

Eastern Louisiana Baptist Association

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Tim Norris, Moderator	Carl Sullivan, Vice Moderator
Chuck Ott, Clerk	Mary Broussard, Historian
Kelly Smith, Treasurer	Lorraine Pankey, Financial Secretary
Jenelle Brown, Secretary	Ginger Glascock, Secretary

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

NONPROFIT
POSTAGE PD
PERMIT #1
WALKER LA

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

MAY 2011

- 1 Senior Adult Sunday
- 1-8 Christian Home Week
- 2 Executive Board Meeting, Don Avenue, 6:30 PM
(Fellowship Meal: 5:30 PM)
- 3 Finance Committee Meeting, ELBA Office, 1 PM
- 6 & 7 State Tournament, Youth/High School Bible
Drill, Xtreme Bible Drill, Louisiana College
- 8 Mother's Day
- 8 Mission Trip Deposit Deadline
- 19 Mission Team Meeting, ELBA Office, 10:00 AM
- 22 Mission Trip Information Meeting, Judson, 3 PM
- 30 Memorial Day

JUNE 2011

- 11 SBC CrossOver, Phoenix, AZ
- 12-13 WMU, SBC Annual Meeting, Phoenix, AZ
- 14-15 Southern Baptist Convention, Phoenix, AZ
- 16 Mission Team Meeting, ELBA Office, 10:00 AM
- 18 Women's Enrichment Leader Training,
Tall Timbers
- 19 Father's Day
- 20-23 RA Camp, Tall Timbers
- 21 Finance Committee Meeting, ELBA Office, 10 AM

SOUTHERN BAPTIST CONVENTION



**JUNE 14 -15, 2011
PHOENIX, AZ**

Get more information and register on-line at
WWW.SBC.NET



EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING

Don Avenue Baptist Church
1010 Don Avenue, Denham Springs

May 2, 2011

5:30 PM—Fellowship Meal

6:30 PM—Executive Board Meeting



**ELBA MISSION TRIP
JULY 16-22, 2011
CHOCTAW INDIAN
BAPTIST
ASSOCIATION
Philadelphia, MS**

ALL ARE WELCOME! WORK FOR ALL AGES!

Cost is \$140. A deposit of \$50 is due by **May 8.**

The next Mission Trip Meeting will be on May 22 at
3:00 PM at Judson Baptist Church.

Registration forms and an informational flyer are
available from the ELBA Office and on our website
under "Downloads" and "Events."



Volume 35 Issue 4

Together We Do What We Cannot Do Alone

April 28, 2011

HEART TO HEART

THOUGHTS ON FAITH

In my recent Bible readings, I have been working my way through the book of Hebrews. It is so exciting to see how the Holy Spirit takes the familiar and makes it fresh and alive. The translation of choice for this reading was the Phillips translation of the New Testament. Of course, since these are thoughts on faith, we obviously begin in Hebrews 11:1 which Phillips translates as follows: *“Now faith means putting our full confidence in the things we hope for; it means being certain of things we cannot see.”* I especially like how he translated the word for “substance” (KJV) as “full confidence” and the word for “evidence” (KJV) as “being certain of.”

This became especially meaningful as I read in verses 8-10 about Abraham leaving Haran to go to a land that God would show him. Scripture tells us that Abraham responded to the word of God. In verse 8, Phillips translates it this way: *“It was by faith that Abraham obeyed the summons to go out to a place which he would eventually possess.”*

Abraham had “full confidence” in what he hoped for, that is, a new dwelling place promised by God. Although he could not see that future dwelling place, he was “certain” of that which he could not see, that future dwelling place, and ultimately *“that city which hath foundations, whose builder and maker [is] God.”*

So then, for Abraham, and for us as well, faith means first, hearing the Word of God, second, having a full confidence concerning what we hope for, being (absolutely) certain of what we cannot see, and then acting upon the word of God.

Now for the application: God’s word tells us of salvation through Jesus Christ and a glorious future in a place called heaven. Upon hearing this word, we have put our full confidence in what we hope for and are certain of both salvation and our future dwelling place called heaven. Because of that confidence and certainty, we have made the decision to respond by inviting Christ into our lives. The application is simple: hear the word, believe (that is having faith), and act upon what you have heard.

