Northwestern State University in Natchitoches, enjoyed the encouragement offered by the speakers and breakout leaders to shine for Christ on her campus.

"I need to stop making excuses and be more devoted to God's word," Reed said. "It's easy for us to go to events like this out of obligation but we must commit ourselves to be still and just enjoy His presence. When I get back to campus I am going to sit more with God."

Kaleb Watson, a senior from Nicholls State University in Thibodaux, enjoyed the fellowship.

"I always enjoy being around godly people at CEC," Watson said. "The speakers reminded me of the importance to read the Bible and apply it daily to my life. The Word creates such a solid foundation for me to make a difference for Him."



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# Cultural from page 4

Conference has declined a request from the SBC Executive Committee to change its lineup of speakers and entertainers.

The SBC EC passed a resolution offering the pastors group use of the 2020 SBC Annual Meeting spaces in Orlando if it made changes to its proposed program, which was described as “sufficiently beyond the parameters of the faith and practice of Southern Baptists,” and made a payment of \$100,000 (only a partial reimbursement of the actual cost of the facilities).

Instead, the Pastors’ Conference, which has always been treated as a friend of the SBC although it has not official status with the denomination, said the First Baptist Church in Orlando, would pay the full cost for use of the spaces but not make any lineup changes. The amount of the full cost for use of the facilities has not been publicly released.

David Uth, chairman of the Pastors’ Conference, also is pastor of First Orlando.

It is not clear if the SBC EC will agree to this counter offer.

At dispute are a number of platform personalities including David Hughes, pastor of Church

by the Glades in Coral Springs, Florida. His Southern Baptist congregation has hosted a profanity-laced hip-hop artist, and also has promoted the church using sensual themes on billboards, etc., in marketing campaigns that offended many traditional Christians. Also on the lineup as an “entertainer” is Hosanna Wong, an associate teaching pastor with the non-SBC multi-site Eastlake Church in San Diego, California. The Baptist Faith & Message 2000 interprets Scripture to teach that only men may serve as pastors.

## SBC EC launches another ERLC investigation

NASHVILLE, Tenn. (LBM)—The Executive Committee of the Southern Baptist Convention formed a task force, Feb. 18, and charged it to investigate “past and present activities” of the Ethics & Religious Liberties Commission relating to “whether the actions of the Commission and its leadership are affecting Cooperative Program giving or the further advancement of the Cooperative Program.”

It is the second time

the ERLC, under the leadership of its president, Russ Moore, has come under fire in the last four years.

In February 2017, the Executive Committee set up two investigative panels to study the ERLC after dozens of congregations either withheld funds to the SBC or left the SBC altogether after Moore made harsh comments about President Trump and his supporters. Among the prominent congregations that escrowed money was the historic Prestonwood Baptist Church in Plano, Texas, which withheld about \$1 million in cooperative ministry funds. Meanwhile, only months earlier, during its 2016 annual meeting, the Louisiana Baptist Convention voted to set up study of its own regarding the ERLC “with regard to issues of concern to Louisiana Baptists.”

Moore apologized in March 2017; Prestonwood released its funds shortly thereafter; the

Louisiana Baptist Convention issued a letter of firm counsel to the ERLC with a pledge “to pray”; and the SBC ad hoc panel closed out its investigation in September without recommending any corrective measures.

Mike Stone, pastor of Emmanuel Baptist Church in Blackshear, Georgia, and chair of the SBC Executive Committee, did not indicate what had transpired since 2017 -- when 75 congregations withheld financial gifts and another 49 churches dropped

out of the SBC -- to cause the SBC EC to take on another investigation.

Stone simply said the 2020 task force will be “looking for the facts” and that six other EC members would join him to complete the membership of that investigative panel.

## Greear names Stetzer to chair resolutions

NASHVILLE, Tenn. (LBM)—J.D. Greear, pas-

See CULTURAL, page 12



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**BEECH SPRINGS BAPTIST CHURCH in Minden, LA** is seeking a full-time pastor. Send resumes no later than March 31 to beechspringsbc2@bellsouth.net. Also send a DVD of a recent sermon you have preached to the church, Attn: Pastor Search Committee, 15910 Hwy 80, Minden, LA 71055.

