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# Southern Baptists to vote on women pastors

By Will Hall

Message executive editor

**NEW ORLEANS (LBM)** - The Southern Baptist **Convention Credentials** Committee reported May 16 that two churches who were disfellowshipped in February for ordaining women pastors plan to appeal the decisions

during the 2023 SBC Annual Meeting, which is going to be hosted in New Orleans, June 13-14. This means messengers will vote to decide whether women pastors, now excluded by the Baptist Faith and Message 2000, will be allowed to serve in member congregations.

Those two congregations

are Saddleback Church, Lake Forest, California, and Fern Creek Baptist Church, Louisville, Kentucky.

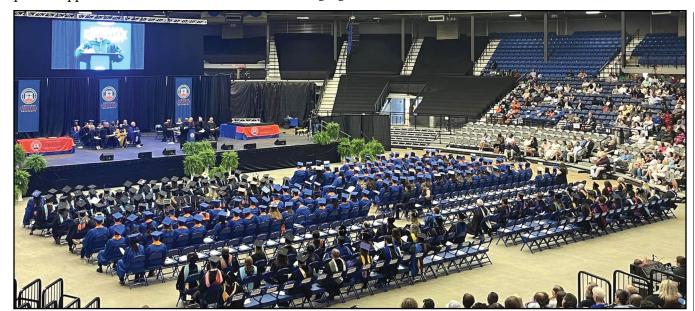
Meanwhile, Freedom Church, Vero Beach, Florida, intends to appeal its ouster for alleged lack of cooperation in resolving concerns regarding a sexual abuse allegation.

The Credentials Committee said it would set aside "a time for miscellaneous business during the afternoon session on Tuesday, June 13, for the consideration of the appeals received."

A representative of each church will be allowed to speak, and a member of the Credentials Committee or

**Executive Committee will** speak. Afterward, messengers will be asked to vote on the question, "Shall the decision of the Credentials Committee and the Executive Committee that [church] is not in cooperation with the Southern

See VOTE, page 3



LCU conferred 259 degrees (182 undergraduate and 77 graduate) during the May 6, 2023 Commencement, held at the Rapides

## LCU grads urged to impact world through Christ

### By Brian Blackwell

Message staff writer

ALEXANDRIA, La. (LBM) – Frank Ashley, executive associate dean of Texas A&M Bush School of Government and Public Service, told the Louisiana Christian University Class of 2023 graduates to change the world for Christ.

Speaking during the college's 168th Commencement May 6 at the Rapides Parish Coliseum in

Alexandria, Ashley said anything is possible for those who trust in

Earning this degree is only the beginning," he said. "You have got to keep on learning.

"Go out there and make an impact," he continued. "An impact changes lives."

LCU conferred 259 degrees (182 undergraduate and 77 graduate) during the ceremony.

LCU President Rick Brewer

praised the students for their perseverance through a tornado, two hurricanes, an ice storm and the pandemic.

"I think you all deserve an A in persistence and tenacity," he said. We are proud of you.

We are a Great Commandment and a Great Commission university where we strive to teach our students to love God

See **COMMENCEMENT**, page 8

## LBC Executive Board highlights LA Send Network, evangelism

### By Brian Blackwell

Message staff writer

WOODWORTH, La. (LBM) – Louisiana Baptist Executive Director Steve Horn, on the heels of a pair of evangelistic events preceding the 2023 Southern Baptist Convention Annual Meeting in New Orleans, encouraged Louisiana Baptist Convention Executive Board members during their May 2 meeting to create a culture of evangelism.

Additionally, board members approved Send Network Louisiana, a church planting partnership with the North American Mission Board.

### **CULTURE OF EVANGELISM**

Horn said for a culture of evangelism to take place, Louisiana Baptists must believe: every person is an evangelist, every person can be saved, in being sensitive to the Holy Spirit, every scripture points to Jesus, in progressing every decision towards discipleship, every decision is celebrated but we cannot settle, and the community must be saturated with the Gospel.

"Louisiana is known for its culture,"

See **EXECUTIVE BOARD**, page 9

## SBC Serve Tour, Crossover seek soul winners

### By Brian Blackwell

Message staff writer

NEW ORLEANS (LBM) -Louisiana Baptists still have time to sign up to participate in a pair of evangelistic

efforts preceding the 2023 Southern Baptist Convention Annual Meeting, which is scheduled for June 13-14 in New Orleans.

The "Serve Tour." an effort that seeks to involve

participants in compassion ministry projects in Houma and New Orleans as the foundation for evangelism, will take place June 9-10.

