



HEART TO HEART

DID YOU KNOW

Your church is required by law to have any person you hire to complete an I-9 Form from the US Citizenship and Immigration Services? The following paragraph is copied from the USCIS website.

“All U.S. employers must complete and retain a Form I-9 for each individual they hire for employment in the United States. This includes citizens and noncitizens. On the form, the employer must examine the employment eligibility and identity document(s) an employee presents to determine whether the document(s) reasonably appear to be genuine and relate to the individual and record the document information on the Form I-9. The list of acceptable documents can be found on the last page of the form.”

The form is required to be completed on all employees hired since November 6, 1986, and must be kept on file at the church. The document is for the purpose of verifying that all employees are eligible to work in the U.S. The penalty for not having these forms on hand in the event the church was investigated is \$2,500.00 per incidence. That means, if you have four (4) employees and were penalized for not having the documents, your fine would be \$10,000. The forms are not to be sent to the US Citizenship and Immigration Services office. These forms may be completed online and then printed, or you can download the blank form and fill in the information. The website is as follows: www.uscis.gov. At the home page, go to FORMS. Click on ALL FORMS and then scroll down to Form I-9 and click on download.

DID YOU KNOW

That when you hire a new person at your church you are required by Louisiana law to complete the **Louisiana New Hire/Rehire Form?** I just recently learned of this requirement. The following paragraph is copied from the form.

“Effective October 1, 1997 Act 97 of the 1997 LA Legislative Session requires all Louisiana Employers, both public and private, to report all newly hired or rehired employees to the State of Louisiana within 20 days of hire. Information about new hire reporting and online reporting is available on our Web site: www.LA-newhire.com.”

The form can be printed, completed, and mailed to the address listed on the form, or you can register and complete the form online to be submitted. I do not know if there is a penalty for not submitting the form.

DID YOU KNOW

Your church is entitled to a refund of the LA Citizens Fair Plan Assessment (tax on your church insurance policy) for the years 2007 and 2008? To receive your refund, you must file form R620INS with the Louisiana Department of Revenue. The following paragraph was sent to me by Mr. David Galloway of the Galloway Insurance Agency in Alexandria who is a GuideOne Insurance Representative.

Attached is the R620INS form required to obtain a church's refund of the LA. CITIZENS FAIR PLAN ASSESSMENT (tax on your church insurance policy). Homeowners pay this same tax but get their refunds when filing their state income tax - in that churches don't file state income tax, you have to use a different procedure to obtain your refund.

You can file for a refund of this assessment amount after policy expiration by filing (1) the appropriate YEAR (2007, 2008) Form R620INS; (2) a copy of the first page of your policy "declaration" sheet for that policy period applicable to the refund. This "dec" page is the first page of the policy with the agent's signature...it denotes the actual FAIR plan assessment dollar amount collected on that policy for that year and (3) a copy of your "proof of payment" to your insurance carrier as evidence you kept the policy in force for the full term.

These documents should be mailed to the La. Dept of Revenue (address on bottom of R620INS form) as they hold this money. If you attempt to file for two different years of refunds, submit them in separate envelopes to avoid confusion. Most churches get their refund in 6 - 8 weeks. If you do not receive the refund in a timely manner, contact the La. Dept of Revenue to inquire.

**CONTRIBUTIONS FROM THE CHURCHES
OCTOBER 2009**

Deposits through 11-11-09

Contributions	OCT 09	TOTAL
Agape'	0.00	0.00
Amite	0.00	0.00
Beech Ridge	613.37	613.37
Bethel	137.50	299.69
Calvary	0.00	0.00
Carroll	269.96	269.96
Central	0.00	0.00
Christ's Community	300.00	600.00
Colyell	851.95	851.95
Denham Springs	476.27	1,109.42
Don Avenue	242.64	430.34
Doyle	291.20	464.83
Emmanuel	565.89	2,918.72
Faith	1,603.62	1,603.62
French Settlement	326.24	567.84
Gray's Creek	339.00	680.00
Greater Third Zion	0.00	0.00
Head of Island	393.75	563.95
Hebron	1,881.00	4,392.00
Holden	182.17	339.78
Judson	1,408.94	3,225.73
Life Giving	158.85	270.14
Live Oak	892.37	2,121.19
Livingston	462.00	966.00
Macedonia	0.00	0.00
Magnolia	416.00	773.00
Maurepas	0.00	0.00
Midway	0.00	176.31
New Bethlehem	25.00	50.00
New Covenant	0.00	0.00
Northside	127.53	251.68
One Life	58.74	209.36
Pine Grove	372.00	807.44
Red Oak	200.00	400.00
River of Life	0.00	0.00
Riverside	542.37	1,121.36
Salem	282.50	552.22
Satsuma	0.00	0.00
South Walker	275.03	397.88
Southside	0.00	116.98
The New Beginnings	118.32	221.64
Victory	222.55	406.55
Walker	1,649.77	3,463.20
Total Contributions	15,686.53	31,236.15
Interest Income	0.00	541.35
Party Trailer User Fees	0.00	700.00
Total Income	15,686.53	32,477.50
Capital One Total		105,826.56
Louisiana Baptist Foundation Total		241,334.43
Total Checking & Savings		347,160.99

News from the Churches . . .

