



# THE BAPTIST MESSAGE

April 28, 2022

Volume 137 • Issue No. 5

TO REPORT A  
NEWS ITEM  
OR TO BUY  
AN AD, CALL  
877.234.3832

John 3:16

*Share the Message*

www.baptistmessage.com

New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary President Jamie Dew (left) and Louisiana Christian University President Rick Brewer signed the historical partnership agreement on the NOBTS campus in conjunction with the seminary Spring trustee meeting.

NOBTS photo



## NOBTS, LCU sign historical partnership agreement

By Gary D. Myers

NOBTS communications

NEW ORLEANS, La. (NOBTS) – Officials from Louisiana Christian University (LCU) and New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary (NOBTS) signed a historical partner-

ship agreement April 13.

The partnership re-affirms transfer options for LCU graduates who study in the NOBTS Accelerated Master of Divinity program (M.Div.) established in 2019.

See AGREEMENT, page 3

## Angola inmate pastor once again set free

By Brian Blackwell

Message staff writer

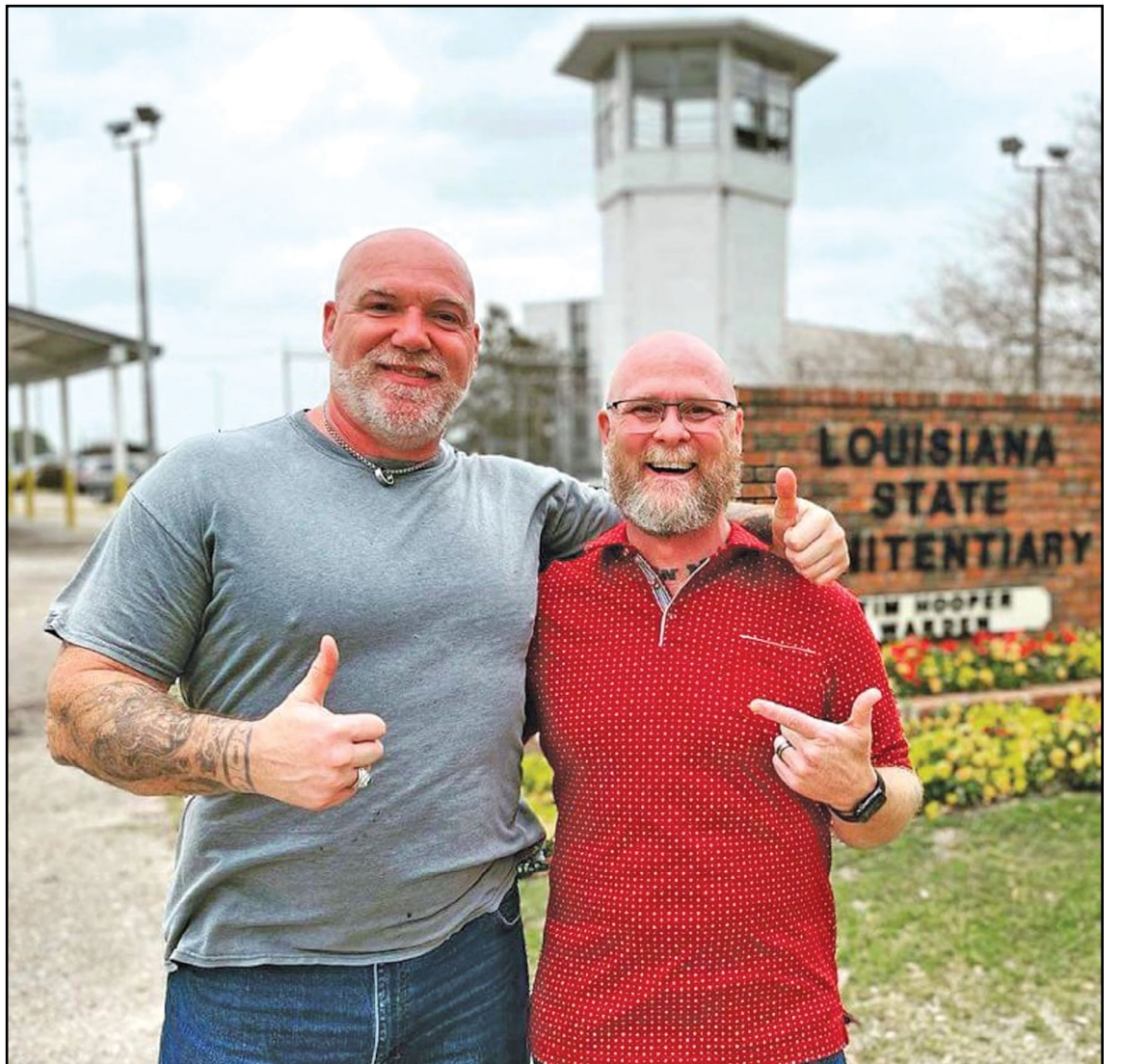
ANGOLA, La. (LBM) – Robert Hyde, the immediate past pastor of Grace Baptist Church in the Louisiana State Penitentiary of Angola, Louisiana, is a free man, after being “free indeed” since 2001. Hyde, who from 2019-2021 served as pastor with what is believed to be the first fully recognized Southern Baptist church inside the walls of a prison, learned of his verdict by the parole board on March 29, and he was freed the following day. The first person he met when he stepped outside the front gate of Angola was Paul Will, a long-time mentor and former pastor of Grace Baptist (2006-2019), who was granted parole in 2020. “I never really knew what friendship was until I came into Christian fellow-

ship with Paul and the others at Grace Baptist,” Hyde told the *Baptist Message*. “I never knew what Christian brotherhood was like until Paul and I became brothers. We hit it off and have had a really good relationship since.”

“Seeing his smiling face at the gate goes beyond words I can describe,” he continued. “My story of life change began with Jesus and then Paul was willing to be a part of that story as he spent a lot of time with me and helped disciple me. We leaned on each other for a lot while at Angola and I look forward to continuing the good work now that I am free like him.”

Hyde grew up in a home in Baton Rouge with an abusive stepfather, and the domestic violence continued until the shooting

See FREE, page 2



Submitted photo

Robert Hyde (L) celebrates, with Paul Will, his release from the Louisiana State Penitentiary March 30, 2022. Both men previously served as pastors of Grace Baptist Church, which is believed to be the first fully recognized Southern Baptist church inside the walls of a prison.

## GBCC prayer garden visit rekindles memories

By Brian Blackwell

Message staff writer

WOODWORTH, La. (LBM) – Doris Perkins, 99, recently paid a visit to the Georgia Barnette Confer-

ence Center prayer garden to view, for the first time, a brick that honored her missions-centered legacy.

Perkins, the only living charter member of Home-wood Baptist Church,

Alexandria, shared the moment with family and friends at the garden, which is a large walled terrace made of bricks, each purchased in 2016 to honor

See VISIT, page 6



# Free from page one

death of his mother. He then went to live with his grandfather, whose aloof attitude left Hyde without parental leadership. This led to a life of drugs, alcohol, the occult and the 2001 killing of a man at a party in Rayville, when Hyde was 28.

While in Richland Parish Detention Center in Rayville (2001), the Holy Spirit brought him under conviction and in his cell, Hyde turned to Christ.

"Because of my domestic violence history, I realized I had become the very thing I hated: a

violent man," Hyde said. "It broke my heart. I was completely ashamed and at the end of my rope.

"It was right there I felt the voice of the Lord and I then asked the librarian to bring me a Bible where I read in Proverbs 5 where God, via Solomon, calls out to His sons. I had never heard anyone call me 'son' in the house I grew up in. The Holy Spirit let me know I had a father and was a son. Right there I wept like a baby and learned who Jesus was. I was ashamed of who I

had become but I knew I was forgiven. I knew the atonement didn't just apply to me at the moment of conversion, but that I had to stand and walk in the cross and be the man the Lord wanted me to be."

Two years later, Hyde was given a 35-year sentence for manslaughter and was transferred to the Louisiana Department of Corrections system. At Winn and Dixon correctional centers, Hyde began to lead Bible studies and eventually learned of an opportunity to transfer to Angola, where, in 2012, he began classes with the New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary Extension Center which meets in the Joan Horner Center located on the prison campus.

Hyde earned an associ-

ate degree and then followed up with bachelor's and master's degrees. In 2015, he was called to be the associate pastor of the prison congregation and later was ordained, 2017. During that time Washington Baptist Association unanimously voted (Oct. 2015) to accept Grace into its fellowship of churches. In 2019 he succeeded Will as pastor.

"I met Jesus in that cell in Rayville but Angola is when things really changed," he said. "For the first time in my life I learned what real ministry was and quickly latched onto Baptist church. I was extraordinarily impressed with the involvement and mission of the Southern Baptist churches and their investment in prisoners like me."

Hyde spent the final

two years in Angola helping to establish a Christian-based substance abuse recovery program. Using the Celebrate Recovery model, Hyde saw 150 inmates turn from a drug addiction to a life changed by Jesus. First Baptist Church, Saint Francisville, and Washington Baptist Association provided the materials for the program, but the inmates have paid for audio-visual equipment and most other costs.