See SERVE TOUR, page 2

- Louisiana Baptist Children's Home & Family Ministries —

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## Serve Tour from page one

A celebration rally will be held June 10 at First Baptist Church, New Orleans, with a red beans and rice meal prepared by Disaster Relief team members at 5 p.m. and rally at 6 p.m. After the rally, Café Du Monde will serve beignets and coffee.

Additionally, "Crossover," a large-scale evangelistic effort, will take place in Bayou Baptist Association, New **Orleans Baptist Association** and North Shore Baptist Association, June 10.

The "Serve Tour" and "Crossover" weekend will wrap up with a Harvest

Sunday, June 11. Churches in these areas will be encouraged to utilize evangelists to fill the pulpit that day.

According to North American Mission Board Send Relief National Project Director Sammy Simmons, 740 individuals from 58 churches (including 18 from Louisiana) have signed up to participate in 50 projects. Volunteers still are needed to participate in block parties, build shelves for a church library, perform drain maintenance in floodprone areas, give a facelift to area schools, update a neighborhood basketball court, feed law enforcement and more.

Meanwhile, NAMB National Director of Evangelism J.J. Washington said 72 churches from Northshore Baptist, Bayou Baptist and New Orleans Baptist associations are hosting an evangelistic outreach event and/ or harvest day during Crossover. In 2022, 35 churches participated in Crossover in Anaheim, California.

Additionally, from June 5-9, 75 students from the six SBC seminaries have signed up to go door to door and share Jesus at 15 locations as part of their evangelism classes.

New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary Professor Preston Nix first suggested setting a combined goal of 2,023 people to accept Christ through the two evangelistic efforts. Then, in his report to the Executive Board in September and at the LBC Annual Meeting in November, Louisiana Baptist Executive Director Steve Horn stated his support, and committed to pray that 2,023 people be saved during "Serve Tour" and "Crossover."

"It's a tremendous opportunity to serve evangelistically in the New Orleans region," Louisiana Baptist Ministry Evangelism Strategist and Serve Tour Liaison Jeff Cook said. "This is an opportunity for our Louisiana churches to help our neighbors in another part of the state in evangelism and church growth. We have people coming to help the city of New Orleans from all over the country with evangelism and outreach, and it could spark a statewide revival through our churches in Louisiana.'

Learn more about other projects and how to participate: namb.net/ crossover, or text NOLA to 888123.





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

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

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

Volume 138

May 25, 2023

Number 6

## **Vote** from page one

Baptist Convention be sustained?'

– A "yes" vote will affirm the decision to disfellowship the congregation.

A "no" vote will allow the church to be restored as "in friendly cooperation" with the SBC.

### SADDLEBACK CHURCH

The most well-known of the three churches planning to appeal their status with the SBC is Saddleback Church, who ordained three women pastors in May 2021.

Since then, the wife, Stacie Wood, of the new pastor, Andy Wood, has been identified as "teaching pastor" of the congregation. Also, the multisite church announced, May 7, 2023, it had installed one of the three ordained women pastors as campus pastor for its members who meet at the Lake Forest location.

In March, Rick Warren, who retired in June 2021 as pastor of Saddleback Church, argued for women pastors during a podcast with the former president of the SBC Ethics & Religious Liberty Commission, Russell Moore, who now is editor in chief of Christianity Today. Warren claimed Matthew 28:18-20 (Great Commission), Acts 2 (Pentecost) and Matthew 28:10 ("tell My brethren to go to Galilee") justified women pastors. Warren told Moore:

"Both men and women are to fulfill the Great Commission. ... Women are to go. Women are to make disciples. Women are to baptize. And women are to teach. Not just men.'

"We know women were in the upper room. We know women were filled with the Holy Spirit. We know that women were preaching in languages that other people couldn't hear to a mixed audience. We know women – it wasn't iust men — women were preaching on the day of Pentecost."

"The very first sermon, the very first Christian sermon, the message of the Gospel of good news of the resurrection, Jesus chose a woman to deliver it to men. He had Marv Magdalene go and tell the disciples. Now that clearly wasn't an acci-

dent. It was intentional.

It's a whole new world,

baby. Now He has a woman go tell the apostles. Can a woman teach an apostle? Evidently. Did it on the first day."

Warren told *Baptist* News Global in a May 16, 2023, email that he and Saddleback Church plan to release several videos to make the case for women pastors and to bolster the chances for its June 13 appeal to SBC messengers.

'We're not challenging

the Executive Committee ruling for Saddleback's benefit," Warren wrote. "No one wants to stay where they aren't wanted. Instead, we are challenging the ... ruling for five reasons that would benefit others we care about."