ELBA PERSONNEL CHANGE

Lorraine Pankey, our Financial Secretary, is retiring as of May 1. She has been a blessing to all of us in the 10 years she has been serving the Lord in that capacity. She has served in a most Christ-honoring manner and we will miss her being with us in the office. Our prayers are that Lorraine will find retirement to be a most blessed experience.

Her replacement is KaRetha Kelley. KaRetha serves as the church secretary for Don Avenue Baptist Church and will continue in that position on an abbreviated work schedule. She will be able to be in the ELBA office one day a week (Tuesday) like Lorraine has done. While she is the secretary at Don Avenue, her church membership is at Amite Baptist Church. She also serves as the Christian Social Services Ministry Team Leader for the association. We welcome KaRetha to the staff of Eastern Louisiana Baptist Association.

On a Personal Note

Jenelle and I are grandparents again due to the Lord blessing our older daughter and husband with the adoption of an infant boy. His name is Joshua David Wood, and we are delighted to welcome him into our family.

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

**CONTRIBUTIONS FROM THE CHURCHES
MARCH 2011**

Deposits through April 11, 2011

Contributions	Mar 2011	TOTAL
Agape'	0.00	359.00
Amite	3,000.00	15,580.65
Beech Ridge	0.00	1,437.87
Bethel	172.90	1,128.32
Calvary	0.00	1,052.60
Carroll	230.62	1,617.41
Central	0.00	213.17
Christ's Community	1,233.73	2,433.73
Colyell	484.49	4,717.65
Denham Springs	568.51	4,912.50
Don Avenue	444.34	2,427.49
Doyle	200.00	240.00
Emmanuel	516.52	4,567.22
Faith	0.00	2,123.65
French Settlement	278.76	2,194.38
Gray's Creek	643.00	4,534.00
Greater Third Zion	0.00	0.00
Head of Island	180.08	1,429.13
Hebron	1,830.07	13,836.49
Holden	284.88	1,519.94
Judson	1,386.33	12,533.87
Live Oak	0.00	8,126.33
Livingston	360.00	3,139.00
Macedonia	0.00	600.00
Magnolia	380.00	2,958.00
Maurepas	365.00	1,617.00
Midway	198.21	1,276.74
New Bethlehem	25.00	175.00
New Covenant	0.00	700.00
Northside	414.34	1,719.81
One Life	0.00	0.00
Pine Grove	409.80	3,695.08
Red Oak	200.00	1,400.00
River of Life	0.00	250.00
Riverside	251.57	2,056.63
Salem	0.00	77.56
Satsuma	337.74	2,587.52
South Walker	161.62	742.61
Southside	0.00	308.98
The New Beginnings	71.70	628.41
Victory	295.55	1,090.87
Walker	1,978.10	13,856.13
Total Contributions	16,902.86	125,864.74
Interest Income	0.00	619.67
Total Designated Funds	777.07	10,891.62
Other Income	0.00	5,600.00
Total Income	17,679.93	142,976.03
Capital One Total		90,328.99
Capital One M & M Center		10,879.59
Louisiana Baptist Foundation Total		195,813.13
Total Checking & Savings		297,021.71

News from the Churches . . .

CENTRAL BAPTIST CHURCH, 14200 LA HWY 44, Gonzales, invites everyone to Revival Services June 6—10 at 7:00 PM. Evangelists are **Robby Dickerson** and **Murray Bankston**. **Billy Burton** is pastor.

CHRIST'S COMMUNITY CHURCH welcomes **Luke Hand** as student minister. **Willis Easley** is pastor.

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF DENHAM SPRINGS welcomes **Leo Miller** as pastor and **Jeremy McCrory** as student minister.

THE NEW BEGINNINGS BAPTIST CHURCH welcomes **Charles Ray Smith** as interim pastor.



THE BAPTIST ASSOCIATION
**MISSION
DRIVEN**
**CHURCH
FOCUSED**

**ASSOCIATIONAL
EMPHASIS
WEEK
MAY 15—22**

Today's church faces unprecedented challenges with rapid cultural change, extreme diversity and transitioning communities. However, these challenges bring new opportunities for churches to impact their communities. Effective churches are passionately pursuing innovative strategies to meet these new challenges.

