



**Eastern Louisiana Baptist Association**

**VOL. 46 JULY/AUGUST 2022 NO. 4**

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

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

I became pastor of my first church in 1979. I was green, and really had no idea what I was to do. Yet, Bro. Clyde, our Sunday School Director, knew to order for me some magazines (you know, blogs printed on slick paper). Lifeway produced the Church Administration Magazine. Each issue had the organization steps a church should consider for that season. Each article began like this, "This is the time of the year where you need to think about these things..." Get this—for the churches who did Wednesday night supper, the magazine included a new recipe, which ended with words like these, *serves 30-35 people*. Wow!

In college and seminary, I was trained to teach and preach God's Word. I was trained in the art of pastoral ministry, but had little training focused on organizing, planning, and leading a church. That training came from the school of hard knocks. Long range planning back then was figuring out if we had enough gas and money left at the end of the week to drive 30 miles after Sunday night church to the Dairy Queen for a ten-cent ice cream cone. Gas had sky-rocketed from .31 cents a gallon to \$1.05 per gallon. Hmmm! Sounds familiar, right? Let me help you like Jim Hightower and Bruce Powers helped me.

Pastors, take some time to consider the rest of 2022. Back-to-school is sneaking up on us. Most churches have their high attendance day when school starts back. This is the time to consolidate the gains made from your hard summer work with children and youth camps. It is also the time to regather the flock who has scattered through the summer for vacation and other activities. **The Forge** is a cooperative ELBA event to help your church's youth. This serves as a D-Now catalyst to help your youth to grow and practice their faith moving forward.

Failing to plan is planning to fail. Pray. Ask God to open your eyes to see where He is working. Include others in this planning who have a heart for God and understand the work of the church. Discover one thing your church can do to advance the gospel between now and the end of the year. Determine the necessary steps to make this happen. Logical launching points for ministry action can be Fall Festivals, Thanksgiving, and pre-Christmas. Act quickly. These launching points will come and go before you know it.

Small groups, Sunday School, and church organization: July-August is time of the year to renew commitments of teachers and leaders for the new church year starting in September. This is also the time of the year to find replacements for vacant teaching assignments, fill vacant committee spots, review ministry team needs, and maybe restructure the work of the church moving forward. Do not forget to elect your pastor and one other person to the Executive Board for ELBA. A lay person on the Executive Board gives the congregation a different perspective on the cooperative work through the association—just a thought!

**ECON-LP: NOW HEAR THIS!** A group of our pastors are working together for a one-day training event to equip our lay-people for the work of evangelism. This will be a high-quality event with Dr. Preston Nix, Evangelism Professor of NOBTS who will lead pastors and key lay people in how to make your church an evangelistic church. Josh Spinks, pastor of The Way Church is the trainer for E3 Ministries who will provide training for lay-people to share their faith in a very simple way. KaRetha Kelley, Child Evangelism Fellowship missionary, will teach our children's teachers in two sessions how to share the gospel with children using the Wordless Book in the morning and in the afternoon Leading a Child to Christ. Jarrod Hegwood, former youth pastor, will teach youth teachers and leaders how to develop a culture of evangelism in your youth group. Check out the [www.elbamiissions.org/resources/downloads](http://www.elbamiissions.org/resources/downloads) for a schedule of speakers and topics. Please note the time and place information in this newsletter and begin promoting ECON-LP with your people. What would happen in your church if 10-15 people in your church are instructed and motivated to share their faith with others? What would happen in our world if this would happen?