CARROLL BAPTIST CHURCH invites everyone to a concert on Sunday, November 29 at 6:00 PM featuring "My Hope - Ladies On A Mission Singing For Christ." Carroll is located at 13980 Friendship Road, Walker, 70785. **Larry Badon** is interim pastor.

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF DENHAM SPRINGS welcomes **Keith Sewell** as pastor.

MACEDONIA BAPTIST CHURCH invites everyone to *Christmas in the Pines . . .* Celebrating Christmas with live music in an old-fashioned meeting place. Beginning at 6:30 PM on Thursday, December 3, 2009, Macedonia Baptist Church, the oldest church in the parish, brings back Christmas from long ago. Singers from area churches will present Christmas music using live instruments. They invite you to join them as they sing and fellowship together during this old-time Christmas adventure. The church is located at 34685 HWY 1036, Holden, LA 70744. For more information call (225) 939-7720. **Roger Dunlap** is pastor.

SATSUMA BAPTIST CHURCH welcomes Jack Lay as Children's Minister. **Andrew Voss** 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

[HEART TO HEART continued from page 1]

The form can be downloaded from the LA Department of Revenue Website. Go to the site (www.revenue.louisiana.gov), click on "TAX FORMS", "BUSINESS," "[Louisiana Citizens Insurance Tax Credit](#)," find the forms under business and click on the form for the appropriate year for which you wish to file.

Mr. Galloway emailed me copies of the forms for both years (2007 and 2008) and I would be more than happy to forward them on to you if you need them. If you have questions, I suggest you contact your insurance agent or call the LA Department of Revenue at (225) 219-7318.

FINALLY, DID YOU KNOW

That ministers who will perform marriages in Livingston Parish must register to do so? Ministers new to the parish, or newly licensed and/or ordained, must go to the Livingston Parish Clerk of Court's office and sign the registry. Take a copy of the license or ordination certificate.

For the sake of the kingdom,
David E. Brown
Associational Missions Coordinator

Church Growth Corner

Freddie Arnold

THANKSGIVING

It is that time of the year again when we as a nation turn our hearts and minds toward God to thank Him for our blessings. Do we really do that as a nation you might ask? Yes I think that we do. Now we may not realize the profoundness of setting aside this special day for this purpose because we have strayed so far from our roots of being a nation founded upon the freedom of worship. But the very fact that it is still recognized as "Thanksgiving Day" by our national leaders causes people to think about our blessings. We still enjoy a form of religious freedom that no other country in the world can experience and we take it so lightly. We can assemble and worship God our Creator and Sustainer without any fear of persecution. That may be short lived if we are neglectful of our duty of being informed and participatory in our government, schools and churches. Freedom remains freedom only if it is protected and practiced. Giving thanks to God continually helps us be reminded of what we have and that we must protect it.

Psalm 100 encourages us in thanksgiving to God:

Shout Triumphantly to the Lord—an exciting verbal expression
Serve the Lord with gladness—a positive attitude
Acknowledge God as Lord—own and embrace Him
Enter His gates with thanksgiving—come before Him
Know that God is good—accept it as fact and experience it

Happy Thanksgiving!!

OMC Plea!!

Let me remind each church that we need you to return your OMC commitment card as soon as possible. Even if you're not going to participate, we need you to state that on the card. The time is fast approaching for us identify the number of churches participating so that we can invite an adequate number of missionaries to come and participate. I hope each church will participate and receive the blessing from having a personal encounter with a missionary serving in their particular area of ministry. The missionaries always relate that it such a great experience to share in churches that participate in providing their support. **Get Your Cards In Please.**

Annual Disaster Relief Training Roundtable

January 22 & 23 D R will be conducted at Camp Living Waters in Robert, LA. A full slate of training (Chaplaincy, Chainsaw, Feeding, Shower, Mudout, Assessment, and Blue Hat) will be provided for anyone wishing to enter D. R. ministry or anyone that needs to recertify their badges and credentials. These must be renewed every three years. The cost will be \$20.00/ \$25.00 per person and \$10.00 per person for the banquet. Information is available at the ELBA Office and Online at www.lbc.org. Pre-registration is requested. Contact the ELBA office if you need information.



