



Eastern Louisiana Baptist Association

VOL. 45 JANUARY/FEBRUARY 2021 NO. 1

Together We Do What We Cannot Do Alone

Blue's News

A 2021 New Year Message...

We face a New Year wrought with the continuing challenges of the COVID-19 pandemic. Emotions driving people are fear, rejection, and fatalism: fear of catching a disease that has brought death to many; rejection from those who believe the disease is a government conspiracy; fatalism in that many believe it is inevitable that they will catch it. There is a valid argument for all three reactions. This is a disease that is not your garden-variety annual flu. This bug manifests itself differently in each person—some mildly, others harshly, and still others with death. Fear has driven many to despair—to the point of lost hope.

It is in days such as these that the church is at its best. We have the light that shines into the darkness, hope that gives reason to live, and peace that assures the heart that God is in control. Light, hope, and peace are the watch-words of the Christmas holiday each year and should be every day of every year. Jesus is the light of the world; Jesus is our earnest expectation, our hope when all seems lost; He is our peace, assurance, and confidence when the world crashes down around us.

**The people who walk in darkness will see a great light;
Those who live in a dark land, the light will shine on them.
You shall multiply the nation, You shall increase their gladness....**

**For a child will be born to us, a son will be given to us;
And the government will rest on His shoulders;
And His name will be called**

Wonderful Counselor,

**Mighty God,
Eternal Father,**

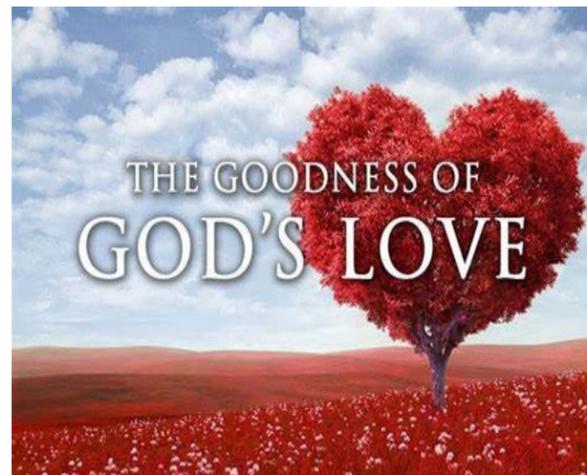
Prince of Peace.

**There will be no end to the increase of His government or of peace,
On the throne of David and over his kingdom,**

**To establish it and to uphold it with justice and righteousness
From then on and forevermore.**

The zeal of the LORD of hosts will accomplish this.

--Isaiah 9:2-3a, 6-7



The church has the opportunity to be the light of Christ, to point people to the hope of salvation in Christ, and to be the messenger of peace in chaotic days when our nation seems to be ripping apart at the seams. Jesus taught His disciples that citizens of God's kingdom are to reflect the light of Christ, *Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works and glorify your Father in heaven* (Matthew 5:16).

Happy New Year From Your Staff at

Eastern Louisiana Baptist Association

Richard Blue, Associational Missions Coordinator

KaRetha Kelley, Administrative Assistant & Child Evangelism Fellowship Leader

Ministry News



2021 Disaster Relief Training New Orleans and Covington

January 29, 2021 @ 8:30 am - January 30, 2021
3:30 pm—New Orleans
*New Orleans Baptist Association Office, 2222 Lakeshore Drive,
New Orleans, LA 70122*
February 5, 2021 - February 6, 2021—Covington
*First Baptist Church of Covington, 16333 Highway 1085,
Covington, LA 70433*

Costs: Renewal: \$13.00 Chaplain: \$33.00 OSFA: \$16.00 First
Time: \$28.00

Register online at
<https://Louisianabaptists.org/event/disaster-relief-training-new-orleans-2>

2021 Evangelism Conference (ECON)

January 25 through 26, 2020
Summer Grove Baptist Church
8924 Jewella Street, Shreveport, LA

Featuring:

State Missionary Sammy Gilbreath
Richard Taylor, Associate Director of
Personal Evangelism with the Southern
Baptists of Texas Convention

Dr. Roc Collins is the Strategic
Objectives Director for the Tennessee
Baptist Mission Board

Richard Ross, professor of student min-
istry at Southwestern Seminary

Gary Bowlin, full time Evangelist

Jason Lovins Band

[Louisianabaptists.org/event/
evangelism-conference-econ](https://Louisianabaptists.org/event/evangelism-conference-econ)

The logo for the 2021 Evangelism Conference (ECON). It features the word 'ECON' in large, white, bold, sans-serif capital letters on a dark red background. Below 'ECON', the words 'EVANGELISM CONFERENCE' are written in smaller, white, sans-serif capital letters.

