



THE BAPTIST MESSAGE

September 29, 2022
Volume 137 • Issue No. 10

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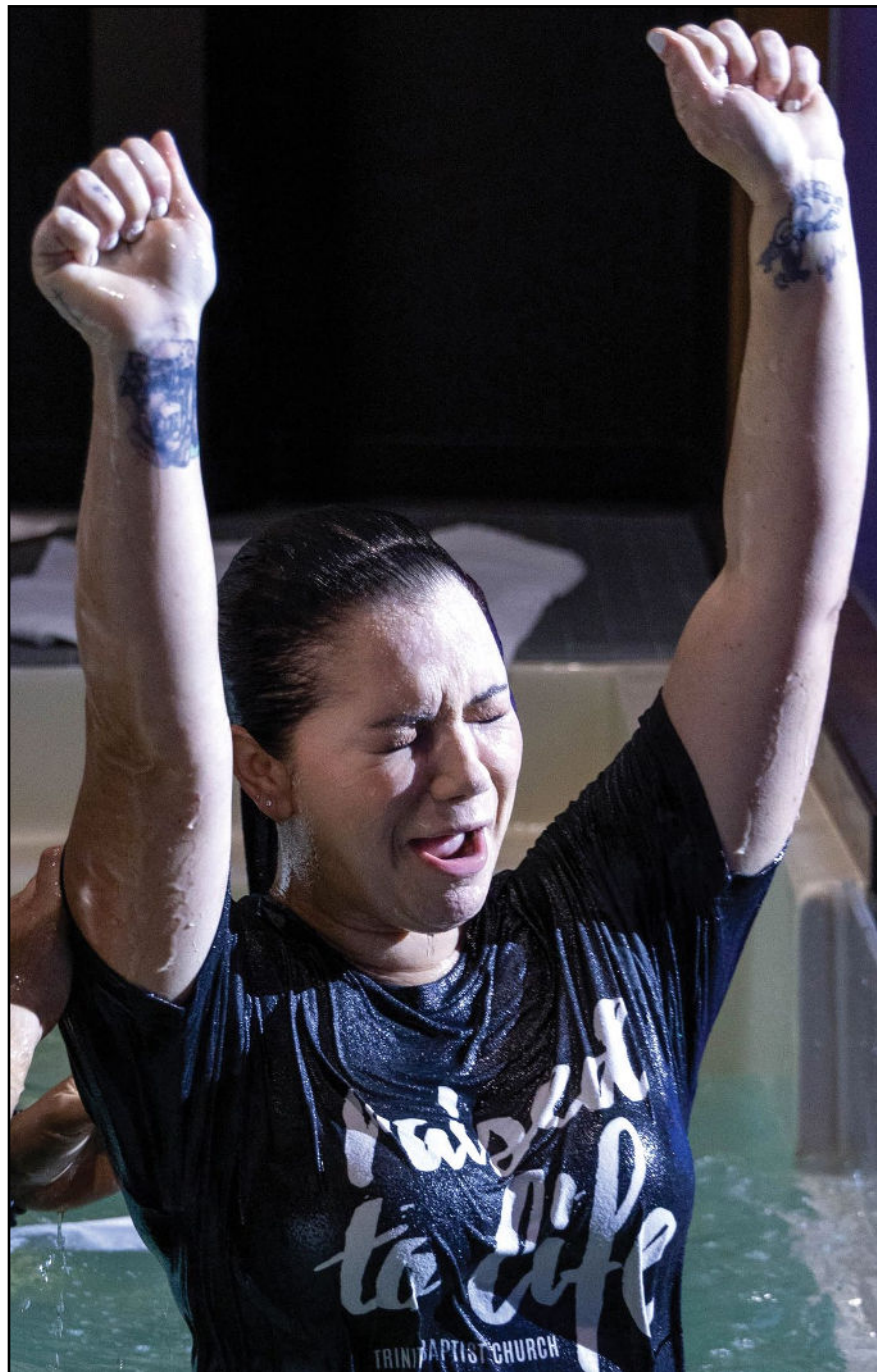
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LOWDER



– (From top left) Evangelist Jay Lowder was the guest speaker for each session of Revive 22 at Trinity Baptist Church, Lake Charles. The event included 15 baptisms, 119 professions of faith and worship led by Executive Pastor of Praise and Worship Leo Day.

Trinity Baptist photos



Blanchard urges others to 'choose life' over abortion

By Brian Blackwell
Message staff writer

NEW IBERIA, La. (LBM) – For 25 years, Cindy Blanchard had buried the memory of her aborted child, then in 2002 the Holy Spirit brought healing.

Now, Blanchard uses her past mistake to further the cause of life as the Louisiana Baptist Sanctity of Human Life consultant.

"I was entrenched in a homosexual lifestyle when the abortion happened; and I didn't talk about my child to anyone but a few people in my family," Blanchard told the *Baptist Message*. "By God's grace, I was able to leave lifestyle many years ago."

"Two years after I came to Christ, God brought me to the realization of what abortion was, after I had a conversation with Steve Horn, who was pastor then of Highland Baptist Church in New Iberia and is now the executive director of the Louisiana Baptist



"I got on my laptop, looked up the word 'abortion' and found pictures of aborted babies. What I saw on the screen was horrific and I was devastated."

Cindy Blanchard

"

MIGHTY MOVEMENT OF GOD

Trinity nets 119 new believers, baptizes 15 at four-day revival

By Brian Blackwell
Message staff writer

LAKE CHARLES, La. (LBM) – For several months straight, Trinity Baptist Church prayed for changed hearts to result from their four-day revival,

Aug. 28-31.

God answered those prayers with 119 professions of faith and 92 other decisions that resulted from "Revive 22." Fifteen of these new believers were baptized during revival sessions, and overall 4,064

individuals attended and 400 volunteers participated during the four-day event.

