



Eastern Louisiana Baptist Association

VOL. 43 JULY—AUGUST 2019 NO. 4

Together We Do What We Cannot Do Alone

Blue's News

Why does the association exist? It will take several Blue Plate Specials to fully answer that question, and define the scope of the association's importance in Baptist life. Simply put, the association provides a place for cooperation, unity in and among churches, and mutual strength for its member churches. The association also serves a rallying point for cooperative missions and ministry. Consider ELBA's motto, *Together we do what we cannot do alone.*

Nothing better describes our motto than the recent flash flood in our area. The flood brought out the best of Eastern Louisiana Baptist Association. Jeremy Glascock organized a response group from Colyell to help those with debris and trees down in the path of the tornado that struck there. At the request of Livingston Homeland Security, ELBA was tasked with setting up a shelter at Live Oak Jr. High. David Lane rallied a response team from Judson ready to provide a meal and organization for the shelter for the first night. Christ Community, Live Oak, Riverside, and Walker were ready to join the response. When the shelter was closed without a person registering, the prepared food was distributed by Judson to families who were flooded.

Those directly impacted: The New Beginnings received three inches of water in its building. Charles Ray Smith rallied congregants, a noon news report rallied area support, and Bro. Tom Higginbotham worked with them to gut and dry out their building. Bro. Paul Taylor's home lost some shingles due to the tornado in the Colyell area.

On Friday, Homeland Security tasked ELBA again with two families removed from their homes because of the possibility of a power pole falling into flood water and electrifying the area. Judson and Satsuma offered to help resource the housing of these two families in a local hotel. Thank you for your willingness to respond and serve.

We are blessed to have Bro. Freddie Arnold with his knowledge base and contacts he has developed through his years in SBC DR work.

I learned how to organize and run a shelter for four weeks in 2016. I did not expect to get a refresher in 2019. We need to be vigilant. Prepare now, train now, and hope we never use the training.

On another note...The ELBA Executive Board met Thursday, June 6th, to approve funding of a Hispanic mission work connected with New Bethlehem. We had an excellent turnout for an off-night, post deluge meeting.

Coming soon! **Dr. Joe McKeever** is a retired pastor and Director of Missions. You may be familiar with his articles with topics related to church life and the pastor's home. These have been featured in the Baptist Message, SBC Today, and as articles in several online blogs. We are blessed to have Dr. McKeever to speak at our 10:00 a.m. July 8th Minister's Conference here at the ELBA office. You will be glad you came. Bring a friend!

You can help! Would your church be willing to provide a meal for our ministers' conferences? We could use your help for the July 8th, or one of the fall ministers' conferences in the fall? You can provide food for a conference at the ELBA office, or we can move the conference to your church. Please contact the ELBA office if you can help.

A new associational year is upon us and our nominating committee will begin their task of recommending new leadership for the next executive board meeting in August. **Will you prayerfully consider serving?** Positions for associational service will soon be recommended for the 2019-2020 year. Want to learn how your association works? Be willing to serve as a leader or on a committee. Pray for them as they work, and be willing to lead if asked. I am proud to serve the Lord, His churches, and you through Eastern Louisiana Baptist Association.