Our Association is ready to assist each church with resources that help fulfill their commitment to the Great Commission.

God continues to do some wonderful things through the association. We have seen churches started, ministries begun and strengthened, and training events well planned and attended.

Many more events and training sessions are planned that will help us demonstrate the fulfillment of our association motto:

"Together We Do What We Cannot Do Alone."

Church Growth Corner

Freddie Arnold

Dr. Thom Rainer, president and CEO of LifeWay Resources, and his son Jess have surveyed over 1200 older (1980 – 1991) Millennial age people of today's population. The "Millennials" is that age group of people born from 1980 – 2000. They questioned the group along the lines of demographic information that related to their generation. This generation of people represents the largest group of our population in America. The question of and response to the question of leadership was so overwhelming that it provided a clear intensity of the concern of this group of people. The clear conclusion drawn from this information indicated a clear picture of what "Millennials" want in leadership.

The first area of desire was **Mentoring**: This generation has a great respect for those older than they are. They want to continue to learn from older people. They want to be led and taught in their churches, work places and families. They particularly want to learn from couples that have long successful marriages.

The second area of desire was **Gentle Spirits**: This generation does not like loud, divisive and acrimonious personalities. They loathe politicians and political pundits who scream at each other. They reject churches that have negative and divisive leadership. They reject business leaders with harsh and autocratic spirits.

The third area of desire was **Transparency and Authenticity**: They want "real" leadership. They don't want phony personalities but authentic personalities. They want leadership that is transparent and open with no pretentiousness.

The fourth area of desire was **Integrity**: They want leaders that keep their promises. They want leaders that have true basic moral standards and lead by these standards. They want leaders who put serving others ahead of serving self. As a whole, this generation of the population desires to serve others and to be led by those who have and practice that same desire in their lives. In summary, what does this have to do with ELBA and church growth?

1. Livingston Parish has a population of 128,026 people living in it. The median age of the parish is thirty-three years of age, and 36% of the population (46,107) is between the ages of 20 and 44 years of age. We are a young age group of people.
2. This is the group of people that this report is talking about. They are the people that will be leading our churches and businesses in the next few years. We must be the leaders that they can relate to.
3. I am reminded of a scripture passage in 2 Tim. 2:15 that Paul uses to instruct Timothy "Do your best to present yourself to God as one approved, a workman who does not need to be ashamed and who correctly handles the word of truth."
4. The largest generation in America is watching us closely.

(Facts are found in "Facts and Trends Magazine" Winter 2011.)



The Prayer Room

Consider these prayer requests:

Pray for your local church.

Pray for the pastor and other leaders.

Pray for our association and its leaders.

Pray for our churches that are looking for a pastor.

Pray for our state convention and its leaders.

Pray for Louisiana College and for Dr. Aguiard as he recovers from heart surgery.

Pray for our seminaries. **Pray** for The Southern Baptist Convention. Each of our mission boards has a new president. **Pray** for these men to do a good job.

Pray for our missionaries around the world.

Pray for our brothers and sisters who are suffering severe persecution.

Pray for a great spiritual awakening in our troubled and divided nation.

Let us work hard, but in our working, let us never forget the words of our Lord, "**Without Me you can do nothing**" (John 15:5 NKJV).

ELBA Youth Ministry Team is asking you to please . . .

Hold the Date . . .

The Forge is Coming . . .

When: August 19-20, 2011

Where: Judson Baptist Church

Theme: Saturate

Details: We are doing "The Forge" this year where it can be a stand alone event or your church can utilize it as a DiscipleNow event.

We will have more details soon!

Lonnie Cook & Johnny Morgan

Library Corner

If you missed the High Impact Events Training earlier this month and would like to know some of what was covered, your associational library has the following books available for checkout:



>Area Crusade Manual, a Guide to Successful Preparation

>Block Party Manual, a Comprehensive Guide to Evangelistic Block Parties

>High Impact Events, People Reaching People

>Revival Preparation Manual, Practical Suggestions for Planning a Revival in Your Church