On Mission Celebration
May 1 & 2, 2010

The Heart of a Woman
2010 ELBA Women's Conference

Friday, January 29, 5:00—8:30 pm
Saturday, January 30, 8:00—12:00 pm

Judson Baptist Church
32470 Walker N Rd, Walker, LA 70785

Conference Leader: **Glynnis Whitwer**
Proverbs 31 Ministries Speaker
Accomplished Writer and Author of *Work at Home*,
Six Habits of Highly Effective Christians, *When Your Child is Hurting*, *Worship: Nearing the Heart of God*,
The Best of Proverbs 31 Ministry

Don't miss out on all that God has in store for you while enjoying two days of fellowship, song worship, door prizes, goodie bags, food and fun. Come and be blessed and go home refreshed!

Registration: \$10.00 (includes dinner on Friday, breakfast & lunch on Saturday)

Registration forms are available from the Associational Office and on our web site, www.easternlabaptists.org, under "downloads."

Nursery Provided

Disaster Relief Training Roundtable



January 22-23, 2010

Camp Living Waters

21230 Living Water Rd,
Loranger, LA 70446

January 22-23—Chaplaincy Training—\$25; & Chainsaw Training—\$125 if needing safety gear (Chaps, Helmet, Safety Glasses & Gloves); \$25 if not needing to purchase gear.

January 22—Fellowship Banquet, 6:00 pm—\$10

January 23—Feeding, Shower, Mudout, Assessment & Blue Hat—\$20; *Cost includes: Meal, Cap, Shirt, Badge & Training materials

Pre-registration is required by **January 8, 2010!**

Questions? Call 318.448-3402, ext. 280.

TRANSFORMED

ROMANS 12:2

OPTIMAL MINDS

2010 Student Winter Retreat

February 14th, 15th, & 16th

Camp Living Waters

Loranger, LA

Guest Speaker: **Rick Stanley**

Cost: \$60 (includes program, meals, lodging, & t-shirt)

Eastern Louisiana Baptist Association

PO Box 305 ❖ 32470 Walker N Rd
Walker LA 70785
PH (225) 664-9309 FAX (225) 664-9349
elbmissions@elba.brcoxmail.com
www.easternlabaptists.org

David E. Brown

Associational Missions Coordinator
amc4elba@elba.brcoxmail.com

Freddie L. Arnold

Associate Associational Missions Coordinator
freddie@elba.brcoxmail.com

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

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

NONPROFIT
POSTAGE PD
PERMIT #1
WALKER LA

☑ MARK YOUR CALENDAR

DECEMBER 2009

7 Pastors, Staff & Spouses Christmas Dinner & Fellowship, Pine Grove, 6:30 PM
12/24—1/03 ELBA Office closed
25 Christmas Day

JANUARY 2010

3-6 January Bible Study—Stories for Life:
Parables of the Kingdom in Matthew
4 Ministers Conference, Red Oak, 10:00 AM
14 Missions Team Meeting, ELBA Office, 9:00 AM
14 OMC Steering Committee, ELBA Office, 10:00 AM
15-16 Bible Drill Training Retreat, Tall Timbers
17 Sanctity of Human Life Sunday
18 Associational Council Meeting, ELBA Office, 10:00 AM
22-23 Disaster Relief Roundtable & Appreciation Banquet,
Camp Living Waters, Loranger
25-26 LBC Evangelism Conference, Istrouma, Baton Rouge
26 Sharing the Peace of Jesus Training, Istrouma

WEEK OF PRAYER FOR INTERNATIONAL MISSIONS &

WHO'S
WHOSE MISSING?
MISSION?

LOTTIE MOON
CHRISTMAS OFFERING

November 29—December 6

Materials have been mailed to the churches.
Material can also be downloaded at www.imb.org.

Have you heard about the ELBA Mission Trip to Broken Arrow, OK, on July 17-23, 2010? All are welcome! Work for all ages!
For more information contact the Association Office,
225-664-9309; elbmissions@elba.brcoxmail.com or
Bro. Trey Cowell, 225-324-8966; revtrey@hotmail.com.



MINISTERS & MATES CHRISTMAS PARTY

Monday, December 7, 2009 — 6:30 PM
Pine Grove Baptist Church
21949 LA HWY 444, Livingston, LA 70754

All church staff members and their spouses are invited to attend. Please call the Associational Office (664-9309) by December 1 to let us know that you will be attending, if you need childcare, and for what ages.



MINISTERS CONFERENCE

MONDAY, JANUARY 4, 2010
10:00 AM

RED OAK BAPTIST CHURCH
28760 S Red Oak Rd, Livingston, LA 70754

BIBLES NEEDED FOR PRISON MINISTRY



Bibles are needed for distribution to the women at the Livingston Parish Prison. For more information about how you can help this vital ministry call Shirley Ballard, 791-4498, or Brenda McMorris, 664-3185.