



Eastern Louisiana Baptist Association

VOL. 43 MAY—JUNE 2019 NO. 3

Together We Do What We Cannot Do Alone

Blue's News

Thank you for allowing me to serve the Lord, the church, and you as your Association Missions Coordinator. The past six months has allowed me the time to attend most of our churches, meet with a number of pastors, staff, and church leaders, and begin to grasp the work that the Lord has for us as an association. When I first became AMC, many of our leaders told me they were excited to hear about the **Vision** I had for Eastern Louisiana Baptist Association. Many will remember my reply, *If it is my vision, you may not be willing to follow. If it is "our" vision, you will more apt to personally engage yourself and your church in the journey of faith the Lord has for ELBA.*

It is time for *US* to come *TOGETHER*, seek God's face, look at our landscape, and develop *OUR* vision plan for Eastern Louisiana Baptist Association. My initial survey of our landscape overflows with possibility for our churches and opportunities for new kinds of works. The next round of the Livingston Parish population boom is happening. This means we are already behind in preparation and planning.

The needs I see now:

Revitalization of struggling churches

Repurposing of churches that are closing their doors

Strengthening our healthy churches

Opening our eyes to the lostness of our community

Discovering a point of balance in the changing landscape of church life

Developing a pathway forward to new ministry and church opportunities (growing population, changing demographics, reaching millennials)

If we do not take the lead in confronting the lostness of our parish with the life-changing gospel, God will raise someone else up who will. Let's not lose our opportunity. 1 Chronicles 7:32, when King David's army is being numbered, it is said of the soldiers from the tribe of Issachar, "who understood the times and knew what Israel should do." We need to understand our times, what we should do, and come ready to set the course into the future.

Do you want your association to add value to your church's ministry, your ministry, and serve as a conduit to advance the gospel of Christ locally and around the world? If so, will you join me for a Visioning Session on Tuesday, August 27th, 8:00am-2:00pm? I am asking early so you can make plans to attend. We need everyone's participation. Remember, *We do together what we cannot do alone.*

I Can See Clearly Now!

Clearing a path into the future

August 27, 2019

ELBA Office

8:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

(snacks and lunch provided)

Where there is no vision,

the people are unrestrained,

But happy is he who keeps the law. --Proverbs 29:18 (HCSB)

Richard Blue

CONTRIBUTIONS FROM THE CHURCHES
March—April 15, 2019

	MTD	YTD
Agape	\$0.00	\$0.00
Amite	\$0.00	\$0.00
Bethel	\$160.43	\$350.43
Carroll	\$257.50	\$373.76
Central	\$0.00	\$157.00
Christ Community	\$1,043.00	\$3,144.00
Colyell	\$1,147.40	\$1,147.40
FBC, Denham Sprgs	\$0.00	\$1,564.74
Don Avenue	\$367.42	\$883.18
Doyle	\$0.00	\$0.00
Emmanuel	\$0.00	\$915.30
Faith	\$168.44	\$437.95
French Settlement	\$0.00	\$597.76
Gray's Creek	\$578.00	\$1,991.00
Greater Third Zion	\$0.00	\$0.00
Head of Island	\$138.45	\$452.15
Hebron	\$1,522.73	\$6,323.99
Holden	\$204.14	\$810.32
Judson	\$0.00	\$5,240.32
Live Oak	\$0.00	\$5,523.83
Livingston FBC	\$702.00	\$2,570.00
Macedonia	\$0.00	\$0.00
Magnolia	\$200.00	\$600.00
Maurepas	\$0.00	\$226.00
Midway	\$0.00	\$350.43
New Bethlehem	\$75.00	\$225.00
New Covenant	\$0.00	\$300.00
Northside	\$693.62	\$1,864.90
One Life	\$0.00	\$0.00
Pine Grove	\$548.61	\$1,384.34
Red Oak	\$100.00	\$300.00
River of Life	\$0.00	\$0.00
Riverside	\$297.01	\$780.16
Salem	\$0.00	\$0.00
Satsuma	\$0.00	\$0.00
South Walker	\$0.00	\$0.00
Southside	\$0.00	\$700.00
The New Beginnings	\$185.26	\$463.36
Victory	\$285.96	\$922.86
Walker	\$2,528.30	\$6,579.31
Watson	\$383.89	\$774.28
The Way Church	\$227.44	\$678.84
Community Ch Spfd	\$50.00	\$150.00
Walker Comm Min	\$0.00	\$300.00
Total Contributions	\$11,864.60	\$49,082.61

Capital One	\$101,180.26
Louisiana Baptist Foundation	\$736,768.42
TOTAL Checking & Savings	\$837,948.68

News from the Churches . . .

Bro. Larry Badon has resigned as the pastor of Carroll Baptist Church.

First Baptist Church, Denham Springs is looking to hire a financial secretary. Please contact Bro. Bill McDaniel if interested. **Bro. Leo Miller, Pastor**

Don Avenue Baptist Church will hold “Marvelous Mondays in May” Revival. May 6—Dr. Preston Nix, May 13—Rev. Clark Stewart, May 20—Dr. David Goza and May 27—Dr. Joel Williams. Services will start at 6:30pm. **Bro. Tom Higginbotham, Interim Pastor**



Please Pray!

