



# THE BAPTIST MESSAGE

October 24, 2019

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John 3:16

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## Native Americans seek revival for the country in Oberlin



Cliff Spikes, pastor of Oberlin Baptist Church, believed God wanted him to set up a tent on his church property, and soon after, a group of Native Americans offered to come for a continuous revival meeting there.

By Brian Blackwell  
Message Staff Writer

OBERLIN (LBM)—Native American pastors began a multi-week tent camp meeting with nightly evangelistic messages on the grounds of Oberlin Baptist Church, and organizers are optimistic that God may use the event to bring about revival across America.

The All Nations Camp Meeting kicked off Oct. 2

and is scheduled to continue through at least early November.

Native Americans from 15 states already have committed to supply guest evangelists, and, the Billy Graham Evangelistic Association and Henry Blackaby Ministries also are assisting.

“Small numbers are coming right now but we are not discouraged,” Tony Robinson, pastor of Cornerstone Baptist Church in Oakdale

and a member of the camp meeting planning committee, told the *Baptist Message*. “We feel like it will gain momentum as the word gets out and we feel like God’s in it. I don’t know when the last time was someone planned a meeting that went six weeks or indefinitely. We are just going to keep doing it until we feel like it has run its course or God says shut it down.”

See REVIVAL, page 7

## Set free in Angola!

By Brian Blackwell  
Message Staff Writer

ANGOLA (LBM)—Shon-eray O’Haver has been serving a 75-year term at the Louisiana State Penitentiary since 2014. But on Sept. 19, at the prison known simply as Angola, formerly the bloodiest prison in America, the 36-year-old convicted armed robber gained a permanent reprieve from a spiritual death sentence by being set free in Christ.

“Asking Him to be my Savior and Lord is the best decision I have made,” an emotional O’Haver told the *Baptist Message*.

O’Haver responded to a Gospel invitation offered by Jamie Dew inside Tudy Chapel on the main prison campus. Dew, the newly inaugurated president of New Orleans Baptist Theological

See ANGOLA, page 5



Submitted photo

Yalonda Terry holds her four-month-old son, Sawyer, at the Children’s Hospital of New Orleans. Doctors did not offer the family much hope, but God answered their prayers with multiple miracles that continue to mark Sawyer’s ongoing improvement.

## Baby Sawyer: A true miracle in the making

By Will Hall  
Message Executive Editor

NEW ORLEANS (LBM)—Sawyer was an answer to prayer for his parents Yalonda and Louis Terry. He was the brother they had hoped for their then 18-month-old son Callan and 11-year-old sister Kacie. Her nephew Daniel (11) also lives with them.

But on August 18 tragedy struck the Terry home when Yalonda discovered four-month-old Sawyer was not breathing.

“I did CPR for 11 minutes before the ambulance arrived,” she told the *Baptist Message*. “I knew it was bad at that moment, because they did not even try it [CPR] in my house, but instead picked him up and ran straight to the ambulance.”

Sawyer was rushed to Byrd Regional Hospital in Leesville and shortly after he was ventilated they flew him and Yalonda

See SAWYER, page 3

## LBC celebrates 250th church plant

By Brian Blackwell  
Message Staff Writer

ALEXANDRIA (LBM) – Church planters and state missions staff gathered in the Louisiana

Baptist Building Oct. 9 to commemorate the 250th church planted since 2010.

The achievement moves Louisiana Baptists closer to the goal of planting 300 churches by 2020 as part of

one of the 10 action steps identified in the President’s 2020 Commission Final Report, which was affirmed by messengers dur-

See PLANT, page 8

# Skills of a church planter: Partnering with your wife in ministry

ALEXANDRIA (LBM)-In 1985, I was a happily married father of five and in sales management. I was 30 years old and making a good living. My wife Kitty was a “stay at home” mom, although certified as a high school science teacher.

We became involved in Evangelism Explosion, a method of sharing the Gospel with others, through our church, Parkview Baptist in Alexandria. It was the first time we had partnered in a ministry effort.

The next year I became convicted that God was calling me to the ministry, coming to that realization

clearly on a Sunday morning during the worship service, although I had sensed it for a long time.

I knew I would need to go to seminary to prepare for ministry, but I was overwhelmed with questions about the transition: How would I provide for my family? Would Kitty be willing to teach and be the bread winner for our family while also raising the children?

Would she make enough to support so large a family? How would all this work?

Would she even be willing to give up her comfortable life to take on so much responsibility?

After all, the oldest of our, then, five children was 10 and the baby was six months old.

These questions wracked my mind, especially because I had not even shared my convictions with her at that time.

The following week I finally opened up with Kitty.

I told her I was sensing a call to ministry, which meant: selling our home and moving to Fort Worth, Texas, for seminary; her picking up a teaching job; me working part time and going to school full time; and, that she would be the primary caregiver for our children.

I was afraid she would panic, and maybe even question my mental health.

But that was not her



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

response.

Instead, she affirmed my heart’s desire, and, committed to make it work, together, while I attended Southwestern Seminary.

“Together we can make it work,” is the core of being a successful leader in ministry.

Importantly, spousal cooperation in ministry is a two-way street. It is not about the wife supporting the husband’s ministry. It is about being in the ministry together.

Many books and articles have been written about the role of the pastor’s wife, and the good ones include the wisdom and instruction found in 1 Timothy 3 and Ephesians 5, for instance -- dealing clearly with the godly virtues that should be the practice of Christian women, as well as emphasizing the order of the Christian household and the bond that should be shared between husband and wife.

These verses provide a baseline of the marriage standard for couples and give a biblical model for spousal cooperation in the ministry.

Spousal cooperation is part attitude and part skill.

“Together we can make

it work” must be reinforced with mechanisms that insure that the wheels “don’t come off the bus” in your marriage somewhere down the road.

You must learn how to keep the “together” in your marriage and ministry.

This skill set includes learning balance between ministry and family.

You cannot neglect your family. Make time for them, even blocking out dates and times on your calendar, and, keeping those appointments.

Be accountable to each other in maintaining spiritual disciplines in your personal lives. Come up with a spiritual health and growth plan and apply it consistently.

Intentionally develop relationships with other couples or friends that will help the two of you connect socially.

But be careful not to blur the line between family and ministry.

These relationships should benefit your spouse and family, not just be an extension of your ministry.

There will be multiple intersections between

See **PARTNERING**, page 8

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Please send résumé to Dr. Perry Hancock (phancock@lbch.org) or Susan Nolan (snolan@lbch.org) or P.O. Box 4196, Monroe, LA 71211.

**HOMEPLACE COTTAGE MANAGERS**

Baptist women needed for full-time or part-time positions to serve as cottage managers in HomePlace, a transitional living ministry for homeless children and their mothers. The full-time position includes salary, benefits, housing, paid vacation, and training. Provide love, care, and hope in Christ to children and families in need. Both full-time and part-time positions require 24-hour work schedules.

Please submit résumé to Susan Clark at sclark@lbch.org or P.O. Box 4196, Monroe, LA 71211.

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# Sawyer from page one

to Rapides Women and Children's Hospital in Alexandria.

"I was in the waiting room for six hours," Yalonda recalled. "I received some updates and at times reports about him seizing. By that night they said they had him stabilized."

For days it seemed all the news was bad news, and Yalonda finally put down her foot to tell the medical staff not to discuss anything negative in front of Sawyer, insisting they talk positively when around him or not at all.