"It's 100 percent because of Jesus," Hyde said. "We tell everybody before they come in that this isn't us but the Lord delivering people from this mess."

Hyde spent his first Sunday of freedom in worship at Jefferson Baptist Church, Baton Rouge, where now he is a member.

Once he completes several weeks of re-entry classes at the Louisiana Parole Project (a nonprofit organization that helps former convicts that served long sentences re-enter society), he will begin work as an HVAC repairman, with hopes of working part time at churches in the Baton Rouge area.

"I feel this absolute joy now that I finally have paid a debt I owed to the Lord and the community I hurt," Hyde said. "It felt like coming from under a thousand pounds of debt and being able to breathe. I feel free, loved and supported especially by brothers who helped me in all those years of prison. I want to thank everyone in the Baptist world for everything they have done and continue to do for me as I transition to this life of freedom."

**ACADIAN BAPTIST CENTER**  
ESTABLISHED 1975

**YOU ARE INVITED TO THE**  
**ACADIAN BAPTIST CENTER'S**  
**9TH ANNUAL GOLF TOURNAMENT**

**BAYOU BEND COUNTRY CLUB**  
427 W. HOYT AVE. • CROWLEY, LA 70536

**SATURDAY, MAY 21, 2022**  
**4-MAN SCRAMBLE**  
REGISTRATION: 7:00-7:45 A.M.  
SHOTGUN START: 8:00 A.M.

There will be gift bags, door prizes, plus a \$10,000 prize for a hole in one.

**ENTRY FEE:** \$400 per team (includes green fee, golf cart & jambalaya lunch). Applications for the tournament are available online at [abccamp.com/abc-golf-tournament-2022/](http://abccamp.com/abc-golf-tournament-2022/) Deadline to register is May 19, 2022 at 7 p.m.

For more information or to download a registration form, please visit: [www.abccamp.com](http://www.abccamp.com) or call 337.457.9047.

**BEECH SPRINGS BAPTIST CHURCH** **150** YEAR ANNIVERSARY  
Celebration • • • • • Pastor Randy Brown  
15910 Highway 80 • Minden, LA

**SUNDAY, MAY 22**

10 a.m. - Coffee, juice and donuts will be served

11 a.m. - Worship Services  
Speaker: Steve Horn, LBC Executive Director

A catered catfish lunch will follow the Worship service.

**INSURANCE FOR CHURCHES**  
Since 1916

**Spengler-Stewart agency, inc.**  
**100 YEARS**  
Serving the Insurance Needs of Louisiana

Call 318.442.0269

[lardoin@spenglerstewart.com](mailto:lardoin@spenglerstewart.com)  
[www.spenglerstewart.com](http://www.spenglerstewart.com)

LORI ARDOIN & PAUL D. STEWART

## LOUISIANA BAPTIST MESSAGE

Will Hall, Editor  
STAFF

Philip Timothy  
Managing Editor

Rhonda Havens  
Advertising Director

Brian Blackwell  
Staff Writer

JoAnne Timothy  
Office Manager

Board of Trustees:

Steve Arledge, Jeremy Blocker, Larry Evans, James Hester, Les Colvin Jeff Coleman, Lonnie Gothrup, David Cranford, Mike Evans, Carolyn Grigg, Jimmy Watson, Dale Goodman.

### ADVERTISING

Display [boxed] and classified [words only] advertising must be in writing, and may be submitted by email, U.S. mail or fax.

To the best of our knowledge, all ads in the *Louisiana Baptist Message* represent legitimate companies and offerings. However, one should always exercise normal business caution in responding to ads.

For all your advertising needs contact Rhonda Havens at the *Message* at 318.449.4351 or 877.234.3832.

The Louisiana Baptist Message partners with:



© Copyright 2022 Baptist Message. All rights reserved

### SUBSCRIPTIONS:

Individual: \$14/year  
Group rates available

Call the Louisiana Baptist Message at 318.449.4343 or 877.234.3832  
Fax: 318-445-8328  
[editor@baptistmessage.com](mailto:editor@baptistmessage.com)  
PO Box 311  
Alexandria LA 71309  
[www.baptistmessage.com](http://www.baptistmessage.com)

(USPS 042-860) (ISSN 0740-2104)

Published biweekly Thursdays by the *Louisiana Baptist Message*, 1250 MacArthur Drive, Alexandria, Louisiana 71303.

Volume 137

April 28, 2022

Number 5

### CHANGE OF ADDRESS

Two weeks before change is desired, send new address (with zip code and street address) and mailing label from this copy of the *Louisiana Baptist Message*. Periodicals postage paid in Alexandria, Louisiana, and additional mailing offices.

POSTMASTER: Send address changes to the Baptist Message, 1250 MacArthur Drive, PO Box 311, Alexandria LA 71309-0311



# AGREEMENT

from page one

The new agreement offers NOBTS students the opportunity to transfer credits toward the Master of Business Administration (MBA) and Master of Social Work (MSW) degrees. The partnership will expand the training options available for God-called men and women in Louisiana and help students save time and money both schools said.

Rick Brewer, president of LCU, and Jamie Dew, president of NOBTS, signed the agreement on the NOBTS campus in conjunction with the seminary Spring trustee meeting.

"We are very excited about the leadership of Dr. Brewer, and we are so grateful to have Louisiana Christian University as a partner," Dew said. "We are trying to do everything we can to make the pathways to ministry more efficient, for the Kingdom."

Brewer said he wants LCU to stand with partners who proclaim "thus sayeth the Lord" like NOBTS. He sees the expanded partnership as a way to address a culture that is increasingly hostile for the gospel.

"This should be a model for more Baptist universities to link up with seminaries for Kingdom work and to address the challenges before us," Brewer said. "We are grateful for the partnership with the seminary."

## NOBTS ACCELERATED MASTER OF DIVINITY PROGRAM

The agreement offers LCU graduates the opportunity to start the NOBTS Accelerated Master of Divinity program with advanced standing by transferring pre-approved courses from their undergraduate program. The program reduces educational redundancy and the time it takes to complete the M.Div. by leveraging the quality biblical studies and ministry instruction students receive at LCU.

Potential Accelerated

M.Div. students from LCU must apply to NOBTS and meet all the admissions requirements for the school. Students must have earned a "B" or higher in a qualifying undergraduate course to receive credit toward a master's course. In addition, the credits can only be applied to the Accelerated M.Div. program within five years of a student's baccalaureate graduation.

## LCU'S MBA PROGRAM

NOBTS students with an interest in earning a business degree will benefit from the partnership with transfer options in LCU's Master of Business Administration (MBA). NOBTS students in the M.Div. program can transfer up to nine credit hours from a pre-approved course list into the MBA program at LCU. LCU courses taken in the MBA program may be used to fulfill the free elective requirements for the M.Div. degree.

NOBTS students must meet all of the LCU MBA admissions requirements for acceptance into the program. Requirements include an undergraduate degree from

an accredited college or university and a 2.5 minimum undergraduate GPA. Candidates must also earn an Inbound Peregrine Assessment score of 100 or higher. Students must have at least three undergraduate credit hours in accounting, economics, finance, statistics, and spreadsheet proficiency or take a leveling course during the first semester in the MBA program. The LCU MBA program will charge the same rate per credit students pay in their master's study at NOBTS.

## LCU'S MSW

NOBTS students earning the Master of Arts in Church and Community Ministries degree will receive transfer credit of up to 15 hours (on approved courses) toward the 60-hour Master of Social Work (MSW) degree at LCU. The LCU program is accredited by CSWE and gives students the opportunity to become licensed social workers. LCU courses taken in the MSW program may be used to fulfill the free elective requirements for the Master of Arts in Church and Community Ministries degree.

NOBTS students must meet all of the LCU MSW

admissions requirements for acceptance into the program. Requirements include an undergraduate degree from an accredited college or university with nine hours of social science credits and nine hours of humanities credits. NOBTS students who graduated with a BSW from a CSWE-accredited undergraduate program can gain advanced standing in the LCU program. The LCU MSW program will charge the same rate per credit students pay in their master's study at NOBTS.

"We are excited about the new articulation agreement

between LCU and NOBTS," said Cheryl D. Clark, vice president of academic affairs at LCU. "Under the new partnership, students will be able to fast track earning graduate degrees from both institutions.

"We are very excited to partner with Louisiana Christian University to provide our students opportunities to attain these degrees which we do not offer ourselves," said Norris Grubbs, NOBTS provost. "Students can work on both degrees at the same time and be prepared for a ministry world that is always changing."

# We're your people.

If you believe a bank can be forward-thinking and still true to its roots. If you want both the convenience of mobile banking and the familiarity of friendly faces. Whether you're looking for a mortgage, a personal loan or just a Totally Free Checking Account, we're your people.



RED RIVER BANK

redriverbank.net

Alexandria  
Baton Rouge  
Lafayette  
Lake Charles  
New Orleans\*  
Northshore  
Shreveport

April 29, 2022 • 7 p.m.