"Some folks live a lifetime and never see the spirit of God move like that," Pastor Steve James told the

See TRINITY, page 7

See BLANCHARD, page 11

Gas station encounter fuels transformation

By Brian Blackwell
Message staff writer

ALEXANDRIA, La. (LBM) – While refueling at an Alexandria gasoline station, Aug. 26, volunteer

James Irvine struck up a conversation with a young man who had asked about getting a job with Louisiana Baptist Disaster Relief.

Instead of securing em-

ployment, Justin left with something far better -- a relationship with Christ.

Irvine, along with LBDR Strategist Stan Sta-

See ENCOUNTER, page 6

Reggie Bridges to be renominated as LBC president

By Will Hall
Message executive editor
ALEXANDRIA, La.

(LBM) – Reggie Bridges, pastor of the Temple Baptist Church, Ruston, will be nominated during the

2022 annual meeting to serve again as president of the Louisiana Baptist Convention.

Jason Walsworth, TBC minister of discipleship and administration, notified the *Baptist Message*, Sept. 8, of his intentions to make the nomination.

The 2022 LBC annual meeting is scheduled to be held Nov. 15 in the Calvary Baptist Church, Alexandria.

INVOLVEMENT

Bridges will complete his first term as LBC president at the November meeting.

He also has served as a member of the Committee on Committees for the Southern Baptist Convention (2018), as well as on the LBC Executive Board (Bridges is serving a term, now, that runs through 2022) and New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary board of trustees (2022-2027).

Bridges has served on the Georgia Barnette Louisiana Missions Offering Committee (2010), as a trustee for Louisiana Christian University (2014-2017) and on various committees with the Baptist Associations of Southeast Louisiana and Concord-Union Baptist Association.

shows that the Temple Baptist Church in Ruston has increased its support for cooperative missions and ministries from 5.0 percent of undesignated gifts forwarded through the Cooperative Program in 2014 (Bridges's first full year) to 8.1 percent in 2021 (latest reporting year).

During 2021, those contributions amounted to \$296,672 through the CP and \$30,000 to the C-UBA from undesignated receipts amounting to \$3,681,022.

The congregation also supported the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering, \$186,085.68, the Annie Armstrong Easter Offering, \$92,068.92, and the Georgia Barnette Louisiana Missions Offering, \$37,134.08.

Additionally, TBC averaged 1,000 in Sunday worship service and baptized 52 new believers in 2021. The congregation has

See BRIDGES, page 4

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Message trustees to meet Oct. 18

ALEXANDRIA, La. (LBM) -- Trustees of the Baptist Message will gather for the regular fall meeting on Oct. 18 in the Louisiana Baptist Building, Alexandria.

Committees will meet in the morning, and the general session will begin at 1 p.m.

BY THE NUMBERS

The database of the Annual Church Profile

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Sunday, Nov. 13
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10:30 a.m.-Noon Worship Celebration
Noon - Lunch & Fellowship - Family Life Center

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LCU: Bring students to 'Preview Day'

By Brian Blackwell
Message staff writer

PINEVILLE, La. (LBM) – Louisiana Christian University is preparing to give students an exclusive view of campus and academic life during what President Rick Brewer has called the most significant “Preview Day” for the school.

“More Christian students from our churches need the educational experience we provide, which is devoid of the woke and critical theories agenda,” Brewer told the Baptist Message. “Equipping hearts and minds to engage with competence and confidence a turbulent culture has never been more needed than at this seminal moment. Additionally, we are moving our enrollment forward after a period of two years when COVID-19 practically reduced opportunities to meet prospective students face-to-face either on campus or off.

“‘Preview’ Day will allow students to have a fun time, meet coaches and faculty and learn about what it’s going to take to get that degree,” he continued. “It’s a win-win for our LCU community, churches around the state and prospective students. I am urging pastors and youth pastors to load a van full of students and join us.”

Scheduled for Oct. 8, 10 a.m.-1 p.m., “Preview Day” will allow guests to tour the campus, gain details about classes and degree majors from professors, interact with students who will share why they chose LCU for their undergraduate degree and learn about student clubs and organizations, athletics and residential life.

Despite the challenges faced since the coronavirus pandemic, Brewer said he is thankful for the many blessings God has bestowed on the school.

During the 2021-22 academic year, LCU celebrat-

ed: accreditation reaffirmation with no findings of non-compliance from the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges (the regional accrediting body); a name change to reflect its status as a university; transition in sports classification from the NCAA to NAIA; updates to classrooms; a partnership expansion with New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary; and the sale of prime property in Shreveport.

This current academic year, the school has launched the Jonathan E. Martin Master’s in Business Administration program, which offers distinctive emphases for data analytics, finance, accounting, healthcare, marketing, management, entrepreneurship and leadership.

“We are Louisiana Baptists’ school,” Brewer said. “We treasure and value that relationship. This is a

See PREVIEW, page 6



LCU photo

Preview Day at Louisiana Christian University will give prospective students a view of campus and academic life through a tour and interaction with professors, students and others.

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PREVIEW DAY

Saturday, October 8, 2022

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- ♦ Attend LCU vs Arkansas Baptist College football game at 2 p.m. for FREE!

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Preview Day is from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. with lunch at 1 p.m.
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Credentials Committee: Messengers must register for annual meeting



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By Brian Blackwell
Message staff writer

ALEXANDRIA, La. (LBM) — In order for a church to be represented during the business portions of the Louisiana Baptist Convention to be held Nov. 15 in Calvary Baptist Church, Alexandria, it will need to elect messenger(s), who then must register and be certified by the Committee on Credentials.