She said the most dramatic turnaround in outlook was made by Sawyer's doctor.

"We did not see eye-to-eye in the beginning, but God put her there for a reason," Yalonda shared. "She saved my baby, and I couldn't be more grateful for her."

But the medical team in Rapides recommended Sawyer be transferred to another hospital for more specialized treatment.

A hospital in Texas was offered as a transfer option. But after the medical team there reviewed Sawyer's records they told Yalonda that he was "brain dead" and that they were uncomfortable with taking him unless she was willing to accept that prognosis.

"I didn't want to send my son to a hospital full of negative people," she exclaimed. So she prevailed upon Sawyer's doctor to help her get him admitted to Children's Hospital of New Orleans, which was more positive about Sawyer's condition she was assured.

Meanwhile, several miracles took place. Sawyer began breathing over the ventilator, indicating, essentially, he might be able to breathe on his own.

His daddy, Louis, arrived from Africa where he works on an offshore oil platform, and when he spoke Sawyer opened his eyes for the first time since the emergency at home.

Sawyer also started to raise his arms, reaching up for his daddy.



Submitted photo

Louis Terry gives his four-month-old son a kiss in the Children's Hospital of New Orleans. The family has witnessed God perform miracle after miracle following an accident on August 18.

And he began to blink. "They told me he would never wake up," Yalonda emphasized.

But after arriving in New Orleans, the news did not get better.

An MRI was performed and it showed his brain was dissolving, she was told.

"There were multiple spots all over," indicating brain matter was missing, she said. "I was told it would not regenerate. It would not heal. They said he had no cortex function, just brain stem function."

His eye and hand movements were attributed to "spinal reflex," she recalled.

"They gave me two options: Send him home on hospice care and give him morphine to keep him comfortable," she said, which meant he would eventually choke to death on the saliva they said he could not clear from his airway.

"The second option was to insert a trach [tracheotomy tube] and move to a special facility in New Orleans or Baton Rouge," which meant she would be unable to take care of her other three children, she explained.

"I cried. I prayed. I discussed it with Louis," she said.

Then she offered the doctor a "Daniel" kind of compromise.

"I asked him to meet me in the middle," Yalonda said, sharing how she proposed to take small steps and test them to see what to do next.

So, she had them check to see if Sawyer could breathe for himself.

Prior to pulling the ventilator tube, the technician set the machine to "auto" and for 48 hours it did not kick on.

An oxygen tube replaced it, but that was removed in less than a day.

Moreover, during all this "test and see" ap-

proach the staff discovered Sawyer could clear his airway.

"His secretions are still thick," she shared. But now he only needs a feeding tube for assistance.

However, he is scheduled for surgery to move the tube from his nose to his side so he can begin therapy that will teach him to bottle feed.

Importantly, his improvements have allowed him to go home.

"I was told he would never walk, talk, function," she recalled. "'This is it,' they said."

"He is now making noises and the speech therapist says it is a sign he is trying to talk, to cry," she said, smiling.

"God is good. He stayed with me. I prayed every day and He worked on him."

Yalonda and Louis have been Christians for two years and are members of the First Baptist Church in Anacoco.

Although young in her faith, she offered sage advice for parents who might face tragic medical circumstances with a child: "Pray."

"You cannot read a textbook and figure out the next step," she said. "It's God's plan you need to know, no one else's."

"God gives you a person for a reason," she continued. "It's my job to fight for Sawyer when they tell me, 'There's no hope.' If you don't fight for the one you love, the one who is depending on you, then nobody will."

"God has done miracles with Sawyer," she added, "and I believe He still will."

**Friends of the Terry Family have opened a fundraising page to help pay off some of the debt incurred from Sawyer's hospitalization. Anyone wishing to donate should visit <https://www.gofundme.com/f/baby-sawyer-accident/>.**

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# Coach O lifts spirits on field, off

By Will Hall  
Message Executive Editor

BATON ROUGE (LBM)—LSU football Coach Ed Orgeron is lifting spirits on the field and off it.

The Bayou Bengals have won their first six games, defeating the then Associated Press number six Florida Gators 42-28, vaulting LSU from fifth place to second in the latest sports writers' poll.

Fans and analysts are exuberant about game plan changes Orgeron has made, creating a highly effective air strike offense that has lifted the hopes of the Tiger Nation for an undefeated season.

But Ken Ellis, team Chaplain, and Andy Stroup, greater Baton Rouge area director for the Fellowship of Christian Athletes, also praised "Coach O" for what he has done off the field, too.

Ellis, a former NFL Pro Bowl defensive back who serves as an associate pastor with Bethany World Prayer Center in Baton Rouge, lauded Orgeron for placing a high priority on the spiritual character of the players.

"It starts with Coach O," he said regarding the spiritual attitude in the locker room. "He attends all the chapel services. He doesn't miss any. He's there and shows how much he appreciates it. He also reaches out to me to pray after each game.

## CULTURAL NEWS

"He leads by example," Ellis told the *Baptist Message*.

Stroup, who played LSU football in the late 1990s, echoed Ellis regarding Orgeron's "passion for God."

"He really does care about those kids, their spiritual condition," Stroup shared. "He just wants those kids to know Jesus.

He added that many on Coach Orgeron's staff are active in Bible studies, too, as well the coaches' wives.

"It's just really, really fun to have a coach who cares so much. He cares about them as young men and what kind of men they are going to be."

The Fighting Tigers have six Southeastern Conference contests still on the schedule, taking on #11 Auburn on Oct. 26 and #1 Alabama on Nov. 9.

## SCOTUS to decide fate of two Louisiana laws

WASHINGTON (LBM)—The Supreme Court has accepted two cases that will determine whether Louisiana laws are constitutional.

One case deals with a pro-life issue and the other involves non-unanimous juries in felony cases.

### ADMITTING PRIVILEGES

In 2014 Louisiana legislators passed Act 620,

requiring abortion doctors to have admitting privileges in a nearby hospital in case of complications during an abortion. Lawmakers concluded this requirement would ensure "continuity of care, qualifications, communication, and prevent abandonment of patients."

Critics of the law say it is just an end run to close the only three abortion clinics in the state, and argue the matter was settled when the Supreme Court invalidated the portion of a Texas case that required doctors performing abortions to maintain patient-admitting privileges at a hospital within 30 miles of their abortion facility – the issue being contested in the Louisiana law.

U.S. District Judge John W. deGravelles, an Obama appointee, ruled against the Louisiana law, but the largely conservative U.S. Court of Appeals for the 5th Circuit overruled him.

The Supreme Court will hear arguments during the 2020 docket.

Louisiana Attorney General Jeff Landry has stated his intentions to vigorously protect the law, noting the "poor safety records, inadequate credentialing practices, and questionable efforts to undermine health and safety regulations" by Louisiana abortion clinics.

"Incompetent and unsafe providers should not be allowed to challenge health and safety stan-



LSU Sports photo

LSU Coach Ed Orgeron takes care of his players physically and spiritually.

dards designed to protect women from those very providers," he has argued.

### NON-UNANIMOUS JURIES

Meanwhile, in 2018 Louisiana voters repealed a state law that allowed a non-unanimous jury to convict a criminal defendant in a non-capital felony cases.

The vote essentially reversed a Jim Crow-era practice that made it easier to convict non-whites in felony cases not involving the death penalty.