- "We're challenging the ruling on behalf of millions of SBC women whose God-given spiritual gifts and leadership skills are being wasted

instead of empowered for the Great Commission.'

"We're challenging the ruling on behalf of over 300 concerned pastors who have written to me and have female pastors serving on their staffs.'

- "We're challenging the ruling on behalf of our IMB missionaries.'

- "We believe a decision this critical to the

See VOTE, page 7

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The 15,000-sq.-ft. Compassion Center will be located on the Louisiana Baptist Children's Home and Family Ministries' Monroe campus and could impact 25,000-50,000 children and their families annually.

## LBCHFM to open regional compassion center

**By Staff** LBCHFM

MONROE, La. (LBCH-FM) – The Louisiana Baptist Children's Home and Family Ministries has announced the construction of The Compassion Center that will help provide the hope of Christ for children and families in one of the state's poorest regions.

Approved by LBCHFM trustees during their May 12, 2023, meeting, the 15,000-sq.-ft. facility will be located on its Monroe campus and could impact 25,000-50,000 children and families annually.

According to the 2020 U.S. Census American Community Survey, 34.9 percent of Monroe residents live at the poverty level.

"There is a desperate need for this type of regional ministry where hope-centered services are provided to children and families in need," LBCHFM President and CEO Perry Hancock said. "I am grateful for our trustees who are ready to launch this exciting new ministry opportunity."

Compassion for Kids, a LBCHFM ministry, will operate the Compassion Center. The regional center will provide weekend food backpacks and school supplies for children, a baby store for infants and toddlers and support for foster care families. The center also will provide space for a mission church that could provide Bible studies at the facility and resources for existing compassion ministries and pursue the establishment of new church-based compassion works.

The Compassion Center should be operational by March 2024.

See COMPASSION, page 7



## WHAT A PRAISE: New apartments will help homeless kids & mothers

By Staff LBCHFM

MONROE, La. (LB-CHFM) – Louisiana Baptist Children's Home staff, board members and donors gathered March 15 for a ribbon cutting ceremony to celebrate the completion of Praise Apartments, the newest HomePlace Cottage for homeless children and their mothers.

Praise Apartments will provide shelter for up to 12 months, and while there, the women will be offered the opportunity to work toward a high school equivalency diploma and to participate in life and employment skills training through the Christian Women Job Corps.

Residents in this new transitional setting will experience an array of amenities that offer a true home environment for the women and their children as they enter the final phase of preparation for indepen-



Louisiana Baptist Children's Home and Family Ministries Vice President of Development and Public Relations Marc Eichelberger, President and CEO Perry Hancock, Susan Martin Potter and Randy Fowler celebrate the ribbon cutting of the Praise Apartments.

dent living. These four-plex apartments offer two bedrooms and two bathrooms per family.

"The catalyst for this project came from a very special lady," LBCHFM President and CEO Perry Hancock said, referring to Susan Martin Potter during the ribbon cutting ceremony. "She and her family have been friends

of the Children's Home for decades. After we talked about several options to expand our work, she focused on this important project because she loves and cares about our HomePlace mothers and children."

Additional funding was provided by the Jonathan E. Martin family.

In her remarks, Potter shared about the rich Christian heritage of her family and the love of Christian music by her parents, Ellis and Virginia Martin -- to whom the new facilities were dedicated.

When contemplating what the name of the apartments should be, I kept thinking about how appropriate the word 'praise' would be in the memory of my parents,"

Potter said.

LBCH Director of Family Care Ministries Jonann Byargeon said the Praise Apartments are a blessing for the HomePlace family.

'This wonderful addition will allow our ministry to care for more moms and their children," she said. "I am very encouraged and excited about all the possibilities which await us.'



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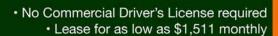
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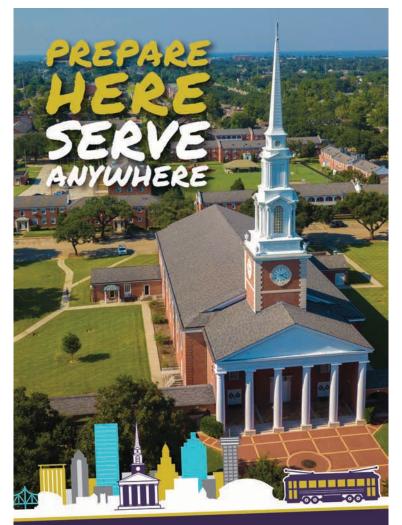
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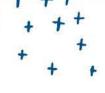


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## Vision 2030: Bold vision, plan for growth

By Brian Blackwell

Message staff writer

ALEXANDRIA, La. (LBM) – The Louisiana Baptist church planting team has a bold vision to increase the number of state convention-affiliated churches from 1,611 to 2,000 by 2030.