LBC Credentials Committee Chairman Steven Kelly noted to the *Baptist Message* that there are five ways for messengers to register and be approved:

— The first and simplest way is for messengers to pre-register using www.LaOne.org and print out the registration card to bring to the annual meeting. This way allows messengers to be certified within a matter of minutes, Kelly said.

— Second, a messenger may bring a note on official letterhead signed by the pastor or church clerk, stating that the individual was elected by the congregation.

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

— Fourth, a person can

be vouchsafed as a duly elected messenger by a fellow registered church member.

— Finally, when there are no other means by which to validate a person, the Committee on Credentials may be called into session to rule on the registration request.

Kelly emphasized that pastors are not automatically registered as messengers, explaining that they must follow the same procedure as other messengers to participate in the business discussions and official votes of the annual meeting.

Pre-registration letters were mailed or

emailed by Sept. 23. Please use the provided login information to pre-register your messengers at www.LaOne.org.

If you have not received your letter, or if you have questions about the process, please contact LBC Information Services by email (Messengers@LouisianaBaptists.org) or phone (318.448.3402 ext. 242).

Registration and credentials representatives will be available on site to assist messengers on Monday, Nov. 14, 2-7 p.m. and on Tuesday, Nov. 15, 8 a.m.-3 p.m.

Bridges from page 2

witnessed 349 baptisms combined during Bridges's tenure, 2014-2021.

PERSONAL DATA

Bridges holds a Bachelor of Arts in Bible and English from Blue Mountain College in Mississippi. He earned the Master of Divinity in Biblical Languages, the Master of Theology, and the Doctor of Philosophy (major in preaching, minor in theology) from the New Orleans Baptist

Theological Seminary.

He previously shared with the *Baptist Message* that he was nurtured in his faith in "a Timothy-like experience" which included surrendering his life to Jesus at 12 years old and leading music for a small SBC church at the age of 14. Shortly afterward, he was formally named minister of music and youth by that Mississippi congregation, Blue Springs Baptist Church. Later, at age 16 he was ordained to the ministry by his home congregation, Birmingham Ridge Baptist Church in Saltillo, Mississippi.

Bridges served as a teaching assistant and graduate fellow while pursuing his seminary studies. Also, he has served as an adjunct professor at various NOBTS extension centers.

His focus on theological education led him to form a partnership with NOBTS to establish the Temple School of Ministry and Missions "to equip ministers, missionaries and lay leaders with the theological foundation and the practical experience to be servant leaders in their families and their local churches as they live out their calling in Christ, he said.

He and his wife Leslie (Neaves) have four children: Abigail (19), Hayes (16), Rhett (13) and Ainsley (10).



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 **LOUISIANA BAPTIST FOUNDATION**

E4 Conference: Follow the Son

By Brian Blackwell
Message staff writer

PINEVILLE, La. (LBM) – God has revealed himself so others may know Him and find life in His Son, New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary President Jamie Dew said during the recent E4 Preaching Conference.

Citing Psalm 19, Dew told a record E4 crowd of 92 pastors and 14 pastors' wives at First Baptist Church, Pineville, that God reveals himself in creation, reveals himself in His Word and reveals himself to us in personal ways that we may know Him and be saved.

"This God wants us to worship Him," Dew said. "This God wants us to find life and joy and richness and fulfillment in worship of him. This God wants us to find redemption. That's

something the world had never seen until Christianity."

Dew reminded participants that of all creation, man is the most special. However, he said despite warning Adam and Eve to avoid sin, they disobeyed His command and subsequently brought a curse to all creation: death, guilt, hostility and difficulty.

"Thus, we see that there were real genuine consequences for all of mankind as a result of Adam's sin," he noted. "When sin entered the picture, blessing and peace began to erode. In the end, man was left in a difficult situation."

But God provided a way to hope to mankind and that was through the birth of His Son, Jesus.

"God's cure for our sin problem is his very Son Jesus who came to this earth to die between two thieves

and give his life as a ransom for many," Dew said.

Referencing John 11:25-26, Dew challenged participants to share the victory found in Jesus, who died on the cross for mankind's sins and rose from the grave three days later.

"Our faith is rooted in the history and reality of the resurrection of Christ," he said. "Without it, we have nothing, but with it, we see much of our faith confirmed."

The Sept. 13 E4 Preaching Conference presented a program intended to "exemplify, encourage, equip and empower our pastors to preach expositional sermons."

Past speakers include Don Wilton, pastor of First Baptist Church in Spartanburg, SC; Fred Lowery, pastor emeritus of First Baptist Church in Bossier City, La.; David Uth, pastor



Brian Blackwell photo

New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary President Jamie Dew was the featured speaker at the recent E4 Preaching Conference held at First Baptist Church, Pineville.

of First Baptist Church, Orlando, Fla.; and Steve Gaines, pastor of Bellevue Baptist Church in Cordova, Tenn., and a former SBC president.

The conference also featured music by the FBC Pineville praise team. Breakout sessions were led

See **E4 CONFERENCE**, page 11



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Friday, October 21st

- 12:00pm BOV Luncheon
- 5:00pm Distinguished Alumni & Hall of Fame Reception & Dinner
- 8:00pm Pep Rally/Bonfire

Saturday, October 22nd

- 8:00am Fitness Trail Workout
- 9:30am Softball Intrasquad World Series
- 10:00am Baseball Intrasquad Competition
- 11:00am Homecoming parade
- 11:30 am Wildcat Carnival
- 11:30am Wildcat Tailgate
- 2:00pm Football Game
- 6:30pm Women's Soccer
- 8:30pm Men's Soccer

OCTOBER 22, 2022
lcuniversity.edu/homecoming

Encounter from page one

tham, prayed with Justin at the pump as he declared Jesus "Lord." Irvine

said the divine appointment was a reminder that Christ followers should

be looking for opportunities to share the "Good News."