*Richard Blue*

**CONTRIBUTIONS FROM THE CHURCHES  
To Date 2022**

Agape	\$25.00	\$25.00
Amite	\$800.00	\$4,000.00
Bethel	\$151.69	\$725.02
Carroll	\$0.00	\$470.32
Central	\$0.00	\$0.00
Christ Community	\$0.00	\$5,482.00
Colyell	\$1,511.45	\$7,188.48
Denham Springs, FBC	\$1,374.04	\$7,615.57
Don Avenue	\$1,127.41	\$3,074.27
Emmanuel	\$135.00	\$960.00
French Settlement	\$576.00	\$1,424.00
Gray's Creek	\$817.00	\$2,981.00
Greater Third Zion	\$0.00	\$0.00
Head of Island	\$0.00	\$441.00
Hebron	\$411.40	\$2,317.68
Holden	\$515.48	\$1,790.20
Judson	\$2,323.85	\$9,957.98
Live Oak	\$3,268.08	\$14,301.56
Livingston FBC	\$0.00	\$3,470.00
Macedonia	\$0.00	\$0.00
Magnolia	\$400.00	\$1,200.00
Maurepas	\$165.00	\$528.00
Midway	\$345.00	\$726.15
New Bethlehem	\$98.40	\$489.60
New Covenant	\$0.00	\$0.00
Northside	\$610.31	\$2,581.50
One Life	\$0.00	\$1,000.00
Pine Grove	\$555.63	\$2,691.77
Red Oak	\$0.00	\$400.00
River of Life	\$0.00	\$0.00
Riverside	\$380.00	\$1,267.31
Salem	\$0.00	\$0.00
Satsuma	\$0.00	\$0.00
South Walker	\$0.00	\$593.25
Southside	\$495.90	\$1,170.08
The New Beginnings	\$0.00	\$553.36
Victory	\$224.78	\$891.36
Walker	\$1,997.33	\$10,406.08
Watson	\$0.00	\$2,017.42
The Way Church	\$425.00	\$1,325.00
Community Ch Spfd	\$50.00	\$300.00
Wholly Grounds	\$0.00	\$0.00
<b>Total Contributions</b>	<b>\$18,738.75</b>	<b>\$94,364.96</b>

Capital One	\$82,507.30
Louisiana Baptist Foundation	\$776,444.21
<b>TOTAL Checking &amp; Savings</b>	<b>\$858,951.51</b>

## *News from the Churches . . .*

**Watson Baptist Church** has called Heath Watson as their Worship Pastor. **Bro. John Pemberton**, Pastor

**Satsuma Baptist Church**, 20906 S. Satsuma Road, Livingston, LA has called **Bro. Henry Shelton** as their Pastor

**Bro. Keith Zachary** has resigned as pastor of **New Covenant Baptist Church**, 215 Florida Blvd. SE, Denham Springs, LA

**Bro. Dana Trahan** has resigned as pastor of **OneLife Church**, P. O. Box 1581, Walker, LA 70785

**Bro. Bobby Duncan, Pastor of Salem Baptist Church** went home to be with the Lord on May 25, 2022.

Congratulations to **Gray's Creek Baptist Church** in celebration of their 75th anniversary in June.  
**Bro. David Brown, Pastor**



The Internal Revenue Service announced an increase in the optional standard mileage rate for the final 6 months of 2022. Taxpayers may use the optional standard mileage rates to calculate the deductible costs of operating an automobile for business and certain other purposes.

For the final 6 months of 2022, the standard mileage rate for business travel will be 62.5 cents per mile, up 4 cents from the rate effective at the start of the year. The new rates become effective July 1, 2022. [Announcement 2022-13](#).

Vacation Bible Schools are going strong this summer in our community. Please pray for the children that have already attended June Vacation Bible Schools and remember those who are will be attending VBS throughout the remaining summer.

**The Oaks Church**—Every Other Wednesday—**Bro. Mike Wilkes**, Pastor

**Hebron Baptist Church**—Sunday Nights through July 10th  
**Bro. Mark Tolbert**, Interim Pastor



**Don Avenue Baptist Church**—July 19-21  
**Bro. Tom Higginbotham**, Interim Pastor

## Ministry News



### CAMP LIVING WATERS

Office: 985-945-1831

*"Whoever believes in me, as the scripture has said, streams of living water will flow from within him." John 7:38*

**WELCOME STACY MORRIS,  
CAMP LIVING WATERS DIRECTOR**

My name is Stacy Morris. I am a 43-year-old Christian from Loranger, Louisiana. I accepted Jesus as my personal Savior my senior year in High School and started my walk with Him. I went to college at Southeastern University in Hammond where I met my husband. We were married right out of college and our foundation was strong from the beginning because of our hearts being aligned with Christ. I have spent the past 20 years of our marriage with different job titles.

I was a restaurant owner alongside my husband, the Louisiana Director for The Fuller Center Disaster Rebuilders, a Non-Profit Christian Organization, and my personal favorite one yet—A MOM to my three incredible kids. The youth have always been where my true passion lies. I love to volunteer as the Sunday school teacher at our church or VBS and substitute teach at my kids school. When the role as Director for Camp Living Waters presented itself, I had such a peace about it during my talk with God. It was as if God had created this job just for me. My family and I are excited to start this next chapter and would love your prayers in this important new journey for us.