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Trinity Baptist Church in Oakdale, LA is seeking full-time pastor. Please send résumés to: Pastor Search Committee, P O Box 748, Oakdale, LA 71463.

**YOUTH MINISTER**  
Highland Baptist Church, 1509 Ark. Rd, West Monroe La 71291; seeking part-time or full-time youth minister; email résumé to prelmor54@gmail.com. or mail your résumé to the church.

**PRAISE AND WORSHIP PASTOR**  
First Baptist Church of Minden is seeking a full-time praise and worship pastor. Send your résumés to First Baptist Church, Attention: Trace, 301 Pennsylvania Ave., Minden, LA 71055 or e-mail to fbcminden@firstminden.org

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**SEEKING RÉSUMÉS**  
Red Oak Baptist in Livingston, LA is searching for a couple to work with youth at our church. Please send résumé to both [Two2pages@Gmail.com](mailto:Two2pages@Gmail.com) and Red Oak Baptist Church, P.O. Box 27, Livingston LA 70754.

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**BI-VOCATIONAL PASTOR**  
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**SEEKING A FULL-TIME PASTOR**  
Goodwill Baptist Church in Oak Grove, LA, is seeking a full-time pastor. Call Johnny Smith at 318.428.2146 or Kevin Tubbs at 318.372.2777 or email résumés to [dorn@richlandba.org](mailto:dorn@richlandba.org)

**YOUTH MINISTER**  
First Baptist Church in Wisner, LA is seeking a part-time youth minister. Must be a follower of Christ and love young people. For more information call the church 318.724.6148 or Lisa 318.729.9398.

**DIRECTOR OF MISSIONS**  
Louisiana Baptist Association is seeking a Director of Missions. Anyone interested should reply to: Louisiana Baptist Assoc., P. O. Box 326, Mansura, LA 71350 or call Bill Housley at 318.229.8115.

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**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 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

- **Caleb (wife Jenni) Robison** has been called to be the Minister of Music/Children of Gloster Baptist Church, Gloster from Operation Ministry Associate at Broadmoor Baptist Church, Shreveport.
- **Jeff Roberts** is new pastor Sharon Baptist

Church, Dubah.

- **Melanie Lawler** is the new Director of Children's Ministries at First Baptist Church, Slidell.
- **Adam Watson** is the new worship pastor at First Baptist Church, Covington.
- **Michael (wife Beth) Gill** is the new pastor of discipleship & administration at Bethlehem Baptist Church, Albany.
- **Bryan (wife Allie) Ulmer** is the new student minister at Mount Vernon Baptist Church, West Monroe.

## HOMECOMING

- Fair Park Baptist Church, West Monroe: **71st Anniversary**, March 1. Pastor: Waymond Warren.

- Pilgrim Rest Baptist Church, Eunice: **150th Anniversary Celebration**, March 15, 10 a.m. There will be a meal after the worship service but those attending should RSVP Peggy Watson at peggy.watson@abccamp.com. Guest Speaker: **Steve Horn, Louisiana Baptists Executive Director** Steve Horn and former pastors from the church. Special Music: Different people associated with the church (present and past). Pastor: Orville Rogers.

