



Eastern Louisiana Baptist Association

VOL. 44 NOVEMBER/DECEMBER 2020 NO. 6

Together We Do What We Cannot Do Alone

Blue's News

It is hard for me to believe we are approaching the holidays. I love the holidays! I love family gatherings, roasted or fried turkey, dressing, cranberry sauce, pie, and the turkey coma that follows. Add to this all that Christmas offers such as the tree, lights, food, music, gift-giving...and receiving. Yet, it has been an oppressive year. We have many hard months ahead to recover from the weight of this year. We can focus on the difficulties or rejoice in the blessings of God for which we should be thankful.

Thanksgiving is a time for reflection on the greatness and glory of our God. We reflect on the blessings and bounty God has given us as a nation. We reflect on the great salvation for our sin provided by God to us through the completed work of Jesus' death and resurrection. We reflect on His abiding presence in the believer's life by the presence of His Holy Spirit. I have much for which to be thankful. How about you?

I love Christmas—the sounds, the music of Christmas—*Handel's Messiah*, jazzed up Christmas songs: *White Christmas*, *Jingle Bells*, classic Christmas carols out of the hymnal: *Away in a Manger*, *The First Nowell*, *Joy to the World*, *Angels We Have Heard on High*. I love the old classic movies—not the Hallmark movies—the real classics: *Charlie Brown Christmas*, *The Grinch Who Stole Christmas*...*It's a Wonderful Life*, *A Christmas Carol*, *The Christmas Story* (Really? Yes!), *Home Alone* (Really? Yes!)—*The Nativity*. I love the smells of Christmas: evergreen, apple pie, cinnamon. I love the lights: on the houses, streets, trees, candles, and decorations. I love the celebration: family, gatherings, parades, church, candlelight services, communion.

We celebrate the incarnation, Immanuel, God with us! The significance and purpose of Christmas can be seen in Colossians 1:13-22 (HCSB), where the Apostle Paul wrote,

For He rescued us from the domain of darkness, and transferred us to the kingdom of His beloved Son, in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins. He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation. For by Him all things were created, both in the heavens and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or authorities—all things have been created through Him and for Him. He is before all things, and in Him all things hold together. He is also head of the body, the church; and He is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, so that He Himself will come to have first place in everything. For it was the Father's good pleasure for all the fullness to dwell in Him, and through Him to reconcile all things to Himself, having made peace through the blood of His cross; through Him, I say, whether things on earth or things in heaven. And although you were formerly alienated and hostile in mind, engaged in evil deeds, yet He has now reconciled you in His fleshly body through death, in order to present you before Him holy and blameless and beyond reproach....

Thanksgiving! A time to reflect and remember all that God has done for us, and for all He has given us. *In everything give thanks; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus* (1 Thess. 5:18 HCSB).

Christmas! A time of great joy, celebration, expectation, worship, and hope. *For a child will be born to us, 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* (Isaiah 9:6 HCSB).

*Thank you for allowing us to serve our Lord, His church,
and the churches of Eastern Louisiana Baptist Association.*

*Happy Thanksgiving!
Merry Christmas!
Have a blessed New Year!*

*From your Eastern Louisiana Baptist Association Staff...
Dr. Richard Blue, AMC and KaRetha Kelley, Admin. Asst.*



CONTRIBUTIONS FROM THE CHURCHES September 2020		
	MTH	YTD
Agape	\$0.00	\$291.00
Amite	\$1,644.71	\$13,559.88
Bethel	\$121.18	\$1,099.91
Carroll	\$0.00	\$942.05
Central	\$0.00	\$0.00
Christ Community	\$0.00	\$8,623.00
Colyell	\$1,314.66	\$11,049.05
Denham Springs, FBC	\$1,305.10	\$10,487.51
Don Avenue	\$434.69	\$4,176.92
Emmanuel	\$0.00	\$2,898.57
Faith	\$0.00	\$0.00
French Settlement	\$302.72	\$2,412.88
Gray's Creek	\$415.00	\$4,734.00
Greater Third Zion	\$0.00	\$0.00
Head of Island	\$160.51	\$995.51
Hebron	\$368.93	\$3,703.84
Holden	\$314.00	\$2,138.25
Judson	\$1,506.37	\$14,479.66
Live Oak	\$2,342.08	\$24,297.59
Livingston FBC	\$680.00	\$5,842.00
Macedonia	\$0.00	\$600.00
Magnolia	\$200.00	\$2,000.00
Maurepas	\$0.00	\$716.00
Midway	\$0.00	\$346.47
New Bethlehem	\$81.86	\$727.95
New Covenant	\$0.00	\$0.00
Northside	\$553.79	\$5,920.71
One Life	\$449.00	\$1,533.00
Pine Grove	\$522.90	\$4,167.81
Red Oak	\$0.00	\$1,100.00
River of Life	\$0.00	\$0.00
Riverside	\$214.68	\$2,353.39
Salem	\$0.00	\$0.00
Satsuma	\$0.00	\$250.00
South Walker	\$0.00	\$1,878.16
Southside	\$550.00	\$2,000.00
The New Beginnings	\$391.42	\$1,209.32
Victory	\$450.61	\$1,959.21
Walker	\$1,900.08	\$21,041.86
Watson	\$418.25	\$4,456.93
The Way Church	\$225.00	\$2,025.00
Community Ch Spfd	\$50.00	\$450.00
Total Contributions	\$16,917.54	\$166,467.43
Capital One		\$87,046.94
Louisiana Baptist Foundation		\$727,438.46
TOTAL Checking & Savings		\$814,485.40