Through a Christian context, CWJC (Christian Women's Job Corps) is a means to equip women with life skills and job readiness.



First and foremost the goal is to help women and men develop and grow in a personal relationship with Jesus Christ.

**CHRISTIAN WOMEN'S
JOB CORPS®**
a ministry of WMU®

CWJC is a ministry of WMU that is committed to meet the needs of the participants and their community.

Bible study and one-on-one mentoring is the key factor and is what holds this ministry different from other job-readiness programs. Life skills and job readiness also help participants to move toward self-sufficiency. Those completing the course are encouraged to give back to the CWJC program. Each site is customized to the needs in their area; some are classroom settings; others are one-on-one or other small groups.

ELBA's CWJC is holding monthly mentor training opportunity. It is held the last Tuesday of each month from 10:00am until noon. Contact the office for more details. Dr. Bobbie Shaffett, Director

Dr. Richard Blue has a Blog!!!



Check out Dr. Blue's blog on our website at www.elbamissions.org. There is very IMPORTANT information concerning the upcoming year and the COVID vaccine. There are also many other articles for ministry. Check it out!

Eastern Louisiana Baptist Association RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

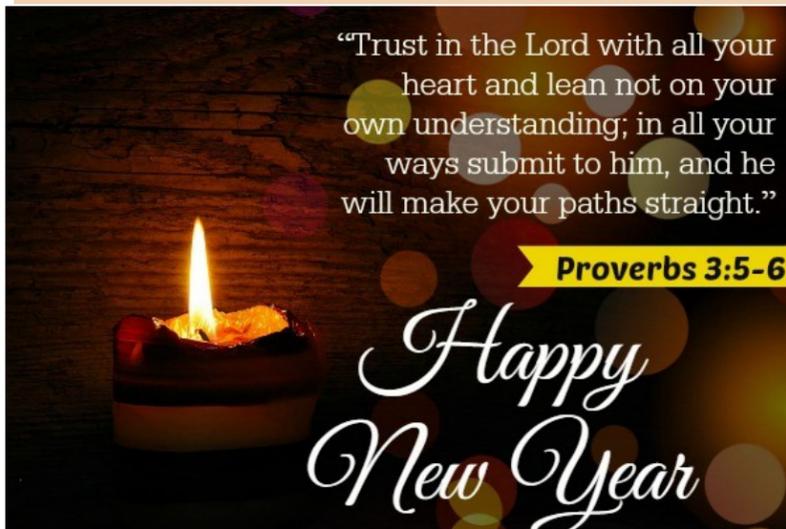
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The next ELBA Newsletter will be mailed in March. Updates will be emailed as needed. If you are not presently on our email list and would like to be included, please send the information to info@elbamissions.org.



1st Minister's Conference of 2021
Monday, January 4th
ELBA Missions and Ministry Room
10:am

OneLife Church will provide the meal
Please plan to join us as we kick-off the
New Year! Dr. Dennis Phelps, NOBTS,
will be our guest speaker

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

Mondays at 10:00am Pastor Prayer Time Onsite or Online Via Zoom Meeting (Contact Bro. Larry Hubbard at Riverside Baptist Church for Zoom Information)

JANUARY 2021

- 1 New Year's Day
- 4 Minister's Conference -10am
- 11 Ministers Lunch—Riverside Baptist Church
- 14 Finance Committee Meeting at ELBA Office or Zoom -10am
- 19 Association Council Meeting at ELBA Office -10am
- 26 CWJC Training—10am til Noon

FEBRUARY 2021

- 1 Executive Board—6:30pm
- 14 Valentine's Day
- 15 President's Day
- 23 CWJC-Training -10am til Noon