



**Eastern Louisiana Baptist Association**

**VOL. 43 NOVEMBER-DECEMBER 2019 NO. 6**

**Together We Do What We Cannot Do Alone**

## ***Blue's News***

**The holidays are here!** I am a holiday fanatic. I love Trick or Treat—I know, not a holiday, but watching *It's The Great Pumpkin Charlie Brown* is an annual tradition for me. Then, there is Thanksgiving and Christmas. Holiday means *holy-day*. These were days set aside on the Church Year Calendar to commemorate a special event or person related to Christianity. The government has added some “holy-days” that, by their own merit, have taken on special meaning in the Church.

One such holiday is Thanksgiving, a day to thank God for His divine providence and provision for the past year. As you awaken from your turkey coma on Thanksgiving Day, take time to count your blessings and remember the good hand of God upon you in this past year.

Christmas follows with pageantry, sounds, color, lights, fun, and gifts. A pagan tradition? Only if you want to see it that way. Instead, I see a holy-day. Consider that the evergreen tree reminds us of the eternal life that is ours in Jesus Christ; Christmas lights remind us that Jesus is the light of the world; the star reminds us of the star that led the wisemen to Jesus' manger; the gifts under the tree remind us of the gifts given by the wisemen to Jesus; and even Santa reminds us of the unconditional love and acceptance of Christ toward sinful men. Christmas carols announce glory to God in the highest, and on earth, peace, and goodwill among men.

As you celebrate the upcoming holiday season, let me encourage you not to get lost in the pressure, rush, and busyness to lose sight of the reason for the season. Be thankful for God's great salvation in Jesus, and for His provision and presence in your life as a believer. Remember and share with someone the reason for the Christmas season—Jesus Christ, God with us, came to save us from our sin. Go tell it on the mountain! Over the hills and everywhere that Jesus Christ is Lord!

*Think about this...* The **Lottie Moon Christmas Offering** provides funding for 60% of our foreign mission efforts as Baptists. It takes all churches, regardless of size, pulling together to make this offering successful. Pray-Give-Go! Every penny given to this offering at Christmas goes directly to support our missionaries reaching the world for Christ. As you are gift-buying for Christmas, remember a gift for the true *reason for the season*. Give to the **Lottie Moon Christmas Offering**.

*Make plans now:* The **ELBA Fall Family Fellowship** is taking the place of the Ministers and Mates Christmas event this year. Join with other ministers and their families on November 9<sup>th</sup> at Macedonia Baptist Church from 11:00-2:00 (no worries...Tigers and Tide kick-off is at 2:30). There will be music, food, and fun for all. Mark your calendar and plan to join the fun! Check out the announcement in this newsletter for more information.

*Don't miss this: Thank you Freddie Arnold.* I have been blessed to work together with Bro. Freddie for nine years in the association plus this past year as a partner in ministry through ELBA. He assures me that he will not be that far away if needed. Join me in thanking he and Elaine for their service to the Lord through Eastern Louisiana Baptist Association at a reception in their honor on Saturday, December 7<sup>th</sup>, 11:00-1:00 at the ELBA office.

*Richard Blue*

**CONTRIBUTIONS FROM THE CHURCHES**  
**September-October 2019**

Church	MTD	YTD
Agape	\$0.00	\$0.00
Amite	\$1,410.74	\$4,199.28
Bethel	\$297.68	\$1,258.02
Carroll	\$0.00	\$1,181.44
Central	\$0.00	\$157.00
Christ Community	\$0.00	\$7,353.00
Colyell	\$0.00	\$2,910.71
Denham Springs, FBC	\$0.00	\$7,754.70
Don Avenue	\$295.05	\$2,583.11
Doyle	\$0.00	\$0.00
Emmanuel	\$551.40	\$2,749.89
Faith	\$0.00	\$1,262.47
French Settlement	\$288.68	\$2,420.79
Gray's Creek	\$506.00	\$4,507.00
Greater Third Zion	\$0.00	\$0.00
Head of Island	\$238.40	\$1,155.10
Hebron	\$404.56	\$13,332.36
Holden	\$526.13	\$2,569.38
Judson	\$2,964.36	\$15,718.23
Live Oak	\$2,825.02	\$21,923.59
Livingston FBC	\$670.00	\$5,768.00
Macedonia	\$0.00	\$840.00
Magnolia	\$200.00	\$1,800.00
Maurepas	\$0.00	\$604.00
Midway	\$0.00	\$1,450.69
New Bethlehem	\$81.70	\$685.14
New Covenant	\$0.00	\$600.00
Northside	\$739.16	\$5,841.58
One Life	\$90.00	\$1,040.00
Pine Grove	\$510.00	\$4,043.61
Red Oak	\$100.00	\$800.00
River of Life	\$0.00	\$0.00
Riverside	\$290.01	\$2,283.38
Salem	\$0.00	\$0.00
Satsuma	\$0.00	\$0.00
South Walker	\$0.00	\$1,786.00
Southside	\$300.00	\$2,750.00
The New Beginnings	\$167.96	\$1,485.14
Victory	\$249.97	\$2,254.26
Walker	\$2,411.57	\$20,121.09
Watson	\$411.24	\$3,177.98
The Way Church	\$225.00	\$2,028.84
Community Ch Spfd	\$100.00	\$500.00
Walker Comm Min	\$0.00	\$1,000.00
Total Contributions	\$16,854.63	\$153,895.78