Vacation Bible Schools will be starting!

National Day
Of Prayer
May 2nd



Christian Social Services

The Christian Counseling Center has moved in! The office suites are complete and the counseling center is now open.

Jarrod Hegwood has faithfully stayed the course during our transition and we are so thankful for him. We welcome Erica Matthews on board. She is available Wednesday and Fridays for appointments and Jarrod is available Tuesdays and Thursdays. Please call 664-0760 with questions.

The **CommUnity Hands** ministry is holding their annual Friday Fish Fry Fundraiser. It will be held May 24th from 11am to 1pm. Please contact the office at 664-9309 if you would like to purchase a fish dinner. The cost is \$8.00 and includes fish, salad, coleslaw, bread, and dessert.

Ministry News

ACEs Training
Thursday, May 2nd
5:30pm—8:30pm

Please plan to join us at the Missions and Ministry Center for a training session by ACEs of Louisiana. Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs) is the term given to describe all types of abuse, neglect, and other traumatic childhood experiences. The ACE Educator Program seeks to build community awareness around ACEs, trauma, and resilience science across the state via a robust and well-informed network of trained educators. The Bureau of Family Health provides trainings for small cohorts of volunteers to become ACE Educators, who then offer no-cost presentations to agencies, organizations and community groups across the state of Louisiana. This work is part of a larger effort to develop policies and practices that are informed by an understanding of the lifelong impact of childhood adversity and trauma.



Church Growth Corner Freddie Arnold

Listed below are updates for events that are taking place, have taken place or about to take place.

New Building Construction: We are about 95% completed and have passed all our inspections. There has been some limited use of the facility recently. Listed are events held in new building: Limited Counseling Sessions, The Sunday School Challenge Training (22 persons attended), The Prayer Boot Camp Training (22 persons attended). We have a proposed bid of \$6,500.00 to expand our parking lot. We will expand by placing recycled concrete 6" deep over a plot that is 75' wide and 118' long. The material will be put in place and compacted.

2019 Easter Egg Hunt(s) Projects: The Watson area event was held and had approximately 1,200 persons in attendance. The Walker area event was canceled due to the wet conditions of the park and the inclement weather conditions. Several churches have scheduled events in their local areas to use up their supplies.

Disaster Relief: Ten men and two women participated in the callout to Fremont, Nebraska to help with the flood damage. We travelled over 2,000 miles, mudded out six homes in five to six days and travelled four days total. Food and places to stay were provided for the team. Two others and I are tentatively scheduled to go May 3 to work incident command.

Belarussian Missions: Two persons are signed up to participate in the Belarus Mission trip in September from the 16th through the 24th. Money collected for expenses this far is \$431.00 for travel and \$182.00 for bibles. We have sold ten Bibles to date. The mission trip will be construction, handing out Bibles, and training leaders.

Camp Living Waters: One cottage completed and the small staff barn is under construction. A quarterly men's and women's prayer retreat is scheduled for Saturday, May 18th to pray for summer camps and staff. A dinner will be held that evening. Camp enrollment is looking good. There is always a need for volunteers from our churches to help during the summer. The new maintenance building is complete. We need to plan and support a quarterly volunteer work plan at the camp.

Global Maritime Ministries: The work continues to grow which means there is always a need for volunteers to help. Bro. Fred and Barbara Hart took a young lady to the center recently to introduce her to the ministry and how she could get involve. I took a prospective bus driver to help transport the seamen to and from the ship. We helped get the packages given out to the seamen that had orders shipped to the center. Individuals and groups are always welcome to go to the center and help.

LOUISIANA



*Please Remember your
Disaster Relief Ministry*

**There are many across the
state that have been im-
pacted by tornados and
recent weather situations.**

**Please pray for the safety of teams that are minis-
tering and those who were affected by the storms.**

**If you would like to become part of the Disaster
Relief Ministry, please contact Bro. Freddie Arnold
and let him know you are interested.**

225/664-9309 or freddie.arnold@gmail.com

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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@elbamiissions.org.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

MAY 2019

- 2 ACEs Training—5:30PM ELBA's M&M Center
- 4 M-JAM, Tall Timbers, Woodworth
- 6 Executive Board – 6:30PM ELBA M&M Center
(Meal at 5:45PM)
- 12 **Mother's Day**
- 27 Memorial Day
(ELBA Offices
Closed)



JUNE 2019

- 9-10 WMU SBC Annual Meeting, Birmingham AL
- 10-13 Kids Summer Camp 1 – Tall Timbers
- 11-12 Southern Baptist Convention –
Birmingham, AL
- 16 **Father's Day**
- 17-21 Kids Summer Camp 2 – Tall Timbers
- 21 Summer Begins
- 20-22 Champion's Camp – Tall Timbers
- 25 State WMU Council – Baptist Bld.,
Alexandria
- 27-29 High Pursuit Youth Camp – Tall Timbers

GOSPEL

ABOVE ALL

1 CORINTHIANS 15:3-4

2019 SBC PASTORS' CONFERENCE
KINGDOM CHARACTER

BIRMINGHAM, ALABAMA • JUNE 9-10



2019 SBC ANNUAL MEETING
BIRMINGHAM, ALABAMA • JUNE 11-12