However, the change was not retroactive, only applying to crimes committed on or after Jan. 1, 2019.

The Supreme Court heard oral arguments on Oct. 7, asking the justices to strike down the non-unanimity rule, which is still in use in Oregon, once

and for all.

The plaintiff is Envangelisto Ramos who was convicted in a New Orleans murder case. He received a life sentence on a 10-2 jury vote.

One of the issues is whether the floodgates, in Louisiana and Oregon, would be opened if the Supreme Court struck down the law.

But Ramos's attorney told the justices there are only 36 cases on direct review that would be involved.

Likewise, in response to the fact that the Supreme Court ruled in 1970 that a six-person jury could convict a defendant in a similar case (making the point that if six minds could decide, 10 minds should be good enough), the lawyer said that ruling still required a unanimous verdict.

# Fairground becomes holy ground for Vernon Parish inmate

Jearme Ousley (left), student pastor at the Pine Hill Baptist Church in Leesville, and Larry Galloway, a member of East Leesville Baptist Church, baptized Xavier Tate at the Vernon Parish fairgrounds. Tate accepted Christ during an outreach by the Vernon Baptist Association.



Submitted photo

By Brian Blackwell  
Message Staff Writer

LEESVILLE (LBM)—Xavier Tate found more than fun and games on the midway during the annual fair and rodeo in Vernon Parish. During his temporary reprieve from the confines of the local jail as a member of a work crew, he found freedom in Christ and was baptized the same day -- all because of an act of compassion by members of the Vernon Baptist Association of churches.

Jearme Ousley, student pastor at the Pine Hill Baptist Church in Leesville, told the *Baptist Message* the associational team served breakfast to Tate and his jail mates and that that kindness softened his heart.

Ousley said that Tate was baptized shortly after making a profession of faith -- with the Louisiana Baptist volunteers singing "Amazing Grace."

Larry Galloway, a member of East Leesville

Baptist Church, baptized Tate in a trough provided by local feed shop owner Gil James, a member of Canaan Baptist Church in Leesville, in water contributed by the fire department.

"The goal was simple -- to show the love of Jesus to lost, broken and hurting people who many look down on and consider outcasts," Ousley said. "Xavier thought he was just there to clean up and

See FAIRGROUND, page 12

# Angola from page one

Seminary, led O’Haver in a prayer of repentance after sharing a message of hope based on 1 Corinthians 1:26-31.

## SPIRIT-LED VISION

Dew’s sermon at Angola was part of a one-day, multiple chapel, revival service organized by Keith Manuel, Louisiana Baptists’ director of evangelism, in part as a tribute to NOBTS as a follow-up event to the centennial anniversary the seminary celebrated last year.

The school and the prison enjoy a strong bond from a four-year NOBTS degree program – established in 1995 at the request of then-warden, Burl Cain, a Louisiana Baptist layman – which is credited with the dramatic reduction in murders as well as all violence, a nearly 85 percent drop, at Angola. Thirty congregations have been birthed across the prison, largely from the ongoing spiritual influence of NOBTS.

In September 2015, NOBTS dedicated a new 11,000-square-foot building at Angola that houses an extension center, built by the inmates and funded by donors. The Joan Horner Center has a computer lab, two classrooms, an auditorium and library, and is named in memory of benefactor Joan Horner, founder of Premier Designs of Dallas, Texas. She and husband Andy Horner were longtime supporters of the Angola ministry.

The Leavell College of NOBTS also has an active program at the Louisiana Correctional Institute for Women in St. Gabriel, as well as a presence in other states: the Mississippi State Penitentiary, Parchman, Miss.; Phillips State Prison, Buford, Ga.; and, the Hardee Correctional Institute, Bowling Green, Fla.

Meanwhile, Cain, who retired in 2016, is busy working to export the program to other states and even other countries.

“The blessing of ministry at Angola, or in any prison ministry setting, comes from knowing that even if a man spends the rest of his life behind the walls of prison, he can be restored, made whole, and set free on the inside,” Manuel said. “While a man may spend the rest of his

days paying the penalty for a horrific act of sin, if he repents of his sin and receives Jesus as Savior and Lord, he is immediately redeemed, born again, and will one day, walk freely on the streets of gold.”

## SPIRIT-LED SERVICES

Dew encouraged the crowd in Tudy Chapel to cast aside worldly opinions about inmates at Angola, and instead to press on to share the Good News with other inmates as part of their mission field.

“I know what this world thinks of you,” Dew told the prisoners. “I know it has to hurt. I know it has to discourage you. You hear it. The media broadcasts it. People say callous things. The people say hurtful things, dreadful things.

“People ask questions like ‘Why do you want to go in there and help those people?’” he continued. “You have become in the eyes of the world ‘those people.’

“Ignore them because they do not have eyes to see,” he urged. “They do not have ears to hear.

“God has chosen the foolish things, the past things, the despised things, to confound the wise,” he continued. “You may say, ‘Surely that is not happening through us.’ Surely, I say, it is happening through you. Praise God it is happening through you!”

Dew’s message resonated with other inmates like Letrakus Tyler.

“This unspeakable joy overcame me as he was sharing with us about how we matter and have a purpose for the Lord,” Tyler said. “I felt on this night that all of us were one with the Spirit and one with the Lord.”

Inmate Ronnie Moran echoed the thought.

“I see God in the midst of our mess,” Moran said. “To have someone like Dr. Dew come inside here and take the time to talk to us made me feel special. Despite our failures, he reminded us that we can have victory in Jesus.”

NOBTS professors Jake Roudkovski, Preston Nix and Bo Rice also preached Sept. 19, and Angola inmate worship teams led music for all four services. Other



During the final moments of a revival at the Louisiana State Penitentiary at Angola, inmates came forward during a time of decision. One of the prisoners ask to pray with Jamie Dew, president of New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary.

pastors, worship leaders and Louisiana Baptist Convention staff shared testimonies, led prayers and provided music. Graduates of the prison seminary extension center served as decision counselors, and volunteered to assist the prison’s 30 congregations with follow-up efforts.

Rice, NOBTS dean of graduate studies, said he enjoyed worshipping side by side with inmates gathered in the Camp C Chapel and that he could see the inmates responding to his message about the unconditional love of God.

“I always enjoy my time

in Angola,” Rice said. “I wish more believers could see what God is doing inside those walls.

“I always have people who act nervous and concerned for me when they hear that I’m going to the prison,” he also shared. “Honestly, I wish more of our churches outside the walls of Angola were like the churches you find on the inside. There’s no reason to show up and go through the motions at a church in prison. Those inmates who come are there just to draw closer to the Lord.”

Nix, NOBTS director of the Leavell Center for Evan-

gelism and Church Health, said he was “thrilled to preach in the Ruth Graham Chapel built by Franklin Graham to honor his godly mother,” located at Camp F and that he took his lead from the “F” in the name to speak to the inmates.

He told them that “f” does not have to stand for failure, but that instead they should claim the letter to stand for “faithful men of God!” He also encouraged them that “f” can mean future, because the Lord said, “The plans I have for you are plans for your welfare and not for calamity, to give you a future and a hope,” referencing Jeremiah 29:13.

He said the men, described to him by a chaplain as “mostly saved, but not always living like it,” welcomed his message, “The Great Commitment,” from Luke 9:23, which challenged them “to live for Jesus consistently.

“I was blessed to see men who were locked up in a prison but had found freedom in Christ even behind iron bars!” Nix exclaimed.