Riverview Baptist Church presents

The Browders  
in concert

A love offering will be taken



Riverview Baptist Church • 8709 Hw1 South • Alexandria, La • 318.613.6505

Sam Moore, Evangelistic Ministries

479-381-1170 evangelistsammoore@gmail.com

Sam Moore is a vocational evangelist. He has the gift of an evangelist and the heart of a pastor. He is available for revivals, crusades, Harvest Days and witness training. Call or email to schedule your 2022-2023 events.

www.evangelistsammoore.org



\*Loan and Deposit Production Office





# Louisiana Baptists test Rebuild Program

By Brian Blackwell  
Message staff writer

HOUMA, La. (LBM) – Louisiana Baptist Disaster Relief recently completed a two-week pilot program dedicated to rebuilding homes damaged by Hurricane Ida in Houma.

Florida and South Carolina disaster relief volunteers joined Texas Baptist Men to work alongside Louisiana team members, March 24-April 8, on 18 Houma homes.

They also repaired the Bayou Baptist Association office (located in Gray) as well as buildings on the campuses of Christ Baptist Church and Coteau Baptist Church (both in Houma). Projects ranged from smaller jobs like replacing fence boards to more complex ones such as drywall installation, electrical line re-wiring and plumbing replacement. Teams were



Brian Blackwell photo

A disaster relief member from Texas Baptist Men carries in sheetrock at a homesite in Houma.

housed at Coteau Baptist Church, and funding for the project was provided by Louisiana, North Carolina and Texas Baptist Men disaster relief ministries.

“We have learned during these two weeks what all is involved and chose to do projects of different magnitudes so we

could learn what is needed logistically for all projects we would undertake in the future,” Louisiana Baptist Disaster Relief Associate and Volunteer Mobilizer Mark Morelock told the Baptist Message. “Once this is over, we can take what we learned and then go from there in deciding our strategy year-round.”

Morelock said Louisiana Baptists have ample experience responding to disasters with feeding and cleanup efforts for communities, but typically have limited their rebuilding efforts to the restoration of church facilities and pastor’s homes. The added ministry focus will assist homeowners throughout communities, Morelock said, and he is hoping the Rebuild Program will help give residents more opportunities to find hope in Christ.

“It’s hard to believe



Brian Blackwell photo

Texas Baptist Men Disaster Relief team member Stephen Hammer (L) visits with Louisiana Baptist Disaster Relief Associate and Volunteer Mobilizer Mike Morelock during a rebuild of a home in Houma.

Louisiana Baptists are not in the rebuild game since we get so many hurricanes, tornadoes and other natural disasters,” Morelock told the Baptist Message. “We have a good start on getting into the rebuild stage, but it will take a lot of support from Louisiana

Baptists who have been great to step up and help when needed.”

Morelock said before the teams arrived in Houma for the rebuild, homeowners were skeptical. But a few days into the project

See REBUILD, page 13



LOUISIANA  
CHRISTIAN  
UNIVERSITY

# ME

## COMING SOON







LACOLLEGE.EDU



# Sheriff credits God for surviving COVID

By John Marcase  
Special to the Message

WINNFIELD, La. -- Cranford Jordan awoke and had no idea where he was located. He did not even know the date, he recounted, explaining how five days on a ventilator impacted him.

The Winn Parish sheriff is among the millions of Americans who have contracted COVID-19. He also feels he is one of the fortunate ones.

"The experts tell us if you are over 65, overweight, have high blood pressure and are a diabetic, and you get the virus, you are not going to make it," said Jordan. "Well, here I am. I have all four of them and I'm still here. I'm part of the 13 percent that gets off the vent."

Jordan gave two reasons why he is part of that select 13 percent -- the medical and nursing staff at Rapides Regional Medical Center, and his Lord and Savior.

"I'm here today because one, my good Lord," says Jordan. "Prayers went up for me. And two, God answered the prayers through the nurses and medical staff at Rapides Regional Medical Center."

The irony that Jordan would recover from COVID-19 at the Alexandria hospital was not lost on him.

Several years ago, Jordan had to take his sister to the emergency room at Rapides and the experience was not a pleasant one.

"I told my wife to never take me to Rapides Medical Center," he says. "Well, sometimes you have to eat your words."

"My stay there in the COVID unit was excellent," he explained. "I couldn't have asked for a better group of nurses to take care of me."

It was Sept. 19, 2020, when the three-term sheriff began to feel the onset of symptoms. His family doctor, Eric Dupree, M.D., suggested he take a COVID test. It was positive. A few days later, his condition worsened.

"It was a Thursday,"

recalled Dianne Jordan.

"Things were getting worse. A voice said, 'You have to do something.' He had very little to eat that day. I called Dr. Dupree. He told me, 'You need to get him to the hospital.'"

Jordan spent the night at the Winn Parish Medical Center, where physicians made the decision to transfer him to a larger facility and placed on a breathing machine.

"The next morning, I got the phone call that they needed to ship him out, that he needed to be ventilated," Dianne Jordan said. "At the time, I really didn't realize -- which I'm grateful that I didn't know -- that only 13 percent of the people get off the vent."

Rapides had an opening and that is where the sheriff was transferred, not that he was aware of anything until he was able to come off the breathing machine.

"It's kind of a helpless feeling," Sheriff Jordan says. "You are laying there in that bed and can't do anything for yourself. I laid there for 21,500 minutes basically, and I had excellent care the whole time. I can't say anything but good about the staff and doctors. They changed my mind."

Jordan and his wife are active members of the of First Baptist Church in Winnfield; and he shared that his successful battle with COVID has added a new mission for his life.

"As I was laying there, me and my good Lord had lots of talks," says Jordan. "I trusted Him at a young age. A lot goes through your mind. During that time, I promised to do more work for my Lord and spread His Word. Since then, I've had the opportunity to speak to several different churches and give my testimony. One thing I agreed to do with Him was to spread the Word."

Jordan began doing so before he was discharged from the hospital, ministering to the medical staff that was taking care of him.

"I prayed with each of the nurses that came in," he says. "I asked them if they minded if I prayed with them. They didn't and I prayed that God would take care of them as they ministered to us that were sick."

As Hurricane Delta approached the Louisiana coastline on Oct. 9, 2020, Jordan was discharged from Rapides, 50 pounds lighter than before testing



John Marcase photo

Dianne and Cranford Jordan are praising God for helping the Winn Parish Sheriff to survive COVID-19 in September of 2020. Jordan, one of 13 percent of patients to recover after being placed on a ventilator, said God answered the many prayers that went up for him.

positive for the coronavirus.

Waiting in the rain were patrol units of the sheriffs' offices from Winn and Rapides parishes to escort Jordan home.

It was also Dianne Jordan's first time to see her husband of more than 40 years in person since taking him to the emergency room more than two weeks earlier.

"The days were long," she shared. "We have a wonderful neighborhood

and a lot of his staff also brought items to me and kept me going. Our church, my Sunday School class, we had everyone in town praying for us. We had all denominations in our community praying for us, and it does make a difference.

"We appreciate everything everyone did," she continued. "I know some of the people don't make it, and that is hard on (the nurses). It is good to see

See SHERIFF, page 13

SHORT TERM  
FUND RATE  
**1.45%**  
CURRENT YIELD\*

## HIGHEST RATE IN THE STATE\*\*

for churches and other ministries on cash savings

LOUISIANA  
BAPTIST  
FOUNDATION

Increase your ministry influence with a better rate of return on your church savings

**Learn more: 877-523-4636 • [contact@LBFinfo.org](mailto:contact@LBFinfo.org)**

\*Rates subject to change. \*\*Based upon internal data. Please let us know if you hear of a higher rate.



# Visit from page one

individuals and loved ones. The sale of bricks during construction of the GBCC helped offset costs of building the facility.

During their April 12 visit to the prayer garden, the group also viewed a brick that honored three other women (Lottie Knox, Essie Raxsdale and Mignon McDonald) who were leaders of the missions ministry of the church. All three women have since passed.

Named after Georgia Barnette, the first elected Woman's Missionary Union executive director/treasurer in Louisiana, the 8,400-square-foot GBCC is located on the grounds of Tall Timbers Conference Center, Woodworth, and regularly hosts groups for conferences and camps.

Though she no longer is active in the church's WMU chapter, Perkins has remained steadfast in her support of missions. Dur-

ing her time at Homewood Baptist, Perkins served as the church's WMU director and subsequently encouraged others to embrace a Great Commission mindset.

"It's amazing that women have been dedicated in spreading the Gospel at Homewood Baptist Church," Perkins told the Baptist Message during the April 12 visit. "They are still trying to teach new members of the church to know that the WMU really supports missions."

Though her commitment to missions has never waned, it was tested when her daughter, Kala, and her husband, Steve Baillio, left in 1979 to serve in Honduras as International Mission Board missionaries.

Baillio lauded his mother-in-law's selfless support.

"She faced a crisis in her missions ministry, knowing her grandkids were coming with us and



Brian Blackwell photo

Members of Homewood Baptist Church, Alexandria, and family members of Doris Perkins gathered at the Georgia Barnette Conference Center prayer garden to look at a brick that honored her missions legacy.

she wouldn't see them as much," Baillio said. "She worked through it to become one of the biggest supporters of us and our ministry."

Homewood Baptist Pastor Jimmy Koonce said Perkins's commitment

to missions should be a reminder to everyone that sharing the Gospel from the church pew to the ends of the earth is a vital calling.