News from the Churches . . .

Please pray for our churches currently seeking pastors:

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



Riverside Baptist Church Announcement

Bro. Larry Hubbard, Pastor, Riverside Baptist Church, extends an invitation to all pastors to join him for a monthly fellowship meal beginning in 2021. The first meal will be held on Monday, January 11th. Mark your calendars from then on to join them each second Monday of the month.



Please pray for all of our ELBA Pastors and Church Staff Members

And also pray for our...



Association Council Members

David Lane, Moderator, Larry Hubbard, Vice Moderator,
KaRetha Kelley, Clerk, Elena Lavigne, Treasurer,
Mary Broussard, Historian,
Team Leaders—Bobbie Shaffett, Howard Turner, Tom and
Patti Higginbotham, Robbie Isom, and Luke Hand



Ministry News



**xtreme
winter**
the ultimate winter student experience!



Welcome to Xtreme Winter 2020/2021 - the ultimate winter student experience! Click through our web-site and learn about the amazing lineup we have for our Branson and Gatlinburg locations. Prices start at \$139 per person for two nights lodging in great area hotels plus 3 days of our great conference line-up. It only takes \$200 to sign your youth group up today!

Go to <http://xtremeconferences.com/somethingnew/index.html> for more details!



Life!

PRAYER MATTERS

Our voices are rising up to God with thousands upon thousands of our sisters'. God hears. God answers. Let's continue to come together to shake the world and dispel forces of darkness.

"The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I came that they may have life and have it abundantly."

John 10:10

ATTENTION Ladies of ELBA

Please plan to join us for our annual "Day of Prayer"

Baptist Women's World Day of Prayer

Monday, November 2, 2020

7:00PM

Don Avenue Baptist Church

1010 Don Avenue, Denham Springs, LA

Please be in prayer for the Disaster Relief Ministry. There is much work going on in Southwest Louisiana. The need is great and the workers are few. If you would like to become part of our disaster relief teams, please contact **Kelly Tam** at 318-449-4280 or kelly.tam@lbc.org. She is with the Louisiana Baptist Convention and will be able to help get you trained and ready to work with our Disaster Relief Ministry.

LOUISIANA



Week of Prayer for International Missions and Lottie Moon Christmas Offering is November 29–December 6.
The national goal is \$175,000,000.00

Eastern Louisiana Baptist Association RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

PO Box 305 ❖ 9126 Comar Drive
Walker LA 70785

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The next ELBA Newsletter will be mailed in January. 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.



Pastor's Family Fall Fellowship
Saturday, November 7, 2020
11:00am until 1:00pm

Walker Baptist Church
10696 Florida Blvd., Walker, LA

2020 has been a trying year for everyone.
This will be a time of good food and friendly
fellowship to show our appreciation for the
ELBA Church Pastors.
Bring your family and come hungry!

☒ **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)***

NOVEMBER 2020

- 2 Ladies World Day of Prayer Don
Avenue Baptist Church 7pm
- 7 Pastor's Fall Festival—Walker
Baptist Church 11am
- 24 CWJC Enrichment 10am
- 26 Thanksgiving Day

DECEMBER 2020

- 7 Minister's Conference—South
Walker Baptist Church 10am
- 22 Winter Begins
- 24 Christmas Eve
- 25 Christmas Day
- 28-31 ELBA Offices Closed