Known as "Multiply Louisiana Vision 2030," the plan is an effort to plant, replant and revitalize churches through multiplication of disciples, groups, ministries and churches. Ultimately, the commitment is to increase evangelistic outcomes across the state, Louisiana Baptist Church Planting Strategist Lane Corley said.

### ROLD PLAN

"Multiply Louisiana Vision 2030" encompasses four parts:

- -- connect 125 churches (increase the rate of new affiliates connecting with the Louisiana Baptist Convention from 4.7 to 12.5 per year)
- -- save 125 churches (slow the rate of closures by 50 percent over the next decade, from 25 to 12.5 per year)
- -- replant 125 churches (increase the rate of replanting from 6.5 to 12.5, annually)
- -- plant 225 churches (increase the rate of planting from 16.2 to 22.5, annually)

### **BOLD VISION**

Corley hopes "Multiply Louisiana Vision 2030" eclipses the results of the most recent church planting strategy undertaken by Louisiana Baptists.

The LBC President's 2020 Commission Final Report, published in September 2013, set a goal of planting 300 new churches through 2020, which was reached in November 2022, after being delayed two years by the pandemic. Regardless, those congregations reported 15,000 new commitments to Christ.

Now he is praying that more than 25,000 new commitments will result from the new plan.

issued a statement, May

16, that noted "this is the

"New churches mean more lives are being changed," Corley told the *Baptist Message*. "There has been significant evangelistic momentum these last 10 years, and we want to see that soul winning inertia continue through this new church planting effort."



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## Vote from page 3

SBC's identity and future should be decided by the messengers, not a committee."

— "Our goal is to spark the thinking of messengers regarding the direction of the SBC."

### LAGNIAPPE

David Sons, who is chairman of the SBC Executive Committee and pastor of Lake Murray Baptist Church in Lexington, South Carolina,

first time in SBC history for this particular item of business to come before the Convention," and urged "everyone coming to New Orleans to be prepared and informed about the process."

## Compassion from page 4.

"The Center will create a wealth of opportunities for our region of the state to meet physical needs, build trust, share the Gospel, and demonstrate the unconditional love of Christ throughout our region," Hancock said. "We are extremely excited to

We are extremely excited to see how the Lord will work through this ministry to change lives in Jesus' name."

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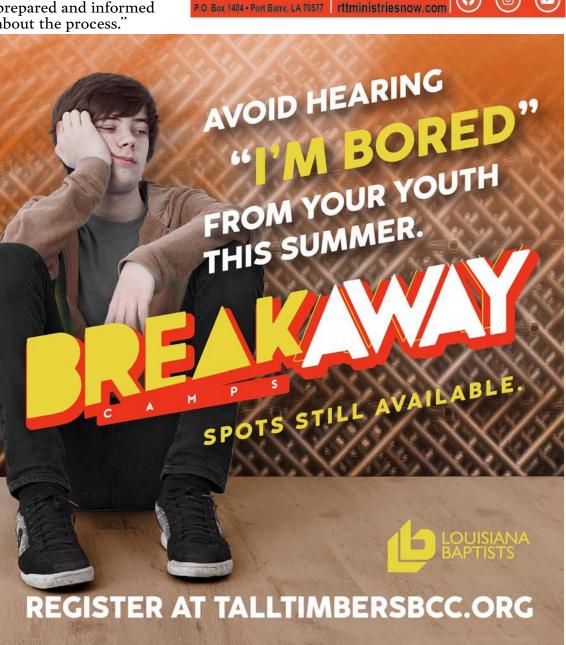








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## **Commencement** from page one \_

with heart, soul, mind and strength," he continued. "Behind our students are tremendous faculty who have mentored, who have nurtured, who have poured into your lives, and to help flesh out this vision we have – preparing graduates, transforming lives."

In addition to conferring degrees, LCU presented Ashley and Maggie Martin with honorary doctorates for their service to the university and the community.

Ashley, an LCU distinguished alumnus, has served in numerous administrative positions at Texas A&M in addition to being a senior professor. He oversees graduate education and research activities, as well as strategic planning, faculty affairs, student affairs, program development, diversity, assessment, communications and external relations, student services, and extended

education programs in the Bush School.