"We have these pavers for these ladies who have done so much for mis-

sion work and especially the WMU," Koonce said. "We are so proud of them and glad they have their name here to honor them because they deserve it. We are still proud of our

See VISIT, page 9

**PREPARE  
HERE  
SERVE  
ANYWHERE**

**LEAVELL  
COLLEGE**  
NEW ORLEANS, LA

OUR BACHELOR'S  
PROGRAM AND UNIQUE  
SETTING PREPARE YOU FOR  
SOMETHING MORE THAN  
JUST A JOB. LEAVELL  
COLLEGE PREPARES YOU  
TO ANSWER GOD'S CALL.

LEARN MORE [LEAVELLCOLLEGE.COM](http://LEAVELLCOLLEGE.COM)

**Does Your  
Church Have  
a Bus or Van  
to Sell?**

**Carpenter  
Bus is  
Buying!**

**America's #1 Church Bus Dealer, Carpenter Bus Sales,** wants to buy under-utilized buses or vans, refurbish them, and make them available to churches looking for transportation solutions.

If you have a bus or van you would like to sell, go online to  
**[www.carpenterbus.com/buymybus](http://www.carpenterbus.com/buymybus)**

[www.carpenterbus.com](http://www.carpenterbus.com)  
Nationwide Delivery  
800-370-6180

**America's #1  
Church Bus Dealer**



# CENLA Pregnancy Center sees busy start to 2022

**By Brian Blackwell**  
Message staff writer

ALEXANDRIA, La. (LBM) – The CENLA Pregnancy Center has seen a flurry of activity during the four months of 2022, from welcoming a new board president to starting construction on a third location in the state.

After Brian Gunter resigned as board president in March, Ed Tarpley moved up from his position as vice president. Gunter moved out of the area to serve as the new pastor of the First Baptist Church in Livingston. Tarpley is a member of Kingsville Baptist Church, Ball.

Todd St. Romain (a member of St. Paul the Apostolic Catholic Church, Mansura) was elected vice president of the 10-member board and Darryl Stagg (director of missions, CenLa and Big Creek Baptist Associations) was elected the new treasurer. Glen Harigill (pastor, Riverside Baptist Church, Vidalia) is the representative from Delta Baptist Association, Vidalia, a new position on the board.

CENLA Pregnancy Center Executive Director Claire Lemoine expressed appreciation for Gunter, whose vision to start a pregnancy care center in 2014 came to fruition when the doors opened in 2017 at 1254 MacArthur Drive, on the Louisiana Baptist Con-

vention ministry center campus in Alexandria.

"We are grateful for the work Brian did to help us move forward," Lemoine told the *Baptist Message*. "Ed has stepped up to serve and we are excited for the days to come."

From January through mid-April, 143 women have been served and 16 babies saved through the ministry of the CENLA Pregnancy Center.

Since it opened in December 2017, the pregnancy center has served 1,133 women through such services as pregnancy decision coaching (by trained advocates), free pregnancy tests, free ultrasounds, information about pregnancy options, referrals to mental health counselors and obstetrician-gynecologists, safe house and affordable housing recommendations, adoption support (referrals to assist expectant mothers with an adoption plan and limited financial assistance) and post-decision support that includes parenting education as well as recovery groups for those who regret having an abortion. Additionally, the center meets basic needs for mothers and babies by distributing food, baby beds, diapers, women's hygiene products, car seats, and clothing.

In all, 136 babies have been saved (out of 197 un-

See PREGNANCY CENTER, page 13

## People are responding to *Here for You ...*

FROM SHREVEPORT

*... I just want peace.*

TO LAKE CHARLES

*Can I truly be forgiven?*

AND DOWN TO METAIRIE

*What happens after you pray the sinner's prayer?*

*HereforYou.org*  
LOUISIANA BAPTISTS

*Seeding God's Truth in Every Heart, Every Home, Almost Every Day.*

## LOUISIANA CHURCH INSURANCE

"Three generations of Galloway's serving Louisiana Churches."



Call us for your church insurance needs

www.louisianachurchinsurance.com • 800.256.0700



# FBC Basile sees baptisms, growth amid trials

By Brian Blackwell  
Message staff writer

BASILE, La. (LBM) – Multiple disasters in the last few years could have caused members of First Baptist Church, Basile, to become disheartened but instead the congregation has remained steadfast, according to pastor.

“It’s been an amazing resilience in this church to come together and be a blessing to the community,” Pastor Mike Fontenot told the *Baptist Message*. “We have seen others outside our church even join us as we rebuilt each time that we faced a tragedy. It’s been a beautiful thing to see people respond in faithfulness.”

The church’s dedication, he said, has resulted in 12 professions of faith and 10 baptisms in the last six months.

## TRIED BY FIRE, PLUS

When Fontenot arrived at FBC Basile in 2017, the congregation averaged 70 for Sunday worship. A year later, the church experienced a parsonage fire, the first of several disasters. The church experienced an electrical fire in the food pantry storage building (June 2020) and a tree that fell on the parsonage (August 2020).

But through each disaster, the church remained faithful and has seen God provide with donations to cover the cost to rebuild.

Fontenot and his wife, Jessica, who also serves as administrative assistant/human resources specialist with the Louisiana Baptist Convention state missions services staff, revamped the youth group last summer to include a weekly Bible study/time of fellowship.

Attendance subsequently grew from five to 18, from May to September. When the group attended the annual Youth Evangelism Celebration in November, five FBC Basile youth accepted Christ, and most of these new believers have since been baptized.

Additionally, giving has remained consistent through COVID-19 and the members have continued to build rapport with their community through the food pantry they operate once a month and a men’s Bible study that encompasses FBC Basile, a black church and a Catholic church.

Fontenot believes God is just getting started with the spiritual renewal that has taken place among his congregation.

On March 6, the church started a 40-day prayer and fasting emphasis which



Submitted photo

Pastor Mike Fontenot baptizes a student at First Baptist Church, Basile. The church has seen growth in baptisms amid recent trials.

ended the Thursday before Good Friday.

He said the effort reinforces the focus of the church since he became pastor: “believe, belong, become,” based on Acts 2.

“We hope to see people hear the Gospel, believe the Gospel and be dis-

cipled,” Fontenot said. “Through this 40 days, we are seeking God and want to give Him more attention in order to hear from him and serve Him more. We are looking forward to seeing what God will put new and fresh on our hearts in this new season.”

**DON'T MISS OUT!**

**Summer CAMP**

**STILL ACCEPTING CAMPERS FOR:**  
**KID'S CAMP 1**  
**BREAKAWAY YOUTH CAMPS**  
**& CHAMPION'S CAMP**

**FOR AVAILABILITY, VISIT:**  
**TALLTIMBERSBCC.ORG**



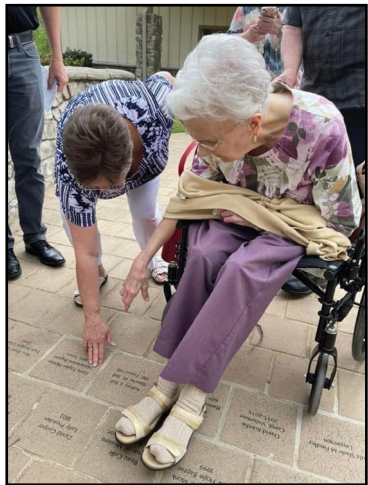
# Three decisions for Christ during Wednesday service

By Brian Blackwell  
Message staff writer

KENTWOOD, La. (LBM) – Evangelist Steve Paysen was on the Northshore for another assignment when he felt prompted to contact Spring Creek Baptist Church about a last-minute speaking engagement for March 23.

Fewer than 24 hours later, the Holy Spirit used the Wednesday evening message to bring three teenage boys to make decisions for Christ.

"Friends invited their friends to this service,"



Submitted photo

Doris Perkins was overcome with emotion as she looked at a prayer garden brick named in her honor.

## Visit from page 6

WMU ladies and what they do. We are very blessed."

Josh Bumgardner, director of Tall Timbers, said each brick represents a mission's story.

"The intention was to honor special people in our Louisiana Baptist churches - pastors, missionaries, Sunday school teachers - and to remember them from throughout our history," he said. "This beautiful building is a place of worship for every week of summer camp where we see hundreds of children and youth become Christ followers and many others who answer the call to ministry. In the rich history of Louisiana Baptists, the legacy of Mrs. Perkins and the many others whose names are commemorated in the prayer garden continues right here as our Tall Timbers campers begin a journey with Christ."

Paysen told the *Baptist Message*. "When young people see the fruit of their labor it really helps them catch the vision of evangelism and discipleship. And they become even more excited about sharing Jesus with others."

He encouraged churches to consider holding more evangelistic events on Wednesday nights because of the fruit that is yielded.

"You always get a more diverse crowd," Paysen said. "It's a one-hour commitment, where you get in and get out. We saw that play out with the three teenagers who made a decision for Christ at Spring Creek Baptist."

Paysen, an evangelist with the P230 Foundation, said he has seen students more open to the Gospel during a mid-week gathering during his 17 years of experience both as a student minister in three churches (two that ranked among the top 100 in youth baptisms in the Southern Baptist Convention) and as a harvest evangelist.