See **ANGOLA**, page 6

# be still

psalm 46:10

<p><b>DATE:</b> November 1-2, 2019</p> <p><b>LOCATION:</b> Tall Timbers Conference Center</p> <p><b>SCHEDULE:</b> (FULL SCHEDULE AVAILABLE ONLINE)</p> <table border="0" style="width: 100%;"> <tr> <td>Fri. Check-in</td> <td style="text-align: right;">3:00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Sat. Morning Session</td> <td style="text-align: right;">8:15</td> </tr> <tr> <td>End of Retreat</td> <td style="text-align: right;">2:45</td> </tr> </table> <p><b>COST:</b> (PER PERSON)</p> <table border="0" style="width: 100%;"> <tr> <td>Multiple Room (3-4 people)</td> <td style="text-align: right;">\$95.50</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Double Room (2 people)</td> <td style="text-align: right;">\$127.75</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Single Room (1 person)</td> <td style="text-align: right;">\$166.25</td> </tr> </table> <p>Commuter (Program Fee) <span style="float: right;">\$50.00</span></p> <p style="font-size: 0.8em; color: #808080;">+ COMMUTER FEE (\$5 PER DAY) + MEALS (\$8.75 EACH)</p> <p><b>DEADLINE:</b> October 25, 2019 <small>(Full refund not possible after the registration deadline)</small></p>	Fri. Check-in	3:00	Sat. Morning Session	8:15	End of Retreat	2:45	Multiple Room (3-4 people)	\$95.50	Double Room (2 people)	\$127.75	Single Room (1 person)	\$166.25	<p><b>FOR:</b> Nurses and other health care professionals; sponsored by LA Baptist Nursing Fellowship</p> <p><b>SPECIAL GUESTS:</b> Kathy Boswell <small>Health Care Experience Coach, Birmingham, AL; Kathy has four passions: God, family, people and fitness</small></p> <p>Sandy Gilliland PhD, LMFT <small>Marriage and Family Counselor, Pineville; Professor of Counseling, LSU-A, Alexandria; Wife to Jamey, and mom to two boys</small></p> <p><b>MINISTRY PROJECTS:</b> LC Student Nursing Encouragement Bags Wellness Ministry in Woodworth Eve’s Victory Greeting Cards</p> <p style="font-size: 0.8em; color: #808080;">A list of supplies for each ministry will be listed on the website at <a href="http://LouisianaBaptists.org/BNFRetreat">LouisianaBaptists.org/BNFRetreat</a></p> <p><b>CONTACT:</b> <a href="http://LouisianaBaptists.org/BNFRetreat">LouisianaBaptists.org/BNFRetreat</a> 318.448.3402   800.662.6549 <a href="mailto:WMM@LouisianaBaptists.org">WMM@LouisianaBaptists.org</a></p>
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2019 BAPTIST NURSING FELLOWSHIP

# Baptist Friendship House: 75 years of changing lives

By Marilyn Stewart  
Regional Reporter

NEW ORLEANS (LBM) -- Baptist Friendship House celebrated 75 years of changing lives with a special celebration at the New Orleans Center, Sept. 28.

Festivities included long-time friends, past memories, and a look to a future full of hope.

"Baptist Friendship House is committed to continuing its legacy of meeting needs through love, action, and in truth," said Kay Bennett, executive director. "Sharing Jesus with people in need will always be the top priority of our ministry for generations to come."

Baptist Friendship House supports women and children in transition by providing housing, job training, and education in computer skills and reading. More than 100 women are enrolled in the center's weekly Bible study.

Bennett praised all who had come before her and noted that while much has

changed since the center's earliest days, the mission remains the same.

"We still let anybody walk through our doors," Bennett said. "It does not matter where they've been, what they've done, or what's going on in their lives, we love them."

Bennett introduced the event's speakers as "three special ladies" who had impacted her life—Pat Shaffer, daughter of the center's founders Henry and Mildred Stein; Carolyn McClendon, former BFH director; and Wanda Lee, former WMU executive director and longtime friend of the center.

Shaffer shared memories from the center's history including the day the Baptist Friendship House opened at 732 Frenchmen St., in New Orleans' French Quarter. Four years old at the time, Shaffer related her mother held the center's first "children's club" the "very afternoon the moving van drove away."

Shaffer introduced two special friends from the past—Norman Lovegren, 96,

and Helen Kramer Thompson, 95, who traveled from Canada to attend. Shaffer made copies of her mother's memoirs available to attendees.

Carolyn McClendon, BFH's former director, 1977-1995, when she left New Orleans, she left "most of (her) heart behind."

"So much of my spiritual formation and spiritual transformation came here," McClendon said. "Every relationship, every experience, every person taught me something that made me better."

McClendon said the first lesson she learned as director was God provides. McClendon told of needing to teach adults to read and not knowing where to begin, yet God provided needed resources.

A second lesson came as McClendon visited a prison ministry. McClendon said she realized that a person's past is not as important as a person's present need when believers have the ability to meet it.

A third lesson was miracles happen, McClendon said, adding God changes lives

despite an individual's "abilities, inabilities, or disabilities," and noted the importance of love in action.

"Our love must be more than words," McClendon said. "We are all the beloved of God."

Wanda Lee, former WMU executive director for the SBC, praised those who had invested their lives at the center.

"They are my heroes and all I can say is 'Thank you,'" Lee said. Turning to Bennett, she added, "You have blessed my life over and over."

During her tenure as WMU director, Lee worked closely with Bennett to provide supplies and volunteers, Lee explained, and added her own family has been impacted by serving through BFH.

Lee presented Bennett with a \$1,000 check from her home church, Meadow Brook Baptist in Birmingham, to help with future ministry

needs.

Bennett pledged the center will continue to utilize volunteers, New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary students and summer missionaries, and will continue to open its door to anyone in need, including those impacted by human trafficking.

Gwen Williams, longtime friend to the center, read a poem she wrote commemorating the event, "A Circle of Love."

Bennett introduced staff members Kendall Wolz and Kayleigh White and then noted two other "staff members"—"P.J." the center's pet "therapy dog" who helped lift the spirits of a woman contemplating suicide and Yvonne Schaad, a faithful volunteer who once sought the center's help.

Schaad noted her situation years ago was dire, much like other women who come to BFH for help.

## Angola from page 5

Roudkovski, director of the Doctor of Ministry Program for NOBTS, preached at the Camp D Chapel.

He said the simultaneous services were a reminder that anyone can change when they encounter Jesus.

"In my personal conversation with five out of six inmates, I found out they committed their crimes when they were 19 years old and sentenced to a life in prison," he said. "I thought to myself that only because of the grace of God I didn't do something atrocious when I was that age and stage in my life. I am grateful to Dr. Manuel and the LBC evangelism department for their willingness to facilitate the proclamation of the Gospel of Jesus Christ in Angola."

Manuel's son, Jeremy, served as a revival service coordinator, and was reunited with Calvin, an inmate the younger Manuel had met at an Angola worship service six years ago. He was overcome with emotion when he spied Calvin in the crowd.

"I had a feeling a few hours before the service that I was going to see Calvin again," Manuel said. "It was one of those God things and this feeling of excitement came over me when I saw him again. Like Calvin, so many of

the saved inmates are living 'sold out' to God. It's awesome to see them pouring out their heart to the Lord."