## REVIVAL

- East Ridge Baptist Church, Lake Charles: **Spring Revival**, March 1-4, 10:45 & 6 p.m. Monday-Wednesday, 7 p.m. Worship: **Brad Davis Family**. Pastor: Alan Weishampel.
- Anacoco First Baptist Church, Anacoco: **Revival**, March 1-3, Sunday 11 a.m. & 5 p.m. Monday-Wednesday, 7 p.m. Evangelist: Jamie Colter, Jamie Coulter Ministries of Hamburg, Arkansas. Pastor: Will Hall.
- Maryland Baptist Church, St. Joseph: **Revival**, March 1-4, Sunday, 11 a.m. & 6 p.m.; Monday-Wednesday, 6 p.m. Evangelist: **Craig Franklin Ministries**. Pastor: Larry Foster.
- First Baptist Church, Hornbeck: **March Madness Revival**, March 1. 8. 15. 22. 29, 11 a.m. Sunday, March 1st emphasis on Children & Family, Speaker: **Bubba Mills**; March 8 emphasis on Senior adults, Speaker: **Lee Dickson**. There will be sandwiches and desserts after worship; March 15 emphasis on Adults. Speaker: **Brian Gilcrease**. There will be a pot luck lunch after worship; March 22 emphasis on youth. Speaker: **Tim Lee**. There will be pizza after worship; March 29 wrap up with Lord Supper. Pastor: Jack Bell.
- First Baptist Church, Gilbert: **Revival**, March 8-11, Evangelist: **Bill Britt**. Pastor: Wyman Lee Ezell.
- Beauregard Memorial Baptist Church, Longville: **Spring Revival**, March 8-11. Evangelist: **Scotty McDowell, chalk artist**. Pastor: Jimmy Clark.
- District 8 Baptist Mission: **Hope is Here -- Sabine 2020**, March 8-11 at Many High School Gym, fellowship, 5:30 p.m., service, 6 p.m. nightly. Sabine and North Sabine Baptist Association will be a parish-wide evangelistic crusade. Evangelist: **Sammy**

**Tippet**. Director of Missions: Ron Thompson.

- Louisiana College, Pineville: **Campus Revival**, March 10-12, Noon. Evangelist: **Blake Newsom**. Worship Music:

## LAGNIAPPE

- Oak Forest Baptist Church, Leesville: **Brad Davis Family in concert**, February 29, 6 p.m. A love offering will be taken. Pastor: Joe Call.
- Christian Harmony Baptist Church, Natchitoches: **Good News Gospel Trio in concert**, February 29, 6 p.m. Pastor: David Matlock.
- Cook Baptist Church, Ruston: **22nd Annual Sportsman's Banquet**, February 29, 6 p.m. Cost: \$3. There will be live and silent auctions, a potluck selection of game meat and other savory dishes and desserts! All sales and donations will go to support the Cook Baptist Church Seminary Scholarship Fund. Pastor: Todd Free.
- First Baptist Church, Pineville: **First@First Business Leader Luncheon**, March 2, noon. Speaker: **Steve Horn, Louisiana Baptists Executive Director**. Cost: \$10 (lunch catered by Southern Creations) and open to the business community. Please RSVP by 8 a.m. on February 3 to Lori Pruitt at lpruitt@fbcpineville.net. Pastor: Stewart Holloway.
- Trinity Heights Baptist Church, Shreveport: **WeR-Called in concert**, March 6-7, 6:30 p.m. Pastor: Wayne DuBose.
- First Baptist Church, West Monroe: **The Word Alive**, March 6-7. Speaker: with Lysa TerKeurst. Worship: **Elie Holcomb**. The Word Alive is an event that will help women experience scripture in a whole new way as TerKeurst leads this powerful yet intimate interactive Bible-teaching event. To volunteer or purchase tickets: Lifeway.com/WordAlive. Pastor: Michael Woods.
- Temple Baptist Church, Ruston: **The Called**

**Tour**, March 7, 6 p.m. Worship Music: **Avalon and Sarah Kelly**. Pastor: Reggie Bridges.

- Beauregard Baptist Association Women's Event: "I Love to Tell The Story," March 13, 6 p.m. at Beauregard Fairgrounds Exhibit Hall. Cost: \$15 (Deadline to purchase tickets, March 9); T-Shirts: \$20 (deadline to purchase t-shirts - February 27). For more information call the Beauregard Baptist Association at 337.202.4043. DOM: Tim Patrick.
- Ridge Avenue Baptist Church, West Monroe: **The McNeill Family in concert**, March 14, 6 p.m. A love offering will be received for this family group. Pastor: Jim Wolfe.
- Trinity Baptist Church, Lake Charles: **Fresh Grounded Faith with Jennifer Rothschild and Friends**, March 20-21. This area-wide women's event is cosponsored by First Baptist Church DeRidder.
- First Baptist Church, Blanchard: **Worship 3:16**, March 21, 11 a.m. - 6 p.m. Worship: **Matt Papa**. Registration at 10 a.m. Cost: \$50 (for lunch, breakouts, preferred concert seating) \$10.00 (for concert, general admission.) Tickets available on eventbrite.com (search "worship316 conference") For more information, call 318.834.7198. Pastor: Clay Fuqua.
- Trinity Baptist Church, Hammond: **Concert**, March 22, 5:30 p.m. Worship: **Greg Sullivan & Answered Prayer**. Pastor: Avery Dixon.
- First Baptist Church, Covington: **REVIVE! Christ and His Church**, March 24, 9 a.m.-3 p.m. Blackaby Ministries International (BMI), in partnership with the North American Mission Board, will bring "REVIVE: Christ and His Church" to the Louisiana Northshore! Speakers: **Richard Blackaby and Mark Clifton** Cost is \$10 and includes lunch and the two featured books. Register/RSVP at 225.567.5086 or office@northshorebaptists.net. Pastor: Waylon Bailey.