Pastor Matthew Gazaway said church leaders have followed up with the three young men for further discipleship. Two

have family who attend Spring Creek Baptist and the other teenager has family who are members of another nearby church.

"The decisions made on that Wednesday night are exactly what we want to see continue here," Gazaway said. "We are here as believers to present the Gospel to others and then hopefully see them accept Christ."

Gazaway has been pastor of the church (which

averages 150 for Sunday worship) for just seven months. But he already has baptized three new converts since coming to Spring Creek Baptist in September 2021. Now he will make sure the most recent new believers are disciplined for that next step.

Looking to the future, Gazaway is excited about the church's continued passion for discipleship and the Women's Missionary Union ministry that

shares Christ's love with those in need in Tangipahoa Parish. In the fall, the church will develop a strategy to minister to faculty and students at four schools that are located within a three-mile radius of the church.

"This is a church that loves the Lord, and we focus on showing our community that," Gazaway said. "I'm excited about how the Lord is working at Spring Creek."

**BIG CAMP EXPERIENCE**  
**SMALL CAMP**  
**PRICE**

**\$185**  
**PER CAMPER**

CAMP #1 - JUNE 20 - 24

CAMP #2 - JUNE 27 - JULY 1

REGISTER @ [BETHANYC3.COM](http://BETHANYC3.COM)

DAKOTA BURTON - SPEAKER

BROKEN VESSELS - BAND

## LOUISIANA LEGACY FAMILY & KINGDOM™

### How Much Should We Leave?

**Retirement Accounts** offer two distinct ways to be generous towards God's Kingdom work:

- **Beneficiary Designation** – Include your church or another ministry as a beneficiary of part or all of your retirement accounts. This can lessen the tax impact on your heirs while providing support for the Gospel.

- **IRA Charitable Rollover** – for individuals 70 ½ and older, take advantage of the ability to direct a gift from your traditional IRA to benefit your church.



**LOUISIANA  
BAPTIST  
FOUNDATION**

Contact the Foundation for information on giving ideas that can benefit your family and advance God's Kingdom.



- + Money Management **for Churches**
- + Planned Giving **for Individuals**
- + Estate Stewardship **for Churches**
- + **ChurchBiz Central™**
  - Church Loans
  - Payroll Services

#### ADVANCING THE KINGDOM

One dollar at a time  
One ministry at a time  
One life at a time

**1-877-523-4636**  
**contact@LBFinfo.org**  
**www.LBFinfo.org**



**LOUISIANA  
BAPTIST  
FOUNDATION**



# MBC offers 'Plan B' to bypass SBC entities

JEFFERSON CITY, Mo. -- The Missouri Baptist Convention Executive Board has authorized a new method of cooperative giving for its churches. "Plan B" allows churches to withhold funds from selected Southern Baptist Convention entities without withdrawing from Cooperative Program support altogether, according to The Pathway, the news service of Missouri Baptists.

The MBC Executive Board overwhelmingly voted to approve "Plan B" during a special-called

Zoom meeting, April 7. During the meeting, MBC leaders described "Plan B" as an attempt to acknowledge Missouri Baptists' concerns with some SBC entities -- for example, the SBC Executive Committee's hasty decision to hire a law firm that promotes LGBTQ+ causes.

"Plan A" is the MBC's traditional form of CP giving through which churches send undesignated gifts to the SBC Executive Committee for distribution according to the allocation plan approved each year by

## CULTURAL NEWS

Southern Baptist messengers at the SBC annual meeting. If churches opt for "Plan B," they can select which SBC entities to withhold their funds from, and the MBC will forward their gifts only to those SBC entities that are not explicitly excluded by the church.

"The MBC Executive Board continues to forward 38 percent of all CP giving to the SBC, according to our CP allocations budget (Plan A)," MBC Executive Director John Yeats said. "However, giving under Plan B may result in fewer dollars going to the bypassed entities. Plan B dollars are allocated to the remaining SBC entities as indicated by each church."

"Our state missionary staff has steadfastly advocated for Southern Baptists staying with the

traditional Cooperative Program giving method and remaining firm partners with the thousands of Southern Baptist churches in all 50 states committed to Cooperative Program missions," Yeats told The Pathway. "On the other hand, we recognize the autonomy of the local church to make its own giving decisions and, in good conscience, have asked our Executive Board for a temporary new Plan B, and they have approved. We have responded to this request while MBC-affiliated churches monitor upcoming events in the SBC and make longer-term decisions about their church's cooperation."

MBC legal counsel, Mike Whitehead, explained that since 2010 and the adoption of the recommendations of the Great Commission Task Force, "both undesignated giving to the Cooperative Program and designated giving for Convention entities or causes are counted equally [by the SBC] for purposes of showing friendly cooperation, and for determining the number of messengers allowed."

Excerpted from reporting by Ben Hawkins, associate editor, The Pathway.

## SBC EC seeks inputs via 2 surveys

NASHVILLE, Tenn. -- The President Search Team is seeking inputs to develop a "candidate profile for the next president and CEO" of the Southern Baptist Convention Executive Committee, according to a press release received by the Baptist Message.

An online survey, allowing defined responses to discrete questions, is available for pastors and laypeople. Meanwhile, a different survey (which also allows personal comments) was sent to state executive directors, SBC entity heads and EC members.

The President Search Team said the results "would help better inform us on what Southern Baptist leaders, pastors, and churches are looking for in our next SBC Executive Committee president & CEO."

Participants will remain anonymous, the press release noted.

See CULTURAL, page 11

**AFFORDABLE BEACHSIDE VACATION CONDOS**  
Orange Beach, Alabama  
Rent direct from a Christian family  
**LOWEST PRICES ON THE BEACH!**  
Efficiencies - 1 bedroom, 2 bedrooms and 3 bedrooms  
[www.gulfshorescondos.com](http://www.gulfshorescondos.com)  
Call: Don at 251.752.2366 • Donna at 251.656.4935

Louisiana Baptists' premiere training event for Sunday School and Small Group leaders.

# ReGROUP

## CONFERENCE 2022

**Saturday, Aug. 6, 2022 • 9:00 am - 12:00 Noon**  
**FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH, LAFAYETTE**

General Session, Worship and Age-Graded Breakouts.  
Bring your team for one-stop training.

**FEATURING**  
**John Fream • Phillip Herring • Ken Braddy**  
**Kevin Flattmann, Jr. • Derek Griffon**  
**Donna Peavey • Lauren Brown**

**ABC KIDS CAMP 2022**  
Location: 1202 Academy Road, Eunice, LA 70535

JESUS IN MY PLACE

ABC KIDS CAMP 2022

**Dates: July 18-21, 2022**  
**Grades: Completed 1-6**

**Cost: \$195 (\$40 deposit due upon registration) To register go to:**  
<https://abccamp.com/eventsandretreats/> or call 337.457.9047



## Cultural from page 10

"As you answer the questions, please know that your answers will remain confidential," the statement explained. "Your survey will only be seen by the President Search Team, and we are committed to keeping your answers and comments private. We ask that you answer the questions prayerfully, honestly, and with a desire to serve our Convention with your insight."

Pastors and church members may access the first survey: <https://sbcec.typeform.com/ECPresident>.

Members of SBC EC President Search Team are Adron Robinson (chairman, Country Club Hills, Ill.), Mollie Duddleston (Springdale, Ark.), Mike Keahbone (Lawton, Okla.), Jeremy Morton (Woodstock, Ga.), Philip Robertson (Pineville, La.), Rolland Slade (ex officio as SBC EC chairman, El Cajon, Calif.) and David Sons (vice chairman, Lexington, S.C.).

### SBC 2023 annual meeting may move to New Orleans

NASHVILLE, Tenn. — The Southern Baptist Convention Executive Committee will meet via Zoom, April 28, to discuss moving

the 2023 SBC Annual Meeting from Charlotte, N.C. to New Orleans, La.

Rolland Slade, chairman of the SBC EC told Baptist Press the move was a sign of good news because "attendance at the annual meeting is trending up, which is the primary reason for the move."

Charlotte was confirmed as the 2023 host city by messengers to the 2016 SBC Annual Meeting in St. Louis. Since that meeting, however, attendance at the annual event has grown, which means the 280,000-square-foot Charlotte Convention Center is not large enough to host the now-anticipated 15,000 messengers and guests, Baptist Press reported, noting that space requirements have recently surged to 400,000 square feet.

Louisiana Baptist Convention Executive Director Steve Horn was enthusiastic.

"We are excited to welcome back the annual meeting of the Southern Baptist Convention in 2023," Horn told Baptist Press. "It's been 11 years since Louisiana last hosted this gathering, and we'll be ready to roll out the welcome mat for our Baptist family from across the nation. We'll also be sure and save some of your



BP News photo

New Orleans last hosted the Southern Baptist Convention Annual Meeting in 2012. The city could host the annual meeting once again in 2023, pending a vote during a called SBC Executive Committee meeting, April 28.

favorite Louisiana cuisine!"

Jamie Dew, president of New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary was equally excited.