### SPIRIT-LED RESULTS

Scores of inmates raised their hands to Heaven during all four services. In all, about 300 prisoners and guests attended the simultaneous services, of which four inmates repented for salvation, four more repented to restore fellowship with Christ, and one accepted a call to serve in the Gospel ministry.

Meanwhile, as many as 4,000 of the 6,000 inmates already are professing Christians, one official noted, and 338 inmates have graduated from the seminary's extension program, with some having transferred to other prisons as missionaries.

"The simultaneous services of the one-day revival were significant just because they cause the men to feel a great connection to the Christian community outside the prison," Ricky Sharkey, chaplain supervisor for Angola and director of the Joan Horner Extension Center of NOBTS at Angola, told the *Baptist Message*. "The evangelistic harvest is a great bonus because it supports the ministry already here."

(Copy and post this friendly reminder)

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# Revival from page one

The camp meetings have brought hope to a community that saw more than 50 homes flooded after Hurricane Barry dumped nearly 20 inches of rain in Oberlin in mid-July.

Shortly after Southern Baptist Disaster Relief teams mudded out some of the homes, a team from Day Mesa Baptist Church and another group of Native Americans from the Navajo reservation in Cuba, New Mexico, repaired a home in Oberlin, following a call for help by Randy Carruth, founder of the Louisiana-based I Am Able Ministries that reaches out to Native Americans.

Cliff Spikes, pastor of Oberlin Baptist Church, said the Navajo team returned to New Mexico with a burden to continue ministry in the Louisiana community.

"The Navajos came and were so encouraged by the response of our church and the love shown for them," Spikes said. "They told us they never felt the presence of God like they did in Oberlin. They went back and spoke to their pastors and congregations and said, 'We have to go back.'

"It got out all over the country about what happened in Oberlin," he continued. "God was allowing the Native Americans an opportunity to come, step up and take care of those who have spent so much time and energy who have taken the Gospel to them on different mission trips to their reservation."

For many years, the late evangelist Billy Graham believed that God would use Native Americans as catalysts for revival across the United States. During a conference in 1975 held in Albuquerque, New Mexico, Graham told Native American Christian leaders, "You are a sleeping giant, the original American. You are now awakening. Just around the corner, you may become a spiritual superpower in this country that could change not only America but the world."

Though Spikes has no idea how God may use the camp meetings, he is hopeful for a mighty move of the Holy Spirit.

"We have seen that

people from the smallest to the biggest have heard about what's going on and want to come to Oberlin of all places," Spikes said. "All I can tell you what God has done. I don't know what He's going to do going forward. We just purposed in our heart this is not a religious event. This is not just for Southern Baptists. It is for everyone who believes in the name of Jesus. All are welcome. We are asking everybody to put their minor doctrines and denominational flags aside and just come and celebrate the new life in Jesus Christ."



Submitted photo

Native Americans who preached at the All Nations Camp Meeting in Oberlin included Ayers Chickaway and Mark Patrick from Mississippi, Bruce Plummer from Montana and Jim Bird from South Dakota.

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**Plant** from page one

ing the 2013 LBC Annual Meeting.

Planting healthy, biblically sound, multiplying churches is a key component to the seven-year-strategy which seeks to engage two audiences – the next generation and every people group – in reaching Louisiana with the Gospel.

James Jenkins, director of church planting for Louisiana Baptists, told the *Baptist Message* the reception to mark the occasion was a celebration of partnership among

church planters, sponsoring churches and directors of missions.

“This celebration, and the ones we have had along the way to the 300th church plant, is a way of thanking God for his grace and Louisiana Baptists for their giving,” Jenkins said.

**PRESSING TOWARD THE GOAL**

Hope Church in Baton Rouge was recognized as the 250th new church plant, and Pastor Jeff Vincent shared that four new converts have been baptized already year and Sunday worship attendance is averaging 50.

So far, 18 new congregations have been added toward the goal of 23 for 2019.

The strategy is to plant churches where most Louisianans live, so the geographical emphasis is along the I-10 corridor and



Brian Blackwell photo

Church planters and state missions staff gathered in the Louisiana Baptist Building Oct. 9 to commemorate the 250th church planted since 2010. Among those at the celebration were (L-R) Lane Corley, church planting strategist for Louisiana Baptists; John Hebert, missions and ministry team director for Louisiana Baptists; Jeff Cook, compassion ministry strategist for Louisiana Baptists; Jeff Vincent, pastor of Hope Church in Baton Rouge; James Jenkins, church planting director for Louisiana Baptists; and David Lee, pastor of Ban Suk Korean Baptist Church in Bossier City.

southward where 3 million Louisianans reside, about 67 percent of the state’s population.

One hundred and ninety of the new church plants are located in southern Louisiana.

The 250 church plants

represent a strategy of diversity: 78 are African-American, 32 Hispanic, 12 Asian and 18 have a largely multi-ethnic makeup.

Most importantly, the 250 church plants represent a focus on soul winning: 13,731 professions of faith since 2010 with 4,094 baptisms to date.

“The most significant thing that has happened in this decade of church planting is this new vision Louisiana Baptists have embraced for evangelism through church planting,”

said John Hebert, missions and ministry team director for Louisiana Baptists. “Louisiana Baptists have embraced it on an associational and church level, and they are our staunchest allies in planting churches to reach new generations among our population.”

Looking toward 2020, Louisiana Baptists still have a great opportunity to sow a bountiful spiritual harvest.

Louisiana Baptist Convention Executive Director Steve Horn has identified 33 Louisiana municipalities with populations of more than 3,000 people who do not have a Louisiana Baptist ministry presence; and, Jenkins said he is helping to create a “33 Towns Strategy” that will target some of those communities next year to plant a church or start a compassion ministry.

“Every Louisiana Baptist is a part of this story through our giving to the Cooperative Program and State and National Missions Offerings,” said Lane Corley, a church planting strategist for Louisiana Baptists. “It’s exciting to see the fruit of Louisiana Baptist churches saying yes to generosity and multiplication through church planting.”

**Partnering** from page 2

family and work, and you must be diligent to observe boundaries to protect your family. Finding a good fit for family and ministry interactions will cause your family to affirm your ministry and make them feel affirmed, too. Your children need to know they are valued partners in your ministry as well.

Work on conflict resolution at home, looking for positive ways to resolve friction.

Two people who are working together can find a way to resolve any conflict. Do not cause your partner to lose the desire to work things out together.

Model forgiveness, remembering that forgiveness is not an emotion, it is a choice.

Show mercy to your wife and use every opportunity to express love to her.

Gary Chapman, the author of “The Five Love Languages” wrote, “For love,

we will climb mountains, cross seas, traverse desert sands, and endure untold hardships.”

Without love, the smallest pebble of a stumbling block is insurmountable.

Work at staying in love.

Kitty and I truly cherish the ministry call on our life together. There have been difficulties, but God has blessed us beyond our expectations (even adding two more children, a total of seven, to our family). We speak from experience when we say that working together for long-term ministry success has been rewarding well beyond any costs.

Cooperation, partnering together for ministry, is a crucial attitude and skill for success as a church planter and pastor.

Work at it “together” and you and she will enjoy a lifetime of success in ministry and marriage.



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Message photo

Will your legacy be like the remains of this cabin where once someone lived, raised their children, farmed, hunted? They had dreams, plans, and a vision to build something and make a living. Or will it become overgrown, forgotten and not have any family left to carry on that legacy. Don't let your legacy fade into a memory.