"Anytime you can lead someone to the Lord it's an awesome experience," he told the Baptist Mes-

sage. "On that day the timing was right, and he was ready to change his life for the Lord. A lot of people miss those opportunities but when it is there you must step up and allow the person to either accept or reject Christ. I'm so excited Justin was willing to turn to Jesus right then and there."

Satham, who has maintained contact with Justin to disciple and connect him with a local church, said the incident served as a reminder of the ultimate purpose of disaster relief.

"This is a perfect example of how Louisiana Baptists work together for God's glory," Satham said. "We were taking a mud out trailer from the Carey Association to a crew in Shreveport, that had volunteers from across the state responding to help with the Kentucky flood clean-up effort."

Since early August, more than 30 LBDR team members from around the state have responded to areas impacted by recent severe flooding in Kentucky and Missouri. At least 37 persons have died from the flooding in Kentucky and two deaths were reported in St. Louis.

Meanwhile, Louisiana Baptists have sent \$10,000 to help Mississippi Baptists purchase bottled water for distribution to residents of Jackson, who have been without clean water since the entire municipal water system experienced a major pressure loss in late August.

Satham encouraged Louisiana Baptist to consider giving to these ongoing DR efforts.

"When we have funds, we can respond immediately to needs," Satham said. "Those needs shift, sometimes daily. Financial gifts really do go a long way to helping others who need the love of Christ."

For more information on giving to DR efforts, call 318.448.3402 or visit <https://louisianabaptists.org/about/teams/missions-ministry/disaster-relief/>.

Preview

from page 3

place where moms, dads, pastors and youth pastors can know their students will get a wonderful education and have their faith strengthened.

"We are preparing graduates, transforming lives and preparing future church leaders," he continued. "That's what we are about and doing."

All students who attend "Preview Day" will receive free lunch, tickets to the football game and LCU merchandise. Additionally, two students in attendance will each receive a \$1,000 scholarship; and all students who pre-register for "Preview Day" will have the \$25 application fee waived.

For more information, visit <https://lcuniversity.edu/admissions/visit-campus/preview-day/>, call 800.487.1906 or email admissions@lcuniversity.edu.

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Trinity from page one

Baptist Message. “We put a lot of preparation and prayer into this and saw God touch the hearts of our people and others who experienced Him.”

SUSTAINED MOVEMENT

“Revive 22” added to nearly two years of personal renewal among members of Trinity Baptist and an awakening among the lost population in the region.

Moreover, since Oct. 31, the church has baptized 200 new converts, collectively, every Sunday for 48 consecutive weeks. This is the third time the church in its 96-year history the church has baptized 200 or more new believers in a 12-month period.

INTENTIONALITY

James recognized that for the Holy Spirit to move, the congregation needed to enter focused times of prayer ahead of the revival meetings. Four weeks prior to the first revival service, members participated in the ‘Change Me’ revival

guide. Written by Louisiana Baptist Executive Director Steve Horn, the booklet encourages participants to seek personal revival over a 28-day period and is based off Psalm 139:23-24.

The church also prayed specifically for the revival during Wednesday evening prayer services, even praying over the seats as well as the greeting and counseling areas.

Evangelist Jay Lowder presented the messages each night, preceded by worship in song by Trinity Baptist

Executive Pastor of Praise and Worship Leo Day. Additionally, there were special themes to attract crowds: steak night on Monday, fish night on Tuesday and student night on Wednesday.

After the four-day revival, more than 100 members canvassed the area to reach out to those who had made spiritual decisions. Of those they visited, Sept. 2, 31 have attended the church’s “Discover Trinity” class and 40 have been baptized.

“It was important to not let those who made a decision at the revival to leave and not have anyone follow up with them,” Evangelism

and Student Pastor David Doyle said. “We wanted to make sure we walked alongside them as they took that next step so they wouldn’t fall through the cracks.”

WALKING BY FAITH

The church, which sustained heavy damage from Hurricanes Laura and Delta, served as a hub for ministry to hurricane survivors, relief workers and law enforcement personnel during multiple natural disasters in 2020 and 2021. Disaster

relief volunteers with state Baptist conventions from around the country joined Louisiana Baptist disaster relief teams, other response organizations’ workers and up to 50 Trinity Baptist members each day to use the church as a launching pad for ministry. Meanwhile, local law enforcement teams utilized the campus as a staging area, creating even greater visibility for the church’s ministries to the community.

See TRINITY, page 12

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Kirk Cameron urges 'continue the fight' at pro-life banquet

By Brian Blackwell
Message staff writer

ALEXANDRIA, La. (LBM) – Television and movie star Kirk Cameron encouraged more than 1,100 guests gathered at the CENLA Pregnancy Center's "Gift of Life" banquet to continue the pro-life fight.

The annual event was held at the Randolph Riverfront Center.

"When I think of all that is going on at the CENLA Pregnancy Center, I see this whole strategy being carried out in a beautiful little microcosm right here in Alexandria and in your satellite locations," Cameron said during the Sept. 13 event.

"It's driven by faith. The Gospel is shared. More importantly, people are coming into a relationship with God.

"They are educating and talking to these young ladies about how they are made in the image of God, and these young women are learning about God's value



Brian Blackwell photo

– Kirk Cameron encouraged the crowd to stand for life during the CENLA Pregnancy Center's Gift of Life Banquet at the Randolph Riverfront Center in Alexandria.

for families and children," he continued. "They have an educational component for their clients and the community that is helping to liberate little babies, allowing them to live and giving all of us an opportunity to join in on what God is doing at the CENLA Pregnancy Center.

"And the center, also, is involved in making people understand that we can-

not get out of the political field as difficult, and dark, as it is," Cameron said. "We have got to overcome the darkness by flooding it with light."

