



HEART TO HEART

NATIONAL CONVOCATION ON ASSOCIATIONAL MISSIONS

The North American Mission Board of the SBC sponsored the National Convocation on Associational Missions at Ridgecrest Baptist Conference Center, September 9 through 11. The purpose of the convocation was to offer encouragement and, hopefully, a new energy for serving the Lord Jesus. The desire of the NAMB personnel was that the convocation would “make us all stronger as we strive to be relevant, effective, and efficient in our efforts to fulfill the Great Commission.” There were many things that were encouraging and inspiring, but I would like to focus on one particularly inspiring thought. One of our speakers reported on what one Director of Missions said was his DOM life verse. The verse is 2 Corinthians 11:28. It reads as follows, “*Besides those things that are without, that which cometh upon me daily, the care of all the churches.*” The verse only makes sense when examined in context. You will recall that the church in Corinth was a somewhat troubled congregation and Paul writes to correct some of the practices and answer some of the charges that were lodged against him. In chapter 10, Paul begins to answer the charge of “cowardice,” that is his “meekness,” when he is present but strong and forceful when he is away from them (v. 1-2). He then answers the charge concerning those “*who regard us as if we walked according to the flesh*” (v. 2). In verse 10, he begins the defense of those accusing him of personal weakness. In chapter 11, he begins the defense of his apostleship and beginning in verse 16 of the chapter, he proposes that the sufferings he has endured as he preached the Gospel supports his apostleship. As we read verses 23 through 27, he enumerates some of those sufferings: labors, imprisonments, beatings, stoning, shipwreck, dangers from rivers, robbers, fellow countrymen, Gentiles, dangers in the city, the wilderness, on the sea, and from false brethren. He had dealt with hardship, sleepless nights, hunger, thirst, cold, and nakedness. Then, Paul says, in addition to all these external things, he feels the DAILY PRESSURE ... OF CONCERN FOR ALL THE CHURCHES.

Now, perhaps it becomes clear why the verse could be an Associational Missionary/Associational Missions Coordinator’s life verse: the pressure of daily care of all the churches. In my relationship with the DOMs, I find that we all share the same concern for all the churches. It is a privilege to pray for, encourage, and as often as possible, help the churches that make up the Association. We care for the membership, for the leaders, whether vocational or not. We care about the struggles that members of the body of Christ are enduring, whether they are physical, emotional, relational, or spiritual. We do not forget that we have an enemy, an “*adversary the devil, as a roaring lion, walketh about, seeking whom he may devour.*”

But, I would also like to note that every pastor I know is under increasing pressure, increasing stress, as he “cares for the church” where he is pastor. Pastors and staff members are not inclined to start broadcasting the stresses and concerns they are enduring. As the Apostle Paul concluded his first letter to the Thessalonians (5:25), he wrote, “*Brethren, pray for us.*” In his second letter to the Thessalonians (3:1-2), he again wrote, “*Finally, brethren, pray for us, that the word of the Lord may have [free] course, and be glorified, even as it is with you: And that we may be delivered from unreasonable and wicked men: for all men have not faith.*” Again, we find the admonition of the Lord through the writer of Hebrews (13:18) saying, “*Pray for us: for we trust we have a good conscience, in all things willing to live honestly.*” Brothers and sisters, PRAY regularly and consistently for your ministers. The devourer would like nothing better than to make them his victims.

For the sake of the Kingdom,
Pray for us.
David

**CONTRIBUTIONS FROM THE CHURCHES
AUGUST 2009**

Deposits through 09-14-09

Contributions	AUGUST 09	TOTAL
Agape'	0.00	707.00
Amite	9,000.00	43,739.19
Beech Ridge	0.00	2,884.22
Bethel	313.47	1,763.34
Calvary	0.00	0.00
Carroll	0.00	2,972.71
Central	0.00	964.34
Christ's Community	300.00	3,600.00
Colyell	1,021.93	11,362.99
Denham Springs	1,114.59	6,829.45
Don Avenue	213.43	2,916.89
Doyle	0.00	0.00
Eden	0.00	680.63
Emmanuel	0.00	5,768.74
Faith	0.00	1,898.16
French Settlement	271.68	3,797.82
Gray's Creek	456.00	4,819.55
Greater Third Zion	0.00	0.00
Head of Island	179.40	2,961.16
Hebron	0.00	23,950.44
Holden	221.74	2,217.64
Judson	2,999.89	24,600.87
Life Giving	79.24	1,760.05
Live Oak	898.14	12,920.28
Livingston	472.00	5,351.00
Macedonia	0.00	300.00
Magnolia	401.00	4,640.00
Maurepas	0.00	1,543.61
Midway	219.69	2,670.84
New Bethlehem	25.00	300.00
New Covenant	0.00	700.00
Northside	152.28	3,850.21
One Life	0.00	590.07
Pine Grove	597.16	5,523.36
Red Oak	200.00	2,600.00
River of Life	0.00	2,002.25
Riverside	818.87	10,595.32
Salem	0.00	0.00
Satsuma	658.73	3,705.67
South Walker	168.91	1,342.17
Southside	112.13	782.47
The New Beginnings	132.00	1,583.88
Victory	0.00	1,047.83
Walker	2,123.82	22,151.19
Total Contributions	23,151.10	234,395.34
Interest Income	0.00	3,857.39
Total Designated Income	798.01	98,492.57
Total Income	23,949.11	336,745.30
Capital One Total		118,592.56
Louisiana Baptist Foundation Total		240,593.08
Total Checking & Savings		359,185.64