Richard Blue

CONTRIBUTIONS FROM THE CHURCHES
May-June 15, 2019

Church	MTD	YTD
Agape	\$0.00	\$0.00
Amite	\$0.00	\$0.00
Bethel	\$127.51	\$585.92
Carroll	\$314.50	\$835.72
Central	\$0.00	\$157.00
Christ Community	\$2,095.00	\$5,239.00
Colyell	\$1,763.31	\$2,910.71
Denham Springs, FBC	\$854.65	\$3,659.65
Don Avenue	\$280.17	\$1,410.88
Doyle	\$0.00	\$0.00
Emmanuel	\$445.10	\$1,688.59
Faith	\$272.52	\$710.47
French Settlement	\$500.84	\$1,443.79
Gray's Creek	\$0.00	\$2,361.00
Greater Third Zion	\$0.00	\$0.00
Head of Island	\$0.00	\$567.10
Hebron	\$1,456.14	\$9,512.42
Holden	\$0.00	\$1,346.81
Judson	\$1,240.55	\$8,227.64
Live Oak	\$2,398.05	\$13,176.62
Livingston FBC	\$662.00	\$3,802.00
Macedonia	\$0.00	\$0.00
Magnolia	\$200.00	\$1,000.00
Maurepas	\$0.00	\$370.00
Midway	\$0.00	\$508.51
New Bethlehem	\$75.00	\$375.00
New Covenant	\$0.00	\$300.00
Northside	\$596.08	\$3,160.23
One Life	\$0.00	\$0.00
Pine Grove	\$385.00	\$2,123.11
Red Oak	\$100.00	\$500.00
River of Life	\$0.00	\$0.00
Riverside	\$273.82	\$1,275.68
Salem	\$0.00	\$0.00
Satsuma	\$0.00	\$0.00
South Walker	\$0.00	\$0.00
Southside	\$300.00	\$1,400.00
The New Beginnings	\$179.28	\$840.68
Victory	\$197.68	\$1,342.96
Walker	\$2,018.46	\$10,936.66
Watson	\$0.00	\$1,597.15
The Way Church	\$225.00	\$1,128.84
Community Ch Spfd	\$0.00	\$250.00
Walker Comm Min	\$0.00	\$700.00
Total Contributions	\$16,960.66	\$85,444.14

Capital One	\$74,050.64
Louisiana Baptist Foundation	\$711,768.42
TOTAL Checking & Savings	\$758,819.06

News from the Churches . . .

One Life Church has called **Bro. Dana Trahan** as their pastor.
P. O. Box 1581, Walker, LA 70785

Please pray for our churches currently seeking pastors:

Carroll Baptist Church, Walker Baptist Church, Red Oak Baptists Church, Don Avenue Baptist Church, Doyle Baptist Church, and Agape' Baptist Church

Please Pray for the Remaining Vacation Bible Schools This Summer



South Walker Baptist Church - July 8-12 - 6:00pm
 Bethel Baptist Church, July 15-19, 6:00pm-8:30pm
 Don Avenue Baptist Church, July 15-19, 5:45pm-8:00pm
 Victory Baptist Church, June 24-28, 6:00pm-8:30pm
 Hebron Baptist Church, July 2-6, 6:00pm-8:30pm
 The New Beginnings Baptist Church, July 8-12, 9:00am-Noon
 First Baptist Church, Denham Springs, June 23-26, 6:00pm-8:30pm



Christian Women's Job Corp.

Accepting Applications



Christian Women's Job Corps is on the move! Stop by ELBA to visit our new office and computer classroom. We are excited to have our own space, **CHRISTIAN WOMEN'S JOB CORPS***, a ministry of VMU after 3 years of homelessness. Our friends at Walker, Judson and Hebron Baptist Churches who housed us for those years will be especially glad.

A planning meeting was held in our new space on May 21, 2019. Volunteers will be meeting monthly to plan for the fall semester which begins the day after Labor Day, September 3, and runs through November. Classes are held on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 9 am to 3 pm, and include: Bible Study, Life Skills, Job Skills and Computer Skills. Learn more about requirements for participants online at:

<https://elbamissions.org/christian-womens-jobs> or request participant and volunteer applications at the ELBA office. Site Coordinator, Bobbie Shaffett, and other Leadership Team Members will be making church contacts and visits. Call the ELBA office to schedule a visit to your church for a specific date.

Ministry News

TOTAL CHURCH LIFE LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE

(More Information on back)

When: August 17, 2019

Where: Florida Boulevard Baptist Church

Time: 8:30 – 1:30 PM

For: All Church Leaders & Teachers

Register: BAGBR website
www.bagbr.org

Cost: \$25.0 per person: DR
trainees pay an extra \$10.00 - for
background checks.