# What will your legacy be?

Isaiah 40:8 tells us: "The grass withers, the flowers fade, but the word of our God remains forever" (CSB).

There also are times the grass grows up in the cracks, and the flowers and shrubs overtake structures that we would call permanent.

A pastor friend who now lives in Virginia relayed a story in a recent blog post about a walk in the woods with his wife. As they strolled around a local lake they came upon the remains of a cabin that had become an overgrown pile of rubble.

My friend wrote:

"This rubble is hidden... you might walk right by it without even being aware of its presence. Someone once lived here. They worked hard to gather heavy rocks to line the foundation and walls. They farmed, they hunted, and they walked around the same lake we were now walking around. They had dreams, plans, and a vision to build something and make a living. They may have even died here.

"Who were they? What were their dreams? Did they leave any relatives to carry on the legacy?"

The more important question for me is "What kind of legacy did they leave?"

I recall a particular song from years past titled "Only One Life" by Lanny Wolfe. With a little digging (thanks, Wikipedia) I learned that the song was based on the theme of a poem written by C.T. Studd in the late 1800's.

The poem title and the recurring theme is this: "Only one life, 'twill soon be past; Only what's done for Christ will last."

C.T. Studd not only penned these words, but after achieving some level of fame as a cricket player in Great Britain,

he lived them out by committing himself to missionary service in China, India and Africa.

He also is credited with saying, "Some want to live within the sound of church or chapel bell; I want to run a rescue shop within a yard of hell."



**JERRY LOVE**  
Louisiana Baptist  
Foundation Director  
of Planned Giving

With the help of his wife, Priscilla, Studd established the Worldwide Evangelistic Crusade that shared the Gospel of Christ in the Middle East, Central Asia and South America along with his primary life's work in Africa. Even after his death in the Belgian Congo at age 70, the WEC continued to spread

the Good News of Jesus well into the 20th century under the direction of his daughter and son-in-law.

Studd not only personally proclaimed the Gospel but he gave financially to support ministry as well.

While serving in China, Studd's father passed away. Studd received a significant inheritance but, in turn, gave the majority to several ministries operating in England and India including Moody Bible Institute. His father had become a Christian during a D.L. Moody crusade in England.

C.T. Studd no doubt left a legacy that impacted countless souls with the Gospel of Jesus Christ. Although his skills as a cricket player are still noted by vast store of information on the internet, it's his ministry for Christ that will last into eternity.

What legacy are you building for the future?

"Only one life, 'twill soon be past; Only what's done for Christ will last."

## Advantages to contributing your appreciated assets

By **Barbara Benware**

Schwab Vice President  
Investment Oversight  
and Risk Management

What might your best stock holding, a piece of real estate, shares in a privately held company, interests in private equity, venture or hedge funds, and fine art or collectibles have in common?

Whether you purchased them for love or investment purposes, they could be among the best items to give to your favorite charities to realize maximum tax benefits.

Before you sell them, it's vital to understand how appreciated assets can be an important part of a philanthropic wealth management strategy. Assets that have appreciated in value can be among the most tax-advantaged items to contribute to charity because you can enjoy a current year tax deduction and potentially eliminate capital gains tax liability on their sale. This allows you to pay lower taxes and also allows the charities you support to receive the most money possible.

Yet most Americans are not aware of the benefits of contributing these types of assets. Only 26% of high net worth households give appreciated investments to charity, while 93% make donations using cash or checks.\*

Unfortunately, not all charities have the resources or capabilities to accept gifts of appreciated investments directly. That's where donor-advised fund accounts can come in handy. These charitable accounts, offered by many financial institutions and community foundations, allow you to more easily convert appreciated investments into tax-effective charitable contributions. In addition to the fair market tax deduction, you pay no capital gains tax when the investment is liquidated, and the cash proceeds can then be invested and you can recommend grants to your favorite charities immediately or over time at your convenience.

Here is some important information to keep in mind when donating appreciated assets to a charity or donor-advised fund account:

### PUBLICLY TRADED SECURITIES

Shares of appreciated publicly traded securities, such as stocks and mutual funds, are generally straightforward assets to donate. For maximum tax efficiency, shares must be held for more than one year. You must transfer the shares directly to the charity or donor-advised fund account. Selling the appreciated asset first will trigger capital gains tax liability. Appreciated securities held for more than one year and donated directly to a public charity or a donor-advised fund account are generally deductible at fair market value

without recognizing any capital gain.

Be aware that certain publicly traded securities such as master limited partnerships may have limitations on charitable deductions.

### REAL ESTATE

If you contribute highly appreciated real estate to a public charity or donor-advised fund account, you may be entitled to a full, fair market value tax deduction for the donation while also eliminating capital gains tax on the sale. It can make sense to donate real estate that meets the following criteria:

- The property has been held for more than a year and has appreciated significantly.
- The property is marketable and relatively easy and cost-effective to liquidate.
- The property is generally debt-free.
- The owner is willing to transfer the property irrevocably to the organization, which will negotiate the sale price and control the sale, often using an experienced intermediary.

--If there is a prearranged buyer (prior to donation), the donor could bear tax liability for any gain on the sale. Be sure to consult a qualified tax advisor.

--Fair market value must be determined by an independent qualified appraisal.

### COLLECTIBLES AND ARTWORK

Gifts of collectibles and artwork to charity or donor-advised fund accounts for non-related use are deductible at the lesser of the donor's cost basis or fair market value. Gains on sales of these assets by individuals are currently taxed at a higher rate than other long-term capital gains. A donation can help you eliminate this tax liability.

### OTHER ASSET TYPES

Other assets that can also be advantageous for charitable donations:

Restricted Stock, Privately Held Stock (C-Corp and S-Corp), Limited Partnerships or Limited Liability Corporations, Private Equity, Venture Fund, and Hedge Fund Investments.

Each of these can have special rules for claiming a deduction. Please consult your tax advisor.

Knowing the benefits of donating various appreciated assets is an important component of an overall tax-smart financial plan. And using a donor-advised fund may provide even greater tax deductions relative to other vehicles, thus enabling you to give even more to charity.

Citations: \* The 2012 Bank of America Study of High Net Worth Philanthropy



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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**

■ **Kevin Funderburk** is the new Pastor for Discipling and Worship at First Baptist Church of Lake Charles. Kevin and family had previously been serving in East Asia.

■ **Delmar Bennett** has resigned as Minister of Education & Outreach at Florida Blvd. Baptist Church, Baton Rouge.

**HOME COMING**

■ Bluff Creek Baptist Church, Clinton: **Homecoming services**, October 27, 10:15 a.m. There will be dinner on the grounds following the worship service. Speaker: **Roger Sullivan**. Music Director: **Mrs. Patty Davis**. Both were leaders of the church back in the 80s. Pastor: Cole Permenter.

■ Cooper Baptist Church, Leesville: Homecoming Celebration, October 27, 11 a.m. There will be a covered dish lunch following the worship service. Speaker: Edgar Evans. Special Music: The Stanley's. Sunday School will be held at 9:45 a.m. Pastor: Edgar Evans.

■ Epps Baptist Church, Epps: **Homecoming celebration**, October 27, 10:30 a.m. There will be dinner on the grounds in the Family Life Center following the worship service. Guest speaker: **Pat Lofton**. Special music: **Wayne Smart**. Nursery facilities will be available. The church is located at 4207 Hwy. 134 in Epps. Pastor: Eddie Fuller.