News from the Churches...

Brian Thomas has resigned as pastor of **CENTRAL BAPTIST CHURCH** in Gonzales.

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF HEAD OF ISLAND invites everyone to "REVIVAL—Preaching & Singing" on October 11—14.. Come hear God's message from **Bro. Marvin & Gracie Wilson**, from Shelby, Tennessee. On Sunday, October 11 join them for revival service at 10:45 AM and Fellowship Dinner after the morning service. Sunday evening service will begin at 5:30 PM. Services will begin at 6:30 PM on Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday. The church is located at 19114 LA HWY 22, Head of Island, LA. **Mike Smith** is pastor.

Jeffrey Hathorn has resigned as pastor of **FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF HOLDEN**.

SATSUMA BAPTIST CHURCH will be celebrating their 50th Anniversary with special services on October 18. **Andrew Voss** is pastor.

THE NEW BEGINNINGS BAPTIST CHURCH invites everyone to Revival Services on October 23, 24 & 25. **David Brown** is the evangelist. Services will begin at 7:00 PM on Friday and Saturday and at 10:30 AM on Sunday, October 25. Dinner on the Grounds will follow the Sunday morning service. The church is located at 9768 Florida Blvd., Walker, LA. **Billy Carpenter** is pastor.

WALKER BAPTIST CHURCH Youth Ministry Team invites all area youth to join them for **4Day Jesus** on November 4-7, 5:30 PM—8:30 PM. 4DJ is a high energy youth worship experience designed and detailed for the youth of today in a dynamic, exciting, Holy Spirit-filled series of events featuring different speakers each night. Don't miss what is going to happen during the 4 days that are devoted 4 Him. Worship music led by DV8 Band. The church is located at 10696 Florida Blvd., Walker, LA. **Ray McCon** is Minister to Students. **Richard Blue** is pastor.

NEWSLETTER DEADLINE IS THE 15th

Please let us know what's going on in your church, such as special events, revivals, pastor/staff changes, etc.

EMAIL: elbamissions@elba.brcoxmail.com

MAIL: ELBA, PO Box 305, Walker, LA 70785

Church Growth Corner

Freddie Arnold

ELBA is embarking on a new course in 2010. The ELBA Missions Team has selected Broken Arrow, Oklahoma as the site for the first ever ELBA sponsored missions project. This missions project will occur on July 17–23, 2010. Learning this now will allow for vacation time calendar planning for those participating.

It is exciting to see an association undertake a project such as this. The participants in the group can be families, youth (if accompanied by parent or guardian), and adults. We will be doing light construction, cleaning, painting, Bible studies and people searches. There will be something for all ages to do. The cost is \$140 per person and includes travel, place to sleep on the floor and meals while on the mission site. Meals on the road and motel rooms while there will be the responsibility of the individual. Motel rooms and RV sites are available close to the mission site if you need them. They will be at your expense.

The Mission Team will be working at the Living Stone Baptist Church and the Day Spring Villa Battered Women's Shelter. What a testimony for ELBA if forty people would participate in this exciting mission endeavor.

Register as soon as possible by calling the ELBA office (225-664-9309) or emailing elbamissions@elba.brcoxmail.com or emailing revtrey@hotmail.com.

Don't miss this opportunity to share Jesus!

Sunday School Note:

The Sunday School continues to be the key tool for keeping the back door closed in the church. Why do I say this? There are several reasons that this is true:

1. It assimilates people in groups that are small enough that relationship development is possible.
2. It provides the opportunity for people to participate in open discussion if the leader provides the right environment.
3. It provides the opportunity for people to have ownership in the church by fulfilling a responsibility.
4. It provides an accountability group that encourages people to be involved.
5. It provides a safe place for people to experience God's Word.
6. It prepares the individual for a more effective worship experience in the corporate worship service.
7. It provides the pastor a tool to better discover the needs of and to better minister to the needs of the body of Christ.