Martin, for whom the inaugural Dr. Maggie Martin Leadership Summit is named, is the spouse of the late Jonathan Martin, whose memory has been carried on through LCU's new Master of Business Administration program that bears his name. The leadership summit is an annual event for business and industry leaders in Central Louisiana who live out faith in their work.

Additionally, several graduates were chosen to share about their LCU journeys.

Caleb Howe said the encouragement received from fellow students and professors helped him grow spiritually, physically and mentally.

"As we leave here today ready to go out into the world, my prayer is that you keep God first and honor Him in all you do," he said. "God is able, and He has a plan for your life. And if you just go and live by His agenda and keep His will, you are going to prosper."

Ashley Young said LCU



Maggie Martin received an honorary doctorate for her service to LCU.

has given the graduates tools to be leaders in their jobs, communities, families and churches. She is the daughter of Terry Young, pastor of Airline Baptist Church, Bossier City.

"Fellow graduates, we have done the prep work and we have done well as college students," she said.

"But now it is time to not apprehensively tip toe, but instead, triumphantly march towards this next season of life. You may not know where you are going after this or maybe you have a perfect plan waiting for you. Regardless, the future is coming. And if we have a relationship with the Lord and have done the prep work, we are now ready to be leaders in our community."

In a prayer he led for graduates, Louisiana Baptist Executive Director Steve Horn asked God to use them to transform lives in Ameri-



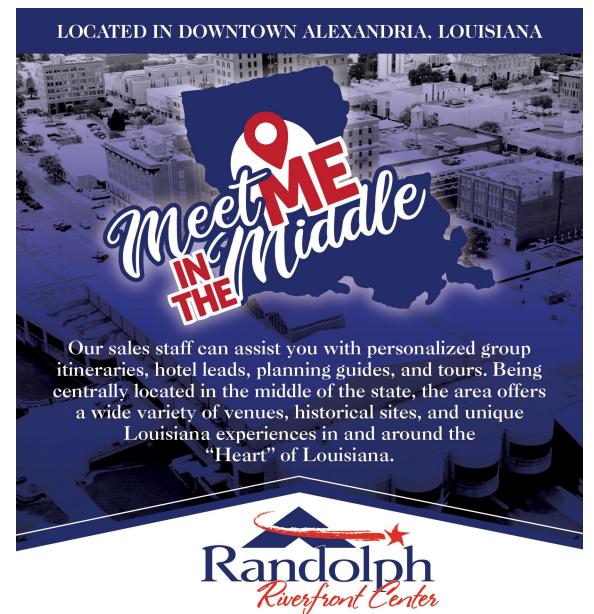
**Brian Blackwell** photos

Frank Ashley received an honorary doctorate at LCU's commencement.

ca and beyond.

'We commission these students today, our God, that they would be empowered by the Holy Spirit," Horn said. "And we release them today by the power of the Sprit, to the classrooms of America, to the hospitals of America. We long for that student that is not going to be isolated to America but take the Gospel to the nations, transforming not just this nation but transforming in our God the world. We know there is a call upon some of these very students to do exactly that. We pray they answer that call, and they use it so all the people of the world will know that you and you alone are God. We pray whether there is a specific Christian vocational call or a call to the marketplace, that each of these students would be ambassadors for Christ, and others would know of Jesus."





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## **Executive Board** from page

Horn said in his report to the board. "Sometimes it's a good thing and sometimes it's not. What if it would be known of us and said of us that we would be known first and foremost for having a culture of evangelism."

Horn told board members he is encouraged that churches have signed up to participate in Serve Tour and Crossover.

Serve Tour, an effort that seeks to involve participants in service projects in Houma and New Orleans as the foundation for evangelism, will take place June 9-10. Additionally, Crossover, a large-scale evangelistic effort, will take place in Bayou Baptist Association, New Orleans Baptist Association and North Shore Baptist Association, June 10.

The Serve Tour and Crossover weekend will wrap up with a Harvest Sunday, June 11. Churches in these areas will be encouraged to utilize evangelists to fill the pulpit that day.

Previously, Horn shared in his report to the Executive Board in September and then again at the LBC Annual Meeting in November that he is praying for 2,023 people to be saved through Serve Tour and Crossover.

Horn reminded board members of the urgency to share the Gospel. He said 155 people die every day in the state, many who likely will go to hell.

"As believers in God's word we believe those with Christ die and spend eternity with him in heaven," he said. "Those without Christ die and spend eternity in hell. Those who study such matter of lostness give us the number that is believed as high as 70 percent of Louisianans are lost today, as 108 people die every single day and spend all of eternity in hell. You want to join me in making our life mission that that changes?"