God Bless,  
Stacy Morris

We have a great camp with a great future. Stacy needs volunteer church groups to help get the camp ready for summer. Give her a call at 985-345-1831, get to know her, and help our camp get off to a great start for Summer, 2022.



**Evangelism Conference of Livingston Parish  
Theme: Everyday Evangelism**

**Purpose: To Inspire, Equip, and Encourage the churches to evangelize Livingston Parish.**

*A Ministry of ELBA*

**First Baptist Church**

**27735 LA-16, Denham Springs, LA**

**September 10, 2022**

**Registration begins at 8:15**

**Opening Worship Rally – 9:00**

**Breakout Session One – 10:15**

**Lunch – 11:30** (Provided by the Men's Ministry FBC)

**Breakout Session Two – 12:30**

**Main Worship Rally – 1:45**

#### Break Out Sessions:

Making Your Church an Evangelistic Church: Preston Nix

Turning Everyday Conversations into Gospel Conversations: Josh Spinks

Sharing the Gospel with Teenagers: Jarrod Hegwood

Sharing the Gospel with children using the Wordless Book Colors(10:15) and Leading a Child to Christ (12:30):

KaRetha Kelley

Conference Leaders:

Dr. Preston Nix, Professor of Evangelism & Evangelistic Preaching at New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary

Josh Spinks, pastor of The Way Church is the international trainer for E3 Ministries

Jarrod Hegwood, LPC, former Youth Minister and the Director of the Christian Counseling Center (ELBA)

KaRetha Kelley, Child Evangelism Fellowship, Greater Baton Rouge Chapter Local Coordinator, and serves on the CEF of Louisiana State Board, and in her spare time, ELBA Administrative Assistant

**Please get a headcount to the ELBA office of how many we can expect from your church.**



**The Forge is back!  
A ONE DAY ONLY EVENT!**

**For 7th-12 graders, Leaders, Parents, & Pastors**

**When: Saturday, August 27, 2021 9am-5pm**

**Speaker: Derek Griffon Worship: Seth Doiga**

**Cost is \$20per-person before August 13.**

FORGE will take place at Amite Baptist Church. Contact Mike Fielding, Live Oak Baptist Church with questions.



**Eastern Louisiana Baptist Association**

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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@elbmissions.org.



**ELBA Leadership Meeting REMINDERS**

**Association Council Meeting**  
Monday, July 18th  
10:-00am  
ELBA Office

**Executive Board Meeting**  
Monday, August 1st  
South Walker Baptist Church  
13519 Hammack Road  
5:30pm Meal 6:30pm Meeting

**Annual Church Profile (ACP) Clerk Event**

All Church Clerks are invited to attend an ACP training at the ELBA offices on Thursday, July 21st at either 11:00am (including lunch) or 5:30pm (including supper). You can pick up your ACP packet and enjoy a time of learning (if new to the ACP) and fellowship with other clerks. Please contact KaRetha to let her know you will plan to attend. She can be reached at 225/664-9309 or [karetha@elbmissions.org](mailto:karetha@elbmissions.org)

**MARK YOUR CALENDAR**

**Mondays Pastor Prayer Time—1:30pm**

**JULY 2022**

- 4 Independence Day- Offices closed
- 18 Associational Council Meeting – 10AM
- 18-19 Children’s Education Workshop – S.
- 18-24 Children’s Mission Camps – Tall Tbrs.
- 19 CWJC—Advisory Council—6:00pm
- 21 ACP Church Clerk Training—ELBA

**AUGUST 2022**

- 1 Executive Board – South Walker Bapt.
- 7 Send Relief Sunday
- 14 SBC Serve Sunday
- 15 Women Who Lead- See below
- 27 FORGE—Amite Baptist Church
- 28 Global Hunger Sunday
- 29-30 Multisite Church Roundtables-NOBTS

*Women Who Lead is an event held regionally for all women who lead missions, Bible study, missions education, & women’s discipleship in the local church & association. **When:** Saturday August 27, 2022 from 9:00 am to 1:00 pm **Where:** First Baptist Church, Franklinton, LA. **Cost:** \$20 Register before Monday, August 1, 2022 and be entered into a drawing for an Early Bird Registration door prize! General Registration Deadline: Monday, August 15, 2022. Contact Theresa Broussard, ELBA Women’s Ministry Leader at 225/678-6235 with questions.*