I think it is safe to say that the Sunday School is the body of Christ organized to carry out the Great Commission found in Matthew 28:18, 19 & 20.



Matthew 22:37

Youth Evangelism Celebration

November 22-24

Rapides Coliseum, Alexandria

Speaker: Ed Newton

Worship with Matt Papa

YEC@LBC.org

Ministry Wives' Retreat

October 16-17

Tall Timbers Baptist Conference Center

"Come to the Water"

Cost: \$35.00

For more information visit www.LBC.com/Women or call 1-800-622-6549.

NOTICE OF CHANGES TO BE VOTED ON AT ASSOCIATION ANNUAL MEETING:

The Ad Hoc Committee assigned to review and recommend revisions to the ELBA Articles of Incorporation, Constitution, and Bylaws will present at the Associational Annual Meeting the following:

1. Amending and updating the Articles of Incorporation
2. Updating and clarifying the Constitution and Bylaws including the establishment of Trustees, a Missions and Ministry Center Bylaw, recommend a standing committee structure for a Mission and Ministry Center Committee, and the amendment of the Finance Committee Structure
3. Removing Ministry Teams designations and job descriptions from Bylaws, Section 7, Ministry Teams; recommending that the Associational Council develop a policy and procedures manual to include Ministry Teams designations and Ministry Team job descriptions; recommend that an updated list of Ministry Teams and the teams' job descriptions be published hereafter in the Associational Annual Book of Reports
4. Moved BCM Trustees and LWBA Representatives to Bylaws, Section 8, Committees

Proposed changes may be seen online at www.easternlabaptists.org.

Printed copies may be obtained from the ELBA office.

Pastors, please provide this announcement for messengers elected by your congregation.



On Mission Celebration
May 1 & 2, 2010

Eastern Louisiana Baptist Association

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James Cowell, Moderator	Tim Norris, Vice Moderator
Sherri Palmer, Clerk	Mary Broussard, Historian
Jenelle Brown, Secretary	Ginger Glascock, Secretary
Lorraine Pankey, Financial Secretary	


ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

NONPROFIT
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PERMIT #1
WALKER LA

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

OCTOBER

2009

- 4 Share the Gospel Sunday
5 Ministers Conference,
One Life, 10:00 AM

11 **World Hunger Sunday** Hunger knows no season ...
12 ANNUAL MEETING, Walker, 5:00 PM
13 Senior Adult PraiseFest, Trinity, Pineville
15 Missions Team Meeting, ELBA Office, 9:00 AM
15 OMC Steering Committee, ELBA Office, 10:00 AM
16-17 Ministry Wives Retreat, Tall Timbers
19-20 January Bible Study / Doctrine Study Preview Tour,
Baptist Building, Alexandria

NOVEMBER

2009

- 2 Baptist Women's World Day of Prayer, Walker, 9 AM
3 Ministers Conference, FBC, Denham Springs, 10:00 AM
9-10 Louisiana Baptist Conv., Summer Grove, Shreveport
19 Missions Team Meeting, ELBA Office, 10:00 AM
22-24 Youth Evangelism Conf., Rapides Coliseum, Alex.
26 Thanksgiving Day
29—Dec 6 Week of Prayer for International Missions &
Lottie Moon Christmas Offering



CALL OF THE SECOND MILE
Louisiana Baptist Convention Annual Meeting
November 9-10, 2009, Summer Grove, Shreveport
*"And if anyone forces you to go one mile, go with him two miles."
Matthew 5:41*



MINISTERS CONFERENCE

MONDAY, OCTOBER 5, 2009

10:00 AM

ONE LIFE BAPTIST CHURCH
18310 LA HWY 42, Port Vincent, LA 70726

2009 ASSOCIATIONAL ANNUAL MEETING

The 167th Annual Session of the
Eastern Louisiana Baptist Association
will be held at

Walker Baptist Church
Monday, October 12, 2009

5:00 PM—SESSION I

6:00 PM—Fellowship Meal & AMC Report

7:00 PM—SESSION II

Keynote Speaker: Dr. Michael Eden
Professor of Theology & Islamic Studies, NOBTS

Remember to elect **MESSENGERS** to the
Annual Meeting and the **EXECUTIVE BOARD**
MEMBERS for your church as soon as possible.