Cameron was the keynote speaker for the fundraiser, which drew its largest crowd ever. The event also featured remarks by other pro-life advocates, an update on the impact of the center

and an introduction of the new CPC executive director.

SAVING LIVES

From August 2021 through July, the CENLA Pregnancy Center (including its two satellite locations in Marksville and Vidalia) has served 361 clients and helped save the lives of 331 babies. In July, the CPC celebrated the opening of the Vidalia facility.

The centers are saving lives by offering 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 edu-

cation as well as recovery groups for those who regret having an abortion.

Additionally, the center meets basic needs for mothers and their babies by distributing food, baby beds, diapers, women's hygiene products, car seats, and clothing.

The ministry also recently began offering abortion pill reversal services. The center is listed on a national hotline that connects CENLA Pregnancy Center staff with women seeking to reverse the effects of the first pill taken for chemical abortion.

FROM ATHEIST TO EVANGELIST

Cameron, who at 14 landed the role of Mike Seaver on the 1980's sitcom "Growing Pains," was drawn into the lifestyle of a celebrity. However, three years later he was convicted of his need for a Savior and turned from

See CAMERON, page 9

I PRAY I CAN BE FORGIVEN FOR THE SINS I COMMIT AND HELP ME MOVE ON FROM THIS DEPRESSION AND GRIEF I'M GOING THROUGH.

Actual Here for You response from June 2022

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Brian Blackwell photo

Louisiana Christian University President Rick Brewer spoke to faculty, staff and community members who had gathered, Sept. 15, at Granberry Conference Center to dedicate the school's new Jonathan E. Martin Master of Business Administration program. The MBA is the newest graduate degree offered in the Young School of Business at LCU. Martin, a deacon at Calvary Baptist Church, Alexandria, began his career in his family's business in 1971 and remained with the business until his death in September 2019. During the time with the company, Martin served as chairman, CEO and president.

Family members present for the MBA dedication were Maggie Martin, who was married to Jonathan E. Martin for 48 years; Roy O. Martin III, chairman and CEO of RoyOMartin; and Natalie Monroe, daughter of Jonathan E. Martin.



Cameron from page 8

atheist to Christ-follower.

Later in his career, Cameron began working on movies like "Left Behind," "Fireproof" and most recently "Lifemark."

Released on Sept. 9, "Lifemark" was inspired by the 2017 documentary "I Lived On Parker Avenue," which details the story of David Scotton who was born in Indiana and placed with his adoptive family in Metairie in 1993.

Cameron said he is passionate about his latest film because his wife, Chelsea, and four of their six children were adopted.

"I'm so grateful for the young moms who chose to give their kids life because four of my six kids were adopted kids along with my wife. It's scary to think that all of them were one doctor away from not existing," he said. "And if my wife had not been born, neither would our other two children be here today."

"They were impacted by the loving support, care, and encouragement from pregnancy centers and those who supported them," Cameron said. "Those centers helped the birth parents believe that the babies inside of them were not a mistake but a living miracle. They took the opportunity to turn a difficult situation and made it into something beautiful."

See CAMERON, page 10

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LOUISIANA BAPTISTS

Cameron from page 9

PASSING THE TORCH

Board President Ed Tarpley thanked the crowd for their continued support. "We give God all the

praise and glory for what has been done here," said Tarpley, a member of Kingsville Baptist Church, Ball. "Our staff, with Claire Lemoine as executive direc-

tor and all the others, have done a magnificent job. Enjoy the fellowship and friendship but most of all enjoy being a part of the cause for life in CENLA as we reach out to help needy young women and their babies."

Brian Gunter, pastor

of First Baptist Church, Livingston, and previous board chairman, presented Lemoine with a plaque and gift of appreciation for her five years of service as the center's first executive director. Lemoine stepped down Sept. 15 and handed over her duties to incom-

ing Executive Director Kim Lyons. "For the last five years Claire has done an incredible job leading CENLA Pregnancy Center," said Gunter, who resigned earlier this year as founding board chairman when he moved to Livingston. "Babies are alive today because of the CENLA Pregnancy Center."

Lemoine asked the crowd to continue praying for the center and thanked them as well as the CPC staff, her family, and the community for their continued support.

"These past five years have taught me so much about true, authentic, Christ-like love and mercy and so much about the miracle of life," she said. "My time as executive director of CENLA Pregnancy Center has come to a beautiful end and this season of my life is complete. I'll forever be grateful to God for making so clear his calling and his enabling me to step out of the boat and into unknown waters to lead this ministry."

Lyons told the crowd she is excited about serving as the next executive director.

For more information, visit cenlapc.com.

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New Orleans 9:30am

OCT. 25

BAGBR Office

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OCT. 25

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OCT. 27

Harris Baptist Conference Center

Minden 9:00am

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NOBTS

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Jeff.Ingram@LouisianaBaptists.org
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Brian Blackwell photo

The 2022 E4 Preaching Conference drew a record crowd of 92 pastors and 14 pastors' wives at First Baptist Church, Pineville.

E4 Conference from page 5

by professors from Louisiana Christian University, NOBTS and Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, and Mississippi Pastor and former LCU professor Argile Smith.

Sponsors included First Baptist Church, Pineville, The Casson Foundation, and private donors.

Holloway told the *Baptist Message* that the

E4 Conference, now in its 14th year, began with a desire to sharpen and encourage pastors.

"This year's conference focused on apologetic preaching. Jamie Dew and our breakout session leaders did an outstanding job of preparing our pastors to preach messages that are relevant and biblical at the same time," he said.

Blanchard from page one

Convention," she said. "I got on my laptop, looked up the word 'abortion' and found pictures of aborted babies.