■ Larto Baptist Church, Larto: **67th Homecoming**, November 3, 10 a.m. Special Speaker: **Scotty McDowell, Chalk Artist**. Pastor: Kenny Smith.

■ Watson Baptist Church, Watson: **10th Anniversary Celebration**, November 3, 10:15 a.m. Everyone is invited to a day of worship, fellowship and food. Pastor: John Pemberton.

■ Maple Springs Baptist Church, Logansport: **120th Homecoming**, November 3, 11 a.m. A covered dish meal will follow the worship service. Special Music: **The Hooten's**. The church is located at 17013 Hwy 5, Logansport. Pastor: Lee McClintock.

**REVIVAL**

■ First Baptist Church, Haughton: **Harvest Sunday**, October 27, a.m. Evangelist: **Bill Britt**. Pastor: Gevan Spinney.

■ Open Door Baptist Church, Ragley: **Revival**, October 27-30. Evangelist: **Bob Pittman**. Pastor:

Sonny Simpson.

■ Standard Baptist Church, Olla: **Revival**, October 27-31. Evangelist: **Scotty McDowell, chalk artist**. Pastor: Shad Tibbs.

■ New Hope Baptist Church, Monroe: **Fall Revival**, October 28-30. Evangelist: **Luke Hockenjos**. Pastor: Scottie Gray.

■ First Baptist Church, Ruston: **One-Day Revival**, November 3, 8:45 a.m. (traditional); 9:50 a.m. (connection groups), 11 a.m. (contemporary service) Speaker: Chip Dean. Pastor: Chris Craig.

■ Brushy Creek Baptist Church, Merryville: **Revival**, November 3-6, Sunday 11 a.m. & 6:30 p.m., Monday-Wednesday, 6:30 p.m. Evangelist: **Mackey Willis**. Music: **Willis Family Music**. Pastor: Mike Streams.

■ Franklin Avenue Baptist Church, New Orleans: **Fall Revival**, November 4-6, 6-8:30 p.m. Pastor: Fred Luter.

**LAGNIAPPE**

■ Washington Baptist Church, Washington: **Volunteer carpenters needed to install a stud wall** inside metal building. Approximately 2-3 day project. Visit historic Washington and enjoy good Cajun hospitality with us. call Pastor, Louis Charrier 337.308.0336 or email louis.charrier@yahoo.com.

■ First Baptist Church, Covington: **Chris Tomlin in Concert**, October 26, 7:30 p.m. Join us for an evening of worship with Chris Tomlin and special guest Pat Barrett. Tickets: Can be purchased at ChrisTomlin.com. Pastor: Waylon Bailey.

■ North Monroe Baptist Church, Monroe: **Night of Hope Benefit Gospel Concert for St Jude's Children's Hospital**, October 26, 7 p.m. For tickets email SJNighthofHope@gmail.com or call 318.417.3929. Group rates are available for churches. Pastor: Bill Dye.

■ Delacroix Hope Baptist, St. Bernard: **Fall Festival including a Trunk and Treat**, October 26, 4-6 p.m. The church is located at 1932 Bayou Road, St Bernard. For more information contact Debbie Smith at 504.400.4095. Pastor: Paul Hussey.

■ Red Bluff Baptist Church, Folsom: **Trunk or Treat Fall Fest**, October 26, 5-8 p.m. This is RBBC's annual community outreach on the church campus featuring local worship leaders Riverside Revival Band. For more information, contact the church office at 985.796.3891 or email sec@rbbclife.org. Pastor: Adam Hughes.

■ First Baptist Church, Hornbeck: **Community Fall Festival sponsored by the Hornbeck Optimist Club**, October 26, 6-8 p.m. First Hornbeck will have a boot. There will be fun for the entire family. Pastor: Jack Bell.

■ Natalbany Baptist Church, Natalbany: **Fall Festival**, October 27, 5:30-7:30 p.m. There will be plenty of music, food, games and candy. Pastor: Danny Carter.

■ First Baptist Church, Bogalusa: **Fall Festival**, Oc-

tober 27, 5:30-7:30 p.m. There will be food, games, cake walk, face painting, bounce houses and lots of candy for trunk or treat. Pastor: Greg Whaley.

■ Trinity (Pumpkin Center) Baptist Church, Hammond: **Family Fall Festival**, October 27, 5:30-7:00 p.m. There will be inflatables, hot dogs, and a chili cook-off. Pastor: Avery Dixon.

■ Kelly Baptist Church, Kelly: **Ben Waites in concert**, October 27, 10:30 a.m. Pastor: Joe Aguilard.

■ Mt. Vernon Baptist Church, West Monroe: **Fall Festival**, October 27, 4-7 p.m. Free game, food and lots of fun. Pastor: Randy Burdeaux.

■ Bayou Vista Baptist Church, Morgan City: **Fall Family Fun Day**, October 27, 9:45, Sunday School, 11 a.m. Worship. Invite friends and family. There will be an outside service (weather permitting) to end the afternoon. There will be food, fellowship, fun jumps, games and pictures. Everything is free. Pastor: Steven Kelly.

■ Esler Baptist Church, Pineville: **Trunk or Treat**, October 30, 5:30-8:30 p.m. Come enjoy fellowship, worship and free candy. Pastor: Joshua Timothy.

■ Fair Park Baptist Church, West Monroe: **Fall Fun Fest**, October 30, 6-8 p.m. White's Ferry Road Gym. Pastor: Waymond Warren.

■ Cooper Baptist Church, Leesville: **Fall Festival**, October 30, 5:30-7:30 p.m. There will be food, games, candy, a hayride and lots of fun. Bring your friends. This is a family friendly event so costumes should be tasteful and nothing scary. Pastor: Edgar Evans.

■ First Baptist Church, Zwolle: **Trunk or Treat**, October 30, 5-8 p.m. There will be decorated vehicles, costumes and lots of candy. Pastor: Marty Williams.

■ Tioga First Baptist Church, Tioga: **Trunk or Treat**, October 30, 5:30-7:30 p.m. There will be food, fun, inflatables and lots of candy for the kids. Everyone is invited to this free event. Pastor: Tim Hisaw.

■ Philadelphia Baptist Church, Deville: **Family Fall Festival**, October 30, 6-8 p.m. There will be carnival rides, games and concessions. Cost: \$1 per person for ride bracelet, which allow one to ride and play all rides & games; \$3 per person for hot air balloon ride bracelet – one ride per bracelet and concessions -- \$1 canned drinks, \$3 hamburger, \$2 hot dog, \$2 Frito Pie, \$1-\$2 candy. Also, Real En-

counters will perform and Extreme Inflatables will be on hand. Pastor: Philip Robertson.

■ First Baptist Church, Slidell: **Fall Fest – Be a Spark in the Dark!**, October 30, 5-7 p.m. The community event will be held on the front lawn of the church with food, cake walk, inflatables, and games for the whole family. Friendly costumes are welcome. Pastor: Casey Stark.

■ First Baptist Church, Ruston: **Fall Festival**, October 30, 5:30-7 p.m. There will be plenty of candy, food, fun, games and fellowship. Pastor: Chris Craig.

■ First Baptist Church, Haughton: **Trunk or Treat**, October 30, 6-8 p.m. Area food trucks will be on site for food purchases. There will be inflatables, a place for family photos and lots of candy. Pastor: Gevan Spinney.

