



Eastern Louisiana Baptist Association

VOL. 45 MAY/JUNE 2021 NO. 3

Together We Do What We Cannot Do Alone

Blue's News

Summertime, summertime, sum-sum-summertime, summertime whoa-a-oh-ah! These are the words of a 1958 hit song *Summertime* exploiting the joys of summer for a teenager. Lighter and peppier than *Alice Cooper's School's Out for Summer* I think of the song each year when summertime is near! What does this mean for our churches?

Church Planning—Carpe Diem! Seize the Day! Easter Sunday was a great day and pleasant surprise for most of our churches. The church planning/organization part of my brain went into gear the next day. Churches are having to react to regathering our congregations in the same way we reacted to the scattering of our people last year. We have been in a time of uncertainty. Now, restrictions somewhat are being lifted providing the church with opportunities to begin ministry again.

As related to church planning, this summer's activities should be planned, organized, and ready to run. If not, it is not too late, but work must begin now. Do not stop with summer planning. Planning for later this year should be in gear along with planning for 2022. Here are some things we should be thinking about as summer approaches:

VBS, Youth, and Children's Camps should be organized and ready to go. These can still happen but will require quick planning and work. Talk to Robbie Isom, your ELBA Children's Team Leader if you need help in organizing.

Camp Living Waters is receiving registrations for Children's Camps this summer. Consider our own camp for your summer children's camp.

Determining ministries and related activities for the fall should be in the planning stage and ready to launch by mid summer. This would include D-Now, FORGE, Back-to-School, Fall Revivals, Harvest Festival/Trunk or Treat outreaches. Hey, I also hear Christmas bells ringing in this phase of planning. What will your church do to make the most of Christmas this year? Christmas is now the best time to reach first time church attenders.

Organize for Sunday School and small groups now, but also consider how your church ministries and organizations will function this fall. Who will lead them? What training will you need to help your ministries to be successful? Hence, Nominating Committee work should begin soon after June 1st to meet August or September deadlines to begin the New Church Year.

Belarus Mission leader Andrew Rhyzkov is leading a group of Louisiana and Georgia Baptists to Belarus this September. ELBA has been asked to provide funding to print 2,000 copies of *Good and Evil: The Ultimate Comic Book Action Bible*. While bibles are illegal in Belarus, an illustrated comic book with bible stories is allowed. It costs \$10 per book to be printed in Belarus. I am asking our churches, Sunday School classes, small groups, and organizations to help us meet this goal by August 1st. Consider this challenge as a VBS offering goal this summer. Something happens to people when the Word of God is placed into their hands. Consider joining the trip to Belarus for service and ministry projects this fall.

Rumblin' for a Cause: Len Hodges' family needs help in producing a car show to benefit Camp Living Waters. If you, or your church is interested in helping with this cause, see Len's announcement in this newsletter.

IMB: The IMB has assigning to our missionaries a group of stateside churches to contact and build relationships committing to pray for the stateside churches and pastors as well as providing information so our churches will know how to pray for our missionaries and participate with them directly. Expect to hear from your missionaries beginning in May.

Southern Baptist Convention: Much has been said in the past two years about the SBC. The June 14-16 meeting has been moved to the Music City Center to provide a larger meeting venue. I plan to attend as are many pastors and church members in our association. It is not too late to register, but hotel rooms are filling fast. Pray for the SBC, our own LBC, and association in these days.

Pray for Revival! Our pastors meet each Wednesday morning at 11:30am for prayer in the ELBA office. If you cannot join us in person, consider hooking up with us on Zoom. Dr. Larry Hubbard leads our group. We generally finish just before 1:00pm. Come join us.

Bro. Richard

**CONTRIBUTIONS FROM THE CHURCHES
MARCH 2021**

Agape	\$0.00	\$0.00
Amite	\$1,000.00	\$2,000.00
Bethel	\$143.18	\$412.66
Carroll	\$0.00	\$0.00
Central	\$0.00	\$0.00
Christ Community	\$1,444.00	\$3,634.00
Colyell	\$1,381.56	\$3,775.71
Denham Springs, FBC	\$942.23	\$4,061.07
Don Avenue	\$0.00	\$949.47
Emmanuel	\$125.00	\$1,440.00
Faith	\$0.00	\$0.00
French Settlement	\$381.24	\$983.16
Gray's Creek	\$0.00	\$384.00
Greater Third Zion	\$0.00	\$0.00
Head of Island	\$0.00	\$218.85
Hebron	\$0.00	\$713.74
Holden	\$0.00	\$808.73
Judson	\$0.00	\$5,854.96
Live Oak	\$3,310.49	\$8,211.96
Livingston FBC	\$784.00	\$1,874.00
Macedonia	\$0.00	\$0.00
Magnolia	\$200.00	\$600.00
Maurepas	\$0.00	\$0.00
Midway	\$0.00	\$718.02
New Bethlehem	\$0.00	\$264.54
New Covenant	\$0.00	\$100.00
Northside	\$641.83	\$1,857.73
One Life	\$630.00	\$630.00
Pine Grove	\$542.74	\$1,617.38
Red Oak	\$0.00	\$100.00
River of Life	\$0.00	\$0.00
Riverside	\$238.44	\$831.07
Salem	\$0.00	\$0.00
Satsuma	\$0.00	\$0.00
South Walker	\$593.25	\$593.25
Southside	\$0.00	\$1,550.00
The New Beginnings	\$279.98	\$422.16
Victory	\$171.78	\$712.44
Walker	\$2,127.14	\$6,822.89
Watson	\$0.00	\$1,267.87
The Way Church	\$625.00	\$1,275.00
Community Ch Spfd	\$0.00	\$150.00
Walker Comm Min	\$0	\$0
Total Contributions	\$15,561.86	\$54,834.66

Capital One	\$92,764.12
Louisiana Baptist Foundation	\$835,738.79
TOTAL Checking & Savings	\$928,502.91

News from the Churches . . .