Capital One	\$34,812.24
Louisiana Baptist Foundation	\$734,647.56
<b>TOTAL Checking &amp; Savings</b>	<b>\$769,459.80</b>

## News from the Churches . . .

**Please pray for our churches currently seeking pastors:**

Carroll Baptist Church, Walker Baptist Church, Don Avenue Baptist Church, and First Baptist Church, French Settlement

Bro. Herb Cowan as retired as the Pastor of **First Baptist Church, French Settlement, LA**

**Victory Baptist Church** will celebrate Thanksgiving/Veterans Day Worship and Dinner, Sunday November 10th after the 10:30am church service. Chad Ward, Pastor



*ELBA's Fall  
Family Fellowship*

All ELBA church ministers, staff and their families are invited  
to our first annual  
Fall Family Fellowship Saturday, November 9, 2019  
from 11:00am until 2:00pm.  
(this will take the place of our Ministers and Mates Christmas Party to free up "holiday time" for our pastors)  
Please join us at  
Macedonia Baptist Church  
34685 LA Hwy. 1036, Holden, LA

There will be plenty of good food, fun and games, fellowship and great music! Bring your lawn chairs and plan to join us for a great time.



***Kids Celebration!***

Saturday, November 16th  
Judson Baptist Church  
6:00—8:00PM

*Speaker—David Anderson*

*Worship Leader  
Nolan Bishop Band*

***Come join us for a night of fun  
and worship for kids!***

# Ministry News

# Church Growth Corner Freddie Arnold

I hope that the information listed below helps you to feel the same heart warming and exciting feelings that I felt when I read it. Amongst all the struggle, strife, negativism, and bellyaching that we hear and experience across our denomination, this information helps us, or should help us, to feel proud that we continue to meet our goals by continuing to support our mission causes instead of closing or discontinuing our missions. I hope you continue to support our methods and people in sharing the gospel across our nation and around the world through your giving.

*Bro. Freddie*

*“Southern Baptist churches continue to do more together than we could ever do on our own,” said SBC Executive Committee Baptist and CEO Ronnie Floyd in a statement to Baptist Press.*

*“Cooperating together to reach every person for Jesus Christ in every town, every city, every state, and every nation is exactly what the Cooperative Program is all about. This is why I want to say thank you to every church giving through the Cooperative Program, as well as thank each pastor and church leader for leading your church to join us in the grand worldwide task. Together we have exceeded our budget goal this year by \$2,731,703. Reaching the world with the Gospel is the only reason this network of churches called Southern Baptists exists. With joy, I celebrate all that God has done!”*

Baptist Press, Posted Oct 2, 2019



**Special Thanks to Bro. Freddie for his Service to ELBA for the past 10 years.**

**Retirement Reception**

Honoring

**Freddie and Elaine Arnold**

Saturday, December 7

ELBA Office, 9126 Comar Drive, Walker, LA

11:00AM—1:00PM



## Eastern Louisiana Baptist Association

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### Freddie L. Arnold

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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@elbamiissions.org](mailto:info@elbamiissions.org).

## MARK YOUR CALENDAR

### NOVEMBER 2019

- 3 Daylight Savings Time Ends
- 4 World Day of Prayer/Ladies Meeting DABC
- 9 Minister's Fall Family Fellowship, Macedonia BC
- 9 VBS Fall Preview – Baptist Bld., Alexandria
- 11 Veteran's Day
- 11-12 Louisiana Baptist Convention Annual Meeting, Alexandria
- 16 Kids Celebration—Judson Baptist Church
- 24-25 YEC Conference – Rapides Coliseum, Alexandria
- 28 Thanksgiving Day (ELBA Offices Closed)

### DECEMBER 2019

- 1-8 Week of Prayer for Lottie Moon Offering
- 2 Minister's Conference - 10:00AM - LOBC
- 21 First Day of Winter
- 25 Christmas Day
- 24-1 Christmas/New Year Holidays (Offices Closed)

### Minister's Conference

Monday, December 2, 2019



10:00AM at ELBA. Live Oak Baptist Church will host the meal. Please plan to attend.

### WMU World Day of Prayer

Monday, November 4th

7:00pm—Don Avenue Baptist Church  
Baptist women all around the world will gather to pray.  
They will focus on a variety of needs that will help other Baptist women. Please plan to join us.

Week of Prayer for International  
Missions & Lottie Moon  
Christmas Offering 2019

Supporting Missionaries among the  
unreached since 1888