"NOBTS is thrilled to welcome Southern Baptists to our great city in 2023," Dew said. "We want to encourage Southern Baptists to come early or stay late to take in the rich food and culture of New Orleans. We can't wait to have you here with us and show you all

God is doing on our campus and in our city."

Based on reporting by

**Brandon Porter, SBC EC associate vice president for Convention News.**

[davidhannaministries.com](http://davidhannaministries.com)

Call **NOW** to book your 2022 **revival** meetings with Southern Baptist Evangelist

**David Hanna**

**318.932.3433 / 318.286.7520**

"David preaches as if today is the last day for every person to be alive. Your church just can't go wrong by using David Hanna Ministries. I highly recommend him for your next revival."

— The late Dr. Roy Fish, Former Director of Evangelism at Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary



## IMMEDIATE JOB OPENINGS On Monroe Campus

### COTTAGE PARENTS:

Husband and wife teams are needed. Full-time positions include salary, benefits, paid vacation, and training. Basic job description is to provide love, care, and hope in Christ for children in need. Applicants should not have children living at home under the age of 18. Applicants must have a sense of call and commitment to a ministry of service to children and be active members of a local Southern Baptist church. Part-time positions are also available.

Please send resume to: Susan Nolan at [snolan@lbch.org](mailto:snolan@lbch.org) or LBCH, PO Box 4196, Monroe, LA 71211.

### COTTAGE CARE MANAGERS:

Full-Time and Part-Time Positions Available: Christian women needed to serve in HomePlace, a transitional living ministry for homeless children and their mothers. Must have a sense of call and commitment to a ministry of service to children and families.

Please send resume to: Jonann Byargeon at [jonann@lbch.org](mailto:jonann@lbch.org) or LBCH, PO Box 4196, Monroe, LA 71211.



## STEVE PAYSEN MINISTRIES

Steve has served on staff at some of the most evangelistic Bible proclaiming churches in America and understands how to confront the evangelical apathy many churches drift into. Steve has a tremendous passion to reach the lost and will encourage and refresh your church with his love for the Church.

706.716.0316 | [STEVEPAYSEN@GMAIL.COM](mailto:STEVEPAYSEN@GMAIL.COM) | [P230.ORG](http://P230.ORG)



# Honeymoon leads man from skeptic to pastor

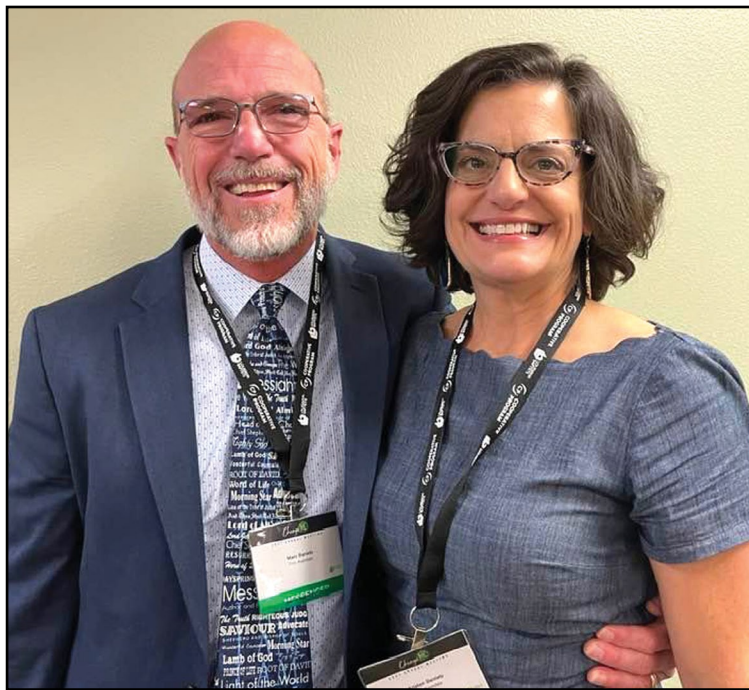
By Brian Blackwell  
Message staff writer

AVONDALE, La. (LBM) – Marc Daniels was a Jewish-turned-atheist searching for biblical truth when he found his answer with the First Baptist Church, Avondale, during a return trip from his honeymoon.

His wife, Kristen, had grown up in the church and frequently prayed for him to accept Christ. After hearing a Sunday school lesson about the Roman centurion who acknowledged Jesus was Lord, Daniels realized he needed to do the same on Aug. 29, 1992.

The day not only changed his spiritual eternity but paved the way for his return to the church eight years later -- as pastor.

"Jesus was astonished at the centurion and scolded the crowd for their lack of faith," Daniels told the *Baptist Message*. "That con-



Marc and Kristen Daniels have enjoyed a fruitful ministry at First Baptist Church, Avondale. He serves as pastor of the congregation.

nected with me. I had this knowledge about the Bible, but knew I needed to make a decision to walk away or surrender to Christ. I opened the door to Jesus, and everything changed."

In 2021, Daniels was named a Louisiana Baptist Convention Exemplary Bi-vocational Pastor of the Year for his dedication to his church and secular job (professor of biology at

William Carey University, Hattiesburg, Mississippi).

## CHOSEN

Three years after he made the decision to follow Christ, Daniels was completing a postdoctoral fellowship at Vanderbilt University, Nashville, Tenn., when he received a vision from God that he would preach the Gospel one day.

For the next six months, Daniels filled the pulpit at the church where he and his wife attended in Hendersonville, Tenn.; and at FBC Avondale when they returned for family visits. But then requests to preach stopped for a six-month period. Daniels felt frustrated but told God if this was the extent of the call, he would be obedient. God then showed him in another vision that he would be the pastor of FBC Avondale.

In 1999, he and his family moved to New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary.

A year later the pastor of FBC Avondale announced he was leaving to serve another congregation, opening the door for Daniels to fill the pulpit at the same church where eight years earlier he had accepted Christ.

"When I became pastor, I just had no doubt God told me I would be there at least 10 years," Daniels said. "I only go where God shows me; and ever since then God has never let me

out of Avondale. I don't know how long I will be here, but I know God is in this 100 percent."

## THANKFUL

Daniels said he is thankful for a faithful congregation of 35 that has seen their worship center sustain significant damage from Hurricane Ida on Aug. 29, 2021. The high winds ripped off half the roof, sending in water to the worship center and Sunday school spaces.

Several mission teams have assisted in clean up, but the church still needs skilled volunteers to replace sheetrock, paint walls and install flooring.

Until they can move back into their facility, the congregation is worshipping at the original worship center on campus.

Jack Hunter, New Orleans Baptist Association executive director, said he is inspired by Daniels' commitment to his church and the secular job to which he commutes two days a week from Avondale.

"I once asked, 'Marc, why haven't you just moved to Hattiesburg?'" Hunter recalled. "His reply was immediate and matter-of-fact: 'God called me to pastor Avondale.'"

"In order to live out God's call, Marc travels to a neighboring state to teach science to college

See HONEYMOON, page 14

**More than 250 churches served.**

Call for your **FREE ESTIMATE** that includes **A PRICE!**

**HAHN ROOFING**  
An Owens Corning PLATINUM Contractor

*Your family is protected under our roof.*

**800.368.7833**  
**www.hahnroofing.com**

CLARA SPRINGS  
1953  
CAMP & CONFERENCE

**Summer Camp**  
2022 Dates

June 13-16	Kids on Mission #1 (1st-6th grade)
June 26-28	IMPACT Camp (7th-12th grade)
June 30-July 2	GRIT (Boys 1st-6th grade)
July 4-7	Bloom (Girls 1st-6th grade)
July 8-9	Pre-Camp (PreK-2nd Grade)
July 11-14	Kids on Mission #2 (1st-6th grade)
July 17-21	Journey Camp (7th-12th grade)

PRICES & LINKS TO REGISTER ARE LOCATED AT:  
**www.clarasprings.com**

Clara Springs Camp & Conference  
4420 HWY 177 Pelican, LA 71063  
318-796-7875





Brian Blackwell photo

Herman Calais, pastor of Christ Baptist Church in Houma, expressed his gratitude for the work of Southern Baptist Disaster Relief teams.

## Rebuild from page 4

attitudes had changed.

“They have been burned a lot down here with others cheating them or making promises and not following through,” he said. “Now, hearts are softening, and hope is being re-instilled in this area. That is helping to pave the way for plenty of opportunities to share the Gospel.”

Herman Calais, pastor of Christ Baptist Church, said he is grateful the DR teams helped install drywall during the project and that other mission teams have come throughout the year to help the church finish renovations to facilities that sustained significant damage from Ida.

Calais said a section of the church’s main building will be renovated to house mission teams who will work on more homes in Houma.

“Our facilities are here to be used and we are working with disaster relief to fix them up so we can house volunteers whenever we have disasters here on the bayou,” Calais told the *Baptist Message*. He added that although “it’s been a long journey” he’s thankful for Baptists from around the country “who love the Lord and care.”

“We are filled with hope because of the kind and wonderful people that helped us out,” he continued. “I’m praising God for all of them.”

## Sheriff from page 5

people who love their job. I think God’s hand was in it and He knew where he needed to be.”