### **SEND NETWORK LOUISIANA**

Horn expressed excitement over the Send Network Louisiana partnership, which goes into effect Aug. 1.

New Orleans is the only metropolitan area currently in the Send Network, but the new partnership will expand church planting efforts to the entire state.

Horn said NAMB will employ a Send Network Louisiana director who will work in the same office as Louisiana Baptist church planters, provide money for supplements for the Send Network church plants and offer additional opportunities for church planters currently not offered by Louisiana Baptists (a year of free health insurance through Guide-Stone for planters and their families, access to NAMB start-up grants, an additional fourth year of supplements and placement in the NAMB church planter spiritual and

emotional care system).

NAMB also will continue to send \$300,000 each year to the Louisiana Baptist Convention for church planting purposes through 2025, and after that will provide \$150,000 annually.

Horn said Louisiana will join other Sothern states who already participate in a similar network, including Missouri, Oklahoma, Texas, Arkansas, Florida, North Carolina and Virginia.

Horn explained that the partnership does not involve a contract and can end with a 60-day notice if either party desires.

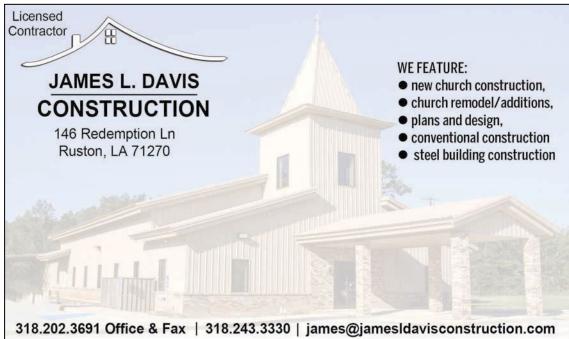
He said the partnership will allow Louisiana to join NAMB in their mission to reach others with the Gospel through church planting efforts.

"Let's stay on mission with all our strength, with all of our power, and with all of our might," Horn said. "Let's stay on mission and let's be a part of a culture of evangelism."

### **BUDGET REPORT**

Horn told the board that gifts through the Cooperative Program from January to March totaled \$495.112.54 more than budgeted for 2023, so far. He added that churches, from January to March, have given \$61,072.50 less through CP this year than the same timeframe as last year.







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MARKING DEVICES



In The Classifieds



SEEKING EXPERIENCED PART-TIME

New Prospect Baptist Church,

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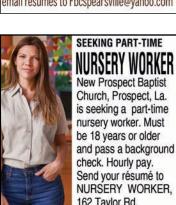
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develop and implement discipleship strategies for 6th grade through college as well as manage the daily operation of our fitness center/recreation ministry. Full-time with insurance and retirement benefits. Send your résumés to Jennifer Foster at jennifer@hbcm.net.

## **FULL-TIME PASTOR NEEDED**

Full-time Pastor is needed at First Baptist Church, Ringgold, LA. Send your résumés to gthomp63@outlook.com or to First Baptist Church, Attn: Pastor Search Committee P.O. Box 566, Ringgold, LA 71068.



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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

- Doyle Adams celebrated his 65th anniversary in the Gospel ministry April 27, 2023. He is pastor at Bethany Baptist Church, Columbia, La.
- Jack Bell has resigned as pastor at First Baptist Church, Hornbeck to accept the position of assistant coordinator at District Eight Missions and Ministries.
- Eric, wife Jeanette, Green is the new pastor at Bayou Vista Baptist Church, Morgan City.
- Dusty C. Durbin is the associational mission strategist at the Evangeline Baptist Association.
- Matthew White is the new pastor at First Baptist Church, Amite.
- Michael Wilkes will become the pastor of Grace Covenant Church, Denham Springs, with the merger of New Covenant Church, Denham Springs, and the Oaks Church, Denham Springs.
- John Brown is the new pastor at Calvary Baptist Church, Slidell.
- Ryan Spinks is the new pastor at Pleasant Hill Baptist Church, Pine Grove.
- Josh Powell is the new pastor at First Baptist Church, Bogalusa.
- Milton Kliesch is the new pastor at Main Street Baptist Church, Bogalusa.
- Cody Masters is the new pastor at Mt. Pleasant Baptist Church, Bogalusa.
- Jeremy Pruitt is the new pastor at Milldale Baptist Church, Zachary.
- Scotty Gibson is retiring as music director of First Baptist Church, Haughton.
- Jahill Richards has resigned as pastor of Springs of Grace to become a church planter in Minneapolis.
- Jamie, husband Brian, Steele is the new First Kids' children's ministry assistant at First Baptist Church, Mandeville.
- Russell Caldwell is the new pastor at Rescue Community Church, West Monroe. He resigned as pastor at Harmony Baptist Church, Delhi to take the new position.
- Salem Baptist Church, Walker has called Chad Chauvin as its interim pastor.