■ Mangham Baptist Church, Mangham: **Trunk or Treat**, October 31, 6-7 p.m. Decorated vehicles [please no scary or spooky themes] will be in the parking lot in front of the sanctuary filled with candy. Pastor: Rick Aultman.

■ Bethel Baptist Church, Colfax: **Harvest Fest**, October 31, 6-8 p.m. in the Family Life Center. There will be inflatables, games, candy, prizes, cupcake walk, gumbo, nachos, popcorn and cotton candy. Pastor: Carl Gulde.

■ First Baptist Church, Haynesville: **Trunk or Treat**, October 31, 5:30-7:30 p.m. Come join the fun and fellowship. Pastor: Jeff Tinsley.

■ Philadelphia Baptist Church at Horseshoe Drive, Alexandria: **Trunk or Treat**, October 31, 5:30-8 p.m. Real Encounter featuring professional athletes and ministers in the area of street bike stunting and BMX bike stunt team will be on hand. There will be plenty of candy on hand.

■ First Baptist Church, Vidalia: **Trunk or Treat**, October 31, 6-8 p.m. The church's parking lot will be filled with cars, vans, trucks and other vehicles, decorated in a variety of fun themes from which the kids will be able to fill their bags with treats. There will also be games and activities for kids and families to enjoy together. Pastor: Wes Faulk.

■ Grace Memorial Baptist Church, Slidell: **Trunk or Treat**, October 31, Pastor: Dennis Phelps.

■ First Baptist Church, Lafayette: **Fall Festival**, October 31, 5-7 p.m. There will be food trucks (food and drink will be available for purchase), petting

zoos, games and music.

■ Zoar Baptist Church, Central: **Fall Festival and Trunk or Treat**, October 31, 6-8 p.m. There will be games, inflatables, trunk or treat, and lots of food. Cost: admission is free, food is .25 cents. Pastor: Mark Tolbert.

■ Esler Baptist Church, Pineville: **Garage and Gumbo Sale**, November 2, 7 a.m. Come hungry and shop our sales, leave with plenty of items and gumbo. The event is a fundraiser for EBC youth. Pastor: Joshua Timothy.

■ First Baptist Church, Jonesboro: **Fall Fest**, November 2, 5-7 p.m. Pastor: Brian McAllister.

■ First Baptist Church, Jonesboro: **Miles Pike in concert**, November 3, 5:30 p.m. Pastor: Brian McAllister.

■ Beulah Baptist Church, Mansfield: **Fall Festival**, November 3, 5 p.m. There will be a chili and gumbo cook off, dessert auction, games, a hayride to Spooky Trail, and Trunk or Treat. This is a family fun event. Pastor: David Permenter.

■ Macedonia Baptist Church, Effie: **Southern Plainsmen in concert**, November 3, 11 a.m. A love offering will be taken. Pastor: Mike Wilkinson.

■ The Bridge Church, Madisonville: **Annual Outdoor Worship Gathering and Fall Fest**, November 3, 10:30 a.m. – 2 p.m. The event will be held at the Madisonville Pine Street Ball Park. There will be live music, food, fall games and activities for the kids. Bring lawn chairs and blankets. Cost: free. Pastor: Lane Corley.

■ First Baptist Church, Pineville: **First@First Business Leader Luncheon**, November 4, noon. Speaker: **John LeBoeuf, sales manager of KLAX**. Cost: \$10. and open to the business community. Please RSVP by 8 a.m. on November 4 to Lori Pruitt at lpruitt@fbcpineville.net. Pastor: Stewart Holloway.

■ **SAFE Planning is holding a free public workshop** at Broadmoor Branch Library in Shreveport, November 7, 6-8 p.m. The workshop will present information on Estate Rescue. SAFE routinely helps families already paying thousands every month for someone in a nursing home to save 65-100 percent of their estate. Reserve seats easily online at //safeplanningseminars.net/event or call 318.869.3133.

## Friendship House from page 6

those impacted by human trafficking.

Gwen Williams, long-time friend to the center, read a poem she wrote commemorating the event, "A Circle of Love."

Bennett introduced staff members Kendall Wolz and Kayleigh White and then noted two other "staff members"—"P.J." the center's pet "therapy dog" who helped lift the spirits of a

woman contemplating suicide and Yvonne Schaad, a faithful volunteer who once sought the center's help.

Schaad noted that her situation years ago was dire, much like other women who come to BFH for help.

"I found God. I found a loving community," Schaad. "I can't begin to express my gratitude for the love they showed me."

## 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.

xmkjgm, he smpiqmz sjmwxjmv, xkwx viw niz

lxibmv wxm uiij iy wxfb dijpz jflx fv ykfwx, kvz xmfjb iy

wxm gfvnzih dxflx xm xkwx ujihfbmz wi wxmh wxkw

piqm xfh?

okhmb wdi:yfqm

**Clues:**  
X = H; M = E

**Answer to October 10 Scripture Crypto:**  
Job four:two

# Fairground from page 4

wasn't expecting a hot meal, let alone a group of men to sit down and hear his story and share the Gospel with him. The gentleman accepted Jesus as his Savior that morning and was overwhelmed at the amount of love complete strangers were showing him."

The moment was especially moving for his family members, who were contacted and invited to attend the baptism. Tate had not seen some of his family members in several months.

"It was just a blessing to watch the Holy Spirit work in that moment and see the beginning of restoration happen in a family," he said.

The baptism was an answered prayer for Galloway, who led Tate into a relationship with the Lord.

"We were called to plant the seed at this outreach and God would

produce the fruit," Galloway said. "That morning He poured out grace in abundance. He saved that one person on this particular morning and we all rejoiced mightily."

"Xavier saw the kindness and the compassion of God on display," he continued. "He was wearing a vest that identified him as an inmate at the correctional facility, but not a single person looked down on him. Our prayer was that God would make those doors available."

"As I opened up Romans 10:9-10 and showed him the verses, he was holding back tears," Ousley recalled. "The more I explained how much grace God has for all of us, the more overwhelmed he became, and I asked him if he wanted this free gift of salvation. During our conversation he admitted plainly he understood he did a lot of wrongs in his life and that



Larry Galloway holds the Bible he used in leading Xavier Tate to the Lord. Galloway, a member of East Leesville Baptist Church, was a volunteer with the Vernon Baptist Association who were part of an outreach effort during the Vernon Parish fair and rodeo to carnival workers, which included inmates from the Vernon Parish jail.

he didn't measure up to where God wanted him to be. Right there, he repented from his sins and put his faith in Christ."

Tate's spiritual journey is far from over, and Galloway and Ousley plan to meet with him for prayer and Bible study to help him with his spiritual walk.

"Thinking back on my own life, I had a number

of questions in the years after I became a Christian and no one ever gave me answers," Galloway said. "It wasn't until I was an adult that I discovered them. I realized then we don't share them often enough with people. I wanted him to know we are going to help him know fully the amazing truth found in Scripture."

Rhonda Mann, min-

istry assistant at the Vernon Baptist Association, said she was grateful for the spiritual harvest that was reaped from the many volunteers who showed up for the outreach.

"It was a community effort, and a community revival," Mann said. "We are excited to see what the Lord has planned next for our community."

# IMPART. TRUTH. TODAY.

"... we will tell the next generation ...  
even the children not yet born ..."

Ps 78:4,6 NLT

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