"What I saw on the screen was horrific and I was devastated," she continued. "I stayed in bed in the fetal position for that entire weekend because of the realization of what I did to my baby. Christ gradually moved me forward after healing, and now I am able to minister to those who had an abortion and are still hurting. It's been such a blessing to

use an experience that was painful for me to help others who need healing."

Blanchard had her abortion six years after *Roe v. Wade*, the landmark Supreme Court decision that legalized abortion in every state. While she regrets having an abortion, Blanchard said she is thankful God has allowed her to champion the pro-life cause at such a time as this, with the Supreme Court having overturned *Roe v. Wade* in June.

In her role, Blanchard visits pregnancy centers

around the state to learn more about how Louisiana Baptists can partner with them; leads breakout sessions at training conferences; and serves as a guest speaker at events to educate Louisiana Baptists on how they can become more involved in the pro-life cause.

"I believe many Christians had become resigned to the fact that *Roe v. Wade* would never be overturned, at least not in our lifetime," she said. "The SCOTUS decision has, I believe, reminded us of the power of God. He is on the throne, still."

See **BLANCHARD**, page 12

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- Ask members to sign up for a day to pray for the pastor/staff
- Plan a church-wide fellowship
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- Include appreciation for the entire family
- Write/send personal notes/cards
- Offer to mow the yard, clean the house, or wash their car
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Trinity from page 7

The church, in March, collected more than \$90,000 that was forwarded to Louisiana Baptist Disaster Relief, who in cooperation with SEND Relief, has used the funds to purchase emergency food supplies, shelter, transportation, medical care and hygiene kits for displaced Ukrainians. A portion also offset costs for a team that traveled to Poland in early May to minister to Ukrainian refugees.

Trinity Baptist also collected enough medical supplies to fill 28 large boxes (1,337 pounds) that were

shipped to Ukraine.

"God has been really good to Trinity," James said. "To have gone through two hurricanes, a flood, a freeze, tornadoes and be where we are, we walk around and raise our hands to God. I come here every week, anticipating God will do something. As I approach my retirement in August 2023, I am asking God to allow the latter days of my ministry to be greater than the former days and He seems to be doing that. It's a joy to be a part of what he is doing."

Blanchard from page 11

Now that *Roe v. Wade* has been overturned, Blanchard said Louisiana Baptists must realize they have a greater role to help women who choose life.

"We have to realize when these young ladies are in these situations, they are so frightened," she said. "If they make the decision to choose life for their unborn child, their responsibility as a parent has just begun. They need support and need to know people are here to help them. We need to show Christ's love in tangible ways that help to keep them stable in the baby's first year or two of life.

"After they choose life,

and choose Christ, we must come alongside them and disciple them" she added. "We don't need to just check the women off our list after we share with them about life, but we need to assure them we are here for them as their brothers and sisters in Christ."

Blanchard's work is made possible through funding from the Georgia Barnette Louisiana Missions Offering. This year's offering goal is \$1.7 million.

For more information on how to become involved in the pro-life cause, contact Blanchard at 337-577-3496 or Cindy-blanchard55@yahoo.com.

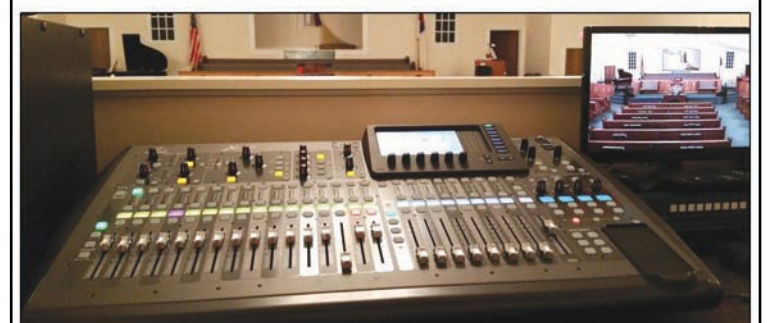


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SEEKING FULL-TIME CHILDREN'S MINISTER

New Chapel Hill Baptist Church in West Monroe, LA is seeking a full-time Children's Minister. Please email your résumés to assistant@newchapelhill.org or contact us at 318.396.2433.



SEEKING FULL-TIME MINISTER OF WORSHIP & MEDIA

Trees Baptist Church in Vivian, LA is searching for a full-time Minister of Worship and Media. Please email resumes to: mcrook@treesbaptist.org A job description is available at www.treesbaptist.org/minister-of-worship-media



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 for a job description. Résumés can be sent to resume@fbcstla.com

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The First Baptist Church of New Boston, TX is seeking a full time Minister of Music. Please send résumés to office@fncnewboston.com. For additional information go to <https://www.fbcnewboston.com/music-minister-search/>



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First Baptist Church Amite located at 117 E Olive St., Amite LA is seeking a fulltime senior pastor. Please send résumés to amitefbc@gmail.com



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First Baptist Church, Dry Prong, which is located in Dry Prong, LA is seeking a part-time, God-filled man to serve as our youth minister. If you feel called by God for this position, please send your résumé to FBCDP@bellsouth.net.



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Looking for a part-time Youth/Music Minister to join ministry team at First Baptist Church, Pollock in Pollock, La. Please send résumés to secretary@fbcpollock.org. Contact the church office at 318.765.3525, for more information Monday-Thursday from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.



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Mystic Baptist Church in Fields, LA is seeking a bi-vocational pastor. Résumés can be sent to Attn: Pastor Search Committee, 187 Mystic Church Rd, Merryville, LA 70653 or email to mystic.baptist@yahoo.com.