■ Colby Armstrong is the new youth director at Victory Baptist Church, Monroe. He has been a part of the Victory family all his life.

### HOMECOMING

- Hillsdale Baptist Church, Amite: Chronicle Concert/ Revival/Homecoming: May 25, 7 p.m. Chronicle in concert; May 26, 7 pm., Revival. Speaker: Joe Hutto. Worship: Katie McElveen. May 28, 11 a.m., Homecoming, A fellowship potluck luncheon to follow service on Sunday. Pastor: Don Bassett.
- Pine Hill Baptist Church, Leesville: 130th Homecoming Celebration, June 4, 10 a.m. Speaker: Will Hall, executive editor of the Louisiana *Baptist Message*. There will be a meal in the gym following the worship service. Pastor: Keith Dowden.
- Midway Baptist Church, Jonesboro: Homecoming service, June 4, 10:30 a.m. Worship: Sanctuary Quarter in concert, Pastor: Daniel Breithaupt.

### REVIVAL

- Hillsdale Baptist Church, Amite: Revival, concert, homecoming, May 25-28, Friday, 7 p.m. Chronicle in concert followed by revival, Speaker: Joe Hutto, Saturday, 7 p.m., Speaker: Joe Hutto. Worship: Katie McElveen, Sunday, 11 am. Homecoming revival service, Speaker: Joe Hutto. Worship Katie McElveen. A potluck luncheon will follow service following Sunday worship. Pastor: Do Bassett.
- Mitchell Baptist Church, Converse: Revival, June 4-7, Sunday 11 a.m. & 7 p.m., Monday-Wednesday, 7 p.m. Evangelist: Bill Britt. Pastor: Bobbye Russell.
- Open Door Baptist Church, Ragley: Harvest Sunday, June 18, 10 a.m. Evangelist: Bill Britt. Pastor: Sonny Simpson.

### LAGNIAPPE

- First Baptist Church, Pineville: First@First Business Leader Luncheon, June 1, noon. Speaker: Kristi Stake, instructor communication and media studies at Louisiana Tech University. Please RSVP to https://fbcpineville.secure2.agroup.com/events/firstatfirst/2022-01-05+11%3A50%3A00. Pastor: Stewart Holloway.
- New Bethlehem Baptist Church, Denham Springs: Vacation Bible School Keepers of the Kingdom, June 4-7, 6-8 p.m. This is kindergarten to fifth grade. To register go to: https://nbbc.myanswers.com/keepthekingdom/. Pastor: Randall Gill.

- First Baptist Church, DeQuincy: VBS Twists & Turns, June 5-9, 5:30 p.m. -8 p.m. VBS is for children three years of age through completed the fifth grade. Registration: https://www.fbcdq.org/ministries/childrens-ministry/vbs-2023-registration/. Pastor: David Ernest.
- First Baptist Church, Zwolle: Vacation Bible School Twists & Turns, June 5-9, 5:30-8:30 p.m. Pastor: Marty Williams
- Maplewood Baptist Church, Sulphur: Vacation Bible School On the Case. June 5-8, 9 a.m. noon. For children who have completed the first grade through fifth grade. Registration: https://maplewoodfbc.breezechms.com/form/d7efda. Pastor: Jeremy Blocker.
- Mt. Olive Baptist Church, Lake Charles: Vacation Bible School Twists & Turns, June 5-9. Pastor: Braylon Harris
- Philadelphia Baptist Church, Deville: Vacation Bible School Twist & Turns, June 5-9, 6-8:30 p.m. Pastor: Philip Robertson.
- Trinity Baptist Church, Lake Charles: Vacation Bible School Ready, Set, Move, June 5-9, 9 a.m. noon. For ages three by June 5, 2023-completed fifth grade. Registration: https://tbclc.org/upcoming-event/vacation-bible-school-at-trinity/2023-06-05/ Pastor: Steve James.
- Westlake Baptist Church, Westlake: Vacation Bible School Twists and Turns, June 5-9, 9 a.m. noon. This is for children who have completed pre-K4 through completed 5th grade.

Registration: https://fbcwestlake.com/events. Pastor: David Brewer.