“It took me a few months to recover before I could come back to the office and work,” Sheriff Jordan added to his wife’s comments. “The reason I’m here is because of God’s grace. He saw to it to have the right people in the

right place to take care of me. That’s the only reason I, or anybody, is here. I’m thankful. I give Him the credit for everything in my life.

“In good times, we sometimes don’t thank God enough. In bad times we call upon Him. I hope I serve him more and more. I’m not perfect, but I try to do the right things.”

Family Health Insurance  
at Group Rates

GROUP, INDIVIDUAL, MEDICARE SUPPLEMENTS, DENTAL

Melvin Thomas

318.465.1006

melvin.thomas@bcbsla.com

411 Ashley Ridge Blvd., Shreveport, LA 71106

## Pregnancy Center from page 7

born children of mothers who considered abortion) during the few years that the ministry has been fully operational (services were limited by state restrictions at times during 2020).

The center, which has locations in Alexandria and Marksville, will open its third location this summer. Lemoine said a building was demolished, mid-April, on the new site in Vidalia to make room for a new structure. Kimberly Butler, who serves as the client advocate coordinator at the Alexandria location, will become director of the Vidalia center that initially will be open on Mondays and Wednesdays, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

The biggest needs for the Vidalia location are



money to purchase a new ultrasound machine, and donations of furniture and other materials to furnish the building, Lemoine said.

“The ministry belongs to God and He has en-

trusted it to us,” she said. “We are grateful for the dedicated service of all board members, past and present, who have been instrumental in listening and acting on the guidance of the Holy Spirit. We continue to ask our community to pray for this vital ministry.”

Visit [cenlapc.com](http://cenlapc.com) to learn how to support the CENLA Pregnancy Center.

CLARA SPRINGS SEEKS A  
MAINTENANCE & MINISTRY ASSOCIATE

Clara Springs Baptist Camp & Conference is looking for someone to join our ministry team. This job position will oversee maintenance, grounds up keep, and assist in the ministry of our camp and conference center. Applicant must have advanced skills in carpentry, electrical, and plumbing. HVAC knowledge is a plus! Housing is provided. Please send emails to: [brobubba@clarasprings.com](mailto:brobubba@clarasprings.com)

LOCATED IN DOWNTOWN ALEXANDRIA, LOUISIANA

Meet ME  
IN THE  
Middle

Our sales staff can assist you with personalized group itineraries, hotel leads, planning guides, and tours. Being centrally located in the middle of the state, the area offers a wide variety of venues, historical sites, and unique Louisiana experiences in and around the “Heart” of Louisiana.

1.800.551.9546 • 318-442-9546 • [randolphriverfrontcenter.com](http://randolphriverfrontcenter.com)





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

## ON THE MOVE

■ **Tiffany Falanga** was recognized for 15 years as the youth and children's minister at Airline Baptist Church, Metairie

and not at Airline Baptist in Bossier City as reported in the March 31 edition of the Baptist Message.

■ **Brady, wife Emily, Kirby** is the new pastor of Eastwood Baptist Church, Haughton from Virginia.

■ **Jarred Pellegrin** is the new youth/education minister at Ellerbe Road Baptist Church from Broadmoor Baptist Church.

■ **Tim, wife Stephine, Turnage** is the new associate pastor at Lakeside Baptist Church.

■ **Ron Vollmar** is the new pastor at Bonita Baptist Church, Mer Rouge.

■ **Joseph Kelley** has resigned as pastor of Bethel Baptist Church, Franklinton.

■ **Joe, wife Amy, Luna** is the new BCM director at Southeastern Louisiana University.

■ **Andrew, wife Taylor, Barber** is the new student pastor at Philadelphia Baptist Church, Deville.

## HOMECOMING

■ Longview Baptist Church, Deville: **98th annual Homecoming**, May 1, 10:30 a.m. Speaker: **Brian Crain**. Din-

ner on the grounds will follow the worship service. Pastor: Robby Poole.

■ Beech Springs Baptist Church, Minden: **150th Anniversary**, May 22, 11 A.M. Speaker: Steve Horn, Executive Director Louisiana Baptist Convention. Coffee, juice and donuts will be served at 10 a.m. followed by the Worship service at 11. A catered catfish lunch will follow the service. Pastor: Randy Brown.

## REVIVAL

■ Antioch Baptist Church, Farmerville: Speaker, May 1, **Evangelist: Luke Hockenjos**. Pastor: Rubin Weaver.

■ Pine Ridge Baptist Church, DeRidder: **Revival**, May 8-11, Evangelist: **Scotty McDowell**. Worship: **The Mackey Willis Family**. Pastor: Brandon Gill.

■ Eola Baptist Church, Bunkie: **Harvest Day**, May 8, 10:30 a.m. Evangelist: **Bill Britt**. Pastor: Bryan Canup.

■ Hodge Baptist Church, Hodge: **Revival**, May 15-18. Evangelist: **Sam Moore**. Pastor: Keith Thomas.

■ Calvary Baptist Church, Many: **Special speaker**, May 29, 10:30 a.m.. Evangelist: **Luke Hockenjos**. Pastor: Cley Clayton.

## LAGNIAPPE

■ First Baptist Church, Pineville: **Chonda Pierce in concert**, April 28, 7 p.m. To get tickets go to <https://www.etix.com/ticket/p/5381346/chonda-pierce-live-in-concert-pineville-first-baptist-church-pineville-la>. Pastor: Stewart Holway.

■ The Church at Marksville, Marksville: **Choose Joy 2022 Annual Mother/Daughter Banquet**, April 30, 10 a.m. – 1 p.m. Special Speaker: **Octavia**, Christian recording artist. There will be prizes, food and a time to sit, relax and enjoy all at no cost. Pastor: Ken Austin.

■ North Monroe Baptist Church, Monroe: **Michael W. Smith in concert – an evening at the piano**, April 30, 7 p.m. Cost: \$24. Pastor: Bill Dye.

■ Eastside Baptist Church, Rayville: **Louisiana Melody Boys in concert**, April 30, 4 p.m. Pastor: Chris Crawford.

■ Rocky Branch Baptist Church, Farmerville: **Ben Waites in concert**, May 1, 10:30 a.m. Pastor: Terry Mims.

■ First Baptist Church, Winnsboro: **National Day of Prayer Luncheon**, May 5, Noon. Speaker: **LBC Executive Director Steve Horn**. The luncheon will take place in the gym. Pastor: Craig Beeman.

■ **Annual Toledo Bend Baptist Re-**

**sort Ministries' Kids Fishing Derby and Youth Bass Tournament**, May 7, 10 a.m.-3 p.m., San Miguel Park beach area, Ages 3-15. Preschoolers must have a parent or guardian present. School-age children groups must have one adult for each 5 children. Bring a fishing pole or rod & reel and bait. A complimentary lunch will be provided and afterwards an uplifting spiritual message. For more information, call Mary Gore at 318.452.9731 or Danny Warmack at 318.315.0713.

■ Swartz Baptist Church, Monroe: **FOCAS & Finish Singles Conference**, May 14, 1-6 p.m. Speaker: Kris Swiatocho, TheSinglesNetwork.org Ministries. There will be worship, fellowship, group discussion, prayer experience, delicious snacks, but, sorry, no childcare. Cost: \$15. \$25 after April 30th. Register at [www.swartzfbc.org/singles](http://www.swartzfbc.org/singles). For more information, contact Karlee Guerra ([karlee@swartzfbc.org](mailto:karlee@swartzfbc.org)) or call 318.343.0287.

■ **Men of Courage – Man Church**, May 19, 6 p.m. at Minden Civic Center, 520 Broadway Street, Minden, La. Speaker: **Luke Hockenjos, Give'Em Jesus**. There will be live music and door prizes, but you must be present to win. Join us for a manly meal, a manly message and manly music.

# Honeymoon from page 12

students," he continued. "But his best gifts are for Avondale where he meets needs, proclaims the gospel, teaches the full counsel of God, and cultivates a missionary heart in his people. His fellow pastors and the sister churches of NOBA

rejoice that God called this self-described 'Jewish kid' into his Kingdom, and to pastor Avondale."

**Groups interested in helping FBC Avondale rebuild should contact Daniels at 504.301.8774 or FBCAvondale@bellsouth.net.**

**Petrus**  
FEED & SEED  
FEED / SEED / FERTILIZER  
FARM / LAWN & GARDEN  
SUPPLIES  
2914 N Bolton Ave,  
Alexandria, LA  
318.443.5929 / 318.442.2325

**HIXSON BROTHERS**  
FUNERAL HOMES  
Since 1907  
701 Jackson St. • Alexandria, LA 71301 • 318.442.3363  
2701 Military Hwy • Pineville, LA 71360 • 318.640.1678  
11886 Hwy. 84 West • Jena, LA 71342 • 318.992.4158  
445 W Bontemps St. • Marksville, LA 71351 • 318.253.5979  
[www.hixsonbrothers.com](http://www.hixsonbrothers.com)

RUBBER STAMPS  
SIGNS – BADGES  
SEALS – FLAGS  
BRONZE PLAQUES  
**Ed. Smith's STENCIL WORKS**  
est. 1867  
Manufacturers of  
MARKING DEVICES  
SINCE 1867  
4315 Bienville St. – New Orleans  
504.525.2128

## 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.

QZF VEN YEBXN SBZMKNMQVWBZ BR VEN SEWFKNZ BR

WAKQNX CPKCPKNF QMQWZAV CBANA QZF QQKBZ WZ VEN

YWXFNKZNAA.