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## 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.

Idy mh nalqq glna mvju kqv fahn vd fah nhphdfa

ylm, Idy mh nalqq eh kqhld, Idy Isfhugluy mh

nalqq kvbh rdfv fah klbi.

djbehun farufm-vdh:fghdfm-svju

Clues:  
K = C; H = E

Answer to February 12 Scripture Crypto:  
Galatian five:one

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or **Susan Nolan**, [snolan@lbch.org](mailto:snolan@lbch.org)  
or P.O. Box 4196, Monroe, LA 71211.



# Robeline from page one

close to Christ," she added. "And knowing I had followed through in intentional obedience has made my faith stronger. I have a new hunger for God that I never knew I was missing."

Brian Ray, pastor of First Baptist Robeline, said the Holy Spirit moved mightily during each of the revival services.

"This was a true movement of God," Ray said. "We saw a lot of families, kids and others come down to the altar and cry out to God to be saved. My entire church, even

those who previously made decisions, sought personal revival throughout the services and are anticipating how God is going to move in the days ahead."

## PRAYING FOR REVIVAL

The church made preparations for the revival six months in advance, with each member praying for 10 lost people by name. Later, they were asked to invite these people to sit with them during the revival.

The congregation also faithfully prayed during Sunday and Wednesday services, asking for wisdom, discernment and revival, as well as to plead that God's presence fill the worship center during each service.

"Revival starts with prayer and from there moves to the heart of each person," Ray said. "The fruit is we get to see people saved. God definitely prepared the hearts and the church grounds for a revival that was so impactful for so many."

Katie Jones was among those who responded to the Holy Spirit's prompt-

ing to repent. She turned to Christ during the Jan. 30 revival meeting, and was baptized the following Sunday.

"On January 30, the first night that the revival was extended, my heart felt like it was going to pound out of my chest," Jones said. "I knew then that I needed to get my salvation right with Christ. I prayed and asked Jesus to be my Lord and Savior. The peace that He gave me was so reassuring. I knew that if I took my last breath on earth that I would take my first breath in Heaven. Who doesn't want that kind of peace?"

# Cultural

from page 9

tor of The Summit in Durham, North Carolina, and serving his second term as SBC president, has named Ed Stetzer as the chair of the 2020 Resolutions Committee.

Stetzer likely will be considered a controversial choice by many Southern Baptists.

He is the interim teaching pastor for the Moody Church in Chicago, Illinois, a non-SBC congregation that ordains women as deaconesses and is elder-led.

He is not the first controversial choice put forth by Greear.

Despite promising to nominate candidates that looked like the rest of the Southern Baptist Convention, in 2019 Greear named his Committee on Committees, the group that shapes all trustee boards and the various SBC committees, with 31 percent identified as Calvinists by their beliefs and practices, compared to 10 percent of all Southern Baptists. One of the pastors on the list identified himself to his local newspaper as a non-denominational church with "Baptist" as its middle name.

Greear also favored mega-churches over the small congregations that typify the Southern Baptist Convention.

The average attendance among the committee members' churches was 597. Meanwhile, just five percent of SBC congregations have more than 500 members attend the primary worship service. Instead, more than 80 percent of Southern Baptist churches average fewer than 150 weekly worshippers.

Stetzer will face demands from conservative Southern Baptists to retract or otherwise replace the controversial Resolution 9 passed by messengers in 2019. This measure lauded the neo-Marxist ideas of Critical Race Theory and intersectionality, both of which perpetuate racial divisiveness.

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