SEEKING A FULLTIME OR BI-VOCATIONAL PASTOR

New Hope Baptist Church of Elmer, LA is prayerfully seeking a dedicated full-time or bi-vocational pastor. Please send résumés to: Search Committee 9308 HWY 112 Glenmora, LA 71433 or email your résumés to: newhopebc90@gmail.com




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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

- **Ben, wife Kristin, Dupree** is the new pastor at Goldonna Baptist Church, Goldonna. He first official day was September 1.
- **Larry Eubanks and wife, Gay Humble Eubanks**, celebrated 51 years in the ministry, September 25th, at South Central Baptist Church, Wisner.
- **Alton Achorn** has resigned as pastor of Union Hill Baptist Church, Glenmora.
- **James King** has resigned as pastor of New Ouachita Baptist Church, Enterprise after 13 years.
- **Jason, wife Lynette, Hazelton** is the new pastor at Elizabeth Baptist Church.
- **Gary Myers** has resigned as director of communications at New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary to become the new executive director of discipleship at First Baptist Church, New Orleans.
- **Paul, wife Shannon, Walker** is the new pastor at Woodridge Baptist Church, Shreveport from Hattiesburg, Mississippi.
- **Jordan LaBry** is the new pastor at Bellview Baptist Church, Westlake.
- **Travi Cronan** is the new senior pastor at Hebron Baptist Church, Denham Springs.
- **Haley Kemp** is the new youth minister at New Hope Baptist Church, Choudrant.
- **Clay, wife Robin, Iles** is the new mission pastor at Calvary Baptist Church, Alexandria.
- **Zach, wife Stephanie, Richardson** is the new music minister at Airline Baptist Church, Bossier City.
- **Danielle Newsome** is the new preschool director at First Baptist Church, Lafayette.

- **Tanner Woollen** is the new youth minister at Trinity Heights Baptist Church, Shreveport.
- **Gabe McCormick** has resigned as pastor at Belcher Baptist Church, Belcher.
- **James Snyder** has resigned from Elm Grove Baptist Church, Bossier City to become a chaplain in the United State Air Force.
- **Glen Adkins** is retiring as music minister at Shreveport First Baptist Church.

HOME COMING

- Conway Baptist Church, Farmerville: **Homecoming**, September 25, 10 a.m. **Smith Family** in concert, 11 a.m. memorial and worship service. Lunch will follow the worship service in the Family Life Center. Speaker: **Tony Campanale**. The church is located at 4323 Hwy 549, north of Farmerville. Friends and families of present and former members to invited to attend. Pastor: Will Englerth.
- University Baptist Church, Thibodaux: **50th Homecoming Service**, September 25, 10:15 a.m. Speaker: **Chris DeGeorge**, lead pastor of Parkview Baptist Church, Baton Rouge and former UBC student pastor: There will be a BBQ fellowship following the service at Peltier Park Pavilion, 151 Peltier Park Drive, Thibodaux, LA. Please bring lawn chair or blankets. Pastor: J.P. Cox.
- Cedar Baptist Church, Archibald: **Homecoming Celebration**, October 2, 10:30 a.m. Pastor: Caleb Parks.
- Dunn Baptist Church, Delhi: **Homecoming Service**, October 9, 11 a.m. Pastor: Bernard Duchesne Jr.
- Welcome Home Baptist Church, Dodson: **Homecoming Celebration**, October 9, 10:15 a.m. Special Music: Sanctuary Quartet. Pastor: Charles Wesley.
- Bethlehem Baptist Church, Winnfield: **Homecoming Celebration**, October 9, 10:30 a.m. with a meal following the worship service. Pastor: Charles Malone
- Red Oak Baptist Church, Livingston: **Homecoming**, October 9, 11 a.m. followed by dinner on the grounds following worship. Speaker: **Jeff**

Smart. Music: **Jon Paul Warren**. Pastor: Jack Varnado.

■ Goodwill Baptist Church, Oak Grove: **Homecoming celebration**, October 16, 10:30 a.m. Pastor: Lucas House.

REVIVAL

- Beulah Baptist Church, Oak Grove: **Harvest Sunday**, October 2, 11 a.m. Special Music: **Sanctuary Quartet**. Pastor: Kenny Herring.
- Pioneer Baptist Church, Pioneer: **Revival**, October 2-5, Sunday, 10:45 a.m. and 5 p.m., Monday-Wednesday, 6:30 p.m. Speaker: **Tim Post**. Worship: **Ben Waites**. All love offering will be taken at all the evening services. Nursery will be provided. For more information, call 318.282.8652. Pastor: Gary Wolfe.
- New Light Baptist Church, Mangham: **Revival service**, October 2, 5:30 p.m. Pastor: David Richmond.
- First Baptist Church, Downsview: **Revival**, October 2-5. Evangelist: **Luke Hockenjos**. Pastor: Trey Roberson.
- Bethlehem Baptist Church, Winnfield: **Revival**, October 2-5, Sunday 11 a.m. & 5 p.m., Monday-Wednesday 6 p.m. Speaker: **Craig James**. Pastor: Charles Malone.
- First Baptist Church, Converse: **Revival**, October 2-5, Sunday 10:45 a.m. and 6 p.m., Monday-Wednesday, 7 p.m. nightly. Evangelist: **Rubin Weaver**. Worship: **The Allen Family**. Pastor: Lon Almeida, associate pastor.
- Bonita Road Baptist Church, Bastrop: **Revival at the Log Cabin**, October 2-5, Sunday 11 a.m. and 6 p.m., Monday-Wednesday 7 p.m. Evangelist: **Jon Harper**. Worship: **Broken Vessels**. Pastor: **Casey Johnson**.
- Bonita Road Baptist Church, Mer Rouge: **Revival**, October 6-8, 7 p.m. nightly. Evangelist: **Gevan Spinney**. Worship: **Richie Kelly & Friends**. Pastor: Casey Johnson.
- Fellowship Baptist Church, Central: **Revival**, October 9-13. Evangelist: **Larry Jordan**. Worship:

Mackey Willis Family.