Bro. Charley Westbrook has resigned as pastor from **Hebron Baptist Church** and is available for pulpit supply. Bro. Mark Talbot is Interim Pastor.

Emmanuel Baptist Church is getting a new sign. Any church that would like their old sign should contact Bro. Max Landry. He can be reached at maxlandry1956@gmail.com.

Mother's Day—May 9, 2021



Father's Day—June 20, 2021



Please pray for all of our ELBA Pastors and Church Staff Members Our Association Council and please pray for our churches currently seeking pastors:

Carroll Baptist Church, Don Avenue Baptist Church, Macedonia Baptist Church and Satsuma Baptist Church

David Lane, Moderator, Larry Hubbard, Vice Moderator, KaRetha Kelley, Clerk, Elena Lavigne, Treasurer, Mary Broussard, Historian, Team Leaders—Dana Trahan, Bobbie Shaffett, Howard Turner, Tom and Patti Higginbotham, Robbie Isom, Johnny Morgan, Frank Mons, Howard Turner, Joshua Spinks, Russell Hinson, and Luke Hand

Ministry News



Join us June 15-16 for the 2021 SBC Annual Meeting. With more than 100 ancillary meetings, events, and gatherings throughout the week, you'll connect with leaders and laypersons from around the country to be encouraged, equipped and mobilized for Kingdom work.

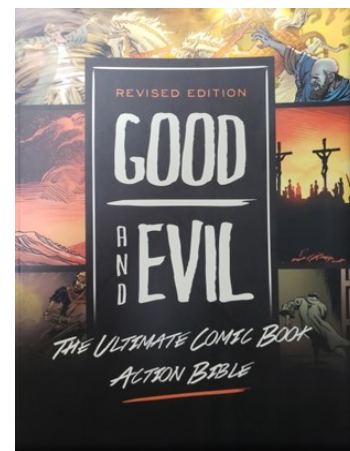


We are collecting money to meet our goal of providing 2,000 "Good and Evil" Bibles. All proceeds will be sent to our Byelorussian Missionary, Andrew Rhyzkov, to purchase the bibles.

Please mail your support to P. O. Box 305, Walker, LA 70785 and reference "Bibles"

2nd Annual Rumblin' for a Cause Car Show

First Baptist Church of Denham Springs will host this car show on Sept. 18, 2021 from 10am until 2pm. Our cause this year is **Camp Living Waters** youth camp. Please come out as either a participant or attendee. Please contact Len Hodges at 985-662-6910 or lbkh@bellsouth.net.



National Day of Prayer



Hosted by **Kathy Branzell** and **Andrew Palau** along with music by **Shane and Shane**



Join us **Thursday evening, May 6th at 8 pm ET** for this year's **2021 National Broadcast** hosted and sponsored by our generous partners at the **Museum of the Bible** in Washington D.C. and **ONECRY**. For information on where to watch, check out our website at www.nationaldayofprayer.org!



Guests will include Greg Laurie, Will Ford, Matt Lockett, Tony Evans, Anne Graham Lotz, Jack Graham, Ronnie Floyd, and more!

Eastern Louisiana Baptist Association RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

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The next ELBA Newsletter will be mailed in July. 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.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

**Wednesdays at 11:30am Pastor Prayer
Time at ELBA's Missions and Ministry Room**

MAY 2021

- 1 M-Jam - Tall Timbers
- 2 Senior Adult Day
- 3 Executive Board - 5:45pm Meal, 6:00pm
- 6 National Day of Prayer
- 9 Mother's Day
- 10 Pastor's Luncheon - Riverside *
- 9-13 Christian Home Week
- 25 Christian Women Job Corps-training
- 31 Memorial Day - Office Closed

JUNE 2021 Nominating Committee Time

- 7-17 Kids Camps - Tall Timbers
- 14 Flag Day
- 13-14 WMU SBC Annual Meeting - Nashville, TN
- 15-16 SBC Annual Meeting - Nashville, TN
- 20 Father's Day
- 20 Summer Begins
- 22 Christian Women's Job Corp- Training
- 27 Citizenship & Religious Liberty Sunday
- 29 State WMU Meeting - Baptist Building

JULY 2021

- 1-3 Kid's Camps - Tall Timbers
- 4 Independence Day
- 12 Pastor's Luncheon - Riverside *
- 19 Association Council - 10:00am

* Final plans to be determined



Greater love has no one than this; to lay down one's life for one's friends. John 15:13

ELBA Offices will be closed on Monday, May 31st



Executive Board Meeting

Monday, May 3rd,
ELBA's Missions and Ministry Meeting Room
5:45pm—Meal
6:30pm—Meeting