■ First Baptist Church, Lafayette: Vacation Bible School

- Twists & Turns, June 5-9, 9 a.m. — noon. All classes will be age-graded (1st through 6th grades) according

- to the school grade COMPLETED during 2022-2023.
- Sweetwater Baptist Church, Quitman: Vacation Bible School, June 5-9. Pastor: Wilton Wall.
- Longview Baptist Church, Deville: Vacation Bible School Twists & Turns, June 5-9, 8:30 11:30 a.m. Pastor: Robby Poole.
- Ebenezer Baptist Church, Jonesboro: Vacation Bible School, June 5-9, 8:30 a.m. noon. Pastor: Chris Lee.
- SweetWater Church, Abita Springs: Community block party, June 9, 6-8 p.m. The church will host the event in front of the Abita Springs Town Hall. Pastor: Ken Schroeder
- Pine Grove Baptist Church, DeQuincy: 2023 Vacation Bible School Day Camp, June 10, 9 a.m. 3p.m. Pastor:
- First Baptist Church, Winnfield: Vacation Bible School

   Stellar- Shine Jesus' Light, June 11-14, 5-7:30 p.m.
  This is for ages 3 years through sixth grade. Pastor: Jerry
  Pines.
- Mitchell Baptist Church, Converse: The Kingsmen in concert, June 16, 7 p.m.
- First Baptist Church, Pineville: Vacation Bible School

   Twist and Turns, June 18-22, 5:30 p.m. 8:45 p.m.

  VBS is for kids that have completed pre-K through sixth grades. Pastor: Stewart Holloway.
- Rocky Springs Baptist Church, Lisbon: Vacation Bible School (Mega Sports Camp & Good Vibes Only), June 19-23, 5-8 p.m. Pastor: Chris Stephens.
- Lake Arthur First Baptist Church: Vacation Bible School June 19-23, 9 a.m. noon. For children who have completed kindergarten through fifth grade. To register: https://forms.gle/aHX2LYGs9hubQd2t6. Pastor: Jered Thomas.
- New Hope Baptist Church, DeQuincy: Vacation Bible School Twists and Turns, June 19-23, 6-8:30 p.m.

- To register go to https://kideventpro.lifeway.com/myEvent/?id=66508. Pastor: Roland Hebert.
- Springhill Baptist Church, Jonesboro: Vacation Bible School, June 19-23, 6-8 p.m. Pastor: Donald Cardin
- Hodge Baptist Church, Hodge: Vacation Bible School, June 19-23, 8:30 am 12 noon Pastor: Keith Thomas
- Trinity Baptist Church, Turkey Creek: Vacation Bible School Stompers & Chompers, June 19-21, 5:30-7:30 p.m. Open to kids 3-11 years of age and adults. Commencement, June 22, 6 p.m. Pastor: Eddie Douglas.
- Beech Springs Baptist Church, Quitman: Vacation Bible School, June 19-24, Pastor: Jason Womack
- Welcome Home Baptist Church, Hebert: VBS, June 25-30, 6:30-9 p.m. This is for ages 4 years to adult, "Stompers and Chompers." For more information, contact Gaye McKeithen at 318.235.7833. Pastor: Jim McKeithen
- Atlanta Baptist Church/Sardis Baptist Church: Vacation Bible School, June 25-29, 6-8 p.m. A combined VBS will be held at Sardis. Pastor: Chad James, Atlanta & No pastor, Sardis.
- Indian Village Baptist Church, Kinder; Vacation Bible School Twists and Turns, June 25-29, Pastor: Kevin Willis
- First Baptist Church, Jennings: Vacation Bible School

   Twists & Turns, June 26-30, Pre-K four years old to kindergarten, 8:30 a.m.-11:30 a.m.; 1st-sixth grade, 8:30 a.m.- 2 p.m. To register go to fbclennings.com/ VBS. Pastor: Eric Sonnier.
- Olivet Baptist Church, Sulphur: Vacation Bible School

   Twists and Turns, June 26-29, 9 a.m.-noon. Ages:
  completed K through 5th grade. Registration: https://
  www.olivetbaptistsulphur.com/vbs. Pastor: Kevin
  Craft.

## Sam Moore, Evangelistic Ministries

### www.evangelistsammoore.org

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 Wild Game Supper Events. Call or email to schedule your 2023 events.

479.381.1170 evangelistsammoore@gmail.com



## **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.

WFB ZJVJO DLV BQVYFCV QW VYJ ZLPLKJ; LWS L SLGDJP

KLGJ CWVF YQG, DLMQWI, VYFC LPDF BLDV BQVY XJDCD FR

ILPQPJJ.

GLVVYJB VBJWVM-DQU: DQUVM-WQWJ

Clues: V = T; Q = I

Answer to April 27, Scripture Crypto:

Colossians three: four

### 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.