- Ridgecrest Baptist Church, Ridgecrest: **Fall Tent Meeting**, October 13-14, Thursday, 5 p.m. Youth only, 7-12th grades; Thursday, 5 p.m., Tent Meeting in the park, Friday, 6 p.m., Tent Meeting in the park. Evangelist: **Heath Williams**, heathwilliamsministry.com. For further information call 318.955.9057 or 318.613.1312. Pastor: Brenton Smith.
- First Baptist Church Starks: **Revival**, October 16-19. Evangelist: **Mackey Willis**. Worship: **The Mackey Willis Family**. Pastor: Ron Butler.
- Sweetwater Baptist Church, Quitman: **Harvest Day**, October 23, 10:30 a.m. Evangelist: **Bill Britt**. Pastor: Wilton Wall.

LAGNIAPPE

- **Alton Achorn** is available for supply. Call 318.715.8874.
- Oak Hill Baptist Church, Bastrop: **Melody Boys in Concert**, September 25, 10 a.m. Pastor: Andy Myrick.
- First Baptist Church, West Monroe: **Impact**, September 28, 5-8 p.m. First 100 students will get free Chick-Fil-a from 5-6 p.m. Worship begins at 6 p.m. Speaker: **Derek Griffon**. Pastor: Michael Wood.
- Louisiana Christian University, Pineville: **Rend Collective – The Whosoever Tour**, September 29 in Guinn Auditorium.
- Journey Church, Pineville: **The Skit Guys**, September 29, 6:30 p.m. Purchase tickets at jcpineville.com/skitguys. Pastor: James Greer.
- Coteau Baptist Church, Houma: **WeRcalled in concert**, October 1, 7 p.m. Pastor: Wayne Hunt.
- Pioneer Baptist Church, Pioneer: **Revival Kick-off**, October 1, 5 p.m. Worship: **Ben Waites**, Ben Waites Ministries, Nashville, Tennessee. A love offering will be taken. Pastor: Gary Wolfe.
- First Baptist Church, Logansport: **The Perrys in concert**, October 2, 6 p.m. Pastor: Shawn Thrapp.
- First Baptist Church, Pineville: **First@**

- First Business Leader Luncheon**, October 6, noon. Speaker: **Mark Morelock**, Louisiana Baptist Disaster Relief associate/volunteer mobilizer. Please RSVP to <https://fbcpineville.secure2.agroup.com/events/firstatfirst/2022-01-05+11%3A50%3A00>. Pastor: Stewart Holloway.
- Grace Baptist Church, Monroe: **The Kinsmen in concert**, October 9, 10 a.m. Pastor: Ricky Baker.
- First Baptist Church, Lafayette: **I Still Believe Tour with Jeremy Camp and special guest Katy Nichole**, October 21 at 7 p.m. Tickets are on sale at FBCLAF.org/tickets. Pastor: James Pritchard.
- First Baptist Church, Covington: **CeCe Winans – Believe For It Tour**, October 13, 7 p.m. Tickets: <https://www.ticketmaster.com/event/1B005CBB0C18ACAF>. Pastor: Waylon Bailey.
- Stevendale Baptist Church, Baton Rouge: **Greg Sullivan Ministries Presents Southern Gospel at Stevendale with special guest 4Calvary Quartet**, October 14, 7 p.m. Pastor: Stephen Young.
- Trinity Baptist Church, Pineville: **Fall Festival**, October 15, 10 a.m.-2 p.m., Craft show, 4 p.m. The festival will feature a car show, carnival games, craft show and a concert. Pastor: Kevin Roberts.
- **Night of Hope, gospel praise benefit for St. Jude Children's Hospital**, October 15, 2 p.m. at the Rayville Performing Arts Center. Talent includes **Old Paths, Lauren Talley, 3 Heath Brothers, Josh and Ashley Franks, The Allen Family, and Comedian Tim Lovelace**. Tickets are available by calling 318.417.3929 or email SJNightofHope@gmail.com.
- Refuge Baptist Church, Marksville: **Harvest Festival**, October 15, 10 a.m.-6 p.m. There will be vendors, testimonies, food games, a pumpkin patch, hayride and live music. Pastor:
- Milldale Baptist Church, Zachary: **Greg Sullivan Ministries in concert with special guest 4Calvary Quartet**, October 16, 10:15 a.m. Pastor: Dennis Terry, Sr.

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 or LBCH, PO Box 4196, Monroe, LA 71211.

COTTAGE 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 or LBCH, PO Box 4196, Monroe, LA 71211.



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.

QSP OQJO OQKV OSZW VSX OQKTK FQSXZW RK DSBMKTf

CY OQK ZJFO OCDK, PQS FQSXZW PJZM JAOKT OQKCT SPY

XYLSWZV ZXFOF.

UXWK KCLQOKKY

Clues:
P = W; X = U

Answer to August 25 Scripture Crypto:
First Timothy four: eight



GBOM

GEORGIA BARNETTE

MARK 1:38

LOUISIANA MISSIONS OFFERING

2023 PROJECTED AREAS OF IMPACT

39%
MISSION SUPPLEMENTS

Assistance for mission churches' salaries



20%
SPECIAL MISSION PROJECTS

Resort Missions, Language Radio Outreach, Disaster Relief and more



19%
MISSIONS EDUCATION, PROMOTION & LEADERSHIP TRAINING

Assistance for leadership training and Missions Education events



9%
HERE FOR YOU

Louisiana Baptists' multi-media evangelism strategy



8%
MISSION BUILDERS

Assistance for mission churches with building costs



4%
SCHOLARSHIPS

Hannah Reynolds WMU Christian Scholarship and Christian Vocational Service Scholarship at LCU

1%
EQUIPMENT & SPECIAL NEEDS

Funding for emergency needs of mission churches

STATE GOAL: **\$1,700,000**



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