NHBFPA AWHVNNZ:VYB

Clues:  
C = M; Q = A

Answer to March 31 Scripture Crypto:  
Job four: two

**NUGENT MUSIC & AUDIO**  
192 Pinegrove Drive  
Pineville, LA 71360  
Tel: 318.473.9999  
Email: [info@nugentmusic.com](mailto:info@nugentmusic.com)

**Nugent Music & Audio** is a church's one stop location for all their audio and video needs. We offer audio, video, lighting design, installation, training. We also can set up your church service to stream on all the most popular platforms.





**DAVIS CHURCH PEW UP-HOLSTERY**, 4313 Hwy. 18 East Quitman, Mississippi 39355 Melton & Sandra Davis. 30-plus years of experience, Family-Owned and Operated. Variety of fabrics available. Work done on-site. **ALL WORK GUARANTEED.** Call for estimates: 601.776.6617. If remodeling your sanctuary, please give us a call about up-holstering your pews!

**HISTORIC Appalachian Pine 1x6 Bead Board/V-Groove or Ship Lap/Nickel Gap** – 99 cents a foot by the board or 95 cents a foot bundle quality. Call 318.757.8482 for more information.

**EARNEST LITTLE** available for supply, interim and revivals in the Central Louisiana area. Please call 318.663.2770.

**FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH in Ruston, LA** is seeking **part-time traditional worship leader**. Great opportunity to work with the choir and lead worship in a traditional service. Please send résumés or direct questions to Brenda Martin at [brenda@fbcruston.org](mailto:brenda@fbcruston.org) or mail to First Baptist Church, Attn: Brenda Martin, 200 S. Trenton St., Ruston, LA 71270.

**MT VERNON BAPTIST CHURCH** in West Monroe, LA is accepting résumés through mid-June for the position of full-time pastor. Résumés may be mailed to Mt Vernon Baptist Church, Pastor Search Committee, P O Box 425, West Monroe, LA 71294 or emailed to [psc.mvbcwm@gmail.com](mailto:psc.mvbcwm@gmail.com).

Call **Rhonda Havens** at **318.449.4351** or **877.234.3832** to place your ads.

**SEEKING PART-TIME WORSHIP LEADER**  
First Baptist Church in Bernice, LA is seeking a part-time worship leader. Please mail résumés to FBC Bernice, Attn: Music Search Committee, P O Box 567, Bernice, LA 71222 or email to [fbcbernice@gmail.com](mailto:fbcbernice@gmail.com).

**FULL TIME PASTOR**  
Cooper Baptist Church, Leesville is seeking a full time pastor. Please send résumés to 853 Cooper Church Rd. Leesville LA 71446. Call 337.537.3735 with any questions.

**PART-TIME YOUTH MINISTER**  
Emmanuel Baptist Church located at 5850 Buncombe Rd, Shreveport, LA 71129 is seeking a part-time youth minister. Please email résumés to [ronroseturner@bellsouth.net](mailto:ronroseturner@bellsouth.net).

**MUSIC MINISTER**  
Eola Baptist Church near Bunkie, LA is seeking a music minister. Send résumé to [EOLA.Pastor@gmail.com](mailto:EOLA.Pastor@gmail.com) or call Pastor Bryan Canup 318.268.9953.

**F.B.C. St. Francisville**  
Loving God. Loving People.  
**PASTOR OF YOUTH & FAMILY DISCIPLESHIP**  
First Baptist Church in St. Francisville, LA is seeking a full-time pastor of youth and family discipleship. Visit our website at [www.fbcstla.com](http://www.fbcstla.com) for a job description. Résumés can be sent to [resume@fbcstla.com](mailto:resume@fbcstla.com)

**BI-VOCATIONAL PASTOR**  
Pelican Baptist Church in Pelican, LA, is seeking a bi-vocational pastor. Please send résumés to Pelican Baptist Church, P.O. Box 108, Pelican, LA 71063 or email to [henrytouchton@gmail.com](mailto:henrytouchton@gmail.com). Parsonage is available.

**SEEKING A FULL-TIME STUDENT MINISTER**  
Plain Dealing Baptist Church, Plain Dealing, LA is seeking a full-time Student Minister. Please send résumés to: Search Committee Plain Dealing Baptist Church PO Box 543, Plain Dealing, LA 71064 Or email to [pdcla@gmail.com](mailto:pdcla@gmail.com)

Prayerfully seeking a Full-Time **Senior Pastor**  
First Baptist Church is accepting resumes for a full-time Senior Pastor. Mail resumes to Pastor Search Committee 100 N Hickory Street Vidalia, LA 71373 or email [careers@fbcvidalia.com](mailto:careers@fbcvidalia.com)

Prayerfully seeking an **Interim Preacher**  
First Baptist Church is seeking an Interim Preacher. Mail resumes to Interim Preacher Search Committee 100 N Hickory Street Vidalia, LA 71373 or email [careers@fbcvidalia.com](mailto:careers@fbcvidalia.com)

**Mandeville's FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH**  
**BI-VOCATIONAL WORSHIP LEADER**  
Mandeville's FBC in Mandeville, LA is searching for a bi-vocational Worship Leader. Please email résumés to [cwfancher@gmail.com](mailto:cwfancher@gmail.com) or mail to MFBC Personnel Committee, 1895 HWY 190, Mandeville, LA 70448.

**SEEKING A LEAD PASTOR**  
Woodridge Baptist Church in Shreveport, LA is seeking a lead pastor. Please email résumés to [woodridgepsc@gmail.com](mailto:woodridgepsc@gmail.com) or mail to Woodridge Search Committee, 410 Goldsberry Circle, Shreveport, LA 71106.

**CHILDREN'S MINISTER**  
Maplewood First Baptist in Sulphur, LA is looking to hire a Children's Minister  
We would love to talk to you. Please send us your résumé.  
Email: [resumes@maplewoodfbc.com](mailto:resumes@maplewoodfbc.com)

**SEEKING LEAD PASTOR**  
First Baptist Church, Dry Prong, which is located in Dry Prong, LA is seeking a fulltime, God-filled man to serve as our Lead Pastor. If you feel called by God for this position, please send your résumé to [FBCDP@bellsouth.net](mailto:FBCDP@bellsouth.net).

**SEARCHING FOR A PASTOR**  
Fellowship Baptist Church of Converse, LA is searching for a pastor. The ideal candidate should be humble, loving, a strong leader, and able to reach out to the community. We are a small rural church in need of the right Man of God. If you feel this is your calling, please email us at [fbcpsc19@gmail.com](mailto:fbcpsc19@gmail.com)

**SEEKING A BI-VOCATIONAL PASTOR**  
Flactor Baptist Church in Hicks, LA is seeking a God-filled man to serve as a bi-vocational pastor able to reach the community. If you feel led, please mail your résumés to Flactor Baptist Church P O Box 183, Slagle, LA 71475.

**Seeking a full time STUDENT MINISTER**  
Houston River Baptists Church in Sulphur, La. Seeks a full time student minister  
Send resumes to:  
Email: [HRBCStudentMINSC@gmail.com](mailto:HRBCStudentMINSC@gmail.com)  
Mail: 110 W. Houston River Rd. Sulphur, La 70663  
Description: Be an advocate for youth and young adults and educate the youth about the hopes, concerns and the needs of the youth in the church.

**HOUSTON RIVER BAPTISTS CHURCH Sulphur, LA Seeks a Full Time Worship Minister**  
Applicants must be capable of leading multiple styles of worship  
SEND RESUMES TO:  
Email: Search CommitteeHRBC2021@gmail.com  
Mail: 110 W. Houston River Rd. Sulphur, LA 70663  
Description: Work closely with the pastor in creating worship services and teams that help with the congregation (Planning weekly worship service, and recruiting musicians).



From the Board and Staff of the Louisiana Baptist Foundation

# Thank you

Louisiana Baptists for  
the partnership in ministry.

**\$235+ MILLION\* IN MANAGED ASSETS  
TO HELP ADVANCE THE KINGDOM**

one dollar at a time, one ministry at a time, one life at a time.

**Managed assets are impacting the Kingdom through:**

- + Helping churches and other ministries earn more money on their savings to accomplish God's work
- + Helping donors to establish special gifts to benefit churches and other ministries
- + Managing endowments that will perpetually benefit churches and other ministries

*W. H. Hood*    *Ivan A. Barbato*    *Kim Deville*    *Terry J. Aumeyer*    *Reggie L. Bridges*  
*Hath C. Pelouze*    *Jamie Willis*    *Ben Stewart*    *Paul R. Kim*    *Jana Endres*  
*Dr. Steve Houn*    *Ernest Wilkerson*    *Chris Holloway*    *Kim B.*    *Buddy Hampton*  
*Kay Fleming*    *James Gardner*    *Brian R. Wells*

\*as of 12/31/2021



 **LBInfo.org** • 877-523-4636 • [contact@LBInfo.org](mailto:contact@LBInfo.org)