*This is a joint training event sponsored by ELBA,
BAGBR and LBC*

SAVE THE DATE—The FORGE

Friday, August 16—Saturday, August 17

Amite Baptist Church



Eddie Briery, Speaker
Students 6th Grade through
12th Grade

More Details to Come

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)

Clearing the path requires cutting out the undergrowth, laying a foundation, and following the path to its destination. The local association adds value to your church's ministry, your ministry, and serves as a conduit to advance the gospel of Christ locally and around the world. Make plans to participate in the ELBA Visioning Session on Tuesday, August 27th, 8:00am-2:00 p.m. Please contact the office if you plan to attend. Your input is vital. Remember, *We do together what we cannot do alone.*

Church Growth Corner

Freddie Arnold

We all know "I Hope" how important this time of year is in our churches and communities, "Do You"? It is "**VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL TIME**". Why? It is proven to be so. VBS reaches people of all ages for Jesus. It involves the entire church, persons outside in the community, and parents and grandparents that would otherwise never enter the church. It has also stood the test of time. Lifeway Resources has established a research project that proves all the truths about all the accomplished statements listed above. They have published the findings in a book that is entitled "It's Worth It". It is noted in the book that nine out of ten American adults say that they have overall positive memories of this "summertime mainstay". I hope that you are doing three things related to this activity: (1) Getting involved in this activity personally (2) Getting someone else involved and (3) Sharing the Gospel with someone while you are involved. The author of the book says "VBS Week is the only time a local church brings multiple generations together for evangelism and discipleship for the sake of the Gospel." I hope that we never have to retire this effective and exciting method of outreach to and involvement of our communities.

Byelorussian Mission Trip and Bible Distribution:

September is fast approaching for the trip to Belarus to share the Gospel and distribute Bibles in the Russian language. The "Good and Evil" translation of the Bible cost \$10.00 each if purchased in Belarus and \$25.00/1 if purchased here in the English language. Also, we are encouraging persons and churches to give toward some of the cost of the expenses related to the trip. We need these monies in as soon as possible in order to meet our deadline of August 1. To those churches and individuals who have made contributions so far, we appreciate your efforts immensely. Also, we appreciate your prayer support while we are involved in our travel and work.

Global Maritime Ministries 2019 Report

January – April 2019 Seafarers Contacts – 21 and 2,687 have visited the center—Countries Represented – 63—Port Worker Contacts – 374 and visiting the center – 34—Total Ships visiting Harbor – 267—Gospel Presented – 346—Professions of Faith – 21 Bibles Distributed – 327

Annual Fundraiser

"Global Fest – Music – Fun – Food

First Baptist New Orleans

Oct. 11. 2019 6:00 P.M.

Tickets: \$25.00/1

Bro. Freddie

Eastern Louisiana Baptist Association

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

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The next ELBA Newsletter will be mailed in September. 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

JULY 2019

- 4 4th of July—ELBA Offices closed
8 Minister's Conference—ELBA Office 10:00AM
Bro. Joe McKeever, Guest Speaker
22 **Association Council** – 10:00AM ELBA Office
30 CWJC Orientation

AUGUST 2019

- 5 **Executive Board**—ELBA Office-6:30pm
(Meal at 5:45PM)
17 Total Church Life Conference—Fla. Blvd. Baptist
16-17 FORGE—Amite Baptist Church
27 Vision Planning Meeting—ELBA—8AM to 2PM
(See Page 3 for More Details)

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE!

The 177th Annual Session of the
Eastern Louisiana Baptist Association
will be held
Monday, October 7th at 6:00PM
At Riverside Baptist Church
Dr. Steve Horn, Guest Speaker



Total Church Life LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE

Saturday, August 17, 2019 - Florida Boulevard Baptist Church
8:30 AM - 1:00 PM followed by lunch Dr. Jeff Long, Keynote Speaker

*Cost: \$25 per person on or before August 9, \$30 per person after August 9 and at the door.

*Additional \$10.00 per person if a person takes any of the Disaster Relief Sessions.

For more information call (225) 296-3943. Registration form available at www.bagbr.org.

This Conference offers something for your church leadership and members.
Sessions include the following areas of training & information for all church leadership & members.

Adults
Adult Seniors
Apologetics
Children / Preschool
Church Finance
Conflict Resolution

Cultural Hot Topics
Deacons
Leadership
Men's Ministry
Partnership & Community
Pastors

Revitalization
Security
Social Media
Women's Ministry
Worship / Music
Youth

Disaster Relief
• Orientation
• Assessment
• Mud Out



"... for the equipping of the saints for the work of service,
to the building up of the body of Christ; until we all attain to
the unity of the faith, and of the knowledge of the Son
of God, to a mature man, to the measure of the
stature which belongs to the fullness of Christ."
Ephesians 4:12-13